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## American Laryngological Association

### Spring Newsletter

August 1, 2010

Office of the Secretary  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Department of Otolaryngology  
7302 Medical Center East – South Tower  
Nashville, TN 37232-8783  
Phone: (615) 343-0540  
Fax: (615) 343-6416  
Email: [gaelyn.garrett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:gaelyn.garrett@vanderbilt.edu)

Dear Colleagues:

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New York, New York

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New Haven, Connecticut

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Nashville, Tennessee

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Nashville, Tennessee

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Irvine, California

**Third Councillor**  
Marvin P. Fried, MD  
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**Councillors-At-Large**  
Kenneth Altman, MD, PhD  
New York, New York

Gady Har-El, MD  
Hollis, New York

**Administrator**  
Maxine Cunningham, BA  
Nashville, Tennessee

The 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological Association was held April 28-29, 2010 at the Bally's/Paris Hotel and Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada during the Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meetings (COSM).

Dr. Marvin P. Fried capped off a highly successful presidential year with an equally successful annual meeting. A record number of abstracts was submitted again this year allowing Dr. Fried and his program committee, chaired by Dr. Clarence Sasaki, to develop a program that encompassed a wide range of laryngology topics presented as oral presentations, poster presentations and panel discussions. The discussion periods provided opportunities for attendees to participate in thoughtful exchange of ideas.

Dr. Fried's Presidential Address, "The ALA as a Microcosm of Medicine," opened the first day of the meeting. He then introduced his **Presidential Citation** recipients: Dr. Daniel Brasnu; the New York Laryngological Society, accepted by Dr. Mark Persky; Mrs. Rita Fried; Mrs. Jaimie Fried Dockray; and, Mrs. Karen Fried Jacob. Dr. Hugh Biller and Dr. Matina Horner were also awarded citations but unfortunately were unable to attend this year's meeting. The **Guest of Honor Award** was bestowed upon Dr. Frank E. Lucente who gave brief remarks on the personal significance of this award. Recognizing this year's program committee, President Fried introduced Drs. Clarence Sasaki, Dana Thompson, Gady Har-El, Daniel Brasnu, and Blake Simpson and expressed his appreciation for their diligence in creating this program.

The format for the first day consisted of fourteen original scientific presentations and a panel discussion on "International Perspective on Common Laryngeal Problems." This panel consisted of some of the Association's Corresponding Fellows: Drs. Jéan Abitbol, Steffen Maune, Tadashi Nakashima and Wolfgang Steiner and was moderated by Dr. Daniel Brasnu. As the Thirty-Fifth Daniel C. Baker, Jr. Lecturer, Dr. Michael M. E. Johns delivered a timely and thoughtful lecture entitled "The Health Care Conundrum."

The second day of the meeting consisted of eighteen scientific presentations with discussion periods as well. Dinesh K. Chhetri, MD presented one of these papers that provided the results of a study, "Effects of Thyroarytenoid and Cricothyroid Muscle Activation Levels on Phonation Onset Pressure, Vocal Fold Length, and Fundamental Frequency," funded by the 2008 ALA/ALVRE Research Grant. Dr. Fried elected to have a State of the Art Panel Discussion rather than a single lecturer this year. It was his desire,

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based on suggestions from previous meetings, to present varied dimensions in advanced technology for laryngologists. The topic of “Robotic Surgery in Laryngology” provided an exciting look into how this surgical approach may change how we perform laryngeal surgery in the not too distant future. Moderated by Dr. Gaelyn Garrett, the presenters included Drs. Richard Smith, Bert O’Malley Jr., and Daniel Brasnu.

The following awards were also presented during the Annual Meeting:

Dr. Clarence Sasaki became the 24<sup>th</sup> recipient of the **American Laryngological Association Award**, presented by Dr. Andrew Blitzer.

Dr. Charles M. Myer III received the **Gabriel F. Tucker Award** from Dr. John A. Tucker.

Dr. Fried presented the following research awards:

The **Casselberry Award**: Priya Krishna, MD (Pittsburgh, PA), “The Effect of Decorin in Vitro and Ex Vivo in a Porcine Model of Vocal Fold Scarring.”

The **Young Faculty/Investigator Award**: I-Fan Theodore Mau, MD, PhD (Dallas, TX), “3D Arytenoid Movement Induced by Vocal Fold Injections.”

