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## 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

In his **President's Summation** delivered at the closing session of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Oral Biology, **Dr. Shabahang** stated that "This is a great group to lead, this has been a great meeting ... everyone is here to learn."

We enjoyed the highest attendance in the last several years although the meeting fell on the Halloween weekend, as well as being held during, "the worst of times," one of our nation's most economic-challenged years since the Great Depression. Gloom and doom had no place at our conference, however, the spirit of camaraderie and enthusiasm for learning, as noted, was almost palpable in the air.

Registration, which commenced on Friday morning, was efficiently managed by our **Executive Secretary, June Barrientos**. The afternoon's initial **Scientific Session** then followed lunch. Attendees next gathered for the **Opening Friday Evening Social Hour**, held poolside, which afforded ample opportunity for veteran seminarists to renew acquaintances and meet and welcome both the faculty and new attendees.

After officially convening the meeting and welcoming the attendees at the Friday evening dinner, **Dr. Shabahang** requested attendees to observe a moment of silence for

**Dr. Elbert "Eb" King**, a great friend and supporter of the AIOB who passed away a month earlier on September 26, 2009, a few weeks shy of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Eb was honored at our 2007 meeting for his dedication to the Institute and his record 50 years of attendance. He had served on both the **Advisory Council** and **Board of Directors** and was always generous in continuing to provide both expertise and wisdom over the years. **Dr. Steve Traub**, a close friend and long-term professional neighbor in Albuquerque, New Mexico paid a poignant tribute to Eb, and relayed Eb's greetings and best wishes to the assembly this year, since his illness precluded his doing so personally. Professionally, Eb was **Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics**; which body honored him by selecting him to serve as a **Director**. He also belonged to many professional societies and his long career, also included an anatomy teaching stint at the **University of New Mexico**.

Our Institute owes him a debt of gratitude for his continued support and guidance over these many years, and those who knew him were truly enriched by his friendship.

As the next agenda item, Dr. Shabahang recognized those individuals who work so hard for the Institute and contribute to the success of the Annual Meeting.



Dr. Elbert King

**Our Executive Secretary, June Barrientos** received a well-deserved thanks, as well as an ovation, for her professionalism and proficiency. June assumed the responsibilities of the office 18 years ago upon the retirement of **Barbara Ward**. June is involved in all aspects of the functioning of the Institute including communications with our members and speakers, formatting and mailing the meeting brochures and this Newsletter and, preparing the *Proceedings Manual*, as well as the meeting registration.

**Dr. Ron Fink** was next cited for his work as **Hotel and Meeting Arrangements Chairperson**, a position he relinquished last year, as well as his service to the Board of Directors, from which Ron had resigned during the Board meeting earlier in the day. Ron's dedication and sense of duty has always been above and beyond, and in past years he attended, or managed the meeting despite numerous personal challenges, which would have deterred most others. We wish **Ron** and wife, **Dee Fink**, the best of health, in the coming years and look forward to seeing them both at many future meetings.

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**L to R:** Drs. Rex Wagner, Jake Moberly, George Flitcraft, Max Wagner & Sandy Beach.



**L to R:** Drs. Len Bafaloukos, Issac Lin, Russ Takei, Wes Murakami & Randy Hashimoto.

*"The man (or woman)  
who graduates today  
and stops learning  
tomorrow is uneducated  
the day after."*

**Newton D. Baker**



*New AIOB Fellow,  
Dr. Steve Fong and  
AIOB President,  
Dr. Shabahang*

The members of the **Advisory Council** - Wayne Del Carlo, Craig Lake, Ken Merritt, Al Mulliken, Yoshio Nakashima, Sam Oglesby, Karl Shanker, Aravinda Shetty, James Stich, Steve Traub and Annie Yuen as well as the **Board of Directors** - Ted Splaver, Courtney Fitzpatrick, Barbara Beach, Jim Fitzpatrick, Alan Herford, Jake Moberly and Norm Plotkin were thanked and those present were asked to stand and be recognized for their service.

Another **AIOB** tradition was next observed in the conferring of **Fellowship** and the awarding of **10- year** lapel pins and certificates to: **Drs. Steven Fong, Steven J. Lake Daniel Lieberman and Evan Vogel.**

Updated **15 year** milestone pins were awarded to **Drs. Craig Chamberlain, Peter Doerken and Karl Shanker**, with **20-year** pins distributed to **Drs. Ron Fink, and Steve Traub.** **Ted Splaver** received his **25-year** pin and **30- year** pins were given to **Drs. George Bryant and Gil McAdams.**

Dr. Shabahang then recognized those who have been present at **more than 30** meetings –**Drs. Jim Fitzpatrick (37), Leonard Nelson (34), Don Niewold (35), Leonard Warren (36), Max Wagner (42)** and his brother **Rex Wagner, who is our senior Fellow having attended 46** meetings.

