Palm Springs will be the site of the 79th annual session of the PCSO from Oct. 22-25. Photo/www.freeimages.com

By Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

The Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists will host its 79th annual session at the Westin Mission Hills Resort & Spa in Palm Springs, Calif., from Oct. 22-25. The theme of this year’s event is “Rejuvenation & Innovation: Cutting-Edge Orthodontics at a Desert Retreat.”

Here’s just a sampling of the many speakers and topics on tap for the PCSO:

- “President’s Lecture: Orthodontics in an Era of Evidence-Based Clinical Practice,” with Dr. Katherine Vig
- “How to Achieve the Strongest Bond to All Enamel and Non-Enamel Surfaces,” with Paul Gange
- “Invisalign and Orthognathic Surgery,” with Dr. Sam Daher
- “Shortcomings of 2-D Cephalometric Analysis and Quantification of 3-D Images,” with Dr. Won Moon

In addition to the educational sessions, which offer more than 20 C.E. credits for clinicians and staff, the PCSO has many activities planned for interaction and camaraderie, such as the PCSO Welcome Party, which will take place at the Palm Springs Air Museum, and the PCSO Kickoff Party in the lobby of the Westin.

If you learn about a product that you can’t live without during an educational session, you just might be able to pick it up on site!

Make sure you schedule time to visit the PCSO’s exhibit hall, which will feature more than 100 vendors and show-only specials.

For more information on the 79th annual session or on other PCSO activities, visit www.pcsortho.org.

FROM THE EDITOR

Historical overview of orthodontic education

From the beginning up through the 21st century: Part II

By Dennis J. Tartakow, DMD, MED, ED, PhD, Editor in Chief

Background of orthodontic education in early 1900s

During the 1940s-1950s, dentists seeking to specialize in orthodontics were required to work for several years with an established, board-certified orthodontist as a preceptor (Asbell, 1988; Wahl, 2006). In addition to learning to become clinically proficient, additional science courses were necessary, such as: growth and development, human anatomy, physiology, histology and biomechanics. These courses were taken at an accredited dental school. According to Wahl, all clinical aspects were under close supervision of the orthodontist. The preceptorship program typically lasted for three to four years. Preceptor programs were used until special graduate departments were established in several of the dental schools (Asbell, 1988; Wahl, 2006). These two types of training methods (preceptorships and dental school graduate courses) continued until the end of the 1950s, when the preceptorship program was becoming obsolete, for it was recognized that not only clinical expertise training was necessary but also the academic or scientific foundation of knowledge and information for orthodontic health care must be provided to the graduate student.

By the early 1960s, preceptorships were totally phased out (Wahl, 2006). The preceptor educational system was replaced with two-year, full-time orthodontic programs in hospitals and universities. They were meticulously examined by the American Dental Association (ADA) to ensure that the educational experience was well above the minimum standards of excellence. The American Dental
To be continued...

Editor's note: References will be included at the end of the final portion of this series.

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Corrections
Ortho Tribune strives to maintain the utmost accuracy in its news and clinical reports. If you find a factual error or content that requires clarification, please report the details to Managing Editor Sierra Rendon at s.rendon@dental-tribune.com.

Tell us what you think!
Do you have general comments or criticism you would like to share? Is there a particular topic you would like to see articles about in Ortho Tribune? Let us know by emailing feedback@dental-tribune.com. We look forward to hearing from you! If you would like to make any changes to your subscription (name, address or to opt out) please send us an email at database@dental-tribune.com and be sure to include which publication you are referring to. Also, please note that subscription changes can take up to six weeks to process.

Association (ADA), American Board of Orthodontists (ABO), American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) and the U.S. Department of Education created these standards for all general dental and specialty programs for the protection of the public and the advancement of orthodontic health care for all human beings (American Dental Association, 2008).