President’s Page

What I’m about to discuss should not be a surprise to the vast majority of you, but I think it is useful, occasionally, to be reminded of some of those basic facts that we sometimes take for granted.

Our Association is an unusual one. Here in the United States, most medical specialty societies have specific requirements for full membership that tend to exclude all but the specialists and practitioners in that field.

From a strictly American medical specialty perspective, AsMA is the specialty society for those of us who practice, research, or teach Aerospace Medicine. But we are so much more than that.

We are inclusive of many other professionals working in our general field. Physiologists, psychologists, human factors engineers, aerospace nurses, and researchers and students in all of those fields are valued members. We also cheerfully mix civilian, government, and several different types of military, all of whom have a common interest in aviation, space, and environmental medicine. Among the physicians, we welcome not just RAM’s (ask someone if you don’t know what that means), but neurologists, general surgeons, family practitioners and any other specialist with a primary or secondary interest in our field.

We are also very international, as I discussed in one of these pages last fall. A full 25% of us are from countries other than the USA. This national diversity allows for a much broader sharing of scientific information and practical solutions to problems.

We are also fortunate to have an exceptionally dedicated and competent home office staff. They are responsive to Members and AsMA leadership, alike. They do an excellent job of putting together our meeting, and do those things that are beyond the capabilities of our dedicated volunteers. We are fortunate to have them.

This combination of unusual traits comes together to create a synergistic effect, in which we are greater than the sum of our individual parts. Evidence of our inclusiveness can be seen in our choices for leadership: besides the usual physicians, we’ve had psychologists as President in some recent years, and are about to welcome our first nurse as President. We have also had International Presidents in recent years.

We are better because of our diversity, and I look forward to seeing it in action again, in just a few weeks.

Phoenix is just around the corner. Soon many of us will be greeting old friends and exchanging news with our extended networks at the 81st Annual Scientific Meeting. Many of you have already made your travel plans, but if you are on the fence, you should get moving.

You have until April 10 to advance register for the meeting. Of course, at the door registration will be available, but why not plan ahead?

You can register online at www.asma.org. The forms from the brochure you should have received a few weeks ago can also be mailed or faxed to the home office. Those forms have also been printed in the most recent issues of this journal.

April 15 is the deadline for hotel registration. The Sheraton Phoenix Downtown is a beautiful new facility for our meeting. The rooms are great and are priced just slightly over federal per diem rates. The convention facilities are first rate, and will be very convenient for us. Almost all of the events are on two floors. I think you’ll be as impressed as I have been. Please stay at the convention hotel – you will be glad you did. But definitely come to Phoenix.

As always, if you have any comments, questions, or other inputs, please contact me at president@asma.org.
Association News

Highlight of the AsMA Council Meeting

New ED, New Affiliate, and Two New Awards Approved

The Council of AsMA met on November 18, 2009, at the Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro in Alexandria, VA. The meeting was called to order by president Dr. Bob Weien. He then gave a brief review of the Executive Director (ED) search and selection process. The Executive Committee recommended Jeff Sventek as the ED candidate for Council consideration and approval. A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously for Jeff Sventek to become the new ED effective January 1, 2010. Next, the Council meeting minutes of May 3 and 6, 2009 were approved.

Finance (Merchant): Articles of Incorporation for 501c3 status were published in the journal (ASEM 2009; 80:913). If approved at the May 2010 annual meeting, our attorney is ready to proceed with filing for the status change. In addition, preparations for an audit are moving forward. Work continues on a proposal for an Ethics statement.

Dr. Merchant stated we are approximately $100,000 in the red for this year for a number of reasons including the economic recession, a low meeting attendance, decreased membership, and decreased journal subscriptions. In addition, we have had additional expenses such as the ISSI/MPak software program and consulting fees. He is analyzing the impact of our new accounting system on how we handle membership dues. Changes to our past practice will likely have a budget impact. He next gave a synopsis of the proposed 2010 budget which should put us back in the black.

Bylaws (Lischak): The Committee is currently working on the Policies & Procedures Manual. The Bylaws of Constituent organizations are being reviewed to ensure consistency with the AsMA Bylaws.

Editor’s Report (Nunnely, Bonato): Dr. Nunnely introduced the new Editor, Dr. Bonato. At this time, the transition is going smoothly and should be completed by January. Managing Editor’s Report (Day): Pam Day informed Council that it costs approximately $10,500 per month to publish the Journal. In the future, it is hoped that we will go online although there will remain basic costs for typesetting. The camera purchased by the Home Office allows us to take our own photos at the Annual Scientific Meeting and not hire a photographer which has resulted in a dollars savings. We are not able to get sponsors for NewsBrief so this project will be abandoned for the time being. Free archives will soon be available online for members but we will post a charge for non-members.

Annual Meeting (Rayman): The ED announced that contracts have been signed for our 2014 meeting for the Hilton Hotel in San Diego and 2015 with Disney World in Orlando. With 100% of the Exhibitors at the 2010 meeting.

Scientific Program (Crowley): There were 510 abstracts submitted. This is our first year with the Scholar One website so there were some problems but in general, things ran smoothly. They will be collecting PowerPoint presentations prior to the meeting and make them available to our membership.

Aviation Safety (Cimmancic): The new Committee Chair is Dr. Cimmancic. The Committee is now exploring crash worthiness and helicopter emergency medical evacuation.