**Five-year** pins were awarded to those individuals halfway to Fellowship, namely **Drs David Bellows, Courtney Fitzpatrick, Judith Strutz, and Annie Yuen.**

We were extremely pleased to have a large number of **new** participants this year and they were individually named and asked to stand and be

recognized. Alphabetically, this group consisted of **Drs. Maria Flores, Larkspur, CA; Mercedes Herrera, Indio, CA; Douglas Leen, Petersburg, AK; Robert Leipziger, St. Peters, MO; Isaac Lin, San Jose, CA; David Macdonald, Palm Desert, CA, David Mallett, Telluride, CO; Richard Marlais, Fremont, CA, Robert Myers, Hesperia, CA; Al Ochoa, Loma Linda, CA, and Raymond Sheridan, South San Francisco, CA.**

All returning members are truly appreciated and we are especially pleased when 1<sup>st</sup> year attendees return in subsequent years as new members are the lifeblood of any organization. We would be remiss in not welcoming back and mentioning, in print, **Drs. Larry Betts (3), Steven Blakely (2), Rhonda Everett (2), Wayne Frost (3), Randall Hashimoto (3), Michael Lew (2), Monique Phipps (2), David Reed (3), Russell Takei (2) and Rick Thirirot (4)**-all of whom are on the track for our five year pin.

The *raison d'etre* of the Institute is to provide a forum for continuing education and as the next order of business; **Dr. Shabahang** introduced those **Faculty Speakers** present who each gave a short synopsis and preview of their lectures.

Announcements were then made regarding the scheduled daily **Sunrise Walk** and **Spouse's Program.**

### FACULTY PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

**Raymond A. Dionne, D.D.S., PhD. Scientific Director, National Institute of Nursing Research, Bethesda, MD** and his wife, **Sharon M. Gordon, D.D.S., M.P.H., PhD., Associate Professor, Department of Oral**

**and Maxillofacial Surgery, Director of Curriculum, University of Maryland Dental School, Baltimore, MD** each delivered two lectures on *Translating Science into the Art of Pain Management.*

**Dr. Dionne's** initial lecture on Friday afternoon focused on the newly emerging field of *Individualized Pain Management* based upon human genetic variation. The goal is to identify molecular targets for pain management and to identify possible novel pain pathways. The progress made to date as well as the scope of the difficulties to be expected was elucidated. His Sunday lecture was *Review of Outpatient Sedation*, with an emphasis on oral sedation, and safety, efficacy and current controversies. A 2003 NIH Workshop on this topic concluded that in terms of adverse events, IV, then oral sedation were worst in terms of mortality, and pediatric patients were probably at greatest risk, due to airway management problems. He reminded us that clinical observations are no substitute for research findings.

**Dr. Gordon's** Friday lecture was on *Acute and Chronic Orofacial Pain.* Prevention and treatment strategies for acute pain were discussed and the pre-emptive analgesia, strategy of utilizing long-lasting local anesthetics in combination with NSAIDs for effective pain relief, even at the 48-hour post-op period, was of great interest. She discussed in depth the toxicity, which limits NSAID dosage as well as the undesirable effects of increased opioid dosage in opioid-naïve people. In terms of chronic pain, 12% of all chronic pain complaints are due to chronic orofacial pain. On Sunday, her topic was *Evidential Basis for Pharmacotherapeutics for*

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**TMJ Disorders.** Interestingly, her approach is to treat the symptoms of TMJ pain, not the putative etiology that is now understood to be multi-factorial. The difficulties inherent in measuring the beneficial effect of different TMJ treatments were outlined and her discussion of the components of the therapeutic process included the reminder that any treatment has to exceed the 35-50% placebo effect noted in any study. She has been unable to find many randomized controlled trials for drug therapy of TMJ pain and concluded that there is, in fact, "little rigorous evidence for pharmacologic treatment of chronic pain."

