



Anesthesia History Association Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 1

November 1983

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

The first official meeting of the Anesthesia History Association was held October 9, 1983, in Atlanta during the annual meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. By-Laws were adopted as printed in the last newsletter with two exceptions. The last sentence of Article V. (Meetings), Section 1, was deleted. This had required a quorum of 20% of members for meetings. And, emeriti members may now be committee members but not members of the council. Officers elected were as follows: President Rod Calverley; Vice-President David Steward; Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Frost; and Council Members Roger Maltby and Clayton Petty (3-year terms), Garth Huston and Ted Striker (2-year terms), and Bert Dunbar and Leroy Vandam (1-year terms).

New business included the announcement of the David M. Little Jr. Prize for historical research in the area of anesthesia, in honor of Dr. David Little, past editor of "Classical File" in *Survey of Anesthesiology*. Dr. Huston announced that there is a storage problem at ASA headquarters, and attempts were being made to discard equipment stored in the basement. This equipment belongs to the Wood Library-Museum. A six-month grace period has been obtained, so the equipment can be catalogued. Then, appropriate disposal can be chosen. The members were in favor of not discarding the equipment, but rather trying to develop a trading program with other museums. Also, members felt that questions on history should be reinstated in the Board exams.

A gala dinner followed the business meeting. Intellectuals were stimulated by Dr. Lucien Morris' "Waters' Tree," illustrating the evolution of modern academic anesthesia from Ralph Waters' training program, by pictures and memorabilia relating to the founding of our organization, and by centerpieces with pictures of and questions about famous anesthesiologists. The dinner program included a toast to Dr. Waters (that night was the anniversary of his 100th birthday) and presentation of a shield design from Dr. Bill Neff. Dr. Thomas Keys, author of numerous works on the history of anesthesia, accepted the first honorary membership in the Anesthesia History Association. Finally, Professor James Harvey Young of Emory University's History Department spoke on Crawford Long. Many in the audience had visited Jefferson, GA, Long's home that day and had seen the site of the first use of inhalation anesthesia to relieve surgical pain. The entire evening was a fine start for this new organization.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Dues of \$25 per year are due by January 1, and should be sent to Elizabeth Frost, M.D., Department of Anesthesiology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY 10461. Activities for next year include continued production of the newsletter; working with the WLM to address the equipment problem; planning for our next meeting in New Orleans; and perhaps publication of the "Historical Resources" section of the newsletter as a separate item. Ideas and suggestions from members are welcome, as we begin our first official year.

NEWS AND NOTES

NOW AVAILABLE: Long out of print, the 1953 edition of Mushin's and Rendell-Baker's *Principles of Thoracic Anaesthesia* is now available by special photo-xeroxing onto high-quality, acid-free paper from Charles C. Thomas Publisher, 2600 South First Street, Springfield, IL 62717. Cost is \$28.75. The book will be cloth-bound. Photographs will suffer a 30% loss of detail. The book has an excellent chapter by Dr. Leslie Rendell-Baker on the history of thoracic anesthesia and is an important resource.

DATA BASE ON THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE: Want to do a quick search of the medical history literature? Search *HISTLINE (History of Medicine Online)*, a National Library of Medicine DataBase available through many medical libraries. This has citations to monographs, journal articles, symposia, congresses, and similar publications indexed since 1964 in the *Bibliography of the History of Medicine*. Included are the history of medicine and related sciences, professions, individuals, institutions, drugs and diseases. Citations are indexed by subject, chronological period, and geographic area. Usual charge is \$12.00 per search.

FOR THOSE WHO KNEW LEWIS WRIGHT: Dr. Wright's widow, Alice C. Wright, had a second total hip replacement the first of August. She is back home at 10 Rugg Street, St. Albans, VT 05478, and would enjoy cards from old friends.

ANESTHESIA: THE BEGINNINGS. A slide/lecture developed by the Historical Division of the Cleveland Health Sciences Library is available for loan at no charge. There are eight slides (2 x 2), two artifacts (chloroform bottle and face mask), and text. It takes approximately seven minutes for delivery. It gives a brief overview of the development of inhalation anesthesia and is suitable as an introduction to the subject for audiences with limited knowledge of the history of anesthesia.

Order from: Historical Division, Cleveland Health Sciences Library/Allen, 11000 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106.

BOOKS FOR SALE: Old Galen's Books, Box 3044, W. Durham, NC 27705, has a list of books related to anesthesia history for sale. Those interested can write for the list at the above address.

FROM THE EDITOR

The second year of our newsletter begins with this issue. Over the next year, changes will slowly take place in the format. Graphic artist-editor Debbie Lipscomb will be working with me on design and production aspects. This will give us the benefit of a professional in this area, and will allow me to get back to my research and end my embarrassment at all the typographical errors that seemed to creep past my hurried editing. So, it should be another exciting year for the newsletter.

