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American Laryngological Association

2010 Winter Newsletter

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Dear Colleagues:

The One Hundred Thirty-first Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological Association will be held this year at the Paris/Bally Hotel and Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada on Wednesday, April 28th and Thursday, April 29th, 2010 as part of the Combined Otolaryngological Spring Meetings (COSM). Our meeting planning team from the American College of Surgeons has done an excellent job in selecting a wonderful venue for our meeting and associated events. Our President, Marvin P. Fried, M.D., with the support of his program committee chaired by Clarence Sasaki, M.D., has planned a program that will highlight the superb quality of free papers received, and provide unique perspectives from our international colleagues and invited lecturers.

Our sessions will begin with the Business Meeting on Wednesday morning, April 28th at 7:30 AM and be followed by the first Scientific Session at 8:00 AM. On Thursday afternoon, April 29th at 12:30 PM, our second Business Meeting will be held followed by the second Scientific Session at 1:00 PM. Building on the success of last year's President's Reception in lieu of a formal banquet, this year's evening event will honor our President, Marvin Fried, with a reception on Thursday evening in the Skyview Ballroom # 2 using the theme, "A Night for Music in Las Vegas." This year's event begins at 7:00 PM and is business-casual dress. Julianne Booth, an accomplished opera singer, will provide entertainment for the evening. Tickets (\$65 each for members/spouses and \$75 each for non-members) for the reception may be purchased by contacting our Administrator, Maxine Cunningham. We request that you purchase your tickets in advance before March 31, 2010 to allow for appropriate planning. Limited tickets will be available on-site. Again this year, you may purchase with a credit card (AMEX, MasterCard, VISA). **You must present your ticket(s) at the door to attend the President's Reception.**

By now, you should have received your COSM registration package from the American College of Surgeons meeting planners. If not, information may be obtained at the COSM website (www.cosm.md). Excellent hotel room rates have been negotiated by the ACS and I encourage everyone to

OUR 131ST YEAR
2010 ANNUAL MEETING BALLY'S LAS VEGAS, LAS VEGAS, NV APRIL 28–MAY 2, 2010

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Bronx, New York

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Kenneth Altman, M.D., Ph.D.
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Administrator
Maxine Cunningham, B.A.
Nashville, Tennessee

take advantage by reserving hotel space as quickly as possible since space is limited. The deadline for housing application is March 26, 2010. You may also fax your registration to 708-344-4444. Early registration must be postmarked by March 18, 2010 and received by April 19, 2010. Beyond this date, you will only be able to register on-site.

A major part of the ALA mission is to promote and disseminate innovation and advances in laryngology. As such, this year's meeting program will provide a forum for original research in the form of podium oral presentations and poster presentations. I encourage all attendees to visit the poster area since these presentations are given the same emphasis as the scheduled talks.

Dr. Fried invited Dr. Daniel Brasnu to moderate a panel of our Corresponding Fellows focusing on an "International Perspective on Common Laryngeal Problems," Drs. Jean Abitbol, Steffen Maune, Tadashi Nakashima, and Wolfgang Steiner will join Dr. Brasnu in a discussion that will certainly give us insight into their global experiences.

Dr. Michael M. E. Johns, an Active Fellow and currently the Chancellor at Emory University, will be our Seventeenth Daniel C. Baker, Jr. Lecturer. His topic will be "*The Health Care Conundrum.*"

Dr. Fried and the Program Committee chose to have a State of the Art Panel Presentation rather than a single lecturer to focus on the applicability of Robotic Surgery to laryngology. I am honored to serve as the moderator of this panel which will have as panelists, Drs. Richard Smith, Bert O'Malley Jr., and Daniel Brasnu. I encourage you to join us on Thursday, April 29th, at 3:30 pm for this discussion.

The Council approved the nominations of three candidates for Active Fellowship and two candidates for Corresponding Fellowship this year. You are receiving your Ballot book with this newsletter. As mandated by our By-Laws, please mark your ballot and follow instructions on the last page of the book. A final vote will occur at the first Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 28th. The Post-Graduate Member category also continues to grow. As of this newsletter, we have twelve (12) candidates who will be introduced during our first business meeting.

