President’s Page

Summer has officially given way to fall, and the holiday season is not that far off. Time really does fly, as several past presidents warned me.

It was a busy summer, for a variety of reasons. In the Association it has been busy because of all the behind-the-scenes activity that Committee Chairs and members are involved in. You already know about the incoming Editor, but you should know that a similar selection process is underway for the long-advertised Executive Director position. Hopefully I’ll have more to share about that soon.

The AsMA Council has been staying in touch with the action, through frequent updates, and it is preparing to meet November 18, in Alexandria, VA. As always, important issues will be discussed and decided at that meeting, and I’d like to remind you that Council meetings are open to all AsMA members.

This Association is based in science, of course, and we have two ways to share what we have all been doing with each other. The first is the journal in which you are reading this. The other way is at our Annual Scientific Meeting. If you think that’s a long way away, you’re wrong. Now is the time to prepare your abstracts for Phoenix. So I strongly encourage you to help us put together a dynamic and enlightening program by submitting an abstract.

The website remains open for abstract submission through October 30. After that, the Scientific Program Committee will work quickly and efficiently to get them ready for review, at their meeting November 19 and 20.

Dr. John Crowley, the Scientific Program Committee Chair, and his Deputy Chair, Col. Pete Mapes, are doing an excellent job and I look forward to seeing their program. But it all starts with you submitting abstracts. Get to it!

Another way the Association needs your help is in the Awards process. Each year we present 15 major awards at the AsMA Honor’s Night Banquet. If you know of a deserving member, please nominate that person for an appropriate award. The nomination form is at www.asma.org/aboutasma/awardform.doc. Please note that you have only until December 15 to submit your nominations.

Don’t assume that someone else will do it. Occasionally in the past it has been difficult to get enough nominees for some awards. Fortunately, that has not been a concern for the current Chair, Dr Dwight Holland, or his recent predecessors. If you look at the nomination form, the list of awards reads like a history of our Association. Louis Bauer and Harry Armstrong were very early leaders in aerospace medicine, and in AsMA. Awards have been named after more recent eminent aerospace medicine professionals, also, like Kent Gillingham and John Paul Stapp. The back stories of the individuals for whom awards are named is fascinating, and can be found at www.ingentaconnect.com/content/asma/asem/2006/00000077/00000009 (Mohler SR, Day PC. The Annual Awards of the Aerospace Medical Association. Aviat Space Environ Med 2006; 77:977-980). An AsMA award is often the highlight of a member’s career. Let’s make sure that deserving members get recognized properly.

As always, if you have suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at president@asma.org.

Robert W. Weien, M.D., M.P.H.
Association News

Submit your 2009 Scientific Meeting Abstract
go to www.asma.org and click on 'Meetings and Events'

Deadline: October 30, 2009

New submission site! Please be patient as we work out any bugs.
Members will receive username and password by e-mail.
Online step-by-step instructions will guide you through the process.
You will receive immediate confirmation with a control number for online submissions.

Questions? Problems? Please contact either Pam Day (pday@asma.org; 703-739-2240 x 101) or Rachel Trigg (rtrigg@asma.org; ext. 102).

Donate 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 www.asma.org/asma_foundation/foundation-index.php.
Send checks to:
AsMA Foundation
700 Gemini St., Suite 110
Houston, TX 77058-2735
Donations are tax deductible.

