A NOTE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Welcome to the March/April, issue of FOCUS Journal. I have to start this issue off by thanking our readers, conference exhibitors, speakers and other colleagues in respiratory care and sleep medicine who gave us hundreds of hours of their input and assistance putting together this year's FOCUS conference. We have a superb agenda, great speakers and an exhibit hall that will be brimming with exhibiting companies, roving entertainment, door prizes (including a 2009 Ford FOCUS automobile) and plenty of food and drink. We'll be injecting some surprises along the way as well, and the two new events we've added this year, our Beatles dance/concert and the 5K Run/Walk should be a lot of fun.

Registration is running slightly behind last year as a result of the difficult economy but we still expect a solid 2000+ people to be joining us. By the way, there's still time for you to join us; if only for a day or two if that's all you can get away for, so consider coming down to Disney's Coronado Springs Resort where you can register on-site for any combination of Wednesday (for the 6-hour asthma educator's course) or the regular conference running Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Bring along your "significant other" and make a mini-getaway out of it! The entire program, including info on speakers, topics and more, can be found at www.foocus.com and there are still rooms available at the resort for only $129 a night!

By the way, let me also take this opportunity to announce that Focus's big 10th anniversary conference will also be held at the Walt Disney Coronado Resort in Orlando in May of 2010! We are very excited about this development because Disney has been a good host providing FOCUS with fair and reasonable rates that allow us to pass good value on to our attendees. So, if you absolutely can't join us this year, plan to join us for our 10th anniversary conference next May 14-15, 2010!

Now, let me tell you a little about this issue. Dr. Herbert Patrick starts us off with an article on the perceptions family members have of mechanical ventilation and how we can change those perceptions. It is found on page 10. Dave Gourley then discusses the results of the recently concluded JCAHO Patient Satisfaction survey on page 12. Regina Patrick, one of our sleep writers, follows with an article on brain imaging and Cataplexy found on 14 and Dr. John Marini reminds us not to fall into the ventilator weaning "off ramp" with his article on page 18. Don Steinert contributes a very interesting case study that involves knowing more than the "regular" lab values we've *continued on page 61*

FOCUS EXHIBITORS AS OF 4/21/2009

Accreditation Commission for Health Care Booth 826
Aerogen(Ireland) Limited Booth 718
Airon Corporation Booth 526
AirSep Corporation Booth 410
Alabama School of Sleep Medicine and Technology Booth 226
Alliance Tech Medical Booth 402
Alpha-1 Foundation Booth 427
Ambu, Inc. Booth 313
Ambulatory Monitoring, Inc. Booth 827
Apieron Booth 110
ARC Medical, Inc. Booth 705
ASST Booth 906
B&B Medical Technologies, Inc. Booth 2019
Barry University Nurse Anesthetist Program Booth 108
Bay Corporation Booth 819
Bayfront Health System Booth 927
Baylor Health Care System Booth 922
Beevers Mfg & Supply Booth 727
Bemes, Inc. Rentals Booths 120 & 122
Bio-Med Devices, Inc. Booth 2005
BRPT Booth 823
Cadwell Laboratories Booth 802
Cardinal Health/VIASYS Healthcare Booth 217
Carilion Health System Booth 103
Cenorin Booths 924 & 926
CleveMed Booth 223
Compumedics USA Ltd. Booth 326
Covidien Booth 717
Dale Medical Products Booth 319
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center Booth 907
Davisco Foods International, Inc. Booth 105
Draeger Medical Booth 523
Dymedso Booth 218
Electromed, Inc. Booth 619
Embla Medical Booth 315
Epocal Booth 317
Faith Medical, Inc. Booth 804
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Booths 904 & 902
GE Healthcare Booth 513
Geisinger Health System Booth 2008
General Physiotherapy, Inc. Booth 809
Genstar Technologies Co., Inc. Booth 323
Goldstein and Associates Booth 716
Grass Technologies, An Astro-Med, Inc. Product Group Booth 708
Great Lakes Orthodontics, Ltd. Booth 102
Hamilton Medical, Inc. Booths 903 & 905
Happy Feet by VP Marketing LLC Booth 726
Health Educator Publications, Inc. Booth 125
Hill-Rom Booth 711
Impact Instrumentation, Inc. Booth 2013
Instrumentation Industries, Inc. Booth 822
Instrumentation Laboratory Booth 2015
Intersurgical, Inc. Booth 803
ITC Booth 222
Lasting Impressions Jewelry Booth 911
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Booths 109 & 111
Maquet, Inc. Booth 503
Marpac, Inc Booth 2014
Mary Kay Cosmetics Booths 914 & 916
Mary Washington Hospital Booth 119
Maxtec Inc. Booth 2009
Mediaid Inc. Booth 807
Medical Graphics Corporation Booths 414 & 416
Medical Staffing Network Booth 327
Mercury Medical Inc. Booths 202 & 204
Mobile Medical Maintenance Co. Booth 923
Monaghan Medical Corporation Booth 613
Morgan Scientific Booth 918
MSA Booth 805
MVAP Medical Supplies, Inc. Booth 123
ndd Medical Technologies, Inc. Booth 824
NG-ET Optimizer LLC Booth 216
Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corp. Booth 2003
Neurovirtual Booth 225
Newport Medical Instruments, Inc. Booth 603
Nihon Kohden America Booth 710
Northeast Georgia Health System Booth 817
Northeast Georgia Health System Booth 817
Nonin Booth 106
Novant Health Care/Presbyterian Hospital Booth 2006
Ohio Medical Corporation Booths 609 & 611
Olympic Medical/XLTEK, divisions of Natus Booth 214
Omneotech Booth 100
Opti Medical Systems, Inc. Booth 714
Passy-Muir, Inc. Booth 627
Percussionaire Corp. Booths 115 & 117
Philips Respironics Booth 413
Precision Medical, Inc. Booth 309
Priority Health Education Booth 901
Pulmodyne Booth 423
Radiometer America, Inc. Booth 311
RemitDATA, Inc Booth 712
Resmed Booth 211
Respan Products Inc. Booth 921
RespirTech Booth 426
Restech Corp Booth 527
Roche Diagnostics Corporation Booths 813 & 815
Rochester Electro-Medical,Inc. Booth 404
RT/Sleep Review Booth 2016
S.L.P. Ltd. Booth 113
Salter Labs Booth 418
Sechrist Industries Inc. Booth 210
Sequal Technologies Booth 322
Shands Healthcare Booth 107
Siemens Medical Solutions Diagnostics Booth 203
Sleep Center Management Institute Booths 124 & 126
Sleep Health Management Resources, Inc. Booth 626
SleepEd, LLC Booth 919
Sleepmate by Ambu Booth 623
Smiths Medical Inc. Booth 403
Somnomedics America, Inc. Booth 412
Stellate Systems Booth 303
Stellate Systems Booth 305
Strapparatus Corp. Booth 917
Talecris Biotherapeutics Booth 227
Teleflex Medical, Inc. Booth 615
Titan Medical Group, LLC Booth 212
Transtracheal Systems, Inc. Booth 913
University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina Booth 2017
Vortran Medical Technology 1, Inc. Booth 703
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center Booth 2007
Western Medica Booth 723
Z-Coil Booths 908 & 910

