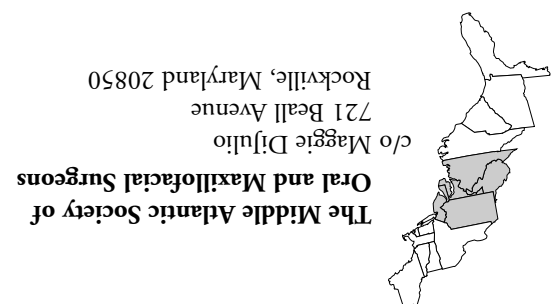


**The MASOMS Fall Meeting
will be held on
Wednesday, November 5, 2003 at the
Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center
in Ellicott City, Maryland.**

**Program information will be mailed in August.
Please mark your calendars.**



A Message from the President of the Middle Atlantic Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons

Greetings to all members of MASOMS.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Dr. Robert Emery, our Immediate Past President, from the District of Columbia for all his efforts on our behalf. Dr. Emery led our Society with vision and enthusiasm for the past two years. He was paramount in the creation and development of the MASOMS Newsletter. His legacy includes fiscal responsibility and top quality educational seminars. I only hope to be as successful during my tenure.

I would like to take a moment to introduce the other officers and members of the Board of Directors. The President-Elect is Dr. Jim Adams from Pennsylvania, Vice-President is Dr. Howard Strauss from Maryland, Treasurer is Dr. Tom Yingling from Pennsylvania and the Secretary is Dr. Hank Zussman from northern Virginia. The Members-At-Large include Dr. Art Jee from Maryland, Dr. Gene D'Amico from Delaware and Dr. Dean Bobbitt from West Virginia. I believe that these officers and board members represent a very talented group of individuals. Consequently, I am confident that our Society is in good hands for many years to come.

Congratulations to Dr. Dan Daley on his successful campaign and election to

the office of Vice President of AAOMS. I would also like to congratulate Dr. Ed Slade on his election as Trustee of District II for AAOMS. The officers and board members will be in frequent discussions with both of these individuals as to the happenings at the national level as well as informing them of our issues and concerns.

We are returning to the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center for our Spring Meeting. This venue seems to work well for our membership as well as for the vendors who support our educational seminars. The topic will be "Anesthesia" and we are fortunate to have procured Dr. Jeffrey Dembo as our speaker. This meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30. Greater detail regarding this program can be found elsewhere in this publication. We will return to Turf Valley in the fall. Dr. Jim Adams and Dr. Arthur Jee are coordinating the educational seminars.

Health Care Crisis

Unfortunately, most of our state and national legislators continue in a business as usual mode. Unless guided by a public opinion poll, media blitz, or crisis, few things are accomplished in a timely fashion. Inaction is often followed by reaction and then by over-reaction. A case in point, is the malpractice crisis. Thus far, most oral

and maxillofacial surgeons are fortunate to have been insulated from dramatic increases from their liability carrier. Much credit goes to those that had the foresight to form OMSNIC several years ago. Last year, at "A Day On The Hill", I talked with several staffers of the New Jersey legislators. Most seemed generally surprised to hear of the consequences of the crisis in Pennsylvania. I spoke of medical practitioners unable to obtain malpractice coverage, or of early retirement and of relocation to other areas of the country to avoid out of control premiums. I spoke of how New Jersey was nipping at the heels of Pennsylvania.

I suspect that this year they will no longer be surprised. Several state medical societies have staged walkouts with varying degrees of success. Governor Rendell's initial response is no more than a Band-Aid. Governor McGreevey seems to be waiting to see which way the political winds will blow. The trial attorneys will continue to blame the stock market, the insurance carriers and bad doctors. Over time, these same attorneys have led our society into believing that responsibility and blame is always someone else's burden. Pathology, injury or poor outcome is always caused by someone

continued on page 3



Middle Atlantic Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

MASOMS News

is an official publication of the Middle Atlantic Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and is published twice a year. Please direct all editorial and advertising inquires to *MASOMS News*, in care of the MASOMS office.

Officers

President

Bradford J. Porter, D.D.S.

President-Elect

James W. Adams, D.D.S.

Vice President

Howard R. Strauss, D.D.S.

Treasurer

Thomas H. Yingling, D.D.S.

Secretary

Henry W. Zussman, D.D.S.

Past President

Robert W. Emery, D.D.S.

Editor

Henry W. Zussman, D.D.S.

