



# Allergists for Israel

Dear AFI Members and Colleagues:

Exciting things are happening with AFI. We continue to grow in membership and our events at the ACAAI and AAAAI meetings are thriving. But what really inspires me and makes me passionate to be Chairman of this great organization are the relationships I have developed with our members and Israeli colleagues over the years. My wish is that every one of our AFI members and friends could experience these same feelings. I recently returned from Israel where I attended the IAACI meeting in Nazareth and from the moment I walked into the lobby of the hotel it was like a family reunion. The warmth exuded by the Israeli allergy community was second to none anywhere else in the world. The scientific curriculum was of very high quality, interesting and engaging as was the food and entertainment. Lisa and I traveled the prior week from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem to Caesaria and Haifa before arriving in Nazareth. At each stop, our Israeli chaverim made themselves available to visit and wine and dine. Each time I visit Israel, my deep connection with the land and their people grows stronger. At a time when the world is pushing this tiny state of Israel into the corner and demonizing it as the only barrier preventing world peace, our little organization has to take heed and continue to do its share to strengthen its bond with our Israeli colleagues. Hopefully, this issue of our newsletter will allow you to gain a better understanding of what AFI represents and why it is important for all of you to be involved financially, academically and socially.



As always, at the ACAAI meeting in Phoenix this year, there will be a light Kiddush Friday night. Refer to the margin on page 1 for times and location. Plans are underway for the 2011 AAAAI AFI meeting events. Keep Friday evening open for the traditional Kiddush which is a great way to get together and say Shabbat Shalom before going off to your evening events. The Sunday evening gala promises to be intellectually and socially stimulating. I also want to mention that we are officially having a second international meeting in Jerusalem in 2012. For those who were fortunate to attend the first meeting, you can attest how wonderful of an experience it was. For those who were unable to attend, this will be a great opportunity to visit Israel, get CME credits for education, see old friends and/or make new ones. I guarantee the 2012 meeting will be as great an experience if not better than the 2008 meeting.

AFI is continuing to support academic mini-fellowships at major academic centers for our Israeli counterparts. We welcome other institutions in North America to participate in this mini-fellowship program. We can provide templates and guidance to help any site organize a mini fellowship. Please contact Beth or myself at [jonathan.bernstein@uc.edu](mailto:jonathan.bernstein@uc.edu) if you are interested in being a host institution. This year the opportunity is being reciprocated by **Dr. Eduardo Shahar** and **Dr. Shimon Pollack** who have graciously offered to host an AFI member for two weeks in Israel at their medical center, the Rambam Health Care Campus, in Haifa. Please find the application form with this newsletter or contact Beth if you are interested.

Research proposals for 2010 have been received and we should be announcing recipients of these monetary awards later on in the year.

To date, AFI has provided over \$100,000 to fund research, educational grants, mini-fellowships as well as sponsoring professional meetings which are all in keeping with our mission of joining together with our Israeli Allergy colleagues to foster education and research activities in our specialty. We are very fortunate to have a great corporate sponsor of AFI in TEVA pharmaceuticals. Their support not only allows our organization to hold annual events at the national allergy meetings but also to fulfill our mission.

AFI programming would not be possible without the support of our members. I therefore continue to encourage everyone to go to our website, [www.allergists4israel.org](http://www.allergists4israel.org), and submit your dues electronically. You can still get your dues in for 2010 if you have not yet done so as your support and generosity is greatly appreciated. We hope that you feel as strongly as we do about the value AFI brings to our professional community. Your contribution of the \$118 annual dues is a confirmation of your support for AFI activities. Tell your friends about the great camaraderie AFI promotes and encourage them to become members and attend our events as well. On behalf of our board of directors and staff, I sincerely thank you for continuing to support AFI.

I look forward to seeing you all at the ACAAI meeting in Phoenix.

Jonathan A. Bernstein, M.D.  
Chairman, Allergists for Israel

ACAAI  
2010 Meeting  
Phoenix, Arizona  
November 11-16, 2010

All the following  
will take place at the  
Sheraton Downtown  
Phoenix Hotel:

Friday Night  
Kiddush  
Reception

Friday, November 12

5:45 p.m.

