FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Edwina Popok, DO

I hope that all of you had as much fun at the Houston meeting as I did. It was the best interim meeting that I’ve attended; actually that’s unfair, as it is the only interim meeting that I have been able to attend. For those of you unfamiliar with Houston, the weather was exceptionally nice. There are actually very few days of the year that one can sit outside to enjoy a meal. The flawless production didn’t just happen but was due to a lot of planning, not only by Claire Langston and Milton Finegold, but from pathology support staff, Teresa Chandler and Virginia Bates, as well as assistance from Medical Staff Services, headed by Pam Curtis and her staff, Alma Martinez, Terry Rodriguez, and Margaret Foreman.

The long range planning retreat commenced on Sunday morning after the late-night at Clear Lake. The fog quickly lifted from our minds as the wheels of change were put into motion. It was a hard day and a half but showed how a rather large group of people coming from diverse practice situations can come together for a common cause. From the number of e-mail messages, FAXs and phone calls I’ve had from the participants, it appears that many of the ideas have already been initiated. We can look forward to hearing about the changes through this and future newsletters.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John J. Buchino, MD

First, many thanks to the entire Department of Pathology and Medical Staff Services at Texas Children’s Hospital for the excellent job they did in hosting our Fall meeting. I believe all the attendees would agree that both the scientific and social aspects of the meeting were first rate.

Next, I can report to the membership that the long-awaited long term planning retreat was held with 45 members in attendance. It was amazing to me how many issues and ideas were discussed and sorted in a 1 ½ day time frame. It is a credit to both the participants and the facilitators that from all this emerged a few well-formed concepts and initial plans. The details of those plans will be reported in this and upcoming newsletters. Those participating declared this planning session to be successful. While I agree that the process was a success and many good ideas resulted, it will now be up to the membership to put these ideas into action. Hopefully the enthusiasm that I saw at the end of the meeting will spread to the entire Society and in years to come we’ll be able to judge the meeting a true success.

President Buchino presenting Ted Pysher with an award expressing the Society’s appreciation for his work as Chairman of the Education Committee.

Included in this Newsletter:

* 1997 Slide Survey
* Young Investigator Research Grant
* 1997 Annual Meeting Registration Information
REPORT
FROM THE LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE
J. Thomas Stocker, MD

Following the interim meeting in Houston, 45 members of the Society met for 14 hours on October 13 and 14 to develop a "Strategic Plan" to provide direction for Society leadership over the next 3-4 years. With the help of The McNellis Company, the participants met as a single large group or in smaller sessions to discuss the state of pediatric pathology today, their vision of what pediatric pathology should be in the year 2000, and how our Society could work with its members to help that vision become a reality.

After exploring dozens of areas of interest and concern to the participants, the group agreed on seven specific areas to have the Society leadership pursue.

1. Convince others of pediatric pathology’s unique value by defining and measuring what is unique about pediatric pathology.

2. Strengthen our influence on the practice of pathology by enhancing pediatric pathology through initiatives targeted primarily for nonpediatric pathology audiences.

3. Become and be assertive and passionate leaders within the Society by developing strategies and more clearly defining the roles of the Society leadership.

4. Continue the process of planning by making strategic planning an integral part of the Society’s council business.

5. Expand the influence of the Society by expanding its membership through creation of a “broader tent” with easier entry into the Society.

6. Apply new communication technologies to local/international education by creating a new committee for Communication Technologies.

7. Enhance research by expanding and defining the activities of the Research Committee.

For each of these initiatives, a number of specific objectives was established with individuals or small groups assigned to lead each effort and a time frame and deadline set. For example, the research effort (number 7 above) will have the current Research Committee expand and promote the Young Investigator Award program within the next year. In addition, the President and Council will continue to prioritize monies for the Young Investigator Endowment. The Web page editors and Research Committee will lead efforts to create a directory of SPP member’s research activities. The Education Committee has been charged with creating workshops by 1998 that present emerging research and diagnostic technologies.

