



AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

137th ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The American Otological Society's Annual Spring Meeting will be held at the J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa, May 1-2, 2004, Phoenix, Arizona. Enclosed is a combined program and abstract book for the meeting. Please bring this with you to the meeting as there will only be a limited number of copies available at the meeting.

From the Desk of :
Jeffrey P. Harris, MD, PhD
President of the American Otological Society

Colleagues:

I am very pleased that the program for the 2004 AOS meeting is now finalized. I think you will find that the scientific program is of the highest caliber and will provide our membership with the latest information through symposia on such contemporary topics as "Frontiers in Hair Cell and Neural Regeneration", "The Meniett Device for the Treatment of Meniere's Disease" and "Contemporary Topics in Stapedectomy". For each of these symposia, expert panelists from across the world have been invited to bring our membership up to date on the latest advances in these areas. In addition there were 57 submitted abstracts and 24 chosen by the Program Committee for presentation. A special highlight of this year's program will be a lecture by our AOS Guest of Honor, Professor Ugo Fisch, entitled "Surgical Management of Temporal Paragangliomas: A Long Term Review." I hope we will have a well-attended meeting and see lively and engaging discussions from our membership. The venue for the meeting is superb, and I expect that all participants will enjoy the resort facilities and social programs. Lastly, I have received very positive feedback on our new AOS neckties. I hope those of you who have ordered one will wear your ties proudly during the meeting. For those of you who have not yet ordered one, Shirley Gossard will have them for sale at the registration desk. For our female members, we are exploring a way to convert ties into scarves for those who would like that done and you may discuss that with Shirley at the meeting. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Phoenix.

The President's Annual Reception and Banquet

The President's Annual Reception and Banquet will be held at the J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa on Sunday evening, May 2. This elegant black-tie affair will begin with a cocktail reception at 6:30 pm with dinner served at 7:30 pm. The dance band selected for the evening is an extremely versatile group combining tunes from the top 40 and popular rock right through country western, and even some "Latino" thrown in for good measure. Guaranteed to bring "a rollin' good time" as the four musicians combine 50 years experience in their entertainment repertoire. Pack your dance shoes, bring your favorite partner, and dance the night away.

Banquet tickets may be purchased through the Academy when you send in your registration form. Cost of the Banquet is \$125.00 per person and is for members and invited guests only.

AOS Council Update

The Council of the American Otological Society, Inc., met on February 7, 2004, in San Francisco, CA. The Council members present included: Drs. Jeffrey P. Harris, President, Sam E. Kinney, Clough Shelton, C. Phillip Dasput, Richard A. Chole, Horst R. Konrad, John K. Niparko, and Antonio De La Cruz

Dr. Harris appointed Drs. Samuel Selesnick, Chairman, Stephen Cass and Karen Doyle to serve on the 2004 Audit Committee. The committee will review the financial statements and give a report at the Annual Meeting.

Dr. Richard A. Chole serves as Chairperson of the Award of Merit Committee and will announce the committee's choice at the AOS Banquet on Sunday evening.

AOS Membership Update

The current membership totals 298: Active 142, Senior 75, Emeritus 8, Associate 43, Corresponding 19, and Honorary 11.

In Memoriam

Recently deceased member of the Society:

Howard P. House, MD - 8/1/2003

Jack Pulec, MD - 12/20/2003

William W. Montgomery, MD - 11/7/2003

The Council extends their sympathy to the families.

Requests for Transfer of Membership

When requesting transfer of membership the following steps must be adhered to: An active member may request transfer to senior membership and upon the approval of the Council and the membership at the next annual meeting will be transferred to this category. Senior membership shall begin on July 1 after the annual meeting. If a member has requested transfer shortly after the annual meeting and refuses to pay dues for the current fiscal year, then the member shall be considered delinquent. Such delinquency shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting and the member will be denied his/her request for transfer of membership until they are in good standing with their dues. The failure to pay dues for two consecutive years shall result in forfeiture of membership, this action to be determined by the Council.

Membership Development

Dr. Clough Shelton reported 11 new members will be inducted into the Society at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

Seven Active Members: Drs. Sujana S. D. Chandrasekhar, John L. Dornhoffer, Dennis G. Pappas, Jr, Steven D. Rauch, Richard M. Rosenfeld, Eric E. Smouha, and Jeffrey T. Vrabec.

Four Associate Members: Drs. Ricardo F. Bento, Alfred Ferlito, Carlos A. Oliveira, and Neil T. Shepard.

Treasurer's Report

The balance on hand in the AOS Treasury as of January 27, 2004, was \$94,524.61.

Research Fund Report

Dr. Clough Shelton reported the balance in the Research Fund as of December 31, 2003, was 7,629,914.19. The 2003-2004 actual grants funding was \$229,262.00.

Transactions

Dr. Sam Kinney reported the Transactions of the 2002 meeting are now available on the AOS website in .pdf format. Adobe Acrobat Reader is necessary to download this format. The 2003 Transactions have been submitted to the Webmaster and will be on the website very soon. The Council would appreciate feedback from the membership regarding publication of the Transactions on the Website. Do you feel having the Transactions on the Website is serving your needs? Please send your comments to the AOS Administrative Office.

Neurotology Fellowships

The Council is exploring the possibility of a one-year fellowship in neurotology.

COSM 2004

The Triological Society will be presenting Otology sessions on Monday, May 3, at COSM. When you register for COSM, consider including Monday's Triological sessions in your itinerary.

Website

The AOS website has been under construction for the past year. Plans are to have the website totally functional by the end of summer and for the website to become more interactive.

Membership forms are available on the website. Membership application deadline is September 1.

All abstract submissions are to be submitted electronically via the website or e-mail. Abstract deadline is October 15.

Website: www.americanotologicalsociety.org

E-mail: segossard@aol.com

We have several requests throughout the year for the AOS membership mailing list. The AOS membership mailing list is not available to AOS members nor any outside groups.

AOS Ties

Need a new tie? The AOS tie is available for purchase at a cost of \$45.00 and if your order is received before April 1, it will be mailed in time for you to wear to the Spring Meeting. We will have ties available for purchase at the Spring Meeting. We do not accept cash at the meeting, so if you are planning to purchase a tie, please bring along a check or money order in the amount of \$45.00. After the Spring Meeting the cost of the tie will be \$55.00.

Address Changes

If you have a change of e-mail address or mailing address, send to Shirley Gossard, (segossard@aol.com) Administrator, American Otological Society, 2720 Tartan Way, Springfield, IL 62707.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to direct them to the AOS Administrative Office.