Welcome to the new Newsletter

From Newsletter Editor Ivan Hvid, Aarhus DK, ihv.eposnews@gmail.com

Perhaps you think that it’s old news to call a newsletter new. And of course you’re right. But then, this issue of the Newsletter is slightly newer than the last few back issues. This is because we have been brainstorming a bit to try and make your Newsletter as attractive as we could.

We’re introducing a new item to catch your eye: this could be a poll or a contest where you can vote on current issues, silly or solemn, try and predict the future (e.g.: Will Angela Merkel become President of the EPOS in 2013?), or just state an opinion on something going on in the Society or the World.

We will open a “Young EPOS Members’ Corner” with its own Co-editor. Here, we invite younger members (we’re leaving the definition to the Co-editor, perhaps it will be sufficient to just feel young!) to contribute their opinion on the on-goings of the Society and our sub-speciality, and to come forward with suggestions to improve all aspects of our business. As for the rest of the Newsletter, it will not be censored other than as required by law and common decency. We will also try and draw your attention to new scientific publications from the pediatric orthopaedic journals and from the major general orthopaedic journals whenever we spot something new and exiting. You could give me a helping hand by sending in suggestions!

As in the past, the Newsletter will also contain messages and greetings from officers of the Board whenever this is pertinent. In this issue, we include a message from the President, a plea from the Treasurer, and information from the Educational Committee.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me on the e-mail address printed above. After all, it’s not the primary duty of your Newsletter Editor to author its content, but rather to urge all of you to contribute.

Obviously, it should not be forgotten that this Newsletter has a history. Unfortunately, I’m not well informed about the probably long list of my predecessors, for which I apologize. However, I am aware of my immediate predecessor, whom I believe has done a very good job indeed. So, many warm thanks to Jiri Chomiak for all the work he has put into the EPOS Newsletter.

Finally, from all of us in the Board, I wish you a merry x-mas and a happy and prosperous new year for yourself, your families, and the Society.
Dear friends,

We’re at the conclusion of a long, sometimes exhausting, but a greatly productive year for EPOS. A year’s final days are a great opportunity to take stock of the days past and set new goals for those to come. I ask of you to keep EPOS in your thoughts even if for a few moments as you evaluate 2012 and make plans for 2013.

For EPOS, several advances have come to front in 2012, and the planning of many procedural changes and the execution of some of those has taken place during this year. A great deal of progress has been made regarding several radical changes about our organizational structure and we intend to notify you of them in detail in the first days of the coming year. You have already received the initial notifications for local core curriculum courses and tutorial programs. With the new year, we will take the first steps to begin our e-learning program and EPOS webinars will commence in a short while.

Our program for the congress in Athens was made before New Year’s Day. Our Reading Committee’s job this year was especially difficult. This year has been a record in both the number of abstracts submitted and the quality of them. I hope that we will experience a scientifically satisfying week, along with unique social memories in Athens this year. I suggest you hurry with your reservations in case you haven’t already made them.

Being one of the most important representatives of paediatric orthopaedics in the world, in concurrence with its desire to be the strongest determiner of policy in geographic Europe and around, EPOS has initiated the European Consensus Studies program. An endeavor with the potential to cover many problematic areas in the coming years, this project will kick off in the new year with the subject of club foot. I’m convinced that once we share the details of this project with you all, you will feel the same excitement as we.

That these activities that we have planned and executed despite severely restricted economic means depend on the rule of volunteerism and could only be realized thanks to the selfless work of our highly esteemed members needs no mentioning. We need your support, help and contributions for a better EPOS and paediatric orthopaedics now more than ever. Let’s take on this difficult task together. We have the dream of a better year for 2013. Please join us in this dream.

I wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Muharrem Yazici, MD
President
mimyazici@gmail.com
EPOS Educational Committee has set up “EPOS BAT Educational Programme”. The programme meets the demands required by the European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EBOT). The acronym BAT arises from Basic-, Advanced- and Traumatology Courses. These courses together constitute “EPOS BAT Educational Programme” and aim to facilitate a problem-solving approach in the diagnosis and management of orthopaedic conditions in children informed by relevant research evidence. A module of two Basic Courses in combination with one Traumatology Course covers the core curriculum in Children’s Orthopaedics.