When the draft report of the planning session is finalized, copies detailing each of the objectives within the seven initiatives will be distributed to the membership. President John Buchino and President-elect Jim Dimmick, along with many of the committee chairs and Council members participated in the strategic planning meeting and are anxious to involve all members of the Society in pursuing these objectives. The progress in each area will be followed through a series of reports in the Newsletter.
Gordon F. Vawter Award

The Gordon F. Vawter Award for trainees was presented to R. Broaddus for the podium presentation of: Broaddus R., Harriman G., Brooks T., Finegold M. - “Dysregulated TGF-β Expression and Basement Membrane Degradation in Colitis-Associated Dysplasias and Adenocarcinomas in Gaq-Deficient Mice.”

Russell Broaddus, MD, PhD, presenting his Gordon F. Vawter Award winning paper in Houston, TX.

PEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY SLIDE SURVEY PROGRAM PRESENTED AT CAP FALL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO.
Joe Rutledge, MD

For the second time, the pediatric slide survey program was the subject of a continuing education symposium at the CAP meeting. This symposium was offered as a morning session under the auspices of the College of American Pathologists. Twelve cases from past SPP surveys were presented with Bob Novak presenting renal cases, Edwina Popek presenting perinatal and placental cases, and Joe Rutledge presenting genetic and miscellaneous cases. Approximately 50 pathologists, some of whom had attended the session two years before, were in attendance. The College of American Pathologists staffers noted that this was an exceptionally large turn out for one of their programs. We will be waiting for the official evaluations, however, before submitting this format for another cycle.

Other Pediatric Pathology oriented programs presented at the CAP meeting by members of the Society for Pediatric Pathology, included one with Kevin Bove, J. Thomas Stocker and Henry F. Krous on the Neonatal Autopsy.

Neustein Award

The Neustein award for work involving electron microscopy was not presented at the Fall Interim Meeting.

PROGRAM FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ORLANDO, FLORIDA MARCH 1 - 2, 1997

WORKSHOPS

Germ Cell Tumors of Childhood: Drs. Edith Hawkins, Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston, TX, and Elizabeth Perlman, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD.

Forensic Pathology for the Hospital-based Pediatric Pathologist: Drs. Harry Wilson, Providence Memorial Hospital, El Paso, and Robert Kirschner, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

Iatrogenic Pathology in the Neonatal Period: Drs. Don Singer and Halit Pinar, Women and Infant’s Hospital, Providence, RI.

Pediatric Lung Biopsy Pathology: Dr. Claire Langston, Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston, TX.

Pediatric Surgical Neuropathology: Drs. Mark Cohen, Institute of Pathology, Division of Neuropathology and Richard A. Prayson, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Division of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Cleveland, OH.

Selected Topics in Pediatric Hematopathology: Drs. Lila Penchansky and Christine Dorvault, Presbyterian University Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

NOTE: Entry into the Workshops will require an admission card which will be collected by Convention Staff at the door. The Education Committee requests that Society members respect this policy and not attempt to “crash” attendance without paying.

SYMPOSIUM

The Stillbirth Autopsy - Value Added Approach: Drs. Virginia Baldwin and Glenn Taylor, Co-Directors, British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital, Vancouver, BC.

Public Health and Epidemiology: Dr. Harry Wilson, Providence Memorial Hospital, El Paso, TX.

Key Autopsy Procedures: Dr. Fergall Magee, British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital, Vancouver, BC.

Medicolegal Implications and Considerations: Honorable Harry Elias, Vista, CA.

Role of the Pediatric Pathologist Beyond the Autopsy: Dr. Marie Valdes-Dapena, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, FL.

Stillbirth Autopsy in the Managed Care Era: Dr. Richard Pauli, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
Interim Meeting Photos

David Parham entertained at Friday night's dinner with a few of Elvis' greatest hits.

