KSOS News Letter

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Padmasree Dr. S. Tony Fernandez apostle of the blind

Dr N . Radhakrishnan, Aluva



I was fully immersed in the English Premier League live telecast when Dr. Sasikumar called to know if I could interview Padmasree Dr. S. Tony Fernandez for the KSOS Newsletter. To cut short a possible long conversation so that I can continue watching the telecast uninterrupted, I replied in the affirmative. I knew that if I don't send the write up early Sasi would pester me with his reminders. So, I decided to meet Dr Tony the very next day itself.

It took me only 10 minutes to reach the riverside home of Dr Tony. He was pleasantly surprised to know my intentions. I knew that he would be tired after the series of interviews and meetings he had over the past few days. His small but healthy body always betrayed his age. When most people less than his age have already retired from the profession, this septuagenarian is still pursuing his professional career with the same commitment and zeal he showed in his thirties.

I congratulated him and wondered if this honor has come a bit too late for him. Dr. Tony thanked me and said that he was really happy to receive the blessings and compliments from his co-workers. "You don't work to get honors or awards. You do your duty to the best of your ability in your chosen profession; the rest is in the hands of God Almighty". He said this award is for the entire team of dedicated staff of Little Flower Hospital. It is not surprising that he chose the medical profession as his father Dr. Andrew Simon Fernandez was a General Practitioner in Malaysia. But why Ophthalmology? I was curious. " My father wanted one of his seven children to take up medicine and I was the chosen one. " After graduation in medicine from KMC Manipal, Dr. Tony returned to Malaysia to join his father at the Sungursuput Clinic run by his father at Perak. It was one of his father's friends, a local minister in Government who advised him to take up Ophthalmology as there was a dearth of Eye Specialists in Malaysia then. Dr Tony didn't hide his inclination for this specialty. "I had a sneaking admiration to ophthalmology for their fast surgery and ambidexterity".

He took his DO in 1961 from London and later got trained in various hospitals including the Moorefields. He considers himself fortunate to get trained in Squint by Dr. Keith Lyle. He further got trained in Keratoplasty, Retinal surgery, DCR and oculoplasty. "How then did you settle in India?" I was inquisitive. He laughed "It just happened. Govt: of India had a programme for reversal of Braindrain to attract trained professionals to India and I too had registered as a Pool Officer in the Indian High Commission in UK." He was invited to join the Madurai Medical College in 1965. He revived the Squint, Orthoptic and Pleoptic Department there with the help of the dynamic Dr. G. Venkatasami. In fact it was he who started the 3rd Orthoptic school in India in Madurai. He also started the Eye Bank and Keratoplasty unit there. He was also instrumental in starting ICCE with 8/0 sutures when sutureless ICCE was the practice at that time.



He considers his entry into LF

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Eye Info 2008... Contd. from page 2

IC on Retinoblastoma was an eye opener as to how important it is to act swiftly in a child with this tumour.

Strabismus Challenges and Decision making were beautifully discussed by Dr. Pradeep Sharma. It was very easy to understand as many photos and videos were shown. Beautiful video of oblique muscle surgery was also shown and discussed. Strabismus for General Ophthalmologists by Dr. Santhan Gopal was very interesting as various strabismologists discussed typical and atypical cases. Dr. Elizabeth Joseph from LF, Angamaly also participated in this event.

Interesting sessions like career prospects for young budding Ophthalmologist and procedure of Slit Lamp Biomicroscopy by Dr.Velayutham were well appreciated and useful for the upcoming Ophthalmologists. Instruction courses on basic refraction, Low vision aids were also very practical.

Research and scientific paper writing were clearly emerging as a success programmes evident by the attendance in large numbers.

Whatever said and done. the maximum flocking was noticed in most of the sessions on refractive surgeries. The various procedures like PRK, LASIK, Sub Bowman's LASIK, EpiLasik, DSAEK, knowledge on various machines and practical difficulties were covered in different courses.

Instruction Course on Patient Counseling and how to handle a litigant patient helped everyone to understand the intricacies of patient care.

Eye Q 2008 was the quiz which was extremely interesting and useful in gauging the status of our knowledge today.

National Symposium

Two National Symposia were held. There was one on Ocuplastic Surgery conducted by the Oculoplastic association of India in which eminent national and international faculty participated. Dr. Raghavan Sampath from Leicester spoke on Optic Nerve Sheath fenestration. Ectropion, Entropion, Dacryocystitis, Lid tumours, canalicular injuries, Orbital trauma, DCR were discussed. Videos were very illustrative and useful.

The other Symposium was on Vitreous Retina conducted by Vitreo Retinal Society of India. Guest faculties were Dr. Geeta Menon who was formerly at the Vijayasree Eye Hospital, Trichur, Dr. Suresh Chandra, Dr. Seenu Hariprasad. The symposium started by discussing investigative tools, and then moved on to Diabetic Retinopathy. Dr. Namperumalsamy reminded all doctors about the millions of blind people due to diabetic retinopathy in this world and reminded us of our duty to reach them and help. Next, the management of ARMD including role of Anti VEGF, VEGF trap and various trials were discussed. ROP was dealt in great detail. Macular hole surgery, Vitrectomy with 23 and 25 G was compared, management of Endophthalmitis and resurgery in recurrent RH RD were discussed.

