

# President's Page

**Email:** president@asma.org  
**Web site:** www.asma.org  
**Facebook:** Aerospace Medical Association  
**Twitter:** @Aero\_Med

## AsMA - A Worldwide Organization

I've had the pleasure of representing our organization at recent international meetings. This past September, I attended the 4th European Conference in Aerospace Medicine (ECAM) in Bucharest, Romania. ECAM is a biennial meeting of the European Society of Aerospace Medicine (ESAM), which is made up of European national aerospace medical organizations; currently, members come from 33 European countries. There are also six international associate organization memberships which include AsMA. The primary purpose of ECAM is to provide a forum for scientific exchange, discussion, and consensus on European aerospace medicine (AsM) issues.

The theme of the meeting was "How we screen for and prevent health problems in aviation" and I was invited to give a presentation on AsMA's recommendations regarding mental health screening in pilots. Part of the meeting concentrated on the proposal for Aviation Medical Examiners to consider providing preventive medical care to aircrews as part of the routine Aviation Medical certification examination. There seemed to be general agreement that this was a good way to improve flight safety but also acknowledged were the potential administrative, legal, regulatory, and even cultural hurdles associated with this proposal.

Other topics presented at the meeting included European commercial spaceflight medical standards for suborbital and orbital flights; a 5-year study on medical conditions affecting Russian flight safety; screening for silent myocardial infarction in Italian and Russian flight crews; cardiovascular disease screening in Swiss pilots; fatigue/stress and wellness screening of Moldavian pilots; aviation preventive medicine strategies in the Czech Republic; metabolic syndrome in Italian Air Force Pilots; Coriolis illusions and hypoxia in Polish flight instructors; non-penetrating glaucoma therapy; genomics; use of CogScreen; and the latest aviation medical issues and approaches related to the Ebola outbreak. During their General Assembly, I also had the opportunity to give a brief talk on the latest related activities of AsMA. The Romanian Civil Aviation Authority and Romanian National Military Aviation Authority were superb meeting hosts who also provided opportunities to enjoy Romanian culture during our social gatherings. It was a very interesting and informative meeting.

In October, I attended the 62nd annual International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM) held in Mexico City, Mexico. This meeting was conducted under the auspices of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM) and is held in a different country around the world, traditionally alternating every other year with a country in Europe. IAASM is an academy of senior AsM professionals, selected by nomination from across the global community. The annual meeting provides a forum similar to AsMA's annual scientific meeting, only on a much smaller and more international scale. Several Academicians in IAASM are former presidents of AsMA.

Topics presented at this year's ICASM included side effects of "go/no go" medications in India; fatigue and blue light circadian synchronization, genomics, and stem cell replacement therapy, all from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); research conducted by Mexico's new space agency; 3D printing of surgical instruments from Canada; portable anesthesia delivery from Japan; cardiovascular risk factors in Dutch pi-



Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., M.S.

lots and in Iranian pilots; in-flight medical emergencies from the U.S. including those involving children; Argentinian flight attendant health; and renal calculi in Chinese pilots. Also presented were recent activities by the Spanish, Mexican, and U.S. Navy and Army aviation medicine research centers. An added panel by colleagues from the International Civil Aviation Organization, again on the Ebola outbreak, was presented. Truly an international concern.

The Mexican Association of Aviation Medicine and the Mexican College of Aerospace Medicine, the meeting's hosts, arranged for very interesting site visits to a major Mexican Air Force base in Santa Lucia, to Aeromexico's hangar at Mexico City International Airport, and to an aviation industry complex in Queretaro. There were also several historical and cultural tours enjoyed. Once again, another interesting and informative international meeting.

AsMA is undeniably the premier international leader and voice in Aerospace Medicine. I am convinced there is no equal. Yet, if we truly wish to be the worldwide leader, we should do better. We need to expand our international scope and provide more value to our global members.

In that regard, here are some initiatives undertaken so far this year:

- To co-sponsor non-North American AsM meetings. We have arranged this for the 2016 ECAM meeting.
- To increase global representation in AsMA leadership. There are 3 non-U.S. members in the AsMA Executive Committee, which brings in important global perspectives.
- To increase awareness of global AsM activities by publishing international and regional affiliate reports on our web site and providing further exposure via poster displays at our annual scientific meetings.
- To continue to assist countries in establishing AsM residency certifications for those who desire them.
- To support and provide expert guidance in worldwide travel-related health issues.

