

Send information for publication on this page to: Philip J. Scarpa, M.D., M.S.
EG & G Florida, Inc.
BOC-005
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899
(407) 867-3346

SPACE MEDICINE BRANCH REPORT

Fred Haise to Speak at SMB Luncheon

It is with a great deal of excitement that I have the opportunity to invite you to our 46th Annual Space Medicine Branch Business Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday May 15 at noon in the Columbus Rooms I and J in the Hyatt Regency in downtown Chicago. It is my pleasure to announce that our Luncheon speaker for the 1997 Luncheon and Business Meeting will be Fred Haise, Apollo 13 astronaut. He will be recounting his experience during the Apollo 13 flight and will be showing and narrating some original footage that he has from the flight. He will discuss the "real" side of Apollo 13, and not the Hollywood version. We are honored and excited to have him as our guest and our speaker, and I think you will find it fascinating to hear his first-hand account of this critical flight in U.S. space history.

This year's meeting promises to be another exciting follow-on to our meeting last year where Dr. Norm Thagard was awarded the Strughold Award for excellence in aerospace medicine. At that time, Dr. Thagard had been in space for the longest duration of any American astronaut while on the Russian space station Mir. This record was eclipsed by Dr. Shannon Lucid later in 1996.

In fact, Dr. Shannon Lucid was chosen by the SMB Awards Committee to receive the Strughold Award this year. As one of the crew surgeons for one of her prior flights on Spacelab Life Sciences 2, I greatly admired and appreciated Shannon's ability and perse-

verance in all that she did. She is probably one of the more well-rounded and practical people I have had the privilege of working with. The acclaim and attention she has been receiving are well-deserved. We will be giving the Strughold Award during our Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon, and we hope she will be able to attend the meeting, although her schedule may not permit this.

The Branch will once again be giving its annual Young Investigator Award to a first time presenter at the meeting. This has served to facilitate publication-ready manuscripts among first time presenters at the meeting, and several exciting papers/presentations have been reviewed over the years. Dr. Jeff Myers has spearheaded this effort, and the Branch is indebted to him and all the work he does yearly in evaluating the papers. Jeff could always use some additional help, and if there is a Branch member who feels so inclined, please contact him at 407-867-3346.

The Branch will be sponsoring two panels this year during the Scientific Program, both of them chaired by Dr. Nick Kanas. They will both occur on Wednesday May 14 in Ballroom E. The first will be at 8:30 am and is "Psychosocial Findings from Space Simulations Studies," and the second in the same room at 10:30 am, "Psychosocial Support for Astronauts." These panels have abstracts that are fascinating, and the presenters will examine some of the non-tangibles that are becoming increasingly important in

space travel. I hope you will support them by your attendance at the panels.

There seems to be a stability that has entered the NASA and the space program at least in regards to the building of space station in the past year. Although I would like to take credit for that, I am sure it had absolutely nothing to do with me, but probably had something to do with bipartisan support for the space program in an election year. The past 2 years may be the only years I can remember when the space station has not been redesigned. I am actually cautiously optimistic that there will be something in low Earth orbit soon, and the U.S. and their space partners will be building that from there. The first element is presently due to be launched on STS-88 in December 1997. The space station will be a major milestone in the space program, that hopefully will lead to the further colonization of space.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as your President for the past year, but the Branch will be left in the very capable hands of Dr. Denise Baisden for the next year. As Chief of the Flight Medicine Clinic at NASA, she has had the opportunity to impact the space program in many significant ways, and is currently serving as Crew Surgeon for the second Hubble servicing mission that is planned for February. I am certain that during her term as President she will continue to further the cause of space medicine.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve the Branch as President in 1996-1997.

Larry Pepper, D.O.



Now Available!
Only \$50*

Treatment of Decompression Illness
45th Workshop of the
Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society
Chaired by Richard E. Moon and Paul J. Sheffield

Sponsored by the Aerospace Medical Association,
the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, and
the Divers Alert Network.

Get your copy today by contacting AsMA

320 S. Henry Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3579
(703) 739-2240
(703) 739-9652 FAX

* includes shipping and handling

Don't waste valuable time...

Get your copy of the

**AEROSPACE
MEDICINE
SELF-ASSESSMENT
PROGRAM**

Only \$15*



This 155-page program consists of multiple-choice questions --including the answers -- plus narrative explanations and references covering every area of aerospace medicine! The program is useful as a general review, particularly for students and residents in training, for preparation for the Aerospace Medicine Board Examination, and for USAF Flight Surgeons preparing for the Senior Flight Surgeon's exam.

To order your copy, write or call: Aerospace Medical Association,
320 South Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3579; Phone: 703-739-2240; FAX: 703-739-9652.

*includes shipping and handling