Estrella Room, 2nd Level

Shabbat Services

South Mountain Room,  
2nd Level

Friday, November 12  
at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 13  
at 6:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 13  
at 5:40 p.m.

**Chairperson**  
Jonathan A. Bernstein

**Board of Directors**  
Leonard Bielory  
John Cohn  
Daniel Ein  
Gary Gross  
Michael Kaliner  
Jonathan Matz  
Marc Rothenberg  
Nathan Segall  
Bernie Silverman  
Jonathan Spergel

**IAACI**  
Ilan Dalal  
Mona Kidon  
Menachem Rottem

**Webmaster**  
David Rosenthal

**Administrative Assistant**  
Beth Goldfarb

**Treasurer**  
Randee Mansfield

**Founder (1984)**  
William Silvers

**Past Chairpersons**  
Lyndon Mansfield  
William Silvers

## Mission/Vision of Allergists for Israel

**Allergists for Israel was founded in 1985 and the evolving vision of our group is to:**

1. Develop camaraderie by the gathering (nationally and internationally) of Allergists/ Immunologists and other supporters of allergy in Israel at national Academy and College allergy meetings.
2. Provide financial support for Israeli allergy fellows for scholarly activities.
3. Establish a network of North American and Israeli Allergists/Immunologists so that we can communicate internationally and meet in the United States and Israel every few years.
4. Develop linkages between American and Israeli Allergists/Immunologists by sponsoring American allergists to visit and speak in Israel.



## Tidbits from Beth

We all recognize how quickly time flows. Months seem to roll one into another before we even have a chance to bring up those “seasonal” clothes from the basement! Change is a phenomenon that keeps us ever ready and alert. The election slogans in the United States reverberate unceasingly:

*It is time for a change; Change is a good thing; Change has brought this disaster upon ourselves; Let's Change back before it is too late; It's not time to make a Change.*

And thus Change will occur. Republicans will sit in Democrat seats, Liberals will squeeze into Right Wing cubicles, Fundamentalists will ride up the elevator with Progressive-ites, and soon party line verbiage will have changed so much we won't know which smorgasbord line to queue up in.

Not being an Israeli I can't even imagine the pace of change that takes place daily in her streets, cities, regions. World opinion, like Pharaoh's heart, hardens or softens depending vicariously on what YouTube slant escapes onto the world network.

One thing I value tremendously is not having a fear of change with regards to Allergists For Israel. Faces may change, with the influx of many new participants! New cities, countries, venues will hold our programs and meetings. But when we congregate together, seeing friends and colleagues from literally all over the world come to share a few moments, an evening, an event, a conference with one another....it is like that warm feeling of a Family Reunion. All this 'warm-fuzzy-cuddly' stuff usually doesn't have a place in the professional workplace. The academic, scholastic, professional and scholarly substance of every AFI program is integral. The feeling of love and joyfulness reuniting with “our AFI family” is what makes us most unique. And that will not change!

# Spotlight

**Elias Toubi, M.D.**

Elias Toubi was born in Haifa in 1951. He graduated in 1975 from the 1st Medical Institute of Leningrad U.S.S.R. - M.D. He became Board License in Internal Medicine and Clinical Immunology and Allergy.

Dr. Toubi began research in 1988–1989 in Basic Immunology with the Immunodeficiency Group, directed by D.A. Webster, at the Clinical Research Center in Harrow UK. He also did Clinical Research in SLE: Lupus Research Unit, Headed by GRV Hughes at the Rayne Institute of St Thomas Hospital in London, U.K. Dr. Toubi's clinical and basic research continued at the Hospital for Special Surgery at Cornell University in New York, involving SLE: defects in apoptosis of B-cells derived from autoimmune patients.

Dr. Toubi is presently the Clinical Associate Professor of the Faculty of Medicine at the Technion as well as the Director of Clinical Immunology & Allergy at Bnai Zion Medical Center, both in Haifa, Israel.

Dr. Toubi's research activities and publications have focused on: The immunopathology of autoimmune diseases, T and B-regulatory cells and Chronic Urticaria, immunopathology and treatment.

He is a member of editorial boards of Harefua, Autoimmunity Rev, and Autoimmunity Highlights as well as being a board member of the Global Allergy and Asthma European Network.

