



President's Message

Basil Baccash

My fellow members:

I want to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new members and wishes of good health and happiness to everyone and their loved ones. This past year has been a time of growth and change for ASSET. The annual conference held in Austin, October 2000 marked our tenth anniversary as a society. The annual conference is the highlight of our year and remains reflective of our growth as a society. As always, our conference was very successful and informative. Just a few of the highlights included the first presentation by a foreign member, a joint symposium with the ASES and the first honorary awards presented to four outstanding ASSET members. The first decade of ASSET's existence can be characterized as enthusiastic, challenging, innovative, although tumultuous at times, but always rewarding and beneficial. Participation, interaction, collaboration and the sharing of clinical research and patient care intervention have always epitomized the essence of our fine organization.

Gradual growth and membership retention have always been a priority of ASSET. The executive board has spent much time and energy over the past year and a half debating and developing strategies for dealing with this vital issue. The major consensus of the board was for greater participation of all ASSET members in the society's operations and functions and providing the members with quality and value for their time and monetary investments. Every organization's success can be directly linked and measured by the satisfaction of the members it serves. ASSET needs greater membership involvement for the continuation of high quality growth and development of its vision and mission. This need has led to several by-law changes voted on by the membership. The most significant change in-

involved the general membership category. Now, members will be required to assume active membership status after three years of participation in the general membership category. This has advantages for the individual member and society. First, individual growth is always enhanced through participation and exploring new challenges in an environment where people are willing and eager to assist you. Secondly, ASSET has always prospered through the new ideas, concepts and diversity of critical thinking brought forward by increased membership participation. It is our intention and sincere hope that these changes will result in a direct increase in active membership. This can only lead to a better managed and fiscally sound organization through greater involvement in executive board administration, committee and conference activities.

The executive board voted unanimously to include the *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery* as a benefit of ASSET membership after an excellent agreement was reached with the journal's publisher. We believe you will find this new benefit of significant value. Please refer to the letter by Tim Uhl included with your membership dues invoice for further details.

On a personal note, I want to share some thoughts about my own growth as a result of ASSET participation. First and foremost, I am grateful for the many friendships established from Seattle to Sao Paulo. I look forward to each meeting as a chance to renew old friendships and establish new ones. I am thankful for the opportunity to be part of an interdisciplinary group focused on evidence-based practice and clinically relevant research, which have aroused my curiosity, challenged my intellect and elevated the standards of care I provide my patients. These two facts have made my affiliation with ASSET invaluable.

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Finally, The challenges confronting ASSET have always been managed with optimism and the consensus of its members. I am confident of our future growth and accomplishment of endeavors as long as we remain guided by the ideals and purposes set forth by our vision and mission.

Let us then be up and doing
With a heart for any fate
Still achieving, still pursuing
Learn to labor and to wait
Henry Wadsworth

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Basil J. Baccash

WEB PAGE UPDATE

Phyllis Sherman has agreed to serve as the Webpage editor for ASSET. We are working on increasing the utilization of the webpage by our membership. Phyllis is investigating the addition of a membership roster, links to ASES, and other physical and occupational therapy sites. We plan to use the webpage for announcement of upcoming events, ASSET officers, by-law changes, and annual conference. We have even considered placing submitted abstracts on our webpage. We hope to provide the membership with current and up to date information regarding ASSET. The increased use of the web will hopefully decrease some of our mailing expenses. The 21st cen-

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Secretary/Treasurer Report Tim Uhl

We have sent invoices out to all members for your annual due installment. I first want to say I am NOT planning on taking a trip to the Bahamas. As we stated in the letter the increase in dues is due to the additional benefit of receiving the Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. We hope that all members enjoy this new benefit. Special thanks should be given to Dr. Jay Irrgang and the executive committee for their negotiation of this deal.

Financially, the society is in the black by \$776.00. This will certainly increase as the dues are received. Our membership dues are our primary source of income so please help us recruit new members. The annual conference and our first post-conference workshop are our two additional sources of income to the society. Please promote these events to your colleagues. We had a great turn out in Texas and hope Napa Valley will be even be better.

I am pleased to announce that

Members News:

Dorcas Beaton has changed jobs. As of February 1st Dorcas has returned to St Michael's Hospital (Toronto) as the Director of Clinical Research in the Neuromusculoskeletal program (80% research, 20% teaching, consulting, admin). She still holds a scientist position at the Institute for Work & Health and is continuing on several clinically-oriented projects there.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Dorcas Beaton

The research committee will be gearing up to prepare for the upcoming meetings in Sonoma. Just a reminder that they are available to help you with your research project, analysis or presentation ideas.

This year we will once again offer *“Quenching and Questions”* a wine and cheese hosted by the research committee that allows people to ask research related questions in a less formal atmosphere. Any question is welcome. Last year topics included what outcome measures to use, how do you have enough time to do data collection, and conducting literature searches.

