



Volume 20 Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

Sept 2013

**FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT.....****THE STATE OF THE AAOIH**

Almost a year has gone by since we all met in Washington DC for a highly successful AAOIH dinner and scholarly meeting. It is our hope that the meeting in Vancouver will be one bigger and one better. This year the venue of the meeting has been organized by Dr. Amin Javer. Again this year our guest of honor will be one of our own, Dr. Manohar Bance. Dr. Bance is a scholar, teacher, lecturer, and chairman of the otolaryngology

department in Nova Scotia. It is with a great degree of satisfaction that I look upon the work done over a two year period in my capacity as President of the AAOIH. I consider this a period where, with the help of many, we were able to bring incremental change to our organization. This note is to provide you all with an overview. The changes can be broadly summarized into two realms, a) people and b) processes. No organization can survive without the latter, and none can thrive without the former.

When it comes to people I would first like to thank Dr. Nikhil Bhatt for his years of yeoman service to the organization. He has gone on to bigger things within the American Academy of Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery, and has stepped down as your treasurer. On behalf of the membership and the board I wish him all the very best in his new role, and much success as he represents the AAO-HNS at the International level. He along with Dr. Sujana Chandrasekhar have done us all proud.

Dr. Dinesh Mehta and Dr. Sanjay Bhansali were very kind to step in and help take over the accounts. Dr. Mehta has again come through, generously giving of his time, for a rather thankless job as our new treasurer. Both are knowledgeable and have a peerless reputation for integrity and honesty. Having functioned in that role before the transition seemed seamless. I thank them both for volunteering.

Two individuals deserve special mention. The first is Dr. Pete Batra your secretary whom I often bothered late in the night with my phone calls, and who despite a grueling academic schedule and a young family worked very hard for you. The other is Dr. Satish Govindaraj who has always been a solid if self-effacing ally, and who always put the team before self. In both of them I see a historical pivotal moment for the organization. This will be the first time that the children of Indian immigrants will assume leadership of the organization.

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**You are welcomed to join us to celebrate the  
36th Annual Dinner Meeting  
of AAOIH**

*Date: September 30, 2013*

*Place: Maurya Cuisine*

*1843 West Broadway,  
Vancouver BC V6J 1W9 Canada*

**Program**

*Time: 6:30 PM Cocktail and Registration*

*7:30PM Scientific Presentations by  
Resident paper awardees, Guest  
speaker And honored guests*

*8:30PM Dinner*

*9:30PM Business Meeting*

*Dinner reservation prior to meeting is mandatory  
for all members. New members and their guests are  
most welcomed. For more info log on to*

**[www.aaoih.com](http://www.aaoih.com)**

**From the desk of the Secretary.....**

Dear Colleague

With summer quickly drawing to a close, the annual AAOHNS meeting is now just around the corner. This year we head north to the beautiful city of Vancouver, British Columbia, for this important conference. It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that the 36th annual meeting of AAOIH will take place on



Monday, Sept 30, 2013. This annual dinner meeting is a special occasion that gives us a unique opportunity to share fellowship with close colleague from across the country and the world. Indeed, it is an evening not to be missed.

Dr. Manohar Bance, Professor and Head of the Division of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia will serve as the guest of honor for this meeting. Dr.

Bance is Director of the EAR and SENSE labs at Dalhousie University and has run a Middle Ear Mechanics Laboratory for many years. He holds several research grants and is cross appointed as a Professor to Biomedical engineering, Medical Neurosciences, Neurosurgery and Human Communication Disor-

ders at Dalhousie University. We greatly look forward to his keynote address. We will also welcome distinguished Academy guests, including, Dr. Jim Netterville, our Academy President, Dr. Richard Waguespack, The president Elect, and Dr. Gregory Randolph, the coordinator for International Affairs. Of course, no meeting will be complete without the resident research competition.. Fostering and recognizing intellectual pursuit by otolaryngology trainees remains a paramount goal of the AAOIH. Otolaryngology residents of Indian heritage are urged to contact Dr. Kevin Periera at [kevindpereira@gmail.com](mailto:kevindpereira@gmail.com) to present their scientific work at the meeting. Three prizes will be announced. Those desiring to join AAOIH are encouraged to contact Dr. Amet Singh, membership secretary at [dr.ameetsingh.ent@gmail.com](mailto:dr.ameetsingh.ent@gmail.com) or visit the new website at [www.aaoih.com](http://www.aaoih.com).