Note from the Publisher... *Continued from page 4*

come to understand over the years. That case study is found on page 22. Jim Harvey, our PFT guru discusses Helium Iso-flow studies starting on page 24 and Bill Wojciechowski gives readers an up-to-date review on asthma. Bill's article begins on page 26. Dr. William Dement contributes a very interesting piece, one that makes an excellent case for sleep education across our nation, something that is sorely lacking now. This begins on page 28. Educators will find Sandra McCleaster's piece about re-looking at asthma education interesting as well. Her article starts on page 30. We continue with Lisa Rapple's review of the Hollister Corporation's website on page 34 and our technical writer, Stephanie Richardson, writes about Actigraphy in this issue (page 38). Ken Wyka, our home care columnist, has written an excellent article on clinical assessment of home care patients. His piece can be found on page 40. The issue continues with Stephanie Richardson's second article on Spacers and today's holding valve technology which is found on page 44. Therapists interested in pediatrics will really be taken aback by the article written by Doug Massini on the dangerous choking games many adolescents are engaging in these days. Check out this fascinating piece on page 48. Our pharmacological guru Doug Gardenhire, provides us with an interesting article on non-steroidal medications for asthma management. You can find his piece on page 50. People aspiring to become registered sleep technologists would be well served to read Helen Sullivan's piece entitled, "30 things you should know about the RPSGT credential" found on page 58. Duane Johnson who writes on issues pertaining to the business of sleep medicine writes about the need for your sleep lab to have an Employee Handbook. His article begins on page 54. We end the issue with Ken Capek's article on decompression sickness and we follow that with our Product Highlight, Industry News and Employment sections that re found in every issue of FOCUS.

In closing, let me say that we at FOCUS were very saddened by the news of our good friend, colleague and FOCUS columnist, Steven Grenard's, passing on April 6th. Steve was one of the earliest pioneers in the field of Respiratory Care who after over 40+ years in respiratory care, cross-trained into sleep medicine achieving the RPSGT credential and contributing mightily to that profession as well. His contributions to both fields were immense and he will be sorely missed. Enjoy what we believe to be the last two articles penned by Steve Grenard, both of which appear in this issue.

If you do make it down to Orlando for the annual FOCUS Conference please make sure to look me up to say hi.

Regards,
Bob Miglino RRT BSRT MPS - Publisher

"I was dating a computer tech, but she hit delete."

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