

## A Message from the President

As you are aware, the annual meeting of the Aerospace Medical Association is returning to Detroit (the site of AsMA's very first meeting) next month. As we look back to AsMA's beginnings, it is a good time to gather up any historical documentation and memorabilia which pertain to the Space Medicine Branch and forward these important items to the Branch Historian, Dr. Wyck Hoffer. How often I have been grateful when a colleague with earlier Space Program experience could provide advice from their repertoire for a problem which I was facing for my very first time. To paraphrase an old saying, "He who does not learn lessons from History is doomed to repeat them the hard way."

I am looking forward to meeting with you all in Detroit and enjoying the many interesting and enlightening presentations at what is shaping up to be a most excellent meeting. The SMB is sponsoring the panel: "Phase 1 - Missions to Mir", as well as co-sponsoring (with the Aerospace Human Factors Association) the panel: "Crewmember Interactions During Joint U.S./Russian Mir Missions". In addition, the panels: "Human Performance Issues For Long Duration Spaceflight" and "Mir Wrap-Up" should be exciting. The list goes on--- just look at your program!

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our annual Space Medicine Branch Business Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at noon in the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center. We are looking forward to an exciting speaker. We will be

presenting the annual Hubertus Strughold Award for excellence in aerospace medicine as well as the Young Investigator Award to a first-time presenter at the meeting. Lloyd Tripp is leading the effort this year for the Young Investigator Award Committee and I'm sure he would appreciate your help with the review process. His phone number is (937) 255-5742 if you wish to contact him. Lloyd has been working to computerize the process and update the selection criteria. Each year those Young Investigators just get better and better and Lloyd and the other committee members are doing a great job to help the Branch keep up.

It has certainly been an exciting year for our space program. The first two modules of the International Space Station are on orbit. Age and gender records continue to be broken. Water was discovered on the Moon. Interplanetary craft continue to provide answers. We are taking our very early "baby" steps in a new era of international cooperation. There are bound to be some bruises, scratches, and growing pains along the way. We will each have to do our part to succeed. To the students, I would say to study hard. To those discouraged--have faith. To the naysayers-- have vision. To all of us I would advise just to work hard and let logic prevail.

I would like to thank the members of our various committees for the excellent work they have accomplished this past year. Mel Antunano and his committee drafted and presented a joint resolution with the FAA regarding the establishment of civilian space-

flight medical standards. As mentioned above, Dr. Hoffer is compiling our history. Annie Sobel continues her work with the educational program for students. Dwight Holland did a terrific job with the program committee this year. Smith Johnston is working on the Strughold Award, and Lloyd Tripp with the Young Investigator Award as mentioned above. Jim Collier labors away as our Secretary-Treasurer, the true "workhorse" of any organization. Phil Scarpa has again repeated his diligent performance as our journal page and web site editor. Many thanks to these and all the other committee members and officers.

As I look forward to our next year, I will be leaving you in the capable hands of our president-elect, Dr. Robin Dodge. Robin has served as Secretary-Treasurer of our organization in the past, and therefore already knows in great detail the workings of the Branch. In addition, he has served us well as chairman of our long range planning, nominating, and other committees. I have appreciated your support and all the fine efforts you have made to advance the Branch and its causes during this past year and I trust you will continue that support for our new president.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to all our members for the opportunity to serve you in this capacity. It has been a distinct pleasure and one of the highlights of my career. I look forward to seeing you in Detroit.

**K. Jeffrey Myers, M.D.**  
**1998-99 President**

## Nominations Sought for 1999 AsMA Awards

The Awards Committee of the Aerospace Medical Association, which is responsible for selecting the annual winners of special awards, has set a December 15 deadline for receiving nominations for awards to be presented at the 1999 Annual Scientific Meeting in Detroit, MI.

The committee chair emphasizes, however, that the names of prospective award winners should be submitted as far in advance of the deadline as possible. Lots of time is needed to review all of the names and select the winners.

Nominations can be made by any member of AsMA.

The nominations must be submitted on forms available from the AsMA Home Office, and printed in the journal.

Nomination form and 14 copies should be mailed to:

**Chair, Awards Committee**  
**Aerospace Medical Association**  
**320 South Henry Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314-3579**

### Policies:

1. The nominee must be a current member of the Association, except that the Sidney D. Leverett, Jr. Environmental Science Award is open to nonmembers. Deceased members may be nominated.

2. The Chair of the Awards Committee does not vote and is not eligible for an award during his/her tenure.

3. Winners may receive only one award in any year and may receive additional awards only at 7-year intervals, except for the Sidney D. Leverett, Jr. Environmental Science Award.

4. Employees of a company sponsoring an award are eligible to receive the award.

5. Awards involving a published paper will be made only to the senior author.

6. Unsuccessful nominees for an annual award will be retained in the active file through three award cycles.