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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEAD AND NECK RADIOLOGY

message from the **PRESIDENT**

## Building on a Strong Foundation – the ASHNR

*Laurie A. Loevner, MD, President*

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology (ASHNR) was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, October 7-11, 2009 at the Sheraton New Orleans, located in the heart of the “Big Easy” on Canal Street, just steps away from the French Quarter. Everything was in walking distance. Attendees thoroughly enjoyed the bustling city known for its old-world charm and elegance. Intoxicating live music, jazz and dance, not to mention the unforgettable dining were enjoyable for all. Even the weather was very cooperative.

The 43rd Annual Meeting was an engaging and informative clinical and academic educational experience geared for the beginner through the expert. Well over 400 registrants from the United States, Canada, and abroad attended the Annual Meeting and its festivities, including the Saturday night party at the Wax Museum in the French Quarter which enlightened us of the history in Louisiana, while indulging us in delicious food, cheers, and a packed dance floor! It was a record-breaking year for international attendance with registrants from over 15 countries out-

side of North America including Malaysia, Spain, Jordan, Japan, Belgium, Brazil, China, Chile, Australia, Portugal, Panama, Denmark, Sweden, Egypt, Germany, and Turkey. Thank you for your interest and for all that you added to our meeting with your presence. The program offered 33.0 hours of Category 1 CME, and was presented by leading national clinical and academic experts in the field of head and neck radiology. The program included selected presentations from other nationally and internationally recognized physicians and scientists in the fields of Radiology, Otorhinolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery, and Radiation Oncology. The broad didactic program covered normal anatomy, inflammatory, neoplastic, traumatic, developmental, and vascular pathology affecting the head and neck in adults and children using a problem-oriented approach. Clinical applications of advances in head and neck imaging techniques were addressed. There was an emphasis on disease processes affecting the skull base. The cranial nerves, as well as the anterior, central, and posterior skull base were all discussed in detail.

Some new hot topics included transoral robotic surgery of the skull base (fondly referred to as “TORS”), as well as endoscopic resection of sinonasal and skull base neoplasms. These surgical procedures were beautifully discussed and illustrated by skull base surgeon, Dr. Bert W. O’Malley, who is also one of the pioneers in the development of robotic surgery in the head and neck. Dr. Kelly Malloy provided an engaging presentation on the epidemiology of HPV infection and its association with oropharyngeal cancer. Dr. Sue Yom, a radiation oncologist at UCSF, and Dr. Christine Glastonbury presented an informative session on intensity modulated radiation therapy and the role of the radiologist in target delineation. New to the Annual Meeting and well attended and received was a timely session on radiation and imaging safety. There were in-depth discussions on variability of radiation dose, controlling radiation dose, and performing our jobs as radiologists with patient safety always in mind. Dr. Harold Litt, one of the pioneers in MR imaging in the “paced” patient, gave an informative presenta-

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tion on MR imaging of patients with pacemakers and ICDs. Of course "Stump the Stars 2009" proved to be double (OK, triple) jeopardy for the contestants, and as always was an enjoyable time for everyone!

We introduced "Expert Review of the Evidence" with three separate sessions in which leading academic experts highlighted and discussed high-impact, peer-reviewed papers that have affected the way we interpret images, apply technical advances in imaging to our daily practices, and address the importance of performing our jobs with patient safety being paramount. PDFs of these papers were available on the ASHNR website for registrants 2 weeks before the meeting. The sessions were very well attended, and provided opportunity for open and interactive discussions with audience participation.

The 43rd Annual Meeting broke records for scientific presentations and exhibits. There were approximately 200 abstracts submitted on our first-time on-line website submission site, with over 110 exhibits, and approximately 35 oral scientific presentations. The presentations were excellent. There was a spectrum of topics including the study of diseases using advances in imaging techniques such as cone beam, 4DCT, functional MR imaging (DCE and spectroscopy), and PET/CT. The topics of the presentations and exhibits were broad, informative, and educational. Thank-you to Dr. Deborah Shatzkes, Chair of the Education Committee, who did a first-rate job in overseeing the exhibits and presentations. A special thank-you also goes to Dr. Richard Wiggins, Chair of the Website Committee, for making our new on-line website submission process successful.