Education & Training (Boudreau): Work continues on the “This is Aerospace Medicine” slide show and the Aerospace Medicine Compendium. The slide show will be worked into two different versions: one for “internal” use and one for “external/marketing” use.

ASAMS is working on new MOC/CME programs for the Journal and will submit its recommendations at a future meeting.

History & Archives (Mohler): Genie Bopp presented the update for Dr. Mohler. Work is proceeding on the Reinhardt Historical Lecture series. They have engaged the help of archivists from Mayo Clinic; have list of interviewees and interviewers, and have prepared a list of interview questions. They will interview Dr. Moser this week as a test of the process. Further interviews will be conducted at the meeting in May. Encouraged all to submit ideas for who should be interviewed as well as whom should be the interviewer for each.

Science & Technology (Shender): Ninety-seven “Watch” columns have been published thus far by his Committee, the most recent being fatigue management. Four panels are being prepared for the Phoenix meeting. They are also exploring the possibility of preparing a DVD for the entire meeting and looking into podcast.

Membership Status/Dues (Carter): We currently have 2,740 members. We have lost about 500 members over the past decade although membership has been relatively flat the past few years.

Marian Sides reviewed the many activities of the Membership Ad Hoc Committee; report on file. Literature research showed ‘perceived value’ was a much higher/stronger determinant of member retention and recruiting. They are now looking at mechanisms to address this in our membership. They developed a member survey to be sent to representative sample of our membership.

Awards (Holland): Requests for two new awards were presented and approved. The first: the Kerwin Award to be sponsored by Wyle and conferred for advances in human physiology in space. The second: the John Ersting Award to be sponsored by ETC and conferred for excellence in research, teaching, or practice of aerospace medicine in human performance.

Corporate & Sustaining (DeBois): Dr. DeBois announced that a Speakers’ Bureau has been organized. Also, an initiative is underway to see what the C&S has done over the several years to support AsMA. She is generating a newsletter for Corporates. We currently have 42 C&S members.

Outreach (Rayman): The ED announced that we had a very busy year regarding our outreach program. Many calls have come in from the media on multiple issues including: the Continental pilot who had a myocardial infarction in flight; fatigue which has had increasing attention because of the NWA pilots who overshot their airport; DVT and airline travel; hypoxia and cabin air quality. In addition, we have had contact with the Flying Physicians Association regarding possible joint activities. We received a letter of appreciation from the USN/OSM regarding our letter of support for their RAM program.

The Danish Aviation Naval Medical Association which has 202 members was approved for Affiliate status.

ATM (Dowdall): The Committee will sponsor a panel in Phoenix. The committee is currently exploring the issue of passenger screening for infectious disease.

Communications (Dervay): The Home Office now has a new membership management software program although there are many technical problems that are currently being worked.

Foundation (Jennings): Dr. Jennings thanked everyone for support of the Foundation initiatives. It has in its coffers approximately $26,000 with another $12,000 for Mohler Endowment.

The next Council meeting will be held on Sunday, May 9, 2010 in Phoenix.

2009 Foundation Donors

The AsMA Foundation would like to thank the following donors who have generously supported the Foundation and the field of Aerospace Medicine in 2009:


The AsMA Foundation has made every effort to assure that this list is complete, but we acknowledge that errors may occur. Please report any errors to the Foundation.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the AsMA Foundation. The Foundation supports the field of Aerospace Medicine and the Association through financial support of educational and scientific programs, providing scholarships to members in training, supporting grants for research programs, and other activities. Please visit their website at:


Send checks to:
AsMA Foundation
700 Gemini St., Suite 110
Houston, TX 77058-2735
Update on Health Informatics

Patrick J. McGinnis, M.D., Director of Medical Informatics, Memorial Hermann Health System/Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX; Richard A. Scheuring, D.O., Flight Surgeon, and Mary A. Fitts, SD4/Deputy Chief, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX

At each of the AsMA Scientific Conventions in 2007 and 2008, panels were convened whose themes were focused on Healthcare Information Technology (IT). Topics covered included presentations from industry, academia, military, and space medicine perspectives. Significantly for space medicine, Healthcare IT is being applied in the public sector through NASA and its contractors, and now even in the nascent commercial spaceflight industry. This article will update our readers on important developments in industry and applications for space medicine.

I. Industry Update

The most important event of 2009 centered on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This was signed into law by President Obama in February, and part of the ARRA deals with Healthcare IT. The ARRA will provide monetary incentives for physicians and hospitals in order to promote the adoption, implementation, and upgrades of Electronic Health Record (EHR) technologies. Much of the compliance will be driven by requirements from the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS). Both Medicare and Medicaid will have incentive components, and the overall effort of the program will span 5 years.

In order to qualify for the monetary incentives, providers must employ a certain level of Healthcare IT. Reflecting this, one of the new buzzwords is the phrase, “meaningful use”. On December 30, 2009, CMS announced a proposed definition of “meaningful use”. Very broadly, meaningful use will ensure that as Healthcare IT is adopted, it will improve health care quality, efficiency, and patient safety. Over time, the criterion for meaningful use will become more robust. In Stage 1, EHR technologies will be widely adopted and implemented. In Stage 2, the goals will be related to disease management, clinical decision support, quality measurement and research. Finally, Stage 3 would focus upon achievements in quality, safety, efficiency and improving overall population health outcomes.