Canadian physician and astronaut in training for flight in 1998 to the Space Station, spoke during our tour of Space Center Houston about his training, how medical care is rendered in outer space and yes, he even answered that ever present question "how does one go to the bathroom in outer space?"

Alba Greco, entertaining a very friendly Owl butterfly at the reception held Friday night at the Cockrell Butterfly Center in Houston.

Welcome to our New Members

Regular
Maria Teresa de Seixas
John Esber
Teresa Hayes
Shun-Chen Huang
Joyce Johnson
Patrick E. Lantz
Helen Liapis
Wanda Mireya Fernandez Maza
Francy Reis da Silva Patricio
Marie Tersa Vial Perez
Susan Phillips
Gordon Vujanic
Elena Kakarieka Weisskopf

Junior
Philip Katzman
Kerby Oberge
Joseph Pestaner
Wilma Sirkin

Affiliate
Chung Wo Chow

"Mini-summit", President John Buchino, President-elect Jim Dimmick and Former-President Kevin Bove.

Milt Finegold looking mighty pleased with how the interim meeting planning is unfolding as explained by Pam Curtis from TCH, Medical Staff Services

Coffee break outside in Houston? Great weather for the interim meeting enjoyed by Bob Bendon, Suzanne Jacques, Faisal Qureshi and colleague.
RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR RESEARCH GRANT

The Research Committee would like to remind those eligible to apply for the Young Investigator Research Grant. Applications are available from the Executive Office, Degnon Associates, Inc. 6728 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean, VA 22101, (703) 556-9222 or FAX (703) 556-8729, or E-Mail SocPedPath@aol.com. Completed applications must be returned by January 25, 1997 to: David Witte, MD, Department of Pathology, Children's Hospital Medical Center, 3333 Burnet Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229

A. JAMES MCADAMS SHORT TERM STUDY STIPEND

The Research Committee would like to remind members within the Society about the A. James McAdams Short Term Study Stipend. This award in honor of A. James McAdams, MD, provides financial support for pediatric pathologists to learn new diagnostic and research techniques applicable to pediatric pathology. An annual award of up to $2,000 will be made to support travel and living expenses of a pediatric pathologist for study of up to one month at an institution to learn specific investigative skills. Eligibility is open to any member of the Society for Pediatric Pathology or fellow in training in an accredited program in pediatric pathology who is sponsored by a member of the Society for Pediatric Pathology. Interested parties should contact David Witte, MD, Chair of the Research Committee at: 513/559-4261, FAX 513/475-3924, E-Mail david.witte@uc.edu. Applications for this award must be received by January 25, 1997.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

WANTED: Pediatric pathologist with 8-10 years experience to join staff at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, whose academic affiliation is the University of Pennsylvania. Please contact Lucy B. Rorke, MD, Acting Pathologist-in-Chief, for details 215/590-1734; FAX 215/590-1736. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 34th Street and Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19104-4399

STAFF POSITION IN PEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY: The Children's Hospital of Michigan, a growing, free standing constituent of the Detroit Medical Center, is seeking a third Pediatric Pathologist to complement its staff. The applicant should be board certified (or qualified in anatomic pathology, and pediatric pathology.) Additional qualification in diagnostic renal pathology is desirable. Responsibilities are primarily diagnostic anatomic pathology service but include research appropriate to a university based Children's Hospital Laboratory, and teaching in the Department of Pathology at the Wayne State University School of Medicine. The incumbent will be appointed to the Pathology faculty at an appropriate level. The Children's Hospital of Michigan and the Wayne State University are equal opportunity employers. For further information contact: Joel Haas, MD, Chief of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Children's Hospital of Michigan, 3901 Beaumont Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48201. Telephone 313/745-5315, FAX 313/993-8754, Email JEHAA@med.wayne.edu.

Gifts to the Society

Did you know that the Society for Pediatric Pathology has received gifts of appreciated stock from members? It is actually quite simple to effect, by having your broker simply contact SPP's broker.

