Back in August our Executive Committee met at AsMA headquarters in Alexandria, VA, to discuss our Association’s business and report on activities and initiatives. For those not familiar with this group, the Executive Committee consists of the AsMA President, President-elect, our four Vice-Presidents, three Council Members-at-Large, the AsMA Secretary and Treasurer, and the AsMA Executive Director. The Executive Committee serves as the governing body of the Association and exercises all the functions of the AsMA Council between annual meetings of the Association and when the Council is not in session. The AsMA Executive Committee typically meets at least twice a year in August and in February/March.

At the beginning of our meeting, I asked each member to share some information relating to this year’s president’s page theme on how they made a difference in Aerospace Medicine through AsMA. Well, it was no surprise that every member of this group of AsMA Leaders recognized long ago the value and importance of AsMA membership and many had great stories to tell. For example, some recognized a lack of coordination in a particular area of Aerospace Medicine and increased that coordination and influence through the formation of an AsMA constituent group. Some reported a great value of AsMA to international issues and international commercial travel. The value of AsMA to provide networking was a repeated theme: to provide interactions between each other of various ranks and positions, not otherwise possible outside of AsMA. These valuable interactions often resulted in greater effectiveness in many aerospace medicine issues. Receiving and providing mentorship and encouragement, as well as sharing ideas and creative solutions were also common themes.

Our 1½-day meeting was very full and productive. During the first half of our meeting we reviewed our finances, budget, and investment philosophy and suggested a financial target for a secure future with a need to review this target regularly. We evaluated our open actions, such as efforts to offer consolidated payments, the development of a membership survey on continuing education, the review of our policy compendium, a report on the completion of a position paper on screening in pilots for obstructive sleep apnea, a report on the support of an American Medical Association Resolution to assist physicians on in-flight emergencies, and a review of the plans on how to continuously update our Medical Guidelines for those who review passenger’s fitness to fly. Two proposed resolutions relating to commercial spaceflight and several proposed changes to our by-laws and policy and procedures manual were endorsed for presentation to Council. Last year’s annual scientific meeting was reviewed and lessons learned applied to our next. The second half of the meeting was devoted to several initiatives and the further development of our AsMA strategic plan. These initiatives, introduced on a previous edition of this page, are diligently being worked by our committees through our Vice Presidents and Executive Director. They should help us stay strong and viable and provide continued value to our current and future members.

A reminder that our next annual scientific meeting will be held in beautiful Orlando, FL, and the theme will be “Making a Difference in Aerospace Medicine.” This meeting will emphasize how we have been improving our understanding and impact on our field’s current challenges. I encourage all of you to submit an abstract. This is your meeting and your Association and we all want to hear about your pertinent scientific work. In your submissions, if possible, please try to identify any knowledge gaps that were clearly filled by your work, the key research done in solving a critical problem, the scientific information or activities that supported a change in viewpoints or policy. How has your work demonstrated that we made a difference in improving the health, safety, and human performance of those involved in aviation, space, and extreme environments? I look forward to joining the scientific program committee in reviewing these abstracts in November, so please submit your abstracts before the 31 October deadline. You can easily submit your abstracts using the electronic submission system linked to our Association’s web site at www.asma.org. Thank you!

Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., M.S.
Red Bull Stratos Mission Documentary Available Through Netflix

The Red Bull Stratos Project took Felix Baumgartner to over 128,000 ft in a stratospheric balloon, from which he jumped, successfully freefalling and then parachuting to earth, in October 2012. One of the Aerospace Medical Association’s members, Art Thompson, was the chief architect of the mission. He designed the flight articles and assembled the mission team. Jon Clark, Rebecca Blue, Sharmi Watkins, and Alex Carbinho, who are also AsMA members, were part of the medical team. The documentary film about the project, “Red Bull Stratos: Mission to the Edge of Space,” is now available for streaming through Netflix and presents the challenges embodied in the mission and the resulting technology and data that are now being incorporated into other missions.

