New Members

AsMA welcomes 17 new members in November.

- Akpunonu, Peter; Lexington, KY, USA
- Aydogan Mathyk, Begum; Tampa, FL, USA
- Chen, Deniel; Ewa Beach, HI, USA
- Crouch, John; Windsor, CT, USA
- Davidson, Kayleen; Oak Harbor, WA, USA
- Delgado Libien, Linda; Daytona Beach, FL, USA
- Dorantes, Jorge; Westlake, OH, USA
- Elfassy, Jonah; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Ford, Caelan; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, USA
- Gil, Jennifer; Baltimore, MD, USA
- Goddard, John; Belle Isle, FL, USA
- Jordan, Mary; Decatur, GA, USA
- Mackay, Aladair; Henlow, Bedfordshire, UK
- Nutbourne, Alice; Reading, Berkshire, UK
- Reid, Neil; Houston, TX, USA
- Ruiz, Alejandro; Las Vegas, NV, USA
- Stevens, Mark; Morris, IL, USA

AsMA also welcomed back one returning member:
- Blanc, Ariane; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Obituary Listing: Brian Ireland

AsMA staff were saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Brian J. Ireland, an authorized medical examiner in Ireland, in early October. He specialized in aerospace and aviation medicine and had been a long-term member of the Aerospace Medical Association.

Society of U.S. Navy Flight Surgeons Awards

The Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons held their luncheon Monday, August 30, 2021, during the Aerospace Medical Association’s 91st Annual Scientific Meeting. The award winners are as follows:

- Cornelius “Fritz” Kopy Senior Aerospace Medicine Technician of the Year: HM1(AW) Marilyn McCormick
- John “Rick” Garmeson Junior Aerospace Medicine Technician of the Year: HM3(AW) Roshelle Hodges
- CAPT Bruce W. Jackson Reserve Flight Surgeon of the Year: CDR Jennifer A. Murr
- Richard E. Luehrs Operational Flight Surgeon of the Year: LT Yusof A. Becker
- Ashton Graybiel Memorial Award: LT Alicia C. Smith
- Sonny Carter Memorial Award: CDR Allen Hoffman
- Robert Mitchell Memorial Award: CAPT Edwin Y. Park

Carter Award—CAPT Gardener, right, accepts the Sonny Carter Memorial Award from CAPT Tim Lavan, left, on behalf of CDR Allen Hoffman, who was unable to attend the meeting this year.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

Please check meeting websites for changes.

HFACS Workshops; Workshops on The Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS), online and in-person. For more info, visit https://www.enrole.com/erau.jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=558570F8&courseId=OHFA for online.

Nov. 15, 2021; Systems Medicine for Spaceflight; Baltimore, MD. This first mini-symposia will feature Drs. Jennifer Fogarty, Erik Antonsen, and Kris Lehnhardt. For more info, please visit https://cgpo.jhu.edu/human-spaceflight-special-interest-group-2/.

Nov. 16-19, 2021; 3rd Australian Space Biology x Health Summit; Virtual. This free event will offer prerecorded presentations. For more information or to register, please visit https://www.asbx.com.au/.

Read Current News Online!

The AsMA, Member, & Industry News are updated as we get news. Visit AsMA’s website to see what’s new! Members: check the Job Fair each month.

UTMB Grand Rounds

These sessions are presented the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. CST using Microsoft Teams. For technical assistance attendees can call (409) 747-6131 or contact Rachel Fowler (rpfowler@utmb.edu). UTMB requests that attendees log in no later than 7:45 a.m. CST. The link to join the meeting and further information can be found at https://www.utmb.edu/pmph/aerospace-medicine/.

