Over 14,000 were at the ASA annual meeting in San Francisco CA this year. Hopefully you were able to be one of the attendees, and if not, then start planning now to attend this great meeting in the future.

ASA Annual Future Meeting Dates

October 19-23, 2019 | Orlando, FL
October 3-7, 2020 | Washington, D.C.
October 9-13, 2021 | San Diego, CA
October 22-26, 2022 | New Orleans, LA

Go to https://www.asahq.org/annualmeeting for more details.

While at the meeting I saw LSA members from all four of Louisiana's anesthesiology residency programs including residents and medical students. I want to especially thank those residents and students for making the effort to attend. You are the future of this specialty and to be successful it is important for you to learn that there is far more to know than what is in the pages of Miller's Anesthesia or what is learned in the operating room.
It's a Wonderful Life

New officers are elected at each ASA annual meeting. The 12 officers are known as the ASA Administrative Council. This year our very own Kraig de Lanzac joins the AC by winning a competitive race for ASA Assistant Secretary. In Kraig’s speech made on Sunday to the House of Delegates he made a strong argument for more involvement and advocacy by physician anesthesiologists in partnership with ASA. Kraig referenced the 1946 Frank Capra movie *It's a Wonderful Life.*

For those probably very few of you that don’t know the story, the main character George Bailey (Jimmy Stewart) is feeling down and doubts that his life is worth living. He is about to give up and jump off of a bridge when his guardian angel Clarence comes and shows George scenes of his life where he has helped people and made a difference. Then Clarence shows George the dystopian future that would have resulted if he had never existed. Kraig drew an inspired picture of the parallels of George’s predicament and ours as physician anesthesiologists in this uncertain world of healthcare. We need to see the tremendously good work that we have already done to make anesthesia the safest of all medical specialties for patients and then look to the future where our presence does make a difference for the better. While there may be no guardian angel to show us the future worse outcomes if we are not there, we can all well imagine. This is why ASA programs like *When Seconds Count* were created, to remind ourselves and let the public know what it is that goes on behind the ether screen in the operating theater, and why our role is a crucial one.

ASA Officers

2019 Administrative Council

President
Linda J. Mason, M.D., FASA
Redondo, CA

President-Elect
Mary Dolio Peterson, M.D., FASA
Corpus Christi, TX

First Vice President
Beverly K. Philip, M.D., FACA, FASA
Boston, MA

Immediate Past President
James D. Grant, M.D., M.B.A., FASA
Bloomfield Hills, MI

Vice President for Scientific Affairs
Andrew D. Rosenberg, M.D., FASA
New York City, NY

Vice President for Professional Affairs
Jeff Mueller, M.D., FASA
Phoenix, AZ

Secretary
Kenneth Elmasian, D.O., FASA
East Lansing, MI

Assistant Secretary
Kraig de Lanzac, M.D., FASA
Metairie, LA

Treasurer
Michael Champeau, M.D., FASA
Palo Alto, CA

Assistant Treasurer
Donald Arnold, M.D., FASA
St. Louis, MO

Speaker, House of Delegates
Ronald L. Hunter, M.D., FASA
Dublin, OH

Vice Speaker, House of Delegates
Patrick Grant, M.D., FASA
Houston, TX

https://www.asahq.org/about-asa/governance-and-committees/asa-officers

A Note From:
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LOUISIANA SOCIETY
OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS
Physician Anesthesiologists • Wisdom • Expertise
**Anesthesia Care Team**

The ASA’s 2018 Committee on the Anesthesia Care Team worked diligently on a 5 year review of the ASA’s Statement on the Anesthesia Care Team which was originally approved by the House of Delegates on October 26, 1982. The result of their hard work was presented to the HOD in San Francisco on Wednesday October 17, 2018 and after some spirited debate and amendment a strengthened statement was approved by the HOD. You can read the document on the ASA website here.

https://www.asahq.org/member-center/governance-resources/meeting-materials/2018-hod-meeting-materials

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**Wellness**

This year the HOD approved establishment of a new ASA standing committee to be named the Committee on Physician Health and Well-Being. Look forward to more on this issue.
On the homefront

With Kraig de Lanzac’s election to ASA Assistant Secretary he has vacated the position of ASA Director for Louisiana. Don't worry, Kraig promises to still help with the many tasks facing LSA, he is still a valued member of the LSA. David Broussard will move from ASA Alternate Director to the Director position in keeping with the bylaws of LSA and tradition. Per the LSA bylaws I am appointing LSA Board member Julie Broussard, M.D., F.A.S.A of Lafayette to be the replacement for the Alternate Director until such time as an election is to be held. In the coming year of 2019 we anticipate elections for LSA President, ASA Director and Alternate Director, and some expansion of the LSA Board to better serve the needs of Louisiana’s physician anesthesiologists. Lots of moving parts. Stay tuned.

Finally

The Louisiana Society of Anesthesiologists and the American Society of Anesthesiologists are member organizations that advocate for patients, for Society members and for the profession of anesthesiology in general. I know that when I was a resident and young attending I had little understanding of what these organizations did, and frankly, I figured they were a bunch of narcissists clapping each other on the back and spending my dues money taking each other to dinner. I had no interest at all in being a part of that. And then I was sent by my boss to the ASA Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. about ten years ago. I didn't want to go, but I had to do it. After hearing just a few of the talks from powerhouses like Stan Stead and Jeff Plagenhoef I was immediately humbled by what I learned about healthcare, about anesthesiology, about how our political system actually works, and about how very, very much hard work is being done by the ASA benefitting patients, and ASA members like you and me. ASA benefits non-members too, they just don't know it.

The tasks ahead seem daunting. But we will lose only if there are too many that don't know what is going on and what can be done about it. A lot can be done about every issue facing us and a lot already is being done! Every issue that I have seen faced by the ASA in the last ten years was recognized, researched and then thought out carefully by those that you see in the photo of the current Administrative Council and their predecessors. After taking action we, the ASA, have almost invariably had success. It was certainly easier for me to have my head in the sand and think that all those people in the ASA were just wasting a lot of time and money. But it wasn't true then and it isn't true now. We need your help! Please get involved in the ASA & LSA. We want to hear your ideas, your feedback. I am confident that the more you know, the more you will want to be involved and the more you will realize that working together we can definitely fulfill the mission of the ASA, “Advancing the Practice and Securing the Future.”

Please try to stay informed. The ASA President’s emailed Monday Morning Outreach is an excellent way to stay up to date on current events in the ASA. ASAP and ASAPAC Vital Signs are two other emailed resources that are also very helpful. Please come to the LSA’s annual meeting next scheduled for April 5-6, 2019 at the Renaissance Arts Hotel in New Orleans. You can always contact Janna Pecquet, the LSA Executive Director at janna@lsa-online.org or 504-841-0145.