More information is available at the CMS website: https://www.cms.hhs.gov/

II. Space Medicine Update

Biomedical Informatics at NASA Johnson Space Center encompasses a broad range of activities:

• Clinical data collection & analysis: Electronic Medical Records have been in place for 11 years starting first in the flight medicine clinic and expanding quickly to support for the occupational health clinics. Medical records for crewmembers must be accessible from multiple locations around the world while maintaining information privacy. NASA practices allow remote access to electronic medical records while protecting privacy; likewise, adjunct, remote personnel such as consultants, physical therapists and trainers can provide private, secure input to a crewmember’s medical assessment using a secure messaging system adjunct to the EMR. The database supporting the system is queriable by epidemiologists working with the Longitudinal Study of Astronaut Health (LSAH) to answer specific clinical and research questions and identify trends in crew health and implement changes in pre-, in- or postflight medical care. The ability to query the data set is enhanced by the use of the SNOMED coding system.

• Research data collection & analysis: The Life Sciences Data Archive (LSDA) contains research data from NASA-funded experiments, primarily data from in-flight experiments and ground analog data collected at NASA facilities. The public LSDA site is accessible at: http://lsda.jsc.nasa.gov. The data are housed in a queriable database which includes information on each experiment, the PI / co-I’s, hardware used, a general description, and non-attributable data may also be available. The LSDA is a continually evolving data set which may change frequently. The ability to query the data set is enhanced through the use of the MeSH taxonomy.

• Non-clinical decision support for requirements generation and assessment: The Integrated Medical Model (IMM) is a decision support tool used by medical system planners and designers as they prepare for planning activities for any mission. IMM provides an evidence-based approach to help optimize the allocation of in-flight medical resources for a specified level of risk within spacecraft operational constraints. The underlying evidence is drawn from known occurrences of conditions in spaceflight as well as terrestrial indications of potential conditions.

• Search & Retrieval of Data/Information/Knowledge: We are currently running a pilot project for a concept based search tool to augment current key word based search capability. The challenges we encounter include the difficulty associated with searching across many collections of information and finding relevant information easily.

Future AsMA Meetings

May 9-13, 2010; Sheraton Downtown Hotel, Phoenix, AZ

May 8-12, 2011; Egan Convention Center, Anchorage, AK

May 13-17, 2012; Altanta Hilton Atlanta, GA

Space Medicine Association Luncheon

Thursday, May 13 2010

Special Guest Speaker:

Dr. Michael Barratt
NASA Astronaut & ISS Crewmember

The Space Medicine Association will hold its annual luncheon on Thursday, May 13th. All AsMA members and meeting attendees are cordially invited. Early reservations are highly recommended, as the SMA luncheon is one of the most popular luncheons of the AsMA meeting and hence tickets tend to sell out. This year will be no exception; our guest speaker Dr. Michael Barratt will be recounting his recent journey aboard the International Space Station.

The SMA luncheon is a great venue to network, socialize, renew friendships, and start new collaborations. See you there!!
Message from the President
Nora Taylor

Hello all!

I’d like to take this opportunity for two things—first, to say THANK YOU to the officers of the Aerospace Medicine Association and its constituent organizations who have helped me grow this year. I have been honored to serve as the president of the Aerospace Nursing Society (ANS) this year and look forward to seeing all of you at the scientific meeting in Phoenix this May. I’d love to see each of you bring a friend, be they flight nurse, aeromedical technician or occupational aviation medicine specialist. We have a unique perspective on the science and human factors of aerospace medicine which originates from the care we provide to civilian and military patients alike. I know we all have many obligations and constraints but I am very happy to have made this organization and its scientific meeting one of my priorities and I hope you will too.

Second, I want to invite you to tell your stories. ANS is sponsoring a Grand Rounds panel this year to highlight the movement of patients by air. I’d like to personally invite each of you to put together your most challenging or interesting case for presentation at this meeting. We’ll need a panel of five or six team members to speak to specifics of missions or interesting cases. The movement of patients can be complicated and we’d do well to learn from each other’s experiences. My thanks to those who have come through with the panel presentations on CCATT, aviation medical equipment, and patient transportation metrics. We have mentors to support you in this endeavor so please consider stepping forward to share your experience or research with this group. Contact me directly to participate this year or next.

The Aerospace Nursing Society provides an avenue to be recognized or recognize colleagues with awards, a means to publish the research of yourself or your unit and even to present your significant cases in a ground rounds forum. We all know the importance of networking in professional organizations and this is a strong association which fosters both aerospace medicine and aerospace nursing. If each of you could ensure that your senior leadership is made aware of these unique opportunities, we can increase participation in the annual meeting and our membership. You’ve heard me say before that as a member of AsMA, this conference has more value added per unit of education than most nursing conferences can offer. I hope you’ll take advantage of all these chances to excel.

If you would like to learn more about the Aerospace Nursing Society, contact us to renew your membership, or volunteer for a panel, please feel free to reach out to any of this year’s officers: LtCol Eleanor (Carolyn) Jarrett, Scott AFB, IL—President Elect Nora Taylor — President (Noralaska@yahoo.com) Christine Cloutier, Ramstein AB, Germany—Secretary Eileen Hadbavny, Charleston, NC—Treasurer (HadbavnyEUSA.redcross.org)

We can all be reached at the new group mailbox: aerospacenursingsociety@yahoo.com. I hope to meet you and your colleagues at a terrific “Care in the Air” conference.