Once again, we welcome your suggestions, articles, etc. Please send them to me at 5112 Wilderness Lane, Culver City, California 90230.
—Selma Harrison Calmes

HISTORICAL RESOURCES

The Historical Museum of Medicine & Dentistry of the Hartford Medical & Dental Societies

The Museum was founded 10 years ago and is housed in a building titled The Hunt Memorial, Hartford Medical Society, at 230 Scarborough Street, Hartford, Connecticut. This is located on Route 44 west, three miles from downtown Hartford. The collection of artifacts dates from the late 1700's for medicine and from the early 1800's for dentistry.

The collection relative to anesthesia is extensive since Hartford was the home and office site of Horace Wells, and was the City wherein he discovered the anesthetic effects of nitrous oxide. A number of personal memorabilia pertaining to Horace Wells is exhibited, such as his "Day Book" (1842-1845), Passport, Certificate from the English Medical and Dental societies, correspondence from Mrs. Wells (1860), photos of his office, oil portraits, a letter from John Riggs (Riggs Disease) describing his role in the event of extracting Wells' tooth (the first such use of nitrous oxide) and a number of other items of interest.

Wells lived at 17 Spring Street in Hartford; the site is presently an open lot. He is buried at the Cedar Hill

Cemetery, at the south end of Hartford, and a full-length monument of Wells may be found in Bushnell Park in downtown Hartford.

The Museum mounts new displays several times a year to highlight portions of their collections or to feature recent acquisitions. In December this year, they will feature some of Dr. Wells' personal memorabilia and other items of anesthesia history.

The Museum Catalogue was recently awarded an Honorable Mention prize in the American Association of Museums publication competition, with excellent illustrations of the Museum's holdings in all areas of medicine and dentistry. It is available to interested readers at no charge by phoning or writing to the Museum.

TELEPHONE: 203-236-5613

ADDRESS: 230 Scarborough Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

CURATORS: Drs. Leonard Menczer and Michael Mittelmann.

HOURS: 9 AM - 5 PM weekdays.

—Dr. Leonard Menczer



"RULES OF THE ROAD"

*by John A. Woods, Appraiser
Coventry, Connecticut*

Appraisals and the Internal Revenue Service

We've talked in a previous article about appraisal techniques. One of the reasons an appraisal of property is done is for property donated to qualified institutions. Property can include books, documents, manuscripts, memorabilia, etc. The purpose of this article is to explain what constitutes a qualified institution, and what the IRS wants to see in an appraisal report filed with the taxpayer's 1040.

Appraisers and librarians/curators are nervous when dealing with the Internal Revenue Service. The Service is very up front with its requirements and issues two bulletins on an annual basis detailing the rules of the road: How? Why? To what extent property donated is valued, described and transferred. These bulletins are:

- Publication 526 — Charitable Contributions
- Publication 561 — Determining the Value of Donated Property

Traffic Light

Let's look at qualified institutions for a minute and see some examples:

- States
- Charitable non-profit hospitals and medical research organizations

Some examples of non-qualified institutions are:

- Chambers of Commerce
- Civic Leagues
- Social Clubs

Property Donated

If you donate property with a fair market value that is

more than your basis (the original amount you paid), you may have to reduce the fair market value by all or part of the increase when you figure your deduction. Generally, if you deducted the expense of an item previously (medical books when you purchased them, for example), you may only deduct the difference, if any, between the fair market value as of the date of the donation and the original cost of the material.

One exception is self-generated material. Current tax laws state you may deduct no more than the cost of the supplies required to "make the property" — pens, paper, etc. You may *not* deduct the fair market value of the property.

For each gift on which you claim a deduction of more than \$200, you must attach a statement to your return giving the following information:

1. Name and address of organization and date of contribution
2. Description of the property and physical condition at the time of contribution
3. Approximate date you acquired the property
4. An estimate of the fair market value or an appraiser's report
5. Cost of your property
6. Copy of the letter of transmittal to the qualified organization
7. The amount you claim as a deduction for the tax year

The Rules of the Road are straightforward. Follow the road signs, stay in your own lane and, if you have questions, ask the Internal Revenue Service, your tax accountant, or a recognized personal property appraiser.

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Smithsonian Exhibit Opens



"How can you display *pain*?" I heard a surprised tourist ask at the Smithsonian's information desk on the first day of the ASA-sponsored exhibit, "Pain and Its Relief." It has been done and most effectively so. The exhibit opened October 13, after nearly 10 years of work by the ASA's Committee on the Smithsonian Exhibit, chaired by Dr. Leroy Vandam. Other committee members were Drs. Mary Louise Barker, Albert Betcher, Gwendolyn Stone Connor, Kenneth Hall, Solomon Hershey, Charles Tandy, and Bill Neff (adjunct). Smithsonian personnel were Deborah Warner and Audrey Davis.