The 2009 ASHNR Gold Medal recipient was Dr. Hugh D. Curtin. The gold medal is the highest honor given by the ASHNR. Dr. Peter M. Som, was Master of Ceremonies for the award presentation to Dr. Curtin during the Gold Medal Luncheon. All of us are familiar with Dr. Curtin's significant contributions to the literature,

to the Society and Annual Meetings and, equally important, each of us has greatly benefited from Dr. Curtin's extraordinary teaching. On a personal level, many of us know Hugh as quietly effective, humble, caring and fun loving. He loves his family, his friends, baseball, his Alpha Romeo, and a cold IC Lite. Congratulations, Hugh, on this well deserved award and honor!

The community service project on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, was an amazing success thanks to the 70 participants who came in early to participate, as well as the generous financial support from radiologists all over the country who helped fund the day with their generous donations. Thank-you! The ASHNR, working together with the New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity, helped restore four homes in the 9th District. This was a rewarding and unifying experience for everyone who participated. Homebuilders – the day with you was extraordinary, I had just an amazing time. I have shared lots of hugs with many of you...but sweat...well that takes us to a whole new level! Our wonderful AV crew, Vinny Distefano and Gary Moeller, donated their time and got awesome pictures and a movie. To enjoy these, go to [www.ashnr.org](http://www.ashnr.org) and click on habitat 2009 pictures. To see the movie go to direct link: [http://garvinav.tripod.com/ASHNR\\_Habitat\\_2009.mov](http://garvinav.tripod.com/ASHNR_Habitat_2009.mov). Thanks to each of you for sharing the day with me. I feel like we really accomplished something TOGETHER. How nice to give back outside of ourselves.

A special thank-you goes out to the faculty who gave selflessly to make the Annual Meeting a huge success. Each of you gave timely, well-delivered, educational, energized, entertaining, and on-time talks too! Your diligence to contribute to the syllabi and the USBs (an ASHNR first) was greatly appreciated by the attendees who are still enjoying them now. It was wonderful to see each of you, to spend time with you, and to share your enthusiasm. While the year presented unexpected challenges including the economy, the strength of our Society has always been in its commit-

ted faculty and membership. The meeting was a huge success. Kudos! Special thanks also goes out to Lori Ehrich and the CME staff at the University of Pennsylvania for their time and devotion in helping to make this meeting so successful. We are also grateful to the corporate sponsors including Toshiba America Medical Systems, Philips, Bracco Diagnostics, and Amirsys. No Society would be successful without the support from its corporate and individual donors.

The Annual Meeting is continuously building on its already strong foundation. The success of prior meetings, the leadership of past Presidents and members of the Executive Committee, and most importantly, the Society's membership continue to move our vision from the present to the future. Some of the missions of the ASHNR are to advance knowledge, facilitate research in head and neck imaging, and to provide the best patient care. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I am delighted to announce that the ASHNR will be initiating a Seed Grant that we plan to fund for the first time this year. It will be named in honor of the late Dr. William N. Hanafee, a founding father of the Society, who provided wisdom, guidance and extraordinary vision. The advancement of head and neck radiology is dependent upon your continued support of the ASHNR. If you enjoy the Annual Meetings, the education, and the growth of our specialty, you can help build our Core Curriculum Fund (CCF) with your tax-deductible contribution. This can be made at any-time. A good time is with the annual renewal of your membership. My dream is to see 100% participation in the CCF from the membership....they say dreams do come true!

The 44th Annual Meeting will be held in Houston, Texas, October 6-10, 2010. Program Chair, Dr. Lawrence Ginsberg, is vigorously working on an exciting and informative program that should be outstanding. We look forward to seeing you there!