Fly safe & Take care of each other,
Nora Taylor
President, Aerospace Nursing Society

Associate Fellows Group Social

If you are a current member of AsMA and would like to become involved with the Associate Fellows Group (AFG) organization, there will be a recruitment social prior to the AFG booth. Sessions include Aircrew Health Hazards, Passenger Health Hazards, and The Future of Aviation and Airline Medicine.

www.amda.aero

Any AsMA member is welcome to attend.

Held in cooperation with the Civil Aviation Medical Association, and held in conjunction with AsMA’s Annual Scientific Meeting.

AsMA Associate Fellows Group Elections

Please vote for your next AsMA Associate Fellows Group (AFG) Chair-Elect and Secretary officers. Simply email your votes to the following email address at associate-fellows@gmail.com. All emailed votes must be received no later than Friday, 30 April 2010. Please vote early! A hard copy ballot will be available for those in attendance at this year’s 81st annual scientific meeting in Phoenix, AZ. Voting will close at AFG Reception on Monday, May 10. No late votes will be accepted.

Additional information and bios for candidates can be found at the AFG website: http://www.asmaafg.org.

Chair-Elect: (Please select one)
1. Ioannis Diamantisopoulos
2. Debbie Hinkley
3. Lance Annicelli
4. Shannon “MOP” Phares

Secretary: (Please select one)
1. Gordon “Feelya” Peters
2. Brian “Moose” Musselman

(*Note: The Chair-Elect office is a 1-yr term with an annual election. The Secretary and Treasurer positions are 2-yr term obligation with biennial elections occurring on alternating years. Nominations for Treasurer will be accepted next year for the period of 2011 – 2013.)

CAMA SUNDAY

The Civil Aviation Medical Association, in cooperation with the Airlines Medical Directors Association, present:

CAMA Sunday: May 9, 2010: 8:00AM-Noon
“Risk and Regulation”

Traumatic Brain Injury: Joseph Sirven, epileptologist, Mayo Clinic

Stroke and Migraine: Timothy Ingall, cerebrovascular disease, Mayo Clinic

Seizure and Epilepsy: W. A. Hauser, epidemiology, epilepsy, Columbia University

Expert presentations and panel discussion

Don’t miss it!

Send information for publication on this page to: Nora Taylor 301 Radcliff Road Belleville, IL 62221 noralaska@yahoo.com
**European School of Aviation Medicine**

*Training courses 2010/2011 for JAA-Aero Medical Examiners*

- **AME class 2**
  - Basic course: 18 – 26 September 2010

- **AME class 1**
  - Advanced course: 4 – 12 December 2010

- **Aviation Medicine/Travel Medicine**
  - Diploma course: 19 – 27 March 2011

- **JAA/FAA-Refresher**
  - 26 – 29 August 2010

**Venue:** Hotel Dorint, Wiesbaden/Germany

Application forms and further details under [www.flugmed.org](http://www.flugmed.org) or [www.eusam.org](http://www.eusam.org)

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**Aerospace Physiology Society Luncheon**

**Wednesday, May 12 2010**

**Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Jan Stepanek**

Please join the Aerospace Physiology Society for our annual luncheon and business meeting. The guest speaker at the luncheon will be **Dr. Jan Stepanek**, best known for his published work in Aerospace Medicine, especially terrestrial high altitude exposure and associated illnesses such as acute mountain sickness, HACE, HAPE, and their treatment, prevention and pre-participation evaluation. Dr. Stepanek has rich experiences in the physiological effects of hypoxia, decompression, acceleration and risk mitigation measures, medical concerns arising in corporate aviation and new high altitude capable aircraft, civilian spaceflight and medical evaluation of prospective participants, and Aerospace Physiology and novel avenues for training aircrew. Please consider THIS as the luncheon you will attend on 12 May in Phoenix; simply select the ‘AsPS Luncheon’ on the AsMA registration form or check in at the AsPS information table at symposium for more information.

*See you in Phoenix!*
Awesome Arizona!
By Dale Orford

Whether you head north or south, east or west, Arizona will inspire you with its awe-some beauty, amazing vistas, and interesting sites. So, grab your sunscreen, digital camera, stock up on bottled water, and hit the road. For an all-day trip, head south on interstate 10 from Phoenix towards Tucson and experience where the desert comes alive at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. This world renowned facility is a zoo, a natural history museum, and botanical garden all in one. Learn how the creatures of the desert have adapted to life in an arid climate, or take in the Raptor Free Flight exhibit with its dynamic bird of prey flight demonstrations showcasing the natural behaviors of the Sonoran Desert’s native birds.

Heading back towards Phoenix, take the exit for Florence and visit Biosphere 2, just outside of the small town of Oracle. This amazing facility, modeled on the concept of Earth being the original biosphere, is a completely self-sustaining model of life. Their mission: “to promote research, outreach, teaching and life-long learning about Earth, its living systems and its place in the Universe”. It is set up for large-scale projects aimed at quantifying some of the consequences of global climate change.