Executive Editor

Maggie DiJulio

Subscriptions

Free to MASOMS members.
Order from the MASOMS office at
301-217-0864

Mailing Address

MASOMS
Attention: Maggie DiJulio
721 Beall Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

E-mail

masomsdir@msn.com

Website

www.masoms.org

AAOMS District II Trustee Report

Dear MASOMS Colleagues:

As winter draws to a close, a number of issues, many with long-term implications for oral and maxillofacial surgeons are occupying the attention of the AAOMS Board of Trustees:

Brevital manufacturer King Pharmaceuticals has not yet received approval from the FDA to market the drug, which has been unavailable since last year. Following last September's heroic effort by AAOMS and its members, who enlisted the help of several legislators to work with the FDA and place the King Pharmaceutical on the fast track, it appeared the drug would be available by January 1, 2003.

In February, however, King Pharmaceuticals told AAOMS that a more realistic distribution date would be the end of March. The problem is unrelated to the King Pharmaceutical facility and is attributable to bureaucratic delays at the FDA. AAOMS has kept its members informed throughout this crisis, and will continue to do so until Brevital is available once more.

This winter, several states including Tennessee, New Hampshire, South Carolina, New York, and Connecticut announced they would open their practice acts to amend the definition of dentistry to comply with the ADA-endorsed language, which states in part:

The evaluation, diagnosis, prevention and/or treatment (non-surgical, surgical or related procedures) of diseases, disorders and/or conditions of the oral cavity, **maxillofacial area and/or the adjacent and associated structures** and their impact on the human body; provided by a dentist, within the scope of his/her education, training and experience, in accordance with the ethics of the profession and applicable law. Opponents of the new definition are targeting the phrase "maxillofacial area and/or adjacent and associated structures," and using political contacts to defeat adoption at the Dental Board hearings. AAOMS is meeting these critical attacks with well-documented materials, expert testimony and support from many professional and political allies. They can provide you with the resources you need to meet any challenge.

We must continue to be proactive and make it clear to all concerned that oral and maxillofacial surgeons are critical to the hospital trauma team. It is our work in the ER and the hospital that supports our contention that the scope of OMS practice must extend to the "maxillofacial area and/or adjacent and associated structures." So I urge you, for the sake of this specialty, preserve your hospital privileges, take trauma calls and remain an active member of the hospital staff.

On March 19, approximately 40 oral and maxillofacial surgeons, representing all interest groups within the specialty, participated in a Faculty Recruitment and Retention Meeting at the AAOMS headquarters in Rosemont, Illinois. The purpose of this meeting was to identify opportunities for encouraging the best and the brightest of our practitioners to consider a career in OMS education.

AAOMS continues to work closely with United Concordia on reimbursement issues, including matters related to third molars.

AAOMS/Discus Dental Partnership

AAOMS now has its first ever contract with a practice management software company. This five-year contract will afford AAOMS and its membership the security it needs in today's marketplace to invest in their practice management systems and know that the investment will be supported.

continued on page 5

MASOMS Hosts 2003 Spring Meeting

The Society will hold its Spring Meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2003 at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center in Ellicott City, Maryland. This elegant resort hotel, surrounded by three championship golf courses has proved to be a popular venue for MASOMS meeting attendees.

The featured speaker, Dr. Jeffrey Dembo will present an all day program on "Successful Outpatient Anesthesia: The Art of Being Prepared." Program topics include: Preparing the Patient for Ambulatory Anesthesia, Delivery of Anesthetic Care and Anesthetic Urgencies and Emergencies.

Dr. Dembo is a graduate of Northwestern University Dental School. He received his oral and maxillofacial surgery residency training and Master's Degree from the University of Iowa in 1984. Following residency, Dr. Dembo

participated in a fellowship in anesthesiology. Since 1987, he has held joint appointments at the University of Kentucky as Professor in the College of Dentistry and in the departments of Surgery and Anesthesia in the College of Medicine.

In addition to Dr. Dembo's program, this meeting will feature a variety of tabletop exhibits. Vendors will be available to discuss and demonstrate the latest in equipment, materials and services available to the oral and maxillofacial surgeon.

Program information was mailed in March. If you have not already registered for this meeting, please do so soon as space is limited. For a meeting brochure, please visit the MASOMS website at www.masoms.org or contact Maggie DiJulio, Executive Director at 301-217-0864. We look forward to having you join us for this special event.

**The Society is dedicating this meeting in fond memory of
Dr. Richard Simeone.**

MASOMS would like to extend a special thank you to the following companies who exhibited at the 2002 Fall Meeting. Your continued support of our organization is appreciated.

