INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Fellows of the Pierre Fauchard Academy are still in a state of shock while remembering Richard A. Kozal, our Secretary General. He has left a mark in our hearts and lives, a man admired by all. He lived a full, productive life and was a credit to his Creator, his family, and to our great profession. We must close this chapter now and move on. This is what Richard would expect of us, and we shall!!!!

Judith Kozal is our new Executive Director, a unanimous decision of the Management Team and a logical choice.

Richard and Judith took over the job of managing the Academy 30 years ago. At that time, they were handed a shoe box of 3" x 5" cards listing the names of about 200 Fellows, active and retired. That was when they started to build the Academy and build they did!

The Awards Committee has bestowed the PFA Gold Medal, our highest award, to Dr. Eugene Sekiguchi of California, a former American Dental Association President and a multi-talented individual. Wait until you read his outstanding C.V.! The Certificate of Merit is awarded to General Dr. Robert E. Brady, the outgoing Executive Director of the International College of Dentists.

Other honors include the Elmer S. Best Award for 2009, our highest award given to a non-resident American dentist; the Award goes to Dr. Zbigniew Janczuk of Poland. The Dental Trade & Industry Award goes to Gilles Pierson of the Acteon Company of France. The 2010 Elmer S. Best Award will be presented to Dr. Jose Carlos Elgoyhen of Argentina.

Last year, 12 of the Latin American Sections met for the first time in Sao Paulo, Brazil. This year, the European Sections and guests were united for the first time. International Trustee Jose Dahan and Section Chair Frank Braun of Germany gathered 12 nations in Cologne, Germany. This venue was chosen because it was the biennial meeting of the largest dental meeting in the world, the International Dental Show with more than 100,000 attendees and 1,820 exhibitors from 57 countries. As the Management Team convened at the Hotel Del Coronado, we stood in awe of this magnificent 121 year old structure.

It has been "modified" over the years, of course, but it is still the Crown Jewel of hotels. We wondered at the time, will the Pierre Fauchard Academy be able to stand the test of time and be as great an organization as this hotel is today. The answer is a resounding "YES" because of individuals like our PFA Fellows, each doing their part to make this world a better place.

Thank you for your attention — till we meet again.

Sincerely, Your President,

Chuck Eller