For the truly adventurous, take a drive out to Globe along the famed Apache Trail. Be forewarned, this trek is not for the faint of heart! This historic road begins just east of Mesa, about 15 miles from downtown Phoenix and then rapidly ascends into some of the most rugged terrain in Arizona. The land surrounding the road rises steeply to the north to form the Four Peaks Wilderness Area, and to the south to form the Superstition Wilderness region. Steep-sided canyons, rock outcroppings, and magnificent geological formations reward those brave enough to venture here. Fish Creek Canyon is the most awe-inspiring of the many camera-worthy vistas, and the road hangs on the side of this high-walled canyon as it winds its way along tremendous precipices that drop straight down for hundreds of feet. About mid-way along the Trail is the little town of Globe. It’s a great place to catch your breath, have lunch and learn about the importance of gold and silver mining to the development of Arizona.

Arizona is, of course, the Grand Canyon State, and you can reach the South Rim in about 3.5 hours from downtown Phoenix. To really do the canyon justice, you should plan to stay overnight in Flagstaff or Sedona, as once you are there, the Canyon will truly captivate you. It is one of those places that definitely lives up to its advance billing. Sheer cliffs descend about a mile down to the Colorado River, exposing the Earth’s geologic history along narrow winding paths with breath-taking views of the Canyon that extend for miles. The many hues of the rocks give them an almost surreal feeling, and it is not surprising that the Native Americans view this as a sacred site.

The Canyon is not northern Arizona’s only point of interest. Take a side trip to Page, the gateway to Lake Powell and the incredible beauty of Glen Canyon. This is a man-made lake, flooded to provide both water and electricity to the greater Phoenix area, has become a water wonderland. To really explore this area, rent a boat and venture into the many hidden canyons and bays not seen from the roadways. The red cliffs descending straight into the water have inspired numerous artists. And, you can tour Glen Canyon Dam with its soaring concrete walls holding back millions of gallons of water.

On your return drive to Phoenix, plan to stop at Sedona and recharge your spiritual nature. Sedona enjoys a world-wide reputation as a spiritual mecca and global power site and regularly attracts new-agers, healers, intuitives and spiritual guides. Many people claim that the majestic red rock cliffs and evergreen forests form natural vortex points of power and provide regenerative and inspirational effects. But if mysticism is not your thing, visit Sedona for its unrivaled beauty. There are many hiking trails, both challenging and less-so, and photo-ops are numerous. The town itself has lots to offer as well. Sedona is home to a thriving artist and artisan community and the many shops lining the main street are filled with hand-crafted gemstone jewelry, walking sticks, wind sculptures, wooden flutes and blown-glass articles, as well as paintings and bronze sculptures.

Spectacular Arizona is a land brimming with beauty, from its sheer cliffs and mesas, its awe-inspiring canyons and mystical red-rock formations, to its unique plant and animal life, and futuristic science projects. It is a land made for the naturalist in all of us, and for the delight of every photographer. It is a land just waiting for you to discover her.
CDC/NIOSH Is Newest Corporate Member

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has become AsMA’s most recent Corporate Member. NIOSH was created by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 along with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). NIOSH’s mission is to provide research, information, education, and training in the field of occupational safety and health. Toward that end, it conducts scientific research, develops guidelines and recommendations, disseminates information, and responds to requests for evaluation of workplace health hazards.

NIOSH is headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in Georgia, Alaska, Ohio, Colorado, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington state. Their staff is a professionally diverse mix from the fields of epidemiology, medicine, industrial hygiene, safety, psychology, engineering, chemistry, statistics, economics, and administration. In addition to their own research, NIOSH also supports occupational safety and health research in academic centers around the United States.

For more information on NIOSH, please visit their website at www.cdc.gov/niosh/.

American Airlines Sponsors “Legends of Aerospace” Tour

Armed Forces Entertainment, in association with Morale Entertainment and American Airlines, recently announced the “Legends of Aerospace” Tour to bolster troop morale in March. The tour brought Americans, including famous aviators and astronauts, to visit our military stationed in Europe and Southwest Asia. Confirmed participants included Neil Armstrong and Gene Cernan, the first and last men on the moon; Captain Jim Lovell, Commander of Apollo 13; Bob Gilliland, test pilot and the first man ever to fly the SR-71 Blackbird, known to be the fastest and highest flying production aircraft in the world; and General Steve Ritchie (Ret), the last Air Force Pilot Ace.

During the tour, panel discussions were conducted in auditorium settings on military bases and naval vessels, followed by an opportunity for meet and greets, photographs, etc. The Legends also had an opportunity to visit with wounded troops at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. The tour logged more than 15,000 flight miles, with tour sponsor American Airlines providing round-trip, trans-Atlantic transportation for tour participants. American Airlines has a long history of supporting the armed forces and veterans. The company places a strong emphasis on its military and veterans initiatives and supports active members of the military, veterans, and their families when they travel by offering special military airfares.

Wyle Performs First In-Flight Fueling of F35-B STOVL

Wyle aircrew personnel have become the first aviators to aerially refuel the F 35-B short takeoff/vertical landing variant (STOVL) of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) using a probe-and-drogue refueling system during a recent mission at Lockheed Martin’s Ft. Worth, TX, manufacturing facility. These first aerial refueling missions were performed by Wyle aircrew flying a Navy KC-130 tanker aircraft assigned to the U.S. Navy’s Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Twenty (VX-20) at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD. The refueled aircraft, designated the F-35 BF-2, represents one of three variants of this fifth generation strike fighter, developed for the U.S. military and eight allied nations.