BioHorizons

Centerpulse

Dalco Medical/Criticare Systems, Inc.

Dentsply/Friadent/CeraMed Dental

Harvest Technologies Corporation

Imaging Sciences International

Implant Innovations, Inc.

Karl Schumacher Instrument Company

KLS Martin, L.P.

Materialise

Nectech, Inc.

Nobel Biocare

OMS National Insurance Company

Paul Banditt, Inc.

Predictable Surgical Technologies

Stryker Leibinger

Synthes Maxillofacial

Treloar & Heisel, Inc.

A Message from the President

continued from page 1

or something requiring financial retribution to gain justice. Their numerous successes are well reported throughout the media. Common sense tells me that if I smoke cigarettes, I may become sick. If I survive on a diet of Big Macs, French fries and milk shakes, I may get fat. Sadly, I truly believe that many trial attorneys do not care about common sense or right and wrong. They care about monetary settlements for their clients and for themselves. Through consortium with a few "hired expert witnesses", they attempt to paint a picture and convince a jury that a wrong has been committed.

Regardless of the attorney rhetoric, tort reform is paramount to reign in esca-

lating malpractice premiums. Although this may dampen the enthusiasm of the trial attorneys, it will provide a system-wide benefit to healthcare. The obstetricians that can no longer afford to perform deliveries will again be able to return to that which they are trained to do. Practitioners will be able to open their doors again to high-risk patients. Premature retirement and relocation will become a thing of the past. It would be irresponsible and ignorant to assume that oral and maxillofacial surgeons will not be consumed with these same problems in the very near future.

It does not bode well for a small business owner to have limited controls over both overhead expenditures (e.g. malpractice premiums) and income revenue (managed care reimbursement). Ultimately, longer working hours, decreased income

and increased legislative controls will markedly decrease the appeal of a career in healthcare. Our best and brightest students will look elsewhere for employment opportunities. Limitations of non-economic damages to a reasonable amount at \$250,000 will have a dramatic impact on the current malpractice crisis. The AMA reports that there are 12 states currently in a crisis mode and many more at risk for the same.

Someday, individuals in our society may assume some personal responsibility and not always look to point the finger at someone else. Speak to your legislators, your patients and your friends. Our voices will be all the more credible since we have not been targeted to the same degree as our physician colleagues have.

Bradford J. Porter, D.D.S.
President

Highlights from the Fall 2002 Meeting at the Turf Valley Resort ...

*Dr. Robert Emery, Immediate Past
President passes the gavel to incoming
President, Dr. Brad Porter*

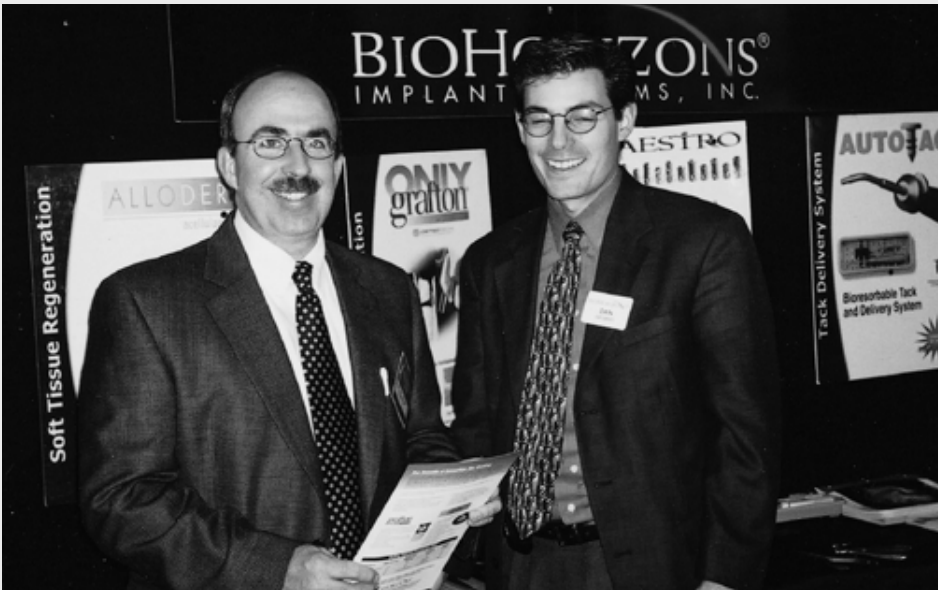


*AAOMS President, Dr. Larry Nissen
addresses the attendees at
the General Business Meeting*



*New MASOMS members receive
their membership certificates at the
General Business Meeting*





Dr. David Bastacky visits with BioHorizons sales representative, Dan Grisanti



Stryker Leibinger Sales Representatives Chris Powell and Laura Cross (right) with meeting attendee, Dr. Rhonda Carrow



Dr. Neal Zabiegalski visits with Materialise Sales Representative, Michele Wendell

The State of the District of Columbia...