The **Resident Research Award**: David O. Francis, MD (Seattle, WA), “Reevaluation of Gastroesophageal Reflux as a Risk Factor for Laryngeal Cancer.”

Each year, the Association recognizes the excellent quality of poster presentations. With this in mind, the Association presents awards to the top three scored posters. This year’s recipients were:

**First Place Poster Presentation**: Sid Kholsa, MD (Cincinnati, OH), “How Do We Produce a Loud Voice?: Evidence for a New Mechanism.”

**Second Place Poster Presentation**: Daniel Novakovic, MD, MPH, BSc (New York, NY), “Botulinum Neurotoxin Treatment of Spasmodic Dysphonia – Quality of Life Outcomes.”

**Third Place Poster Presentation**: James T. Heaton, PhD (Boston, MA), “Modifications and Testing of a Pneumatic Dispensing Device for Controlled Delivery of Injectable Materials.”

The second meeting day concluded with the Neurolaryngology Study Group. Dr. Lucian Sulica, who recently succeeded Dr. Roger Crumley as the chairman/facilitator, led a very informative discussion entitled, “Vocal Fold Dysfunction: What Are We Talking About?” The format of this session provided open discussion and was well received by those who attended.

The President’s Reception was held in the breath-taking Skyview #2 Ballroom at the Bally’s/Paris Hotel and Convention Center. Musical entertainment was provided by Ms. Julianne Booth Knell. Two awards are given annually during the President’s Reception recognizing two individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the field of laryngology. This year, Dr. Fried recognized Dr. Marshall Strome as the recipient of the 2010 **deRoaldes Award**. Dr. Diane Bless was presented the **James E. Newcomb Award** for 2010 by Dr. Charles Ford for her contributions to the scientific advancement of laryngology. The evening was capped by the awarding of the **Presidential Medal** and watch to Dr. Fried in recognition of his dedication and effort during his presidential year.

During the Business Meeting that occurs prior the beginning of the scientific sessions, the fellowship voted on and approved two By-Laws amendments. The first amendment revised the criteria for emeritus status by allowing Corresponding Fellows who fully retire from patient practice to request elevation to emeritus status. The second amendment added that non-U.S. citizens who complete fellowship training in the United States may be nominated for Post-Graduate Membership if they meet other conditions for this category. The fellowship approved the nominations of four newly inducted Active Fellows: Drs. Soly Baredes, Paul W. Flint, Anthony Jahn, and Lucian Sulica. Drs. Steffen Maune and Guri Sandhu were approved as Corresponding Fellows. Fifteen Post-Graduate Members, sponsored by two Active Fellows, who completed fellowship training in

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Laryngology were also inducted. They included Drs. Jennifer Andrus, Brian Benson, Jonathan Bock, Thomas Carroll, Jaime L. Chang, Robert Eller, Aaron Friedman, Joel Guss, Adam Rubin, John C. Sok, Melissa McCarty Statham, Kimberly Vinson, Nwanmegha Young, and Katherine Yung. In an effort to encourage early activity in the ALA by our Post-graduate members, an organizational meeting was held with Dr. Michael M. Johns II serving as chairperson and Dr. Robert Ossoff as advisor.

The Council of the American Laryngological Association was nominated and elected by the fellows during the business meetings. The officers for the 2010-2011 are as follows:

President:	Andrew Blitzer, M.D., D.D.S.
Vice-President/President-Elect:	Clarence Sasaki, M.D.
Secretary:	C. Gaelyn Garrett, M.D.
Treasurer:	Michael S. Benninger, M.D.
Editor:	Mark S. Courey, M.D.
Historian:	Robert H. Ossoff, D.M.D., M.D.
First Councillor:	Marshall Strome, M.D., M.S.
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Third Councillor:	Marvin P. Fried, M.D.
Councillor-at-Large:	Kenneth Altman, M.D., Ph.D.
Councillor-at-Large:	Gady Har-El, M.D.

The Council recognized the services of Dr. Gayle E. Woodson who completed her tenure on the Council after having served as a President, Past President and Past Editor/Historian.

