Editorial

Passing on the Torch!!

With this final issue for the year 2002, your Editor wishes to pass on the editorial position to his good friend, Dr. Thomas Biggs of Houston, Texas. Having known Tom for many years, and aware of his great activities and interest for the success of The International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, I know that the Journal will be in his good hands from now on. I would like to make here just a few editorial comments.

From the very onset of the publication of our Journal, the senior officers of the Society made the decision that the Journal would deal not only with pure aesthetic plastic surgery, but with the “aesthetic results” of reconstructive surgery as well. In its very first issue, the comment was made “...Most importantly, papers and reports are to be published discussing the increasing role of aesthetic plastic surgery as the final step in the overall rehabilitation of patients undergoing longstanding and tedious reconstructive surgery for the repair of congenital, acquired, accidental, and neoplastic defects.” Over the past 26 years of your editor’s experience, we believe that this has been accomplished well.

Our Journal was the first devoted totally to the world’s literature on “aesthetic plastic surgery.” Many of the world’s leaders of aesthetic plastic surgery in the year 1976 and onward submitted superb papers, such that in Volume I alone the following names reveal to us the authors of these papers. They include:

Sherrell Aston, Thomas Baker, Ricardo Baroudi, Koo Boo-Chai, Leo Bornstein, Salvador Castanares, Felipe Coiffman, Bruce Connell, Jack Davis, Juarez de Avelar, Nabil Elsayh, Joseph Ferreira, Julio Frontera Vaca, Masashige Furukawa, Mutaz Habal, Gregory Hetter, Ulrich Hinderer, Herbert Höhler, Ulrich Kesselring, Armando Kostianovsky, Michael Lewin, Verner Lindgren, Frances Cooke MacGregor, Hector Marino, Frank McDowell, Rodolphe Meyer, Denys Montandon, Jack Mustarde, Jean Pollet, Thomas Rees, Paule Regnault, Julian Reich, Blair Rogers, Richard Stark, Katherine Stephenson, Haggai Tsur, Thomas Vecchione, J. Manuel Velazquez, John Watson, and Richard Webster.

One of the proudest moments in my role as Editor came with the publication in that first volume of the paper by Herbert Höhler of Germany, dealing with “...Changes in facial expression as a result of plastic surgery in Mongoloid children,” demonstrating the standards of aesthetic plastic surgery applied to a reconstructive surgical problem!

One of the papers often overlooked, unfortunately, but to which great attention should be paid, was written by Trudy Vogt of Switzerland, with the title, “Tip rhinoplastic operations using a transverse columellar incision,” in 1983, when she published in our Journal her excellent results in developing the “open approach” in nasal plastic surgery. Essentially, she is probably the originator of this technique long before others came on the scene to describe their later developments and variations. In addition, in the early 1980s, Trudy Vogt and I visited her friend, the world-famous Swiss artist Hans Erni, who gave us permission to use his painting of Adam for which he himself was the model, as the cover of our ISAPS Journal from that date onward.

Within that first volume the passage of time took its toll on the lives of several individuals famous for their contributions in both aesthetic plastic surgery and reconstructive plastic surgery, including Guillermo Nieto-Cano, Jose C. Vinas, Theodore F. Wilkie, Lyndon A. Peer, and Jacob J. Longacre.

In the first four volumes of *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 1976–1980, the greatest majority of historical review papers were published, including:

- Rogers, B.O.: The development of aesthetic plastic surgery: A history. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 1:3, 1976
- Stephenson, K.L.: The history of blepharoplasty to correct blepharochalasis. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 1: 177, 1977
- McDowell, F.: History of rhinoplasty. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 1:323, 1978
- Davis, J.E.: History of the aesthetic surgery of the ear. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 2:75, 1978
- Regnault, P.C.L.: The history of abdominal dermolipectomy. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 2:113, 1978
- LaLardrie, J.P., and Mouly, R.: History of mammoplasty. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 2:167, 1978
- Gonzalez-Ulloa, M.: The history of rhytidectomy. *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, 4:1, 1980

All of these pioneer histories in aesthetic plastic surgery are included in *The Creation of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, a book first published in 1984, whose editor was Mario Gonzalez-Ulloa of Mexico City.

In 1995, a 20-page separate supplement to volume 19 of our Journal, *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*, was written by the indefatigable Ulrich Hinderer of Spain, one of the founders of our Society. The title of the supplement is "The Early History of the International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery," which in addition to its superb text was accompanied by 18 wonderful photographs of our early founders and the subsequent meetings of the Society over the years.

It will be good if I now stop here in reminiscing, since my fond memories of these 26 years of editing the Journal go back a long way and include many stimulating and exciting events, as contributed by our reconstructive and aesthetic plastic surgeons from all over the world.

I, therefore, want to wish Tom Biggs the greatest success in his new role as Editor of the Journal, and much personal happiness with everything he does during these forthcoming several years when he is President of our International Society.

Signing off!!

Blair O. Rogers, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief

P.S. I want to especially thank Ms. Margaret L. Wise of New York City for her extremely valuable and fine work over these past several years. Ms. Wise has provided excellent service to me in her transcribing-typing business, A Word to the Wise.