International Symposium

One on Glaucoma discussed various Research papers and had an interactive session where the management and diagnostic methods were discussed. Dr. Ravi Thomas, Dr. Richard Wormald participated. Dr. James C. Tsai was present for the changing paradigms in Glaucoma Surgery. It was really exciting to be able to hear Professor Joaquin Barraquer. He spoke on correction of astigmatism and IOL calculation in PKP and large diameter PKPs. Dr. Irene Maumenee presented the genetics involved in ARMD. Various other dignitaries like Dr. Richard J Fugo of the Fugo plasma blade, Dr. Suresh Chandra, principal investigator of DRS, ETDRS, MPS, COMS, AREDS and Dr. Jost B Jonas, the expert in Optic Disc Evaluation in Glaucoma were also the pearls of this Conference.

Kerala in AIOC

Dr. N.S.D Raju conducted an IC on Vitrectomy Techniques for anterior segment surgeons in which Dr. Arup Chakrabarti and Dr. Biju Raju also participated. Removal of residual cortex with 25G virectomy and Triamcinolone assisted Victrectomies were



Dr. Geeta Menon at the National Symposium

illustrated well with videos and discussed at length.

Dr. K.G.R Nair along with Dr. Minu Mathan, Dr. Manoj, Dr. Unnikrishnan Nair and Dr. Suhas Haldipurkar had an elaborate Instruction Course on " Scleral and Iris Sutured IOLs the safe surgical answer for Aphakia". Technique of Iris fixation of PCIOL was also shown. This IC was attended in large numbers and session was very interactive with delegates asking questions on various techniques, instrumentation, sutures and complications.

Dr. Arup Chakrabarti presented "rings and knots on posterior capsule stability" in an interesting session on Eye Believe it. He along with Dr. Meena Chakrabarti and Dr. Biju Raju were also a faculty in IC on "Make your own videos". Along with Dr. Meena Chakrabarti and Dr. S.J.Saikumar, he conducted an Instruction course on "Strategy for management of posterior capsular rent" which was well attended and interactive.

A key note address on "Intraoperative conversion from Phaco to Non Phaco technique was delivered by Dr. Arup at the Sante Vision Award session. He also had a free paper in cataract session.

Dr. Giridhar.A had an interesting talk on "treating the wet spot with Anti VEGF or laser" in the session "Eye Believe It". He was a co-author with Dr. Archis for two free papers in the Retina Session.

Dr. Elizabeth Joseph discussed a few typical and atypical cases and participated in discussions in the IC on "Strabismus: a concept simplified to hold your interest till the end". She was a co-convener in the free paper session held on Strabismus.

Dr. Biju Raju presented a talk on "Experience of Voveran Ophtha post cataract surgery". He was a faculty in an IC on "Sutureless Vitrectomy" where advantages and disadvantages of 23 and 25G vitrectomies were discussed. He also participated in the IC on "Managing patients with concurrent Cataract and Diabetic Retinopathy"

Dr. S.J Saikumar was a discussant in Glaucoma free paper session.

Dr. Meena Chakrabarti participated as faculty in IC on "Extreme Retina"

Dr. Minu Mathan spoke on his irrigating chopper used with micropulsed U/S in the session on "Recent Advances in Ophthalmology". He was a faculty in IC on "rings, hooks, stains and intracameral injections". He gave an illustrative talk on Iris fixation of PCIOLs in the IC on secondary IOLs. He also had a free paper in cataract session.

Dr. Ani Sreedhar presented a free paper on Canalicular Injury.

Film Festival

Videos were presented by Dr. Arup, Dr. Meena Chakrabarti, Dr. Gopal.S.Pillai and Dr. Minu Mathan from Kerala.

Scientific Posters: Dr. Meena Chakrabarti (2), Dr. Noel Moniz (presented by Dr. Freddie Simon) Dr. Francis M.V, Dr. Meenakshi Dhar, Dr. Abhijit Khake, Dr. Reena Abdul Rasheed, Dr. Sujithra Haridas, and Dr. Chandrakantha K.S displayed posters.



Dr. K.G.R Nair and his faculty

Trade

As usual, the trade area distributed in all the three floors was the biggest attraction. Some of the delegates fail to visit many stalls as the signage was poor. One of the eye catchers was the cordless Indirect Ophthalmoscope which runs with a mobile phone battery and LED bulbs and guess who has brought this, forever ours, Appasamy. The Spectral and 3 D OCTs, laser machines, stalls on adapters, cables for digital recording, different types of IOLs including multifocals, the Sixth edition Kanski were some other attractions. Fugo blade had a stall with video demonstration. Biolitec laser light for DCR was another attraction. Of Course the Eyetech lucky dip Maruti Alto car cannot be forgotten.

