

*From the Editor*

# ANNUAL MEETING HAS 'SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE'

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**T**he annual meeting of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery was held in Chicago, Illinois, June 22-25, 1995. The four days were packed with information directed especially at the beginner, but there was a lot of new and interesting information. Ray Konior of Chicago and Ken Buchwack of Kansas City should be commended for an excellent program and a very well organized meeting.

## HIGHLIGHTS

1. Everyone is worried about the progressive nature of male pattern baldness now. Most of the speakers commented on it.

2. The front forelock has taken off like the strip. It was the main subject of several talks and many speakers made reference to it.

3. Flappers and scalp reduction advocates are becoming more defensive, but certainly have not given up. An entire day was devoted to flaps and scalp reductions.

4. I was happy to see a lot of discussion on complications and problems. Ray Konier, Shelly Friedman, Richard Shiell, and Manny Marritt specifically tried to dampen enthusiasm for various procedures presented. I think this is very important. Otherwise, many beginners go to these meetings, see these great results, and go home thinking that nothing can go wrong.

5. There was a lot of discussion about extenders and expanders, both intraoperative and preoperative. Presentations were enthusiastic, but presenters also discussed limitations and complications.

6. I thought the highlight of the meeting came late on Thursday, when Randolph Waldman brilliantly moderated a panel on promotion, advertising, ethics and training for hair transplant surgery. The discussion keyed on a recent article in *Mens' Health* about misleading promotion and poor training in hair transplant surgery. Whether the article is fair or not is not the question. The point is that, if we don't clean up our act, someone else will do it for us. We must investigate the possibility of establishing credentials and some sort of guidelines for advertising. There are no easy answers.

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