

The American Society of Emergency Radiology

Newsletter

By O. Clark West, MD, Secretary



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President's Report

During the first 15 months of his term as President, Stanford M. Goldman, M.D. has worked behind the scenes on several critical issues:

American Board of Radiology relations

Dr. Goldman had several conversations with Robert Hattery, M.D., Executive Director of ABR, about the importance of Emergency Radiology in certification examinations. Indeed, the oral examination now contains more emergency and trauma cases when compared to a few years ago. Anthony Proto, M.D., Assistant Executive Director of ABR for Diagnostic Radiology, has agreed to appoint members of ASER to contribute questions on emergency and trauma topics for the written examination. The Executive Committee and committee chairs nominated six ASER members to serve the ABR in this role.

Increasing participation of Emergency Radiologists in Trauma Center accreditation

Dr. Goldman is in active discussion with ACR leadership (Stephen Amis, M.D. and James Borgsted, M.D.) about joint efforts to gain radiology representation in the accreditation process of trauma centers (Levels I-IV). In this regard, Drs. Goldman and Borgsted will be meeting with the Leadership Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons at their annual meeting in October.

Community radiology representation

In response to the strategic plan, Dr. Goldman and the Nominating Committee have recommended that a private practitioner serve as an officer on the Executive Committee.

Site selection for 2005

The site selection committee is reviewing proposals to hold the 2005 annual meeting in Tucson, AZ in the Fall of 2005.

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Strategic Plan Updated

On April 1, 2003, several members of ASER met to review and revise ASER's strategic plan. The meeting focused on improving service to ASER members and increasing visibility of Emergency Radiology within the radiology community.

Education

- Increase the educational content of the ASER website using the ASER Core Curriculum as a framework, and keep it freely available to the radiology community
- Develop a high-quality standard written examination in Emergency Radiology for use by first-year radiology residents to demonstrate proficiency prior to taking overnight call
- Contribute examination questions on Emergency Radiology to the American Board of Radiology written examination

Research

- Develop an Emergency Radiology Research and Education Fund to foster research in our field

Publication

- To increase accessibility of articles published in *Emergency Radiology*, develop improved indexing and searching capabilities on the ASER website.

Administration

- Encourage participation of community radiologists in the scientific program, website and the executive committee
- Encourage participation of international members in all facets of ASER activities
- Develop a policy on financial reserves
- Review and revise the strategic plan annually

Participants at the retreat were; Stanford M. Goldman, M.D., President; James T. Rhea, M.D., Stephen Baker, M.D., and Diego Nunez, M.D., Past Presidents; Carlos Sivit, M.D., Treasurer; O. Clark West, M.D., Secretary; and, Leonard Swischuk, M.D., executive committee member-at-large. All of the participants paid their own expenses for this "fly-in" meeting held at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport.

Physician extenders reading diagnostic images

Dr. Goldman represented the ASER at the Intersociety Meeting where the topic was radiology physician extenders. Paramedical personnel are reading diagnostic imaging examinations in several practice settings. Dr. Goldman will discuss this rapidly evolving practice at the annual business meeting.

Ask the expert

At the strategic planning meeting, participants decided that members may be interested in having a means of soliciting expert opinions about Emergency Radiology problems on the website. If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Stanford.M.Goldman@uth.tmc.edu or 713 704-1714.

ACR ER Coverage Practice Guideline Amended to Cover Radiology Residents

As discussed in its June 2003 newsletter, the American College of Radiology (ACR) Standard for Radiologist Coverage of Imaging Performed in Hospital Emergency Departments had such a strict definition of "qualified radiologist" that radiology residents working in the Emergency Department or covering private practices in their off hours ("moonlighting") may not have been "qualified" for their duties. A simple, but important change to the wording of the 2003 Practice Guideline (formerly Practice Standard) corrects this problem.

At the 2003 annual meeting in May, a single word was deleted. The original 2000 Standard read, "The radiologist shall have *completed* training in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited general or diagnostic radiology residency program that included documented radiographic training in all modalities that he/she intends to interpret (*emphasis added*)." The 2003 Practice Guideline omits the word "completed," a change that redefines an appropriately trained radiology resident as a "qualified radiologist."

