

# AP Newsletter

A publication of the Academy of Prosthodontics

Volume 6, Number 1

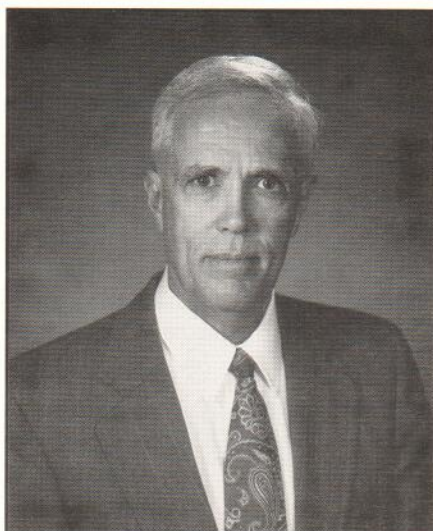
Winter 1996

## The President's Message

I welcome this opportunity to report to you on some of the activities that have transpired since the May meeting. You will recall that the Officers Committee Meeting occurred immediately following the close of the annual session. This early timing provided the opportunity to initiate committee activities early in the Academy year with minimal interruption in committee activities. Committee charges were sent to all Committee Chairs late in June. I have received input from several committees and I am confident that work is well underway on all fronts.

As reported in the previous Newsletter, the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) Forum meeting was held in Chicago on July 28, 1995. Jim Lord was the Academy representative at the Forum meeting and, by all reports, it appears that the Forum concept was well received by the twelve organizations represented.

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President Ronald P. Desjardins

You will be pleased to know that the ACP has asked for Academy input on two projects so far this year. With the help of Charlie Goodacre, Donna Dixon and Larry Breeding the Academy has already responded to an ACP request for input into the Parameters of Care document. Ken Turner, President of the ACP, and I have been in contact relative to a project to develop competencies in prosthodontics for the undergraduate curriculum. These types of initial cooperative efforts suggest that the Forum concept has potential to benefit all concerned.

As you know the Executive Council conducted its Missions and Goals Workshop in Crystal City, Virginia (Washington, DC), on October 18-19, 1995. In addition to Council members, Brien Lang, Bill Laney, Ken Malament, John Rhoads, Cliff VanBlarcom, and Jon Wiens attended. The Workshop was facilitated by Rene Topalian of Arcadia, California, who has a marvelous talent to understand one's needs and focus discussion in a constructive manner.

As a result of the Workshop, seven specific objectives were identified to address in the foreseeable future. These specific objectives include:

- mentoring of associate and active fellows,
- programs in scientific communication,
- modification of the structure and content of the annual program,
- development of continuing education programs,
- presentation of health care delivery systems information to the membership,
- maintaining and adding to the current outreach program and
- maintaining and expanding the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms.

I do believe that this Workshop was meaningful and will result in better focus for the Academy in the future. You will find additional details on the Workshop elsewhere in the Newsletter.

The more that I learn about the scientific and social programs for the May meeting in Newport Beach, the more enthusiastic I become. Jim Lord has been busily preparing an outstanding scientific session.

*see President's Message on page 8*

# Perspectives *from the Editor*

## The Value of Membership

**H**ave you ever reached the years' end and wondered what was really accomplished? You reflect upon the various ups and downs, cherish the good thoughts and attempt to rationalize those with less than desirable outcomes (hopefully they were few). But, before you drift away into cyber-remembrance you are quickly brought back into reality by tax return forms or dues statements from a multitude of organizations. And, each year there is a need to re-examine what these taxes or dues are for — usually, what benefit do I receive — and sometimes, what more can I give back in return for the benefits that are derived.

The Academy of Prosthodontics is a rather unique organization. If you were to analyze what the three most valuable benefits of membership are, what would you conclude? It seems to me that there are three interrelated benefits of membership: knowledge, fellowship, and esteem. I believe that these three benefits make up the fabric of the organization and are essential to its future.

