

**MINUTES OF THE
ALABAMA ACADEMY OF RADIOLOGY
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
April 12, 2003**

The Alabama Academy of Radiology Summer Meeting was held Saturday, April 12, 2003 at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. Attending were: President-John Renz, M.D., President-Elect-Alex Johnson, M.D., Secretary/Treasurer-Art Sandy, M.D., David Montiel, M.D., Bibb Allen, M.D., V.C. Scott, M.D., Daniel Young, M.D., Sandy Martin, M.D., Michael DeVenny, M.D., Robert Stanley, M.D., Demetrius Morros, M.D., Jeffrey Cutler, M.D., Thomas Loflin, M.D., Greg Gum, M.D., Oscar Orille, M.D., Kathleen Felker, M.D., Steve Teplick, M.D., Mark LeQuire, M.D., Van Wadlington, M.D., Jason Williams, M.D., Jim Larose, M.D., Lincoln Berland, M.D., Philip Trianton, M.D., and Ruth Snow, M.D. Staff present included AAR Executive Secretary Natalie Munroe.

Call to Order (Dr. Renz) – The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. Dr. Renz welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Report of the Secretary (Dr. Sandy) – Dr. Sandy presented the minutes from the last meeting dated August 24, 2002. A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and by a hand vote they were approved as written. He also presented a report indicating the membership as 325 active members.

Report of the Treasurer (Dr. Sandy) – Dr. Sandy stated that the accountant's report for the fiscal year ending October 2002 was available for review. He reported the ending balance as of March 31, 2003 as \$92,281.31. He briefly summarized a cash flow report for the year 2002, and a cash flow report for the first quarter of 2003.

Nominating Committee Report (Dr. Stanley) – Dr. Stanley announced the nominees for Councilor for 2003-2006 as Dr. John Renz and Dr. Alex Johnson, and the Alternate Councilor nominees for 2003-2004 as Dr. Art Sandy, Dr. Michael DeVenny, Dr. William Beckett and Dr. Demetrius Morros. A motion was made to accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Membership Committee Report (Dr. DeVenny) – Dr. DeVenny stated that he currently has a list of nonmembers in the state that is slightly outdated. He asked for volunteers to review the list for any names they might recognize that have either moved to another state, changed practice locations, retired, etc. After an updated list is formed, letters and phone calls will be sent to these physicians encouraging membership and participation in AAR. Dr. DeVenny also stated that ACR is currently compiling a list of residents that can be used for membership recruitment as well. He suggested that as new physicians come into members' practices, that ACR membership be encouraged and possibly paid.

Bylaws Committee Report (Dr. Johnson) – Dr. Johnson announced that there was scheduled a proposed bylaws change concerning the make-up of the Executive Committee. He stated that proposal has been withdrawn due to logistics.

President's Report (Dr. Renz) – Dr. Renz began by stating the AAR is in good financial condition, has strong leadership in many areas, and is currently evaluating means of adding members and stability. One

accomplishment of the AAR this past year included the formation of an Education Committee chaired by Dr. Thomas Loflin. This committee will be in charge of designing more robust meetings offering CME credit. Also, with the help of the RBMA and Dr. Bibb Allen, a Medicare billing problem of nonpayment of certain CPT codes had been corrected.

Dr. Renz proposed a joint meeting between LA and MS chapters for the fall meeting. A date by LA had been set for November 8-9, 2003 at the Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS. This would include national speakers, more CME hours, business meetings, HIPPA and PET topics, etc. Also, corporate sponsorship will help offset the cost. If successful, the location of the meeting could rotate between the three states. The consensus of the members present was in agreement, therefore, an agreement between the three states will be reached and plans continued.

Dr. Renz stated goals for the upcoming year included certificate for AAR membership, fall meeting silver medal presentation, increase membership, etc. Dr. Renz then reviewed logistical information concerning the May ACR meeting.

Dr. Renz informed the members that AAR had contributed to the Riley Inauguration Committee in the amount of \$2000. This was asked by MASA and is a one time contribution.

Dr. Renz announced the MASA Annual Meeting is to be held June 26-29 at the San Destin Hilton in Sand Destin, FL. Dr. Moniel will be inaugurated as President. The two AAR representatives will be Dr. John Renz and Dr. Tom Loflin.

MASA Update (Dr. Montiel) – Dr. Montiel described recent problems of some physicians with medical liability malpractice insurance. He explained that Recipricol had recently folded, and that physicians with contracts with them were faced with no insurance. Mutual Assurance offered a binder for 120 days while the physicians located long term insurance contracts. He suggested physicians contact Mutual Assurance, Mag Mutual, or a brokerage firm if they are in need of medical liability malpractice insurance.

Dr. Montiel also stated that there is not a medical malpractice crisis in Alabama. Alabama laws that limit huge sums of malpractice lawsuits are working.

ACR Update (Dr. Allen) – Dr. Allen began his discussion stating that priority topics for the ACR are Reimbursement and Economic issues. He then continued by explaining the components for reimbursement by Medicare. He also described the “Zero Work Pool” and its development for the practice expense elements of reimbursement. Dr. Allen stressed that if you get a practice expense survey from ACR, please complete it accurately and return it to them.

Councilor Reports (Dr. Renz) – Dr. Renz asked all Councilor and Alternate Councilors if they have any comments or questions concerning the resolutions they were to review and present. Dr. Sandy introduced resolution #23 which discusses the formation of an ACR Foundation. He questioned whether this would be a dual membership with ACC and ACR associations. Dr. Allen stated that the intent was to better equip ACR to be politically active. Dr. Renz stated due to time constraints, members should review the resolutions via the ACR website and send any questions to the Councilors and Alternate Councilors.

Adjournment (Dr. Renz) – Dr. Renz quickly announced and congratulated Dr. Robert Stanley on the appointment of Editor for the American Journal of Radiology. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 pm.

Arthur Sandy, M.D.
Secretary/Treasurer, Alabama Academy of Radiology