Sumptuous Food Satisfied all

The multi cuisine food arranged in the conference needs a special mention. It took care of the taste buds of north, south, east and west. The dishes made with chicken were left over in abundance as the "doctors" present were very concerned about the "bird flu". Anyway, the variety of blends, the welcome drink, dessert and fresh fruits won it all in the end. The special breakfast and snacks organized by Microvision was very helpful as people were traveling at least for 2 hours to reach the venue and were very likely to miss the breakfast at their places of lodging. That was really thoughtful!

Moxigram Bollywood Bonanza

The spouses and children were entertained continuously over the three days. None of the children were complaining. There were games, dance shows, Orchestra and various Competitions which were held non stop. In fact you could find some bored Retina or Glaucoma specialist actually singing or dancing in this area.

Overall everyone felt that halls with bigger capacity could have been arranged but this crowding cannot be avoided as interesting sessions will attract people and since this too was an year heavy delegate participation, the management cannot be blamed for anything. In the end, all is well that ends well!!



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Contact :

Dr. S. Sasikumar, Secretary - KSOS

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your Ophthalmic Club nominee to KSOS executive



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The Annual Ophthalmological Bonanza, Eye Info 2008 a Scientific treat!!

Dr. Sheena Bilal, Kochi

The "Silicon City" of Bangalore created an impression in all the delegates on January 31st 2008 as it attracted the maximum delegate registration in the 66th Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society. It was an ordeal reaching the venue through the unending traffic jam. The next three days saw around 4800 delegates participating in various activities. All India Ophthalmological Conference is always the best event occurring in India in the field of Ophthalmology. Apart from the multi state representation from India, there were plenty of International delegates from Middle East, Africa, Japan, Singapore, UK and the US. This Conference was held in The Vaidehi Institute of Medical Sciences which has a very big campus and had many halls. These halls were located in three floors and many of us were happy that by trotting from one hall to the other we had enough exercise and adrenaline rush to keep us from developing physiological ptosis (especially post prandial) during the lectures.



Vaidehi Institute of Medical Sciences

The Inauguration was well attended. Guest of honour Chief Justice Mr. Venkatachalaiah presided over the function. Dr. Namperumalsamy and Dr. Kanti.V.Modi were given the Life time achievement awards. Kerala was made proud by Dr. Arup Chakrabarti who won the Sante Vision Award for the best paper in Cataract Session and Dr. Meena Chakrabarti who won the E.T. Selvam award for the best poster displayed at the 65th AIOC. Dr. Saikumar had won the best paper award in Glaucoma session last year, but unfortunately the award is given once in 2 years.

AIOS Elections were also held during this conference and showed the commitment of all delegates as they stood in queue for hours to cast their votes. Two of the KSOS members Dr. Giridhar.A and Dr. Arup Chakrabarti were elected as the members of Scientific Committee. It would have been a clean sweep for KSOS if Dr. N.S.D. Raju could also have won the election. It would have been easily possible to achieve this task if all ophthalmologists in Kerala were AIOS members or at least those 450 odd AIOS members from Kerala cared to vote for him. Friends, let us learn a lesson from this. Better late than never, get your membership today!!!



Power Packed Scientific Programme

The Scientific programme was extensive and covered diseases of every tiny anatomy of the eye in detail. Most of the sessions were flooded with people and the halls were small.

The scientific events which were contemporary to this conference were many. The most eye-catching of them all was the session by Dr. Bhattacharjee on "Digital Video Recording". He dealt with the basics of instrumentation, method of capturing, storing and editing the video. The most important part was that he outlined the pearls of award winning videos.

Ophthalmic Panorama by Dr. Ramamurthy showed many challenging situations and these were discussed at length.



Instruction Course on Keratoprosthesis gave first hand information from experienced speakers about the usage, procedure, advantages and disadvantages.

Dr. A. K. Grover's Instruction courses on Ophthalmic photography gave a precise idea about the various methods of photography which was possible with different types of cameras. An idea was given about the settings and parameters ideal for photography.

Another Instruction Course which had people overflowing like our KSRTC buses was the one on Pristine clear corneas in Phaco. This was an extremely useful course for all as it helped all the surgeons to understand their own phaco machines at length. The various advantages, features available, and ideal parameters were discussed for different types of cataracts.

The various pros and cons involved in Small Incision Cataract Surgery and phacoemulsification, in various cataracts and glaucoma diagnosis, treatment, medical and surgical, were discussed in many sessions.

Imaging of Retina was covered extensively. Procedures starting from Fundus photography, FFA, OCT, SLO and electro diagnostic techniques were covered in different sessions again and again. Retinal Panorama by Dr. Lalit Verma presented series of day to day retinal problems encountered and discussed various tricky situations like the time of intervention in AMD, CSR, PDR and dilemma in treating a young CRVO patient.

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President's message

Respected past presidents,office bearers of KSOS, executive committee members and dear friends, though late- Happy and Prosperous New Year.

