AsMA Keynote Events at the Chicago Annual Meeting

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In the September 2023 edition of the President’s Page, I shared the theme for the 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting: ”Honoring the Past—Preparing for the Future”. The theme emphasized the historic and future aspects of aviation, aerospace medicine, human spaceflight, and space exploration.

During the upcoming Annual Scientific Meeting, three main keynote events for the entire assembly include the Bauer Lecture, Reinartz Plenary Session, and the Armstrong Lecture. The Bauer Lecture is delivered during the Opening Ceremony on the first day of the meeting. On Tuesday morning the Reinartz Plenary Session takes place, and the Armstrong Lecture is slated for Thursday morning. I wish to share some brief background on each designated event so you can appreciate their historic nature, as well as introduce our illustrious presenters.

Dr. Louis H. Bauer was truly a luminary in the field of aviation and aerospace medicine. He served as the first Commandant of the Army School of Aviation Medicine from 1919–1925. He subsequently established a medical section in the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce, which would eventually become the Federal Aviation Administration. In 1929 he founded the Aviation Medical Association, now known as the Aerospace Medical Association. He established the Journal of Aviation Medicine, now entitled Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance. He also served as Secretary General of the World Medical Association and President of the American Medical Association.

We are very honored that Astronaut and Senator Harrison Schmitt will deliver the prestigious Bauer Lecture during the Opening Ceremonies. Dr. Schmitt served on the final Apollo mission, Apollo 17, as Lunar Module Pilot along with mission Commander Eugene Cernan and Command Module Pilot Ronald Evans. A graduate of the California Institute of Technology, he received a Ph.D. in Geology from Harvard University and was the only geologist to explore the lunar surface during the six Apollo lunar landings. He and Cernan were the last two astronauts to have explored the surface of the Moon, during which they performed three EVAs (extravehicular activity) totaling over 22 hours. His post-NASA career included service as a U.S. Senator from New Mexico from 1977–1983. He has been involved with numerous leadership, business, science, public policy, and education activities. This included serving as Chair of the NASA Advisory Council.

The Reinartz Plenary Session on Tuesday morning was established by AsMA via an endowed gift from the family of Dr. Eugen Reinartz. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps during WWI, with subsequent tours as a Flight Surgeon. He served as director of the Department of Neuropsychiatry at the School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, TX, and later as Commandant of the School, retiring with the rank of Brigadier General. The 2024 Reinartz Plenary Session will be a moderated panel of distinguished astronauts. Panelists will include: CAPT Joe Krier, USN (Skylab, and first U.S. physician in space); Col. Robert Cabana, USMC (veteran Space Shuttle pilot astronaut and Commander of the first assembly mission of the ISS (STS-88) who recently retired as NASA Associate Administrator); Joan Higginbotham (electrical engineer and Space Shuttle mission specialist); and Dr. Serena Auñón-Chancellor (former NASA Flight Surgeon and long-duration ISS crewmember).

The discussion will include a mosaic view across the eras of Skylab, Space Shuttle, and the International Space Station. A look at the challenges of long-duration flight, International Partner cooperation, Commercial Crew programs, and future exploration missions will be highlighted. The personal stories from the astronauts should be especially enjoyable.

Dr. Robert Cabana will deliver the Armstrong Lecture this year, named after Major General Harry G. Armstrong, recognized as a pioneer in the field of aviation and aerospace medicine. He founded the Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Wright Field, Dayton, OH, and is especially known for advancements in aircrew protection from temperature extremes and high-altitude hypoxia. He founded the Department of Space Medicine at Randolph Field, TX, and served as the Surgeon General of the Air Force (1949–1954). The “Armstrong limit” (aka line) is named after him, which is the altitude above which atmospheric pressure is sufficiently low such that water boils at the normal temperature of the human body.

The Armstrong Lecture this year will be delivered by Dr. Lisa Kaltenegger, Director of the Carl Sagan Institute at Cornell University. The institute was founded based on the pioneering work of the legendary Carl Sagan to find life in the universe.

