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# AP Newsletter

A Publication of the Academy of Prosthodontics

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## Presidential Message from Dr. Richard J. Grisius

Sylvia and I join the Officers and the Executive Council of the Academy in wishing you that these holidays are a time of warm spirit filled with friendship, love and good health that remains with you and yours throughout the coming year.

I would like to share with you some of the projects that are currently on-going and will be reported on next year in Portland.

I have been uncomfortable with the process that we use to select future meeting sites. After our business meeting in Santa Fe, I felt we needed to explore a more organized approach. An Ad Hoc Committee for Method of Meeting Site Selection was appointed with Jerry Andres as Chair. The Committee proposed modifications which were then massaged by the Executive Council in Chicago. The concept of geographic regions determined by the time zones with a General Arrangements Chair appointed for each region is being prepared for a possible by-laws change. Jonathan Wiens expands on this proposal in his Secretary/Treasurer's report.

The financial solvency of our annual meeting is heavily dependent on guest attendance. Each Program Chair has faced the difficult task of developing a program worthy of the Academy's reputation without having the benefit of a defined budget. The Program Chair has

frequently helped raise the funds to support the program. Consequently, an Ad Hoc Committee to Plan the Program Budget was established with Cliff VanBlarcom as Chair. This group will explore past expenses and present methods of establishing a definite budget for future programs. Gary Goldstein is chairing an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the possibility of increasing our corporate support including non-dental companies.

The Ad Hoc Committee to Revisit the Mission of the Academy is tasked to focus on the role of the Academy as well as its relationship with other prosthodontic organizations. Can we serve as a filter of science and technology for the prosthodontic community? What impact can the Academy have in the development of the future leaders in Prosthodontics? Charlie Goodacre and his committee will report their thoughts and suggestions at the Portland meeting.



*AP President Dr. Richard Grisius*

I am looking forward to my first visit to Portland. George Murrell and his committee have prepared a program which will be scientifically stimulating and yet allow time for reminiscing and socializing. Vangie and John Sorensen have concentrated their efforts to arrange a variety of events which will allow us to enjoy the flavor and beauty of Portland.

Steve Eckert and our new Webmaster, Roman Cibirka, have developed an outstanding Webpage which the Academy

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**Continued on page 5**



# Secretary-Treasurer Notes

By Jonathan Wiens

Greetings and Happy New Year! Plans are well under way for the Portland Meeting that is scheduled for May 2-6, 2002 (Thursday thru Monday). Local Arrangements Chairs, John and Vangie Sorensen, have organized exciting outings for all to attend from antiquing, microbrewery pub crawl, Columbia River Gorge and Mt. Hood trek. A preliminary meeting announcement will be mailed shortly that you may use to promote guest attendance. Detailed information regarding the meeting will be outlined in the next issue of the Newsletter. For the latest updates on upcoming events visit the Academy's website: [www.academyprosthodontics.org](http://www.academyprosthodontics.org)

It is that time of year when dues statements are mailed and by now everyone should have received their statement; payment is due by **March 1, 2002**. The dues include the subscription fee for the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry. Prompt payment will greatly facilitate the Academy's ability to function smoothly. Please keep the green statement for your records and return the **white** copy.

All attempts have been made to maintain accurate membership records. However, in today's world change seems to be the one variable that remains constant. But you can help by also remembering to return your **blue** membership data form and noting any changes or corrections. Our Recording Secretary, Steve Campbell, will use this information for annual updates to the Roster.

The Executive Council met on October 14, 2001 in Chicago. President Grisius began the Council's interim meeting by reviewing the committee appointments and outlining his goals for the Academy. Of particular interest was the appointment of four Ad Hoc Committees: Corporate Liaison, Method of Site Selection,

Mission and Role, and the Program Budget.

All expenses have been recorded for the Santa Fe Meeting. However, the final hotel bill is being reviewed for accuracy and appropriateness. Initial negotiations with the hotel have been somewhat successful in reducing the amount owed as a result. The remaining portion represents an attrition penalty related to not meeting the contracted room block. We had 30 fewer guests than the prior year, which may impact the bottom line. It was decided that the Associate Fellows Subcommittee would assist in helping with a head count for each event. The Spouses Committee will be assigned the responsibility of tracking attendance at their events. This method will ensure that the hotel and vendors do not inflate the numbers attending the various events.

The Finance Committee is to perform a financial audit on an annual basis and will review the financial records of the Academy. Discussions relative to options in the near and long-term were discussed. There is a need to develop and establish a budgetary process. The Ad Hoc Corporate Liaison Committee has ongoing activities to define mechanisms for support from non-dental companies. Background information is being gathered from fund raising companies. In the interim the traditional process of raising money should still proceed, including contacting the companies and organizations that have been providing support.