May I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for elevating me to the highest post of KSOS. We will all work together, forgetting personal differences if any for the betterment of KSOS. 2008 seems to be a wonderful year for KSOS because the doyen of ophthalmology in Kerala Dr S Tony Fernandez has been confirmed Padmasree by the Govt Of India, for his untiring , selfless service with a missionary zeal for the last 4 decades. Dr Tony Fernadez has brought laurel, fame and pride to the doctor community and more so to the members of KSOS.We have a role model in him.I wish his family and himself many more years of activity,health and prosperity on behalf of KSOS members and myself.

All of us have to strive to make KSOS strong. The first step is to bring all the doctors practicing ophthalmology in Kerala under the banner of KSOS. We also have to see that all KSOS members join AIOS. I request each and every one of you for 100% membership in KSOS and AIOS. Then only the voice of KSOS will be heard at an all India level.We definitely have hope and our future will be bright.Dr Anthrayose has been elected unopposed as member ARC-ASOS. Dr Giridhar and Dr Arup Chakrabarthy have been elected members of scientific committee AIOS at the recently concluded AISOS Annual meeting at Bangalore. Congratulations to all the three.

Two CMEs are already over under the aegis of KSOS. First at Kottayam by Medical College Kottayam, the second at Calicut Comtrust Eye Hospital. Many more are in the pipe line. CMEs are a great opportunity to all the Ophthalmologists to know the recent advances in diagnosis, medical and surgical management of cases and to know about the accepted protocol.

Wish you all the best. Jai Hind, Jai KSOS.

Dr. P. Rajagopalan Nair



Secretary promises to be accessible to all

Dr Sasikumar, the General Secretary of KSOS was busy working for the timely release of the Newsletter when we met him. He was happy that one of our founder members, Dr. S. Tony Fernandez have been conferred the “Padma Shri” this year. He told that the KSOS had mixed fortunes in the recently concluded AIOC at Bangalore. “Two of our members-Dr. Giridhar and Dr Arup Chakrabarthy could get in to the Scientific Committee as members and Dr. C.V. Anthrayose got elected unopposed as the member, ARC (South zone). Dr. Ramamurthy, our member has been elected as the Chairman, Scientific Committee”. But the biggest disappointment according to him was the election to the post of Vice President where Dr. NSD Raju lost to Dr. Azad. Only one fourth of the AIOS members from Kerala voted at Bangalore this time. He said “Couldn't we have shown more solidarity?”

The KSOS Newsletter started in 2000. It was supposed to be the medium of interaction between the office bearers and the members of our society. He requests all members to utilize it fully so that there is exchange of both academic and nonacademic ideas among the members. “There are lots and lots of information that we can share” he said. “Whether it is regarding contaminated irrigating solutions or poor service from medical companies, we should share information so that the others are also forewarned”.

He told us that any member can contact him directly in his mobile 9447475101 or through his e-mail : drsk93@gmail.com drsk93@yahoo.com

Have you tried this?

FFA Picture and Laser

While doing a Laser photocoagulation using a Mainster standard or a Quadraspheric lens, where the image is inverted, the angiogram picture could be rotated upside down. This helps in locating the landmarks exactly (this comes in handy, especially while doing laser for a CSR), instead of projecting an erect image on the computer screen and inverting it in the surgeons mind.

Thomas Cherian,
Little Flower Hospital, Angamaly

Undersea cable problem troubles KSOS

Dr. Thomas George
Editor KSOS website.



The internet which was slowed down by an undersea cable problem is hampering the uploading process of KSOS website.

The server that was hosting the site is down and efforts are on to migrate to another server according Dr. Thomas George, the editor of the KSOS website.

He hopes to get it running soon and plans to improve the website looks and readability by improving the contrast using a white background. This would make the front pages lighter and faster to load up. The Site managers OFEK technologies have already started work on the website and the addresses of the members will be uploaded immediately. This can be viewed by all and includes a format to make changes. He also plans to add a practice section in the website.

Drishti 2008 to be held in 4 halls

Dr. Saikumar SJ,
Chairman - Scientfic Committee



Arrangements have begun for Drishti 2008 and for the first time in the history of KSOS the scientific sessions are going to be held in 4 halls in a world class convention center. Briefing the scientific arrangements for the 35th Annual conference of KSOS, Dr. Saikumar SJ, the Scientfic Committee Chairman said that there will be a live surgery session covering anterior and posterior segment surgeries during the second day of the conference. This will be beamed from a hospital in the city and shown in one of the major halls so that a good number of delegates can view it comfortably. He is going to mail the abstract submission form soon. The Committee has made a few modifications in it and he requested everyone to go through the form and rules carefully. He intends to include more free papers for the competition sessions and to streamline the evaluation process of the presentations

