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The Newsletter of
The Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society: ASAMI–North America

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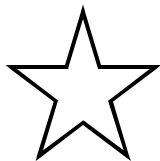
ASAMI'S Final Meeting – LLRS' First Annual Meeting

By J. John Gugenheim, MD

The eleventh annual scientific meeting of ASAMI–NA in Berkeley was a tremendous success. With this meeting, an era closes and another era dawns. The meeting commenced as the first annual LLRS Scientific Meeting. Our society has now been officially recognized by the Academy's Council of Musculoskeletal Societies (pronounced KO-miss), and the official name has become The Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society: ASAMI–NA. We will retain our ties with our colleagues throughout the world in other ASAMI chapters, retaining our surname as ASAMI.

One hundred and thirty–one attendees, representing 18 countries, enjoyed balmy days and cool nights in the stately Claremont Resort and Spa on the East Bay. There were forty–four scientific papers presented, and two guest speakers. The Presidential Guest Speaker, Hiroyuki Tsuchiya, MD from Kanazawa, Japan shared his experience in limb salvage for bone malignancies in his presentation "The Natural Limb Is Best: Reconstruction After Tumor Excision." Ronald Lindsey, MD from Houston delivered the Alessandro Codivilla Lecture entitled "Cylindrical Titanium Meshed Cages for the Treatment of Segmental Bone Defects. The relaxed atmosphere allowed plenty of time for stimulating discussion.

As the meeting drew to a close, the era of having tandem meetings with the AAOS has ended. The members voted overwhelmingly in favor of having freestanding meetings. The twelfth annual meeting in June 2002, near Dallas, promises to be the best yet!



Welcome

New Members!

Active Members

Douglas Beaman, MD is a clinical Assistant Professor at the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, Oregon. He is originally from Champagne, Illinois, and performed his Orthopedic residency at the University of Michigan.

David Feldman, MD is the Chief of Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery at the Hospital for Joint Diseases/NYU Medical Center. He completed his residency at the Hospital for Joint Diseases in 1993, and a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics and Spine at the Hospital for Sick Children in 1994. He is originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Paul Freudigman, MD is the Director of Orthopedic Trauma at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. He is a graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine, and completed his orthopedic residency at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, and a fellowship at Emory.

Richard Glosser, MD is from Johnstown, Pennsylvania and is currently a member of the active staff at Baptist Health System of Miami. He is a graduate of Temple and the Case Western Reserve University Orthopedic program.

Jacob Ishkanian, MD is originally from Baghdad, Iraq, and is currently affiliated with the Southern California Permanente Medical Group. He is a graduate of the American University Medical Center in Beirut, Lebanon,

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and the Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals Orthopedic residency.

Glenn Landon, MD was born in New York, and is currently Clinical Associate Professor at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He is also on staff of St. Luke's Episcopal, Methodist, and the VA Hospitals. He is a graduate of Loyola University (M.D.) and completed his orthopedic residency at the Mayo Clinic.

Eric Loveless, MD, was born in Flushing, New York. He graduated from Georgetown University, took his residency at Orthopedic Surgery Naval Hospital in San Diego, California, and completed a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics and Scoliosis at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in 1993. He is currently an Instructor with the Mayo Medical School, and a staff member of Nemour's Children's Clinic, Wolfson's Children's Hospital, and Shands Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida.

Associate Members

Keith Heier, MD was born in Miami Beach, Florida, and is a graduate of the Baylor College of Medicine (MD and orthopedics) and completed a fellowship at the Florida Orthopedic Institute. He is currently on staff at Trinity Medical Center and St. Paul Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

Albert Knuth, MD is from Chicago, Illinois. He is a graduate of Northwestern University (M.D. and orthopedics) and completed a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics and Scoliosis at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in 1998. He is on staff at Lutheran General Hospital, Good Shepherd Hospital, and the Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois.

Jeffrey Shilt, MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. His undergraduate medical degree is from Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, and did a fellowship at Vanderbilt University. He has published "The Effect of Increased Distraction Frequency on Soft Tissues During Limb Lengthening in an Animal Model" in the *Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics* (2:146-150, 2000). He presented "Distraction Osteogenesis for the Correction of Pediatric Forearm

Deformities" at the 2001 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Kevin Varner, MD was born in Dallas, Texas, and is a graduate of the Baylor College of Medicine. After completing his orthopedic residency there, he was a fellow at John Hopkins Hospital in 1997-98. He is an Assistant Professor at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

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Important! Please note the new addresses and contact numbers for LLRS.

