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## SENIOR FELLOW NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2011

Dear Senior Fellow:

The four sections of the Triological Society had a very exciting and informative meeting at the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale AZ from January 27-30, 2011. Registration included 165 Fellows, 182 residents, 123 non-member registrants, and 61 guests. It was gratifying to see so many commercial exhibitors who contributed greatly to the support of the meeting and provided up-to-date demonstrations of their products and services.

The outstanding scientific program which included 12 panels, 57 original papers (which included 9 Resident Research Award papers), and 177 posters was compiled by a broad-based Program Planning and Advisory Committee chaired by Stephen Park MD (Southern) with liaisons J. Paul Wilging MD (Middle), David E. Eibling MD (Eastern) and Mark S. Courey MD (Western). Gerald S. Berke MD gave a very thoughtful Presidential Address which was featured in the February issue of our newsmagazine, ENTtoday. This article may also be read online at [www.enttoday.org](http://www.enttoday.org). Each sectional Vice President chose a distinguished guest of honor. The group included Robert A. Schindler MD (Western), Harold C. "Rick" Pillsbury MD (Southern), David E. Schuller MD (Middle) and Loring W. Pratt MD (Eastern).

Many attendees commented on what a special treat it was to hear Dr. Loring Pratt's reminiscences and reflections, which are included with this newsletter. Dr. Pratt was honored by Kenneth Grundfast, MD, the Eastern Vice President.

One of the special aspects of the meeting was to see the names of so many of our current or former Senior Fellows listed in the program as a result of having an award named after them or for other reasons. The list changes from year to year. This year the list included Drs. Shirley Baron, Lawrence R. Boies, Lloyd Storrs, William W. Montgomery, John J. Conley, John E. Bordley and Lester A. Brown. Future years will surely see more and more of our Senior Fellows being honored for their contributions to the Society.

The Council approved the theses of 31 candidates who will be welcomed into membership at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The Thesis Committee, chaired by Rick Pillsbury, was commended for their diligent work in carefully screening all theses and in selecting the following seven honorees: Robert L. Ferris MD PhD for the Mosher Award, Stacey L. Halum MD for the Fowler Award, Carol R. Bradford MD, Norman D. Hogikyan MD, Maie A. St. John MD and Gregory J. Wiet MD for Honorable Mention and Julie L. Wei MD for Distinction. Many Senior Fellows had important roles in motivating, proposing, seconding and advising candidates as they

moved through the thesis process. This is one way in which you can remain active which is a unique part of this organization.

Executive Secretary Patrick E. Brookhouser MD and Treasurer Myles L. Pensak reported that the Society continues to have its assets handled well by our financial advisors. As a result, in 2010 we were able to award six Career Development Awards totalling \$240,000 and three Clinical Scientist Awards in the amount of \$120,000 this past year. The Society, since 1994, has awarded a total of \$2.5 million dollars in grant funding. Additionally, we awarded \$65,000 in travel grants to 128 residents who participated in the recent scientific program in Scottsdale. The Society continues to be an excellent investment for those who would like to support research and education in the profession.

Executive Secretary Patrick E. Brookhouser MD presented the current membership statistics as follows: 481 Active Fellows, 365 Senior Fellows, 150 Candidates, 194 Post-Graduate Members, and 213 Resident members.

Plans are rapidly moving forward for the Annual Meeting which will be held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers on April 28-29 in conjunction with COSM. Further details on the meeting, including hotel and registration information can be found on the Triological website, [www.triological.org](http://www.triological.org). The early registration deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>. If you need assistance with the meeting or have questions, the administrative office is available to assist you. You can reach them at 402-346-5500.

