Exhibitors at AsMA’s 84th Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago, IL

The Welcome Reception was again held in the Exhibit Hall. AsMA would like to sincerely thank all those who exhibited at our annual meeting. Pictured on these pages are some of our loyal corporate members who exhibited during the meeting.

All photos are by Pamela Day.
News of Corporate Members

AsMA Welcomes Two New Corporate Members

The Aerospace Medical Association recently welcomed two new Corporate and Sustaining Members: OxyHeal Health Group and Piedmont Physicians.

OxyHeal (http://www.oxyheal.com/) is the longest continually operating, single owner, national wound healing and hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) provider in the United States. With over 40 years of experience, OxyHeal is recognized as a leader in the industry due to the diverse range of wound healing and HBOT clinical solutions offered to hospitals and healthcare systems interested in commencing or centralizing their essential wound healing and HBOT patient care services.

Piedmont Physicians (http://www.piedmont.org/main/home.aspx) have been a recognized leader for more than a century in delivering expert care. Last year, they served nearly 2 million patients. They believe in the power of the personal touch, which is why they build long-term patient relationships and strong connections within their communities. To find out more about either company, please visit their respective websites.

Wyle Diagnostic Technology Named to Hall of Fame

A medical diagnostic technology that experts at Wyle helped perfect for use both in space and on Earth was inducted recently into the Space Technology Hall of Fame. The technology assures high quality, secure handling and transmission of diagnostic imagery generated by compact and low-power ultrasound units, like those used in hospitals and medical offices. Real time remotely guided ultrasound is already the diagnostic imaging solution of choice for human space missions. Tests have shown that the system can be used to quickly diagnose many medical situations in space.

"Future space missions will use this approach for astronaut care as well as for research," said Genie Bopp, a vice president at Wyle’s Science, Technology and Engineering Group based in Houston, TX. "It also holds great promise for a large segment of the world’s population that has no access to specialized imaging expertise. Those who embrace this system will likely see better medical outcomes and also save resources along the way."

In 2000, NASA approached a team, including Dr. Scott Dulchavsky, chair of the Department of Surgery of Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and Wyle doctors Ashto Sargsyan and Douglas Hamilton to develop medical ultrasound remote diagnostic techniques for use by non-expert astronauts aboard the International Space Station. The goal was to create the basis for an operational telemedicine capability for future advanced space missions. Wyle clinicians and engineers led the development of the remote guidance techniques and data transmission on orbit as well as handling the testing of the ground implementation.

ETC’s NASTAR Center Is a NASA Space Place Community Partner

The NASTAR® Center, the premier commercial space training and research center in the world, has been designated as a “NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Space Place Community Partner.” The NASTAR Center and the NASA Space Place partnership help support mutual initiatives to encourage, facilitate, and promote space-based education. The Space Place was started in February 1998 as an education and public outreach project of NASA’s New Millennium Program. The Space Place program includes a kid-friendly website (www.spaceplace.nasa.gov) and bulletin board displays at Community Partner sites around the country. Its target audience is elementary-school-age kids. As a Space Place Community Partner, the NASTAR Center has added a Space Place display to its Educator Resource Center.

Mayo Clinic Finds Possible Diagnostic Test for Alzheimer’s

Mayo Clinic researchers say blood offers a possible way to detect Alzheimer’s disease at its earliest onset. Researchers analyzed cerebrospinal fluid and plasma samples from 45 people in the Mayo Clinic Study on Aging and Mayo Clinic Alzheimer’s Disease Center (15 with no cognitive decline, 15 with mild cognitive impairment, and 15 with Alzheimer’s disease). They detected significant changes in the cerebrospinal fluid and plasma in those with cognitive decline and Alzheimer’s. Most important, changes in plasma accurately reflected changes in the cerebrospinal fluid, validating blood as a reliable source for the biomarker development. Their study was recently published online in the journal PLOS ONE.

The team uses a relatively new technique called metabolomics, which measures the chemical fingerprints of metabolic pathways in the cell to detect the changes. Metabolomics assesses what is happening in the body at a given time and at a fine level of detail, giving scientists insight into the cellular processes that underlie a disease. The researchers hope that identified changes in the metabolic pathways could lead to a panel of biomarkers, which can eventually be used on a larger scale for early diagnosis, monitoring of Alzheimer’s progression, and evaluating therapeutic approaches.