

President's Page

I have learned much in the few short weeks since we met in New Orleans. Communications with the president-elect, the Vice Presidents, Fellows Chair, committee chairs, and vice-chairs has been active and productive. I am confident these early communications will serve us well as the year progresses.

We are actively pursuing new ideas, two of which have come from younger members of the Association. Robyn Chase, president of the Aerospace Medicine Student Organization (AMSRO), introduced to Council the concept of a universal email address for all Association members. This would virtually eliminate the constantly recurring problem of maintaining current email addresses. This problem is common to the Association, the Executive Committee, and the Council, the committees, and all constituent and affiliate organizations. We are actively exploring costs and feasibility, as well as compatibility with our current data base system.

Dave Sarnow, the chair of the Communications Committee, brought forward the idea of a format that would significantly enhance committee work and communications between meetings. With such a format, documents could be placed on a "table" or "black-board," enabling members of the group to view each other's comments and follow evolutionary changes in a fluid document. I would like to thank Robyn and Dave for their innovative suggestions. Dave will be stationed in Korea during the coming year, but will remain active in the committee. Dan Callan and Joe Dervay will serve as co-chairs. Dan and Joe are also working on efficient teleconferencing capability.

As it happens, there is usually a lull in communications after the annual meeting which lasts until the Executive Committee convenes in August. This year we began an active dialogue immediately following the meeting in order to jump start the year. It has become apparent that communications between meetings, be they amongst members of Council, Executive Committee, constituent or affiliate organizations, or standing committees are often scant. With ideas such as Robyn's and Dave's, we hope to change that.

There will be an untried format to the Executive Committee come August. The meeting has been extended from two thirds of a day to 1.5 days. We plan to devote considerable time to orientation for both new and old board members. We will review the



John D. Hastings, M.D.

Association's mission, vision, and goals. We will address the roles and responsibilities of governance (Council and the powers it delegates to the Executive Committee) and management (Executive Director and staff). Most importantly, we will remind ourselves of the important guiding principle of acting in the best interest of the member, in the best interest of you.

In the past we have learned much from member surveys, particularly from candid member observations that disclose our shortcomings and insensitivities. We learn from our mistakes rather than what we do well. I strongly feel that listening is a vitally important function in the leadership of the Association.

In the practice of medicine, Walter Alvarez said: "Listen to your patients. Listen to them and they will tell you what's wrong. And, if you listen to them long enough, they will often tell you what will make them better." I think Dr. Alvarez' advice would serve the Association well. We must listen to the member. One need not wait for a survey to voice an opinion. If you have comments or recommendations, let us have them. We will put them in our suggestions box and we will read them.

The purpose of these efforts is to support the mission, vision, and goals of the Association. We want to be a vibrant organization that is representative, responsive, and proactive in representing its members in the international arena of aviation and space medicine. We want to make you proud of your membership in the Association. We commit to that.

Medical News

AVIATION, SPACE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE

Andy Bellenkes voted President-Elect of AsMA; Jack Hastings installed as President

CDR Andrew H. Bellenkes, USN, has been chosen to be the 2008-2009 President of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). He



has spent almost 30 years in the field of Aviation Human Factors. In July 2006, CDR Bellenkes was assigned to the Military Faculty at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, where he holds the positions of Director of Aviation

Psychology/Human Factors curriculae, Human Factors Option Chief and Assistant Professor.

A Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association, Dr. Bellenkes has served as a Vice President, Chair of the Scientific Program Committee, Co-chair of the Membership Committee, and Chair of the Awards Committee. He was also President of the Aerospace Human Factors Society in 1997.

A native New Yorker, Commander Andy Bellenkes earned Ph.D. in Aviation Human Factors (with a joint-minor in International Security Studies) from the University of Illinois (1999). He is also a graduate from the College of Naval Command and Staff of the U.S. Naval War College (1994). In 1982, CDR Bellenkes entered the Naval Flight/Aeromedical Training program in Pensacola and was designated an Aerospace Experimental Psychologist in 1982. He then reported to the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory in Pensacola where he served as Division Officer of the Vestibular Sciences Laboratory.