**Knowledge:** The Academy of Prosthodontics has excellent scientific programs, second to none, and some of the best “minds” in prosthodontics. The scientific programs have a carefully woven theme that is timely and well organized. This type of program allows an opportunity for each member to improve their knowledge base and also to attract new members with high potential. There is the recognition that Academy presentations are to be formal essays. Publishing the essay in the peer-reviewed JOURNAL OF PROSTHETIC DENTISTRY encourages the presentation to have a logical foundation and be scientifically based. The unique nature of reviewing the presenters' paper compels the presenter to improve the quality of his/her presentation. However, as Academy members, we have the responsibility to first identify those individuals who possess the integrity, leadership, knowledge and presentation skills to lead the Academy into the next century.

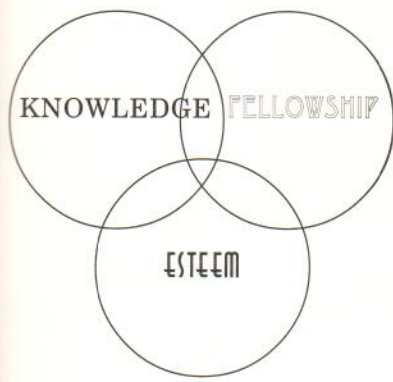
**Fellowship** is the mutual sharing of experience, activity, or interest. The Academy members have a close fellowship and camaraderie. Social activities are well planned, attended, and are important for the development of “fellowship”, particularly for new members. The development of interpersonal relationships builds bridges of continuity for future projects and allows a networking process to occur.

We have chosen to remain a small and select group, and to that end it may be perceived by some

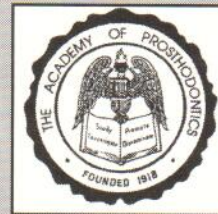
as elitism. The positive definition of elitism is a group that is regarded as the finest, best, and most distinguished. There always seems to be concern about an enlarging membership base. If our selective process is too stringent, it may appear that it is an impossible and unnecessary obstacle to overcome. This selective process may eliminate talented professionals who have great knowledge and expertise that would be beneficial to the Academy. On the other hand, if we allow an “open gate” policy and anyone that wishes to apply can gain entrance, then we may dilute our standards. This approach may impact our fellowship by having a “flood” of new members in which inadequate time to develop fellowship has occurred with undesirable consequences.

**Esteem** is to have great regard for, to value highly, or respect. I am proud, as I am sure you are, to be a member of the Academy of Prosthodontics. It requires the proper respect and dignity for oneself and others in the Academy. Apathy is always a concern for it is severely demoralizing, and a foundation attacking process that could cause the demise of any organization. To counteract apathy, we must boost esteem and pride in membership.

*see Value on page 8*



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# Secretary-Treasurer Notes

The day to day activity of the Academy continues through the holidays. Planning and scheduling for the Newport Beach meeting is proceeding at a feverish pace. Dave Eggleston and his committee promises a whirlwind of enjoyment. Meeting in a luxury hotel and a half day at the Nixon Library on top of a stimulating and controversial program put together by Jim Lord and his committee will continue the tradition of the Academy as the best meeting of the year.

A site visit to Calgary was just completed to find a hotel for 1999. It was 48° F when I left Virginia. Toronto, naturally, was colder, but Calgary seemed a bit colder yet. The blast when I stepped from the airport was indeed memorable. The cab driver agreed it was a bit cold, -24° C. The local beer (a warthog ale) at the hotel did help the circulation. The next morning was bright, clear, beautiful and a -30°C. The city is beautiful in its frozen state. Negotiations are underway with three hotels in Calgary. Each has much to offer in both convention facilities and convenience to social activities.

Steve Campbell and the History and Archives Committee are seeking old programs and photographs from earlier meetings to complete our historical record which is being established at the American Dental Association Library. If any Fellow has any of these items, please contact Steve.

Nominations have been received for Lyndon Cooper, Ichiro Nishimura, Steve Morgano and John Agar. Letters concerning these nominations should be sent to Brien Lang, Chair of the Fellowship Committee or the Secretary.

Chet Perry, our Historian, has submitted the adjacent photograph of the 1922 meeting in Los Angeles. (Is that Howard Payne in the second row?) The social events page from the Program could almost pertain to this year.

The February Breakfast will be at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, Sunday, February 25, 1996.



## SCHEDULE OF ENTERTAINMENT

"Judging from the evasive replies and undertone mutterings the Entertainment Committee must have something up their sleeves and evidently are withholding some of the features of entertainment that they intend to spring on us. However, the disclosures that have been made in this respect are sufficient to justify any of us making the trip if there was nothing else to be gained by it.

