Fall 2006

Dr. Robert Gorlin passed away August 29, 2006. Bob was 83 years old. A larger-than-life presence in oral pathology for over 50 years, he was a man of enormous intellect and curiosity, thoughtful deliberation, and infinite compassion and kindness. And he will be missed.

American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Michael D. Rohrer, DDS, MS

Greetings from Minneapolis! Everyone who ascends to this office is awed to be the latest in such a long list of great people who’ve served as president of the AAOMP. I want to say how proud I am to follow Brad Neville, a strong, intelligent, sensible leader, the epitome of what a great oral pathologist should be.

As I’m writing this I can’t believe how many things have been happening since the very successful meeting in San Antonio where, for the first time, the AAOMP hosted the President of the American Dental Association. ADA President Bob Brandjord gave an interesting, honest presentation on the situation with the ADA, especially in the realm of dentistry’s becoming more closely related to medicine. Bob is from the Twin Cities, a friend and, as an oral surgeon, a contributor to our biopsy service. I think people realized from his candid remarks what we’ve known, that he is a very compassionate person and a believer in quality dental access for all. Many attendees had the opportunity to speak with him at the reception. President Brandjord was extremely concerned about the numerous additions to the Medicare non-covered ICD-9 codes and the effect on oral pathologists and Medicare beneficiaries. He immediately mobilized the ADA’s resources, put them at our disposal and has personally kept track of our active pursuit of this issue. The ADA is now asking for our help to assist with a request from the American Medical Association for help with Medicare reimbursement issues.

Regarding the new Medicare non-covered codes: Although progress is slow, we are (with difficulty) finding out things about this “National Coverage Provision DENT 002”. The good news is that it is not “national” but limited to the 4 states administered by W.P.S., Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan. We’ve also found that these regional administrative companies can interpret the Medicare law and make rules regarding coverage and these “national” rules CANNOT be appealed! We’re in the process of setting up a meeting with the Medical Director of W.P.S. with AAOMP, AAOMS, and ADA representatives.

The ad hoc Marketing Committee chaired by Eleni Gagari is actively working with the public relations firm and you’ll see some changes soon, the new web site appearance, the new logo, and soon development of the Ambassadors speakers group and the Mentors. Council and Fellowship has strongly advocated the marketing project, but as Brad said last year, “the most successful marketing of Oral Pathology is ultimately accomplished by each one of us on an individual basis.” President-elect John Fantasia is finalizing the plans for the 2008 joint meeting with the IAOP in San Francisco. He’ll be talking with lots of people in Australia in June to ensure a fantastic meeting.

ROBERT J. GORLIN
1923-2006

Although Bob retired from his position at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 1993 (he was caught in that short period of time when universities could make you retire at 70), he continued to lecture, write articles, edit text books, consult and, of course, to come to the dental school every day until only recently when his illness curtailed those visits. As soon as his 4th edition of Syndromes of the Head and Neck was published in 2001 he started revisions for the next edition. In addition to his faculty position at the dental school, Bob also held joint appointments in the University’s Departments of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Otolaryngology, Pediatrics, and Dermatology.
As we know, Bob was an internationally acclaimed expert on oral and maxillofacial pathology, as well as genetic defects and syndromes, craniofacial disorders and hereditary hearing loss. Over the course of his 50 years in oral pathology, he studied and named more than 100 syndromes caused by genetic defects, discovering six in the process that were named for him. For several of those 100 syndromes, he and colleagues have been able to isolate the gene that causes the condition. His pioneering work has enabled physicians to assess and treat many genetic birth defects and is helping molecular biologists find ways to prevent or lessen their effects.

Internationally applauded across a variety of disciplines, Bob was the recipient of numerous awards, including five honorary doctorate degrees from universities as far away as Athens, Dublin and Copenhagen. In 1997, he was named a Senior Fellow in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, which serves as an advisor to the country in the conduct of studies and other activities on matters of significance to health. That same year, he also received the prestigious Premio Phoenix Anni Verdi Award, presented by the Italian Medical Genetics Society in recognition of his basic and applied research in genetically transmitted diseases, as well as the Goldhaber Award from Harvard University. In 2002, he received the University of Minnesota’s highest honor, an honorary Doctor of Science Award, and in 1995 the American Dental Association recognized him with its Norton A. Ross Award. Bob was 2003 recipient of the ADA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Dental Research. In 2004 he was the recipient of the American Society of Human Genetics Award for Excellence in Human Genetics Education and was the invited presenter on the topic of genetic signaling in development and disease at the Nobel Foundation conference in Stockholm. For the last 13 years, he has been honored by an annual Robert J. Gorlin Dysmorphology Conference, which attracts scientists and clinicians from all over the world to discuss their research.

