

# The American Society of Emergency Radiology

## Newsletter

By Suzanne LeBlang, MD, Secretary



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## A Message from the President

Dear Colleagues:

The final plans for the ASER 2005 Annual Meeting are complete! A great deal of work has been accomplished by a large number of people led by Dr.'s Clark West and Steve Ledbetter to bring you a wonderful scientific and educational experience in a setting that should be fun and relaxing. The Westin LaPaloma Resort & Spa is a wonderful facility. There is a 27-hole Jack Nicklaus Golf Course and 10 championship tennis courts. The meeting content will include a refresher course on multislice CT in the emergency center, special focus sessions on lower extremity trauma, legal and ethical issues in emergency radiology and case based sessions on facial and spinal trauma and abdominal and thoracic emergencies. Dr. Stanford Goldman, our immediate past president, will give the Founder's lecture this year which will be entitled "Emergency Imaging of the Pregnant Female: The Why's and Wherefore's".

A second area of activity this past year has been the website. Dr. Ron Bilow is leading the effort to enhance the educational content by making past meeting content available and developing new case based material in support of the ASER core curriculum. I hope many of you will contribute cases in the future. I am truly excited as this represents an exciting opportunity to help fulfill the educational mission of the society.

Our membership remains stable. Under the leadership of Dr. Steve Hatem, the membership committee has been exploring new ways to increase society membership and meeting attendance.

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## ASER 2005 Program Meets the Competition

Emergency Radiology has become a hot field in continuing medical education. An increasing number of individuals and organizations are offering excellent courses about Emergency Radiology. ASER welcomes the increasing interest in the field and welcomes the challenge to offer the best value for the Emergency Radiologist. In response to increasing competition and after careful consideration of member comments, we instituted several changes in the design of the Annual Meeting in 2004 and the changes are fully realized in 2005.

### The key features include:

- 1 ½ day course on a current topic of broad interest to members, this year is "MDCT in the Emergency Center"
- ½ day comprehensive refresher course on a core topic, this year is "Lower Extremity Trauma"
- Recruitment of excellent speakers to include famous names in Emergency Radiology and rising stars with a record of polished teaching skills. At this year's meeting, you will see Leonard Berlin, Stu Mirvis, Bob Novelline, Jim Rhea, Lee Rogers and Joseph Schoepf, but you will also meet several fresh faces who have a strong interest in teaching radiologists
- Changes in society rules to allow submission of investigators' very best research for oral or poster presentation
- Expansion of the case-of-the-day program to include more cases from more radiologists and a more professional presentation and discussion format
- Addition of Saturday case-based sessions as an alternative to the Scientific Paper presentations
- Retention of the Focus and Hot Topics sessions that have been popular with past ASER audiences

Audience feedback from the 2004 meeting was very positive. We anticipate that the 2005 program will be even better. Go to [www.erad.org](http://www.erad.org) to see the program and register now for the best value in Emergency Radiology continuing education.

Of course, the most exciting news in the last year remains the ASER Journal being indexed in the Index Medicus. That effort required a lot of blood, sweat and tears by many members, led by Dr. Steven Baker who continues as the editor of the journal.

I hope to see you all in Tucson. There are so many new and exciting topics at the annual meeting this year. I hope that you will be able to attend.

Warmest Regards,



Carlos J. Sivit, M.D.

President, American Society of Emergency Radiology

A deep thanks also goes out to our former coordinator at International Meeting Managers, Lilly Kregg, who left IMM in June. Lilly has been tremendously helpful, organized, and always pleasant in helping the Committee and Society, and we wish her the best in her new endeavors.

The 2005 year should be bright with new and continuing Committee Members Andy Fisher, Sravanthi Keesara, Stephen Ledbetter, Suzy LeBlang, Lisa Miller, and Dan Schwarz working with our new IMM contact, Jenny Smith. We have implemented a streamlined application process which should greatly shorten the time from application to approval.

Looking forward to seeing you in Arizona. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with ideas or concerns.

Stephen F. Hatem

Chair, Membership Committee

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## ASER Membership: Recruitment and Retention

Membership in the Society has remained over 400 since 1999. Currently it is 437, down from 474 last fall at the Annual Meeting. This trend has been ongoing for several years with sharp decrease after each Annual Meeting, and offsetting increase heading into it. Our Meeting discount for members clearly accounts for at least some of this swing.

This year we are aggressively attempting to capitalize on this by extending a similar discount to attendees of other CME courses directed towards Emergency Radiology. Our early efforts have already yielded several new recruits. Other recruitment efforts are targeting specific groups: radiologists serving in the armed forces; radiology groups at Level I and II Trauma Centers; and, our future-students and residents. Given the limited number of Fellowship programs and academic positions, we need to be creative in our recruitment and would love to hear any of your suggestions for either recruitment or increasing the value of membership to make it more attractive.

Of more concern is retention: members with outstanding dues currently number about 63. Please get your dues in promptly or you will be dropped from the Society's roll. If you are in arrears and considering dropping your membership, we would love to hear what we can do to increase our value to you and your practice, and keep you as a member.

I would like to thank the former membership Committee members whose terms have expired: Daniel Alder, Erick Blaudeau, Eric Brandser, David Lee, and Waleed Qasi. Their work has helped the application process move along smoothly, and has helped the Society's recruitment efforts.

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## ASER Website

Ron Bilow, MD  
ASER Web Editor

Illustration of the ASER online Core Curriculum is finally underway. The first case has passed phase I and is currently under expert review for fine tuning. The plan is to provide hyperlinks from the list of diagnoses in the online Core Curriculum to real cases examples illustrating each pathologic entity. At some point we also expect to build a self-assessment module that can be used for CME. However, the first goal is to get as many of the diagnoses illustrated that we can. We will soon be asking for your help, so start collecting your images now.

We are also working on streamlining the member profiles, particularly in regards to search criteria selection, to make it more intuitive and user-friendly. Once the software is ready, we'll be sending out letters and/or emails asking members to update their profiles, or at least check them for accuracy. I am also planning on instituting a "preferred method of contact" section with each member's profile, that you will be asked to fill out.

If you haven't been to ASER online in a while, take a look at the neuroradiology teaching module created by Jim Provenzale. Jim (and others) put many hours of hard work into the project and it really looks great! Point your browser to <http://www.erad.org/>, log in to the members only section, and test your neuro skills.

We are currently in process of reviewing several recorded lectures from the last annual meeting in Montreal, and will be posting them soon in the members only section. We'll be continuing the new trend this year in Tucson. If you're speaking at this year's meeting and haven't done so already, please send in your paperwork now, to authorize online reproduction of your presentation in the members only section. Our webmaster is working hard to make downloading of your material as difficult as possible.

## Reminder: ASER Meeting Register Now and Save!!

The 2005 Annual Meeting is September 21-24 in Tucson, Arizona. It's a great program in a great location! Visit the website at [www.erad.org](http://www.erad.org) to download the program and register online. Remember, if you register before August 22, you can save \$50!

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## JOB LISTINGS

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

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