Giving gifts of appreciated stock is an excellent way to make a donation to SPP. There is tremendous advantage to the donor who can claim full value of the shares as a charitable deduction and does not have to pay capital gains taxes on the gain over the purchase price.

Contact Johanna O'Toole or George Degnon at the National Office, 703/556-9222 for further details.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

1997 Annual Meeting, prior to the USCAP
Orlando, FL
March 1 - 2, 1997

1997 Interim Meeting
Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN
September 26 - 28, 1997

1998 Annual Meeting, prior to the USCAP
Boston, MA
February 28 - March 1, 1998

Fall 1996, page 5
OFFICERS/COUNCIL MEMBERS

President                John J. Buchino, MD
President-Elect          James E. Dimmick, MD
Past President           Joel E. Haas, MD
Secretary-Treasurer       Claire Langston, MD
Council                   Edith P. Hawkins, MD (98)
                          Vijay V. Joshi, MD (99)
                          Gary Mierau, PhD (97)
                          Beverly B. Rogers, MD (98)
                          Meredith M. Silver, MD (97)
                          Susan C. Simonton, MD (99)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS

ARCHIVES
M. Alba Greco, MD - Chair
Lila Penchansky, MD (98)
Bahig Shehata, MD (97)
Stephanie A. Young, MD (99)

AWARDS
Roma Chandra, MD - (Chair)
Alexander S. Knisely, MD (97)
Henry F. Krous, MD - (Ex-Officio)
Calvin E. Oyer, MD (99)
Faisal Qureshi, MD, MB, BS (98)

BYLAWS
Linda R. Margraf, MD - (Chair)
Gary J. Rulson, MD (99)
In Sook Seo, MD (97)
Saeeda Y. Siddiqui, MD (98)

EDUCATION
Henry F. Krous, MD - (Chair)
Lilian Boccon-Gibod, MD (98)
Beverly Dahms, MD (98)
Paul S. Dickman, MD (97)
Cynthia Kaplan, MD (97)
Kathleen Patterson, MD (98)
Deborah A. Perry, MD (99)
M. Halit Pinar, MD (99)
Lisa Teot, MD (99)
Harry L. Wilson, MD (97)

Abstract Selection Subcommittee
Paul S. Dickman, MD - (Chair)

Ex-Officio Coordinator Continuing Medical Education/Documentation
R. Wesley Tyson, MD

FINANCE
Arthur G. Weinberg, MD - (Chair)
Ellen I. Kahn, MD, MD (98)
David R. Kelly, MD (99)
Roger A. Williams, MD (97)

LIAISON
Claire Langston, MD - (Chair)
Henry F. Krous, MD - (Ex-Officio)
Stephen J. Qualman, MD (98)
David Witte, MD (97)

Long Term Planning
J. Thomas Stocker, MD - (Chair)
J. Bruce Beckwith, MD
Joel E. Haas, MD
Dena Mercedes Selby, MD (99)
Robert H. Shikes, MD (97)
Cam L. Witzleben, MD

Membership
Virginia Baldwin, MD - (Chair)
Margaret H. Collins, MD (97)
Sue Hammond, MD (99)
C. Maureen Sander, MD (98)

Nominating
James E. Dimmick, MD - (Chair)
J. Bruce Beckwith, MD
John Gillan, MD (99)
Joel E. Haas, MD
Joe C. Rutledge, MD (97)
Carole A. Vogler, MD (98)

Practice
Stephen J. Qualman, MD - (Chair)
Suzanne M. Jacques, MD (98)
Gareth Jevon, MD (99)
Carmen K. Steigman, MD (97)
Douglas A. Weeks, MD (97)
James R. Wright, Jr., MD (98)

Publications
Ronald Jaffe, MD - (Chair)
Carlos Abramowosky, MD (97)
Kevin E. Bove, MD (99)
A. Julian Garvin, MD (99)
Gloria J. Kohut, MD (98)
Paul Thorner, MD, PhD (97)

