



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF EMERGENCY RADIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

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Presidential Message

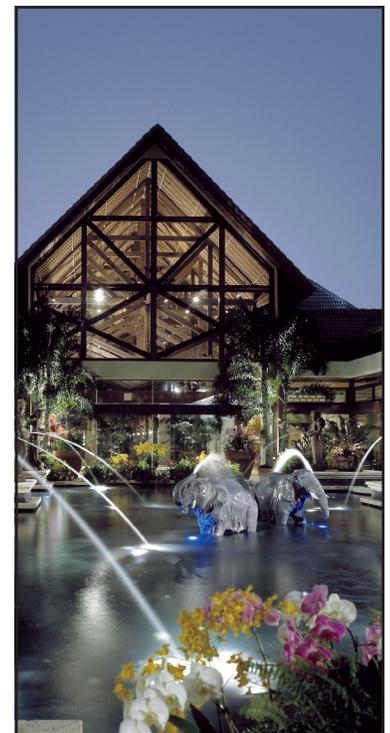
The American Society of Emergency Radiologists marks its twenty first anniversary this year. The society was founded in 1988 after a group of enlightened individuals, our founders, sat down together, discussed the need for such an organization and drew up our initial by-laws. The first annual meeting of the ASER was held in Boston two years later. It had a short program and was attended by only a handful of radiologists. We have come a long way since then. The attendance at our meetings has been well over 200 for several years now. On September 30 of this year our twentieth annual meeting will get underway, in Orlando, Florida. Hopefully setting another record for attendance.

We have had our ups and downs during the last twenty one years but the overall progress of the Society has been upward. From a small group of dedicated followers, the ASER had evolved into a recognized voice for emergency imaging with fingers in many pies. The Society has had permanent representation at the ACR for many years and our members have been very actively involved with major national groups such as RSNA and ARRS. Our education program is active and healthy. While our annual meeting is probably our best known educational tool, our on-line teaching file is now up, running and rapidly expanding.

Anthony J. Wilson, MB ChB
President, American Society of Emergency Radiology.

Our membership numbers and meeting attendance continue to grow each year. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a report from Dr Bernstein, the program director of last year's annual meeting. I believe this was the most successful meeting we have had to date. This same statement could have been made after each of our meetings for the last few years and I expect that trend to continue. In spite of the world's current economic woes and a probable decrease in corporate support, I am optimistic that this years meeting will be even more successful. The Society is financially healthy and is in a good position to weather the economic storm. In recent years we have been able to support educational and scientific projects that we could only have dreamed about in the past.

If you have not attended an ASER meeting in the last few years, the high quality of our annual get together may surprise you. I urge you to come to the meeting this year. The successful format perfected by my predecessors will be utilized once again. We plan to have a selection of new topics as well as tried and true favorites, coupled with an excellent faculty. Orlando is a great place to bring your family and I am sure you will have not just a good time but also an educational one. I hope to see you there.



Photos courtesy of Loews Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal Orlando® and the Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

Sleepless in Grand Rapids – ER Radiology in a Private Practice

Charles R. Luttenton, MD, FAGR

Who on earth would want to attempt to stay abreast of nearly all aspects of diagnostic imaging and, to top that, likes to stay up all night reading studies on patients in handcuffs who were “just minding [their] own business when this guy came up and . . .” and at the same time try to valiantly keep a lid on the ever boiling pot of over-utilization? That would be me and many of us in our world. In this respect, the differences in academic and private practice radiology are generally small.

I am blessed with great, well-trained partners that respect my addiction to ER radiology, and some have voluntarily pitched in to help cover our 24/7 structure. My practice is large (approximately 140,000 ED patient visits per year in a Level I trauma center) and, like many, we use teleradiology to cover this and three other smaller (100-250 bed) facilities. Our practice is an independent group – Advanced Radiology Services (ARS) – who contracts with our hospitals to provide professional services. Additionally, in conjunction with radiology administration, we share managerial responsibility for our respective subspecialty sections.