Finally, I propose we consider eliminating the term "international member" within AsMA. It has no purpose in defining the membership of an already international organization. We are all just "members" wherever we come from.

As this year winds down, let us all reflect on how we have made a difference in our global field of aerospace medicine and the work still ahead, and let me wish you continued success in this great endeavor in the coming year.

# Association News

## Goodbye to ASEM

By Pam Day

If I am being completely honest, I never liked the title *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine*. It doesn't exactly trip off the tongue. I found that having "environmental" in the title needed a lot of explaining. Yet I resisted a name change for many years—mostly because it would make cataloging the journal even more challenging than it already is. Most journals never change their names. We are about to embark on our fourth! But now, with the advent of the Internet, Google, PubMed Central, and other search engines, it is far easier to find what you are looking for without going to the shelves of the library. Let's hope this time is the charm.

Other changes are afoot. The news section of the journal will soon be moved to a quarterly e-newsletter, with the website taking over as the primary source for the latest in Association and Member News. We will continue to print certain items in the journal for posterity's sake such as Minutes of the Business Meeting, Proposed By-Laws Changes, Association Awards, and, of course, the President's Page.

Having a new journal title is exciting and the new design is very appealing. I hope you like the changes we are making. Look for the new journal *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance* to arrive in your mailbox in late December or early January.

## Bachmann Retires

Colonel Richard Bachmann, M.D., M.P.H., FAsMA, has retired from the U.S. Air Force after 29 years of active service. Lt. Gen. Thomas Travis, USAF Surgeon General, was the presiding official at the retirement ceremony. Col. Bachmann's career highlights include two assignments as a fighter squadron medical element flight surgeon, residency training in Aerospace and Occupational Medicine at USAFSAM, squadron command at RAF Lakenheath, medical group command at Whiteman AFB, command of USAFSAM,



**RETIREMENT**—Col. Richard Bachmann, right, is presented with a certificate by Lt. Gen. Thomas Travis, USAF Surgeon General, during Bachmann's retirement ceremony.

inaugural vice director of the 711th Human Performance Wing, and Chief of Aerospace Medicine for both HQ U.S. Air Forces Europe and HQ Air Force Space Command. He is a Fellow and Life Member of AsMA, past President of the Society of USAF Flight Surgeons, member of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine, and a founding member of the American Association of Aerospace Medicine Specialists.

## News of Members

**Christian A. Otto, M.D., MMSc**, was recently named Scientist of the Month by Universities Space Research Association for his poster entitled "NASA's Number One Human Spaceflight Risk: The Visual Impairment Intracranial Pressure Risk. Pathophysiological Hypotheses (Vascular, CNS & Ocular)." He also, along with the Visual Impairment Intracranial Pressure (VIIP) Team, received a NASA Honor Group Achievement Award for their pursuit of physiological data related to the VIIP syndrome and their efforts to share that evidence with the scientific community. For more and a link to the poster, please visit <http://www.dsls.usra.edu/>.

## New Members

Aaronson, Alistair, Dr., Mountain View, CA  
Bertolo, Robert N., M.D., San Antonio, TX  
Brideson, Genevieve M., R.N., R.M., B.S.N., Adelaide South, Australia  
Carlson, Kirsten, LT, USN, Ph.D., Virginia Beach, VA  
Crawford, Anthony, Dr., Edmonds, WA

## Finkelstein Receives 50-Year Membership Pin at ICASM

Silvio Finkelstein, M.D., was recently presented with a pin honoring his 50-plus years of membership in AsMA by James Webb, Ph.D., immediate Past President, and Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., AsMA President. The pin was presented in Mexico City during the International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM) held in October. Dr.



**50-YEAR PIN**—James Webb, Ph.D. (left), and Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D. (right), stand with Dr. Silvio Finkelstein (center), to whom they presented a 50-year membership pin.