This simple change is the most elegant of several proposed amendments. The ACR has acted wisely to protect resident activities that are traditionally part of their training experience.

ASER 14th Annual Meeting!

Las Vegas—October 22-25!

ASER Members Play Pivotal Roles in Emergency Radiology Education

ASER members are active participants in the Refresher Courses at RSNA and Instructional Courses at ARRS. In these roles, the unique perspective of Emergency Radiology is disseminated to practicing radiologists from across the nation and around the world.

Robert A. Novelline, M.D., ACR Councilor nominee and Past President, has programmed the Emergency Radiology series of refresher courses for the past three years and now chairs the RSNA Refresher Course committee. F. A. Mann, M.D., Past President, is now chair of the Emergency Radiology lecture series at RSNA. The RSNA board has just approved Dr. Novelline's request that the 2004 Categorical Course be devoted to Emergency Radiology. Dr. Mann will direct the course.

O. Clark West, M.D., has programmed the Emergency Radiology series of instructional course at ARRS for the past five years as a member of the Instructional Course Committee. In 2000, he directed the Categorical Course on Emergency and Trauma Radiology, where over eight hundred registrants learned about Emergency Radiology from twenty-five instructors including twenty-two ASER members.

Developing Educational Pages on ASER Website

James M. Provenzale, M.D., Education Committee Chair, is working with Jim Berent, ASER Webmaster, to develop an Emergency Neuroradiology module for the ASER website. A working model of Dr. Provenzale's module should be available at ASER 2003. The education committee will be developing similar modules on all topics related to Emergency Radiology. Widespread membership support is needed to achieve this important goal. Volunteers may contribute a few interesting or classic cases, or may elect to contribute an entire module. Please show your support by contacting Dr. Provenzale at prove001@mc.duke.edu or O. Clark West, M.D. at o.clark.west@uth.tmc.edu.

ASER 2004 Set for Montreal

ASER will have its first international meeting in Montreal, Wednesday, September 8th-Saturday, September 11, 2004. The Hotel Omni Mont Royal is located on historic Sherbrooke Street in the heart of the Golden Square mile. The hotel is centered among fashionable boutiques, museums, fine dining and the exciting nightlife of chic Crescent street. This luxurious hotel has been awarded Five Star status by the Quebec Hospitality Rating and is moments from the quaint bistros and cobblestone lined streets of Old Montreal. Room rates are in line with recent ASER meetings:

Single/Double CAD\$253.00++ (currently US\$171++).

Montreal has a lot to offer everyone. Discover the Old City, the French cuisine, the Japanese Garden at night, the Amusement Park with fun for all ages and the 24/7 casino with nightly revues. See page 4 for more details.

CHANGES IN THE ASER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dimitrios Spigos, M.D., First Vice President, has notified ASER that he will resign as First Vice President after the first year of his two-year term. Robert A. Halvorsen, Jr., M.D., Second Vice President, is completing his second one-year term and has asked that he not be nominated for other offices. Drs. Spigos and Halvorsen are valued members of ASER who have made substantial contributions to the society. Both have served as Program Committee Chair, one of the most important and challenging assignments. We thank them for their years of service.

2003-2004 OFFICERS SLATE PROPOSED

Dr. Salvatore Sclafani, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, has proposed the following slate of candidates for election at the 2003 Annual Business Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 22 at 5:15 P.M. The bylaws permit nominations from the floor for any of these offices.