Bob earned his doctor of dental surgery degree from Washington University School of Dentistry in 1947 and his master’s in Oral Pathology from the State University of Iowa in 1956. The same year, he joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry as associate professor and chair of the Divisions of Oral Histology and Oral Pathology. He was named a U-M Regents Professor in 1978.

All of us in oral pathology knew Bob as a wonderfully outgoing person who contributed unselfishly to oral pathology and genetics longer than most of us can even remember. Everyone has a favorite “Gorlin story”. His constantly upbeat brand of genius and bright outlook on life will be missed around our halls in Minneapolis and around the world.

Mike Rohrer

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**JOE GIANSANTI**

1930-2006

Joe Giansanti was born on the day before Valentine’s Day in 1930 in Rome, New York. He died on June 19, 2006. What happened in between is what is important.

I met Joe in 1967 when he joined the oral pathology department of Emory University as an oral pathology resident. I was his mentor (having just started my own career in oral pathology), together with Chuck Waldron. Joe and I became close friends both professionally and socially.

Joe was late finding what he really wanted to do in life, but when he did, he made the best of it and attacked it with enthusiasm, dedication and humor. Joe served in the US Marine Corps for 4 years where he developed his toughness. Thereafter, he attended Utica College and subsequently, Tufts University Dental School to study where he learned his professionalism. He practiced general dentistry for eight years and there he learned to deal with people. Fortunately for me, he chose to continue his dental education at Emory and began his oral pathology training. Here he developed his excellent skills in his specialty. Joe remained with us on the faculty at Emory in the department of oral pathology for three years.

It was during these 5 years that I spent with Joe that I found him to be a tough, yet warm and gentle professional, with a true love for people and the practice of oral pathology. He was a superb teacher providing wonderful, practical humorous and caring leadership for his students. Basically shy and sometimes quiet, withdrawn and introspective, Joe would eagerly give help with anything, provide you counsel and literally offer to give you the shirt off of his back.

All too quickly, Joe left Emory to further his career at University of Kentucky, serving with tenure as Acting Chairman of Oral Pathology. Thereafter, he became Director of Clinical Affairs at the Detroit School of Dentistry. Three years later, Joe was named Associate Dean at the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry where he served until he retired in 1991 to Ridgeland Mississippi.

Joe has left a legacy of contributions to the oral pathology literature and a wealth of knowledge for his students. He is survived by his wonderful family and many friends, who will cherish fond memories of Joe Giansanti. May God rest his soul.

Dwight R. Weathers
THOMAS FREDERICK (FRED) PAYNE
1942-2005

Dr. Fred Payne, an oral pathologist, mentor, and friend passed away on Saturday, November 19, 2005, after a 10-month struggle with lymphoma. In January 2005, Fred was diagnosed with a rare, very aggressive T-cell lymphoma of the duodenum that spread to the lungs. He received 2 different modes of chemotherapy, including an experimental regimen at MD Anderson, but the disease never went into complete remission to allow for the anticipated bone marrow transplant. He died at home while receiving hospice care in November 2005.

Fred was born on October 14, 1942, in Cedartown, Georgia, about an hour northwest of Atlanta. He grew up in Cedartown and was graduated from Cedartown High School in 1960. After pre-dental education at Emory-at-Oxford College, Fred entered Emory University School of Dentistry, graduating with a D.D.S. degree in 1967. Having received a three year National Institute of Health Fellowship grant that paid for post-graduate education, he immediately entered residency training in oral pathology at Emory, receiving an M.S.D. degree in Oral Pathology in June 1970. Fred was extremely proud to be able to call Dr. Chuck Waldron his mentor. He became a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Pathology in 1972 and was granted Fellowship in the Academy.

