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Space Medicine Association News

Space Medicine Association Annual Report

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I believe that space exploration, space medicine and the Space Medicine Association are at an important crossroads. On one hand, we have a glorious past history in which many of our members were heavily involved. On the other hand, we have an equally potentially glorious future of which many of our members are an active part of and will continue to be so in the future (despite continued lack of funding and the predicted gloom of some pessimists). This future includes the finishing of the Shuttle program, continued participation in the International Space Station, the Constellation program and return to the Moon (and eventually a Mars Expedition), and commercial spaceflight development.

Our organization needs to emphasize our history and traditions. Experience has shown that if you do not proactively take hold of your history, then someone else will and they may have a different agenda. We are working to improve the archives of the organization and space medicine in general and have formed an Archives Committee to



PAST PRESIDENT'S AWARD.—Space Medicine Association President Jon Clark (left) receiving recognition for his outstanding leadership during 2006-2007 by incoming President Mark Campbell.



PRESIDENT'S AWARD--Denise Baisden (left) received a Special Recognition Award by President Jon Clark for her many years of outstanding service as the Space Medicine Association historian.

aggressively pursue this. If any individual members have archives related to the Space Medicine Branch, please notify me so that we can obtain copies for our growing online collection on the web site. We will soon be reaching out to all of our past Presidents and asking them to record the activities of the organization during their service. We are also trying to write a history of the organization since 1957 (Dr. Paul Campbell produced a fascinating early history of the organization from founding in 1951 to 1957 which is available on the web site).

We are continuing to emphasize the future. The development of the web site is an attempt to be able to provide more information and in larger volume to the membership. We need contributions to the web site by the membership. The space medicine bulletin board accessed from the web site allows us to place an unlimited volume of material (photos, video, Powerpoint presentations, and documents) to be available to any member. Please consider making electronic material donations to this web site. You can do so by sending it to me on a CD or e-mailing me at mcamp@1starnet.com. The Space Medicine Association will sponsor and organize six panels (the usual is two) for the annual meeting in Boston in 2008 as well as endorsing several others (usually six to eight).



LUNCHEON SPEAKER--Rich Tumlinson (left), our speaker for the SMA luncheon, gave a very interesting and different perspective of the future potential of commercial space exploration.



KELSEY SEYBOLD--Romie Richardson (left) is receiving recognition for Kelsey Seybold's generous support of the SMA.

We will also initiate a series of monthly reports on this page of the journal concerning various aspects of space medicine from our individual members. We also need to continue to be actively seeking new members and encouraging people early in their careers to become interested in space medicine.

We had a very successful Space Medicine Association annual meeting with over 220 present at the luncheon. Tickets were sold out early and so we have requested more room for the annual meeting in Boston. Our speaker was Rich Tumlinson, co-founder of the X-Prize, the Space Frontier Foundation, XTreme Space, Orbital Outfitters, and the Institute of Space Law and Policy. His perceptions on the future of space exploration and the rapidly developing possibilities of commercial spaceflight were found to be very thought provoking and generated enormous discussion. Dr. Clarence Jernigan was the recipient of this year's Hubertus Strughold award. Dr. Jernigan was heavily involved in the Apollo program as a lead flight surgeon and related many fascinating stories of the Apollo 11 mission. Dr. Hirofumi Aoki, who has a Ph.D. in human factors engineering from MIT, received the Young Investigators award after a review of 177 candidate papers which were submitted. His paper described a virtual reality program to prevent spatial disorientation on the International Space Station. At the meeting, we announced the newly elected officers, which were Genie Bopp as

See SPACE MEDICINE, p.920.





WYLE--(Top) George Melton (left), the CEO of Wyle Life Sciences, is receiving recognition for Wyle's generous support. We also recognized (Bottom) Bob Ellis (left) of Wyle Life Sciences for his ongoing support of the SMA over many years.