The first Sunday, July 2nd, will be a wonderful day, and we are indebted to the dentists of Los Angeles, thru the management of Dr. C.J.R. Engstrom, for this wonderful trip which they have planned for us. The next Sunday, July 9th, the Society will go in a body to Long Beach to visit Dr. George B. Snow. We all look forward to this trip with a great deal of anticipation and pleasure, as Dr. Snow has been, and is, one of the great supporting columns of dentistry. Most of us know Dr. Snow personally, and we will enjoy meeting him in the Golden West.

The next Sunday, July 16th, we will take what is known as the Catalina Island trip. Catalina Island is a popular resort about twenty miles from the main land, and the trip is made in a glass bottom ship. We can watch the playful antics of the fishes below us, and occasionally see their tranquility disturbed by the intrusion of some of the more vicious types of sea animals. This trip alone will deduct ten years from the age of everyone who goes."

*Excerpted from page seven of the 1922 Program, courtesy of Dr. Chet Perry*

# The Academy Returns

Four Academy members again volunteered a week of their time to provide removable prosthodontic therapy for sixteen members of the Blackfeet Tribe who are located in the northwest region of Montana. The headquarters of the Indian Health services is at the Blackfeet Community Hospital in Browning, Montana.

Participants in this project included: the director, Dorsey J. Moore, University of Missouri, Kansas City, his dental assistant Linda Chaplin, also of the University of Missouri, Kansas City; Dr. Carl Andres, Indiana University, School of Dentistry, assisted by Lonnie Roth, Madison, Wisconsin, Dr. William Kotowitz, University of Michigan, assisted by Nicole Spatola, Madison, Wisconsin, and Dr. Clifford Van Blarcom, Prairie Village, Kansas assisted by Ginger Hager of Prairie Village, Kansas.



Lonnie, Dr. Andres, Dr. VanBlarcom, Ginger, Nicolle, Linda, Dr. Moore and Dr. Kotowicz at the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory, Browning, Montana.



Dr. Kotowicz concentrates intently on achieving the desired result.

Dr. Roger Wayman, Chief of the Dental Department hosted the group and was responsible for preselecting the patients for care. The obvious need was the first criteria as some had been without dentures for up to twelve years. Many were selected for general health status including diabetes and other medically compromised conditions. The group agreed to treat four patients each during the five day period. There was no outside laboratory support and the group worked diligently together as a cohesive unit to accomplish the treatments in a very small space in the limited time.

Browning

The dormitory space was provided by the Bureau of the Indian Affairs in a student Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory approximately eight miles from the clinic. The hospital provided breakfast and lunch each working day at no cost, also.

We arrived from our various clinics via commercial air, compliments of the Academy of Prosthodontics Foundation. Equipment and supplies were again donated by the Hanau Corporation, Dentsply International, Straumann, Meyerson, and Patterson Dental Supply.

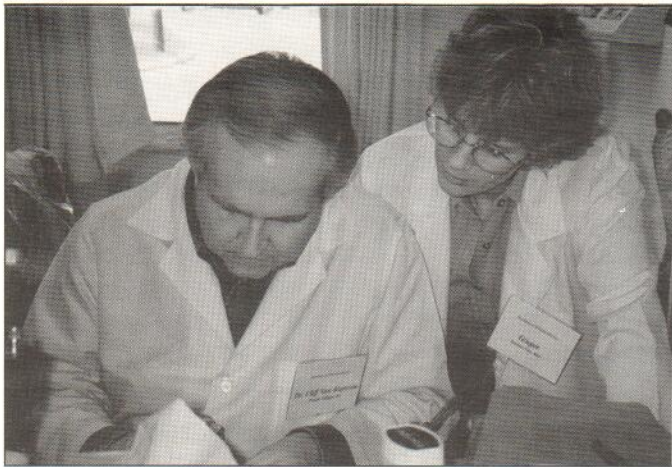
Everyone arrived on Saturday and Sunday, August 5th & 6th, 1995. Three of the doctors were repeat performers and showed Dr. Van Blarcom the area and we divided the charts and preliminary casts to make custom trays prior to opening of the clinic on Monday around 8:00 a.m.



Dr. Andres worked nonstop with assistance from Linda.