See “Keynote speakers”, p. N12

Harrison Schmitt on the Moon.
The institute incorporates an “interdisciplinary team in developing the scientific forensic toolkit to find life inside the Solar System and outside of it, on planets and moons orbiting other stars”. Dr. Kaltenegger received her Ph.D. in astrophysics from the Karl Franzens University in Graz, Austria. She held positions at the Max Planck Institute of Astronomy in Heidelberg, Germany, and the Center for Astrophysics at Harvard/Smithsonian in Cambridge, MA. She is currently an Associate Professor of Astronomy at Cornell.

Unquestionably, attendees of the Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago are in store for an outstanding set of keynote presentations! I truly hope you may be present in person to hear our esteemed guests as they grace our stage.

All the best.
Keep ’em Flying…and Full Steam Ahead.

Wing News

Join The Wing of AsMA in Chicago
94th AsMA Annual Scientific Meeting, May 5–10, 2024

The Wing of AsMA promotes and increases sociability among the members of AsMA and their accompanying guests. Join our friendly tribe! We are a lively bunch who make friends easily, engage in fun activities, and enjoy ourselves probably more than we should! You’ll feel (and probably hear) the warmth and sense of community. Our newest members feel welcome, no one is a stranger. Click below to register for Chicago events and pay 2024 membership dues. Dues have not gone up in over 20 years and we are not raising membership fees this year either!

Fun Fact: The tradition of dyeing the Chicago River green on St. Patrick’s Day dates back to 1962 when the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union started the practice to celebrate the holiday. The green dye used is an eco-friendly vegetable dye that only lasts for a few hours and does not harm the river or the environment. It has since become a beloved tradition that attracts thousands of spectators to the riverfront each year.

The Venue: The Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel

Stunning! Beautiful! The Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel truly looks and feels like the pictures on its website. During the site visit this past August, those of us who’ve never been to this hotel truly could not believe how wonderfully awesome it is. Pictures are worth more than words. This is so true when trying to describe this great venue. You’ve probably already checked out the hotel online, but here’s a link to the photo gallery. The pictures do not exaggerate how amazing this place is: https://www.hyatt.com/hyatt-regency/en-US/chic-hyatt-regency-chicago/gallery.

When you arrive … you’ll walk in … look around … and say to yourself, “Yes, The Wing is right! This place is incredible!” As you get oriented, you’ll want to find the Wing Hospitality Room. We scored a wonderful Hospitality Room. You’ll see lots of windows, we can walk out on a patio, plenty of space. It’s perfect! You will want to come see us first and pick up your Advance Registration as soon as possible. We’ll be there starting at 1:00 PM on Sunday, May 5, 2024.

Wing Hospitality Room and Registration

Join us in the Plaza Ballroom “A” beginning Sunday, May 5, 2024, from 1-5 PM and on Monday, May 6, from 10:00 AM-1:30 PM. We’re casual and informal. This is where The Wing’s adventures begin. We make new friends (who quickly seem like old friends) and reconnect with friends we’ve known longer. Since we’ll be doing something new on Thursday – this means nothing is “formally planned” – this is where we’ll start to see who’s doing what. We’ll make sure everyone has something to do … even if you just want to sleep late!

Welcome Reception—Monday, May 6, 1:30-4:30 PM

Our Annual Welcome Reception is one of our favorite events. We enjoy a relaxed environment. Of course, we visit and enjoy refreshments. We have a gift exchange. Our returning members bring a small gift reminiscent of their home city, state, or country. New members and first-time attendees don’t bring a gift as we are very happy to welcome you to THE WING!

Architectural Boat Tour—Tuesday, May 7, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Discover the architectural gems of the Windy City from an ideal vantage point on a cruise down the Chicago River. Covering more than 130 years of architectural history, the tour is the perfect opportunity to see a huge area of the city. Enjoy unobstructed views of the city’s top attractions and gain an in-depth understanding of local architecture.

Annual Wing Luncheon & Business Meeting—Wednesday, May 8, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

This year we’ll be at McCormick & Schmick’s (another Wing favorite). We can walk together or grab a taxi or rideshare. We’ll enjoy a lovely meal, discuss a little business and catch up with friends. Our Annual Wing Business meeting will be held

See “The Wing”, p. N13
AsMA also welcomed back two returning members:
- Stephens, Michael; Rochester, MN, United States
- Warren, Andrew; Kensington, MD, United States

Meetings Calendar

April 17-19, 2024; Spacelift Human Optimization & Performance Summit; Space Center Houston, Houston, TX. For more information or to register, visit https://www.uhcl.edu/hhpi/spacelift-human-optimization-performance-summit/.