We function much like the Emergency Department regarding staffing and shift work. We have multiple radiologists providing coverage on all shifts except the 11 pm – 7 am shift, when one person carries the load supporting four emergency departments. As you can imagine, this can be very stressful, and we are very close to needing a second radiologist for that shift. Providing this level of coverage comes at a significant cost. We “midnight shift” radiologists are paid back with time off on a 1 to 1 ratio, i.e. one week (7 days) on requires a 5-day work week payback in addition to any other regular time off such as vacation or administrative time. This calculates to a cost equivalent greater than two FTE’s

for this service. Final reads are given on all studies with a very few exceptions.

The differences between private and academic practices may be more perceived than real, in my opinion. Administratively, I feel fortunate to be independent of some of the constraints I believe are present in the academic world. I do, however, answer to a well-oiled corporate board of ARS rather than a chairperson, and our hospital CEO might be considered comparable to a dean. I am fortunate to have significant input into both areas (maybe because of the gray hair or loss of it). As in academia, we also have obligations in education of medical students and residents, and variable involvement in research, although the latter is not a requirement in our practice.

One of the issues that comes up in discussions I have had with academic radiologists regarding ER radiology is the ability to be involved in all aspects of ED radiology imaging. In my practice I am fortunate to be allowed to interpret virtually any study generated without specific subspecialty restrictions. I am privileged to be in a large group where internal consults of ever increasingly complex studies are available nearly anytime. This is very professionally rewarding and stimulating, but one always needs to be on guard to “know what you don’t know”.

I am blessed to have ultimately landed in the world of ER radiology, having migrated from interventional. I am grateful that many years ago in Robert Novelline’s living room, a nidus of forward-thinking people saw value in creating the ASER so I could participate in some small way and develop lasting and treasured friendships, whether it be in private practice or academia.

Calendar of Events

ASER 2009

Annual Scientific Meeting

September 30 – October 3, 2009

ORLANDO, FLORIDA



**ASER 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting
and Postgraduate Course**
September 30 - October 3, 2009
Loews Royal Pacific Resort
Orlando, Florida

Remember to check
the ASER Job Board



This is a free Job Listing service of the American Society of Emergency Radiology website for Emergency Radiology professionals. Register to post your free, 60 day listing today.

Get started now, by clicking here!

ASER Membership Updated

2009 Dues

The first two notices have been sent; and if you have not already paid your 2009 dues, please remember to do so. Dues can be submitted via mail, fax or online. If you have questions regarding your membership or need to update your contact information, please contact the ASER Office via email at aser@Meetingmanagers.com or via telephone at 713.965.0566.

Welcome New Members

After the success of the Annual Meeting in the fall, the Membership Committee has had an influx of 46 new Society members. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to the Society's newest members:

Active Members

Dr. Marco Amendola
Dr. Krystal L. Archer-Arroyo
Dr. Craig Basmaji
Dr. Joseph J. Budovec
Dr. Christopher J. Connors
Dr. Alejandra Duran Mendicut
Dr. Richard Gore
Dr. Ronald Gray
Dr. Cynthia Humphries
Dr. Arjun Kalyanpur
Dr. Yong Kang
Dr. Richard T. Kaplan
Dr. Matthew Kwiatek
Dr. Vinh Le
Dr. Marshall Mallory
Dr. Larry Menestrina
Dr. Robert Mintz
Dr. Kenjiou Ohashi
Dr. Stacy Smith
Dr. Dean Smith
Dr. Eric D. Westin
Dr. Peter Young

Associate Members

Dr. Jesus E. Calleros-Macias
Dr. Perry Cleland

Members-in-Training (Fellowships)

Dr. Mark Akers
Dr. Harigovinda R. Challa
Dr. Tracey Hillier
Dr. Robin. B Levenson
Dr. Juan Ramos
Dr. Shanon Smith
Dr. Sumeet Verma
Dr. Ashish P. Wasnik

Members-in-Training (Resident)