Newman Named Co-Director of Man-Vehicle Lab

Prof. Dava J. Newman has been named Co-Director of the Man-Vehicle Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her fellow Director is Prof. Jeffrey A. Hoffman. Together they replace Dr. Charles M. Oman, a long-time member of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), who is retiring. Prof. Newman has researched human motion in weightlessness and reduced gravity, has developed advanced “Biosuit” designs for Extravehicular Activity, and has supervised space experiments on human motion since Shuttle-Mir. A graduate of Notre Dame, she received her Ph.D. from MIT and serves on the NASA Advisory Committee. At MIT she is also a Professor of Engineering Systems and director of the MIT-Portugal Program. She has been a member of AsMA for over 20 years.

News of Members

Col. Thomas J. Tredici, USAF, MC (Ret), recently gave the Arthur Stickle Memorial Lecture at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. He held grand rounds, discussing Ocular Motility Disorders in Military Pilots. Col. Tredici was also a speaker at the recent ACOEM meeting held in San Antonio, TX. Col. Tredici is now retired after 70 years of USAF military and civilian service. He is the former Chief of the Aerospace Ophthalmology Branch at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine and is a USAF Emeritus Scientist.

New Members

Beasley, Daniel R., LCDR, USN, M.D., Pensacola, FL
Cygan, Scott A., Dr., Fort Campbell, KY
D’Amore, Michael, Capt., USAF, M.D., APO AE
Goldie, Claire, Lt. Col., British Army, Stockbridge, UK
Harrington, Kristin A., Amarillo, TX
Khan, Nadir, Sugar Land, TX
Knight, Sheldon M., LCDR, USN, D.O., Pensacola, FL
Laing, Charles, Kieln, Germany
Luchansky, Mitchell A., Lt. Col., USAFR, M.D., M.B.A., Palm Coast, FL
Mandsager, Kyle, Dr., Nashville, TN
Muhammad, Siraj S., Sn., Ldr., Karachi, Pakistan
Parmar, Gaurav, M.D., M.P.H., Birmingham, AL
Patel, Nileg C., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada
Scagliai, Alessandro, Rome, Italy
Villarreal, Onier, Maj., USAF, M.D., Trinity, FL

NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

ALPA Honors Airline Pilot Excellence

The Air Line Pilots Association, Int’l (ALPA) honored excellence in advancing the piloting profession with the presentation of 11 prestigious awards and citations during its 60th Air Safety Forum, held in August in Washington, DC. During ALPA’s 2-day forum, the union recognized outstanding accomplishments in long-standing and emerging aviation safety, security, and pilot assistance issues. The association gave its highest safety honor, the Air Safety Award, to Capt. Mike Bender, a FedEx Express captain, for his outstanding commitment to advancing air safety. Capt. Bender, an Anchorage-based MD-11 pilot, was commended for his dedicated work in investigating and preventing airline accidents. ALPA also bestowed Superior Airmanship Awards, its Aviation Security Award, the Pilot Assistance Award, a Presidential Recognition Award, and two Presidential Citations. In addition, ALPA named an Outstanding ALPA Airport Safety Liaison (ASL). Rounding out the awards, ALPA named Miami International Airport (MIA) Airport of the Year in part because of its track record of maintaining effective communication with Delta Air Lines F/O Carlos Suhr, the union’s ASL at MIA.

—Excerpted from http://www.alpa.org/Portals/Alpa/PressRoom/PressReleases/2014/8-7-14_14.72.htm; please visit that page for the names of the award winners.

ETC Contracted for Altitude Simulation Chambers

Environmental Tectonics Corporation (ETC) recently announced the award of two separate contracts for the upgrade of two altitude simulation chambers originally provided by ETC to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and currently used for training and research at their Oklahoma City, OK, facility. The original contracts were for the sale of two altitude simulation chambers to the FAA in 1996. The most recent contract awards will upgrade essential components in the vacuum and environmental system and, upon completion of the upgrades, the chambers will have increased operational capability and enhanced safety. Altitude simulation chambers are typically used to provide altitude training to aircrews and to create hypoxic research environments for a variety of investigational scenarios.