## 44th Annual Meeting Preview

*Lawrence E. Ginsberg, MD*  
*President-Elect and Program Chair*

The ASHNR 44th Annual Meeting will take place in Houston, Texas from October 6-10, 2010 at the Hilton Americas – Houston Hotel. You are cordially invited down to Houston for some Texas hospitality and an opportunity to learn from leading experts in Head and Neck Radiology.

This year's meeting will focus on cancer and neoplasms of the head and neck, and represents a great opportunity to learn not only from radiology luminaries, but also from clinical leaders in the field of head and neck oncology. It is hoped that by blending clinical lectures with radiology, the attendees will gain a better sense of what aspects of our interpretations are most valuable to the clinicians, and by imparting their clinical pearls thus enrich our understanding of the diseases we are treating.

Sessions will include clinical input

from many allied specialties including head and neck surgery, endocrine surgery, radiation oncology, dental oncology, head and neck medical oncology, ophthalmology and plastic surgery. This year's meeting will also introduce the Master's Series Tumor Board, in which seasoned head and neck radiology experts will present challenging cases to a panel, so as to create real-world scenarios for the speakers, both clinical and radiology, to work through.

Houston is the fourth most populous city in the United States, and is home to NASA and the historic Johnson Space Center, a great place to visit. Many of the world's largest energy companies are headquartered here. Houston is also home to the Texas Medical Center, the largest medical center in the world, in which

52,000 people work, and which encompasses 21 million square feet. Nearly five million patients are treated here annually. Houston is a vibrant and diverse city, with a world-class arts scene and fabulous restaurants. Virtually every cuisine can be found here, and we're sure you'll love our Cajun food and barbecue.

In keeping with its Texas heritage, Houston is also home of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the world's largest livestock exhibition and richest professional rodeo, lasting 20 days. That is some serious rodeo! While I cannot assure ASHNR attendees that kind of action, I can guarantee a first-class educational experience in head and neck medicine, as well as a butt-kicking good time. I can also personally guarantee that I show up in a Stetson and boots. See all y'all in Houston!

## Report from the Education Committee

*Deborah R. Shatzkes, MD, Education Committee Chair*

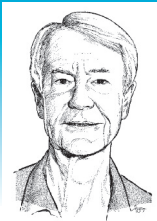
Two thousand and nine was a banner year for presentations at the ASHNR 43rd Annual Meeting in New Orleans. There were close to 200 abstracts submitted on our first-ever on-line submission website, culminating in 111 posters and 33 oral presentations. These are records on all counts. The overall presentation quality was excellent. Those who had the opportunity to stroll through the many panels of posters were treated to a staggering volume of information on a wide array of topics. These ranged from technical exhibits including several on PET/CT, 4DCT and cone beam CT applications in the head and neck, to educational exhibits on such topics as sickle cell disease, sarcoidosis and HPV. The Education Committee

poster award meeting was both lengthy and spirited; ultimately a "road trip" to the exhibit room was required before decisions could be made. Three excellent winners were chosen from the more than 30 nominated. Truly a wealth of riches.

Oral presentations were similarly impressive. Two sessions were added to the program in order to accommodate the large number of submissions. The final program included dedicated scientific sessions on Functional Skull Base, Thyroid, Parathyroid and Cervical Soft Tissues, Temporal Bone and Orbital/facial Imaging, and Head & Neck Cancer/Biologic Imaging. Again, papers ranged from the technical to the clinical, with presenta-

tions on dynamic contrast enhanced CT/ MRI and 1H-MR spectroscopy as well as on traumatic ossicular injuries and post-operative saccular cysts. The Education Committee was again charged with the unenviable task of choosing a best paper. The fact that the first author of the winning presentation (John Childress from the University of Michigan) is a medical student seemed a fitting representation of the rising young talent in our subspecialty.

New for 2010 will be improvements on the on-line submission website, and separate awards for best educational and best scientific exhibits. We are hoping to reach and even exceed last year's numbers. We hope to see you and your presentations in Houston!