Wyle’s KC-130 aircrew team will continue to assist with refueling missions as testing progresses. In preparing to go to Fort Worth, the Wyle KC-130 aircrew worked with the JSF team to develop test plans, determine aircraft configurations representative of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps fleet, and make modifications to the tanker. The team planned for variables inherent in the initial test evolutions, where fuel was uploaded into the aircraft at 10,000, 15,000, and 20,000 ft, at speeds ranging from 200 to 250 kn.

Wyle has the largest independent flight test team in the world with more than 70 members, including 53 pilots, flying 20-plus types of aircraft from supersonic manned jets to helicopters to unmanned flight systems. Among the aircraft flown by Wyle pilots are the F/A-18, V-22, E-2D, P-3, KC-130, and AH-64D.

For more information, see the press release at www.wylelabs.com/news/2010/02-03-2010.html
Al Parmet Joins Haiti Relief Effort

Allen Parmet, M.D., a Kansas City occupational medicine specialist, Air Force veteran, and an AsMA Fellow, was among the first group of doctors to respond to the earthquake in Haiti. Parmet is member of the Missouri Disaster Medical Assistance Team, a state-based volunteer group who train continuously and respond to disasters within the state of Missouri, or on request to neighboring states by joint agreement. The DMATs are overall part of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), under the Department of Health and Human Services. As a medical response team, they can be federalized, that is called up to serve anywhere the nation needs them.

The team was activated on Jan. 22 and sent to Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The all volunteer 36-person team was consisted of 3 physicians, 2 nurse practitioners, 3 pharmacists, one social worker/chaplain, 13 nurses, 5 paramedics and 3 logistics, 3 security and 3 administrative/communications specialists.

In Haiti, they were paired up with another NDMS team called an IMSURT (International Medical-Surgical Response Team; there are 3 of these, East, West and South) that set up a specialized surgical hospital. They made a large multispecialty hospital. Soon they were the largest functioning hospital in Haiti. Over the next 10 days they saw well over 1,400 patients, vaccinated nearly 1,000 people, trained the Haitians in the tent city in field sanitation (with the help of a platoon of the fabulous 82nd Airborne staying with us). Dr. Parmet’s particular role was to do anything necessary to support the operations. There was one doctor running the front-door clinic, another working the night shift, so Parmet was in charge of the wards (about 40-50 inpatients), infectious disease, sick call for medical staff and army, public health doc, ran all the laboratory tests and infectious-disease consulting— and anything the ward nurses needed him to do, like fetch medications, empty urinals, start IVs and give them a break. Everyone worked like that, doing anything and everything that needed to be done. Everyone pretty much put in 18 hour days or more.

His team was rotated out on Feb. 4 (replaced by IMSURT-S), landed at Dulles, VA fro debriefing and flew home the next day. As AI put it “Quite a shock to go from 95 degrees and 95 percent humidity back to 20 degrees and snow in KC. No more MREs. Makes you really appreciate hot food, showers and flush toilets. At least we got to go home. Despite our “austere” arrangements, hot-bunk sleeping in a 40-person tent, sponge showers and using buckets to do laundry, we were living better than 95 percent of our patients. They still need a lot of help restoring services and replacing medical personnel. Haiti lost half of all the nurses and doctors in the quake.” [Abridged from Parmet AJ, KC doc was part of Haitian emergency response. Kansas City Jewish Chronicle 2010 Feb 19.7]

USAFA Surgeon General Consultant for Aerospace Neurology from 2004 until retirement and a senior Flight Surgeon with over 650 hours military flying time, including 50 hours of combat and combat support time.

Moser, President of Harvard Alumni Association

Royce Moser, Jr., M.D., MPH was installed as the President of the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) Alumni Association on November 9, 2009 during the annual meeting of the Association, held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. Dr. Moser graduated from Harvard College and Medical School. He obtained his Master of Public Health degree from HSPH as part of his U.S. Air Force residency in aerospace medicine. He matriculated in the School’s Aerospace Medicine Program, directed by Ross McFarland, Ph.D., one of the “fathers” of aerospace medicine. He is the first aerospace medicine graduate to serve as President of the HSPH Alumni Association.

Dr. Moser served 23 years in the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon, and he directed medical facilities and aerospace, occupational, and environmental health programs in combat and peacetime settings. His final assignment was Commander of the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, a 900 member organization with over 80% of its $31 million budget focused on research and development. On retirement from the USAF, Dr. Moser became a professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of Utah School of Medicine. In this position, he served as director of the Department’s Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health from 1987 to 2003. The Center is one of 17 national Education and Research Centers supported in part by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. His current interests are disaster response planning and management of health and safety programs. He has published a number of articles on these areas, and the third edition of his text on management of health and safety programs

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was published in 2008. Dr. Moser is certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in Aerospace Medicine and in Occupational Medicine.

Reinartz Fund News
By Stanley R. Mohler, M.D.

At the May 2009 Los Angeles AsMA meeting, a Reinartz Fund SubCommittee of the History and Archives Committee was formed, with Stanley Mohler, Chair. Eugenia Bopp, Joe Kerwin, Mark Campbell, Richard Jennings, Jan Stepanek, Mary Anne Frey, and Jon Clark. The idea is to use the fund for preserving aerospace medicine history through the oral tradition of video interviewing pioneers in the field. Subsequently, with a telecon set up by Eugenia Bopp, criteria for the selection of an initial group of interviewees were discussed, along with interview format, and venues, plus recording equipment aspects. Some names were discussed for the early interviews. After the November 18, 2009 Council Meeting, Eugenia Bopp, Jan Stepanek, Mary Anne Frey, and others, made a practice interview with the initial interviewee, Royce Moser; Mark Campbell was the interviewer. The recording is now being studied. Jan Stepanek has arranged for an interview room during the May 2010 AsMA meeting in Phoenix. We are all excited about this historical undertaking and we have received communications from members who would like to be involved.