There is an effort in conjunction with the JPD to encourage more specialty organizations to become involved in the Glossary. The American Academy of Periodontology and the American Association of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons have agreed to participate in expanding the Glossary.

The Council reviewed the Bylaws and noted some inconsistencies in the number of members on committees and their terms. The Council has requested that the Bylaws Committee include an exemption from the two-term limit for members of the Outreach Committee. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the number of members on each committee. The Executive Council supports the current Bylaws that call for all Committees to have a minimum of three members.

A motion was passed to change the name of the AP Newsletter Committee to the Communications Committee. The activities of the AP website will be incorporated into the Committee's responsibilities. The motion will be forwarded to the Bylaws Committee to make the necessary changes before bringing it to the

**Continued on page 4**

## AP Foundation

Contributions and Memorials  
should be made to the  
**Academy of Prosthodontics  
Foundation**  
and sent to:

Dr. Donald C. Kramer  
Secretary/Treasurer



## Secretary Treasure Notes

### Continued from page 3

membership. In addition, the JPD is considering a plan to establish and maintain a server for a single website that would host information from all sponsoring prosthodontic organizations. Roman Cibirka will serve as the Academy's Webmaster and will act as liaison to the JPD in this matter. The Webmaster was charged with establishing a plan with recommendations for the website.

The Community Outreach Committee requested support for three Outreach Programs. They include Montezuma, Utah; Browning, Montana; and Juneau, Alaska. A motion was made to support the concept of accepting frequent-flyer mileage donations to an AP mileage account that could be established in support of air travel. The motion was seconded and passed. The committee, in coordination with the Secretary, will be responsible for establishing and managing any mileage account in support of the outreach program. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of sending predoctoral dental students to the outreach programs. The EC supported this idea, as it would promote the prosthodontic community and specialty while providing a special educational opportunity for the selected students. The Community Outreach Committee will be responsible for planning and managing an opportunity for schools and predoctoral students to participate in the outreach program. The schools will assume partial responsibility for the cost of this program.

The Fellowship Committee plans a new associate fellows and new active fellows orientation for the 2002 Meeting. The Committee will present an overview of the nomination process during the Annual Business Meeting. There were three nominations received for associate fellowship.

At the last Annual Business Meeting, the Council was directed by the Fellowship to consider Niagara and Ottawa in place

of Cleveland. Because of time constraints the EC was empowered by the membership to select the 2004 site prior to the Portland meeting. Davis Garlapo performed a Niagara site visit and provided written information regarding the various hotels and rates. Niagara is relatively close to Toronto and Buffalo, which should encourage guest attendance while allowing reasonable access. However, the distance may require hotel transportation service and/or car rentals for the membership to access the meeting. It was noted that the American College of Prosthodontists has selected Ottawa for its 2004 fall meeting site, which presents as a potentially significant conflict with the AP Meeting. In addition to these locations, an Alaska site was considered. In an effort to fully consider the Alaska site, an outside agent made a presentation in Chicago. Some concerns expressed about the Alaska site included the restricted access, travel costs, cost of getting the speakers to the meeting, and the potential impact on guest attendance. It is probable that a surcharge would be considered to hold the meeting in Alaska as a result of the increased Scientific Program expense arising from increased speaker travel costs and potential reduction in guests. Given this information it was resolved to accept Niagara Falls as the 2004 site.

The Ad Hoc Method of Meeting Site Selection Committee reviewed the selection process for meeting sites. The committee recommended that six regions be identified for rotation of the annual meeting site. Concerns about the number of regions and the availability of members within a region to coordinate the site arrangements were expressed. The Council discussed the recommendations at length and determined that four regions should be considered following the four time zones: 1) Atlantic-Eastern, 2) Central, 3) Mountain and 4) Pacific-Alaskan. In addition, the Council desired a policy that would designate a General Arrangements Chair (GAC) or "meeting planner" for each region. The meeting planner would likely reside in the region. He/she could identify potential sites and collect the information

necessary for consideration. The information would include hotel availability, descriptions, rates, and suitability for the meeting, as well as ease of access to the location and the potential for guest attendance. This information would then be forwarded to the Place of Meeting Committee for consideration. In this way the membership would be more involved and the local arrangement members could be identified early. The GAC could be appointed four to five years in advance. This resolution was forwarded to the Bylaws Committee for review.