April 30-May 1, 2024; 69th Annual Business Aviation Safety Summit (BASS); Austin, TX. For more information or to register, visit https://flightsafety.swoogo.com/BASS2024.


Calls for Papers


AOCPM 2024 Midyear Educational Conference

Hybrid: Online via Zoom and in Person in Conroe, TX, United States; March 21-24, 2024
Program Chair: Kris Belland, D.O., MPH, MBA, MSS, CPE, FASHFA, FAsMA
Click here for the agenda. Visit aocpm.org/my24 for more info or to register.
March Crossword

By Lt. Col. Srihari Iyer K, Flight Surgeon, Indian Army, and Dr. Sahana Srihari, Assistant Professor, Dermatology, Adesh Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Bathinda, Punjab, India.

ACROSS
1. To avoid significant __________, the effective additional dead space imposed by the use of an oxygen mask should be no more than 150ml. (11)
5. Adequate concentration of oxygen and nitrogen are some of the __________ requirements of oxygen systems. (13)
9. An ‘S’-shaped oxyhaemoglobin dissociation curve was first described by ____. (4)
10. Compared with the Valsalva maneuver, the _______-maneuver carries a significantly lower risk of over-pressurizing the middle or inner ear. (7)
11. Superoxide dismutase is lacking in __________ which could have enabled them to control oxygen free radicals. (9)
12. The provision of slight by continuous overpressure in the mask is called as __________ pressure. (6)
13. ___________ goggles have been shown to prevent retinal slip and may be an effective alternative for the prevention of motion sickness. (11)
14. The fall of cabin pressure below that of the atmosphere due to a defect in the aircraft structure is by the _______-effect of aerodynamic suction. (7)
15. ___________ clouds typically appears as white, patchy sheets with ripples or tufts without gray shading. (12)

DOWN
2. The __________ is characterized by relatively consistent fall of temperature with an increase in altitude. (11)
3. The principal causes of hypoxia in flight are ascent to altitude without supplemental oxygen, failure of oxygen system and ___________. (13)
4. The molecular sieves in MSOCS are alkali-metal ___________ of the crystalline zeolite family. (16)
5. La Pression barometrique, the first extensive studies on hypoxia using the altitude chamber was published by ___________. (4,4)
6. First lieutenant Thomas E. Selfridge, was the first person to have lost in life in an airplane crash. He was killed while seated as a passenger on a demonstration flight piloted by ___________. (7,6)
7. The main factors that affect TLCO are the total surface area of the alveolar-capillary membrane and its thickness and by the ___________ concentration. (11)
8. Jaguar chin is the injury caused by ___________ mounted oxygen regulator system. (4)

The solution can be found on p. N17.
News of Corporate Members

PharmaFlight Is Newest Corporate Member

PharmaFlight ZRT is AsMA’s newest Corporate Member. They are a company located in Debrecen, Hungary, and were founded in 2015. They offer a variety of services to pilots and other aviation workers, including a flying academy, a simulator center, an aviation medical center, and a physiological science center. The flying academy provides training to all pilots, while the simulator center is used for pilot and flight engineer training, as well as testing and operation of onboard systems. Their aviation medical center offers medical exams and certification of flight crew, and the physiological science center provides research on and solutions for physiological support of air and road transport. PharmaFlight’s goal is road and air traffic safety, improvement of human factors, and opportunities for professionals to achieve the best possible performance. In pursuit of this, they took part in last October’s 69th International Conference on Aerospace Medicine (ICASM) in Abu Dhabi, where one of their people gave a presentation on fatigue measurement and management.

—Please visit https://www.pharmaflight.hu/ for more info.