1st VP/President Elect: Carlos J. Sivit (Term expires 9/04)

2nd VP: O. Clark West (Term expires 9/04)

Secretary: C. Craig Blackmore (Term expires 9/04)

Treasurer: Myer H. Roszler (Term expires 9/06)

Director At Large: Kathirkamanathan Shanmuganathan (Term expires 9/06)

ACR Councilor: Robert A. Novelline (Term expires 5/06)

Alternate Councilor: Stephen R. Baker (Term expires 5/05)

The following individuals have multi-year terms and will remain in their offices:

President: Stanford M. Goldman (Term expires 9/04)

Director at Large: Kimberley L. McKenney (Term expires 9/04)

Director at Large: Leonard E. Swischuk (Term expires 9/05)

Immediate Past President: Salvatore J. A. Sclafani (Term expires 9/04)

REMINDER: ASER MEETING REGISTER NOW!!

The 14th Annual Meeting is October 22 – 25 in Las Vegas, Nevada. It's a great program in a great location! Visit the website at www.erad.org to download the program and register online.

CME CREDITS

If you need copies of continuing medical educations (CME) certificates for 1999 – 2002 ASER meetings, contact RSNA, who will maintain these records permanently. You may contact Ed Pietrzak in the RSNA Education Center using the toll-free number (800) 381-6660 and asking for the Education Center. Our new management company, International Meeting Managers, will maintain records for the 2003 annual meeting. The 2003 annual meeting is accredited by the University of Iowa. We thank Georges U. El-Khoury, M.D. for his assistance in arranging CME accreditation.

JOB LISTINGS

The website at www.erad.org is available for members to post job openings at no cost. For further information contact the ASER staff at:

American Society of Emergency Radiology

4550 Post Oak Place
Suite 342

Houston, TX 77027

Phone: 713-965-0566

Fax: 713-960-0488

aser@meetingmanagers.com

MONTREAL! LIFE IS A FESTIVAL

By Pam Vinje

Montréal is truly an experience of old world charm, French joie de vivre and a modern style all its own. The fun starts, with la fête des Neiges and the Montreal Highlights Festival, and goes nonstop through with



de Jazz,
Canada
Montréal

Fireworks Competition and many film festivals.

the whole year,
such mega-
favorites as the
Festival
International
the Air
Grand Prix, the
International

At night, Montréal catches a second wind and the action shifts over to comedy clubs, porto, martini, and wine bars. Weekends start early on Thursday nights as bars and terrasses along Crescent and Saint-Denis Streets along with Saint-Laurent Boulevard caters to the nightlife.



Montréal culture consists of paintings and sculptures that flourish in the great halls of Montréal's many prestigious museums, and hundreds of top-notch local galleries. Each year the Opéra de Montréal offers a complete roster of the greatest classics, while various theatre companies stage eclectic productions, from the works of Shakespeare to the latest in fringe. Then there's Ex-Centris, a revolutionary Cinema and New Media Complex where film buffs go to see the best independent films from around the world and the totally plugged-in get their technological thrills.

The Old Montréal and the Old Port are literally a five-minute walk from downtown. One thousand years of history and architecture are recorded in the museums and buildings of Old Montréal. As you stroll along the serpentine cobbles, stop at City Hall to admire its Second-Empire architecture, visit the archeological crypt under Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal's Museum of Archaeology and History, dance with the street performers on Place Jacques Cartier, and visit the Marché Bonsecours, for its magnificent tin-plated dome, and for its terrasses and designer boutiques.

Mont-Royal Avenue and Saint-Denis Streets feature eclectic and designer boutiques, as well as an unbelievable wealth of sidewalk cafés and restaurants. On Prince Arthur Street, a quaint pedestrian cobblestone street, you'll find family-friendly restaurants where you're welcome to bring your own wine, and where you can pick up the perfect baguette, hand-made chocolates and uisite pâtés.

No city in the world welcomes the first rays of spring sunshine with more ceremony and panache. Parasols sprout like so many brightly-coloured mushrooms on terrasses all over the city as tables fill with sun worshippers sipping, munching and chatting away the long days until well past Labour Day.

Terrasse sitting is a sacred ritual in Montréal as everyone will tell you. So is greeting each new day with a café au lait (sipped very slowly and dreamily) and ending a perfect meal with a platter of choice, unctuous cheeses made right here in Québec. To take home other delicious local specialties, visit the Marché des Saveurs in the Jean-Talon Market.