Advanced Courses are primarily designed for Children Orthopaedic Surgeons who manage children’s orthopaedic conditions in a highly specialized setting. Course teaching Faculties are composed of highly internationally recognized specialists in Children’s Orthopaedics from all over Europe.

EPOS Scholarship

The EPOS Board wants to support the “EPOS BAT Educational Programme” by Scholarships. Hence Scholarships are launched on the EPOS Website before each trilogy of BAT-courses. The successful candidates are awarded 1500 € meant to cover partly the expenditures related to travel and accommodation. An application form will be available on the EPOS website.

EPOS Travelling Fellowship

The EPOS travelling Fellowship is a program created by the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA) and EPOS. The programme offers young pediatric orthopaedic surgeons the opportunity to travel and shadow other orthopaedic surgeons abroad.

Candidates for the EPOS travelling Fellowship should meet the following requirements

- Age under 40 years
- Major interest in paediatric orthopaedics
- Scientific works related to paediatric orthopaedics
- Satisfactory knowledge in English
- Complete training programme in orthopaedics with further experience in paediatric orthopaedics

EPOS membership is not required, the three elected fellows becoming automatically EPOS members (free of fees for one year).

An application form is available on the EPOS website

**Bjarne Møller-Madsen, Aarhus, DK**

**Education Committee**
Dear Colleagues,

This year, for Athens EPOS 2013 Meeting, our society reached, maybe, a record number of submitted abstracts i.e. 470 in total (380 for podium/oral and 90 for posters presentations) from forty-three countries. For our members and our guests it may be important to know that «only» the best 84 (eighty-four) or approx. 17,8% of 470 abstracts, will be accepted for podium presentations. The rest of the best scored abstracts will be accepted as poster presentation. RC members finished their job by Dec. 7th. 2012., and the programme committee will work hard in the next few weeks.

Notification of abstract acceptance will be send to authors by the end of December 2012.

Top five countries that abstracts were submitted from are:

- **U.K** 56 (46 for podium + 10 for posters)
- **U.S** 52 (48+4)
- **France** 47 (44+3);
- **Greece** (host county) 36 (23+13)
- **Turkey** 30 (19+11).

Top six categories (fields) of pediatrics orthopaedics, as usual, are:

- **Hip/lower extremity** 70 (59+11);
- **Spine** 61 (51+10);
- **Cerebral palsy** 39 (36+3);
- **Club-foot** 35 (26+9)
- **Foot** 34 (26+8)
- **DDH** 34 (25+9)

This year we have 26 members of RC from 18 countries, with five new members from Belgium (2014 EPOS meeting host country); Greece (2013 LOC chairman); Italy, Poland and Switzerland. New survey of EPOS active membership is planed for the spring 2013 with the aim to gather names of those EPOS members who are willing to help EPOS RC in the next three years. In the future years, RC should have 30 members with 1/6 of RC members to be substituted every year.

Darko Anticevic  
Chair-Elect of the Reading Committee  
darko.anticovic@zg.htnet.hr
Our Treasurer, Thomas Wirth, reports that a good number of members have still not paid the membership fee for 2012, and some are even owing for several years. We feel that in all probability, the vast majority of these members wish to continue their membership. EPOS does need your continued support, also economically, to maintain our high level of activities in education, communication of science, and publication of the Journal. In relation to the publisher of The Journal of Children’s Orthopaedics, Springer, it is a source of some embarrassment to us that some members receive the Journal for a period of time although the membership fee has not been paid to cover this cost.

Included among the benefits for paying members are a significant discount in the registration fee for the Congresses, access to Pre-meeting Courses, the Journal, and of course, the general well-being related to being a member in good standing in every respect! And in many countries, the membership fee will be tax deductible, always a nice feeling at that time of the year!