Among the anticipated highlights of the Annual meeting are the following:

- The annual Joseph Ogura Lecture will be presented by Lord Bernard Ribeiro, Past President of the Royal College of Surgeons and Member of the House of Lords, who will be discuss the impact of reduced duty hours on surgical training and patient care in the UK.
- Dovetailing with the Ogura Lecture will be an invited lecture by David Kennedy, MD focusing on workforce issues in otolaryngology.
- Panels will be presented on “Controversies in Otology and Neurotology”, “State of the Art in Sleep Medicine”, and “Difficult Sinus Cases (Not Just Surgery)”
- Invited lecturers, Drs. Jonas T. Johnson and M. Boyd Gillespie will speak about Organ Preservation in Head and Neck Cancer, and Sialendoscopy: State of the Art.
- The COSM poster sessions will feature research and clinical studies of more than 500 otolaryngologists and otolaryngology residents.

I encourage our Senior Fellows to provide feedback on this newsletter and to share your thoughts with me about the future of our special organization.

Sincerely yours,



Frank E. Lucente, MD, Past President  
Editor, Senior Fellow Newsletter

**Remarks by Loring W. Pratt, MD, FACS**  
**Eastern Section Guest of Honor**  
**The Triological Society Combined Sections Meeting**  
**January 27, 2011**

Thank you, Ken, for the recognition that you are giving to me for being the Honored Guest for this meeting of the Triological Society. You know, I'm not as old as the Triological Society, but I think that I must now be one of the oldest members. In fact, I want to let you and everyone attending the meeting know that the pronouns you recognize as the names of instruments and procedures are the names of my friends and colleagues. I was fortunate to practice otolaryngology during those years when much of what we do today was first discovered, innovated, and subsequently perfected.

For example, you know Cottle as an elevator to be used in separating the mucous membrane from the nasal septal cartilage. I knew Cottle as a young rhinologist before there was a specialty known as rhinology. You know Lempert as the name of a speculum to provide visualization into the ear, but I remember when Lempert, a short energetic young ear doctor, figured out how to operate to improve hearing in patients with otosclerosis and then taught me and hundreds of others how to do fenestration surgery. Many of you recognize the name John Conley because it is the name of the ethics lecture given on the first day of every meeting of the Academy of Otolaryngology, but I remember John Conley as a statuesque handsome young surgeon who had acquired, during military service in World War II, exceptional skill in managing wounds of the head and neck. I recall how John Conley, an ear nose and throat doctor before the war, applied his newly acquired skills after the war to develop the innovative techniques for removing cancer from the head and neck that saved so many lives. John Conley was the pioneer who enabled all of us who previously had been known as "ear-nose-and-throaters" to become respected head and neck surgeons. John was a thoughtful man, even a philosopher in his later years. John, my friend and colleague, bequeathed to the Academy of Otolaryngology the funds that have enabled us to have each year the lecture on medical ethics that bears his name. What a noble legacy my friend and colleague has created!

It has been a great pleasure to practice during these past 50 years, when the greatest advances in all of the history of medicine as well as otolaryngology have been made. I can remember when mastoid surgery was done with a mallet, chisel and gouge and I remember when this method was replaced by using a rotating burr propelled by an electric motor to open the mastoid. I remember the leaps forward that could be made when the Hopkins rigid rod-lens telescopes were initially designed by Broyles and when we first were able to use flexible fiberoptic telescopes to view the pharynx and larynx. It has been a privilege to be in practice during these exciting years and to see progress creeping, sometimes rushing, to make new techniques available for the benefit of the patient.

When you get to the point in life that I am at now, you can recall some of the things that you might have done differently. Some of the things I did, I might not have done. But, my encouraging Ken Grundfast to become an otolaryngologist is one thing that I certainly would do again. My association with Ken has been a great source of satisfaction. I am proud to have had him as a friend and colleague. He and his lovely wife Ruthanne have become like members of my own family. I am delighted to be here today with my son Skip and among so many friends who have become like my family to accept the honor that you are bestowing on me. My wish for all of you is that you have lives as long as mine filled with as much joy as I have had practicing otolaryngology and watching successive generations of otolaryngologists progressively make the discoveries that will benefit patients. I suspect you'll be hearing about many of the new ideas at this meeting of the Triological Society in the next few days. Enjoy the meeting and thank you again for giving me this honor.