

DISTRACTION

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASAMI - NORTH AMERICA
The Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society

Volume 6, Number 2

Editor: Stuart Green, MD

August 1998

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GUGGENHEIM DISCOVERS PACIFIC LOCATION FOR ASAMI-NA MEETING

"This is the place" said ASAMI program chairman John Guggenheim, his index finger pointing towards the ground beneath his feet. After pausing to watch the blood red sun sink slowly into the Pacific Ocean, John repeated himself: "Yes, this izz the place." As he spoke these words, John was standing on a large peninsula

of land surrounded by the lovely inlets and bays that have made Dana Point, California a destination for sophisticated travelers from around the world.



"This is what place?" asked an inquisitive DISTRACTION reporter. "This is the place they'll put the cocktail wieners and cheese puffs" was the reply. "And over here, buffalo wings and chicken fingers." With assertive yet precise steps, John strode around the large lawn in front of the Laguna Cliffs Resort, setting out imaginary tables here, there and yon, until it was done-every hors d'oeuvre exactly where it belonged, every make-believe bottle of beer chilled to perfection.

John and Judy Guggenheim had taken a weekend out of their busy schedules to site-visit the hotel John and ASAMI president Charlie Taylor selected for the ninth annual meeting of ASAMI-North America. (Hey, it's a dirty job, but someone's gotta do it.)

Located about 20 minutes by car from Anaheim, Marriott's Laguna Cliff Resort is far enough from the AAOS meeting to be unaffected by the Academy's blackout rules. The hotel's Banquet Office promised John perfect weather for our ASAMI gathering, but, just in case the Golden State's meteorologists fail to deliver, we will have a back-up room available for our gustatory requirements.

John suggests that Ilizarovians arrive in Southern California on Tuesday, February 2nd (at Orange County's John Wayne Airport if possible) and stay over at the hotel both Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The ASAMI meeting will be held on Wednesday February 3rd all day, ending with the cocktail reception on the hotel's front lawn.

The following day, after a morning of beach walking, golf, tennis, or shopping in the artsy-craftsy stores of Laguna Beach and Dana Point, we can all transfer to our

hotels in Anaheim. John and Charlie Taylor are considering the possibility of hiring some buses to shuttle us to Anaheim at around noon on Thursday, February 4th-just in time to register for the beginning of the Big Show.

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COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BALTIMORE, SEPTEMBER, 1998

This year's Baltimore Limb Deformities Course will be held on September 10-15, 1998 at Pikesville Hilton Hotel. For further information contact MR. Efrain Hernandez at 410-448-6838, Email: ehernan@mcllr.ummc.ab.umd.edu

CANCUN, OCTOBER, 1998

This year's Cancun course will depart from the Advanced Ilizarov format of recent years and will encompass instead some of the newer developments in external fixation, including the Heidelberg Angulator, The Taylor Spatial Frame and the Compass Universal Joint Distractor developed by Robert Hotchkiss MD. The program will be held from October 22 to October 25, 1998 at the Sheraton Hotel in Cancun. Please Contact Monica Dolby at Smith and Nephew Richards for further information.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER - A MESSAGE FROM CHARLIE TAYLOR

I hope all is well with each of you, your families and your practices. My year so far as president of ASAMI-NA has been made easy by the other officers. Because of the limited accommodations in Anaheim at next year's AAOS meeting, we were forced to go slightly off site (but offshore!) to the beautiful Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort. Our meeting will be held on Feb. 2-3, the Tuesday and Wednesday immediately prior to AAOS. Several members recommended that we consider this site and we were fortunate enough to make the booking.

Many thanks to Stuart Green and J. J. Gugenheim who were forced to make a site visit earlier this year and to J. J. and Karen Syzdek of J.J.'s staff for final negotiations at Laguna Cliff and for the year 2000 meeting in Orlando. Chad Price has been busy already as president-elect with arrangements for the year 2000 meeting and our continuing efforts to become a recognized subspecialty society within the Council of Musculoskeletal Societies

Tracey Watson and John Birch are continuing to update the membership and financial files to prepare for the 1999 meeting.

In addition to our newsletter Distraction there is now an ASAMI web site: www.asaminorthamerica.org . This site is in it's infancy and will hopefully evolve to serve us all. Our thanks to Charlie Curro, friend of your president, for building the site. Check it out next time you surf the web.

I encourage all members of ASAMI to attend next year's meeting at Laguna Cliffs and to spread the word to other interested surgeons. The scientific program will be intermediate in scope, somewhere in length between our usual one day meeting and last year's extended international meeting. The hotel and vista are superb and the opportunities to meet and socialize are exciting.

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ASAMI-NA ON-LINE

Stop reading this! Don't strain your eyes on this glaring printed text. Now you can read the entire issue of DISTRACTION on your eye-soothing computer screen. That's right, Our Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society is now on the world wide web with its own site.

President Charlie Taylor and computer guru Charlie Curro have set up a Home Page for ASAMI-NA that puts our organization on equal footing with the AAOS and the National Institutes of Health.

Simply go to:

www.asaminorthamerica.org

and you'll be staring in amazement at our beautiful prize winning logo.

Scroll down the page for a complete listing of the association's officers, along with a link to the current issue of DISTRACTION, additional links to the feature articles from the past issues of DISTRACTION, links to the bylaws, news of upcoming meetings, and links to other Ilizarov related web sites. Please check out the site and make any suggestions-constructive or otherwise-to the webmaster site at the bottom of the Home Page.

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IT'S OFFICIAL: ASAMI AND CORR LINK UP

ASAMI-NA president J. Charles Taylor, MD and CORR Board of Trustees Chairman Franklin Hoaglung, MD have signed an agreement making Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research the official publication of the Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society. ASAMI and CORR both expect to benefit from the arrangement, which will be in effect for three years with renewals expected thereafter.

CORR editor-in -Chief Carl Brighton, MD, PhD has selected Stuart Green, MD as the Associate Editor for the Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society. The associate editor is expected to serve as one of the three referees for every article

submitted in the Society's areas of interest, and participate in other editorial activities as well.

Subscriptions to CORR can be obtained at a significant discount (up to 30%) if all the members of ASAMI subscribe to CORR. The amount of the discount depends upon the percentage of current subscribers that are also members of ASAMI-NA. More information about this feature of the agreement will be forthcoming.

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ASAMI-NA MEMBERS LOST IN SPACE

The following ASAMI-NA members have disappeared from the radar screen; their mail has been return to the editorial ofices of DISTRACTION marked "address unknown." If you know their whereabouts, please phone, fax, or email editor Stuart Green.

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