Ex-Officio Publications
Denis R. Benjamin, MB, BCh, BSc (Pediatric Pathology & Laboratory Medicine)
James E. Dimmick, MD (Perspectives)
Claire Langston, MD (Secretary-Treasurer)
Edwina J. Popek, DO (Newsletter)
Don B. Singer, MD (Perspectives)

Research
David Witte, MD - (Chair)
Robert W. Bendon, MD (99)
Raj Paul Kapur, MD, PhD (97)
Elizabeth J. Perlman, MD (98)
Beverly B. Rogers, MD (98)
Deborah Schofield, MD (97)
Poul H. B. Sorensen, MD, PhD (99)

SPP National Office
Managed by Degnon Associates
6728 Old McLean Village Drive
McLean, VA 22101
703/556-9222
FAX: 703/556-8729
E-Mail: SocPedPath@aol.com

Fall 1996, page 6
FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

Happy New Year to all of you. May it bring much happiness.

The snows of our Buffalo blizzard have disappeared in temperatures for a day or two over 50 degrees F - can spring be far behind!

In the previous issue of our Newsletter, Dr. Joel Haas commented on the 45 free standing Children’s Hospitals in the U.S. and Canada with 14 of these clustered in the northeast of the United States. He wondered if many of these hospitals would still be there 10 years from now. Some would say that this is doubtful, what with the political dynamics, downsizing and managed care (managed money) in the forefront. Added to this is the fact that since “Roe versus Wade” passed 23 years ago, 30 million babies have been aborted in the United States up to now, which over the years has greatly depleted our Pediatric population.

The effects of downsizing (doublespeak for firing) has spawned its own humor. For example - overheard at an institution:

Q: What is the definition of optimism in our institution?
A: Packing a lunch the night before.

Some colleagues have communicated to me their disgust with the exorbitant dues ($200) for our Society membership. The word “rip-off” was used.

The Chairs of the Publications, By-Laws, Distinction and Awards, Planning and Education Committees sent in their reports. Thanks. See inside.

Continued on page 2

SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY
NEWSLETTER
Winter 1996

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
- Joel Haas, MD

Our institutional loyalties may be buffeted by forces beyond our control. In such times it can help to renew our loyalties to our profession. How better to ensure its future than to encourage those who would reap the rewards of pediatric pathology research activities? The Society “Founders Endowment for Research in Pediatric Pathology” will help achieve this goal. It offers each of us the opportunity to invest in the Society’s future. Have you contributed to the Endowment?

Finally, a few personal observations on Society operations.

Despite appearances, the President does not “run” the Society. The President oversees the activities of those chosen or appointed to run the Society. We are fortunate, and I am personally grateful, to have most Society business superbly looked after by Secretary-Treasurer, Claire Langston. Ted Pysher has chaired the Education Committee these last three years. His leadership and labor have been fitting examples for those who will succeed him. Ted and Leon Metlay are to be especially thanked for seeing to completion the Society’s complex AACME re-accreditation process.

Some believe that it is the President’s role to establish the Society’s agenda. However, the Society’s agenda and policies are set by Council. They are then implemented by officers and committee chairs. This order should not change. Thus, Council has directed the Long Term Planning Committee to organize a Planning Retreat in order to propose an agenda to carry the Society into the next century. This planning will best be done by those of you committed to implementing those plans.

What then is the President’s role? It is to be sensitive to the needs, wishes; and wisdom of a broad constituency within the Society. And to seek compromise as the best solution for the common good.

Thank you for the opportunity to be President of the Society for Pediatric Pathology. Thank you for your support.

Included with this newsletter:

SPP Annual Meeting Program
March 23 - 24, 1996, Washington, DC

1996-1997 SPP Membership Directory
FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

Edwine J. Popek, DO

As we move into the era of Managed Care, there is widespread apprehension among both patients and physicians. At the Interim meeting those of you who attend the Saturday noon discussion on Managed Care and Capitation will have an opportunity to express your concerns to a sympathetic audience—and hopefully will learn how some of our colleagues have already successfully handled similar problems.