## *In Memoriam* Dr. William N. Hanafee, MD

Legendary head and neck radiologist and a founding member of ASHNR, Dr. Bill Hanafee will be missed. It is with deep sorrow and sadness that we inform you of the recent death of Dr. William N. Hanafee, a founding member of the American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR) and the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology (ASHNR). Dr. Hanafee died in Pauma Valley, California, after battling a series of cerebral infarctions with great dignity and his characteristically great resolve, on August 19, 2009. He was 83 years old and surrounded by those he loved at his passing. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mrs. Constance (Connie) Hanafee and their four children Bill Jr., Linda, Michael and Patrick as well as many grandchildren.

Bill Hanafee was born in Louisville, Kentucky and grew up in the Midwest. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Rochester, New York and medical school at the University of Louisville. Following his service in the U.S. Navy, Bill spent most of his career at UCLA, where he was a resident, staff radiologist, academician and scientist. He completed a fellowship in neuroradiology at the University of Gothenberg in Sweden. He extensively studied cerebral angiography in Sweden and Norway. Bill Hanafee was one of those who introduced the technique of transfemoral cerebral angiography to the United States in the 1960's. His 5 French "Hanafee" catheter was a pioneering work toward the current microcatheter technology.

Dr. Hanafee became Chairman of the Department of Radiology and established the Leo G. Rigler Center for Radiological Sciences at UCLA. He

maintained phenomenal academic productivity while teaching many residents and fellows who subsequently went on to illustrious academic careers. He published over 300 peer-reviewed articles and gave numerous lectures worldwide. He co-authored, "Computed Tomography of the Head and Neck," one of the first textbooks detailing cross-sectional anatomy of head and neck anatomy and pathology.

In the late 1970s, Bill partnered with Drs. Dino Valvassori, Guy Potter and Stormy Johnson to found the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology. The ASHNR, now with well over 500 provides an international community with a forum and education in the field of head and neck imaging. According to Dr. Stormy Johnson, Bill proposed the name "head and neck radiology" instead of "radiology in otolaryngology," after realizing that head and neck surgeons had begun referring to themselves as "head and neck" surgeons, so that general public would better understand our specialty.

Dr. Hanafee was a man of incredible innovation, vision, and pragmatism. Throughout the tremendous technological advancements from plain radiography to CT and MR, Bill exhibited a unique second sense for the next new imaging tool to use in clinical practice. This clarity of vision extended beyond diagnostic imaging. According to Dr. Bill Dillon, Dr. Hanafee gave one of the first talks on functional endoscopic sinus surgery at UCSF, predicting that the technique would revolutionize sinus surgery and imaging, well before FESS, which had been introduced in Germany, was embraced in the U.S. It was Dr. Hanafee who began to explore the paramount

contributions that imaging adds to FESS in the late 1970s, during the early years of CT. Always the innovator, Dr. Hanafee had envisioned the future and was, of course, correct in his assessment.

Dr. Hanafee was not only a great teacher but also an amazing storyteller. He might spend 30-45 minutes discussing one case and the session would always end with great laughter and many leaning points. He was thoroughly familiar not only with imaging, but also anatomy, pathology, physiology, or the surgery of whatever disease he had discussed. Bill Hanafee had always emphasized interpreting studies in the clinical context and helped clinicians solve problems. Bill had constantly read journal articles at his free time sharing that this was how he learned the subjects of interest to the clinicians and patients we serve. Connie and Bill Hanafee retired to a lovely home along a beautiful golf course in Pauma Valley, California. In his retirement, Bill played golf every day for 17 years with Paul Ward former chairman of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at UCLA and his lifetime friend.