**Arthur W. Curley, Assistant Professor in Jurisprudence, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, University of the Pacific, San Francisco, Bradley, Curley, Asiano, Barrabee & Gale, PC, Larkspur, CA** is a veteran AIOB faculty member who spent Saturday morning discussing the *Dental Practice Act*. Attendees, regardless of which state they reside in or practice may well have been reminded of Bob Dylan's song, "*The times they are a changin'*", as Attorney Curley discussed major changes occurring in our profession as well as the changing legal landscape. He discussed "high tech dentistry", and in particular, the emerging standard of 3-D Cone Beam Imaging and its use, especially in implant planning, to help avoid problems in sinus and inferior alveolar nerve injuries. The concept of Informed Refusal of treatment has gained traction these last several years, especially in regard to consideration of implants as alternative treatment options as well as offering use of high tech imaging for preoperative implant and case planning,

We learned that while medical/dental malpractice

lawsuits are decreasing in number, jury monetary verdicts are increasing as the dollar loses value. At the same time, complaints to Health Care Boards are increasing and must be taken seriously and promptly answered. Implants are a source of many new claims, especially due to failure or infections, as are bisphosphonate related osteonecrosis of the jawbones (BRONJ) and billing audits /errors. Additionally, the new California expanded functions for auxiliaries is scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2010 and he thoroughly discussed these potentially far-reaching changes and the questions raised by the audience.

**Ted Splaver D.M.D., Adjunct Faculty, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, NOVA Southeastern School of Dental Medicine, Ft. Lauderdale/Davie, Florida** presented a lecture entitled *The Aging Patient* on Saturday afternoon. The remarkable increase in human life expectancy due to scientific and public health measures, and their effects on U.S. population demographics were explored. Within our elderly population, no disease or symptom will be as prevalent as hypertension- especially isolated essential hypertension-whose adverse effects on body systems are protean. The benefits of lifestyle modification for those with pre-hypertension and those with Type 1 and Type 2 hypertension are great. Even treating hypertension in the oldest old has been shown to reap great reward, possibly even preventing dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Next on the program was **Eugene E. Keller, D.D.S., M.S.D., Professor of Surgery, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Chair, Division of Oral Diagnosis and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery,**

**Department of Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota** who delivered **The Philip J. Boyne Memorial Lecture**

entitled *Maxillary and Mandibular Discontinuity Reconstruction with Autogenous Bone and Titanium Implants: A Tribute to Dr. Philip J. Boyne*. Repair and reconstruction of the craniofacial skeleton was the essence of Dr. Boyne's lifework and Dr. Keller in this exceptional tribute to his friend and colleague, presented a chronologic sequence of Dr. Boyne's long career, highlighting his original research findings and their translational impact on clinical practice. Dr. Keller's techniques and experience with endosseous implants in discontinuity defects of the jaws is most impressive, and his article, documenting a 12-year longitudinal study of 31 patients, which is published in our Proceedings Manual, serves as a valuable reference and resource. Dr. Keller's lecture as well as the Conclusions section of the article, once again, reminds us that the basics do apply to surgical procedures and that meticulous attention to atraumatic technique is critical to success.

**John G. Thomas, M.S., PhD (HCLD, ABB), Director, Microbiology & Virology, Professor, Department of Pathology & Periodontics, West Virginia Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, Morgantown, WV** served as **Visiting Professor, Cardiff University School of Dental Medicine, Wales, U.K.** during a sabbatical this past year and obtained his **Welsh Regional Kilt (Thomas Tartan)** while there. In paying homage to his ancestry he wore the full formal kilt, during his Sunday presentations which were entitled *Oral Biofilms & Impact on Dental Practices Today* and *Therapeutic Microbiology or Good Bugs (Probiotics) and Bad Antibiotics*. While in Wales, Dr. Thomas



*Dr. Eugene Keller and wife Linda. Dr. Keller gave this year's Philip J. Boyne Memorial Lecture.*

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*"All of the top achievers I know are life-long learners... Looking for new skills, insights and ideas... If they're not learning, they're not growing... not moving toward excellence."*

**Dean Waitley**

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*"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times; it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness; it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity; it was the season of Light, it was the seasons of Darkness..." A Tale of Two Cities,*  
**Charles Dickens**



Dr. John & Penny Thomas

continued his work on biofilms; oral microbiota and ventilator assisted pneumonia (VAP), and discussed the oral hygiene efforts and surgical treatment utilized there to avoid it. Our Federal government has recently funded an initiative to fully identify and characterize human GI tract microorganisms and probiotics are being explored for their uses in medicine as well as dentistry. Readers are directed to Dr. Thomas' essay in our *Proceedings Manual* for a complete discussion of biofilms and probiotics. Singer, songwriter Carole King may well have been prophetic with her lyrics, "I feel the earth move under my feet," and these "thought provoking concepts" to quote our president Dr. Shabahang, "may well result in a seismic shift in patient treatment in the not too distant future."