Dr. Elias Toubi has recently completed serving as President of the Israeli Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

Elias enjoys walking with friends in Haifa, which he does three times a week for two hours at a time and they discuss cultural features of the city, historical buildings and other issues. He reads everyday, mainly documentary and historic books. He is a collector of old thimbles and pens. Elias's greatest joy is spending time with his two-year-old grandson and one-year-old granddaughter. As Elias says, "...but to be honest, most of my time is Medicine, Medicine and Medicine."



## IAACI

AFI would like to thank Elias Toubi, the outgoing Chairman of the IAACI. It has been a pleasure working together and we look forward to future collaborations. We would like to recognize and congratulate the leaders for the IAACI who have recently been elected for the 2011–2012 term and look towards our work together with excitement and enthusiasm:

Ilan Dalal, Chairman

**Committee Members:**

Ronit-Confino-Cohen

Nancy Agmon-Levin

Valery Teplitsky





Israel Society of  
Pulmonology

Israel Society of Occupational Medicine



Israel Association of  
Allergy and Clinical  
Immunology

## Pulmonology Meeting

The Joint Meeting of the Israel Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Israel Society of Pulmonology and Israel Society of Occupational Medicine took place on October 6, 2010. The Nahum Goldman Museum of the Jewish Diaspora in Tel Aviv was the venue for the meeting regarding Environmental and Occupational issues relating to Lung Diseases.

Among the speakers were: **David Bernstein, M.D.** of the Division of Immunology, Allergy & Rheumatology from the University of Cincinnati in Ohio; **P.D. Blanc, M.D.** of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine from the University of California in San Francisco; and **L.S. Newman, M.D.** of the Division of Pulmonary Science and Critical Care Medicine Division of Allergy & Clinical Immunology from the University of Colorado in Denver.

Allergists for Israel was delighted to be one of the sponsors for this program.



## Simon Godfrey, M.D.

*Jonathan Bernstein attended the Israeli Pediatric Pulmonary Society meeting at the Hadassah Hospital Mount Scopus Campus in Jerusalem before the IAACI meeting. Dr. Godfrey is the founder of this society.*

Simon Godfrey, MD, PhD, FRCP, FRCPC, is Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics at the Hadassah-Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. Prof. Godfrey trained in London, England and worked for a number of years at the Royal Brompton Hospital and the Hammersmith Hospitals in London before moving to Israel in 1977 to take up the Chair of Pediatrics at the Hadassah University Hospital, Mount Scopus. In 1991 Prof. Godfrey was asked to move to the Ein Kerem campus Hadassah University Hospital to establish the Institute of Pulmonology for the treatment of both children and adults with respiratory diseases. Prof Godfrey has had a long clinical and research interest in pediatric pulmonology, asthma and pulmonary physiology. He and his colleagues have undertaken research into clinical aspects of pediatric lung disease and asthma as well as into pediatric pulmonary and exercise physiology. They have been concerned particularly with the development of techniques for measuring lung function and bronchial reactivity in infants and children of all ages. Together with his colleagues Prof. Godfrey has published a number of books and over 190 papers in the medical literature. In 2007 Prof Godfrey retired from his posts at Hadassah University Hospital and was then invited to join Karmelsonix of Haifa who are developing novel technology for evaluating asthma and other lung diseases as Chairman of their Scientific Advisory Committee. Prof Godfrey remains an active member of a number of national and international pediatric and thoracic medicine societies and contributes and reviews articles for international journals in his field.





## I. Leonard Bernstein, M.D. Elected Honorary Member of IAACI

I. Leonard Bernstein, M.D. was elected Honorary Member of the Israel Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology in recognition of his outstanding contributions in research and practice as well his deep interest and involvement for many decades with the IAACI.

### About I. Leonard Bernstein

by Israel Glazer

It was my good fortune to meet Prof. Leonard Bernstein when he and his wife Miriam came to Israel immediately after the Six-Day War in 1967. We then collaborated on the board of League of Asthmatic Patients- Arad. We decided to organize the international Symposium on Allergy and rehabilitation of asthmatic patients held in Tel-Aviv, Arad and Jerusalem in 1970.