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Letter from the President

The 2001 Berkeley meeting was a great success! I would like to thank all of you who attended and extend a special thanks to our moderators and those of you who presented papers.

Numerous exciting things are occurring within our association, which was renamed *The Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society: ASAMI-North America* (LLRS) in February. Each is briefly mentioned below with additional information following in other sections of this newsletter.

We are now officially recognized by the Council on Musculoskeletal Specialty Societies (COMSS), thanks to the hard work of many members including Stuart Green and Chad Price. This has been an ongoing effort for almost ten years, started by our founding members. Please see my *Advocacy* report on page 5.

The **Twelfth Annual Scientific Meeting** will be held at the beautiful Four Seasons Resort and Club at Las Colinas Dallas accessible via the Dallas Fort Worth International (DFW) Airport. The meeting will be held Monday, June 10, and Tuesday, June 11, 2002. The stately Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston is the site of the **Thirteenth Annual Scientific Meeting** to be held Friday through Sunday, July 25-27, 2003.

The **SICOT XXII World Congress** will be held in San Diego July 23-30, 2002. LLRS has been asked to present a three and one half hour program, similar to Specialty Day. I will be in touch with many of you soon to try to arrange a program. This is a chance to show our international colleagues what we do well!

Ken Kuo has done a super job of revising our **bylaws**. A copy of the proposed bylaws is enclosed. Please contact me at jjg@fondren.com, or Ken at kennank@aol.com if you have any suggestions. We will vote on the adoption of the bylaws at the June 2002 meeting.

LLRS is our society and can only continue to succeed if members participate. Please consider submitting a paper to the 2002 meeting and plan to attend the annual scientific sessions on a regular basis. Remember, attendance at the meeting is free after paying your annual dues.

All members can help assure the continued success of our society by **paying annual dues** in a timely manner. I thank those of you who continue to pay dues. The society cannot continue to keep members who are delinquent in their dues. Those who pay dues will be included in the web site for patients who need a subspecialist physician in their area; members who do not pay dues will not be listed and will be removed from the society according to our new proposed bylaws.

Our society can only continue to serve as our forum for scientific exchange and education as well as to represent us to COMSS and AAOS if the membership participates. **We need to continue to attract new members.** We have had several campaigns to try to get names to invite to attend our meetings and to join. This has drawn minimal response from the membership, yet I continue to hear about physicians around the country who are doing limb lengthening and reconstruction. Please write, e-mail, or call me if you can think of any of your colleagues whom we can invite to join. We need to overcome the impression that we are simply a "ring and wire" society. The term *limb reconstruction* certainly includes many aspects: deformity correction; treatment of nonunions; and limb salvage for infections, tumors, bone loss, etc.

Your input is valuable throughout the year! Please write, call, or e-mail me, or any of the board members, if you have any suggestions. I may be reached at (713) 799-2300, jjg@fondren.com, or 7401 South Main Street, Houston, TX 77030 USA.

Finally, another way we can help our specialty in general, and our society in particular, is to **support OREF Campaign 2001**. Any donation of \$1000 or more can be divided between OREF and LLRS. This is another benefit of our recognition by COMSS. I challenge all members to make a contribution to OREF Campaign 2001 of at least \$1000.

Sincerely,



J. John Gugenheim, MD

LLRS Board Proposes Revised Bylaws

By Ken N. Kuo, MD

With the growth of ASAMI and the merge with COMSS, the current ASAMI bylaws have become obsolete. Since last year, the bylaws Committee has been working on amending the bylaws to reflect the recent changes in our organization. The following are several essential changes that have been made:

1. The official name has been changed to The Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society: ASAMI-NA or LLRS: ASAMI-NA to better describe the actual functions and goals of the society;
2. A more detailed description of the qualifications, selection, and responsibilities Of active members in good standing are provided;
3. Restructure of the Executive Committee, including separation of secretary and treasurer positions, the sequence of succession for First and Second Vice-President, and better committee structure;
4. Our society's relationship to COMSS. The proposed amendments are included with this newsletter and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in Dallas in 2002.