The final formal Sunday lecture entitled, *Impact of Sleep Medicine in Dentistry* was delivered by **Dr. C. Michael Sechrist**. He provided a review of the pioneering work of Dr. William Dement of Stanford University on random eye movement (REM) and dreaming, as well as the founding of the Academy of Sleep Medicine in 1975. Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is garnering increasing attention in recent years and is now considered one risk factor for hypertension. Various diagnostic methods and treatment modalities including surgery and oral appliances were discussed.

### SUNRISE FITNESS WALK

Each morning at 6:15 A.M., starting on Saturday morning at 6:15 AM, our traditional sunrise walk took participants through various local areas, prior to breakfast. This year we toured

**The Corridor**, a downtown mini-mall decorated with western/ Spanish objects and sculpture. And we again viewed the grounds of the home of **Mr. Ken Irwin Sr., Gran Valmonte, Palm Springs** that is filled with many sculptures fabricated from recycled "found art"- objects.

### SPOUSE'S PROGRAM

Our traditional Spouse's program, arranged by **Jo Fitzpatrick, Chairperson**, featured a "yummy" and "sweet" lecture and chocolate tasting presented by **Paul Heitter**, executive chef and proprietor of **Café Chocolate, The Corridor, Palm Springs**. By all accounts this was a most enjoyable and educational activity. These programs have always been presented at no cost to spouses and accompanying persons as all associated costs are borne by the Institute.

### PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

This ever-popular event, held in the Presidential Suite and hosted by **Dr. Shabahang** and his wife, **Dr. Karin Hatami**, is open to all attendees and affords a wonderful opportunity to socialize with the faculty as well as fellow attendees. We had our share of costumed members and guests, including a dentist in long white coat (**Dr. Judy Strutz's husband**), a gentleman in full Welsh Regional Kilt, sporting, naturally, the Thomas Tartan (**Dr. John Thomas**), a mature and junior version of Snow White (**Dr. Karin Hatami** and daughter, **Roxanna**) and two fellows sporting 10 gallon hats and full cowboy regalia (**Dr. Shabahang** and son, **Cyrus**). Fortunately, firearms had to be checked with the Keepers of the Spirits, and horses were left outside in the poolside corral.

We are ever grateful to our members, **Drs. Don Niewold, Leonard Nelson and Ron Fink** who have, for many years, not only provisioned our version of a chuck wagon for this event but also served the members so ably.

The **HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION** next continued poolside for the traditional **Mexican Buffet Dinner**, for which our AIOB, first lady, **Dr. Karin Hatami**, not only provided Halloween candles but also candy-filled pumpkin centerpieces for each table. The latter was enjoyed not only by our resident trick-or-treaters but also by our adult members who sampled the goodies ostensibly to test for "freshness and flavor." As you might imagine, vigorous flossing and brushing followed this event. This was also a perfect evening weather-wise and attendees reluctantly left after several hours of eating and socializing.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The **Advisory Council** and the **Board of Directors** each held two meetings during our four-day session. At the first meetings old and new business was discussed and tasks were assigned in both bodies. The second meetings consisted of program evaluation and consideration of topics and future speakers, as we work to continually refine our programs consistent with our mission statement.

As previously stated, **Dr. Ron Fink** resigned his Board position at the Friday Board Meeting, which was accepted with reluctance and gratitude for a job well done over the years.

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**Dr. Steven Traub**, our **Webmaster and Interim Head of the Advisory Council** was nominated and following his acceptance, was elected to fill the vacated Board position at the Sunday meeting. Additionally, president **Shabahang** requested that the Board create a **Member Relations Committee** as well as an **AIOB Oral Biology Prize/Scholarship Committee**. **Dr. Jacob Moberly** will chair the former and **Dr. Alan Herford** will chair the latter. While Dr. Moberly will move to increase awareness of our group as well as further communications, Dr. Herford will work toward implementing a previous Board decision to award a Certificate at Graduation and a Scholarship to attend our meeting to a graduating senior student at each California Dental Schools.

### MANY THANKS

**Mr. Brooks Bailey** who rendered valuable assistance to the Institute this year in assisting in the management of our audiovisual, computer, lighting and other necessary tasks.

For many years we have benefited from the superb photographic skills of **Mr. Richard Cross**, a true friend of the AIOB, who is long overdue for both recognition and praise. Richard has provided us with a visual record, not only of our speakers but also candid pictures of our attendees. To be a "people" photographer takes special skill, which Richard possesses in abundance and his warmth and friendship are truly appreciated.

### MILESTONES

A look back in time revealed that **Dr. Eugene E. Keller, D.D.S., M.S.D.**, who delivered the **Philip J. Boyne Memorial Lecture** this

year, had both attended our meetings in the past and served on our **Advisory Council**, most recently, in 1985. It was further determined that since this year's meeting was his 10<sup>th</sup> year of attendance, president **Shabahang** surprised him at the conclusion of his presentation by conferring upon him **AIOB Fellowship** and his **10 year pin**.