Dr. Fred Berlin
Dr. Sudip Bhandari
Dr. Scott Cameron
Dr. Paul Cedeno
Dr. Joseph Conley
Dr. Nicholas Flippin
Dr. Jacob Gebrael
Dr. Jan Gerstenmaier

Dr. Shivani Gupta
Dr. Robert Havte
Dr. Ashley Hawkins
Dr. Paul Lee
Dr. Peter Lee
Dr. Robin Levenson
Dr. Heng-Hsiao Liu
Dr. Christopher Looney
Dr. Lorraine Manlolo
Dr. Rajul Mehta
Dr. Vladimir Merunka
Dr. Amir Javad Momtahan
Dr. Scott Perrin
Dr. Patricia Poole
Dr. Emilie Ralston
Dr. Julia Rissmiller
Dr. Jorge Saenz
Dr. Michael Sanders
Dr. Vineet Seth
Dr. Hoang Anh Vo

Medical Student

Mr. Jason Cox

The Society is grateful to the many of you who have actively promoted ASER in your lectures, to your partners, residents and clinical colleagues; and we encourage you all to keep up the good work. The Society is only as strong and active as its membership. Happily, we are thriving, but, as always, looking for more ways to promote the Society as the voice of, and driving force behind, emergency radiology. Please forward any suggestions for improving member services or for new recruitment to me, Sravanthi Reddy at sravanthi.reddy@usc.edu.
Sravanthi Reddy, MD
Chair, ASER Membership Committee

How to Join the ASER

Physicians who qualify for membership and who are interested in promoting the goals of the American Society of Emergency Radiology are invited to complete the application form. New applications are reviewed semiannually by the Membership Committee. Upon approval, a dues invoice and notification of acceptance will be sent. To download a printable membership application, please click on the following link, ASER Membership Application

For additional information regarding ASER membership, please visit the ASER website at www.erad.org

Benefits of Joining the ASER

There are many benefits to joining the American Society of Emergency Radiology, and below is brief listing:

1. Discounted registration fee for the annual meeting of the Society
2. Hard copy and online subscription to the Society's official journal, Emergency Radiology (members-in-training only receive the online subscription, however, hard copies can be

3. Complete access to the ASER website, which includes the Core Curriculum in Emergency Radiology Project and the members only online directory, allowing you the opportunity to connect with emergency radiologists throughout the US and abroad
4. The opportunity to participate on numerous committees

All Members-in-Training Receive FREE Membership in the ASER. The Executive Committee and the Membership Committee of the American Society of Emergency Radiology are pleased to inform you that all residents, fellows and medical students can now join the ASER for FREE!

All members-in-training will receive online access to the Society journal, Emergency Radiology, and can subscribe to the printed version at a discounted rate of \$55/year. Residents, fellows and medical students will also be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the Society at discounted rate. Also, members-in training are encouraged to submit an abstract for consideration of presentation at the annual meeting of the Society. Please encourage your residents, fellows and medical students to join today!

ASER 2008 Annual Meeting Review

October 1-4, 2008

InterContinental Hotel ~ Houston, Texas



Photo courtesy of the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau

The ASER 2008 Annual Meeting, held October 1-4 in Houston, was a great success, attracting 237 registrants, 50 spouses/guests, and 10 exhibitors. There was a strong international representation at the meeting, with 29 of the attendees practicing outside of the US.

The scientific portion of the program included 14 papers, 40 posters, and 16 "Cases of the Day". For the first time, the meeting offered a Self Assessment Module, and had live audio and video recording of each speaker approved presentation. More information regarding the recordings of the meeting will be provided as things progress.

The courses were presented by 52 faculty members, 48 of whom are ASER members. From the opening session until the closing session, attendance was good, with many of the attendees participating in the question and answer period at the end of each session.

During the Annual Business Meeting of the Society, the following four members were voted in as ASER Fellows: Drs. Mats Beckman, Joel Gross, Dominic Barron and Mark Bernstein. The awards banquet and ceremony provided a pleasant conclusion to the meeting. Congratulations to all of the award recipients.