Bill Hanafee had a special gift of choosing the right path and then walking that path with great humility and love. Those of us touched by him now have the responsibility of honoring this wonderful physician and human being by extending his teachings, passion, and vision to future generations. William N. Hanafee will be deeply missed, but he leaves a tremendous legacy through his work, and through those he influenced personally and academically. ■



## Hugh D. Curtin, MD

*American Society of Head and Neck Radiology  
2009 Gold Medal Recipient*

The ASHNR presented its 2009 Gold Medal to Dr. Hugh D. Curtin on October 8, 2009, during the ASHNR 43rd Annual Meeting at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dr. Hugh D. Curtin was born in Canton, New York. He attended grade school and high school there before attending the University of Toronto, St. Michael's College. He then made a decision to become a physician and attended SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York. Dr. Curtin next went to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center where he was first an intern and then a Radiology Resident. He also took a fellowship in Pediatric Radiology in Sweden and then he was a clinical fellow in Radiology with Dr. Vignaud in Paris.

Dr. Curtin joined the Radiology faculty in Pittsburgh where he rose to full Professor of Radiology in 1988. Then about seven years later he moved to Boston in 1995 as the Chief of Radiology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and was soon appointed as full Professor of Radiology at the Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Curtin has lectured widely both nationally and internationally almost 350 times and he is well known as an excellent teacher. In fact, he has received numerous awards for his teaching excellence. He served as the Head and Neck Editor of the *American Journal of Neuroradiology* and has served on numerous committees for at least 14 societies, where he has been on the executive committees of many of these societies.

Dr. Curtin is a reviewer for at least 11 major journals and has received awards for the excellence of his reviewing. He has participated in over 20 exhibits. Last, but by far not the least, he has authored about 130 peer-reviewed articles and 71 chapters. Many of these articles are considered sentinel articles as they have influenced the way images are interpreted in head and neck radiology. He is the co-editor with Dr. Peter M. Som of *Head and Neck*



ASHNR 2009 Gold Medal recipient Hugh D. Curtin, M.D. and his family at the 43rd Annual Meeting.

*Imaging*, presently in preparation of the fifth edition.

Dr. Curtin has always been a calming resource to his family and colleagues and his good-natured persona has endeared him to all. He is admired as a scholar and for his numerous contributions to the ASHNR. Thus, the ASHNR is very proud to present its 2009 Gold Medal to Dr. Hugh D. Curtin, as a symbol of his outstanding achievements in head and neck radiology.

## Vice President's Report

*Suresh K. Mukherji, MD*

*Vice President and Chair, Membership Committee*

On behalf of the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology, I wish to thank all of our members for their continued support. I am delighted to report that our society membership continues to grow. Over the past 6 years, the total number of *Active* members has expanded by 24% and the total membership has grown by 42%! I feel this is a testament to our core ed-

ucational excellence, terrific faculty, speakers and strong leadership.

In order to maintain our success, we cannot rest on our laurels, but position our Society to address future challenges and expand our core missions. The ASHNR, with our new meeting management team at Educational Symposia, is hard at work expanding our web access for registrations and

scientific submissions for future annual meetings. The Society is also focused on appropriate expense reduction. An example of this was replacing the bulky paper syllabus with a "leaner" syllabus and USB drive. This simple move saved the society membership approximately \$15,000 in unnecessary printing and shipping expenses.

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*Vice President's Report* continued from page 5

With our educational and clinical mission on very solid ground, the Executive Committee is committed to expanding our scientific mission. Our Society has done an excellent job at introducing imaging advances as they pertain to head and neck imaging at our Annual Meeting. Examples of new techniques that were initially presented at ASHNR include FDG imaging of head and neck cancer, high-resolution T2W imaging of the inner ear, biologic imaging techniques such as

CT perfusion, MR diffusion and MR perfusion. The next step is completion of the Core Curriculum Fund (CCF). Despite the economic challenges of the past year, the CCF continues to grow as a result of voluntary member contributions and from profits derived from the ASHNR Annual Meeting including Dr. Loevner's very successful meeting. The ASHNR-CCF is dedicated to the concept of continual growth of the foundation corpus while simultaneously funding as many edu-

cational and academic activities as possible. Once fully established, the annual interest from the Fund will be used to provide grants for researchers in the field of Head and Neck Imaging as a mechanism for encouraging their development into academicians and other activities that will expand the academic mission of head and neck imaging. I would like to thank all ASHNR members for your continued support of this important mission of the Society.

