

ABOUT ARS: *Who We Are*

The **American Radium Society** (ARS), a venerable institution and the oldest society devoted to the study and treatment of cancer, is a multidisciplinary organization with members from a number of specialized fields including:

- **Radiation Oncologists**
- **Surgical Oncologists**
- **Gynecological Oncologists**
- **Medical Oncologists**
- **Allied Scientists**
- **Medical Physicists**
- *and others, spanning various fields of Oncology*

The Society promotes the study of cancer, encourages liaison among various medical specialists and allied scientists concerned with the treatment of cancer. ARS fosters scientific study of the treatment of the cancer patient through its annual meeting and educational publications.

ARS is about more than just education or research.

“When you join ARS you have access to many of the leaders in the discipline, in a low-key, collegial environment.”

“ARS is proud of its cutting-edge, annual meeting held in superb locations.”

“We are very supportive of young physicians in cancer treatment. ARS is an organization that fosters mentors.”

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Join The American Radium Society (ARS)

The world's first organization dedicated to the multidisciplinary treatment of cancer.

AMERICAN RADIUM SOCIETY: *Nine Decades & Counting*

- The American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS) did not, in the early years (1913-1916), consider radium within its area of interest. During the AMA meetings in Detroit in June 1916, a small group of physicians and surgeons interested in radium therapy met to form a new American Radium Society.
- The first annual meeting of the American Radium Society was held in Philadelphia on October 26, 1916, with 19 active members and one associate member leading the way.
- Although initially devoted solely to radium, the ARS later extended its interests to include most aspects of X-ray therapy and the artificial radioisotopes. Notably, these early practitioners included surgeons as well as radiologists.
- **Madame Curie was made an honorary member of this Society in 1921 during her first visit to the United States.**

WE SET THE FIRST GUIDELINES!

- ARS was originally founded for the purpose of improving cancer treatment. In a courageous move, the Society sought to curtail inappropriate treatment in poor quality “cancer clinics” that were proliferating in the United States in the early twentieth century.
- In 1931 the Society promulgated guidelines requiring that a community cancer center should possess, at a minimum, at least 200 milligrams of radium and an X-ray apparatus of not less than 200 KV.
- Edith Quimby, a physicist, of New York, first determined radiation dose distribution in tissue yielded by various patterns of radium needle implants, rejecting the pure empiricism of an earlier era. Her 1940 Janeway oration, *The Specification of Dosage in Radium Therapy*, was a landmark. Dr. Quimby went on to serve as President of the Society in 1954, the first non-physician, and the only woman, to serve in that office by that date.

*NOTE: Some of the above history was taken from **J. Frank Wilson's President's Address** at the 85th Annual Meeting, American Radium Society, April 2003

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Held in the spring every year since 1916, it is the oldest multidisciplinary conference for cancer treatment.

- Rotates among extraordinary sites internationally. Venues in recent years have included, Amsterdam, Hawaii, Barcelona, California, Puerto Rico, London and many other locations around the world.
- Presents cutting edge oncology research.
- Is a collegial atmosphere which encourages interaction between the world's leading oncologists and young physicians.
- Now boasts a multidiscipline postgraduate course focused on topical controversies.
- Features an exhibit hall with emerging therapies.
- Leading expert panels and speakers.
- Excellent scientific sessions and poster presentations.

RESEARCH, AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

JANEWAY AWARD

Since 1933, the American Radium Society has sponsored an annual lecture in memory of Doctor Henry H. Janeway (1873-1921), an American pioneer in the therapeutic use of radium. A special committee of the Society chooses the lecturers on the basis of their outstanding scientific contributions. Each lecturer is presented the gold Janeway Medal. The world's leading cancer researchers and clinicians have been Janeway Lecturers.



The heraldry of the Janeway Medal is drawn from the Norse Mythology: Odin, the Allfather with power over the precious minerals of the earth, sought enlightenment for the sons of men. Odin's physical privation, as a price for wisdom, is symbolic of the self-sacrifice of the heroic pioneers of radium therapy for cancer. Odin's ravens, as shown on the medal, have become a symbol of the Society.

YOUNG ONCOLOGIST ESSAY & TRAVEL RESEARCH AWARDS

In keeping with our philosophy to cultivate and educate young oncologic physicians and surgeons, we have established two sets of annual awards to encourage excellence in research.

Trainees who submit a completed manuscript dealing with subjects related to clinical, translational or basic research are eligible to compete for the annual Young Oncologist's Essay Awards. These awards provide an honorarium plus a stipend as reimbursement for travel to the meeting. Young Oncologist Travel Grants are also available each year for outstanding abstracts that are reviewed favorably for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP IN ARS

The Society has four membership categories: **Active, Candidate, Senior** and **Honorary**. You may apply for either Active or Candidate membership.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Active membership may be held by physicians and allied scientists.

- Physicians must be graduates of recognized medical colleges and meet the qualifications as set by the Executive Committee of ARS. They must have adequate formal training and ongoing practice in those branches of medicine closely allied in the management of cancer and must be certified by a medical or surgical board that governs their area of specialty or have equal qualifications acceptable to the Membership and Credentials Committee. If there is an oncology board in their specialty, they must be certified by that subspecialty board or provide evidence of oncologic qualifications, as required by the Membership and Credentials Committee. They must have published in peer-reviewed journals.
- Allied scientists must be graduates of recognized graduate schools and have qualifications acceptable to the Executive Committee of this Society, have adequate formal training, ongoing professional experience and clinical or academic contributions in the oncologic sciences and have published in peer-reviewed journals.

Candidate membership may be held by physicians and allied scientists. These are nonvoting members.

- Physicians shall be graduates of recognized medical colleges and be in training in an oncology training program (surgical, radiation, medical, gynecologic).
- Allied scientists shall have corresponding qualifications.
- They are exempt from annual dues but pay for subscription to the official ARS Journal (if one is designated). They are not eligible to hold office or to serve on standing committees. Their membership status remains until the Candidate is selected for Active membership or until no more than two years have passed since board certification.

HOW TO JOIN

1. Go to www.americanradiumsociety.org/member.php and complete an online application, or call the office to obtain a hard copy application.
2. You are required to have two sponsors, each of whom must complete a sponsorship form or letter of support and send directly to ARS. Sponsors must be members of ARS. If you need assistance finding a sponsor, please contact ARS at membership@americanradiumsociety.org.
3. Submit your current CV with bibliography and completed application (with dues payment) to ARS.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact our membership department:

PHONE: 310-437-0581, x126

EMAIL: membership@americanradiumsociety.org

An application form may be downloaded at:

www.americanradiumsociety.org/member.php