Congratulations to **Dr. Annie Yuen** on her recent engagement. Annie and her fiancée, **Brett Reynolds**, were in attendance at our meeting and we wish them a very long and happy life together.

Congratulations are in order for **Jim and Jo Fitzpatrick** who celebrated their **40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary** in **Palm Springs**, at **Le Vallauris** restaurant, joined by their children, **Dr. Courtney** and son, **Justin**. **Jim** is a long-term **AIOB Board Member**; **Jo** is **Chair of our Spouse's Program** and **Courtney**, is now serving as **Chair, Hotel Arrangements** as well as being our newest **Member of the Board of Directors**.

### KUDOS

Special mention and praise for **Dr. Courtney Fitzpatrick**, who directed her first meeting as **Chair, Hotel Arrangements** most capably. We obviously continue to be in good hands in regards to this important leadership position.

Thanks also, to **Past Chair, Dr. Ron Fink** who provided Courtney with voluminous documentation of past meetings, and was also present, to be of assistance, if needed, this year.

**Dr. Alan Herford**, the inaugural **Philip Boyne- Peter Geistlich Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, School of Dentistry Loma Linda University** and **Member of our Board of Directors**, accepted the **Synthes**

**Award** presented to his teaching program at Loma Linda during the **American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons meeting in Toronto, Canada**, in early October 2009. This award was established to recognize excellence in research, teaching, and treatment of craniofacial trauma as well as community service. A photo of Dr. Herford accepting the plaque and award was published in **AAOMS Today**, November /December 2009. The Institute congratulates Dr. Herford and his faculty members on this well deserved and prestigious award.

**Dr. Harold Slavkin**, of the **University of Southern California School of Dentistry** and a past participant our **AIOB** meeting faculties was awarded the **ADA Gold Medal Award for Excellence**, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the **ADA House of Delegates Meeting** in Honolulu, Hawaii. Dr. Slavkin has served as **Dean** of his institution as well as **Head of the NIDCR**, and we know this recognition of his professional accomplishments is well deserved.

### NECROLOGY

The Institute has been informed of the death of **Dr. Edward Kuhn**, shortly before this year's meeting. Dr. Kuhn was a **15-year AIOB fellow**, whose professional office was in **Palm Springs**, directly across from the Hilton. Ed was a very upbeat, enthusiastic person who will be greatly missed by his "AIOB family".

### 2010 PROGRAM

To date, we have a commitment from **Heather Walsh-Haney, A.A., B.A., M.A., PhD., Assistant Professor, Division of Justice Studies, Florida Gulf**



*Brett Reynolds and Dr. Annie Yuen. Congratulations to the newly engaged couple.*



*Drs. Judith Strutz and Courtney Fitzpatrick showing off their 5-year pins.*



*Ms. Jo Fitzpatrick Chairperson, Spouse's Program*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
NOW AND RESERVE THE  
DATES FOR OUR  
UPCOMING MEETINGS!**

**AIOB FUTURE  
MEETING DATES**

**October 22-25, 2010  
October 21-24, 2011**

**Coast University, a Physical and Forensic Anthropologist**, who will speak on bony facial structures, examined for ancestry and sex, illustrated by case studies, as well as trauma analysis. Dr. Walsh-Haney is a prominent anthropologist with a most impressive C.V. She has written several texts and numerous professional articles and is in demand both as a speaker at professional conferences as well as serving as a **Consultant Forensic Anthropologist to CNN**, Fox and the **Discovery** Channel among others. She has been invited to the **London Museum, Egypt** and several countries in the Americas to render expertise, and she assisted in the **ValuJet crash, 911** and **New Orleans** hurricane aftermath. She also renders assistance to forensic

dentists, especially in Florida, and her lectures to dental students have been reported as "astounding".

We will also have a presentation by our new **Board Member, Dr. Steven Traub**, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, who will speak on his series of placement of immediate implants in molar extraction sites.

**Loma Linda Residents** may again return to the program with 20-minute papers detailing current treatment or research findings.

Finally, a note of thanks and praise for our president, **Dr. Shahrokh Shabahang**, who is responsible for maintaining the integrity, and continuing the great traditions of the AIOB.

It is now six years since he assumed the mantle of leadership from **Dr. Boyne**, and we have truly gone from strength to strength, remaining steadfast in our mission to provide the very best continuing education experience.

*The future looks very bright, indeed, as we enter the new decade.*

Hope you all had the best of Holidays and we wish you and your families a healthy and prosperous New Year.

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