Since then Leonard visited Israel very often and was invited to present his investigations at our annual meetings and international conferences, including the 10th International Congress in Jerusalem in 1979.

The training facilities in Allergy and Immunology in Cincinnati, lead by Leonard attracted many Israeli physicians. They found a warm welcoming home at the Bernsteins. This enthusiasm toward Israel carried over by Bernsteins' second generation, and expanded into the activities of Allergists for Israel organization (AFI).



Jonathan Bernstein accepts the award on behalf of his father, I. Leonard Bernstein.

### Response from I. Leonard Bernstein, M.D.

For most Jews of my generation—especially during the Holocaust years—Israel's statehood was the pinnacle of our heartfelt desires. I remember vividly how Miriam and I marched (and danced) in a small parade in Cincinnati after Israel Independence was officially proclaimed. From that joyous moment until the present, both of us became activists for a number of Israeli causes. Our first trip to Israel was on a United Jewish Appeal mission three weeks after the end of the 1967 war. There were few certified allergists in Israel at that time but through Israel and Eka Glaser, we met most of them, and also a group of lay persons who were trying to establish a childhood asthma rehabilitation program in the developing town of Arad. I greatly admired their sincere and diligent efforts and therefore I provided personal financial support to create an allergy foundation in Arad in honor of my mentor, Samuel Feinberg. Subsequently, the number of Israeli trained allergists increased; annual joint meetings were supported by both major United States allergy societies; and in recent years the Israel Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (IAACI) has organized international scientific meetings, many of which I attended. However, my legacies, that probably will have the greatest future impact are my sons, David and Jonathan, who have been enthusiastic supporters of Israel and the IAACI. It has been a great pleasure to participate in hosting post-doctoral and mini-residency programs in allergy/clinical immunology earmarked for Israeli applicants by AFI at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and Children's hospital.

My association with the officers and members of the IAACI has been a highlight of my professional career. I thank the members of the Selection Committee for bestowing this prestigious award and I heartily accept it, not only for myself, but also for the symbolic bond this represents for Israeli and Jewish allergists throughout the world.

Thank you!!

## Save the Dates



### **AAAAI 2011 Conference San Francisco March 18–22, 2011**

March 18, Friday Night Kiddush Reception  
Shabbat Services • Megillah Reading  
March 20, Sunday Dinner Event complete  
with Purim Masquerade and more surprises  
soon to be announced! You won't want to  
miss an evening with AFI!



### **IAACI – AFI Second International Meeting Jerusalem, Israel 2012**

Please contact  
Beth Goldfarb  
[afiadm@gmail.com](mailto:afiadm@gmail.com)  
if you are interested  
in helping with any of  
these events.

## World Allergy Organization

### Save the Date

**THE WORLD ALLERGY  
ORGANIZATION  
December 5-8, 2010  
in Dubai**

Please visit  
[www.worldallergy.org/  
2010dubai](http://www.worldallergy.org/2010dubai)  
for additional  
information.

The World Allergy Organization (WAO) will welcome both clinicians and key opinion leaders from the Middle-East/North Africa region and all over the world to its inaugural International Scientific Conference, December 5–8, 2010 in Dubai, UAE. The conference theme is Asthma and Co-morbid Conditions: Expanding the Practice of Allergy for Optimal Patient Care.

Encompassing both adult and pediatric tracks, and using both state-of-the-art scientific lectures and post-graduate learning, Asthma and Co-morbid Conditions: Expanding the Practice of Allergy for Optimal Patient Care will:

- Provide insights into the fundamentals of asthma and its co-morbidities.
- Highlight the most recent advances and developments in asthma co-morbidities.
- Develop a consensus about scientifically-based medicine for each co-morbid condition as it relates to asthma.
- Identify unmet needs and areas of research priorities.

#### **KEY REASONS TO ATTEND:**

- Be on the leading edge of medical learning & education!
- Attend state-of-the-art lectures by the “Who’s Who” in the global field of allergy, asthma and co-morbidities
- Participate in practical, clinic-friendly workshops
- Network with others in your field and areas of interest
- Receive CME credits
- Showcase your achievements to key international opinion leaders

AND

- Use the opportunity to explore the exciting, architecturally bold city of Dubai!