While Houston has more of the style of the Old South, you’ll be sure to meet a few “Cowboy Docs” during the Houston meeting. According to Dr. P.C. Coleman, President of the Texas Medical Association in 1895, he was busy “setting broken limbs, adjusting fractures and removing bullets”. Today you’re more likely to encounter someone who just discovered a new gene for a previously incurable disease which now may be treatable. It was not uncommon for doctors in the early years of Texas Statehood to supplement their income by caring for outlaws (e.g., Billie the Kid), offering their services as “Rodeo Docs”, or raising cattle—hum, maybe we should re-evaluate some of these in this era of Managed Care.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

John J. Buchino, MD

In 1995, Dr. Joel Haas, as President of the Society for Pediatric Pathology, initiated the Founders’ Endowment for Research in Pediatric Pathology (FERPP) with the intent of creating a fund which would generate enough interest to support our annual Young Investigator Awards. Such an endowment would require a corpus of $200 - 250,000. At first blush that may seem like an unrealistic goal. However, I believe it is entirely attainable by this Society. With relatively little concentrated effort, we have already raised $50,000 toward this goal.

It is my firm belief that productive basic science research is one of the keys to the survival of pediatric pathology as a discipline. The past leadership of the Society had a great deal of foresight when they initiated the Young Investigator Awards to foster such research. The success rate of the grants has been nothing short of phenomenal. Not only have they resulted in several peer-reviewed publications, but several of the recipients have gone on to receive independent funding from organizations such as the NIH, the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association.

As you can see from the list enumerating donors in this issue, contributions have come from individuals, corporations, and foundations. The leadership of the Society will continue to seek contributions from a variety of corporations. In that regard, I would appreciate any information that might enhance our chances of obtaining significant corporate support.

I encourage each of you to consider adding your name to the list of contributors at whatever level you deem appropriate. Suggestions for somewhat “painless” ways to contribute:

1. Increase your fees for legal cases and donate the increase;
2. Donate the next royalty check or honorarium that you get;
3. Donate a stock that has increased in value and avoid capital gains tax;
4. Remember the Society in your will.

Editor’s note: The Society for Pediatric Pathology is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization and all contributions are tax deductible.

Included in this Newsletter:

* Call for Abstracts for the Spring 1997 Meeting - Deadline, post marked no later than September 18, 1996
* Abstract Instructions
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Edwina J. Popek, DO

I would like to thank the Society for their support of my filling in as interim Editor of the Newsletter. I am just beginning to appreciate the amount of time necessary to pull all of this information together for the Society and would also like to express my appreciation to John Fisher who last served as Editor of this Newsletter. John Fisher appreciates those of you who have expressed concern for his health. He would like to assure you that he is in fine health, spending 1 hour, 3 times a week on the treadmill.

As always, I am energized by the recent SPP meeting. The opportunity to meet with colleagues with similar interests is fertile ground for collaboration. Those of you who had the opportunity to stay for the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Specialty Conference in Pediatric Pathology heard some interesting case presentations. Bruce Beckwith’s introductory statement included some information that won’t be news to some of you, that there has been a shift in where pediatric surgical pathology cases are handled, with more cases being processed by the general pathologist. It appears that greater emphasis will be placed on the education of these pathologists, in order to ensure that appropriate diagnostic information is obtained.

I look forward to working with President Buchino. While I find it hard to believe that John Buchino has gotten where he is today with the battle cry “when the going gets tough, the tough take a nap”, I suspect that the hidden message here is that taking the opportunity to think about a situation that otherwise might be handled in the heat of the moment will assure a more appropriate response.

The deadline for the next Newsletter is July 1, 1996. Please send your material directly

(continued on page 2)