The exhibit's theme is pain and how it has been perceived and relieved in the past and in the present. The first section examines ancient peoples' beliefs about pain and their methods of relief, such as coca, opium and mandragora. A trephined skull provides vivid evidence of their attempts at surgery.

The exhibit then moves to the 19th Century. The heroic medicine of the time is demonstrated by bleeding cups and leech jars, and there are illustrations of the surgery then attempted, such as amputations. The background for the development of "surgical sleep" follows, with cartoons of early N₂O parties. The heroes of anesthesia's discovery are next, in appropriate glory. Busts daguerrotypes, and copies of their publications make Crawford Long, Horace Wells, Morton, Jackson and Warren seem very real. Their equipment is illustrated by three variations of Morton's inhaler. The priority controversy is handled fairly, as is the effect of the discovery on surgery. A collection of early anesthesia vaporizers, twelve masks, and information of Snow and Simpson finish this section.

The exhibit then deals with regional anesthesia. An interesting item here is the "novocaine dissolver," a set of porcelain bowls for dissolving early local anesthetics. Next is a fascinating collection of posters and other memorabilia from the over-the-counter trade in pain medicines. Fortunately, there is a brief comment on the social consequences of this business, the resultant addiction of many Americans, especially Civil War wounded and women. Popular mechanical devices for pain relief are also illustrated. These include one of my favorite examples of 19th-Century medical quackery, the "automatic eyeball massager," which was one of the stars of a past Smithsonian exhibit, "The Nation's Attic." Some of the script in this part is hard to read.

"Professional Developments," the next section, identifies the early anesthesia organizations and their publications. Then comes a stunning array of early anesthesia machines, which will delight every anesthesiologist. Included are the S.S. White, Teter, Heidbrink, Gwathmey-Lundy, Forreger Texas model (unlabeled!), Ohio Series 300 Kinetometer, and Connell machines. Face masks, intubation equipment, a brief mention of curare and an early blood gas machine provide additional, vivid evidence of the technical advances in anesthesia equipment. A modern operating room allows contrast with this more primitive equipment.

The final section addresses the pain of childbirth. The conflict over the use of anesthesia here is well discussed, as is the past demand for twilight sleep.

The artistic aspects of the exhibit contribute greatly to its enjoyment. It is the most beautifully mounted and well-lit exhibit I can remember in many years of visiting this museum. The exhibit designer was Nadya A. Makovenyi, who used taupe as the background, theme color with accents of grey, beige-purple, and shades of sepia. The

lucite cases and descriptions are edged with burnished or polished aluminum. The lighting is excellent, and the layout allows easy movement by large numbers of people. This is in contrast to the "MASH" exhibit, also at the museum, which requires a single-file line for viewing and which doesn't have the visual beauty of our exhibit.

The beauty is not just confined to the display itself. Several pieces of equipment are visually stunning. For example, look closely at the N₂O generator on loan from Northwestern. Although it's rather hefty-looking, it is beautifully decorated with a circle of morning glories at the top and another of fall leaves and grape clusters at the bottom. Additional floral bouquets and a child in a ruff provide evidence that this piece of equipment had an artistic as well as a utilitarian function.

There are some missed opportunities. A film on pain is overly dramatic and of poor technical quality. A series of old O.R. scenes, just before the modern O.R., provides a great opportunity to note the changes in O.R. attire and practice. The most recent picture (1915), for example, shows all personnel unmasked but wearing gloves. Even a few sentences could have made clear how late and how controversial these important developments were. The 1909 picture from Cleveland Metropolitan Hospital has a lonely black woman (? medical student ?) seated in the amphitheater. Couldn't there have been a few words about the practice of watching operations and perhaps about that woman? Such descriptions would sharpen viewers' perceptions for the modern scene to come. Finally, Virginia Apgar and the Apgar Score are introduced in the section on professional achievements, which otherwise deals with organizations. Many would question her inclusion here; she just doesn't belong. It might have been more useful to include this topic in the section on obstetric pain.

These are minor points, however. Anyone who has ever mounted an exhibit will realize fully the high standard of excellence of both the script and displayed items. Those with an artistic eye will also enjoy the beautiful setting. I spent several hours in the exhibit, watching public response. There were many favorable comments. The exhibit should do much to inform the public about our important role in relieving pain. Anesthesiologists may also learn something about the cultural role of pain. Congratulations are due to all involved in production of the exhibit. Be sure to plan a Washington visit within the next 18 months!