The Treasurer is in the process of mailing reminders to non-paying members. In the near future, we expect to be able to provide access for members to review their status of payment of the membership fee via the homepage, and also to pay the membership fee right there. It should be noted that, according to the statutes of EPOS, Article 3, Section IV: “Continuing Membership”, EPOS has the right to terminate a membership if the member “fails to pay his dues for two consecutive years”. This rule has not always been rigorously enforced, but we think that perhaps it should out of respect to all those who do fortunately pay in a timely manner.

At present, there are three easy ways to pay your membership fee:
• Through the webpage https://www.symporg.com/registration/epos/
• By bank transfer to the EPOS account*
• By credit card to the EPOS account*

*UBS SA, 8 Rue du Rhone, CH-1200 Geneva, Switzerland, Name of the account holder: Symporg SA, IBAN: CH64 0024 0240 4618 4361 F, Swift Code: UBSWCHZH80A, Account Number 240-461843.61F.

Don’t forget to mention who you are, and what you’re paying!

Having finished with this, we’re sure that you will have an even better Christmas time.
Dear Friends,

We are hoping to build a better future for all of us by bringing together the experience and wisdom of the seniors and the enthusiasm and energy of the juniors. For this gathering there is no other alternative than social media that is more effective, more productive and more practical. From now on, EPOS is aiming to be more actively present in the world of Social Media, together with its Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts, and a YouTube Channel.

Since its launch in late October 2012, the Facebook Page has reached 68 'like's. Facebook Insight Data revealed the following user profile as slight male predominance, with highest percentage of age range between 25-44. However 27% of the users were above age 45. And the percentage distribution was as follows: 10.5% between age 45-54, 14.9% between age 55-64, 1.5% above age 65. It’s never too late. Come on! We are calling you to meet with EPOS on social media. We hope that this invitation will not be unrequited so that we can change the future of European Pediatric Orthopaedics together with your active contributions.

Please do not hesitate to reach us using one of the following media options or simply email us at socialmedia@epos.org

EPOS on the web http://www.epos.org
EPOS on Facebook http://www.facebook.com/epos.org
EPOS on Twitter http://www.twitter.com/eposorg
EPOS on LinkedIn http://www.linkedin.com/company/epos-european-paediatric-orthopaedic-society
EPOS on YouTube http://www.youtube.com/eposorg

Salih Marangoz, Ankara, Turkey
Social Media Manager
sm@epos.org
Here are some articles that I particularly appreciated, published since the last issue of the Newsletter. This obviously is a highly subjective and individual choice of mine. I included links to the home pages of these journals for easy browsing.

In the future, I invite you to inform me on particularly important or innovative recent original papers that you come across in these or other journals. Please submit your motivated suggestion to ihv.eposnews@gmail.com

**Acta Orthop**

[http://www.actaorthop.org](http://www.actaorthop.org)


**Clin Orthop Rel Res**


Pirker-Frühauf UM et al. Osteoporosis in Children and Young Adults: A Late Effect After Chemotherapy for Bone Sarcoma. Clin Orthop Rel Res 2012; 470: 2874-85

**J Bone Jt Surg Am**

[http://jbjs.org](http://jbjs.org)


Li LY et al. Development of the osseous and cartilaginous acetabular index in normal children and those with developmental dysplasia of the hip: A cross-sectional study using MRI. J Bone Jt Surg 2012; 94-B: 1625-31


In April 2013, Athens will host the Annual Meeting of the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (EPOS), a congress known for the top quality of the data presented there. Prof Dr Muharrem Yazici, professor of orthopaedics at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey and the current president of EPOS, stresses the valuable and active collaboration between EPOS and EFORT in research and education.