Following residency training, Fred entered the U.S. Army Dental Corps. He spent his early career in research and educational endeavors, serving at the Presidio of San Francisco and then at the U.S. Army Institute of Dental Research. He was a mentor in the Oral Pathology Residency program at USAIDR. Fred was a marvelous mentor. While he pushed his residents hard, Fred had an uncanny ability to know when to just give away the answer and when to say, “Dammit, go look it up!” More than just a mentor though, Fred was also friends with his residents. While at USAIDR, Fred continued his advanced education, earning the degree of Master of Arts in Higher Education in 1977 from George Washington University.

Fred assumed increasingly important leadership roles within the Army Dental Corps following his assignment at USAIDR. He attended the Armed Forces Staff College and then progressed to become the dental commander at Mannheim, Germany; Ft. Riley, Kansas; and Ft. Bragg, NC. In 1990, Fred was named the ARCENT Dental Surgeon in Saudi Arabia, being the senior dental officer responsible for planning and supervising Army Dental Support during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. Fred retired from the Army with the rank of Colonel on June 30, 1994, returning to his beloved Georgia and settling in Rome, 18 miles from where he grew up in Cedartown. In Rome, he enjoyed a life of fishing, gardening, woodworking, and taking his dearly loved dogs Abby and Sassy for a ride to Burger King for hamburgers. Fred was also an avid sports fan, particularly enjoying watching the Atlanta Braves.

Fred was married for 41 years to his high school sweetheart Reba. They met and fell in love when Reba was 14 and he was 15. After dating for 6 years, they married in 1964. Fred is also survived by his two children, Cami Rebecca Legacy and Thomas Frederick (Rick) Payne, Jr., and 4 grandchildren, R.D., Kristin, Trey, and Matthew.

Fred Payne’s accomplishments were many and he will be missed by those whose lives he touched. For friends that might want to contact his family, the address is:
Reba T. Payne
12 Fox Chase Drive, SW
Rome, Georgia 30165-8565

CPC 2006 - Diagnoses

Case 1 – Langerhans cell histiocytosis
Case 2 – Multiple granular cell tumors
Case 3 – Pleomorphic adenoma
Case 4 – Follicular lymphoid hyperplasia
Case 5 - Histoplasmosis

Award Winners

Gorlin Award - Mark Scheper
Shafter Award - Mitzi Palazzolo
H.B. Robinson Award - Jang-Jaer Lee
Student Award - David Fischer
2006 CONTRIBUTORS