MedAire Partners with Acquera

MedAire has formed a strategic partnership with Acquera Yachting, a global yacht agency. This relationship will allow both companies to provide enhanced support to clients wherever they are in the world. Acquera, with decades of experience as yacht agents, proactively anticipates and understands clients’ needs, offering personalized services with a global perspective focusing on human connections and innovation. MedAire, on the other hand, is a leading provider in their field of maritime health and security, with over 35 years’ experience in the superyacht industry. They offer a variety of services, including medication and equipment supply, telemedical assistance, and location-based health and security risk analysis. In the initial phase, Acquera Yachting will assist MedAire in the clearance of medication orders in some of the more challenging locations. The last mile of any delivery is the most complex and Acquera’s trusted network in key yachting locations offers yachts in their care an efficient solution. MedAire clients using Acquera Yachting will be able to rely upon their experience and expertise to ensure smooth delivery. This will improve the medical kit replenishment process, required by vessels as part of their regulatory compliance.


Axiom Astronauts Complete Mission

After undocking from the International Space Station (ISS) on Wednesday, Feb. 7, the Axiom Mission 3 (Ax-3) crew safely splashed down off the coast of Florida aboard a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft at 8:30 a.m. ET on Feb. 9, 2024. The Ax-3 crew’s return officially concludes the first all-European commercial astronaut mission and Axiom Space’s third crewed mission to the ISS. During their 18-day mission docked to the ISS, the Ax-3 crew lived and worked aboard the orbiting laboratory conducting more than 30 different experiments and more than 50 outreach engagements. Human research data collected on the ground before and after the mission, as well as in flight, will improve understanding of human physiology on Earth and in microgravity. Ax-3 demonstrates that the European community of space-faring nations are pioneers in the burgeoning commercial space industry. The crew and the governments they represent are taking bold steps into a new era of leadership in low Earth orbit. Ax-3 celebrates many firsts: it was the first commercial spaceflight mission comprised of government and ESA-sponsored national astronauts; Mission Specialist Alper Gezeravcı became the first ever Turkish astronaut; and Mission Specialist Marcus Wandt was the first ESA project astronaut to fly on a commercial space mission. Ax-3 is the third in a series of proposed Axiom Space human spaceflight missions, marking a milestone toward the realization of Axiom Station—the world’s first commercial space station.

—Please see https://www.axiomspace.com/news/ax3-splashdown to see the photo and read more.

Mayo Clinic Studying Specialized T Cells

Mayo Clinic researchers are studying whether specialized T cells taken from blood could harness the body’s immune system to treat or someday cure complex inflammatory diseases. Researchers are probing whether a subset of T cells known as regulatory T cells, or Tregs, have the power to suppress out-of-control immune responses. If so, they want to know if this could offer a new therapeutic option for chronic inflammation that does not respond to standard treatment. William Faubion, Jr., M.D., a gastroenterologist who is dean of Research at Mayo Clinic in Arizona and medical director of Mayo Clinic’s Center for Regenerative Biotherapeutics, is leading a team of researchers focused on the therapeutic value of Tregs for inflammatory bowel disease. The allure of Tregs lies in their potential to deliver healing messages to diseased tissues while sparing normal tissues. Dr. Faubion’s team will study whether Tregs can be loaded with specific receptors to target intestinal inflammatory conditions and restore healthy immune function for patients. Preclinical studies have shown promising results, but engineered Tregs have not yet been studied in humans at Mayo Clinic. Exploring Tregs as a cellular therapy in clinical care would be a new approach for targeting the molecular underpinnings of inflammation and stopping it at its source.

—Please visit https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/how-specialized-blood-cells-could-transform-treatments-for-inflammatory-disease/ to read the entire release.

Want to see your company’s news here?
Become a Corporate Member! Corporate members receive discounts for advertising and exhibiting, among other benefits. Visit AsMAS website for more at: https://www.asma.org/for-corporations.

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ADDMAN Anounces Expansion of ISO 13485 Certification

ADDMAN Group announced a major enhancement to its ISO 13485 certification. This expansion represents another advancement in ADDMAN’s ability to serve the medical manufacturing community. ADDMAN originally achieved its initial ISO 13485 certification in 2016. The expansion of the ISO 13485:2016 certification capabilities allows ADDMAN to continue to diversify its manufacturing capabilities and deliver comprehensive solutions within the medical device sector. ISO 13485:2016 is the international standard for quality management systems in the medical device industry, focusing on meeting regulatory and customer requirements. It offers a quality management system, compliance with global regulatory standards, and risk management, and it ensures medical devices meet stringent safety and performance standards.