#### Other ALA Announcements:

The ALA is pleased to announce its support for a formal match for fellowship training in laryngology. A meeting was organized by the ALA at COSM in Las Vegas to discuss the development of a match through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). All laryngology fellowship program directors were invited to attend and after thoughtful discussion, a majority of programs expressed support of the process to begin with the 2012 fellowship year. The ALA would like to recognize Drs. Marvin Fried, Clark Rosen and Al Merati for their efforts to organize this process. More information will be forthcoming via email and the ALA website.

As the governing body of the ALA, the Council is responsible for financial oversight of the association. As such, the Council continues to seek cost-effective but efficient means to enhance our ability to disseminate important information to our members. The association's website, [www.alahns.org](http://www.alahns.org), is now on-line for members and visitors. Our Editor, Dr. Mark Courey, and Administrator continue to add new information as well as continuing the process of updating member information. If you have been unable to access the "member only" sections, it may be due to incorrect information in your profile. To correct this, please provide your email address to our administrator, Maxine Cunningham, by mail (ALA, P.O. Box 128186, Nashville, TN 37212-8186) or email, ([maxine-alahns@comcast.net](mailto:maxine-alahns@comcast.net)), and she will then forward to you your user name and temporary password that will provide access to the restricted portion of the website. We continue to seek your suggestions for the website.

As each Fellow is aware, annual dues play a vital role in the daily operation of the Association. For questions regarding the annual budget, please contact our administrator who can forward your inquiry to our Treasurer or other appropriate Council member. As we prepare to invoice each member for the 2011 annual dues, we ask you to remit your payment upon receipt of your invoice. If you are delinquent from previous years, it is critical that you bring your dues current so your membership status will be in "good standing," per the by-laws. You should expect to receive your invoice by email by the end of September. If our administrator does not have an email address for you, a copy will be sent by mail. Again this year, remittance may be made by credit card or check. Your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

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The *Sustainers Fund* was created during Dr. Crumley's presidency in 2009 as a means for Fellows and friends of the ALA to contribute to the general operating fund of the association. This fund will help offset the costs of the annual meeting which continue to increase due to changes in sponsorship regulations and due to additional administrative costs for CME and conflict of interest issues. The fund received several donations with the payment of dues and we hope you will join others when you remit your dues.

Call for Papers for the 132nd Annual Meeting of the ALA

Our official call for papers is enclosed for the 2011 Annual Meeting to be held as part of COSM on April 27-28, 2011, at the Sheraton Hotel Chicago. Instructions for submission are included on the abstract form and at [www.alahns.org](http://www.alahns.org). The preferred method for submission is electronically via our website, [www.alahns.org](http://www.alahns.org). If unable to submit your abstract electronically, it may be submitted by mail to Maxine Cunningham, Administrator of the ALA, P.O. Box 128186, Nashville, TN 37212-8186. **All abstracts must be received by October 31, 2010.**

The ALA recognizes the importance of poster presentations and welcomes submissions that reflect outstanding scientific work in either paper or poster format. Please encourage your colleagues, residents and fellows to submit basic science research, clinical research or interesting clinical topics in either format.

Again this year, authors are encouraged to submit their work for award consideration as appropriate for each award category. Those wishing to be considered for awards should designate such on the abstract form. Please refer to the submission form for detailed instruction. Awards that require manuscript submission to qualify for consideration must submit it by **December 15, 2010**. Additional information on award criteria may be found on the Call for Papers that is enclosed or on the website.

The Council continues to require full manuscript submission for those abstracts accepted for presentation to the Editor, Dr. Mark Courey, by **February 15, 2011** as stipulated in the abstract form. Authors not meeting this deadline **will not be allowed** to present at the annual meeting. In addition to submission to the ALA, the author must submit their full manuscript to Jackie Lynch, Senior Editorial Coordinator of *The Laryngoscope* by **February 15, 2011**. The Journal's website provides instructions for manuscript submission.

I am pleased to report on the activities of the ALA over the last year culminating in the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas this past April. Please mark your calendars to attend the 132<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ALA in April, 2011 in Chicago. A brochure will be forthcoming next spring from the COSM organizers that will provide detailed information about registration and hotel accommodations. Our 131<sup>st</sup> President, Dr. Andrew Blitzer, promises another year of excellent educational objectives and excitement by presenting a program you will thoroughly enjoy.

Sincerely yours,



C. Gaelyn Garrett, M.D.  
Secretary

CGG/mc

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