

AuSPEN

Australian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- AuSPEN 26th Annual Scientific meeting, October 26th – 28th, Lorne, Victoria.
- Early-bird registration closing on the 22nd September for the conference
- First electronic distribution of newsletter.

For the first time AuSPEN members who have supplied the society with their email address will now be receiving their newsletter electronically. Much work has gone into a new member's database to record members' details including professions, addresses, fees and other housekeeping features. This will make the running of the society much more efficient and will help reduce costs as we begin the new millennium. We do thank all members for being patient as we have upgraded these facilities, as it has been time consuming and hard work, however will lead to a much more efficient society for us all.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past year has been a busy one for AuSPEN as it continues to build on the hard work put in over the last few years to bring the society forward into the 21st Century and the era of rapidly advancing information technology. There is much to look forward to although the modern business environment and the demands of "best practice", which apply not only to our clinical work, but also to our business and clerical affairs, create new challenges for us. In the past the society has been a very successful and relaxed organisation with little need for great detail or documentation. Some of the day to day running of the society has happened with little organisation being required as a result of the efforts of a small number of dedicated members. These new challenges and the need to run an organisation as transparently as possible create new demands and the requirement for new procedures and processes.

This year has seen the development of the secretariat at ANZICS House in Rathdowne Street, Carlton so that the society now has a permanent home and contact numbers for members to be able to keep in touch with the organisation. At the present time the membership database is being updated largely due to the efforts of Ibolya Nyulasi and Liliana Sputore. This has proved to be an enormous task which has exposed great deficiencies in the old system that undoubtedly led to some members not receiving mail or newsletters and undoubtedly has lost us some members altogether. The new system will not only be more accurate but should permit a more rapid processing of new members

and the commencement of membership privileges. The database also gives us a greater ability to rapidly assess the state of the membership and the financial status of the society. There was clear message from the membership at last years AGM that they wished to retain the "Nutrition" journal as an important component of membership. The currency exchange rates have not been kind to us and we were forced to significantly increase membership dues to make sure that subscriptions covered the running costs of the society and the journal. Hopefully future increases will be smaller but this also has an adverse impact on membership numbers. Other costs have been minimised by the council meeting by teleconference and only meeting face to face at the AGM.

We are deeply indebted to Tom Hartley for his efforts in producing the newsletter over the past few years and for his access to electronic information in the nutritional field. One of the innovations of the technological era that we are about to embark on is an electronic newsletter which will be available to all members. There will also be a dedicated website for AuSPEN with general information about the society, members areas and links to other societies and organisations.

This year has also seen the society's name change from Australian to Australasian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition but of course remaining AuSPEN. This change will hopefully reflect a greater presence of our society within the region that in turn will enhance our role in education and as an expert reference organisation



The annual scientific meeting on the Gold Coast last October was a highly successful meeting with truly outstanding guest speakers and was enjoyed by all who attended. This years meeting is being held outside a capital city in Lorne about 2 hours drive from Melbourne. The local

organising committee have worked hard to give us a stimulating programme and the venue will be outstanding. I encourage you all to support your society and attend the meeting. I look forward to catching up with many of you there in October.

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE FOR 2000, OCTOBER 26-28, LORNE, VICTORIA

Early-bird registration for
AuSPEN Annual
conference closing 22nd
September. REGISTER
NOW!

For further conference details:

- Indi Richardson
Ph: 03 9276 3063

Email: i.richardson@alfred.org.au

- The OzAccom Group
PO Box 164, Fortitude Valley QLD,
4006

Toll Free: 1800 814 611

Ph: 07 3854 1611

Fax: 07 3854 1507

Email: ozaccom@ozaccom.com.au

The organising of the 26th Annual Conference is well underway, and all members should be receiving their Registration Brochures this week. Two educational workshops addressing advances in TPN and issues surrounding enteral feeding will be run concurrently on Thursday 26th October. The core program on the Friday 27th and Saturday 28th October will cover topics of current interest such as nutrition support in ICU, renal disease and nutritional management of the surgical patient and the problems associated with short gut. Three international speakers have been invited and will be participating on all three days of the conference. Professor Simon Allison of Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham, UK who is the current Chairman of ESPEN and a past editor of Clinical