Ophthalmic club reports

Kottayam Ophthalmic Society

The annual CME programme of the Dept of Ophthalmology, medical College, Kottayam "Update on Retina" was held on 6th January 2008. The speakers were Dr. Lalit Verma, Dr. Giridhar, Dr. Mahadevan, Dr. Gopal S Pillai, Dr. Mahesh, Dr. Meena Chakrabarthy, Dr. Verghese Joseph, Dr. Biju John, Dr. Jisha and Dr. Manjit P.S Lively sessions were held on various retinal diseases. The programme came to a close by about 3.00 pm

(Dr. *Seshadrinathan)*

24th meeting of the KOS was held on the 17th of Feb at Hotel Pearl Regency, Kottayam at 9.45 am. Dr Biju John spoke on an overview of Diabetic retinopathy and Dr. Manuel John spoke on a step by step approach to Paediatric cataract surgery. (*Dr. Manjit P.S)*

TACO

Satellite meeting was conducted on November 4th at Kunnamkulam IMA Hall. Dr. Charles Skaria talked on 'Is it time to convert to topical anesthesia in cataract surgery?' and Dr. Andrews presented a video on 'SICS-step by step and complications'.

On December 30th , there was the TACO family get together at Nelliampathy which was much enjoyed by the group. On the same day, Dr. Rani Menon was elected as the new TACO President for 2008 and Dr. Lathika V. K as the Secretary.

Camps in Nov & Dec

S. No	Date	Place	No. of Patients Screened	No. of patient selected for Surgery	Hospital
1.	04-11-07	Cherpu	450	108	NECC
2	06-11-07	Nadathara	64	9	JMMC
3.	07-11-07	Kannara	23	5	JMMC
4.	11-11-07	Kaipamangalam	259	46	NECC
5.	02 12-07	Vadakkekad	105	26	JMMC
6.	02-12-07	Kanakamala	387	59	NECC
7.	02-12-07	Mala	725	115	NECC& MCH
8.	05-12-07	Thanipadam	36	16	JMMC
9.	09-12-07	Kokkala	56	14	JMMC
10.	09-12-07	Kodungallur	358	79	NECC
11.	16-12-07	Nellikunnu	160	54	JMMC
12.	16-12-07	Edathuruthy	323	56	NECC
13.	18-12-07	Nadathara	46	12	JMMC
14.	30-12-07	Puliparambu			NECC

(Jayasree Menon)



Pullazhy camp


Aloor camp


Kodungallur camp


Veeranchira camp

Palakkad Ophthalmic Club

Palakkad Ophthalmic Society had conducted a clinical meeting on the 15th of February, 2008. The speaker was Dr. J K Reddy, Sankara Eye Center, Coimbatore. He spoke on Spring Catarrh and Non-Lasik refractive procedures. The meeting held at Hotel Indraprastha, was presided over by Dr. Rajagopalan Nair, President,KSOS.

Dr. Rajesh, Secretary, POS

Malappuram Ophthalmic Club



A CME on refraction was conducted by Malappuram Ophthalmic Society and Al salama eye hospital under the agies of Kerala Society of Ophthalmic Surgeons at Hotel KPM residency, Perinthalmanna on Sunday, 02.03.08 by the name "A focus on Refraction". The meeting was presided by the President of KSOS, Dr P Rajagopalan Nair and Lions Dist Governor Ln Eng. K M Rahmathulla inaugurated it. 103 delegates including 14 optometrists attended the meeting from various parts of the state.

Dr Muhemmed Swadique



Dr. Muhamed Swadique with Dr David Chang at the AAO New Orleans 2007

Padmasree Dr. S. Tony Fernandez..... contd : from page 1

hospital Angamali as destiny. The medical Superintendent of LF then was Dr. Jacob who was his close friend. He was persuading Dr. Tony for quite some time to join LF hospital. Coupled with some domestic compulsions he joined the eye department of LF Hospital, a 5 bedded unit in 1966. And the rest is history.

There might have been several factors which resulted in the phenomenal rise of LF hospital to the present status of CBM Ophthalmic Institute- a 140 bedded tertiary eye care center in Kerala with 8 subspecialties in ophthalmology. But every phase of its growth had one common factor Dr Tony Fernandez. "It was sheer hard work not only of me, but the many doctors, paramedics, NGOs, priests and philanthropes who worked for its betterment". He was instrumental in conducting eye camps in remote villages in a systematic manner which became popular. He also started the Eye Bank and School Screening Programme. On seeing the good work done by the Eye department, NGOs started associating with them. Christoffel Blindenmission (CBM), Operation Eye Sight Universal (OEU), Orbis, Rotary International started helping them in a big way to improve the infrastructure and sustain the activities. Dr. Ittyerah, Dr Eapen and others joined and started the various subspecialties.

Dr Tony Fernandez was also instrumental in organizing the ophthalmologists in Kerala. At that time there was no forum to meet other ophthalmologists and hence he wrote to them. 17 ophthalmologists responded and a nucleus of KSOS was formed. The first meeting was held in Hotel Dwaraka on 21st December 1973. Dr. Rizutti inaugurated the conference. Now the KSOS annual conference draws a crowd of over 600 ophthalmologists and trade delegates and he showed happiness over the progress our society has made over the years.