# to Blackfeet Country

by Dorsey Moore



Dr. VanBlarcom contemplates his next step as Ginger looks on.

Our busy schedule allowed seeing each of the four patients once or twice a day according to our clinical preferences, then “catch up” with the laboratory preparation for the next day which allowed approximately 1/2 hour for lunch and carry-out for dinner. Yes, there was a sandwich shop in Browning. We would drag ourselves back to the complimentary Public Health van and drive to the dormitory, arriving around 12 midnight. All patients treated were completed and the early ones seen for their adjustments by Friday noon.

Those of us who had planned ahead to partake of the Sun Dance were again pleased and honored to be invited to these most solemn ceremonies.

This was a time of sharing and Lonnie Roth fulfilled his promise from last year to bring fresh, sweet corn which he had hand picked and transported as baggage on the plane from Wisconsin. It was a big hit during the feast which follows the Sun Dance. The Chief Medicine Man of the Blackfeet had been a patient of Dr. Eric Ramussen, August of 1994, and this year Dr. Moore provided his one-year post operative care. “Buster” remains quite comfortable and enjoyed corn on the cob. Some side visits were made early to Head-

Smashed in Buffalo-Jump, near Ft. Macleod, Alberta and Glacier National Park.



Late night crew (l-r): Lonnie, Ginger, Dr. Moore, Nicolle and Linda.



Linda trades in her Reeboks for moccasins which started the rush to get feet measured.

Much interest was generated to have local Native Americans construct moccasins. Linda Chaplin volunteered for the trip with the expressed desire of experiencing the Sun Dance and obtaining custom made moccasins. Both wishes were achieved and many of the group followed in line to be measured and fitted with moose hide or elk hide with hand beaded flowers or mountain designs.

The success of these outreach programs can be attributed to many people. The sponsorship by the Foundation is paramount. The volunteer spirit of all who participate is most noteworthy. We thank all of our sponsoring laboratory and supply sources along with the Black Feet nation itself for their kind and gentle way of sharing their spirits and talents.

We were asked many times to please return as the bond of the first two years is very strong. Much equipment along with friendship is in storage awaiting our return...

# Mission and Goals Workshop

by Gary Rogoff

The Executive Council together with six additional members of the Academy appointed by president Ron Desjardins convened in Crystal City, Virginia for two days this past October to reflect on and update the missions and goals of our organization. This Strategic Planning/Mission Statement meeting was organized in order to focus the Academy's talents and energy in the most efficient and effective manner during this "era of change".



In order to assist us and expedite the process of strategic planning, the Academy engaged the services of Mr. Rene Topalian. Rene's skills as a professional facilitator were greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

The meeting opened with a review of the historical mission of the Academy.

Our next task was to define a "vision for the future", and set new goals and objectives.

Workshop participants were prompted by the facilitator to explore what we

perceived to be strategic areas of concern and propose specific strategies for accomplishing our goals and objectives. In the process of doing this, the group developed action plans including specific projects to be assigned to specific committees (see the "President's Message"), listed the steps necessary to achieve progress, and assigned time frames within which we expected progress to proceed.

Working diligently in order to cover all the current areas of concern, our group was exhausted by the end of the meeting, but elated by the obvious success of the effort. Being "supervised" and assisted by a professional facilitator was a valuable experience for the individuals involved and most certainly for our Academy.



# Current Issues in Dentistry

by Gerald Zeibert

## Dental Education at the Crossroads and Managed Care in Dentistry



The Current Issues Committee was charged by President Desjardins to look into the Institute of Medicine Report "Dental Education at the Crossroads, Challenges and Change" and the July 1995 ADA Forum on Managed Care in Dentistry: A Question of Risks, Benefits and Values, in order to report to the fellows of the Academy issues pertinent to the profession of dentistry and the specialty of prosthodontics.

A summary of the IOM Report was given by Dr. John P. Howe III at the Academy's meeting in Tucson in May. Many of the 22 recommendations were directed at patient care, its accessibility and delivery, and the medical model for

dental education and clinical experiences. Unfortunately, no magic solution was suggested to address the problem of the high cost of dental education. However, the report is insightful and will likely provide the blueprint for dental education as we move into the 21st Century.

