

Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer 2002



Glen Combs, Ruth Ballweg and Jeff Heinrich discuss Society finances

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HOLDS FIRST MEETING IN BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS

The acting Board of Directors appointed by Dr. J. Jeffrey Heinrich, the Society's first acting president, held its first and own historic meeting on May 25th at the Sheraton Boston Hotel during the AAPA annual conference. The Society was incorporated in North Carolina in January 2002. After welcoming everyone, Dr. Reginald Carter, the Society's acting director, turned the chair over to Dr. Jeffrey Heinrich whose first order of business was to appoint Ms. Elaine Grant parliamentarian for the organization. The Board took the following actions:

- adopted Society bylaws as discussed and amended
- appointed officers and board members to serve terms as defined within the bylaws
- appointed Dr. Carter and Ms. Woody as executive director and administrative coordinator of the Society
- approved 2002-2003 budget with understanding that membership dues would be split 40:60 between the Society and PA History Office and that all donations would be used to support PA History Office ongoing projects during the year
- set student dues at \$25 to be paid only once while enrolled in an ARC-PA accredited program and fellowship and affiliate dues at \$75 and \$50 to be paid annually on or before June 30th of each year

Dr. Carter provided a brief update on the PA History project including a trip to Alderson-Broadus College to review Dr. and Mrs. Hu Myers' collection and artifacts. He and Michael Holt, Director of the AB College PA Program, have submitted an article to be published in *Perspective on PA Education* describing Dr. Myers contribution to the PA profession. He is exploring the feasibility of bringing together some of the founders of the Association of PA Programs (APAP) at the upcoming 30th Anniversary meeting of the Association in Miami FL in November to capture their recollections on video/audio tape.

See *Board of Directors* page 2

Board of Directors 2002-2003

J. Jeffery Heinrich, EdD, PA-C
President
George Washington University

Ron Nelson, PA-C, President-Elect
Central Michigan University

Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C, Secretary
University of Washington

Glen Combs, MA, PA-C, Treasurer
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Elaine Grant, MPH, PA-C,
Yale University

Donald Pedersen, Ph.D., PA-C
University of Utah

Eugene Schneller, Ph.D.
Arizona State University

William Stanhope, MS, PA-C
Touro University

Ryan Brainard, PA Student
George Washington University

Administrative Staff

Reginald D. Carter, Ph.D., PA
Executive Director
Duke University Medical Center

Mildred Woody, BS
Administrative Coordinator
Duke University Medical Center

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

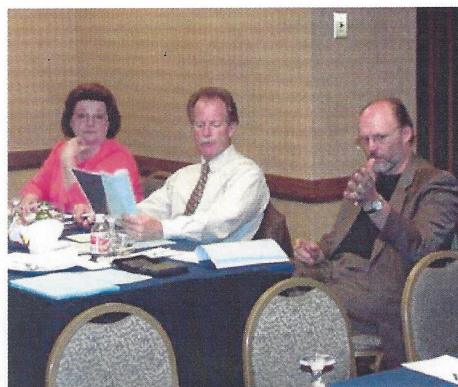
Do you know where the profession started? What year was the AAPA founded? Who was the first AAPA president? Which PA Program was the first to be accredited? What year was the first NCCPA exam administered?

The PA profession started in 1965 with the first class of ex-military corpsman at Duke University in Durham, NC. Closely paralleling this effort was the development of the Medex Program at the University of Washington in Seattle and the Child Health Associate Program in Denver. The AAPA was founded in May 1968 and Bill Stanhope was the first president. Bowman Gray was the first PA program of 17 to be accredited in 1972, as the initial visits were completed in alphabetical order. The first NCCPA exam was administered in the 1973.

Did you know that more than 50% of the PA population graduated after 1995? The time is clearly here for us to preserve our precious history. As a result, a new organization was incorporated in January 2002, to bring attention and support to this important project. The Society will operate exclusively for educational, research and literary purposes and will be a resource for physician assistants, physician assistant students, historians, medical sociologist, researchers and the general public.

In order for the Society to be successful, revenue is needed in the form of membership dues. In addition to supporting the basic mission of the Society, members will have access to an on-line searchable achievable database that will identify the existence and location of key documents, articles, books, films, oral history audio or videotapes and other artifacts that detail the development and evolution of the physician assistant profession.

