

NEWSLETTER

CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

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NUMBER 2

Your various committees have been active in planning the Miami meeting and you will be particularly interested to note the changes in format. Several innovations are in the works, as the following message from Don Dohn indicates.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Fellow Congressmen:

I asked our NEWSLETTER Editor, Bart Brown, for an opportunity to share with you some of the plans your Executive Committee has made for the Congress for the present year. As the Congress grows in membership (we now have 1235 Active Members), it becomes more and more difficult to have meaningful communication between the Executive Committee and the membership. The NEWSLETTER appears to be an ideal vehicle for the exchange of ideas—not just to disseminate information but to serve as a means of feedback from the members to the officers. We want to know your needs and wishes so that effective plans can be formulated to head the Congress in the proper direction.

The Congress of Neurological Surgeons has been successful for many and varied reasons; however, chief among them is the policy of getting its members involved in Congress activities. The committee rosters are printed elsewhere in the NEWSLETTER and illustrate this point well. We want to encourage all who are interested in committee work to inform an officer or committee chairman of their interest.

The various Congress committees have taken on projects of interest and benefit to all. I thought it would prove worthwhile to have some of these activities presented in brief to the members in the NEWSLETTER. For this reason, I have asked the key committee chairmen to describe their committee's work in forthcoming NEWSLETTERS.

In this "Age of Aquarius" it behooves us not to become too tradition bound. We must be ready to adapt and innovate when necessary and useful. The Congress as a "young man's society" must particularly guard against getting into a rut. Your Annual Meeting Committee has attempted to take an unbiased, fresh look at our Annual Meeting format and has decided on a number of innovations. We hope that they are successful and well received, but if not, we stand ready to bear the criticism and to try other methods in the future. Some of the changes (which will be detailed in subsequent NEWSLETTERS) are:

- 1. Elimination of the <u>concept</u> of a Postgraduate Day <u>separate</u> from the main body of the meeting. Now all segments will be considered part of the four day meeting.
- 2. The Seminars will be shortened to one-half day with discussion continuing at a panel during luncheon.
- 3. Tuesday afternoon, instead, will be devoted to a Symposium on Pediatric Head Injuries with three invited speakers and also an open session. The Pediatric Neurosurgical Group has been asked to participate.
- 4. On Wednesday afternoon, Special Interest Workshops have been arranged by the Scientific and Education Committee. These will be restricted to a fairly small attendance to encourage discussion. The titles are:
 - a. Localized cooling in brain and spinal cord
 - b. Radioisotopes in the measurement of cerebral blood flow in neurosurgical patients
 - c. Neurosurgical application of Doppler ultrasound
 - d. Normal pressure hydrocephalus: criteria for shunting
 - e. Microneurosurgery--live demonstration
 - f. Guidelines in preparation for neurosurgical Board examination
- 5. The Scientific Session (invited speakers will be held in three sessions 8:30 A.M. 12:30 P.M. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The theme of this year's meeting is Head Injuries. Dr. Stephen Gurdjian will be the Honored Guest. Bob Ojemann's Scientific Program Committee has arranged an outstanding Program.
- 6. There will be no discussion panels, but instead, there will be approximately ten luncheon discussion groups each day assigned to encourage easy participation. A guest speaker and a moderator will be assigned to each group to lead the discussion.
- 7. The open Scientific Sessions (members and residents) will be held on Thursday and Friday afternoon.

We look for a large attendance in Miami, and we ask each of you who attends to evaluate the program and then to make known your opinion regarding the format.

See you in Miami!

Don Dohn, President

Donald F. Dohn

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Bob Ojemann has produced an excellent program with a general theme of craniocerebral trauma and specifically covering such aspects as monitoring, microphysiology of cells, diagnostic procedures, respiratory physiology, mechanisms of injury, pathophysiology of cerebral circulation, auditory and vestibular disorders, and a number of other areas related to head injuries in general.

SCIENTIFIC SEMINARS

This year's theme will be "Memory and Learning", with dissertations from Drs. Eric Kandel, Samuel Barondes, Carl Pribram and Brenda Milner. Perry Black, who has organized the above, has also been responsible for organization of the workshops about which you will hear more in later editions.

MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION - Call for Papers

There will be a Symposium on Pediatric Head Injuries on the afternoon of October 12th and there are a few openings for papers which may be filled by members of residents. If you are interested, communicate directly with Dr. Bennett Stein, 710 W. 168th Street, New York, New York 10032. In addition, there will be two afternoons devoted to membership participation (i.e. members or residents) and abstracts for this should be submitted to Dr. Sanford Weiss, 27171 Calaroga Avenue, Hayward, California 94545.

For those planning on attending the Post-Convention Tour, please so indicate on your abstract so that if your paper cannot be included in the time available in Miami, it can be presented on Paradise Island at the Post-Convention gathering. Be sure to submit your abstracts promptly to be sure you are included in the program. Deadline is June 1st.

POST-CONVENTION TOUR

Bob Tolmach advises us that the name, "Continued Convention Site" might better express the on-going nature of our scientific endeavors rather than our usual title. His description of the location is as follows:

"An exotic, secluded, and yet near-by site has been selected for the continuation of the 1971 convention at the Paradise Island Hotel in Nassau, Bahamas. In addition to the numerous attractions offered (a magnificent beach, all water sports and activities, golf, a very plush hotel), a most reasonable price package including air fare, ground transportation and Modified American Plan hotel accommodations has been obtained. The tour will last from the morning of October 16th to the morning of October 19th with possible extensions included to, and after, the regular tour at the same relative cost. Further information with requests for reservations will be sent our early in August. Since a large group is anticipated, transportation and hotel accommodations are going to require necessary advanced planning and your early reservation will be quite helpful. This should be a delightful place to take your family on a short vacation. Paradise Island offers remoteness and low-key seclusion with available night life, shopping, sightseeing, and legalized gambling for those who prefer a more frenetic pace. Those of you who are familiar with the area know that the fishing and skin and scuba-diving are incomparable."

INTER-URBAN MEETING

Matt Presti advises us that the recent meeting of the Interurban Neurosurgical Society on February 20th was attended by 140 registrants and that their successful deliberations included problems of cerebral edema, the neurogenic bladder and anterior decompression of the spinal cord. Anyone who would like to be on the mailing list for the Inter-Urban Society meetings should write to Dr. Presti in Colorado Springs. The Interurban is an informal society sponsored by the Congress and maintains only a mailing list, having no formal membership.

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If any Congress member wishes to comment on any of the above applicants, please write to Chairman, Membership Committee: George L. Becker, Jr., M.D., 655 Broadway, Paterson, New Jersey 07514 within the next thirty (30) days.

OBITUARIES

Friends and colleagues of Harry F. Steelman were saddened to learn of his death several weeks ago. The Congress extends its sympathies to his family and friends. Dr. Steelman had been a member of the Congress since 1955.

EXHIBITS

The Exhibits Committee for the October 11-15, 1971 meeting in Miami of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons wishes to request contributions for scientific exhibits from the Congress Members.

If you have material which you believe interesting, please so indicate on the enclosed post card and return by June 15, 1971 to Albert L. Rhoton, Jr., M. D., Chairman, Exhibits Committee, 200 First Street S.W., Rochester, Minnesota 55901.

NEWSLETTER NUANCES

The Editor solicits suggestions from any of the Membership as to their thoughts about how to better employ the Newsletter. Please send your suggestions to: Barton A. Brown, M.D., 2001 Union Street, San Francisco, California 94123.

Barton A. Brown, M.D. Newsletter Editor