Faaborg, Jennifer L., B.S.N., R.N., Alexandria, VA  
Fushiki, Yoko, Dr., Saitama, Japan  
Jedick, Rocky P. J., Capt., USAF, FS, APO, AE  
Krolikowski, Tomasz, Dr., Edinburgh, United Kingdom  
Langevin, Paul, D.O., Fairhope, AL  
Mulvey, John R., Col., ANG, M.D., Elkton, MD  
Munoz, Gilberto, M.D., Chicago, IL  
Oscislowski, Daniel, Dr., Scottsdale, AZ  
Otiz, Yolanda, Ms., B.S., Port Orange, FL  
Painter, Thomas J., M.D., Orlando, FL  
Payne, Bryan K., Capt., USAF, FS, M.D., Pensacola, FL  
Pelligra, Salvatore, Lt. Col., USAF, M.D., Buckeye, AZ  
Smith, Erin, Dr., Pensacola, FL  
Unger, Daniel V., CAPT, USN, Virginia Beach, VA

## ERRATUM

In the November 2014 Association News section, on p. 1156, in the obituary for Dr. Stanley Mohler, the article states that Wright State University had the first civilian aerospace medicine residency program in the U.S. However, the first residency in aerospace medicine was established in 1955 at Ohio State University (Billings CE. *Aviation medicine graduate training at Ohio State University, 1955-1977*. *Aviat Space Environ Med* 2010; 81:517-21). When OSU discontinued the program in 1977, WSU stepped in to fill the void in 1978. Dr. Mohler was the Director of the School of Aerospace Medicine, Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Community Health from 1978-2004.

We apologize for the error.

Finkelstein was unable to attend the AsMA annual meeting in San Diego this past May when long-time AsMA members were honored. Dr. Finkelstein took advantage of the ICASM meeting to catch up with some old friends, including Dr. Luis Amezcua from México and Dr. Murillo de Oliveira Villela from Brazil.



**ICASM**—Dr. Murillo de Oliveira Villela (left), Dr. Luis Amezcua (center), and Dr. Silvio Finkelstein (right) pose together at ICASM in October in Mexico.



Send information for publication on this page to: **Corporate News**  
**Aerospace Medical Association**  
320 S. Henry Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3579

## NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

### William F. Mitchell, Sr. Retires from ETC

Environmental Tectonics Corporation (ETC) recently announced that William F. Mitchell, Sr., has retired and has resigned from the Board of Directors of the company. The company previously announced a management transition whereby Mr. Mitchell stepped down as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the company. William ("Bill") F. Mitchell, Sr., founded the Company in 1969 and has led the company to a strong



position in simulated environments for training, testing, and research & development for a variety of niche aeromedical and commercial/industrial markets worldwide. Though Mr. Mitchell has retired and stepped down from all duties, he will be engaged as a senior technical consultant to the company for a period of up to 36 months. Robert L. Laurent, Jr., Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company, has been appointed to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Mitchell received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Drexel University and has completed graduate work in mechanical and electrical engineering. He is a member of the ASME and Drexel University engineering advisory boards. Additionally, Mr. Mitchell is a Member of the Society of Automotive/Aerospace Engineering, the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineering, the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, the American Society of Mechanical Engineering, and the Institute of Environmental Sciences, and a corporate member of the Aerospace Medical Association.

Over the years Mr. Mitchell has been a staunch supporter of AsMA, working with the Corporate and Sustaining Affiliate and Corporate Membership committee. He was a welcome and constant presence at AsMA annual meetings whether at the ETC exhibit booth, the International Members Reception, or at Honors Night. We at AsMA wish him well in his retirement.

—Some of the information here was taken from a press release at <https://www.etcusa.com/etc-announces-retirement-of-william-f-mitchell-sr/>.

### David Clark's Wireless System Saving Lives

David Clark Company's Wireless Communication System is currently being used by Marco Island Fire Rescue in Florida and has helped improve situational awareness and incident preparedness. The system allowed first responders to, for example, rescue a victim of near drowning who was on a beach that could not be closely approached by the rescue boat due to waves. The rescuers were able to use the David Clark system to communicate with

the paramedic sent to the beach and were able to coordinate the medical assessment and pickup. The system also allowed the first responders to rescue a swimmer who'd been taken out into the Gulf of Mexico by a rip current. The crewmember on the rescue platform at the rear of the boat was able to communicate with the boat operator, thus coordinating the retrieval of the swimmer. The system additionally allows paramedics to contact the U.S. Coast Guard, local hospitals, and a medical helicopter if needed.