CDR Bellenkes left active duty in 1985 to join the Human Factors Engineering team at Grumman Aircraft Systems Division in New York, where he was a member of the F-14D cockpit design and Aircraft Advanced Systems groups. As a Naval Reservist, CDR Bellenkes was assigned to the 4th Marine Air Wing Medical Unit and later as Assistant Flight Operations Safety Officer on both the *USS Carl Vinson* and *USS Theodore Roosevelt*.

In 1988, CDR Bellenkes left Grumman to pursue a one-year independent study sabbatical in Austria. Upon his return to the United States, CDR Bellenkes became the Head of Human Factors Engineering with the Government Systems Division of the Control Data Corporation in Minneapolis. In this position, he was the Program Manager for all human engineering efforts for the joint-service Advanced Tactical Airborne Reconnaissance System (ATARS).

Following his assignment in 1990 to the US Central Command for the Operation Desert Shield, CDR Bellenkes returned to full active duty, and was assigned to the Naval Safety Center in Virginia as the Head of Human Factors Engineering in the Aeromedical

Branch until 1994. In addition to his duties in mishap investigation, analysis, and prevention, CDR Bellenkes was the Head of the Cockpit Workload Advisory Group, the Safety Center's representative to the V-22 program, and was co-editor of the 4th edition of the US Naval Flight Surgeon's Pocket Mishap Investigation Manual. CDR Bellenkes was augmented into the Regular Navy in 1994.

Returning from outservice training for his Ph.D., CDR Bellenkes was then assigned as the Force Aviation Human Factors Safety Officer for the Commander, Naval Air Force, US Atlantic Fleet (CNAL) in Norfolk, VA. He provided human factors expertise to the CNAL Commander, developed and implemented human factors safety programs, and monitored Atlantic Fleet aviation activities for human factors issues affecting readiness. He was also CNAL Force Safety Human Factors Engineering representative to the CVN OAG and CVX (now, Advanced Carrier) Design Fleet Process Team, Director of Fleet Aeromedical ORM Training, member of the Human-Systems Integration System Safety working group, and the Human Factors Quality Management Board. CDR Bellenkes was also CNAL's human engineering expert for advanced aircraft acquisition programs, and created a formal human factors safety program for CNAL operators of unmanned remotely piloted aircraft (UAVs), the first of its kind in the Navy.

CDR Bellenkes checked onboard the Naval Postgraduate School in October 2000 as an Assistant Professor/Military Instructor in Aviation Human Factors, School of Aviation Safety. In 2003, CDR Bellenkes assumed the duty first as Deputy, Acquisitions Program Branch Office, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower & Personnel) in Washington, D.C., and in 2005 he became Manager, Science and Technology/Research and Development.

CDR Bellenkes' work has been published extensively in a number of U.S. and European flight safety and Homeland Defense/Asymmetric Warfare-related journals and books. His chapters on 'The Human Factor in Aircraft Mishaps' and on 'Human Engineering Aspects of Aircraft Mishap Investigation' were published in the Aerospace Medical Association's Handbook for Aviation Accident Investigators, and the Naval Flight Surgeon's Mishap Investigation Pocket Checklist.

CDR Bellenkes has also become internationally recognized as an authority on Human Factors in Terrorism/Counter-Terrorism operations. As such, he directs an international special joint working group on Human Factors in Homeland Defense, and is a member of the NATO Advanced Research Working Group on Preparedness Against Bioterrorism and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases. His chapter on Operational Risk Management in the preven-

tion and management of terrorist-based chemical and biological weapons attacks was recently published by NATO. CDR Bellenkes has also been a NATO/AGARD consultant to the German Air Force, and maintains ongoing joint human factors in flight safety efforts with military and civilian counterparts in Hungary, France, Brazil, as well as a number of middle and eastern European countries.

CDR Bellenkes has been designated as a "Certified Human Factors Professional" by the Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics and has also been listed on the Professional Register of The Ergonomics Society. He is a member (Academician) of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine, and is an active member of many American and European Professional Societies.

John D. "Jack" Hastings, M.D., was installed as the 2007-08 President during Honors Night ceremonies, May 18 2007.

A Chicago, IL, native, Dr. Hastings received his M.D. degree from the St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1965. Following a residency in neurology at the Mayo Clinic he entered the Army, serving 1 year in Viet Nam as one of only two neurologists. In 1971, he returned to Chicago where he opened a private practice and became a part-time clinical instructor at the Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. He was board certified in neurology in 1972 and continues that practice. He became board certified in aerospace medicine in 1999.