Join the Aerospace Nursing Society Today!
Dues are just $10 ($5 allied health professionals). For further information, contact:
Eileen Hadbavny, ANS Treasurer
1266 Merton Rd.
Charleston, SC 29407
hadbavny@usit.net

Join the Aerospace Physiology Society!
Benefits: networking, recognition of scientific achievements, and the chance to contribute to the field and to AsMA.
Membership is only $10. For more information, please contact:
Lt Col Andy Woodrow
63 Main Circle Dr., Ste. 3
Randolph AFB, TX 78150
COMM 210-652-9154
andrew.woodrow@randolph.af.mil

AsMA’s Constituents
The following organizations have similar goals to the AsMA. For more information about them please visit www.asma.org/organizations/constituent/index.php
• Aerospace Human Factors Association
• Aerospace Nursing Society
• Aerospace Physiology Society
• Airlines Medical Directors Association
• American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists
• International Association of Military Flight Surgeon Pilots
• Life Sciences and Bioengineering Branch
• Society of U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeons
• Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons
• Space Medicine Association
• U.S. Army Aviation Medical Association

Council Meetings are open to all members. The next Council Meeting is 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at the Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro in Alexandria, VA.

MEETINGS CALENDAR 2009
October 4-9, 2009; 38th World Congress on Military Medicine; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. For more information: http://www.wcmmkl2009.com/. October 14-17, 2009; Civil Aviation Medical Association (CAMC) Annual Scientific Meeting: Kahler Grand Hotel and Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN. To register or for more information, please visit www.civilavmed.com.
October 14-17, 2009; XXVI International Meeting of Aerospace Medicine; Hotel Fiesta Inn León, León, Guanajuato, Mexico. For more information: www.amma.org.mx or e-mail lamezcua@prodigy.net.mx.
October 18-19, 2009; Seventh Annual Meeting of the Society for Human Performance in Extreme Environments; Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX. For more information, see http://www.hppee.org/.
October 19-21, 2009; SAFE Association 47th Annual Symposium; Town & Country Resort & Convention Center, San Francisco, CA. For more information, contact Jeani Benton, 541-895-3012, e-mail safe@peak.org, or visit www.safeassociation.com/.
October 19-23, 2009; Orange Flag 2009; ETC, National Aerospace Training & Research Center, Southampton, PA. Oct. 19-21 will be for international personnel and Oct. 22-23 for domestic crew. For information, visit www.etcorangeflag.com/.
November 7, 2009; UK Space Biomedicine Conference 2009; Downing College, University of Cambridge, UK. For more info, please visit http://ukbsa.org/conference.php.
November 13-15, 2009; 49th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine (ISAM); New Delhi, India. For more information please visit http://isam-india.org/ or contact the Organizing Secretary, 49th ISAM, at isandelhi@gmail.com.
February 23-26, 2010; Space, Propulsion and Energy Sciences International Forum (SPESIF) 2010; Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, MD.

Future AsMA Meeting Sites
May 9-13, 2010
Phoenix Sheraton Downtown Phoenix, AZ
May 8-12, 2011
Egan Convention Center Anchorage, AK
May 13-17, 2012
Atlanta Hilton Atlanta, GA

Egan Convention Center Anchorage, AK
Future AsMA Meeting Sites
May 9-13, 2010
Phoenix Sheraton Downtown Phoenix, AZ
May 8-12, 2011
Egan Convention Center Anchorage, AK
May 13-17, 2012
Atlanta Hilton Atlanta, GA

Donations are tax deductible.
AsMA Articles of Incorporation Revised

AsMA Members,

Your Association is in the process of converting our IRS classification from 501(c)6 to 501(c)3. In order to do so, the membership must approve our Articles of Incorporation which are shown below. Consequently, Dr. Weien will be putting the Articles to a vote at the May Business Meeting in Phoenix. Please take a few minutes to look them over and be prepared to vote at that time. Incidentally, if we succeed in converting to a 501(c)3 IRS classification, there will be a tax break for every member (at least those in the US). Thank you and give me a call if you have any questions.