Russell Rayman undertook the initiative to obtain the approval to apply the Eugen Reinartz endowment funding to this initiative, and Council concurred. The recordings over time should be of value from several perspectives, including networking of young persons who seek insights into the broad field of aerospace medicine as a career from some of those who have devoted a substantial part of their life to the field. In addition, a permanent first-hand filmed documentation, in a relatively standard format, of individuals describing how they got involved in the field, who were their mentors, what were the major issues with which they dealt, how were the AsMA meetings in the past, for example the 1960s, anticipated challenges for aerospace medicine and AsMA as the future unfolds, and other relevant questions. The initiative is dynamic and is conceived as evolving as time proceeds. We are enthusiastic about this unique historical undertaking!

New Members

Al-Zaidi, Jamil H., Bethany, OK
Bekuretson, Mığına, Dr., Gavle, Sweden
Chambers, Peter R., D.O., Black River Falls, WI
Dalton, Kyle J., Tampa, FL
Duda, Kevin R., Ph.D., Cambridge, MA
Fransen, Jennifer, M.S., Albuquerque, NM
Garcia, Kathleen M., League City, TX
Gauthier, Jessica M., BSN, MSN, Tittusville, FL
Goto, Hiroya, LTC, USA, McLean, VA
Hanson, Andrea M., Ph.D., Seattle, WA
Kanuširo, Ricardo, LTCol., BAF, MC, Santos SP, Brazil
Kouymdjian, Camille B., Bragança Paulista, Brazil
Lambiasi, Marlene K., Dr., Winter Springs, FL
Levin, Dana R., Philadelphia, PA
Lim, Jeongkui, M.Sc., Beavercreek, OH
Luther, David J., Lt.Col., USAF, MC, APO, AE
Maertens, Nathan B., Capt., USAF
Rompe, P., Champaign, IL
Maier, Declan, M.B., B.Ch., Dublin, Ireland
Maus, Lisa A., FLT LT, RAAF, MBBS, Carrington, Australia
Meer, Mydin Ahmad, M.B.B.S., Petaling Aya, Malaysia
Mishra, Sudhanshu S., Dr., Singapore
Moe, Jacob M.D., Sola, Norway
Muñcelle, Kimberly L., Tsgt., USAF, Panama, FL
Nooj, Suzanne, Ph.D., Amersfoort, Netherlands
Oakes, Margaret A., M.A., M.S., Fleet, Hampshire, UK
O’ Sullivan, Terance, M.D., Shanghai, China
Parikh, Kalpesh K., Maj., USA, Breiile, NJ
Raniolo, John S., D.O., Scottsdale, AZ
Ravindra, M.D., USAF, MC, Glendale, AZ
Reda, Abdelhamid, M.B., B.Ch., FRCS, Dubai, UAE
Richey, Eileen R.N., San Francisco, CA
Rosen, Sasha M., Los Alamitos, CA
Ross, Donald E., M.B., Ch.B., D. Av.Med., Henlow, UK
Studer, Marc, Rüebisberg, Switzerland
Swanson, John D., IV, M.D., Coeur d’Alene, ID
Thankappan, Binoj, Dr., Kerala, India
Tomaro, Michael, Ph.D., New Berlin, WI
Tuliet, Rachel B., MBBS, Lytton, Christchurch, New Zealand
Valani, Reza, BSc, North York, Ont., Canada
Wilkins, Eric P., M.D., M.P.H., Long Island City, NY
Wright, Helen L., Maj., USAF, Pensacola, FL

In Memoriam

Daniel W. Repperger

Daniel W. Repperger, Ph.D., P.E., died suddenly in January. He received his B.S.E.E. and M.S.E.E. degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, in 1967 and 1968. After receiving his Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, in 1973, he became a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. In 1975, he joined the federal government as a civil servant at the Air Force Research Laboratory, where he worked until his death. In 1985, Dr. Repperger developed patented technology for a force-reflecting “haptic” control stick, which can assist and help protect pilots in a high-turbulence (vibration) environment by using virtual force to augment the pilot’s neuromuscular control. This assists pilots both in tracking control and disturbance rejection. Dr. Repperger worked in government service with the U.S. Air Force for about 35 years. He was also an adjunct professor (Electrical Engineering and/or Biomedical Engineering) at Wright State University, the Air Force Institute of Technology, University of Dayton, and the Ohio State University. Additionally, he worked with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, supported NATO meetings and meetings in New Zealand, and was a keynote speaker at a major engineering conference in China in 2008.

Dr. Repperger authored 434 publications, including 14 patents and 28 inventions, 65 journal articles, 4 book chapters, 230 conference papers, and 17 technical reports. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, a Research Fellow of the Air Force Research Laboratory, a Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering, a Fellow of the Ohio Academy of Science, and a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). He also served in numerous professional organizations as an officer as well as on publications boards of five international journals as an Associate Editor. In 1998, Dr. Repperger’s career achievements in aerospace technology were recognized when he received the Life Sciences and Bioengineering R&D Innovation Award. He was elected as a Distinguished Member of the IEEE Control Systems Society and received the IEEE Third Millennium Medal. He also received the John Paul Stapp Award in 2003 from AsMA.