Dr. Hastings became an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) in 1976. He has been a lecturer in aviation neurology for the FAA AME seminars for over 25 years and has served as a consultant to the Federal Air Surgeon since the late 1990s.

A Fellow of AsMA, Dr. Hastings also serves as an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor of neurology at the Oklahoma University School of Medicine and an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor in the Aerospace Medicine residency program at University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. He is past president of the Civil Aviation Medical Association. He is also a commercial pilot with multi-engine and instrument rating with over 5200 hours of flight experience.

Other AsMA Elected Officers:

The new Vice Presidents are: Fanancy Anzalone, M.D., and Robert W. Weien, M.D., M.P.H., who was re-elected to a second term. Carol Manning, Ph.D. and Jeffrey Myers, M.D., are fulfilling the second year of their 2-year term.

The Members-at-Large with terms to expire in 2010 are: Jonathan B. Clark, M.D., Lt.Col. Valerie E. Martindale, Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., and Marian B. Sides, Ph.D.,

Treasurer is P. Glenn Merchant, Jr., M.D. Russell B. Rayman, M.D. serves as Executive Director of AsMA.

The Council representatives to the Executive Committee are: Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., Marian B. Sides, Ph.D., and Jarnal Singh, M.D.

Minutes of the Aerospace Medical Association Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday, May 15, 2007, Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, LA

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Dr. Jennings.

2. Recognition of Past Presidents.

3. In Memoriam: Attendees paid tribute to those members that passed away the preceding year.

4. Report of the President: Dr. Jennings made preliminary remarks and thanked those who supported him during his Presidency.

5. Report of the Executive Director, Secretary Treasurer, General Chair of Annual Scientific Meeting:

a. Executive Director: Ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to report to you our activities during the preceding calendar year. As you will see, the tempo of our outreach program has continued unabated.

The most significant accomplishment of the preceding year was the formation of our new Aerospace Medical Association Foundation. Much of the credit for this Foundation rests with our President, Dr. Richard Jennings. At this time we have now collected over \$10,000 in donations that will be used in the coming years for student scholarships. We certainly hope to enlarge the Foundation in the coming years by personal donations.

We also received a \$169,000 grant from Cephalon, the makers of Modafinil. This money will be used for the publication of a Journal Supplement on Cognition and Performance. I might add this is the first time that AsMA has received such a grant.

We have been represented on a number of national committees including the Exploration Life and Medical Sciences (ELMS) Coalition in support of the space program and the Institute of Medicine Committee dealing with life sciences issues in particular.

We have sent letters in support of aeronautics research and in support of an auto-GCAS system for high performance aircraft. As a result of our efforts and those of others, the Department of Defense has given monies for further research in this area.

During the preceding year we made extra efforts to contact students at various schools throughout the country, particularly USUHS. This year, you will also have available all back issues of the Journal on DVD that should facilitate the search for references.

Other activities included providing testimony to the US Federal Aviation Administration regarding space tourism. We also contacted the International Civil Aviation Organization recommending a requirement for qualified and trained aeromedical specialists to participate in aircraft accident investigation. And finally, a letter was sent to the Federal Air Surgeon advising against the establishment of periodic medical assessments or examinations for cabin crew.

This provides you with an overview of our activities during 2006 and I look forward to a very enthusiastic and energetic 2007. I would like to personally thank all committee chairs, committee members, and individual volunteers for giving their time to these activities.

b. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer: As of December 31, 2006, our total income was \$1,171,076 and total expenses were \$1,159,199 for a net gain of \$11,877.

c. Report of the General Chair of the 78th Annual Scientific Meeting: Advance registration was 1,083; onsite registration as of 11 AM today was 400, giving us a total registration of 1,483. There were 49 Exhibits.

6. Report of AsMA Foundation - (Vanderploeg): Dr. Vanderploeg reported that the Foundation has a 501(c)3 status with \$10,450 in the bank. He made a plea for donations.

7. GOVERNANCE - (HASTINGS)

-Nominating - Antunano: Dr. Antunano presented the slate of officers for the coming year. A motion to approve this slate carried.

-Bylaws - Nailling: Seven Bylaws changes were presented for discussion and vote. They have been approved by Council and published in the February issue of the Journal. [Ed. Note: The updated bylaws are now on the website.] A synopsis follows:

1) Eliminate the 0.5% rule for Fellows. A motion carried by over 2/3s.