—Excerpted from a story on *Marine News*: <http://www.davidclark-two-way.com/files/literature/David%20Clark%20pg43%20MN%20Oct14.pdf>.

### David Clark Co. and ETC Collaborate

The David Clark Co., which made the Gemini space suits and the Advanced Crew Escape Suit (ACES), has proposed a new suit: the Contingency Hypobaric Astronaut Protective Suit (CHAPS), designed specifically for commercial spaceflights. It is derived from USAF S1035 and the ACES pressure suits. David Clark is also proposing a derivative of the ACES suit for NASA's Orion and commercial orbital space missions. ETC's NASTAR Center provided its centrifuge to David Clark for testing the CHAPS suit in a variety of research and validation test profiles. This testing yielded data to validate and refine the comfort and durability of the suit during launch and re-entry G loads.

—To read the entire story, please visit <http://www.etcusa.com/etc-newsletter/space-suits/>.

### Baxter Recognized for Commitment to Women's Healthcare Careers

Baxter International Inc. was recognized for its sustainability leadership by several external organizations, including the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association's 2014 ACE Award for commitment to advancing women's careers in the healthcare industry and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. Record participation in environmental and wellness sustainability programs has sparked additional innovative ideas from employees to help the company achieve its sustainability goals. Additionally, a record number of Baxter employees contributed their skills and expertise to benefit their local communities through participation in the company's sixth annual Baxter World Environment Week in June. The event illustrated the integration of environmental sustainability into Baxter's culture.— See [http://www.baxter.com/press\\_room/press\\_releases/2014/10\\_08\\_14\\_sustainability.html](http://www.baxter.com/press_room/press_releases/2014/10_08_14_sustainability.html).

### AOPA Working to End Border Crossing Frustrations

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is bringing together U.S. and Canadian officials in an effort to make crossing the border a simpler, less cumbersome, and more manageable experience for general

aviation pilots and passengers. At an October meeting hosted by AOPA in Washington, DC, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) leaders met with their counterparts from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to discuss ways to ease GA border crossings without compromising security. For this month's 'cross-border summit,' AOPA brought together border protection agency officials from the United States and Canada as well as stakeholders from the aviation community. The gathering was the first step in a longer-term collaboration. Officials from Mexico were also invited to participate. At the meeting, CBP officials offered to share their insights and experiences in establishing an electronic Advance Passenger Information System to help CBSA leaders avoid some of the pitfalls and challenges encountered in the development and implementation of that system.

—Excerpted from <http://www.aopa.org/News-and-Video/All-News/2014/October/16/AOPA-WORKS-TO-END-BORDER-CROSSING-FRUSTRATIONS>.

### Corporate News Bites

**AMAS:** The Aviation Medicine Advisory Service (AMAS) recently announced a partnership with TrainingPort.net, an online source for customized safety training. They also participated in a National Aviation Hall of Fame enshrinement ceremony and at the Bombardier Safety Standdown USA in Wichita, KS. To read these stories, please see the news page at <https://www.aviationmedicine.com/amas-notams/latest-amas-news/>.

**IFALPA:** The International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations (IFALPA) has released a position paper on transport of dangerous goods by air. The paper is available at <http://www.ifalpa.org/downloads/Level1/IFALPA%20Statements/Dangerous%20Goods%20Committee/15POS06%20-%20Transport%20of%20dangerous%20goods%20by%20air.pdf>.

**Spectrum Aeromed:** Spectrum Aeromed recently completed the sale of a 20/2200 short box module and conducted in-depth training of the Ecuador Navy. The Ecuador Navy flies patients from the Galapagos Islands to Ecuador. The Ecuador Navy will operate and maintain the aircraft and the Ministry of Health will have the medical technicians that will be operating the Spectrum Aeromed equipment. For more on this and for photos, please see <http://spectrum-aeromed.com/spectrum-aeromed-equipu-ecuador-navy/>.

**Mayo Clinic:** A Mayo Clinic telestroke program is now available at Wickenburg, AZ, Community Hospital. In telestroke care, the use of a telestroke robot located in a rural hospital lets a stroke patient be seen in real time by a neurology specialist at Mayo Clinic located in Phoenix. For more on this visit: <http://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/wickenburg-community-hospital-adds-mayo-clinic-telestroke/#more-52277>.