James L. Goddard

Former member James L. Goddard, M.D., has died. He was a member from 1959-1970 and served as a Vice President on Council from 1960-1964. Born in Alliance, OH, Dr. Goddard received a Bachelor’s degree in 1944 from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA while serving in the Army during World War II. He earned an M.D. in 1949 from George Washington University, served a 1-year internship at the U.S. Public Health Service Marine Hospital in Cleveland, OH, then ran a private
practice until 1951. In 1955, he earned an M.P.H. from Harvard University.

From 1956-1959, Dr. Goddard ran the Public Health Service Accident Prevention Program in Washington, DC, then was the director of the medical program for what is now the Federal Aviation Administration for 3 years. He was named the Chief of the Centers for Disease Control in 1962, at that time the youngest person to hold that post. In 1966, he was named the head of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where he accomplished a wide variety of tasks. He addressed inadequate drug research, which meant that drug recalls grew by 75% during his first year. He also launched investigations of about 4000 medications, cracked down on drug advertising, and instituted "Dear Doctor" letters, which pharmaceutical companies had to send out to address false or misleading claims about drugs.

Dr. Goddard was a consultant to various groups, including the American Board of Preventive Medicine, the Advisory Committee to the Institute of Agricultural Medicine at the University of Iowa, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Occupational Health. His awards included Honorary Doctor of Science degrees from Emory University, the University of Michigan, and Maryland, the Federal Bar Association’s Liberty Bell Award; the George Washington University’s Award of Merit and Alumni Achievement Award; the John Jeffries Award for 1962; the Public Health Service Meritorious Service Medal; and the Distinguished Service Award from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Eugene Lafontaine

AsMA recently learned that Eugene Lafontaine, M.D., died in December 2009. He was a former Air France Medical Director and former President of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine. He held a diploma in industrial medicine and labor hygiene, earned in 1942, and a graduate degree in aviation medicine, earned in 1948. He served as a physician at Saint Lazare Hospital in Paris in 1943 and later served as a Senior Medical Examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration and as an Aviation Medicine Consultant to the French Law Courts. He was a war veteran and an honorary Reserve officer. Dr. Lafontaine became a member of AsMA in 1960 and a Fellow in 1969. He served as Vice President in 1970 and was a member of several committees. He was also a member of the Civil Aviation Medical Board of the French Transport Ministry, a former President of the French Society of Aviation and Aviation and Space Medicine, a former Vice President of the French Society of Occupational Medicine, was elected a member of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine in 1963 and served as its Secretary General for some years. He played a decisive part in setting up and organizing conferences in Europe and the Middle East and was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 22nd International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine in 1972.

Dr. Lafontaine’s awards include the Maillart-Mahé Award from the government of France, the Gaston Fournier Award from the French National Academy of Medicine in 1964, the Paul Tissandier Award from the International Aviation Federation in 1971, the Airlines Medical Directors Association Award in 1974, and the Howard K. Edwards Award from AsMA in 1976. He had written over 100 articles on aviation medicine for French and international publications, including 7 in Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine, and submissions to the AsMA scientific meetings. Under the aegis of Air France, he also organized medical conferences in 16 different countries.

Hans-Martin Wegmann

AsMA has just learned that Hans-Martin Wegmann, M.D., died in July 2009. He had served as the Chief of Aviation Psychology at the DFVLR Institute for Aerospace Medicine in Cologne, Germany. A native of Witten-Ruhr, he studied medicine and chemistry at the universities of Gottingen, Tubingen, and Bonn and graduated in 1960. After an internship, he joined DFVLR in 1961. From 1967 to 1968, he served as a research assistant in the Aeromedical Laboratory of the University of Illinois, and then returned home to become manager of the DFVLR project "Aeromedical Investigations Related to Traffic Safety."

Dr. Wegmann developed and validated quantitative scales for use in crew scheduling to avoid the effects of circadian rhythms, sleep loss, and other fatigue-producing processes. He also participated as the principal or co-investigator in six major flight experiments on the effects of time-zone flights on human physiology, performance, and behavior. He was part of four in-flight studies of airline pilots on operational aspects of circadian rhythms, sleep, workload, and rest/duty scheduling and conducted the German part of a joint German-British-Japanese-American international sleep study that was published in Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine.

Dr. Wegmann was a long-time member of AsMA and became a Fellow in 1988. He was awarded the Boothby-Edwards Award in 1986 for his work on fatigue. He also served on the Air Transport Committee.

Obituary Listing

Gladys Shamburek, wife of former AsMA Executive Vice President Roland Shamburek, died in February. She was born in Monroe, WI and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a degree in Education. After several years of teaching, she accompanied her husband to army posts throughout the U.S. and Europe. She was a member of the Wing of the Aerospace Medical Association, the Women’s Club of the Army Surgeon General’s Office, the Walter Reed Officers and Civilians Auxiliary, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Alumni Association.

AsMA recently learned of the death of M. Young Stokes III, M.D. He earned his M.D. from Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, TX. He was President of the Civil Aviation Medical Association from 1987 to 1989 and also served on CAMA’s Board of Trustees. He was President of the Flying Physicians Association, a member of the Order of the Daedalians, and a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, as well as other organizations. He owned and flew his own plane and joined AsMA in 1995.

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