See Presidents Corner page 4



Elaine Grant and Don Pedersen listen as Ron Nelson makes a point

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE -

Dr. Heinrich assigned the following individuals to chair standing committees:

Strategic Planning and Evaluation –
Ruth Ballweg
Conference Planning – Ken Harber
Bylaws and Policy – Elaine Grant
Finance – Glen Combs
Membership – Dennis Blessing
Nominating and Elections – Don
Pedersen
Publications – Bill Stanhope
Research and Education – Carl Fasser
Professional and Public Affairs – Ron
Nelson

He asked the chairs to use a template provided by Dr. Carter to develop charges and responsibilities for each committee to be approved at the next BOD meeting to be held in Miami FL in November. Another item to be considered in November is a collaborative agreement between the Society and Duke University recognizing joint intellectual property of the online archival database and illustrated history web site.

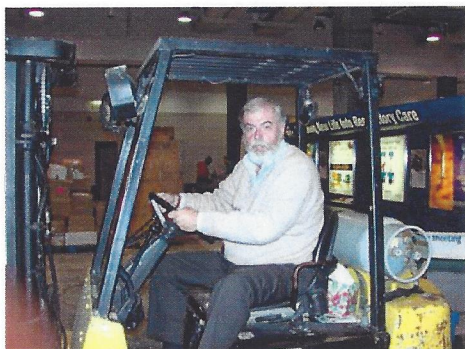
See page 6 for more pictures of the meeting

EXHIBIT BOOTH NETS OVER 120 MEMBERS

Thanks to a complimentary booth provided by the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the Society was able to register 125 new members at the Boston Meeting. Individuals who join before or by January 1, 2003 are considered founding members of the Society. Yasmin Ngala-El from Duke University has the distinction of being the first PA student to join the Society followed closely by Tracy Ray and Jeanie Kittleson from Union College, NE. Jeannie happens to

be a Navy Hospital Corpsmen serving on reservist duty with the US Marines.

Many thanks to Bill Stanhope, Ruth Ballweg, Jeff Heinrich and Reg Carter for setting up and hosting the booth while BOD members Ron Nelson and Glen Combs along with Dennis Blessing, chair of the membership committee, "worked" the crowd to get individuals to drop by, chat and get more information about the Society.



Bill Stanhope delivers the "goods" to the exhibit hall.



Reg Carter, Ruth Ballweg and Bill Stanhope at Exhibit Booth 5125

THE AAPA HOUSE OF DELEGATES ADOPTS SUPPORTING RESOLUTION

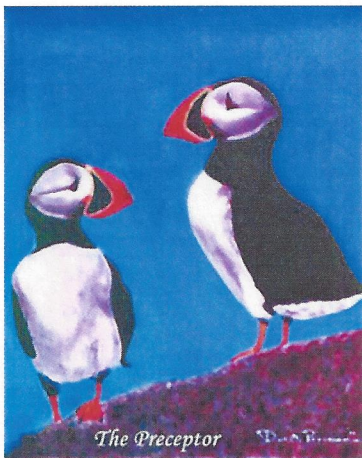
At its Annual Meeting in Boston, the AAPA House Of Delegates (HOD) adopted the following resolution submitted by the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants.

"The American Academy of Physician Assistants endorses and supports the mission of the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistants (SPPAHx) and the PA History Project, and

The American Academy of Physician Assistants encourages physician assistants and their representative organizations to contribute to and actively participate in efforts to preserve, study, and present our unique professional history through an illustrated, virtual history web site accessible to a diverse audience, and

The American Academy of Physician Assistants encourages AAPA constituent organizations to be "founding" sponsors of the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistants (SPPAHx) and PA History Project."

See related story NC Academy Challenge page 4



PA FOUNDATION SALES POSTER TO HELP FUND PA HISTORY PROJECTS

The PA Foundation BOD approved printing and marketing Dr. Don Pedersen's painting entitled *The Preceptor* to raise funds for the PA History Office. The poster is especially designed for PA Programs interested in honoring their clinical instructors and recognizes the historical connection between PAs and their physician mentors over the past 35 years. For information about how to order your copy or copies of *The Preceptor* contact Francesca Rusk, PA Foundation at (703) 519-5686 (voice) or email: frusk@aapa.org.

NC ACADEMY CHALLENGES CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

With adoption of the House of Delegates Resolution supporting the Society and PA History project, Lanny Parker, President of the NC Academy of Physician Assistants (NCAPA), sent a letter and supporting documents to the president and president-elect of each AAPA constituent chapter, caucus, and specialty group requesting that their organizations become founding sponsors of the PA History Office and Society for the Preservation of PA History. "I want to make you aware of a PA project that has enduring qualities and benefits for the next generation of PAs in this country," he says in his opening remarks. Lanny challenged PA leaders to follow the example of the NCAPA BOD who contributed \$15,000 to the PA History Office in February 2002. "I realize that not all chapters can give this much, but I hope they will take the challenge seriously and give a meaningful donation to the history project."