The ADA Forum was well attended with nearly 500 people in the audience. The registrants included educators, insurance executives, legislators, and dental auxili-

aries in addition to a large number of dentists. Although managed care in dentistry is in its infancy with a number of variations within managed care programs, two goals are the driving force of managed care. One is prevention and the other is cost containment. With these goals in mind, it will be the primary care dentists' responsibility to conduct a risk assessment of each patient and determine when to refer to a specialist. Managed care can interfere with the general dentists' ease in making referrals by way of incentives to limit referrals or by contractual limitations regarding specialist referrals. Based on these concepts, it would seem that the utilization demand for specialists' service in managed care programs, such as prosthodontics and periodontics, would be less than the level that currently exists. ♦

# Fellowship News



**Dr. Richard Grisius** recently received the Ackerman Award during the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics in Washington DC. The award was presented by Past-President Dr. Donald Mitchell. Dr. James Ryan, incoming AAMP President, is on the left. Dr. Grisius graciously accepted the award and thanked many of his colleagues who were instrumental in the development of his career.

**Dr. Jonathan Ferencz** was recently installed as President of the Northeastern Gnathological Society. He is also serving as President-Elect of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics and Director of the Annual Session of the American College of Prosthodontists.

**Dr. Dorsey Moore** is travelling to Central America to present before the Panamerican Isthmian Meeting to be held in the ATLAPA Convention Center. Dr. Moore will serve as a keynote speaker and will address various complete denture techniques including implant supported prostheses.

Dr. George Murrell's wife **Anne-Merelie** was recently spotlighted in Glass Magazine for her efforts in the further growth and development of the Giroux Glass Inc. The glass company which she owns was rated 21st in an annual survey of the nation's top 50 glazing companies.



**Drs. James Lord, David Wands and Charlie Swoope** enjoyed a bountiful fishing expedition on the Lewis River which is a tributary of the Columbia River near Vancouver, Washington. They caught King Salmon weighing 10-15 lbs on 8 lb test line. Photo courtesy of Charlie Swoope.



## Newport Beach Preview

### Local Arrangements

The Local Arrangements Committee cordially invite you to the Four Seasons Hotel, Newport Beach.

Individual activities will include golf at the spectacular Pelican Hill course; tennis at the local clubs as well as the hotel; shopping across the street at Fashion Island; hitting the beach; and site-seeing at Balboa Island and the Back Bay.

Those of you arriving early may want to join our unofficial group to spend Thursday at Catalina. Contact Dave Eggleston if you are interested in more information.

On Sunday, which happens to be Cinco de Mayo, we will have a Mexican theme dinner at our visit to the Nixon Library. The Nixon Library is a World Class event. We know you will enjoy visiting the exhibits and strolling through the gardens and the boyhood home. The exhibits are spectacular: Life-size bronze figures of world leaders; gifts from Nixon's China visit; moon rock; NASA videos of the preparation and landing on the moon; the Kennedy-Nixon debates; Watergate; a section of the Berlin Wall; and Vietnam.

The Spouses' Tour will be a full day of education and site seeing. In the morning, the spouses will visit the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) in Pasadena. The JPL is in charge of all NASA unmanned space flights. I am sure they will update you on the recent successful probe of Jupiter. Lunch will be at the famous Twin Palms Restaurant in Pasadena. The afternoon will include a visit to the Gambel House Mansion and Museum. The Gambel House is normally closed on Mondays, but they will open exclusively for our group.

Please prepare yourselves to be pampered by the fabulous Newport Beach Four Seasons Hotel.

David Eggleston  
Local Arrangements Chair ❖

If you know of individuals who would be interested in presenting a table clinic, please have them contact Dr. Richard Grisius.

**Richard J. Grisius, D.D.S., M.Ed.**  
Table Clinic Coordinator  
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### Table Clinics

The 1996 Annual Session of the Academy of Prosthodontics will take place in Newport Beach, California on May 3-7, 1996. The Academy is committed to promote the science and art of prosthodontics as a specialty of dentistry; provide for the dissemination of knowledge concerning this specialty throughout the dental profession; and encourage study and investigation of its various phases and related subjects for the protection of the public.

President Ronald Desjardins and his Program Chairman James Lord are developing a scientific session to further these goals. As part of the program, there will be table clinic presentation on Sunday, May 5, 1996. This would be an opportunity for prosthodontic residents and staff to share a chosen subject with members and guests of the Academy.