The Policy Committee received five suggestions: 1) Include evaluation of associate's second presentation prior to fellowship report at the Annual Business Meeting. Unfortunately, it would be difficult to tabulate evaluations prior to voting for elevation at the same meeting that they make their second presentation. 2) Reinstigate the policy of providing the guest list at the meeting. This has been done in the past and should be reinitiated for future meetings. 3) Use a larger scale of scoring to rate presentations. The Fellowship Committee will consider this method. 4) Allow electronic note taking. Unfortunately, this is disruptive to attendees but will be explored by the Policy Committee. 5) Do not charge prosthodontic residents to attend the meeting. The charge for residents is nominal at present (\$25) and is not believed to be a deterrent to attendance.

The Portland Scientific Program is well organized with four half-day sessions from Friday thru Monday. There are presently 25 speakers slated for the 2002 Scientific Program. The EBD session has been reduced to two hours, and will address a single issue without a breakout session. Considerable time was used reviewing the May 2002 Program to determine costs, and to establish a policy that will be used as guidance. The following was reaffirmed: speakers who are eligible for membership will receive no financial support; speakers who are not eligible for membership will receive coach airfare, up to 2 nights hotel, and



**DR. FRANCIS V. PANNO  
NAMED ASSOCIATE  
DEAN FOR CLINICAL  
AFFAIRS AT NYU COL-  
LEGE OF DENTISTRY**

Dr. Francis V. Panno, a well respected Prosthodontist and dental educator, was named Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at the NYU College of Dentistry, by Dean Michael Alfano. Prior to being named associate dean, Dr. Panno was Head of the Division of Reconstructive and Comprehensive Care and Chair of the Blatterfein Department of Prosthodontics. He continues to hold the endowed Chair of the Ira E. Klein Professor of Prosthodontics.

“Frank Panno is a dynamic leader with

an impressive record of accomplishments at NYU and in the specialty of Prosthodontics at the national and international levels. He has been instrumental in building areas that are rich in clinical achievement, research, and scholarship, and he has won the respect and admiration of faculty, students, and staff. We are fortunate to have him at the helm of our clinical affairs enterprise,” said Dean Alfano.

Dr. Panno received his Bachelor of Science Degree and the Doctor of Dental Surgery degrees from Marquette University, Wisconsin. He earned his Advanced Education certificate in the specialty of Prosthodontics at New York University. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a Fellow of the Academy of Prosthodontics, the American College of Prosthodontists, the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists and other dental professional associations.

He is a past president of the Ninth District Dental Society of the Dental Association of the State of New York and of the Omega Chapter of the National Dental Honor Society, Omega Kappa Upsilon (OKU). The American College of Dentists awarded him the Meritorious Service Award and OKU awarded the Distinguished Professor Award. The International Circuit Courses Lecture Award was presented by the American Prosthodontic Society.

**Secretary Treasurer Notes**  
**Continued from page 4**

one social event for up to two people. Each speaker was reviewed for the 2002 Program following these guidelines. In addition, non-dentists and other special lecturers may receive a minimal honorarium in support of their participation in the Program.

The Audio-Visual Committee requested feedback from the Council on methods for management of computer projection in support of the Program. The Council supports the use of appropriate digital projection equipment from the members of the Academy along with the reimbursement for any direct costs to members willing to support this need. Several individuals on the Council believe they have access to the appropriate equipment if necessary. If the equipment and support is not available from a member, rental from an AV service company must be considered.

Lastly, the Ad Hoc Mission and Role Committee suggested that the mission statement be revisited to refine and focus the role of the Academy. The Academy can serve as a filter of science and technology for the prosthodontic community. Our role with other prosthodontic organizations, leadership development, masters of comprehensive care, and many other areas must be considered. The Academy needs to develop, establish and refine these linkages. The Committee will make recommendations in May for a facilitated vision/mission meeting.

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**Presidential Message**  
**Continued from page 1**

can be proud of, and they keep coming up with improvements. Please go to [www.academyprosthodontics.org](http://www.academyprosthodontics.org). Steve Eckert is also to be congratulated for the excellent, thought-provoking editorial he wrote in the last newsletter regarding Sept. 11.

As I drive into Washington D.C., past the gaping wound in the Pentagon now under repair, and come upon the expansive rows of white grave markers in Arlington Cemetery, I ponder with new appreciation the cost in lives expended to maintain our freedom and democracy. My thoughts drift to the thousands in New York, many also taken in their youth-

ful prime, who will never enjoy the holiday season with their loved ones. For most of them, there is not even an individual grave site to visit. I will hold my children and my grandchildren a lot closer and pray for those who are less fortunate, as well as the many young people who are in harms way defending our country, God Bless America!