Rafik A. Abdelsayed - Augusta, GA
Albert M. Abrams - Port Ludlow, WA
Carl M. Allen - Columbus, OH
Paul L. Auclair - Portland, ME
Bruce F. Barker - Kansas City, MO
Charles E. Barr - Farmington, CT
Ronald A. Baughman - Palatka, FL
Euterpe Bazopoulou-Kyrkanidou - Athens, GREECE
Robert B. Brannon - Mandeville, LA
James C. Burns - Midlothian, VA
Lewis A. Caputa, Jr - Orange Park, FL
Edmund F. Cataldo - Boothbay, ME
Lydia L. Chen - Plainview, NY
Sow-Yeh Chen - Philadelphia, PA
Jaeo Cho - 130-701 Seoul, KOREA
Deborah B. Cleveland - Newark, NJ
D. Walter Cohen - Philadelphia, PA
Maria A. Copete - Saskatoon, CANADA
Russell L. Corio - Rockville, MD
Richard M. Courtney - Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
Paul R. Cuenin - Portland, ME
E. James Cundiff - Dallas, TX
Douglas D. Damm - Lexington, KY
Gayle W. DeBoom - Lakewood, WA
Ellen Eisenberg - Farmington, CT
Gary L. Ellis - Salt Lake City, UT
Nadia Enani - 21444 Jeddah, SAUDI ARABIA
Lewis Roy Eversole - San Diego, CA
John E. Fantasia - New Hyde Park, NY
John M. Foley - Tavares, FL
Robert D. Foss - Rockville, MD
Craig B. Fowler - Lackland AFB, TX
William M. Gabriel - Santa Barbara, CA
George T. Gallagher - Roxbury, MA
Lawrence J. Goldblatt - Indianapolis, IN
Alan R. Gould - Louisville, KY
Suleyman Gulmen - Florissant, MO
Harold L. Hammond - Iowa City, IA
Janice Handlers - Los Angeles, CA
German A. Hernandez-Lopez - Bogota, Colombia, SOUTH AMERICA
John L. Hicks - Fargo, ND
Stanley A. Hirsch - Cleveland, OH
Seymour Hoffman - Birmingham, AL
Sadru P. Kabani - Boston, MA
Michael A. Kahn - Boston, MA
John R. Kalmar - Columbus, OH
Yoichiro Kameyama - Nagoya, JAPAN
Robert D. Kelsch - New Hyde Park, NY
Harvey P. Kessler - Dallas, TX
Ordie H. King Jr. - Alton, IL
Cindy Kleinegger - Portland, OR
Ioannis G. Koutsas - Minneapolis, MN
James Kratochvil - Portland, OR
Zoya B. Kurago - Iowa City, IA
W. Boyd Lee - Germantown, TN
Alan S. Leider - Roseville, CA
Susan R. Mallery - Columbus, OH
R. John McComb - Toronto, ONT CANADA
J. Michael McCoy - Knoxville, TN
Raymond J. Melrose - Los Angeles, CA
Arthur S. Miller - Philadelphia, PA
Thomas H. Morton, Jr. - Seattle, WA
Reza S. Mostofi - Chicago, IL
Valerie A. Murrah - Chapel Hill, NC
Talib A. Najjar - Maplewood, NJ
Brenda L. Nelson - Germantown, MD
Brad W. Neville - Charleston, SC
Dolphine Oda - Seattle, WA
Arapeli Ortiz - San Juan, PR
Charles W. Pemble III - Owings, MD
Marie A. Ramer - Woodmere, NY
Robert S. Redman - Washington, DC
Gordon M. Rick - San Diego, CA
Michael D. Rohrer - Minneapolis, MN
Edward P. Rossi - Beachwood, OH
Nathaniel H. Rowe - Ann Arbor, MI
William R. Sabes - Louisville, KY
Nasser Said Al-Naief - Birmingham, AL
J. Philip Sapp - Los Angeles, CA
Henry H. Scofield - Potomac, MD
Brion C. Smith - Ijamsville, MD
Marshall P. Solomon - Brooklyn, NY
Lynn Solomon - Buffalo, NY
Dennis Solt - Chicago, IL
William G. Sprague - Lincoln, NE
David G. Stahl - Manchester, NH
Diane Stern - Aventura, FL
Carol M. Stewart - Gainesville, FL
Paul G. Stimson - Sugarland, TX
Lan Su - Westlake Village, CA
Don-John Summerlin - Indianapolis, IN
Kurt F. Summersgill - Pittsburgh, PA
Di Sun - Rockville, MD
Mary E. Terkoski - Nashua, NH
Ken R. Tilashalski - Birmingham, AL
Charles E. Tomich - Indianapolis, IN
Denise A. Trochesset - Stony Brook, NY
Ines Velez - Davie, FL
Gary R. Warnock - Baltimore, MD
Dwight R. Weathers - Atlanta, GA
Preston Q. Welch - Alexandria, VA
Dean K. White - Lexington, KY
Norman K. Wood - Lombardy, ONT CANADA
Ratthapong Worawongvasu - Ratchathevi, Bankok, THAILAND
John M. Wright - Dallas, TX
Josephine Wu - New York, NY
George P. Wysocki - London, ONT CANADA
Mehdi Yousefi - Washington, DC
Susan L. Zunt - Indianapolis, IN
# 2006 - 2007 Executive Council and Committee Roster

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
- **President:** Michael D. Rohrer
- **President-Elect:** John E. Fantasia
- **Vice President:** Valerie Murrah
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Michael A. Kahn (2009)
- **Editor:** Mark Lingen (2009)
- **Dir. of Education:** John Hellstein (2009)
- **Past President:** Brad W. Neville

### Councilors:
- Sara Gordon (2007)
- Kurt Summersgill (2007)
- Steven Vincent (2008)
- Sook-Bin Woo (2008)
- Cindy Kleinegger (2009)
- Robert Kelsch (2009)