All continues to go well in the District of Columbia, despite the stress being experienced by the local community arising from threats of terrorism, impending war, increased security and now, nearly continuous helicopter surveillance of the downtown area.

A more tangible problem that faces all oral and maxillofacial surgeons and physicians in Washington, DC, is the fact that we have an extremely strong plaintiffs bar and that we are one of the only (if not the only) jurisdictions to have no malpractice tort reform. Twelve states are currently in a liability insurance crisis and the District of Columbia is rapidly approaching the same fate. Physicians are leaving the District of Columbia for Virginia and Maryland, where insurance costs are dramatically lower due to meaningful tort reform, which has been passed there. The last time I did a survey for testimony that was presented to the DC City Council, I found that oral and maxillofacial malpractice premiums were 25-40% less expensive in Virginia and Maryland, our two closest neighbors.

Our Mayor, Anthony Williams and President Bush have each made recent statements in support of tort reform, so there may be a renewed opening for legislative change. The Medical Society of DC has declared tort reform to be their main objective for 2003. We wholeheartedly support their effort.

Steven A. Guttenberg, D.D.S., M.D.
President, DCSOMS

The State of Maryland...

Major initiatives continue to be in the realm of assisting the State Board of Dentistry in the revision of Maryland's anesthesia regulations. The MSOMS has been actively consulted and is working to affect a moderation of the statutes regulating the administration of all types of anesthesia and pain control modalities. We will strive to affect production of new regulations, which will be clearer and more complete. Our goal is to address all routes of administration and levels of anesthesia and pain control.

The MSOMS continues to support the AAOMS Day on the Hill program. We are hopeful to foster a large contingent of Maryland's oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

Finally, we are looking forward to our spring scientific meeting on April 2, 2003 at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center in Ellicott City, Maryland. This meeting will feature Dr. Craig Misch who will present information on implant surgery and associated bone regeneration techniques. All are welcome to contact Ms. Maggie DiJulio for registration information.

Kevin G. Schwartz, D.M.D.
Vice President, MSOMS

The State of New Jersey...

The NJSOMS was pleased to host Drs. Tony Sklar and Mike Pikos at their educational sessions this past year. Both speakers articulated the latest in implant dentistry, including grafting techniques.

On January 29, NJSOMS hosted the regional OMSNIC Risk Management meeting in Woodbridge, NJ and more than 140 oral and maxillofacial surgeons were able to update their knowledge in risk management and, as a bonus, receive their five percent premium credit.

The State Board continues to promulgate regulations regarding enteral sedation and has adopted comprehensive updated requirements for general anesthesia permit holders. The Board is also considering regulations, which would allow Dental Hygienists to monitor nitrous oxide analgesia. The dentist would be responsible for starting the analgesia and must remain on the premises throughout the procedure.

New Jersey is proud to announce that one of its members, Dr. Ira Cheifetz, has announced his candidacy for the office of AAOMS Treasurer. I know Ira would appreciate your support in this endeavor. Ira's CV is available and, if interested, please contact me.

The NJSOMS website is now online. If you would like to view it, please visit www.nj-oms.org.

Richard N. Tennenbaum, D.M.D.
President, NJSOMS

The State of Pennsylvania...

On behalf of the PSOMS, I hope all our fellow members of MASOMS have made it through the winter with minimal back pain from snow shoveling. Spring is coming and so is the PSOMS annual spring meeting.

Our spring meeting, on May 14, 2003 in State College, PA will feature Dr. Eric Carlson who will speak on pathology and reconstruction of the oral and maxillofacial region. Dr. Carlson is currently Professor and Chairman of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Tennessee. He previously served on the faculty at the University of Miami with Dr. Robert Marks. I am sure that he will bring much information to the table for all of us to use in our daily practices of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

PSOMS is pleased to honor Dr. Tom Braun at dinner on the evening of May 14, 2003 in State College. Whether it was as President of PSOMS, President of the American Board of OMS, Director of the Residency in OMS at the University of Pittsburgh, Dean of the Dental School at the University of Pittsburgh or member of the Pennsylvania State Dental Board, Tom has always been a strong voice for oral and maxillofacial surgery both nationally and within the state of Pennsylvania.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Dan Daley on his election to Vice-President of AAOMS. Dan put forth a tremendous effort in winning this position at our recent national meeting and I am very proud that this quality individual has assumed such an important leadership position. I know Dan will be a fine leader of AAOMS.

