Southern California chapter of the AAPM (SCCAAPM) represents medical physicists from the regions of southern California and southern Nevada. Until 2010 south western Arizona was also part of our chapter. AAPMSCC was founded in 1970 by, among others, Norman A. Baily, Jerald W. Hilbert, and Ralph Worsnop. One of their first major tasks was local arrangements for the Annual National Meeting in San Diego. Since then, we have hosted national meetings in 1994 (Anaheim), 2003 (San Diego), and 2009 (Anaheim).

Chapter Meetings

Our chapter has had from two to three dinner meetings per year. The format consists of a board meeting in the afternoon, followed by dinner and a short presentation. We used to have an annual dinner meeting co-hosted by the Los Angeles chapter of the Health Physics Society. This meeting was always held at Les Freres Taix Restaurant in downtown Los Angeles. Other meetings were held at Knott’s Berry Farm, and Anderson’s Pea Soup Restaurant in Carlsbad. Recently, we have been meeting in local universities, including UCLA, UC Irvine, and UC San Diego.

SCCAAPM Educational seminars (Norm Baily awards)

Norm Baily organized Spring Seminars which were held in Palm Springs and Las Vegas in the 1970’s and 80’s. Norm was acknowledged for his contributions in 1986 with the creation of the Norman A. Baily Student Research Award. This award is now presented to outstanding medical physics students and post-docs at our Spring dinner meeting.

Midwinter Workshops

Early in the history we joined the Los Angeles Radiological Society (LARS) to attend the Mid-Winter Conventions in Los Angeles where we held the educational Workshops started in 1985 and they were held around the same time as LARS. But since 2002 Steven J. Goetz started organizing the workshops primarily at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in Universal City on the top floor overlooking the San Fernando Valley. These seminars attracted speakers from throughout the United States. At our seminars we invited President-Elects of the AAPM, representatives of the AAPM, and the California Radiological Health Board to speak. We had speakers from such institutions as UCSF, City of Hope, University of Pittsburgh, UCLA, Princess Margaret Hospital, University of Wisconsin, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Stanford, University, M.D. Anderson, UC Davis Medical Center, and Columbia University. The meetings were organized around such topics as: Image Guided Therapy, New Perspectives in Medical Physics, CT in Medicine.

A typical Workshop program, and several pictures of our speakers are seen below.

History of American Association of Physicists in Medicine

Southern California Chapter

Anil Sharma, An Liu, Michael Campbell, Daniel Low, Nzhdeh Agazaryan, and Myron Wollin