
Academy News

Spring 2008

Editor: Edward Wright, DDS, MS

Letter from the President

Dear AAOP members,

Let me start by stating that due to the timing of the printing of this issue, I am unable to comment on the 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting. I hope you thought it was a sensational meeting with great variety, stimulating topics, and talented and distinguished speakers.

I also hope that you are enjoying your complimentary copy of the AAOP Guidelines, made possible by the hard work of many of your fellow members and the generosity of Quintessence.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) has responded positively to our request to start the process of accreditation for programs in advanced general dentistry in the area of orofacial pain. I am very excited about this encouraging progress and am happy to announce Dr Hutter has selected Drs Henry Gremillion, Andrew Kaplan, and Jeffrey Okeson to serve on CODA's ad hoc committee to assist with drafting an accreditation document. Their first meeting with the rest of the committee, which will be chaired by Dr Heidi Crow, is scheduled for June 5 and 6 at the headquarters of the American Dental Association in Chicago.

Our contract with Talley ends this fiscal year, and I appointed an ad hoc committee, under the direction of Dr Andrew Kaplan, to request proposals from various management companies. This does not mean we intend to leave Talley, but I think it is worthwhile to look at what other management companies will provide and charge so we are knowledgeable and well prepared when we negotiate a new contract.

The 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting will be held at the Barton Creek Resort in Austin, Texas (www.bartoncreek.com) from March 6–9, 2009. The program is coming together very nicely through the unrelenting efforts of Don Primack and his committee. The scientific program and the resort look fantastic! Please reserve these dates so you can attend this meeting.

Also, please mark in your calendars the August 27–30, 2009 ICOT meeting to be held in Bahia, Brazil. Gary Heir has been extremely involved with its preparation and has placed travel information on our website, under Upcoming Events, where upcoming meetings are listed in chronological order. He is currently working with a sponsor to make obtaining a visa to Brazil even easier. More information is available in the article "The Upcoming ICOT Meeting" by Claude Catach in this newsletter and on the Internet at www.icot2009.com.br. This ICOT meeting marks the last of our ICOT meetings under our current ICOT contract. Negotiations for a new contract will begin shortly and will take the memberships' desires into account.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for all the support I have received during my time as president of the AAOP. I feel very privileged to have had this honor.

Sincerely,
Reny de Leeuw
AAOP President, 2007–2008

AAOP's Mentoring Program

by Barry Rozenberg

Our mentoring program has successfully kicked off by matching "seasoned" and less experienced practitioners. We would like to develop this program even further by adding more mentoring partnerships. If you would like to be a part of this exceedingly rewarding program, please e-mail me (Bkrozen@gmail.com).

Advocating for Change

Barry Rozenberg

Chairman, Access to Care Committee

The TMJ Orofacial Pain Society of America (TOPS) is a nonprofit organization created by consumers, patients, and providers to be the catalyst for change. TOPS will soon send all AAOP members information packets for their practices. I urge you to embrace this opportunity to help our patients fight for their right to obtain medical benefits for this medical condition.

All we need to do is pass the website for TOPS on to our patients (www.TMJSociety.org) and TOPS will do the rest.

The Upcoming ICOT Meeting

by Claude Catach

Our next International Conference on Orofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Disorders (ICOT) meeting will be the last of the first cycle of Sister Academies meetings. It will be held in **Bahia, Brazil**, from **August 27 to 29, 2009**, at the fabulous Iberostar Bahia Hotel. We are already preparing to meet or surpass the usual high scientific standards of all previous ICOT meetings.

The main theme of this meeting is "The Gap between Basic Research and Clinic Results." We will have outstanding clinicians and researchers unfolding new views of exciting themes, such as orofacial pain in children and adolescents, iatrogenic orofacial pain, somatic versus psychosocial aspects of chronic pain, and a wider vision of pain modulators. We invite physicians, psychologists, physical therapists, dentists, and all healthcare professionals to come and enjoy this opportunity for bridging the gap between basic research and clinical results.

The meeting date was specifically chosen so your family could also come and enjoy the beauti-

ful sites of Brazil. The Iberostar Bahia Resort is located in a natural paradise, magnificently established in Praia do Forte 60 km (37 miles) from Salvador and is considered one of the most magnificent resorts in Bahia. They use an "all-inclusive" system with several restaurants and massage salons, an enormous swimming pool, and lounge chairs by the beach under palm and coconut trees for those who wish "dolce fare niente."

The resort's proximity to the Atlantic Forest allows it to be surrounded by natural lagoons of rare beauty and paradisiacal beaches, where the sea turtles lay their eggs in a unique spectacle of nature. August is also the ideal time to observe the fantastic Jubarte whales in their natural habitat. The Atlantic Ocean of Bahia is warm, so if you enjoy swimming and snorkeling, you will have an unforgettable experience. We are organizing an Inter-Academy competition which will comprise golf (18-hole golf course), tennis, and of course . . . soccer, as well as a quiz and dance competition. So get prepared to register for this fantastic ICOT meeting.

If you are interested in touring throughout Brazil, be sure to include the capital city of Bahia, founded in 1549. You can feel its history just by walking along its streets and city parks, especially in Pelourinho, one of the most famous Afro-Brazilian centers, with century-old houses and churches, capoeira dance, and the typical gastronomy made by the Baianas. If you would like to do a little more touring throughout Brazil, visit the beautiful Amazon rainforest, which encompasses 1.2 billion acres. It represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests and comprises the largest and most species-rich tract of tropical rainforests in the world. More tourist information can be obtained from Laura at laura@commissair.com.br or Tania at tania@commissair.com.br. For more meeting information, please contact Claude Catach at draclaud@gmail.com or Wilma Simoes at wilmasimoes@uol.com.br.