— Selma Harrison Calmes, M.D.

EXHIBIT INFORMATION: Location of the exhibit is the first floor of the West Wing, the National Museum for American History, on The Mall in Washington, D.C. The exhibit will run until the Fall of 1984. Museum hours are 10-5:30, later in Summer. Allow about one hour for viewing; photographers will need longer. A catalog, *Pain and Its Relief*, by Nancy Knight, is available from the Smithsonian Book Store for \$5.50. (Mail orders to the Smithsonian Bookstore, National Museum for American History, Washington, D.C. 20560. Add \$1.75 for mailing cost.)

CASSETTES AVAILABLE

Audio cassettes and video tapes are available of live presentations at the *First International Symposium on the History of Modern Anaesthesia* May 5-8, 1982, at Rotterdam, The Netherlands. These recordings are invaluable resources.

The following audio tape cassettes are available:

1. J.W. Dundee, Belfast, N. Ireland: a) *Early non-barbiturate anaesthetics*; b) *Early barbiturates and thiobarbiturates*; c) *Early problems in establishing intravenous anaesthesia*.
2. J.B. Bowes and J.S.M. Zorab, Bristol, U.K.: *Sir Ivan Magill's contribution to anaesthesia*.
3. G. Rolly, Ghent, Belgium: *History of the Acta Anaesthesiologica Belgica*.
4. G. Corssen, Phoenix, AZ, U.S.A.: a) *John S. Lundy, M.D.: Father of intravenous anaesthesia*; b) *Dissociative anaesthesia: a new concept in pain control during surgery*.
5. D.H.G. Keuskamp, Streefkerk, The Netherlands: *Possible hazards of technical progress in anaesthetic practice*.
6. Mr. T. Cecil Gray, Liverpool, U.K.: *A tale of two cities*.
7. Mr. T. Cecil Gray, Liverpool, U.K.: *On the history of the British Journal of Anaesthesia*.
8. A. Spence, Glasgow, U.K.: *Editorial policy of the British Journal of Anaesthesia*.
9. J.G. Rees, Liverpool, U.K.: *Recent history of the pediatric anaesthesia*.
10. H. Ruben, Copenhagen, Denmark: *Anaesthesia and resuscitation equipment I happened to be involved in*.
11. L. Rendell-Baker, Loma Linda, CA, U.S.A.: *History of development of standards of anaesthetic equipment*.
12. E.T. Keys, Daytona Beach, FL, U.S.A.: a) *Personal reflections after forty years' interest in the history of modern anaesthesia*; b) *The place of anaesthesia in the history of medicine*.
13. B. Lind, Oslo, Norway: *Recent history of resuscitation in Norway*.
14. J.W. Severinghaus, San Francisco, CA, U.S.A.: *Blood gases*.

15. T.B. de Bruyn and J.L. Couper, Pretoria and Medunsa, South Africa: *The value of history of anaesthesia for anaesthetists and anaesthetists in training*.

16. C.P. Boyan, Richmond, VA, U.S.A.: *Massive blood transfusion warming of bank blood*.

17. Sir Robert Macintosh, Oxford, U.K.: *The background to the establishment of the chair of anaesthetics in Oxford*.

18. W.W. Mushin, Cardiff, U.K.: *The researcher versus the clinician in anaesthesia*.

19. L.E. Morris, Toledo, OH, U.S.A.: *The educational program goes marching on*.

20. H. Benzon, H. Linde and E.A. Brunner, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.: *Anaesthesia research interest in the United States 1940-1980*.

21. O. Secher, Copenhagen, Denmark: *Anaesthesiology Centre Copenhagen*.

22. A. Hyman, New York, NY, U.S.A.: *Development in infant resuscitation*.

23. M.T. Jenkins, Dallas, TX, U.S.A.: *Fluid administration during anaesthesia and operation*.

24. J.A. Lee, Southland-on-See, U.K.: *The origins of three important changes in anaesthetic practice*.

The following video tapes (American or European system) can be provided:

1. Sir Robert Macintosh: *On the creation of the chair of anaesthesia at Oxford*.

2. W.W. Mushin: *Researcher versus clinician in anaesthesia*.

3. D.H.G. Keuskamp: *Hazards of technical progress in practice of anaesthesia*.

4. P. Jenkins: *Fluid therapy*.

5. J. Alfred Lee: *Three major developments in anaesthesia*.

6. H. Ruben: *Artificial hibernation*.

PRICE: The audio cassettes are U.S.\$ 15.00 each, while the price of the video cassettes will depend upon the system and number of simultaneous orders.

INFORMATION: For further information or to place orders, please contact J. Ruprecht, M.D., Anaesthesiologist, 338 van Oldenbarneveltplaats, 3012 AM Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

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