Russell Rayman

ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the following Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Aerospace Medical Association were approved by two-thirds vote of the members of the Council of the Aerospace Medical Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") on December 15, 2008; and

WHEREAS the Council passed a resolution recommending that the Association amend and restate its Articles of Incorporation pursuant to Section 29-301.36 of the District of Columbia Code and directing that said resolution be submitted to a vote at a meeting of members having voting rights; and

WHEREAS the Council gave written notice of these amendments to each member at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting as required by Article XII of the Associations' prior Articles of Incorporation; and

WHEREAS these amendments were subsequently approved at the annual meeting of the Association by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by members present or represented by proxy at the Association's annual meeting held on May 5, 2009, at which a quorum was present: therefore,

THE AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, a District of Columbia Non-Profit Corporation, organized under the provisions of Section 29-301.01 et seq. of the District of Columbia Code, HEREBY AMENDS AND RESTATES ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, pursuant to Section 29-301.36 of the Code of the District of Columbia, and to that end states as follows:

ARTICLE I
NAME
The name of this association is: AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (the "Association")

ARTICLE II
DEFINITION
As used in this document, "aerospace medicine" is the multidisciplinary application of professional and scientific knowledge, training, and research to promote and maintain the health, well-being, safety, and performance of those involved in aerospace activities.

ARTICLE III
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES
A. Purpose: The Association, which is formed exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, shall be exclusively administered and operated to protect the public by promoting the advancement of the science of aerospace medicine and the highest possible standards for the practice of aerospace medicine.

B. Objectives: The objectives of the Association are:
(1) To provide research in the field of aerospace medicine;
(2) To provide a comprehensive aerospace medicine education program including:
(a) A quality scientific journal presenting the diverse facets of aerospace medicine;
(b) A quality scientific program providing a forum for interchange among the various disciplines involved in aerospace medicine;
(c) Additional educational activities developed to meet member requirements.

(4) To develop a sound financial structure, with appropriate planning, to insure continuity of the organization, respond to future financial requirements, and provide maximum member benefits at least possible member cost.

(5) To enhance member satisfaction and participation in order to attract and maintain the membership needed to advance aerospace medicine and insure progression of the Association.

(6) To achieve national and international recognition by aeromedical groups, other medical organizations, and "user" communities as the center of expertise in aerospace medicine.

(7) To prepare, publish, and advocate official Association policy on issues of current aerospace medicine interest.

(8) To assist other charitable, scientific and educational organizations in the conduct of similar activities.

(9) To engage in any and all lawful activities to accomplish the foregoing primary purpose and objectives, except as restricted herein.

ARTICLE IV
POWERS
In order to accomplish the foregoing primary purpose and objectives, this Association shall also have all the powers granted to corporations by Section 29-301.05 of the District of Columbia Code, or the corresponding section of any future District of Columbia Code, provided however, that this Association shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the primary purpose of this Association.

ARTICLE V
STOCK
The Association shall have no authority to issue capital stock.

ARTICLE VI
MEMBERSHIP
There shall be the following categories of membership as defined by the by-Laws: (1) Member, (2) Life Member, (3) Emeritus Member, (4) Honorary Member, (5) Corporate and Sustaining Member, (6) Technicien Member, and (7) Student Member.

ARTICLE VII
FELLOWS
There shall be the following categories of Fellows as defined in the By-Laws: (1) Fellow, (2) Associate Fellow, and (3) Honorary Fellow.

ARTICLE VIII
OFFICERS
The officers of the Association shall be the President, President-Elect, four Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Members-at-Large.

ARTICLE IX
COUNCIL OF THE AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
A. There shall be a Council of the Aerospace Medical Association as defined in the By-Laws. This Council of the Aerospace Medical Association shall hereinafter be referred to as the Council.

B. There shall be an Executive Committee as defined in the By-Laws.

The Council shall have the power to appoint an Executive Director.