I sincerely hope that all of you will join us in Vancouver for a memorable evening. **Attendance at the annual dinner meeting is anticipated to be large and an RSVP is strongly encouraged.**

Pete S. Batra, MD, FACS  
Secretary AAOIH

*From the desk of the President.....*

We have now truly become who we say we are; not otolaryngologist from India, but rather otolaryngologists of Indian Heritage! They perhaps see the landscape differently from those of us who were born on the subcontinent. Their values and mores are more in harmony with the values and mores of this great country that is our home. I have little doubt that they will do a better job than I ever could. I wish Satish all the very best as he assumes the mantle of President.

I would be remiss if I were not to single out a few others. Dr. Amet Singh whom we all saw working a near miracle in Washington DC. to get the audiovisual system up and running so no one even perceived that there was a problem. He has volunteered to take charge of membership development. He will coordinate closely with Dr. Mehta to ascertain that there are no factual errors and so all members are appropriately recognized on the website. If you should have friends who would like to join, I would suggest they contact him. Dr. Kevin Pereira who has taken on the role of Chair, Educational Committee who appropriately observed that using names alone to identify potential new members does disservice to certain minorities from the Indian subcontinent. They are liable to feel left out. He is working diligently to make the processes inclusive for all. Dr. Ashutosh Kacker must be complimented for setting up our new website which has a fresher feel and is both user friendly and informative. The biggest thanks we can give him is to visit [www.aaoih.com](http://www.aaoih.com). I would urge you to do so and provide feedback, so that we can continue to improve and so that the new web site better fit your needs. I thank Dr. Dinesh Mehta for helping him with this as well. As a sign of the times, our mailings will now not be in print but will be done electronically. Additionally, based upon several request of the membership we are working toward a space on the website where we could network better among ourselves.

The processes side is governed by the bylaws, and so we have not made many changes to what we know works for us. However it is my hope that more individuals will come forward and

*Continued next Column*

### *From the desk of the Treasurer.....*



Dear Friends:

AAOIH's mission since its inception in 1977 has been to develop a friendship amongst Otolaryngologists of Indian Heritage practicing in the USA and abroad. I am proud to mention that over the last 36 years AAOIH has matured to a well-recognized society within our national Academy. AAOIH contributed significantly to the Millennium Society of AAOHNS over the last four years in particular. In return, the Academy has recognized AAOIH to support one visiting scholar from India to attend the AAOHNS annual event. Like last year, we will welcome the visiting scholar from India along with other honored guests. Our President, Dr. Arun Gadre, has organized an excellent education program this year at Vancouver. Our meeting is always attended with great enthusiasm and we appreciate our members for their overwhelming support.

This year I undertook the responsibility of AAOIH Treasurer. Our account balance as of May 31, 2013 is slightly over US \$49,000. Since AAOIH has done well fiscally over the years, we are a life member within the Millennium Society. We appreciate Dr. Nikhil Bhatt for helping us earn this reputation. Membership fees have remained unchanged since 1977: \$50 for annual and \$500 for life. Rising costs have compelled us to charge guests for dinner at this year's meeting. In order to secure your reservation please let us know in advance if you are bringing a guest. If we are to keep up with costs, we should consider increasing our annual and life member dues.

In order to increase AAOIH's visibility on the internet, we are developing our new official website. Dr. Ashutosh Kacker has graciously volunteered to be AAOIH Internet Coordinator to help me in transferring and updating all our society information to [www.aaoih.com](http://www.aaoih.com).

Looking forward to meeting you in Vancouver.....

Dinesh Mehta, MD, FACS  
Treasurer AAOIH

Looking forward to meeting you in Vancouver.....

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Treasurer AAOIH

volunteer to participate actively in the organization and its mission. Ours is a small organization with a big heart. There is space for all. In the future we hope to post our financial records on the new website. While selecting office bearers has worked well for us in the past, as the organization grows we have to prepare for holding election for positions that may be sought by the membership. The board has decided to keep the life membership rate at \$500 in order to make it possible for younger individuals to join. In summary, much was achieved but still more remains to be done. Our strength is in numbers, I would urge those who are not to become life members, and if you are a member, try and influence just one other individual to become a member. If each one of us did just this one thing, we could be twice as large by next year. As I bid farewell, I thank each one of you for having shown confidence in me and of having given me this opportunity to serve. I wish the incoming team a bigger, brighter, and more successful year ahead.

Arun Gadre, MD, FACS  
President AAOIH