Also recently, ETC announced the final acceptance of two altitude training and research chambers provided to the Spanish Air Force (SFAF) and installed at their aerospace medical training center (CIMA) in Madrid, Spain. The first contract required moving the original...
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See CORPORATES, p. 1070
advanced and complex stroke care. Centers that achieve this distinction—awarded by The Joint Commission working with the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association—are recognized as leaders that help set the national agenda in highly specialized stroke care. The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. To date, only a few dozen medical centers across the country have received this top national certification, which was created in 2012. Previously, Mayo Clinic in Florida was certified as a Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center. The certification was awarded after a rigorous onsite review that recognized Mayo Clinic’s state-of-the-art infrastructure and highly trained staff that treats patients with complex conditions such as subarachnoid hemorrhage and ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke.

—To read more and see the video, please visit http://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/ mayo-clinic-first-in-florida-to-receive-national-comprehensive-stroke-center-certification#more-46455.

NIOSH Partners with Other Organizations at Symposium

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) will be partnering with 14 organizations at the 1st International Symposium to Advance Total Worker HealthTM to be held October 6-8 in Bethesda, MD. The symposium will provide a collaborative environment where leaders in the world of workplace health, safety, and well-being can coordinate a dialogue between more than 500 agencies, scientists, and participants to advance Total Worker Health.


Corporate News Bites

Spectrum Aeromed: Spectrum was named among 50 best places to work by Prairie Business magazine in the September issue. Nomination was via anonymous employee satisfaction surveys and rated companies in areas such as work environment, employee benefits, and employee happiness. For a list of the winners, including Spectrum, please see http://www.prairiebizmag.com/event/article/id/20365/.

InoMedic: InoMedic employees were part of an effort to restore Kennedy Space Center’s shoreline, which had been damaged by Hurricane Sandy and other weather systems. The full story on the restoration is in Spaceport Magazine; http://issuu.com/ spaceportmagazine/docs/spm_august_issued-final# (the story starts on p. 24).

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION NOW OPEN!

Read the Call for Papers & submit your abstract now! Deadline is October 31, 2014!

MEETINGS CALENDAR

October 7-9, 2014; 10th Symposium & Exhibition on ICAO MRDTDs, Biometrics and Security Standards; ICAO Headquarters, Montreal, Canada. For more information or to register, please visit http://www.icao.int/Meetings/mrdt-symposium-2014/Pages/default.aspx.

October 9-11, 2014; Civil Aviation Medical Association (CAMA) Annual Scientific Meeting; Silver Legacy Resort, Reno, NV. This CAMA Annual Scientific Meeting is approved for FAA-AME training/recertification. For registration or program information, please visit http://www.civilavmed.com/. For further information, please contact CAMA at CivilAvMed@aol.com or call 770-487-0100.

October 12-16, 2014; 62nd International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM 2014); Mexico City, Mexico. For more information, please visit http://www.icasm2014.org.


October 30-November 1, 2014; Congress on Controversies in Thrombosis and Hemostasis (CITH); Berlin, Germany. To register, please visit http://www.congressmed.com/cith/index.php/registration/registration.

November 3-5, 2014; 52nd Annual SAFE Symposium; Caribe Royale Hotel & Convention Center, Orlando, FL. Please see the Call for Papers - deadline for abstract submission is July 25, 2014. For more information, please visit http://www.safesociety.com/index.cfm/page/symposium-overview.

November 11-13, 2014; International Air Safety Summit (IASS) 2014; Abu Dhabi, UAE. Sponsored by the Flight Safety Foundation and hosted by Etihad Airways. Please see the Flight Safety Foundation’s website (http://flightsafety.org/) for more information.

February 25-28, 2015; Preventive Medicine 2015, the annual meeting of ACPM; Atlanta, GA. For more information, please visit http://www.acpm.org/event/id/424092/Preventive-Medicine-2015.htm.