ARTICLE X
ORGANIZATIONS
There may be Constituent Organizations, Affiliated Organizations, Certification Boards, Subdivisions, and Chapters as defined in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XI
COMMITTEES

B. Other committees of the Association may be established as provided in the By-Laws or determined by the Council.

ARTICLE XII
MEETINGS
The Association shall hold at least one scientific assembly each year at a time and place selected by the Executive Committee. The annual business meeting shall be held during the annual scientific assembly at a time selected by the Council. The annual business meeting shall be devoted to the reception of the annual reports and other business, in—
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 grand rounds forum. We all know the importance of networking in professional organizations and this is a strong association that fosters both aerospace medicine and aerospace nursing. If each of you could ensure that your senior leadership is aware of these unique opportunities, we can increase participation in the annual meeting and our membership. I hope you have found, as I have, that this meeting has a lot to offer.

ANS is sponsoring a Grand Rounds panel next year to highlight the movement of patients by air. I’d like to personally invite each of you to put together a panel of five or six team members to speak to specific missions or interesting cases. The movement of patients can be complicated and we’d do well to learn from each other’s experiences. The meeting also allows us to present breakthroughs in equipment and research to a professional audience. To that end we’re also considering slide or panel presentations on CCATT, aviation medical equipment, and international patient transportation. A template for the submission of abstracts will be available soon and they are due on October 31st. We have mentors to support you in this endeavor so please consider stepping forward to share your experience or research with this group.

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, Christine Cloutier, Ramstein AB, Germany—Secretary, Eileen Hadhavny, Charleston, SC—Treasurer. We can all be reached at the new group mailbox: aerospacenursingsociety@yahoo.com. I hope you meet you and your colleagues in the coming year and anticipate a terrific “Care in the Air” focus for next year’s conference.

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

A Message from the ANS President

Hello all!

I’m sure most of you saw the biographies of all the incoming officers to the Aerospace Medicine Association and its constituent organizations. I am honored to serve as the president of the Aerospace Nursing Society (ANS) this year and look forward to promoting our organization throughout the aerospace medicine community. I know we all have many obligations and constraints but I am very happy to have made this organization and it’s scientific meeting one of my priorities. I’ve enjoyed attendance at the annual meeting for more than 8 years now and hopefully have met many of you.

I believe this group provides a singular opportunity to learn more about the science and human factors of aerospace medicine. We have a unique perspective which originates from the care we provide to civilian and military patients alike. As a member, it’s also interesting to note that the cost of this conference is less per unit than most professional nursing conferences so the value added makes it easy to get my commander’s approval for funding. The U.S. Air Force requires us to have 20 continuing education units per year to maintain or licensure and we’re able to convert the CME units approved by the AMA to meet that requirement. Since this is also a service offered by most boards of nursing, many of you can take advantage of these educational offerings as well.

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 grand rounds forum. We all know the importance of networking in professional organizations and this is a strong association that fosters both aerospace medicine and aerospace nursing. If each of you could ensure that your senior leadership is aware of these unique opportunities, we can increase participation in the annual meeting and our membership. I hope you have found, as I have, that this meeting has a lot to offer.

ANS is sponsoring a Grand Rounds panel next year to highlight the movement of patients by air. I’d like to personally invite each of you to put together a panel of five or six team members to speak to specific missions or interesting cases. The movement of patients can be complicated and we’d do well to learn from each other’s experiences. The meeting also allows us to present breakthroughs in equipment and research to a professional audience. To that end we’re also considering slide or panel presentations on CCATT, aviation medical equipment, and international patient transportation. A template for the submission of abstracts will be available soon and they are due on October 31st. We have mentors to support you in this endeavor so please consider stepping forward to share your experience or research with this group.

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, Christine Cloutier, Ramstein AB, Germany—Secretary, Eileen Hadhavny, Charleston, SC—Treasurer. We can all be reached at the new group mailbox: aerospacenursingsociety@yahoo.com. I hope you meet you and your colleagues in the coming year and anticipate a terrific “Care in the Air” focus for next year’s conference.

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

Aerospace Nursing Society News

A Message from the ANS President

Hello all!

