



American
Society of
Shoulder and
Elbow
Therapists

◆ ASSET ◆

December, 2001



President's Message

Basil Baccash

My fellow Asset members:

The events of September 11, 2001 have changed the American way of life forever. On behalf of the entire executive board we extend our sincerest sympathy and prayers for those of you who lost loved ones and who were close to the scenes of the tragedy. Our society's name incorporates the word "American" and in the American tradition our annual conference was held as scheduled in Napa Valley, California, October 24th thru October 26th, 2001. I applaud the twenty individuals who attended and contributed to the success of the conference. The Napa Valley and Silverado Resort with its warm days and starlight sky at night provided a welcomed reprieve from the harsh reality of the previous month.

A special thank you is acknowledged to Jay Irrgang, Dorcas Beaton, John Basti, Tim Uhl, Jean Evans and all the presenters for planning and organizing a very well received conference. A very organized Jean Evans (ASSET- Office Secretary) and a meticulous Tim Uhl (Secretary-Treasurer) with the last minute negotiations of John Basti and myself A.K.A. (The Brooklyn Boys) managed to keep the conference under budget! The planning for next year's conference is already in the works. Next year's conference will not be at the same location as the ASES meeting due to the prohibitive cost of the resort they will be utilizing. This marks the first time in our eleven-year history that we will not be at the same location. We look forward to rejoin the surgeons in the near future.

Now, I would like to share some thoughts with you who have continued reading this far. The first sentence of the first paragraph is my personal view. The ethos of American culture has only been strengthened not weakened by the events of September 11, 2001. As physical and occupational therapists we have a special and unique role in the delivery of health care. How many of you have received thanks for listening, being patient, kind and understanding? How many of you have been complimented for the comprehensive evaluation and delivery of treatment performed by you? How many times have you been praised for improving the quality of one's life? Please don't be modest but that is after all the therapist's modus operandi. It is our collective efforts with improving the quality of life with all whom we touch that will make this a better and stronger nation and world

Finally, we have an obligatory responsibility to the future generations of human beings who will inhabit this earth. We must be the beacons of light and the bastions of hope for the children of today so they too will learn the way and the collective power of goodness as part of their daily lives. September 11, 2001 has changed my life. I am now more determined than ever to enjoy the simple moments of each day and to be an ambassador of goodness in my words, deeds and actions. Wishing you and your loved ones, peace, joy and good health this Christmas and holiday season and throughout the New Year and in the words of the great philosopher Tiny Tim, "God Bless us, everyone".

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Secretary/Treasurer Report

Tim Uhl

We had a very successful year financially; presently we have a balance of \$6,754.22. This of course will decrease after we pay for the expenses of the annual conference. We have not received all the bills but based on the estimated expenses it appears we may make between \$2,000.00 and \$3,000.00. Thank you Jay and the rest of the Program Committee for keeping expenses under control. We had 20 people attend our meeting this year. Considering all the acts of terror and concerns with traveling presently this was an outstanding turnout. Thank you everyone for attending especially our foreign members who had to travel halfway around the world to get to our meeting.

We will be offering to our members the continued benefit of the Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons published by Mosby. ASSET will receive a bill early in March from Mosby for the Journal. Because of this added benefit the dues invoices will be sent out in January with a return due date of February 15th. It would be greatly appreciated if all members return their membership dues in a timely manner to minimize problems of receiving your journal. If your dues are not received by this date, we will assume that you are not going to continue your membership. ASSET then will not pay for you to receive the journal.

There will be no change in dues from last year (Active members = \$145.00, General members = \$170.00, and Foreign Members = \$120.00). Along with your dues invoice this year each member will be receiving an update on his or her membership status. This will hopefully help keep all our members active in this dynamic organization.

The Executive Board in its continuing efforts to be fiscally conscientious is seeking a banking institution that would provide an interest bearing checking account for our organization. The treasurer will investigate possible opportunities and report to the executive board at the mid-year meeting.

We are also investigating the feasibility to send out the newsletter via an e-mail to save money on postage. Additionally, we are investigating saving money by moving our website to a less costly server that will allow us to manage our website ourselves. This would allow for

more pertinent and timely updates of information. Several individuals have voiced an interest to help Phyllis Sherman and Tim Uhl on the Website Committee, they are Christine Blake, Aime Seitz, and Joe Giannoni.

At this year's annual conference a business meeting was held. The complete minutes are available by contacting Jean Evans at the central office. Highlights of the business meeting are relayed below.

A big thanks goes to Jay Irrgang, Past-President, John Basti, Education Chair, and Dorcas Beaton, Research Chair for organizing a great meeting this year. We also want to thank Dorcas Beaton and Phil McClure for stepping in and helping out Lori Michner who was unable to attend the meeting due to a back injury. We all hope Lori is doing better, I hear she has decreased her squat weight from 400 down to 200, much more reasonable Lori.

The new officers were announced at the Annual Meeting our President-Elect is John Basti; Secretary/Treasurer-Elect is Wendy Burke, and Member-at-Large is Karyn Wong. Brian Leggin volunteered to be the Research Chair for next year and Betsy Anderson volunteered to be the Education Chair for next year. Congratulations to all our new officers and committee chairs we look forward to your leadership.