Case study :

How about a case study section of presentations at ASSET? A block of time hosting 4-5 case studies of challenging or interesting patients and what we did to manage them. Good opportunity to get new ideas or reinforce others. How about your efforts to use kinesiotaping after last year’s workshop? What did you try? Did it work? Research committee will provide you with an outline of what to present for a case study presentation that you have the option to use as a template. Submit a regular abstract and tick the box that says “case study” under type of presentation.

Is it time?

If we combined resources we could conduct a simple research project. Sarah Jackins involved us in the design of her frozen shoulder study. Tim Uhl has used us as a resources for his classification study of shoulder movement. Dorcas Beaton had us respond to those case scenarios (you will hear about your responses at the meeting). Is it time for us to consider doing a small, doable, ASSET project? A measurement project (reliability, validity, classification)? A literature review? Any burning clinical questions we might be able to answer as a group? Send your ideas to Dorcas dbeaton@iwh.on.ca.

ABSTRACTS ARE DUE MAY 15th, 2001

Please consider submitting an abstract for the upcoming meeting (October 2001). A case study, a research idea, a literature review, the results of a project or your work to date. One thing that makes ASSET unique is the level of participation. It isn’t a ‘come and sit’ type of conference. We need your input to have a successful meeting. An abstract form will be included in this newsletter, but as always if it is difficult for you to use that form we will accept a half page description of your

topic (please also add in the additional information requested on the abstract form). We will do everything we can to help you. Electronic submissions are welcome. Send them to Jean in the ASSET office. Concerned about speaking in front of everyone? First, remember

that most of us are. You are not alone. Second, we will also include an option to present a poster rather than doing an oral presentation.

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We will also have our LCD panel available, so you can bring your presentation on power point and not worry about making slides.

HELP THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Interested in being affiliated with, or members of the research committee? Several of you expressed an interest at being affiliated with our committee at the last meeting, and we are pleased. We want to make sure our list included everyone. Let us know, and let us know how

you might want to be involved. Email Dorcas Beaton (chair) at dbeaton@iwh.on.ca

Sonoma Meeting:

The test-retest reliability was 0.96so what does that really mean for me in my practice?
Come to the Sonoma meeting and

find out. One of the topics that will be presented is how to make use of measurement research in individual patient care.

Education Committee

John Basti

Greetings and Salutations from the Education Committee,

I hope that everyone is having a pleasant spring and enjoyable holidays. The education committee has been working to develop their component of our 2001 meeting in Wine County. Maybe we should all just drink wine and have a good time (oops!!). During our meeting in Austin, the Education Committee came up with a number of topics that would be interesting to all of us. Of course we are in the development stages so we would appreciate input and ideas from anyone of you. We hope to include instability and look at the relationships to, slap lesions, impingement, and rotator cuff tears. Thermal Capsulorrhaphy is a relatively new and certainly controversial procedure. We hope to have the surgeons update us on the indications, ra-

tional for its use and the pitfalls and complications that have been seen in its development. Bryce Gaunt from the Houghton Clinic has offered to contribute on this topic and address rehabilitation. Other topics considered include proximal humeral fractures, the weak shoulder, biceps tendon pathology, the stiff elbow, and the unstable elbow. We encourage all members to present any topic concerning shoulder and/or elbow that interests them. The education committee will be contacting those members who are required to present this year to maintain or move to active membership. Case studies are great learning tools and fulfill the requirements for active member status. For those of you who have to present there is plenty of time to put together an interesting case or topic of your choice. As always, the surgeons have been most gracious and willing

to present and interact with our group. We have contacted Dr. Gary Gartsman who is president elect and as tradition has it, will address us on a topic that has not been decided upon. Other potential speakers from ASES include Dr. Giles Walch (France) Dr. George McClusky (Houghton Clinic, Georgia), Dr. Melvin Rossenwasser (CPMC, New York) Dr. Frank Cordasco (HSS, New York). If any of you are working with an ASES member and would like to present a topic with that member, let us know.

We will continue to develop the program as we count down to our meeting. It is our hope that we will put together a solid program that will be stimulating, fun and beneficial to all of us.

Best Wishes,
John Basti

American Society of Shoulder & Elbow Therapists

Annual Conference 2001

Silverado Country Club & Resort

Napa Valley, California

October 24-27, 2001

Accommodations: ASSET has reserved a block of rooms of the rate of \$235.00/per night for a junior suite. (Please note that this rate is subject to the prevailing tax rate at the time of your arrival) After September 24, 2001, the unused portion of the block of rooms will be released for sale to the public and reservations will be accepted on a space available basis only. The reservations toll free number is (800) 532-0500.

Airport Transportation : Evans Airport Service provides airport transfers to and from San Francisco International Airport and Oakland International Airport. Evans picks up and drops off passengers at Silverado. Scheduled runs throughout the day are available. Reservations required. (707) 255-1559

Golf: The golf rate is \$130.00 for 18 holes including cart. Advance reservations are required. Please call well in advance.