I’m sure most of you saw the biographies of all the incoming officers to the Aerospace Medicine Association and its constituent organizations. I am honored to serve as the president of the Aerospace Nursing Society (ANS) this year and look forward to promoting our organization throughout the aerospace medicine community. I know we all have many obligations and constraints but I am very happy to have made this organization and it’s scientific meeting one of my priorities. I’ve enjoyed attendance at the annual meeting for more than 8 years now and hopefully have met many of you.

I believe this group provides a singular opportunity to learn more about the science and human factors of aerospace medicine. We have a unique perspective which originates from the care we provide to civilian and military patients alike. As a member, it’s also interesting to note that the cost of this conference is less per unit than most professional nursing conferences so the value added makes it easy to get my commander’s approval for funding. The U.S. Air Force requires us to have 20 continuing education units per year to maintain or licensure and we’re able to convert the CME units approved by the AMA to meet that requirement. Since this is also a service offered by most boards of nursing, many of you can take advantage of these educational offerings as well.

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 grand rounds forum. We all know the importance of networking in professional organizations and this is a strong association that fosters both aerospace medicine and aerospace nursing. If each of you could ensure that your senior leadership is aware of these unique opportunities, we can increase participation in the annual meeting and our membership. I hope you have found, as I have, that this meeting has a lot to offer.

ANS is sponsoring a Grand Rounds panel next year to highlight the movement of patients by air. I’d like to personally invite each of you to put together a panel of five or six team members to speak to specific missions or interesting cases. The movement of patients can be complicated and we’d do well to learn from each other’s experiences. The meeting also allows us to present breakthroughs in equipment and research to a professional audience. To that end we’re also considering slide or panel presentations on CCATT, aviation medical equipment, and international patient transportation. A template for the submission of abstracts will be available soon and they are due on October 31st. We have mentors to support you in this endeavor so please consider stepping forward to share your experience or research with this group.

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, Christine Cloutier, Ramstein AB, Germany—Secretary, Eileen Hadhavny, Charleston, SC—Treasurer. We can all be reached at the new group mailbox: aerospacenursingsociety@yahoo.com. I hope you meet you and your colleagues in the coming year and anticipate a terrific “Care in the Air” focus for next year’s conference.

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

Aerospace Nursing Society News

A Message from the ANS President

Hello all!

I’m sure most of you saw the biographies of all the incoming officers to the Aerospace Medicine Association and its constituent organizations. I am honored to serve as the president of the Aerospace Nursing Society (ANS) this year and look forward to promoting our organization throughout the aerospace medicine community. I know we all have many obligations and constraints but I am very happy to have made this organization and it’s scientific meeting one of my priorities. I’ve enjoyed attendance at the annual meeting for more than 8 years now and hopefully have met many of you.

I believe this group provides a singular opportunity to learn more about the science and human factors of aerospace medicine. We have a unique perspective which originates from the care we provide to civilian and military patients alike. As a member, it’s also interesting to note that the cost of this conference is less per unit than most professional nursing conferences so the value added makes it easy to get my commander’s approval for funding. The U.S. Air Force requires us to have 20 continuing education units per year to maintain or licensure and we’re able to convert the CME units approved by the AMA to meet that requirement. Since this is also a service offered by most boards of nursing, many of you can take advantage of these educational offerings as well.

The Aerospace Nursing Society provides an
Doctors in Space Set Record, Maybe
by Pat McGinnis,
SMA President 2009-10

The recent flight of STS-127 may have set a new record: four physicians in space! I don’t really know if this was a record, but certainly for us in the Space Medicine Association, it sure feels like one. All of us connected to space medicine can be proud of this milestone. Let’s take a look at our colleagues, and their missions.

Dr. Mike Barratt is an internist and aerospace medicine specialist. He has been working in space medicine since 1991. One of his earliest assignments was as the with the Space Station Freedom program, managing the Hyperbaric and Respiratory Subsystems. He went on to serve as a Flight Surgeon for Space Shuttle Medical Operations, then the US/Russian Shuttle/Mir program, and eventually became the Medical Operations Lead for the ISS. Mike was selected as a Mission Specialist in 2000, and launched on his first space mission, to the ISS by Soyuz rocket, on March 26, 2009.