Cochin Ophthalmic Club came into existence in 1983, mainly to host the AIOS conference in Kochi in January 1984 under the stewardship of Dr. Tony and Prof: Gopinatha Menon. After the conference it was registered under the Charitable Societies Act of Travancore.

Dr. Tony believes that the nature of Ophthalmic practice has changed now.. "Ophthalmology is now a high-tech specialty with lots of subspecialties requiring great surgical skill and huge investments. The era of one-man clinics is gone and Institutional / Group practice only can survive in future." About his "mantra" for success Dr Tony said, "Nothing can substitute hard work. There were days when I used to run the OP in the morning, operate in the afternoon and conduct evening OP. I used to take rest in a bench in the department. By the time I come home it would be late night." He considers the younger generation more intelligent and talented. "But they should also show their social commitment to the poorer sections of the community" As the Medical Director of CBM Ophthalmic Institute which runs the largest Community Eye Care Services in the State besides his association with various social organizations like the Jan Seva Sisubhavan, he is the right person to tell this to the youngsters.

According to his wife Dr Yvonne Ophthalmology has always been his first love. Such was the commitment and passion he had for ophthalmology which will be vouched by thousands of people brought to light by Dr. S. Tony Fernandez.

KSOS and Cochin Ophthalmic Club felicitated Dr Tony Fernandez

KSOS and COC felicitated Padmasree Dr Tony Fernandez at a meeting held at Hotel Abad Plaza at 4.30 pm on 24th February 2008. Dr. Augustine Mampilly welcomed the gathering and Dr. Rajagopalan Nair presided. Dr Tony Fernandez was presented mementos on behalf of KSOS and COC. He was introduced by Dr TP Ittyerah. Dr. N. Radhakrishnan, Dr. K. Narayanankutty, Dr. N.S.D. Raju., Dr. Alex Jospeh, Dr. T. A. Alexander, Dr. R. R. Varma and Dr. A. Giridhar spoke on the occasion. In his reply Dr Tony said that he was happy to get this honor but nothing is more gratifying than the happy face of a blind person who regains vision after a sight restoring surgery. Dr Sasikumar gave the vote of thanks.



Two 'bus'y nights

By special correspondent

The bus for Bangalore started from Jos Junction, Ernakulam on the 31st of January, 2008, the eve of the AIOS elections. We were a mixed bunch under the stewardship of Dr. G. Mahesh. Apart from doctors of Ermakulam and suburbs, there were several from different places like Kollam, Kottayam and Palakkad. Many were senior citizens, yet their enthusiasm was evident. In fact, it was noteworthy that there were less than five people under 45 yrs of age in the group.

We started at 6.30pm sharp. Traffic congestion in the city and on the highway saw to it that we reached Trichur only at 9.00. After eating dosas and Domperidone, we proceeded on the next leg of the journey. We went on picking up doctors from different places en route. When we crossed the border we numbered an even thirty. Night travel by bus is not easy for people in their fifties and sixties; but all of them took it in good spirits (not the ethylated variety)

Bangalore can be equated with chaotic traffic and when we reached the apartments of our friends we were a tired group. But a refreshing bath and the optimism (about the possible election results) of those who were there earlier cheered everyone up. Onward to the venue of the AIOC, we really got to know the "Bangalore traffic jam".

At the venue, another sort of jam awaited us. A long serpentine queue! It took us almost two and a half hours for one to reach the polling booth. On the way there were candidates and their agents canvassing, convincing, cajoling and crying. At long last the wait was over and everyone voted. There was only one polling booth and the electronic voting machines very quite confusing to many.

It was mid afternoon by then and the return journey was looming large in our minds. After a late lunch we started back. Another night in the bus was not an attractive proposition; but what to do? By the time we stopped for dinner, the results were out and we were a saddened lot. Our Vice-presidential candidate had lost; but the victory of the other two was a consolation. So our two 'bus'y nights were not totally wasted!

When we said goodbye to each other at five in the morning, we were tired but happy that we could do our mite to our friends.

Dr. N.S.D. Raju & Biju Raju Thank Everyone

The last 6 months were the busiest time in Dr. NSD Raju's career. I have never seen him so charged up and determined. He was sure that we could pull off a win at Bangalore. But I guess now AIOS elections mean much more than we have ever imagined. Of course, we gave a strong fight and were on our toes till the last moment. Personally I always felt that he deserved the post of Vice President of AIOS more than anyone else. Obviously I felt very bitter after he lost. More so because I had requested him to step down from the elections at Bhubaneswar as well as in Hyderabad. In Hyderabad, I am sure all of you will agree with me, it would have been a big victory and we needn't have done any work at all. But he made sure that Dr. Babu Rajendran wins



at Hyderabad. So that was his journey to AIOS 2008 elections, one venture I would like to forget. But I join him in expressing our heartfelt thanks to the KSOS for the exemplary support. It was amazing that this was the highest turnout of voters from Kerala for AIOS elections. KUDOS to all, especially the senior members, for the example they set to the younger generation - most of whom were not even members of the KSOS. I also thank the OEU Alumini, Manipal and the LVPEI Alumini for the tremendous support. Finally let me conclude by apologizing to each and everyone of you for not having reached their expectations.

