Commentary

Reflections from the IAOM President

Joseph B. Zimmerman
REFLECTIONS FROM THE I.A.O.M. PRESIDENT

Since the birth of our profession, many others have assisted in the nurturing process. Over the years we have watched this infant grow from a toddler into a young child. As my term as President comes to a close, I want to share with each of you some observations about the organization’s growth and development over the last two years. I am truly grateful to the other members of the Executive Committee (now called the Board of Directors): Ms. Charlene Clark, Dr. Marvin Hanson, Dr. John Howland, Ms. Susan Johnson, Ms. Roberta Pierce, Ms. Darlene Robertson, Ms. Clara Mae Rydell, Dr. Herb Weinfield, and Ms. Dianna Zimmerman. These are the people who accepted the issues brought before them and confronted each in a positive and fair manner. They have made some rather profound changes in this organization. One of those was the decision to incorporate I.A.O.M. With incorporation, our professional organization finally entered the age of puberty. While still a long way from adulthood, I feel that the growth that this Board of Directors has fostered has been significant. Each of these people deserve our special thanks for their “Commitment to Excellence” (how appropriate to have this as the 1987 I.A.O.M. Convention theme!).

I would like to point out that several members of the Board have been called upon to do “double duty”. First, your President-elect, Roberta Pierce, not only has fulfilled her responsibility as Chairperson of the Membership and Certification Committee, but also has served as Managing Editor of The International Journal of Orofacial Myology. Even though each, by itself, is a monumental task, Roberta graciously and unselfishly saw that these two roles were handled expeditiously. I do not know what I would have done without her. In preparation for accepting the responsibilities of the Presidency, Roberta only recently resigned as Managing Editor of the Journal.

Another member who has continued to serve in a dual capacity is Darlene Robertson. Darlene has been the Association Parliamentarian and has fulfilled the responsibility of CEU Chairperson. In fact, it is through her commitment and determination that this program exists in the I.A.O.M. today. Darlene has officially resigned from this task of CEU Chairperson effective after the 1987 Chicago convention. We are grateful for her many years of service.

Still another who has filled two positions in the I.A.O.M. is Dianna Zimmerman. Not only has Dianna been Recording Secretary of I.A.O.M., but she has accepted the responsibility of Newsletter Editor. The positive comments I hear from individual members about this publication reflect Dianna’s unceasing energies. To Roberta,
Darlene, and Dianna, we send a very special thanks for going beyond the call of duty!

Two additional I.A.O.M. members who deserve special recognition are Ms. Marjorie Snow and Ms. Anita Barrett. Margorie Snow has been Editor-in-Chief of The International Journal of Orofacial Myology since March 1982. After five years of devoted work in this capacity, Marjorie has retired. The I.A.O.M. membership is grateful for her years of service. I would also like to thank Anita Barrett for her unselfish and unlimited support! As Executive Secretary of the I.A.O.M., Anita has been a true force in the positive growth of our profession—not just in the last two years, but since its birth in 1972. Without her assistance and communication, the job of the Presidency would have been impossible, and the Organization would not be where it is today.

As the door to my Presidency begins to close, I want to thank every member for making the I.A.O.M. what it is today. I continue to be amazed at the caliber of individuals our young organization continues to attract. In my November 1985 Presidential message I stated: “My goal is to provide leadership which addresses, expedites, and reaches closure on issues that come before this Association in as fair and efficient manner as possible.” I have tried to do that. I shall be eternally grateful to the I.A.O.M. membership for giving me the opportunity to be your President. It has been a rich and most gratifying experience! I hope to be able to thank each of you personally at the Chicago I.A.O.M. Convention in June, 1987.

Joseph B. Zimmerman, M.Ed.
President, International Association of Orofacial Myology