Dr. Bob Thirsk is both an engineer and physician. He was training in family medicine when he joined the Canadian astronaut program in 1983. He trained as the backup payload specialist to Marc Garneau for STS-41G, and then flew as a payload specialist aboard STS-78 in 1996, which was the Life and Microgravity Spacelab mission. In 2005 he served as backup for ESA astronaut Roberto Vittori for the Soyuz 10S taxi mission. He launched to the ISS on May 27, 2009 and is the first Canadian to fly the Soyuz.

Dr. Dave Wolf is also an engineer and physician. Dave became a USAF Flight Surgeon in 1983 while serving with the Indiana Air National Guard. He joined NASA that year in the Medical Sciences Division and carried out a number of projects which integrated medicine and engineering. These included the American Flight Echocardiograph and the Space Bioreactor. Dave was selected as a Mission Specialist in 1990. He flew on STS-58 in 1993 which was the dedicated Spacelab life sciences mission. His first long-duration flight was aboard the Russian Mir Station in 1997. In 2002 he flew on STS-112, which was an assembly mission for the ISS. STS-127 launched on July 15 and landed July 31, 2009.

Dr. Tom Marshburn is an emergency medicine specialist. He was in the first class of the NASA/UTMB Space Medicine Fellowship (which has since become an aerospace medicine residency). Following the Fellowship, Tom joined NASA as a Flight Surgeon in 1994 with Space Shuttle Medical Operations. He served as a crew surgeon during the Shuttle/Mir program, STS-98, STS-101, and ISS. Tom was selected as a Mission Specialist in 2004. STS-127 was his first venture into space.

In the picture nearby, you see them all aboard the ISS, huddled around our own “Blue Journal”. It is not likely that their schedule included time to read it, however.

SMA Jeff Myers Young Investigator Award

The SMA’s Jeff Myers Young Investigator Award is presented to the primary author of an outstanding presentation in the area of Aerospace Medicine presented at the current Annual Scientific Meeting of AsMA. The work must be original and the young investigator must a first-time presenter. The applicant must submit a draft manuscript of their presentation to the chair of the Jeff Myers Young Investigator Award sub-Committee by March 15, 2010 to:

K. Jeffrey Myers, M.D. Space Medicine Association Young Investigator Award Chair P.O. Box 540305 Merritt Island, Florida 32954 jmyers@chsmedical.com

The deadline for abstract submission is October 30, 2009!

SMA Awards

The Space Medicine Association now has two new awards, introduced in 2009:

1) The Space Medicine Association Award for Journal Publication will be presented to a member of the SMA who is the first author of an article published during the previous calendar year in Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine. The Awards Committee will nominate candidates to the SMA Executive Committee who will select the recipient by a majority vote. The award will be presented at the SMA Annual Business Meeting.

2) The Space Medicine Association Scholarship, sponsored by Jeffrey R. Davis, has been established to support students who are pursuing educational objectives relative to space medicine. It was awarded for the first time in 2009. The Scholarship includes a check for $500 and a free registration for the recipient to attend the AsMA Scientific Meeting in May 2010. Application forms are due March 1, 2010. Forms and instructions can be found at the SMA website: www.asma.org/Organization/SMB/smb.htm

We look forward to supporting space medicine with these two incentive programs. Our thanks to the generous sponsors of our educational programs including individual contributors: Jeffrey Davis, Jeffrey Myers, Mark Campbell, Jon Clark, and Bob Ellis of Wyle Integrated Science and Engineering who have enabled support to the “Jeffrey Myers Young Investigator Award”, and the new “SMA Scholarship sponsored by Jeffrey Davis”.