As you can imagine, the PSOMS continues to be busy with legislative issues regarding anesthesia within the Pennsylvania legislature and dental regulations within the State Board of Dentistry.

Should you have any questions regarding PSOMS activities please do not hesitate to contact me at (412) 683-2777.

Martin E. Eichner, D.D.S.
President, PSOMS

The State of Virginia...

The VSOMS will sponsor an implant seminar on Friday, May 2, 2003 at the Sheraton Park South Hotel in Richmond, Virginia. Our featured speaker, Dr. Michael Smilanich will present "Avoiding the Nightmare: Treatment Planning for Prosthetic Implant Success." The Society's annual meeting will be held June 19-22, 2003 at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Dr. David Schwab will speak on "Practice Management for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon." For additional information on these meetings, please call the VSOMS headquarters at (804) 261-1610.

James F. Nelson, D.D.S.
President, VSOMS

The State of West Virginia...

Healthcare providers in West Virginia are closely watching this session of the state legislature. The medical malpractice and tort reform crisis has garnered national attention with the walkouts of some state surgeons. This topic is a major focus of the current session, but a bigger impact could be felt with legislation regarding expanded functions for dental assistants or hygienists.

The ADHA has reportedly made West Virginia a "test state" in an attempt to establish a separate Board of Dental Hygiene that would oversee dental hygienists and dental assistants as well as set education and scope of practice guidelines. A group of hygienists has had a bill introduced, which opposes the legislation introduced by the Board of Dental Examiners, changing the expanded duties of dental assistants and hygienists in the state's dental practice act. Both bills are still in committee, but the WVDHA has been successful in amending the Board of Dental Examiner's proposed legislation. This could have a major impact on all dental practices in the state.

T. Dean Bobbitt, D.D.S.
Parkersburg, WV

Editor's Corner

As I sat down to write my first editorial, I thought it would be nice to reflect on the accomplishments we have made within our organization. Including the fact that we continue to secure exciting speakers and maintain excellent educational opportunities.

By the time this newsletter is printed, we may be at war with Iraq. Most of us have never experienced war and certainly not on our own soil. Here in the Washington metropolitan area, many of us have had patients who worked in the Pentagon on September 11. We have witnessed first hand the trauma that terrorism and war may bring. My recent hospital meetings have included discussions on establishing first response teams and receiving the small pox vaccine.

Now we are in a "code orange" terrorist alert with ground zero most likely to again include Washington, D.C. and New York City. As oral and maxillofacial surgeons, our responsibilities may involve caring for people who have been injured by a terrorist action. These patients will require more than just clinical skills to get better and together as a profession we can help make these people whole again.

I would like to apologize for the somber tone of this editorial and it is my sincere wish that our situation in the Middle East would reach a peaceful resolution.

Henry W. Zussman, D.D.S.

AAOMS District II Trustee Report

continued from page 2

OMSVision is the only product on the market that takes direct input from AAOMS and their staff members to aid in the development of the product. The product and services are designed by OMSs for OMSs. Full availability of the product is anticipated at the AAOMS Annual Meeting in Toronto.

The AAOMS 85th Annual Meeting, Scientific Sessions and Exhibition will be held in conjunction with the 50th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Oral and Maxillofacial Society (CAMOS), September 10-13, 2003, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Plan to join us!

As the year progresses, I look forward to meeting the challenges and opportunities awaiting the AAOMS and our specialty. I feel privileged to represent the oral and maxillofacial surgeons of District II on the AAOMS Board of Trustees and pledge to you my continued support of the issues that concern you. If you have any matters that you would like brought to the Board's attention, please let me know.

Please feel free to contact me at eslade@comcast.net.

Edwin W. Slade, Jr., D.M.D., J.D.
AAOMS District II Trustee

Members in the News

Conestoga Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Lancaster, Pennsylvania has received the JACHO accreditation for their office based surgery center. Conestoga OMS is the first oral surgery practice in the state of Pennsylvania to receive this accreditation. All six doctors in this practice are members of the MASOMS. Congratulations to Drs. Yingling, Chairsell, Eckhart, Seldomridge, Heise and Waugh.