Dr.Biju Raju



From the desk of Editor - KJO

Dear Colleagues,

First of all let me thank all of you for the trust you have placed in me and our editorial team by allowing us a second term in office. We assure you in all sincerity that we will do our level best to live up to that trust. As always I request all of you to help us maintain the quality of the scientific content by actively contributing to the journal and also by your constructive criticism and feedback. We have maintained the same basic format of the journal as in the two previous years. We sincerely look forward to receiving contributions from you.

Please feel free to contact us if your copy of the journal is not received, or if there is a change of address. Looking forward to your active support and co-operation.

With warm regards,

Dr. Meena Chakrabarti

Dream project of IMA Cochin launched

IMA Cochin, the largest branch of IMA Kerala is embarking on a novel project apartment cum Club house and Convention center in a one acre land near the Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium, Kaloor, Ernakulam. The construction is progressing as planned according to Dr. Narayanan Kutty and Dr. Augustine Mampilly who are in the forefront of this project. They propose to have the next IMA scientific programme on the 10th of May 2008 in the new auditorium at the IMA building site.

The club will have an airconditioned restaurant, all weather swimming pool, pool-side restaurant, health club with steam bath, sauna and jacuzzi, gymnasium, home theater, card room, TT & Billiards room, Badminton court, General library, Children's room, rooms and suites for guests. The convention center has a seating capacity of over 850.

The office bearers of Cochin IMA are on a campaign to raise funds for the project. They welcome all doctors to join the Club Lagoon by paying Rs. 50,000 as transferable life membership fee before March 31st. At present there are over 600 members and they expect to make it 750 by March 31st. After this the membership fee will go up according to Dr. Narayanankutty. He said the members can enjoy five star comfort in the heart of Ernakulam and can even accommodate their guests at very cheap rates compared the prevailing rates in any good hotel in the city. What attracts some doctors is that the membership is transferable to their children. Dr Mampilly finds it as a good investment since it can be sold to other doctors after the lock-in period of 3 years at the prevailing rates. The Club will be affiliated to premier metro clubs in the cities like Bangalore, Bombay, Delhi and Chennai. For those who do not wish to join the club IMA Cochin is offering 12% interest on fixed deposits from doctors.

With the way real estate prices are booming in Kochi a membership in club Lagoon seems to be a worthy choice

Congratulations to our members who got Elected to AIOS Executive

Dr. Anthrayose C.V.	-	Member	-	ARC - South
Dr. Arup Chakrabarthi	-	Member	-	Scientific Committee
Dr. Giridhar A.	-	Member	-	Scientific Committee
Dr. Ramamurthy D.	-	Chairman	-	Scientific Committee