2) Separate the Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer offices. A motion carried by over 2/3s. It was noted that the term Secretary should be deleted which will be accomplished in the coming months. There is a contradiction because Dr. Merchant was elected on a slate as Secretary/Treasurer yet this Bylaws' change omits Secretary.

3) Add a Fellow and an Associate Fellow as members to Council. A motion carried by over 2/3s.

4) The Executive Committee will amend the Policy Procedures manual as necessary. A motion carried by over 2/3s.

5) Executive Committee sets the time and place of the Annual Meeting. A motion to approve this carried by over 2/3s. (As written, the meeting was referred as Assembly. This should be changed to Meeting at next year's Business Meeting.)

6) The President shall appoint chairs of committees unless provided otherwise by the Bylaws. A motion carried by 2/3s. It should be derogated by He/She.

7) Science and Technology Committee. A motion carried by 2/3s describing committee function.

-Finance - DeVoll: AsMA currently has \$1.8 million in total assets. 2006 was a good year showing a gain of about \$11,000. The year 2007 looks good in that there will be two supplements. Our investment portfolio is doing well with 18% in cash and money markets, 29% in fixed income CDs, and 53% in equities (ETFs and structured products). At the present time the portfolio is valued at about \$800,000.

8. REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY - (MANNING)

-Resolutions - Scheuring: Two resolutions were presented.

1) Resolution 07-01 - Medical Standards for Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) Operators

An amendment was made to asterisk "RPA" to include a definition at the bottom of the page to read, "The term RPA is used synonymously with other titles including unmanned aerial vehicles, unmanned combat aerial vehicles, and unmanned aerial systems". The amendment carried. Another amendment to insert "military and civil" before RPA in the "whereas" and "resolved" portion of the Resolution was voted down. The full Resolution with the above amendment was carried:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aerospace Medical Association strongly recommends that remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) operators meet aeromedical standards determined by aeromedical specialists for the purpose of safety risk management.

2) Resolution 07-02 - Crash Injury Data

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aerospace Medical Association strongly recommends that national aviation regulatory agencies throughout the world coordinate with the International Civil Aviation Organization to establish standardized national databases to record civil aircraft utilization and impact data, occupant exposure and injury data, and injury mechanism data; which should be made readily available to safety researchers.

A motion approving the resolution carried.

Consideration will be given by the officers and the ED as to where these resolutions should be sent.

-Air Transport - Wolbrink: The Committee is developing a periodicity paper and has a position statement on Go No-Go Pills in final editing.

-Communications - Sarnow: The Committee is reviewing the aerospace medicine slide show on the web. Ways and means are being explored to improve e-mail contact information and for electronic collaboration tools.

9. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH - (WEBB)

-Aerospace Human Factors - Nesthus: A Human Factors slideshow is being produced. The Committee is sponsoring three panels at this meeting. Work is continuing on a fatigue countermeasure position paper.

-Aviation Safety - DeJohn: The Committee formulated the two resolutions as passed above. They are also sponsoring a panel at this meeting and working on a cabin pressure altitude position paper.

-Education and Training - Stepanek: The Committee is developing an aerospace medicine training and research facility compendium.

-History and Archives - Mohler: The Committee sponsored four historical movies and one panel at this meeting. It also prepared a history of our Awards Namesakes that was published in the October issue of the Journal. They are also exploring the production of a DVD of our historical archives.

-Science and Technology - Shender: The Committee sponsored two panels and has published a Science and Technology Watch in the Journal every month. Sixty-nine such articles have been published since 2000.

10. MEMBER SERVICES - (WEIEN)

-Awards - Bellenkes: Awards will be announced at Honors Night.

-Corporate and Sustaining - Sides: There has been an increase by 20% of C & S members with 36 more in the pipeline.

-Membership - Silberman/Myers: Membership has leveled off just above 2,900. Full efforts are being made to contact delinquents and encouraging students to join.

11. INTERNATIONAL SERVICES - (MYERS)

-International Activities - Kleinsmith: The Committee is working on a multi-lingual website. 3 panels were given at this meeting in French, German, and Spanish.

12. Unfinished and New Business: None.

13. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell B. Rayman, M.D.
Executive Director