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Send information for publication in this newsletter to: Journal Department, AsMA; rtrigg@asma.org
Mayo Clinic researchers are investigating COVID-19’s neurological side effects, such as loss of smell, delirium and cognitive impairment, to determine whether being infected with COVID-19 influences development or progression of Alzheimer’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease-related dementias. While COVID-19 is primarily regarded as a respiratory disease, brain scans and neuropathological studies confirm brain abnormalities in some patients infected with COVID-19. In addition, a recent Mayo study revealed that approximately half of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 have elevated levels of neurofilament light in their blood. This protein is present only in neurons, which carry and transmit electrical signals throughout the nervous system, and its detection in blood indicates neuronal injury. To examine that finding further, a team led by Leonard Petrucelli, Ph.D., a Mayo Clinic molecular neuroscientist, and James Meschia, M.D., a Mayo Clinic neurologist, is poised to investigate key questions about the effects of COVID-19 on the brain and assess long-term neurological implications of COVID-19 infection. The researchers plan to study blood neurofilament light protein; other proteins associated with Alzheimer’s disease, such as tau and beta amyloid; and changes in cognition, behavior, and daily function related to neurodegenerative disorders, which may be unmasked or accelerated by COVID-19. Imaging for markers of brain neuroinflammation and beta amyloid pathology may help researchers determine whether neuroinflammation associated with COVID-19 triggers or accelerates the buildup of beta amyloid.

**AOPA’s You Can Fly High School Curriculum Grows**

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Foundation You Can Fly High School Aviation STEM Curriculum is quickly being adopted at schools across the country, with 322 educational institutions in 44 states using the curriculum in the 2021–2022 school year. That represents a 60% increase in the number of schools and a 22% increase in the number of states in which the curriculum will be taught compared to 1 year ago, when 200 schools in 36 states provided it for 8,000 students. Donations to the AOPA Foundation fund the curriculum, which is provided free to schools. Because of this, AOPA is reaching students from populations that are underrepresented in aviation. In the 2020–2021 school year, teachers and students from mid-high and high-poverty schools accounted for 45% and 55% of participants, respectively. In addition, 20% of the students were female, and 45% of the students were people of color. The curriculum has received national accreditation and is backed by state education departments, helping to fuel its growth. The curriculum also can count as college credit at many colleges and universities across the country.


**NIOSH Seeks Input on Improving Health Workers’ Mental Health**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has announced an opportunity for the public to provide information and comments to help improve the mental health and well-being of the nation’s health workers. As part of the American Rescue Plan of 2021, NIOSH received funding to deliver a national awareness and education campaign to safeguard and improve the mental health of health workers. Through this Request for Information, NIOSH seeks to gain input from partners and the public about current evidence-based occupational safety and health and other related interventions to prevent work-associated stress and improve the mental health of health workers. NIOSH also seeks information on best practices, promising practices, and successful programs related to providing stress prevention and mental health services to health workers.

NIOSH will use the information provided to support nationwide efforts to raise awareness of mental health concerns, identify best practices to prevent and reduce adverse mental health outcomes, identify workplace and community supports, and reduce stigma related to seeking and receiving care. To learn more and submit comments, please view the announcement in the Federal Register. The deadline to submit comments is November 26, 2021.


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**Corporate News Bites**

**ALPA:** On behalf of the pilots at the new Canadian North, the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) issued a statement acknowledging the ratification of a joint collective agreement (JCA). This agreement is a by-product of the 2018 announcement from Canadian North’s parent company, Inuvialuit Corporate Group, of a merger with Makivik Corporation’s arctic air carrier First Air, creating a new Canadian North. For more on this, visit http://www.alpa.org/news-and-events/news-room/2021-10-15-canadian-north-first-air-pilots-joint-collective-agreement.

**KBR:** KBR and Beca, under the Better Konnected Joint Venture, have been appointed to the Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) Comprehensive Technical Services Panel (CTSP). Due to this, Better Konnected has potential to support TfNSW with the development, delivery, management and coordination of integrated professional services for its portfolio of projects. Please see https://www.kbr.com/en/insights-events/stories/kbr-joint-venture-appointed-comprehensive-technical-services-panel to read more on this.

**MedAire:** As MedAire’s security operations grow along with requests for intelligence on travel to the Middle East, the company has made personnel additions and expanded technological operational resources. They have hired two dedicated aviation security specialists and a security manager in their Dubai center. To read the complete article, visit https://www.blueskynews.aero/issue-624/MedAire-expands-its-international-aviation-security-presence.html.

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**Constituents - Send Us Your News!**

Send us photos and brief bios of your award winners for inclusion in future newsletters. News items can be sent to Rachel Trigg at rtrigg@asma.org.

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**ASBX 2021**

The 3rd Australian Space Biology x Health Summit (ASBX) will be November 16–19, 2021. This free virtual event will offer local and international presenters, a STEAM program and competition for students and young investigators, and live panel discussions each day. Presentations will be prerecorded. For more information or to register, please visit https://www.asbx.com.au.

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