## **Dr. David Wands** **Continued from page 8**

training and values. His newest interest in the Scouts is the recently introduced a fly-fishing merit badge for which he intends on being a counselor and fly-tying instructor.

When queried on his most significant professional accomplishments, he affirmatively responded membership in the Academy, helping his patients, the ability to provide altruistic donations and being financially independent in eleven years. Dave looks forward to a unique status of being retired longer than he had worked.

The pinnacle of his personal accomplishments is undeniably his friendships. He places deep value on maintaining warm, interactive relationships, followed closely by the plethora of activities he participates in. Foremost would be his profound love of fresh and salt-water fish-

ing. Outside of fishing twice weekly, he travels the globe in pursuit of his fondness with recent journeys to New Zealand and British Columbia, Canada. Dave's annual trips to Alaska and Zihuatanejo, Mexico supplement the excitement and challenge, but he replies, "it's not just the fishing, it is the camaraderie that make each trip special." One specific challenge of his journeys is the attempt to land the largest fish possible on the smallest line. At one point, Dave may have in fact broken the world record for the largest Black Marlin caught on a twenty-pound test line!

From marine to earthen activities, Dave is accomplished. Attaining master gardener status and maintaining over 7,000



square feet of gardens, while raising pigs and chickens on his country estate lends credence to his diverse talents. Furthermore, he is an enthusiast of an American icon, the Corvette.

From the rumble of America's dream car, to the solitude of nature, to the podium of philanthropy, this Life Fellow loves life and

is a meticulous, successful person who strives to expand his personal ambitions in pursuit of excellence and serenity. Dr. David Wands has an ardent perspective on life who believes success is measured in commitment to goals, attainment of inner peace, love and respect for others, continual self-improvement, unselfish giving, and always being thankful for God's gifts.

## **Joining In** **Continued from page 2**

this group was also rejected in my house.

Some organizations shoot for universal appeal. An example of one such organization is the International Congress and Board of Cosmetic, Esthetic, Phonetic, Sleep Apneic, Restorative, Prosthetic, Implant and Paranormal Dentistry or ICBCEPSARPIPD for short. This is a tremendous organization devoted to all phases of dentistry, or at least as many phases as the creators could think of. Unfortunately some have suggested that the group is somewhat lacking in focus. In addition to the blurred vision problem, their crest is so large that the meeting program must be printed on an 11x17

form just to get it to fit and this precludes normal mailings.

My favorites are the groups that are so busy curing disease that they don't have the time to form an actual society. A speaker at a recent meeting described some research colleagues who were working on the condition of papillary deficiencies. I learned that patients can actually become suicidal should their interdental papilla fail to fill the gingival embrasure. One of the remarkable success stories described a 78 year old patient who returned from the brink following the diligent efforts of a team of papillae reconstructionists. After seven reconstructive surgeries this group was able to eliminate the dreaded black triangle created following periodontal surgery to eliminate a series of six and

seven millimeter pockets found in the maxillary incisor region. Unfortunately, in correcting the residual black triangles, the pocketing was reestablished but the "team" thought that this inconvenience was of less importance than the hideous cosmetic deficit from the previous periodontal therapy.

It seems like going through the list of solicitations has resulted in no real opportunities to expand my societal memberships. Just about the time that I resigned myself to joining no other groups, a letter arrived from one that really struck my fancy. Here is the Prostheskeptics Memorial Society. A group that clings to the motto that "only fools and frauds apply technology before it is tested." Now, if only they can work on the acronym.



# Outreach

by Jim Chandler



## Academy Outreach in Montezuma Creek

Since 1993, the Academy of Prosthodontics has been committed to an ambitious program of delivering prosthodontic care to underserved areas. Since the inception of this outreach effort, the Academy has provided several hundred thousand dollars in care to Native American sites and to inner city Chicago. This August, Academy prosthodontists John Agar, Jim DeBoer and Eric Rasmussen visited Montezuma Creek, Utah for the second time. This Navajo Reservation Clinic is not part of the Indian Health Service and although it has a modern dental clinic, it does not have a dentist. Many of the patients live far from the clinic and do not speak English so access to care is a major problem.

Patients were recruited by placing signs for a "free denture clinic". This year the

group treated 24 patients with 34 prostheses. Many of the patients were partially edentulous and were able to have teeth removed and immediate dentures placed. This is particularly important since diabetes is a major health problem among the Navajo people. Since there was not enough laboratory space in the building, a temporary lab was set up outside for boil-out

and denture finishing. Eric Rasmussen said that the ninety degree plus temperatures made wax boil-out much easier.