After receiving numerous requests from our Corresponding Fellows who have reached the retirement phase of their career, the By-Laws Committee's recommendation to the following change to the By-Laws regarding Emeritus Fellows was accepted by Council for a vote by the full voting membership.

Article IV. MEMBERSHIP. Section 3. Qualifications for Membership: Emeritus Fellows.

A. Any Active Fellow **or Corresponding Fellow**, regardless of duration of fellowship, may, after full retirement from active practice, apply for Emeritus Fellowship. Any Fellow who desires to make application for Emeritus Fellowship may do so by making written request of the Council for nomination to Emeritus Fellowship. Upon recommendation of the Council, the above-mentioned requirements for Emeritus Fellowship may be waived. An Emeritus Fellow is not subject to payment of regular dues, and may not hold office. Active Emeriti Fellows may vote at the Annual Meeting.

The second proposed by-laws amendment to modify the criteria for Post-Graduate Member candidates was submitted by the By-laws Committee and approved by the Council for vote by the full voting membership.

Article IV. MEMBERSHIP. Section 7 – Qualification for Membership: Post-Graduate Fellows

- A. Any person having completed a recognized Laryngology fellowship upon the recommendation of the fellowship director and/or residency Department Chairman, Vice-Chairman and/or program director shall be eligible for post-graduate status. The appointment is time sensitive, with the candidate being required to become an Active fellow within ten (10) years of appointment **or Corresponding fellow within seven (7) years of appointment.** The candidate for Active Fellowship must be a diplomat of the American Board of Otolaryngology. No dues will be applicable for years 1-5. Post-Graduates members who are eligible to become Active Fellows will be responsible for fifty percent (50%) of dues assessed to Active Fellows during years 6-10. **Post Graduate members who are eligible to become Corresponding Fellows will be responsible for 50% of the dues assessed to Corresponding Fellows for years 6 and 7.**
- B. A complete history of professional attainments must be available to the membership committee. Applications for PG fellowship will be reviewed and if deemed appropriate, approved by the Council. Any PG fellow progressing on to full Active Fellow or Corresponding fellow will still require approval by voting of the membership.

We ask that all eligible voters review the proposed By-Laws amendment and if you have comments, please forward them to the Administrator. A vote will be taken on this amendment at the Business Meeting on April 28, 2009.

Many of you have inquired about how to access our website, www.alahns.org. Our administrator needs a current email address to assign a temporary password. If you are unsure, please contact Maxine Cunningham for further assistance. I am glad to report that we continue to receive fellows' email addresses that will allow us to communicate more effectively with you. If you have not responded to the request for your email address, please do so at your earliest convenience. As we continue to upgrade the ALA website, we hope to be able to disseminate information to you in a more timely manner. We also ask that you would take a few minutes to access the website, logging on and update your contact information. If you have not taken advantage of this feature, you may obtain your password by logging on to www.alahns.org, clicking on "Membership" and then "Membership Directory." If you enter your email address when prompted, you will be able to obtain your password (if you don't have one) or be taken directly to your profile.

As most of you are aware, some of our revenue is derived from the payment of dues, which supports operating expenses for the fiscal year. Although we have collected a high percentage of dues from fellows, we have several Fellows who are delinquent by two years or more. For those who plan to attend the annual meeting and have not had the opportunity to remit

payment of dues, we will be able to accept and process your payment at the Annual Meeting as a convenience to you. Please contact our administrative office if you have questions about dues payment.

As Secretary of this Association, I am extremely pleased that I am able to provide you with updates on the growth of our organization. We have made great strides in collaborating with other societies, attempting to become more financially sound, and seeking new avenues to promote our subspecialty. As the oldest national specialty society, the ALA has held a tradition of excellence and camaraderie that continues to flourish in the twenty-first century. I also want to express my appreciation to Maxine Cunningham, who as the Administrator of our Association, is invaluable to our day-to-day operations.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the One Hundred Thirty-first Annual Meeting of the ALA in Las Vegas. I assure you it will be truly outstanding.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Gaelyn Garrett", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

C. Gaelyn Garrett, M.D.
Secretary, ALA

CGG:mc