



# INTERFACE

SOCIETY FOR TECHNOLOGY IN ANESTHESIA

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## STA Activities at ASA 1996 a Success

### ASA/STA Annual Dinner Meeting

On the evening of Sunday, October 20, 1996, at the Westin Canal Place, the Society held its annual dinner meeting. At the suggestion of Jan Ehrenwerth, M.D., the society had

invited Cyril Wright, M.D., J.D., to speak on "The Technology of Forensics". The members enjoyed a delightful evening with an entertaining and educational presentation by Dr. Wecht who threw brilliant light, as

well as casting serious doubts, on some of the interpretations of the most celebrated and influential murder inquiries of our times. ♦



*Dr.'s J. Ehrenwerth & A. Ream (President elect & President of the STA) aid in demonstration and represent President Kennedy and Governor Connely.*



*Here Dr. Wecht demonstrates why the single bullet theory for the Kennedy assassination is ludicrous.*

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- ♦ Meeting Announcements
- ♦ Reminder: STA events at ASA
- ♦ Top Ten Sites, Finding Information, Search Engines

## ASA/STA Breakfast Panel: "The Web, The Internet, and You"

This year the Breakfast Panel was held at the New Orleans Hilton Hotel on Monday, October 21, 1996. This breakfast panel was extremely well attended. An anxious period of preparation was completed with about sixty seconds to spare when the Internet connection finally worked to everyone's satisfaction. Dr. Alan W. Grogono of Tulane University introduced the panel and ensured that the speakers kept within the narrow limits imposed by tight timetable. The three speakers gave an excellent overview of the current status and value of the Web. Each speaker gave two brief presentations: Tom P. Engel, M.D., of Loma Linda University Medical Center, spoke on: "Introduction to WWW: What it is; What You Need; How to Connect To It" followed later by: "Top Ten Sites: Finding Information; Search Engines"; Keith J. Ruskin, M.D. of Yale University School

of Medicine spoke on: "Medical Publication & the Internet: Writing HTML, Peer Review & Editing" followed by: "Run Your Own Server: Reach the World, Be Your Own Publisher"; and Stanley Stead, M.D., of University of California at Los Angeles spoke on: "Web Browsers Today & Tomorrow: What they can do"; followed by: "New Technology - the Bleeding Edge: Java, Shockwave, Server Push". Lively and interesting questions from the audience had to be interrupted for lack of time. As the panel was leaving the room they were pleased to note that the audience had taken every single copy of the handout which the panel had prepared - this being a "first" for the society's series of ASA breakfast panels. It was also an appropriate tribute to the speakers and their writing. (See SigNatures this issue for a reprint of Dr. Engle's Top Ten Sites talk).

Brief Listing of Internet Mailing Lists

Listserver	Subscribe Command	Command Address	Message Address
Anesthesiology Discussion Group	subscribe anesthesiology Your Name	listproc@ gasnet.med.yale.edu	anesthesiology@ gasnet.med.yale.edu
American Society of Anesthesiologist	subscribe ASA Your Name	listproc@ gasnet.med.yale.edu	
STA Mailing List	subscribe STA Your Name	listproc@ gasnet.med.yale.edu	sta@ gasnet.med.yale.edu
STA Mailing List	subscribe ACCRI-L Your Name	listserv@ uabdpo.dpo.uba.edu	
Pediatric Pain Mailing List	subscribe pediatric- pain	mailserv@ac.dal.ca	pediatric- pain@ac.dal.ca

(Very) Brief Listing of Internet Resources

Internet Resource	UR
WWW Virtual Libra: Anesthesiology	<a href="http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/index.html">http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/index.html</a>
Anesthesiology and Critical Care Resources on the Internet	<a href="http://www.eur.nl/FGG/ANEST/wright">http://www.eur.nl/FGG/ANEST/wright</a>
Catalog of Electronic Journals	<a href="http://www.edoc.com/ejournal">http://www.edoc.com/ejournal</a>
Erasmus University Department of Anaesthesia	<a href="http://www.eur.nl/FGG/ANEST">http://www.eur.nl/FGG/ANEST</a>
GASNet Anesthesiology	<a href="http://gasnet.med.yale.edu">http://gasnet.med.yale.edu</a>
World Societies for Technology in Anesthesia	<a href="http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/wsta">http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/wsta</a>
University of Alabama at Birmingham Anesthesiology Gopher	<a href="gopher://gopher.anes.uab.edu">gopher://gopher.anes.uab.edu</a>
University of Queensland Anesthesia Web Server	<a href="http://www.uq.oz.au/anaesth/home.html">http://www.uq.oz.au/anaesth/home.html</a>



## INTERFACE

SOCIETY FOR TECHNOLOGY IN ANESTHESIA

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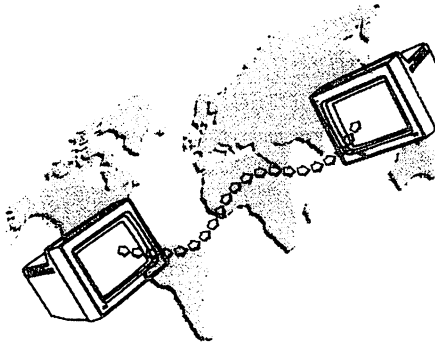
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# Top Ten Sites, Finding Information, Search Engines

Thomas Engel, MD,  
Loma Linda University School of Medicine

## SIGNatures



This month the signature column is a reprint of Tom Engels presentation at The ASA Breakfast Panel in New Orleans.