Education Opportunities

LLRS Specialty Day, February 16, 2002
(part of AAOS) – Dallas, Texas USA

12th Annual Scientific Meeting of LLRS:
ASAMI-NA, June 10 & 11, 2002 – Las Colinas (near Dallas), Texas USA

13th Annual Scientific Meeting of LLRS:
ASAMI-NA, July 25–27, 2003 – Boston, Massachusetts USA

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From the Desk of the Program Chair

The Program Committee is planning the twelfth annual scientific meeting at the lavish Four Seasons Las Colinas Resort and Club, June 12 & 13, 2002. Like all Four Seasons resorts, this luxurious hotel features exquisite dining, incomparable meeting facilities, a challenging golf course, and inviting tennis and spa facilities. The Four Seasons Las Colinas is just minutes from the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and a short drive to the attractions of downtown Dallas, yet affords a sense of tranquility far from the bustling city. We are planning the First Annual LLRS Golf Tournament to be held in conjunction with the meeting.

The Program Committee is currently negotiating for the LLRS to assume the role of education for lengthening, basic deformity correction, and external fixation. Education of residents and practicing colleagues is the role of LLRS, not a single vendor. We will be working in conjunction with interested vendors, but this course will be an intensive basic and intermediate level course with Category I CME credit. Our goal is to give an annual course that will be the definitive basic course in North America. The success of this course depends largely on a quality faculty. The Program Committee will invite members to serve as speakers within the next few months.

Advocacy in Washington, DC

By J. John Gugenheim, MD

A new issue for us as a society is advocacy in Washington, DC. LLRS will be represented in Washington at the interim COMSS meeting to be held in conjunction with the AAOS Board of Councilors and the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference April 25–28, 2001. Please inform me of any legislative issues you feel affect our subspecialty. Also, please send me the names of any members of Congress whom you know personally. **Please feel free to notify me of any issues you view important at any time.**

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New Members continued from page 3

Corresponding Members

Mohammad Abu-Ain, MD is from Jordan. His undergraduate training was in Belarussia. After completing a fellowship at the Maryland Center for Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction, he will be returning to Jordan.

Noam Bor, MD is from Tel Aviv, Israel. His undergraduate training was taking in Padua, Italy and his residency was completed at the Afula-Central Emek Hospital. He presented "Ilizarov External

Fixation in the Treatment of Pilon Fractures" at the 2001 meeting in Berkley.

Harish Hosalkar, MD is from Bombay, India. His undergraduate training was in Bombay, but he has also completed fellowships at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the B.J. Wadia Hospital for Children in Mumbai, and the K.M.C. Medical College in India.

Mazen Kakish, MD is from Amman, Jordan. He trained in the former Soviet Union, and has extensive experience in the treatment of limb length inequality, deformity, fractures, nonunions, and infections using the Ilizarov method.

Hiroyuki Kaneko, MD is from Gunma, Japan where he is on staff, and previously completed his residency and fellowship. He has participated in the annual meetings in New Orleans, Orlando, and Dana Point, and presented "Complications of Femoral Lengthening" at the Berkeley meeting.

Leon Mora, MD is from Medellin, Columbia, where he is a postgraduate Professor at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, and staff traumatologist at the Hospital Pablo Tubon Uribe.

Issak Pichkhadze, MD is the Professor at the Central Institute of Traumatology and Orthopedics in Moscow, Russia. He has over 140 publications on the Ilizarov method in Russian, and experience with over 3,000 cases.

Annelie Weinberg, MD is from Hannover, Germany where she specializes in Pediatric Trauma at the Hannover Medical School Hospital. She presented "A New Operative Technique for Correction of Chronic Subluxation of the Radius" at the 2001 Scientific Meeting.

Membership Changes

Anthony (Tony) Kahn, MD of Austin, Texas and **Sanjeev Sabharwal, MD**, of Newark, New Jersey have both been inducted as members of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, and

Continued on back cover

Karen R. Syzdek, CMP

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Visit
www.asaminorthamerica.org
For updated information

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their membership in our society has been converted from Associate to Active.

Michael Chapman, MD, of UC Davis in Sacramento, California has retired from active clinical practice and requested conversion of his membership in our society from Senior to Active.

Do we have your e-mail address?
To reduce expenses, we have begun communicating with members via e-mail. Please send your address to ksyzdek@yahoo.com.

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Send course listings to Karen Syzdek at ksyzdek@yahoo.com. For advertising rates, contact Karen by e-mail or at (512) 301-7328.

2001 Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society:
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