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- Douglas D. Damm
- Michael A. Kahn
- John Kalmar
- John Hellstein
- Lynn Solomon

### ABOMP Board Liaison
- Valeria Murrah (Oct. 2005-2006)
- Harvey Kessler (Oct. 2006-2007)

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
- Zoya Kurago, Chair
- Josehpine Wu (2008)
- Jeffery C.B. Stewart (2009)
- Charles E. Tomich, Parliamentarian

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE
- John Hellstein, Chair
- Don Cohen (2007)
- Angela Chi (2008)
- J. Craig Whitt (2009)

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- George Gallagher, Chair
- Robert Kelsch (2008)
- Eleni Gagari (2009)
- Ioannis Koutlas (2010)
- Alice E. Curran (2011)

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- Darren P. Cox (2009)
- John E. Fantasia, ex-officio
- Michael Kahn, ex-officio

### LABORATORY SERVICE
- Russ Christensen, Chair
- Brad Seyer (2008)
- Paul C. Edwards (2009)
- Valerie Murrah, ex-officio

### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS
- Bruce Barker

## NOMINATION
- Lewis Roy Eversole, Chair
- Brad Neville
- Nisha J. D'Silva
- Anne Cale Jones
- Ricardo Padilla

## PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS
- Sherry Timmons, Chair
- Carl Allen (2008)
- Denise A. Trochesset (2009)
- Brad Neville, ex-officio

### PROGRAM
- Michael D. Rohrer, Chair
- John Fantasia
- Valerie Murrah
- Michael Kahn
- John Hellstein
- Bruce Barker

## RESEARCH & SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS
- Mark Lingen, Chair
- Gary Ellis, Secretary
- Catherine Flaitz
- John Kalmar
- Peter Polverini

## LONG RANGE PLANNING
- Lewis Roy Eversole, Chair
- Brad Neville
- James Burns (2007)
- Harvey Kessler (2008)
- Jose L. Tapia Vazquez (2009)
- Liz Lenard/Janet Svazas, ex-officio

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
- Zoya Kurago, Chair
- Josehpine Wu (2008)
- Jeffery C.B. Stewart (2009)
- Charles E. Tomich, Parliamentarian
Rod Cawson, Emeritus Professor of the University of London, England, was recently named an Honorary Fellow of the AAOMP. He has made an extremely generous donation to the AAOMP to establish a prize. The details will be worked out soon. In April the academy nominated Pete Polverini for the Norton M. Ross Award for Excellence in Clinical Research and John Sauk for the ADA Gold Medal for Excellence in Research. Both of these people deserve these awards and bring great honor to our specialty. We wish them luck in the competition for these prestigious awards.

David Fischer, a 3rd year dental student at Marquette University, was the first recipient of a $1000 stipend to attend our annual meeting and present an abstract. The National Student Research Group of ASDA suggested this project to us. We will offer 3 stipends for next year and will announce this to all dental schools and oral pathologists. We hope to have a large group of dental students vying for this award to present abstracts and attend the Kansas City meeting. What a great way to get outstanding dental students interested in oral pathology.

Council has agreed that AAOMP will co-sponsor an ADEA Summit in Baltimore this December. John Fantasia and I will attend the 3 day Summit entitled “The Convergence of Specialties in Advanced Dental Education: Challenges and Opportunities.”

I’ve made the committee assignments for this year and thank everyone who volunteered. It is unfortunate that we don’t have enough spots on committees for all those who volunteer to serve AAOMP. Please make sure you fill out the “interest to serve” questionnaires each year with your dues. That’s where we go to get the volunteers. As AAOMP continues to be more involved in all sorts of activities, including ADA, ADEA, and other organizations, we’ll need folks willing to give some time and effort to these endeavors. I’d like to encourage any AAOMP members who are not presently ADA members to join. Our membership percentage is the same as general dentists, but behind all the specialties.

A final note regarding the passing of several of our colleagues. I have just heard about Carl “Tom” Hanks and Bill Sprague. News of Joe Giansanti’s death came earlier and we have a memorial statement in this newsletter regarding Bob Gorlin. There will be a major memorial service for Bob Gorlin in Minneapolis in December.