### The Problem

Finding specific information on the WWW can be very difficult. The Web consists of pages connected by links. There is no master index or list of pages or links. Many pages are connected only to themselves and are unreachable from other pages. The WWW is constantly changing. Anyone can publish a page. All that is required is a computer with direct Internet access. Most online service providers will also publish pages for their members. Pages are added, changed or removed frequently. Servers are added and removed frequently. If you can't find specific technical information, there is no guarantee that the information is truly unavailable.

### The Solution

There are three methods of finding a page:

1. Guessing URLs.
2. Lists of Links.
3. Search Engines.

#### Guessing URLs

URLs are nearly impossible to guess correctly. Missing even one letter will give an error instead of a page. Upper and lower case are usually significant. There is one exception. Guesses like:

<http://www.apple.com/>  
<http://www.llu.edu/>  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/>

may be successful. These URLs will return the default home page for each organization. These default pages may contain links to specific information. Web page file names end with .html, or htm. HomePage.html, index.html, home.html are examples of common file names.

#### Lists of Links

Many institutions and individuals maintain lists of links to pages with specific information. These lists are Web pages and clicking on a link takes you to other Web pages.

The greatest of list of links for technical information is the Virtual Library at CERN (<http://www3.org/hypertext/DataSources/bySubject/Overview.html>). Medical Matrix (<http://www.slackinc.com/matrix/>) is a commercially supported list of links for medical information associated with the American Medical Informatics Association.

Many other institutions publish lists of links. Most lists are maintained by volunteers. Many people keep links to their favorite sites in their personal Web pages.

Tom's Macintosh Page ([http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/demos/Tom's\\_Macintosh\\_Page.html](http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/demos/Tom's_Macintosh_Page.html)) is an example of a personal list of links.

#### Search Engines

Several companies have search engines to aid people in locating Web pages. These efforts are generally supporting by advertising.

A search engine follows links throughout the Web and stores the text from the pages to make an index. The engine cannot reach pages that are not pointed to by pages it has visited.

A user may use a Web page form to pass a search request to the server. The server does a search through its index and returns a page with links to pages that match the search request. The user may then click on the links. The most useful search engines display results in order of relevancy and include summaries of the matching pages.

Examples of search engines include:

Alta Vista (<http://www.altavista.digital.com/>) Excite (<http://www.excite.com/>), and Infoseek (<http://www.infoseek.com/>).

Many web authors tailor their web pages to subvert search engines. These pages are constructed with irrelevant words and repeated words to increase the chance that the search engines will rank the page highly to increase traffic to the page or to make it harder to find other pages.

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**TOP TEN SITES**  
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**Browser Features  
That Aid Searching**

Most WWW clients have similar features modeled after the original NCSA Mosaic. Links that you have followed are drawn in a different color (usually red) than links that you have not followed (usually blue). The Back button will redisplay the page before the currently displayed page. The Bookmark menu will let you save the URL of the current page with its title and go back to the page later. The Find...menu item will find words and phrases in the text of the currently displayed page. This is especially useful for scanning long lists of links. If you have a low speed connection to the Internet, you may shut off transmission and display of pictures. Uncheck the Auto Load Pictures menu item. Click on the icon to load individual pictures.

**Top Ten Sites for  
Anesthesiologists**

Sites were selected to illustrate the variety of information available on the World Wide Web with emphasis on sites that lead to other sites. This list is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/demos/TopTen.html>.

1. GASNet (<http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/>). GASNet is the premier anesthesiology World Wide Web site. It includes Educational Synopses in Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, abstracts of several printed journals, the Global Textbook of Anesthesiology and links to every other anesthesiology World Wide Web site. GASNet's links are the CERN Virtual Library for anesthesiology.

2. CERN Virtual Library (<http://www.w3org/hypertext/DataSources/bySubject/Overview.html>). The World Wide Web was invented by Tim Berners-Lee at CERN in Switzerland. The CERN Virtual Library is the most comprehensive list of links for technical information on the World Wide Web.

3. America Society of Anesthesiologists (<http://www.asahq.org/>). Home page for the ASA. Many things are planned for this site. Watch this space!

4. Medical Matrix (<http://www.slackinc.com/matrix/>). A commercial site associated with the American Medical Informatics Association with lists of links to medical resources on the Internet.