“The EPOS annual meeting is the most important convention of the paediatric orthopaedic community in the EMEA region. At EPOS, we are preparing to host members from geographic Europe and from around the world in Athens next April. For this 32nd meeting, we promise attendees the same outstanding scientific quality and warm hospitality as at the 31 meetings before plus unforgettable moments in the lovely city of Athens. Those who wish to submit abstracts for the meeting should hurry, as the deadline for submission is October 15th. Participants can contribute to the scientific side of the meeting not only with presentations but also by taking an active part in discussions,” Professor Muharrem Yazici, current president of EPOS, says, adding: “Everyone intending to spend three to four days next spring taking in an extensive scientific programme on paediatric orthopaedics with impressive Southern Europe as the backdrop is invited to visit www.epos2013.gr and take advantage of the benefits of early registration”.

EPOS meetings are known for the meticulous selection process that abstract submissions undergo before being accepted for presentation. “The EPOS board has never been disappointed by this process. In the last few years, new scientific formats have been included in the programme, alongside highquality oral and poster presentations. We try to offer a growing number of educational activities to enable attendees to update their paediatric orthopaedic knowledge by revisiting current concepts, especially controversial ones,” explains Professor Yazici.

To Professor Yazici, an expert in paediatric orthopaedics, the close collaboration between EPOS and EFORT is of great importance and more than just a remedy against the “danger of isolation” brought about by subspecialisation: “We do not view EFORT as a competitor, but rather as a team member working for the same objective. As a platform EFORT assists us in our attempt to reach out to general orthopaedists and other subspecialty members. It is an important partner at the level of the European Union and a strong organisation, being the largest network representing European orthopaedics. We recognize that EFORT considers us a respected partner and are very pleased with this collaboration. EPOS is working diligently to prepare the best possible scientific content in EFORT’s activities related to paediatric orthopaedic education. EFORT, for its part, is using its resources to ensure that a large number of practitioners can derive maximum benefit from this content. There are obvious advantages to having two organisations working for the same objective, collaborating closely and achieving synergy to reach a common goal. The leaders of EPOS and EFORT are enthusiastic and motivated about finding new areas of collaboration within this mutually agreed arrangement.”

Professor Yazici cites the EPOS BAT Educational Programme as a perfect example of a joint effort between the two societies, calling it “the most solid and vivid indicator of what can be done when EFORT’s organisational skills and infrastructure are combined with the motivation of a subspecialty society and the dedication of its members.” The programme meets the demands required by the European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EBOT). The eponym BAT arises from Basic Courses, Advanced Courses and Traumatology Courses. EPOS is already making plans for the future of the program, including “the enriching of its content by setting up courses for residents along with those for young specialists, making resident courses compulsory for residents in Europe and using e-learning capabilities for this purpose.”

Continue reading next page>>
Professor Yazici expects EPOS and EFORT to cross paths even more frequently in the near future: “New activities coming out of this collaboration may make use of the technological capabilities of the modern world such as webinars, synchronous and asynchronous e-education modules, electronic and printed material publications".
We’re announcing this column for future issues of the Newsletter. We invite you to submit any comments or suggestions that you might have. This could be suggestions for new activities, criticisms to make us perform better, or comments on anything relevant for the Society.

Ole Rahbek (Aarhus, DK) has agreed to be the Co-Editor for this column. You can contact him on or.young.epos@gmail.com

Travelling fellows for 2013 that will be hosted by the POSNA are:

Dr. Camille Thevenin-Lemoine
Hôpitaux Universitaires Est
Paris, France

Dr. Andrea Borgo
Padova University Hospital
Padova, Italy

Dr. Julio Duart Clemente
Navarra Hospital Complex
Pamplona, Spain

To improve the follow-up on applications for membership and travelling fellowship within EPOS, these applications will only be accepted through the EPOS website and the Central Office of EPOS as of January 1, 2013.

We cordially invite you to answer the poll at our website.

Click here to take part of EPOS poll or go to www.epos.org/poll
EPOS REGIONAL CORE CURRICULUM COURSES

Pristina – Kosovo on February 13-14, 2013
and in Tirana – Albania on February 15-16, 2013

Coordinated by:
Dr. Elhanan Bar-On (Israel)

with local hosts
Cen Bytyçi (Kosovo)
Edvin Selmani and Neritan Borici (Albania)