John Basti, Sarah Jackins, and Basil Baccash suggested the development of an award committee last year. They charged Jay Irrgang, Dorcas Beaton, Brian Leggin, and Rich Muscatello with developing an award. They have developed the **Founders Award** that will recognize an individual who has contributed in a significant way to the overall mission, vision, and existence of ASSET. Eligible candidates can be nominated by any ASSET member based on the individual's participation of fellowship, education, research, and/or clinical management of shoulder and elbow patients. Brian Leggin announced the winners of this year's Founders Award are John Basti, Sarah Jackins, and Basil Baccash. All of the winners received a standing ovation by the members present at the meeting.

Tim Uhl

ASSET ANNUAL MEETING 2002 PLANNING

Sarah Jackins

The ASES meeting is planned for October 30 – November 2, 2002 in Pebble Beach, California. The Surgeons' group has extended us a very warm invitation to join them there and continue our collaboration. The logistics of having a meeting in this location are daunting, however, particularly in terms of expense and space. Because of this, it seemed like a reasonable consideration to try, for this one year, to have our meeting in a slightly different format, at another location and slightly different time. This was discussed at our Membership Meeting in Napa this past October and the general consensus was to go ahead and start planning for this.

For now, it looks like Seattle will be the location, with a plan to include a one-day course that would be publicized to therapists in the local area. Our members, some of the local surgeons, and other ASES members would put

on this course. The course would include topics we usually cover in the educational portion of our meeting, so it would be aimed at our needs as well as for therapists in the community. The Education and Research Committees met in Napa to get plans underway for this.

There is strong support from the local (Seattle) surgeons to support us in this perhaps, one time trial, of a change from our usual plan. I am working with them to figure out what experiences can be offered in this setting. I will keep you updated via e-mail and to seek your input on more of the planning as we move ahead on this.

Thanks,
Sarah

CORRESPONDENCE CLUB LETTERS

Chris Blake

Dear Asset Members,

At the Business Meeting in Napa Valley, California, the possibility of sharing some of our "clinical gems or experiences" through Correspondence Letters was discussed.

"Correspondence Letters" are those letters written by members in which they explain and/or graphically illustrate a particular therapy technique, procedure, or idea that they are using and have found very helpful in the care of their patients. The letters need not be lengthy, and no particular format is required. This method of sharing information has been used by other Societies, and is found to be quite valuable by their members. Below are a few comments by individuals who have participated in this sort of program:

"I find the correspondence letters one of the most valuable sources of information as each member has an opportunity to contribute".

"I think that this is a wonderful way to communicate with our peers and always find useful ideas for patient treatment."

"Over the years, I have found much of the information shared in the Correspondence Club Letters helpful. They serve as a catalyst for looking at my current clinical methods and getting my creative juices stirring to look for improved or alternative approaches."

"I would like to take this opportunity to say thank-you to all who have participated in the Correspondence Club over the past three years. Many of the shared "pearls of wisdom" have improved my therapy treatment programs."

As you can see from the above comments, the information shared in such letters, is greatly appreciated by those who receive them. In order to get this project off the ground, it was decided that a certain number of letters would be requested periodically throughout the year. Those letters received will then be included in ASSET's web site, so that all members can benefit from the experience and suggestions of other therapists.

I will be contacting each one of you sometime during the year with more information so that you will have the opportunity to contribute. I hope this will turn out to be beneficial for everyone!

Education Committee

Betsy Anderson

The Education Committee met the day following the completion of the 2001 Annual Conference in Napa, California. We began the planning process for our two main tasks over this next year. Since we probably will not be meeting alongside the American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons due to the high cost of doing it in Pebble Beach we see our 2002 annual conference as an opportunity to create a different kind of learning environment for ourselves as well as for area therapists.

We have chosen the topic of stiff elbows as a focal point for the 2002 annual meeting which will probably take place in Seattle, Washington. I will soon be contacting members who are due to present at this meeting and encourage you to consider the many forms this can take including case studies, research, rehabilitation for specific problems or pathologies, evaluation techniques, etc. which may pertain to the topic of stiff elbows or another area of interest or expertise. Christine Blake, Daphne Hooyboer, Mike Shaffer and I are the main organizers for the educational component of the 2002 meeting. A special thanks to Sarah who is investigating practical options for the location.

We have also begun organizing a one-day course outline for therapists in the Seattle and outlying areas, and of course ourselves, which will take place the Saturday immediately following our own meeting. We are enthusiastic about this as it is in line with the vision and mission statements of ASSET regarding disseminating information outside of the membership itself and is an opportunity for our us to grow and develop as an organization. Our goal is for it to be practical, informative, experiential and effective. The focus is on the rotator cuff and will include basic science, pathology, conservative and surgical management, rehabilitation, and decision-making. The morning will be a lecture format with interactive components and the afternoon will be primarily hands-on and practical. Basil Baccash, John Basti, Bryce Gaunt and Jean O'Toole are the main organizers for this.

We are looking forward to our work together over the next several months.

2002 BOARD MEMBERS

President	Sarah Jackins
President Elect	John Basti
Secretary Treasurer	Wendy Burke
Member-at-Large	Karyn Long
Research Chair	Brian Leggin
Betsy Anderson	Education Chair

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REMINDER!

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
ARE DUE FEBRUARY 15th, 2002**