Dr. Carter, the Society's Executive Director, says that if each chapter, caucus and specialty organization pledged and gave an average of \$5,000 over the next two years, that \$300,000 could be raised to establish and expand the online, searchable archival database and illustrated history web site housing important preserved and digitized historical documents and artifacts important to the profession.

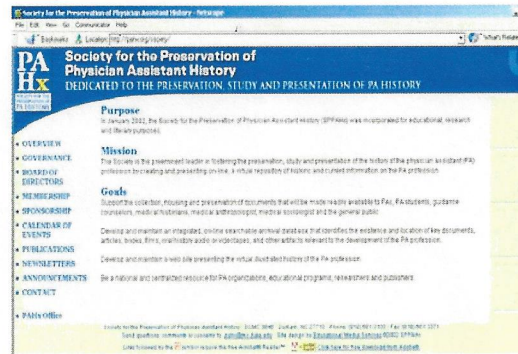
President's Corner – Continued

Membership support will allow the Society to collect, house and preserve all of these important materials related to the history of the profession. Members will be encouraged to support these efforts, not only through dues, but also by sharing historical information with the Society. All documents will be preserved in the appropriate place, such as the PA History Office in North Carolina or the PA Archives at the National Library of Medicine, in Bethesda, MD.

The Society is looking forward to a productive year! We can hope we can count on your support for this important endeavor. Everyone who joins prior to January 2003 will be considered a "**Founding Member**". There are three primary membership categories: (1) a **fellow member** (\$75.00 annually); (2) an **affiliate member** (\$50.00 annually); (3) a **student member** (\$25.00 one-time fee while enrolled as a student). Please join now through the membership form on this website and **make history for yourself**.

SOCIETY WEB SITE

Potential members and sponsors can now get more detailed information about the Society by linking to <http://pahx.org/society> on the Internet. The web site provides an overview of the Society and its governance including articles of incorporation, bylaws and a listing of members of the Board of Directors.



Those who are interested in joining the society can do so by downloading a membership registration form directly from the web site. Similarly, sponsors can download a request and a pledge form to be completed and sent to the Society's administrative offices. There are links to calendar of events, announcements, publications and newsletters.

As the Society's membership grows, the web site will expand to include more interactive pages that will allow members' access to high-security pages permitting them to view and change their own membership contact and demographic information, search and view an online membership directory, and renew their membership online. By year two, we hope to develop a list serve, bulletin board and chat room for members to discuss and work collaboratively on committees, task groups and a variety of approved historic projects.

LSTA DIGITIZATION GRANT FUNDED

The State Library of North Carolina has approved a \$45,000 2002-03 LSTA NC ECHO Digitization Grant submitted by the Duke University Medical Center Library in collaboration with the PA History Office.

The grant application noted that the DUMC Archives contains over 50 linear feet of the most complete documentation (personal papers, photographs, newsletters, clippings, oral history audio/video tapes, etc.) of the development, deployment and standardization of the PA profession and that DUMC and the PA profession desired to provide better access to these historic materials. "With funding, we will prepare finding aids and use metadata technologies to build an on-line, searchable archival database linked to a virtual, illustrated PA History web site. The web site will allow PAs, PA students, career counselors, researchers and the general public access to about 1,000 digitized items selected by the national PA History Office established in July 2001 for this purpose. A Society for the Preservation of PA History was incorporated recently in NC to safeguard the collection and to provide long-term financial support. Our intent is to be the "best standard practice" for collaborating institutions and PA organizations interested in adding relevant materials to the collection."

Patricia Thibodeau, Associate Dean for Library Services, and Dr. Reginald Carter, Director of the PA History Office, will lead an experienced team of librarians and archivist to successfully implement the project this coming year.

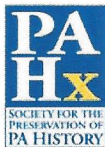
MORE PICTURES FROM BOSTON MEETING



Pat Dieter, Justine Strand, Katherine Adamson, Lynn O'Connell, Carl Fasser and Dennis Blessing participate in historic meeting of the Society's Board of Directors.



Jeff Heinrich welcomes student board member, Ryan Brainard, to the meeting as Glen Combs looks on.



Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION, STUDY AND PRESENTATION OF PA HISTORY

MAILING ADDRESS:

BOX 3848
DURHAM, NC 27710

PHONE: (919) 681-3100
FAX: (919) 681-3371
EMAIL: pahx@mc.duke.edu

DELIVERY ADDRESS:

ROOM 184, HANES BLDG.
TRENT DRIVE
DURHAM, NC 27705

We are on the Web at
<http://pahx.org/society/>

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