The usual guest fee will be waived for table clinic participants, and they are invited as guests of the Academy to the Get Acquainted breakfast on Saturday, May 4, 1996.



# One-on-One with Terry Tanaka

by Donna Dixon

**D**r. Terry Tanaka graduated from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in 1962. He then served in the United States Navy in San Diego for two years in a prosthodontic assignment. While in the Navy, he met Drs. Peter Thomas and Charles Stuart. Dr. Thomas was named the individual who most influenced Dr. Tanaka's decision to pursue a career exclusively in prosthodontics and oral rehabilitation. After leaving the Navy in 1964, Dr. Tanaka opened a private practice in Chula Vista, California, where he practices today with his daughter and nephew (both dentists).

Dr. Tanaka is also an educator and researcher. He taught courses with Drs. Thomas and Stuart for over fourteen years. From 1970-1990 Dr. Tanaka maintained an appointment as Professor in the Department of



Dr. Terry Tanaka.

Surgery at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine. He is currently a Clinical Professor at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Tanaka is very proud to be one of the founding members of a Dental and Cleft Palate Team that treats needy children in Mexico. This team has been in existence for a decade, but Dr. Tanaka has been providing

dental treatment and fabricating prostheses for these children for twenty years. The team is composed of other dentists (including prosthodontists), oral surgeons, a maxillofacial prosthetics technician, speech therapists, audiologists, and an otolaryngologist. The team visits Ensenada, Mexico four times per year, and each visit lasts 3-4 days. Approximately 250 children from orphanages and handicapped children are treated during each visit. Many cleft lip and palate surgeries and prostheses are completed by this team. The oral surgeons on this team also place extraoral implants (donated from three companies) used to retain the auricular, nasal, and orbital prostheses fabricated by the maxillofacial prosthodontists. This is the largest team in the United States, composed of over 140 volunteers, and was named the "Outstanding Humanitarian Program in the United States" in 1991 by Rotary, International.

Dr. Tanaka has been married to Naomi, "his inspiration" for almost 35 years. They have five children, and two of their children are dentists. ❖

## President's Message, cont. from pg. 1

We will learn about the potential impact of Health Care Delivery Systems and Informatics on dentistry. Dr. Carlo Marinello of Zurich will be the International Circuit Courses speaker. Dave and Laraine Eggleston and their committee have prepared some outstanding activities for us. In addition to the hotel functions there will be the opportunity to visit Catalina Island prior to the meeting, a visit and dinner at the Nixon Library and the spouses will see the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Please remember that the meeting will end with the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday Afternoon, May 7, followed by a Presidential Reception that evening.

I appreciate all of the work that each of you does for the Academy. It continues to be an honor and a privilege to serve as your President. Karen and I trust that each of you had the opportunity to enjoy family and friends during the holiday season and that 1996 will bring each of you happiness. ❖

## Value, continued from page 2

Esteem can be improved by interacting with other organizations. The ACP Forum provides an opportunity for the Academy to be involved in the outcome of issues that will impact upon prosthodontics and prosthodontists on a national level. Our involvement in the Parameters of Care Document and in the future the universal acceptance of the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms and/or Principles, Concepts and Practices may improve esteem.

The Outreach Programs improve fellowship, knowledge and esteem. While a week's period of time limits the procedures that can be accomplished, it does provide a service whereby the general dental community and public becomes aware of the Academy of Prosthodontics.

The development of a formal mentoring process, In-Reach Program, for fellows was described in the last issue of the Newsletter. The goal of the In-Reach

Program is to help the Associate Fellow become a more active member by understanding the "workings" of the Academy, receiving assistance in the proper protocol for presenting and discussing papers, understanding activities within committees, and receiving guidance on publications and research. Esteem and pride can be improved through committee activities of younger Active or Associate Fellows. I believe the In-Reach Program would improve the fellowship and our knowledge base. Also, it would internally improve our self-esteem for both the new fellow and the existing fellow who is serving as the mentor.

Looking at the past and into the future as an Academy we have much for which to be thankful. It is the fulfillment and validation of our knowledge, fellowship and esteem that will carry the Academy into the next century.

Happy New Year!

Jonathan P. Wiens, Editor ❖

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