—Please see https://www.addmangroup.com/addman-group-elevates-medical-device-manufacturing-through-enhanced-iso-13485-certification/ for more on this.

IFALPA and CAAS Sign Agreement

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (IFALPA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) agreeing to work together on aviation safety training and competency development. The partnership will help aviation professionals manage safety challenges and raise aviation safety standards. The MOU was signed by Mr. Han Kok Juan, Director-General of CAAS, and Capt. Amornvaj Mansumitchai, President of IFALPA, at the sidelines of the Changi Aviation Summit. Under the MOU, CAAS and IFALPA will work together to: develop and deliver training programs and jointly organize seminars and workshops related to aviation safety.

See "Corporate News", p. N17

Corporate News Bites

InoMedic: Inomedic recently took part in the 25th Annual Tri-Cities Economic Outlook and Workforce Summit. They sponsored the “Healthcare in Tri” session, facilitated by their External Affairs Coordinator. The company’s CEO and COO were also on hand to support the summit. Additionally, InoMedic announced they were awarded a Department of Energy contract to provide continued occupational medical services to Hanford Site employees in Richland, WA. For more on these, including photos, please visit InoMedic’s Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/IHAMedical/

ETC: Environmental Tectonics Corporation (ETC) announced the promotion of two people—Katarzyna Wrzesinski to Director of Finance and Corporate Controller and Joseph McAvoy to Vice President of Contracts. Ms. Wrzesinski was the company’s Corporate Controller before this. Prior to his promotion, Mr. McAvoy was Director of Contracts. To read more, please see https://www.etcusa.com/etc-announces-promotion-of-katarzyna-wrzesinski-and-joseph-mcavoy-to-the-corporate-officer-leadership-team/.

AOPA: The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association’s (AOPA’s) President, Mark Baker, will be retiring. He is now working with AOPA’s Board of Trustees to find a successor. He will stay at the helm for up to 2 years while the board works to find AOPA’s next president. Please visit https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2024/january/30/orderly-succession-plan-in-place-for-next-aopa-leader to read more.

ALPA: The Air Line Pilots Association, Int’l (ALPA), applauded the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee for voting to advance an FAA reauthorization bill which includes necessary funding for the FAA, supports the air traffic controller workforce and numerous safety measures, improvements related to aircraft cabin air quality, U.S. student loan reform for more access to flight training, workforce development grants, and support for nursing mothers. They urge the Senate to pass this bill. Please see https://www.alpa.org/news-and-events/news-room/2024-02-08-senate-commerce-advances-strong-us-aviation-bill for more.

FAA AME Seminars

These are offered by the FAA AME Program Office.

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AsMA only takes registrations for the seminar held in conjunction with our annual scientific meeting. For more info on these seminars, please visit the FAA website.

Upcoming Annual Scientific Meetings

May 5-9, 2024; Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL
June 1-6, 2025; Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, GA
May 17-21, 2026; Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, CO
May 23-28, 2027; Hilton Anatole Dallas, Dallas, TX
safety; build up a pool of instructors and resource persons for the development or delivery of aviation safety programs; and use existing and establish new outreach platforms to promote aviation safety and institute a strong and positive safety culture amongst the aviation community.


KBR Hosts Dream Placement Students

KBR is proud to support the Centre for Leadership Performance’s Dream Placement, a unique initiative that brings together motivated young people ages 16 to 18 with some of the most forward-looking and successful businesses operating in the United Kingdom. Dream Placement is a career development program designed to create a future workforce for the county. The goal is to equip participants with the skills, experience, and contacts to carry them through further education, university, their first job, and beyond. It allows young people to explore the industries they feel passionate about and gives them a vision of what they can aspire to. KBR welcomed two young people to join our team on the Programme and Project Partners (PPP) contract at the Sellafield Ltd site. KBR was appointed the integration partner on the PPP contract at Sellafield in 2019. PPP is transforming major infrastructure delivery at Sellafield in the north of England—tackling the legacy of the site’s past, building a capability for the future, and creating a clean and safe environment for generations to come.


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From “Corporate News”, p. N16

Crossword Solution

AsMA’s HQ Staff would like to wish a happy and peaceful Easter to all those who celebrate and a joyful Spring, whatever holiday you observe.