Nutrition will join us. As will Professor Peter Furst from the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany. He has published widely in the area of amino acid metabolism and disease specific formulas and is the incoming president of ESPEN. They will be joined by Assistant Professor Daren Heyland from Kingston General Hospital, Ontario, Canada. His academic appointment is at Queens University. His research interests are nutrition support, outcomes assessments and economic evaluations.

We hope that as many members as possible will be able to attend this exciting conference at Lorne. Please be sure to contact the society if you do not receive a registration brochure as **early bird prices are only available until 22/9/00.**

Lorne provides the perfect setting for this years conference, which will be an exciting program in a relaxed and informal setting, and should be very enjoyable!



CALENDAR OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

September 10-13th, 2000

22nd ESPEN Congress
Madrid, Spain
www.espen.org

October 6th, 2000

Mid-Atlantic Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
15th Annual Fall Clinical Symposium
Greensboro, NC, USA

October 12-15th, 2000

41st Annual Meeting of the American College of Nutrition
Las Vegas, NV, USA

November 9-12th, 2000

6th Congress of the Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Society of Asia (PENSA)
Taipei, Taiwan

November 28-30th, 2000

BAPEN conference
Harrogate, UK
www.bapen.org.uk

January 21-24th, 2001

25th Silver Anniversary ASPEN Clinical Congress
Chicago, IL, USA
www.clinnutr.org

February 16-18th, 2001

7th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
Ahmedabad, Gujarat
www.hostindia.com/ispen/

Mar 31^s – Apr 4th, 2001

41st Annual Meeting of American Society for Clinical Nutrition
San Diego, CA, USA
www.faseb.org/ascn/

May 20-23rd, 2001

Digestive Diseases Week
Atlanta, Georgia

September 9-12th, 2001

26th ESPEN Congress
Munich, Germany

Upcoming conferences to put in your diary, along with associated websites to have a look at.

In Memory of Michael Barnett:



Michael Barnett, Julie Bines & Liliana Sputore

We were saddened to hear that in January Professor Michael Barnett died. Many AuSPEN members will have warm memories of Professor Michael Barnett. Michael had been a strong supporter of AuSPEN. Over the past 5 years he had actively contributed to the Annual Scientific Conferences of AuSPEN and had made many friends within the Society. Internationally, Michael also had made a huge contribution to the development of lipid emulsions, to the development of standards in the TPN Pharmacy and to the training of TPN Pharmacists worldwide. His intellectual contribution, his warm but wicked sense of humor and welsh singing will be sadly missed.

News from Previous Members:

- As written in the Adelaide Advertiser: South Australian medical scientist Professor Basil Hetzel was honored at an international meeting in Adelaide earlier this year for 40 years of work to prevent the world's biggest single cause of mental retardation. The meeting recognised the importance of work by Professor Hetzel which led to the adding of iodine to diet through salt. In the early days of AuSPEN Basil Hetzel was supportive. He was the keynote speaker at the 1977 Adelaide meeting.
- Dr. Paula Thomas, who is a life member of AuSPEN, and has been a Society Treasurer amongst other things, was in Australia recently. She caught up with a number of people involved in the early days of paediatric parenteral nutrition and a number of her former patients who are now approaching 30 years of age!

WE'RE CHANGING OUR
WEBSITE!
WWW.AUSPEN.ORG.AU

AuSPEN is currently working on a new website for the society, which will soon be available to everyone. The website address has been registered, but will not be activated until we have finished building the site. The new address will be: www.auspen.org.au and will include copies of the newsletter, links to other international sites, online registration and conference details for future conferences, and other important and interesting information. Members will be kept informed as to the progress of this site and we look forward to you all having access to it.

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR AUSPEN

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