

## Registration for the 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting is Now Open

The Aerospace Medical Association's Annual Scientific Meeting is scheduled for May 22-27, 2022, at the Peppermill Resort Hotel in Reno, NV. Registration for this event is now open. To register, go to <https://go.members.asma.org/events/upcoming-events> or learn more about the 92nd Annual Scientific Meeting at <https://www.asma.org/scientific-meetings/asma-annual-scientific-meeting>.

This year's Annual Scientific Meeting is a joint meeting between the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) and the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS). This is the first joint meeting with the UHMS since our 1998 meeting in Seattle, WA. AsMA and the UHMS organizers are working closely to make this meeting a great educational opportunity for all attendees. There will be five general sessions in Reno rather than the normal three general sessions for AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings. We will offer the usual Monday Louis H. Bauer Lecture, Tuesday Eugen Reinartz Memorial Lecture, and Thursday Harry G. Armstrong Lecture. This year, we will also offer two additional UHMS general sessions. Following the Bauer Lecture on Monday morning, we will offer the UHMS Eric P. Kindwall Lecture and we will begin Wednesday morning with the UHMS Christian J. Lambertsen Lecture. These UHMS general sessions will offer our attendees insight into unique clinical and operational issues associated with operating at increased barometric pressures. Outside of the general sessions, we will offer eight breakout sessions with one of those breakout sessions dedicated to the UHMS.

Another new offering this year for AsMA attendees will be electronic posters. The UHMS has been offering electronic poster presentations with great success for several years. AsMA has considered transitioning from paper-based posters to electronic posters for a few years but were concerned about the cost, logistics, and attendee experience, so we never aggressively pursued electronic posters. The UHMS team will manage the posters for all of us this year in Reno. This is a great opportunity to learn from our UHMS colleagues and determine whether using electronic posters in all future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings is the right way to move forward for AsMA.

### Ever Upward

For the latest AsMA News please read our Newsletter "Ever Upward" online at: <http://www.asma.org/news-events/asma-news-archive/newsletters>.

AsMA will be offering three pre-conference Sunday workshops and 1 post-conference Friday workshop in Reno. The UHMS will be offering two pre-conference Sunday workshops and a 1-hour workshop at lunch time every day during the meeting week (Monday–Thursday). Continuing Medical Education will be offered for all of the pre-conference, post-conference, and daily workshops. Registration for these workshops is open for all attendees.

Finally, most ticketed social events are open to all attendees in Reno. AsMA and UHMS have agreed to end the week with a joint Honors Night Awards Banquet followed by a joint After Party with dancing and fun. I hope many of you will be able to join us in Reno this May. It would be great to see each other again and catch up.

## FAA News

### Proposed Medical Requirements for Commercial Hot-Air Balloons

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposed a rule requiring commercial hot-air-balloon pilots to hold medical certificates when operating for hire. The rule would mandate a second-class medical certificate, the same standard required for commercial pilots.

Currently, commercial balloon pilots are exempt from the medical requirement. In the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, Congress directed the FAA to revise the medical certification standards for commercial balloon pilots. The draft rule also addresses a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommendation that the FAA remove the exemption.

The FAA in recent years took steps to increase the safety of hot-air-balloon tourism by working with the Balloon Federation of America (BFA) on an accreditation program. The program includes voluntary standards for pilots and operators and offers multiple tiers of BFA safety accreditation.

The FAA will publish the draft rule in the Federal Register in November, and the public will have 60 days to provide comments. After the comment period closes, the FAA will review all comments before publishing a final rule. More information and comments can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FAA-2021-1040-0001>.

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