The Academy Group was assisted by University of Connecticut graduate student Rachel Squier and post-graduate student Patchanee Rungrudngdunt and dental technicians Donna Morin and Deb Studnicka.

Over the years the Academy has received generous help from the Indian Health Service and dental suppliers and manufacturers. The only remaining major expense is airfare for the participants. Dr. Rasmussen has suggested that the Academy set up a frequent flyer account which could receive donations of miles from Academy members. If this effort is successful, the Outreach Program could be carried on indefinitely with very little expense to the Academy. If you are interested in donating frequent flyer miles or volunteering for this worthy effort, please call Eric Rasmussen, Chair of the Outreach Committee.



Eric Rasmussen and Jim DeBoer enjoy the open air laboratory

# One on One

By Roman Cibirka

## ...With David Wands

Visualize a multi-talented man captivated by the splendor of life. This man reveres nature and philanthropy, while remaining humble with a deep appreciation of his roots. A self-made man genuinely dedicated to personal and professional endeavors, friends, and helping others whenever possible. Resembles the basis for heartwarming biographical literary work or Hollywood cinema plot to soothe the soul, doesn't it? It could be either, although most importantly for us, it profiles Life Fellow Dr. David Wands.



He has never forgotten “the commitment they made to me” for the seemingly insurmountable \$1,000 of educational assistance. In appreciation of his educational

mentors, Dave donated a \$250,000 Fellowship to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry stating: “My professional career and personal quality of life would not have been possible without the excellent quality of training received when I was in dental school.”

From casting a fly into cerulean waters of the Southern Hemisphere to cultivating flora in the Great Northwest to nurturing the lives of future professional colleagues, David Wands remains dedicated to his commitments. He is grateful for what life has to offer, what life has provided for and what he is able to give back to others.

At an early age in New Jersey, his fondness of science, helping others and an innate ability to work with his hands coupled with his father's statement, “dentistry is handicraft at its best” to create a professional path. Medicine, forestry and agriculture may have lost a colleague but our colleague never lost his love for these fields. Union membership while toiling on a Ford Motor Co. assembly line during his collegiate years instilled the desire of self-employment and dentistry his profession.

The Baltimore College of Dental Surgery at the University of Maryland graduated David Wands with honors in 1967 and helped foster an important tenet in his life – keeping your word. The University pledged financial assistance affording him the ability to complete his dental education and “kept their word.”

Following graduation, Dr. Wands spent a number of years with the Public Health Service triangulating the country from New York to New Orleans to Seattle. During this time, he recollects the special interest in prosthodontics that was fostered by the U of M faculty and supplemented by encouragement from Drs. Dick Lowe and Milton Brown to pursue advanced training in prosthodontics. Dave described Dr. Brown as a “father figure” being instrumental in his decision to pursue prosthodontics.

The University of Washington provided more than advanced specialty training, it launched profound friendships. Dave proudly describes his close friends, Drs. Chuck Bolender, Charlie Swoope and Dale Smith, as outstanding role models. He describes their highest professional standards and unrivaled compassion for patients. He states, “Dale, Charlie and Chuck provided enormous personal and professional contributions to my life.” He has described the program as not being one-sided. As Dave was learning the intricacies of complete denture con-

struction from Dale's extensive experience, Dale was learning to tie flies from Dave's knowledge dating to the age of eight. Dave and the University of Washington remained close mutual beneficiaries. The expertise and knowledge imparted to Dave propelled a successful private practice in Olympia, Washington. Resultant in part to his personal success and in utmost appreciation of his prosthodontics alma mater, Dave responded with establishment of a \$500,000 David H. Wands Endowment Fellowship in Graduate Prosthodontics. The Fellowship assists recruitment of outstanding scholars and clinicians into the graduate prosthodontic program while encouraging recipients to pursue academic careers in prosthodontics. Dave's continued support of UW is not only monetary, he is also a member of the Dean's Club Board of Directors and was instrumental in forming the UW prosthodontics alumni association.

His belief in philanthropy is predicated on the statement, “the more you give, the more you get. However, you have to give first. I am in a position to help others. I feel good to do it.” He wanted his gifts to benefit others while he could enjoy it as well, become a mentor to those who benefit from it and establish relationships with students as rewarding as the ones he experienced. He feels practitioners should compensate their alma maters with the wealth of their own success resultant to the quality of education received and hopefully direct future practitioners toward continuing the traditions of excellence in clinical education. He intends to continue benevolence to dentistry, but not be restrictive from other charitable opportunities. A current goal is charitable contribution to support a Boy Scout camp for underprivileged children. Dave has always felt the Scouts provided him important

**Continued on page 6**