DOCTORS IN SPACE— (Left to Right) Mike Barratt, Tom Marshburn, Dave Wolf, and Bob Thirsk display our journal aboard the International Space Station.
From The President’s Desk:

Six Degrees of Separation
By Dale Orford

It is often said in Montreal that if you stand on the corner of Peel and Ste. Catherine Streets for longer than a half hour you will meet someone you know. With thousands of people milling around the downtown core, this is not an idle boast either. In today’s world, of course, no one needs to stand out in the rain or cold – they just need to log on to the internet and access the virtual community. It is rapidly replacing brick and mortar neighbourhoods as a source of contact for millions of people around the globe. And, through the principle of “Six Degrees of Separation”, you will definitely meet someone you know. Take my new son-in-law, Nat, for example. He is a very talented young artist, and while a student at the New York Academy of Art, he was awarded a scholarship to paint in France for the summer. As part of his award, one of his paintings was selected by the Prince of Wales for his private collection. So, since Nat is related to me, and since Prince Charles has one of his paintings, I now have a connection to the Royal Family. (Though, I doubt that I will be invited to tea anytime soon!) Last summer when we were visiting Sir John and Lady Mary Baird in Ely, John showed us a painting in his study of a street scene in Zanzibar. “See that house over there?” he said. “Guess who lived there.” “No idea.” I responded. “Freddie Mercury – he lived on the second floor and we lived across the street on the first floor. I didn’t know him as he was younger than I, but none-the-less, I am connected to “Queen”. Wow! Queen, one of my favourite bands, and through the Principle of Six Degrees of Separation, since I know John, and John lived near Freddie, I now know a celebrity! (Although, sadly, Freddie has now passed on.) It is kind of the way Facebook works. It is like a giant spider web with strands reaching out in all directions and capturing new “Friends” every time you log on. Lots of Wing members are already registered with the site and now the Wing has its own group page. We can post comments, start discussions, post photos of our meetings, trips etc. and a whole lot more. It is fun, easy, and best of all, it is free. All you need to do is log on to Facebook.com and register. You will need a valid e-mail address and password, and the only personal information you will need to provide is your date of birth, which you can keep hidden from people visiting your page. The Wing’s page is set up as a “closed group” so that only Wing members may join. You will need to go to my home page first (just type Dale Laura Orford in the search box) and I will send you an invitation to join the group. It is a great way to keep in touch, and share what you are doing throughout the year, and I am looking forward to seeing many more members join the Wing’s Facebook page in this exciting new world of virtual communities.
Mayo Finds MGUS Is Not Linked to as Many Diseases as Thought

A symptomless blood disorder, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance, known as MGUS, is not linked to as many serious diseases as previously thought. This finding may save patients from undergoing unnecessary workup and treatment according to a study published in the August 2009 issue of Mayo Clinic Proceedings (available at www.mayoclinicproceedings.com).

MGUS is a fairly common disorder, affecting roughly 3% of the U.S. population and has long been thought to be a precursor of serious disease, such as multiple myeloma, primary amyloidosis, and Waldenström macroglobulinemia. However, for years physicians have reported possible association of MGUS with many more diseases. As a result, some patients with MGUS who had these disorders were subjected to investigations and sometimes additional treatments as a precaution.

In the study, researchers looked at the records of 17,398 patients, all of whom were uniformly tested for the presence or absence of MGUS. Among the 17,398 samples tested, 605 cases of MGUS were identified. The researchers then looked at the incidence of over 16,000 different diagnosis codes in those with MGUS and those without. They identified 14 real disease associations, while 61 disease associations with MGUS were determined to be likely coincidental. In addition to multiple myeloma, the associations deemed real include vertebral and hip fractures and osteoporosis.