## Reflections of ASHNR 43rd Annual Meeting: New Orleans Lagniappe

*T. Lamar Teaford, MD, FACC*

**Lagniappe**—Creole term meaning “something extra” or “bonus gift.” Let me state a few of the gifts: Habitat for Humanity Project, Fellowship, Le Bon Temps Roule, Splendid Scientific Presentations and Exhibits.

Frankly, I was disappointed that the Hurricane Katrina aftermath canceled the ASHNR 2006 Annual Meeting in New Orleans and elated about the meeting revival in 2009. This was my inaugural ASHNR meeting partly due to my long-time association, partnership and friendship with previous President, Co-Founder and Gold Medal Award recipient; Daniel H. Johnson, Jr., M.D. Dr. Johnson did share much of his knowledge and wisdom of Head and Neck Radiology over our many years of association, first as a Tulane Medical student and later in our New Orleans radiology group practice.

The Habitat for Humanity project for post-Katrina flood devastation was the “brain child” of Laurie A. Loevner, M.D., the 2009 President-Elect/Program Chair, and now President. She organized a fundraising drive among neuroradiologists across the country, raising over \$10,000 for project food, transportation, expenses, etc. Her twin brother, a textile company owner, donated 200 custom-made tee shirts. Dr. Loevner and her husband hosted and sponsored a luxurious, deli-

cious and lively cocktail party at Tommy's Restaurant following the work day for the Habitat volunteers, what a special reward and treat!

I grew up in Americus, Georgia, where Habitat for Humanity was born in 1976, founded by Millard and Linda Fuller. A Habitat goal to eliminate poverty housing in Americus was accomplished in 2000. It was very unique and inspiring to know the ASHNR participated in the construction of four Habitat houses in the 9th District, roofs, siding and everything in between. Seventy participants, including faculty, staff, university-academic leaders, and meeting attendees united on October 6, 2009 for the ASHNR- New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity Day to share and participate in this uniquely rewarding day. At first, I was not going to participate, but then thought if all of those out-of-town people can volunteer and take time off to help restore a vibrant, historic district, why can't I do the same. The camaraderie, enthusiasm, dedication, sacrifice and arduous efforts of this ASHNR group were awesome.

The scientific sessions and exhibits at the ASHNR 43rd Annual Meeting were second to none. Up-to-date, invigorating, state-of-the-art information was delivered and well received by all. The pictorial exhibits were factual,

stimulating, and educational. The meeting agenda and expert presentations, including the “Stump the Stars 2009” double jeopardy, were superb, enjoyable and informative, with both clinical and academic venues, useful for all Radiology attendees.

Finally, the 43rd Annual Meeting was an inspiring, stimulating and amazingly educational event without a doubt. I continued to be dumbfounded by the love, benevolence and sharing of others critical to the new renaissance and revival of New Orleans, critical in the wake of Hurricane Katrina's destruction.

*“Good actions give strength to ourselves and inspire good actions in others.”*

— Plato

*“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”*

— John Q. Adams, 6th President of the United States of America

My sincere “thank-you” from myself, all meeting attendees, and the City of New Orleans to Dr. Loevner, Faculty, Contributors, the ASHNR, and especially the Habitat community service project participants and benefactors. Good work! Job well done! Congratulations to the ASHNR!



## 43rd Annual Meeting

### American Society of Head & Neck Radiology

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEAD AND NECK RADIOLOGY

**44th Annual Meeting**

October 6–10, 2010  
Hilton Americas – Houston  
Houston, Texas

**45th Annual Meeting**

September 7–11, 2011  
Hotel del Coronado  
Coronado, California

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