2008 ASER Annual Meeting Award Recipients

Gold Medalist:	Carlos J. Sivit, MD
Founder's Lecturer:	Diego B. Nuñez, MD, MPH
2008 Fellow:	Dominic Barron, FRCR
2008 Fellow:	Mats Beckman, MD
2008 Fellow:	Mark P. Bernstein, MD
2008 Fellow:	Joel A. Gross, MD
1st Place Paper Award Recipient:	Stephan W. Anderson, MD
2nd Place Paper Award Recipient:	Aaron Sodickson, MD, PhD
3rd Place Paper Award Recipient:	Allen Cohen, MD
3rd Place Paper Award Recipient:	Leonard Swischuk, MD
1st Place Poster Award Recipient:	Laura Gilliahan, MD
2nd Place Poster Award Recipient:	Rathachai Kaewlai, MD
3rd Place Poster Award Recipient:	Hemant Shah, MD
Harris Award Winner:	Benjamin Lange
Case of the Day Winner:	Douglas Katz, MD

The Society owes the following meeting organization team a thank you for a job well done:

President
O. Clark West, MD
Program Director
Mark Bernstein, MD
Scientific Program Coordinator
Thomas Ptak, MD, PhD, MPH
International Program Coordinator
Dominic Barron, MD

Program Committee Members
Aaron Sodickson, MD,
Jorge Soto, MD and
Wayne Kubal, MD
Case of the Day Coordinator
Andrew Gelbman, DO
Meeting Manager
Jessica Whalen
Association Manager
Angela Davis
Meeting Coordinator
Caitlin Davis

Emergency Radiology 2008-2009

Ronald J. Zagoria, MD, FRCR

Editor-in-Chief

I am happy to report good news for our journal Emergency Radiology. During the past year submissions have been excellent in both quantity and quality. From July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 184 manuscripts were submitted for possible publication in Emergency Radiology. This represents an adequate volume of articles to maintain a high quality journal. The quality of articles selected for publication has also increased as evidenced by our rejection rising to over 50% of submitted articles. This increased selectivity is reflected in the high quality of the articles published.

Even with the increased submission rate, with help of reviewers, now numbering 204 strong, we have been able to maintain a rapid process for reviewing the manuscripts and for making decisions.

The finished product, Emergency Radiology, is now being published on a regular schedule every other month. The size of the journal will be increased in early 2009 to accommodate more articles. A new feature added to the journal this year is a series of articles written by Dr. Leonard Swischuk on trauma unique to children. This is an excellent addition to our journal.

New to our Editorial Board, which helps oversee, and contributes to the journal, are Drs. Stanford Goldman and Yasuo Nakajima. Their positive contributions are already having a good impact on the journal.

Through the help of our reviewers, editorial board, and authors, the journal is prospering and should continue to improve.

ASER Education Committee

A special Thanks goes out to former committee co-chair, Diego Nunez, for his help over the past several years. Diego has been very helpful to me, getting the Core Curriculum Illustration Project team set up. Dr. Clark West is our new co-chair and he has also been instrumental in the early stages of the project. We are very lucky to have him step up to the task. I would also like to thank Dr. Aaron Sodickson for his work running the Abdomen section of the Illustration Project. Aaron's former position is now being filled by Dr. Cynthia Day – welcome! On a sadder note, we are regretful to see Dr. Diego Nunez vacate his position heading the Face and Neck section of the Illustration Project. If anybody had a special interest in filling this position, and the time to do it, please contact me or Dr. West.

The project is cruising along steadily, and we now boast a total of 76 cases online. We still welcome your help in building a strong pool of exemplary cases, which we expect to become an authoritative resource for the radiology community to look to for emergency radiology education.

Check out the new look at the website. The Online Core Curriculum has become more user-friendly, with hyperlinks that now take you directly to the aser.mypacs.net website cases. All you need to do is login to MyPACS. Setting up your login ID and password is simple and...yes...FREE!

Ron Bilow, MD
Chair, ASER Education Committee