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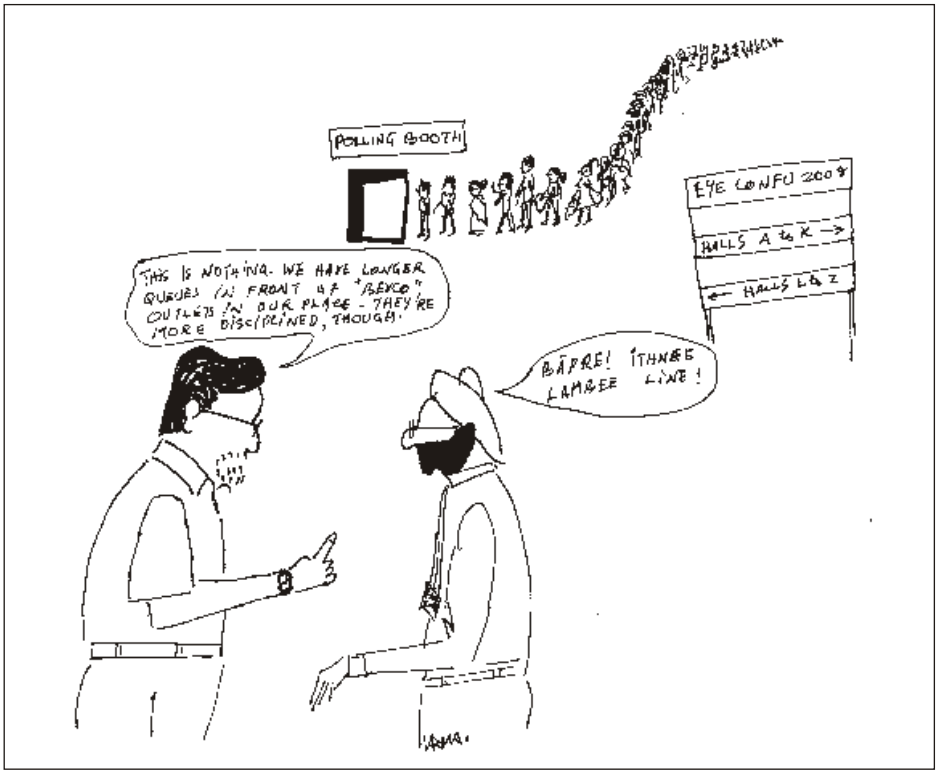
- **Dr. K.C. Sankara Menon Award Session:** Presentations in this session can be done only by a ratified member of the KSOS, for work done in Kerala.
- **Padmabhushan Dr. P. Siva Reddy Award Session:** Any registered delegate at the Annual Conference can present his / her work in this session.
- **Padmasri Dr. S. Tony Fernandez Award Session:** Video presentation by a ratified member of KSOS for work done in Kerala.
- **Prof. Dr. K.S. Subramaniam Award Session:** Presentations in this session can be done only by a Post graduate student in Ophthalmology (MS, DO or DNB) studying in Kerala. A letter to this effect from the Head of Department must be attached along with this form. The Presenting author must also be a ratified Member or Associate Member of KSOS.
- **Anterior Segment Free Paper Session:** All presenters in this session should be ratified members of the KSOS and the work should be in the state of Kerala. The sub specialties included in this session are Cornea, Anterior Uvea, Lens and Ocular Adnexa.
- **Posterior Segment Free Paper Session:** All presenters in this session should be ratified members of the KSOS and the work should be in the state of Kerala. The subspecialties included in this session are Retina, vitreous, Glaucoma, posterior uvea and Optic nerve.
- In case of any ambiguity regarding sub specialties in the above two sessions, the decision of the Scientific Committee shall be final and binding.
- **Best Poster Award:** Posters can be presented only by ratified members or Associate members of the KSOS, and the work should have been done in Kerala.
- The Chief Author shall be the Presenting Author in all cases. Under exceptional circumstances, one of the co-authors may present the paper after obtaining prior permission from the Scientific Committee Chairman. In such situations, the paper will not be considered for the Award.
- A Single person can be Chief Author only for a maximum of two papers in a particular session, and not more than three papers in all the award sessions put together (excluding Posters).
- Any individual who has won a particular award will not be eligible for that award again.
- If a paper is accepted, but not presented without valid reason, another person's chance is being denied and this will invite strict penalty which may include debarring. The final decision in each such case will be taken by the Executive Committee of KSOS.

Please send in your completed Abstract forms before 30th June 2008 to:

Dr. S.J. Saikumar
Chairman, Scientific Committee, KSOS
Giridhar Eye Institute Ponneth Temple Road, Kadavanthra, Cochin 682020
Phone Nos: 0484 2312303 (H) 0484 2203503 (R) 98470 40840 (M) saikumarsj@yahoo.com

Attention all KSOS Award Winners

Have you won any KSOS award? If so, please inform the award and the year to the Chairman, Scientific Committee. We are making a roll of honor of all award winners.



DRISHTI-2008
KOCHI

35th Annual Conference of
Kerala Society of Ophthalmic Surgeons

Preparation on for yet another memorable Drishti 2008 from Team Cochin



The AIOS conference at Bangalore was good news for KSOS members in that our members were able to find executive seats in the national ophthalmic scene. The next big event in the KSOS calendar is the DRISHTI 2008 Kochi. Having heard that preparations were already underfoot we decided to get the present status from the organizing secretary Dr Revati Ramesh.

Dr Revati what are the preparations underway for the next annual KSOS conference DRISHTI 2008?

Well Team Cochin has come together once again within a short while to put together a great scientific feast for the KSOS members. The venue is a new convention centre Gokulam convention centre at Kaloor in the heart if the city. The venue itself is a great attraction because of its central location, enormous parking space and great accessibility in addition to having spacious halls and more than adequate space to house the conference and the trade facilities under one roof. The trade delegates have already been contacted about the conference and we hope to receive a good participation from them. Dr Sasikumar's is ably guiding the trade arrangements.

Is the scientific feast you are promising going to be the same as the previous years or are you planning anything different?

Dr SJ Saikumar the Chairman Scientific Committee has come up with a lot of modifications in the present format of the scientific content and I am sure these will enhance the scientific proceedings considerably. Dr Augustine Mampilly the President COC and Dr Narayanan Kutty Organising Chairman are lending experience and support to all the arrangements . One new feature of the conference is the introduction of the live surgical session during the conference days instead of holding it as a pre conference program. Surgeries are planned in a hospital and this will be beamed to the venue by satellite. This we hope will enable more people to attend and benefit from the session without having to take an extra day off from their practice. To enable this an extra hall has been added to the usual 3 hall format of our meetings.

Anything else that's new?

Well in the registration front we have made registration free for all past presidents of KSOS who are over the age of 60 years. The only request is that they register before the first cut off date. This will be another Drishti with record number of delegates and the best scientific feast ever.

With the excellent organizational capacity of Team Cochin there is no reason to believe otherwise

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