

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Warm greetings from your beloved alma mater on 14th street. We are all extremely proud and honored to be Alumni of one of America's most prestigious subspecialty training programs. Our Alumni Association was founded over 60 years ago, and if you are not already a member, we eagerly invite you to join. Your membership helps the Association achieve its goals and helps you stay in touch and network with your fellow alumni.



The Alumni Association benefits you in many ways. Every year at the AAO we host the Alumni Reception. [Last year's superbly catered event](#) was enjoyed by over 180 alumni and friends in the best tradition of the "Big Easy." This fall our [cocktail reception](#) will take place on Sunday, October 12th from 6 to 9pm at The Four Season Chicago, located at 120 East Delaware Place. This is a unique opportunity for you to renew friendships with your past fellow residents, former fellows as well as active and retired faculty. We strongly encourage you to attend. Please note that all fully paid members are welcome with one guest at no cost.

Each spring we host an awards dinner in New York City. Please save Sunday, May 16th for our Spring 2006 event. This year we are planning to combine our annual dinner with simultaneous ENT and Eye research grand rounds immediately preceding the evening festivities. This promises to be a novel and fascinating alumni event.

At this year's [Annual Spring Awards Dinner](#), which was attended by over 170 alumni, staff, spouses and friends at the beautifully decorated landmark Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue, we had the great pleasure of honoring two giants of our community, [Drs. Seymour Fradin](#) and [Hector R. Giancarlo](#). The Infirmary family was able to celebrate its rich traditions of patient care, teaching and research by honoring these two Infirmary icons. Arthur P. Tortorelli was our Distinguished Service Award recipient for his decades of dedication to the Glaucoma and Microsurgical Departments.

At our last business meeting in May, I had the distinct honor and privilege of being re-elected President of the Association. I am pleased to have a great board to work with me. [Dr. Richard DeLuca](#) was promoted to Vice-President and [Dr. Anthony Sclafani](#) from the Department of Otolaryngology, was elected to the new position of Director of Communications. With Anthony's new position we continue to highlight our commitment to expanding our activities, and therefore relevance to our alumni community. The current annual dues structure of \$150.00 was maintained for USA members, as was \$75.00 for International members. We also continue to invite all New York Eye and Ear Infirmary staff to become non-voting members of the Association with all privileges and benefits of a full member once dues are paid.

For the second consecutive year the Alumni Association will financially support the Joint Otolaryngology Program Alumni Party to be held on September 27th, 2005 at The Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Under the inspired leadership of it's chairman, [Steven D. Schaefer, MD](#), The Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery continues its remarkable and robust expansion and is fast becoming one of the premier academic and clinical programs in the country.

A new [sleep center](#) at Infirmary has been established and provides inpatient sleep studies for private and clinic patients. The long-awaited Otology Center has been established and will utilize the services of Drs. [George Alexiades](#), [Joseph Arigo](#), [Ronald Hoffman](#), [Christopher Linstrom](#) and [Simon Parisier](#). The Otology Center will provide all audiologic and otologic services, including vestibular evaluation and rehabilitation, cochlear implantation, temporal bone and skull base surgery and speech and swallowing services.

The Department of Ophthalmology continues to excel and for the first time was listed as [one of the top programs in US News and World Report's annual Top US Hospitals](#). This much deserved and long overdue accolade is due in large measure to the dedicated leadership of alumni and staff. Special mention should be made of the tireless efforts of the volunteer staff and their clinic directors. Our fellowship program continues to grow and now includes both clinical and research positions in Glaucoma, Cornea, External Disease and Refractive Surgery, Retinal-Vitreous, Uveitis and Ocular Oncology.

The success of the [Retina Center](#) is without precedent and as of the end of last year has been running at over capacity. The recently transformed temporal bone lab, renamed [The Jorge N. Buxton, MD Microsurgical Education Center](#), has been a resounding success, being utilized at least four evenings a week for the teaching of advanced microsurgical techniques.

[Dr. Donald Woodsmith](#), Chairman of the Department of Plastic Surgery, reports that the plastic teaching service is now the busiest in the country with two full time fellows.

_____ and verify the accuracy of your listing and inform us of any changes or additions via email at: dbuxton@nyee.edu. This is especially important at this time, as your Executive Committee has taken the important step of retaining an alumni directory-publishing firm to update our database. We plan to print a yearly Alumni Directory beginning in 2007.

In closing, please get involved! If you are not presently a dues paying member of the Association, please join. Feel free to contact me by phone or email if you have any questions, comments or need any assistance. My phone number is 212-979-4410 and my email is dbuxton@nyee.edu.

We look forward to seeing you at either of the two upcoming events. God Bless the Infirmary, America and those who protect them.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas F. Buxton, MD
President, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary Alumni Association