Wyle Expedited Critical Test of Flight Hardware

Test engineers at Wyle Laboratories expedited a series of critical vibration tests to support a July 2009 launch of SpaceX’s Falcon 1 launch vehicle, which successfully delivered the RazakSAT satellite for ATSB (Malaysia). Prior to launch, SpaceX engineers implemented a vibration isolation system which required testing in advance of flight. Wyle test engineers performed the testing in accordance with the aggressive timeline to make travel easier. Services such as ‘My Flights’ and ‘My Messages’ will allow customers to manage their Air Canada travel experience from a single location. The Air Canada iPhone App allows customers to check in for a flight, verify their flight status, sign up for live flight notification updates, or take advantage of one of the other options available.

— For more information, please visit the news page at www.aircanada.com/en/news/090821.html

United’s Cargo Service Launches Temp Control

United Cargo recently announced the launch of Temp Control (sm), a service designed for convenient shipment of healthcare and pharmaceutical products that require strict temperature controls and monitoring during transport. Because medications, vaccines and similar pharmaceutical products often require transport under strict temperature conditions in order to remain viable for use, Temp Control offers three temperature ranges to meet customers’ specific shipping needs: Freeze (-10ºC to -20 ºC), Cool (+2 ºC to +8 ºC), and Ambient (+15 ºC to +25 ºC).

United’s centralized Temp Control customer service team provides proactive shipment temperature notification that is available 24 hours a day. Temperature readings are taken at specified points in the shipment’s transport.

— For more on this, please visit the press release at www.united.com/press/detail/0,7056,60790,00.html

Oregon Aero Announces Increase of Interior Upgrade Services

For more than a decade, Oregon Aero, an FAA-Approved Repair Station, has provided Complete Interior Upgrades for production aircraft. Now the company announces the expansion of its Interior Upgrade services for production aircraft through an affiliation with Overall Aircraft Services, an FAA-Approved Repair Station located at the Scappoose, OR airport across the tarmac from Oregon Aero’s headquarters. New services provided through Overall include general corrosion inspection and repair, cable inspection and repair, and window replacement.

— Adapted from a news item at http://www.oregonaero.com/press-releases/expansion-interior-upgrade-services

ETC Announces First Hyperbaric Chamber Contract in Romania

Environmental Tectonics Corporation’s (ETC’s) BioMedical Systems Division, a product division in ETC’s Controls Systems Group, has contracted with Histria International, SRL, for the delivery and installation of the first Bara-Med® computerized monoplace hyperbaric chamber in Romania. Histria International is a “turnkey” supplier, providing all the necessary facilities of a comprehensive investment project regardless of its application - industrial, office, commercial, residential - and providing the human resources and logistics necessary for the work on the site.

— Taken from a press release found at http://www.etcusa.com/corp/pressreleases/060807.html

AA’s Credit Union Donates to Something mAAgical Foundation

American Airlines Federal Credit Union (AA Credit Union) proudly presented The Something mAAgical Foundation with a check for $7,900. Funds were raised through Credit Union-wide employee dress-down days, raffles and donations from check orders - $50 of each order of the American Airlines Logo series of checks placed by member-owners of AA Credit Union was donated to the foundation. The check was presented to Todd Fairbanks, The Something mAAgical Foundation Executive Director, at their board meeting in August. The Something mAAgical Foundation Inc., is a grassroots, non-profit organization comprised of volunteers who are current and former employees of American Airlines, American Eagle Airlines and AA Credit Union. They support the missions of Give Kids The World Village and other children’s organizations to create mAAgical memories for children with life-threatening medical conditions.

— For more information on this story, please see the press release at http://aa.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=436&item=2715
Classified AD

July 2010 Mayo Clinic Aerospace Medicine Fellowship Position

Two-year Aerospace Medicine Fellowship (includes a Masters in Public Health) position open to physicians who have completed an ABMS approved clinical residency. For those with an MPH, we invite applications for a one-year fellowship. For applications visit: http://www.mayo.edu/msgme/ or contact the program director, Lawrence Steinkraus, MD, MPH, for details at 507-284-9966. Deadline for submission of applications: December 31, 2009.