***...web authors tailor their web pages to subvert search engines. These pages are constructed with irrelevant words and repeated words to increase the chance that the search engines will rank the page highly to increase traffic to the page or to make it harder to find other pages.***

5. Alta Vista (<http://www.altavista.digital.com/>). The fastest and most complete World Wide Web search engine. Relevance ranking of results for this and other search engines is not as high quality as most CD-ROM based literature

database programs.

6. Yahoo (<http://www.yahoo.com/>). The most comprehensive list of commercial World Wide Web sites. Advertising is particularly prominent on this site.

7. Internet Public Library (<http://ipl.sils.umich.edu/>). An excellent collection of links.

8. CRAYON (<http://crayon.net/>). Create your own newspaper from hundreds of news sources on the Internet. Our newspaper is a list of links to the sources and news is updated daily in this way. CRAYON also has a comprehensive list of news sources on the Internet, including CNN, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times and USA Today.

9. ZD Net, Ziff-Davis publishers (<http://www.zdnet.com/>). This web site contains information from Mac Week, MacUser, PC Week, PC Magazine, Family PC and Computer Life. This site also contains extensive shareware and free software for Macintosh and Windows computers.

10. Tom's Macintosh Page ([http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/demos/Tom's\\_Macintosh\\_Page.html](http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/demos/Tom's_Macintosh_Page.html)). A personal list of links to interesting sites. Topics include computer companies, World Wide Web authorizing, multimedia, privacy issues and digital libraries. Included here as an example of a personal page. If you like this top ten list, you will like Tom's Macintosh Page. ♦



## **FINAL NOTICE—Sign Up Now**

# **1997 Annual Meeting**

## **Invention, Creativity, & Technology**

### **January 16-18, 1997**

Fort Lauderdale Marina Marriott  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

This year's meeting intergrates the know-how of clinical anesthesiologists and biomedical engineers with the resources of industry in workshops and panels to explore the creation of new equipment and technology. Speakers include:



John Leinhard, Ph.D.  
M.D. Anderson Professor of Mechanical Engineering  
University of Houston, Texas  
Host, National Public Radio's "Engines of our Ingenuity"  
**Topics:** Business and The Inventive Muse  
Technology and Dying

Peter B. Carstensen, Ph.D.  
Office of Training and Assistance  
Center for Devices & Radiological Health  
Food & Drug Administration

**Topic:** Why are equipment standards introduced?

Charles Joyner, J.D.  
Patent Attorney  
Durham, North Carolina

**Topic:** Let me tell you about my invention....

Scott Augustine, M.D.  
Founder, Augustine Medical Inc.  
Inventor of the Bair Hugger™

**Topic:** I've got this great idea...now what do I do?

Colonel Nancy K Jaax, D.V.M.  
Chief, Pathology Division  
United States Army

**Topic:** High Tech Death

Charles V. Wetli, M.D.  
Chief Medical Examiner  
1996 Crash of TWA Flight 800  
Suffolk County (Long Island), New York

**Topic:** High Tech Death

### **Plus:**

- Abstract Presentations!
- Field trips to the National Hurricane Center, Bertram Yachts, and Helco Jet Avion!

For registration, abstract presentation, and corporate exhibit information, please contact  
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## *Meeting Announcements*

Society for Technology in Anesthesia  
**Annual Meeting • Jan. 16-18**  
 Invention, Creativity & Technology  
 Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Medicine Meets Virtual Reality 5  
**Annual Meeting • Jan. 22-25**  
 Global Healthcare Grid: Transformation of Medicine Through Communication  
 San Diego, California

International Society for Computing in Anesthesia and Intensive Care  
**Annual Meeting • April 17-19**  
 Yale Tel-education  
 Yale University, New Haven Connecticut

Society for Computing and Technology in Anesthesia  
**Annual Meeting • May 7-9'**  
 Birmingham, Alabama

American Medical Informatics Association  
**Annual Meeting • June 7-11**  
 Washington, DC

Society for Computing in Anesthesia  
**Annual Meeting • October 23-25**  
 Post ASA  
 San Diego, California

### **WORLD SOCIETIES for TECHNOLOGY in ANESTHESIA**

ESTAIC	The European Society for Computing and Technology in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
JSTA	Japanese Society of Technology in Anesthesia
SATA	Society for Advanced Telecommunications in Anesthesia
SCATA	Society for Computing and Technology in Anesthesia
SCIA	Society for Computers in Anesthesiology
STA	The Society for Technology in Anesthesia

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 been  
**easier**  
 or  
**cheaper**  
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Sign up today to continue these great benefits:

*Journal of Clinical Monitoring*

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*Society Newsletter: Interface*

*Discount to the Annual Meeting*

*Interaction with world leaders in technology and anesthesia*

**PLUS:**

If you submit your renewal at or before the

Annual Meeting in

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

on January 15, 1997

you will receive an extendable STA pointer with LED as a  
 free gift to show our thanks!



**Society for Technology in Anesthesia**

**1997**

**renew today!**