Please visit [www.worldallergy.org/2010dubai](http://www.worldallergy.org/2010dubai) for additional meeting information.

## Research Fellowship Updates

A number of research grant proposals are being considered and will be announced at a later date.



We are happy to announce that **Renee Sanders** has been selected for the March 2011 Mini Fellowship in Cincinnati, Ohio. A specialist in Pediatrics as well as Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Dr. Sanders did a subspecialty in Allergy and Clinical Immunology and Pediatric Pulmonology at the University Hospital of Geneva Switzerland as well as the Hospital Trousseau in Paris, France. Upon making Aliyah, Dr. Sanders worked as a Pediatric Pulmonologist with Professor S. Godfrey as well as an Allergist with Professor M. Shalit's Allergy clinic both at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. We are looking forward to her participation with the AFI Mini Fellowship program.



We would like to encourage the multitude of Clinics, Medical Centers, Hospitals and University programs to consider hosting a mini-fellowship for one of our AFI Israeli candidates. The exchange that happens academically, scholastically, mentally, emotionally as well as socially is beyond measure. We can share with you packets of protocol, suggestions and assistance in designing a program that will be appropriate for you. This is one way we can make a lasting difference!



AFI is thrilled to help sponsor a member's participation in an Israeli Mini-Fellowship program which will be hosted by **Drs. Eduardo Shahar** and **Shimon Pollack** from the Rambam Health Care Campus at Haifa, Israel. The time frame for this exchange is flexible. The deadline to accept applications has not yet been determined so if you are interested please attend to this as soon as possible.

## Dr. Eduardo Shahar, AFI 2010 Mini-Fellowship Recipient

Dear AFI members:

One month ago I returned from my mini-fellowship generously granted by AFI. During my stay in Cincinnati I visited the University and attended very interesting conferences, I also had opportunities to see patients with uncommon pathologies and different clinical approaches to more common allergic and immunologic diseases at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Bernstein Allergy Group's Clinic. I feel that the mini-fellowship improved my knowledge and helped me to adopt new techniques for better patient treatment. The professional aspects were very interesting, but I think that the most important facts of my visit was to have the opportunity to stay close to Drs. Jonathan, David, Leonard Bernstein, their lovely families and Mark Rothenberg, and to know their personal and professional qualities. They gave me their best to make me feel at home. I want to thank the AFI members for the grant and hope to have an opportunity to invite them to my house and my hospital as my guests to continue with the friendship and camaraderie of AFI.

Fondly,  
Eduardo Shahar





**APPLICATION FOR ISRAEL MINI FELLOWSHIP 2010-2011**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Dates available to participate in Israel Mini Fellowship

Please attach a paragraph explaining why participating in a mini fellowship in Israel would enhance your current education and training.

Please send the application to Beth Goldfarb: [afiadm@gmail.com](mailto:afiadm@gmail.com)

# IAACI Meeting



Featured speakers for the meeting included **Rudolf Valenta** from Austria reporting on Recombinant Allergens and **Robert Wood** from John Hopkins, Maryland on Food Allergies.

Other distinguished speakers included:

- |                      |               |                      |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Dr. Agmon-Levin      | Dr. Kessel    | Dr. Roifman          |
| Dr. Basheer          | Dr. Kidon     | Dr. Rottem           |
| Dr. Bernstein        | Dr. Kivity    | Dr. Shoenfeld        |
| Dr. Dalal            | Dr. Langier   | Dr. Toubi            |
| Dr. Etzioni          | Dr. Mekori    | Dr. Vaknin-Dembinsky |
| Dr. Fishleson        | Dr. Miossec   | Dr. Wirguin          |
| Dr. Geller-Bernstein | Dr. Perricone |                      |
| Dr. Goldberg         | Dr. Polack    |                      |
| Dr. Katz             | Dr. Rajuan    |                      |
| Dr. Kedem            | Dr. Reshef    |                      |



AFI congratulates Professor Menachem Shlezinger on his recent retirement. He was honored during the recent IAACI Meeting. He had been affiliated with Barzilai Medical Center in Ashkelon and with Ben Gurion University.



Reunion of AFI Israeli Fellows and Research Grant Recipients

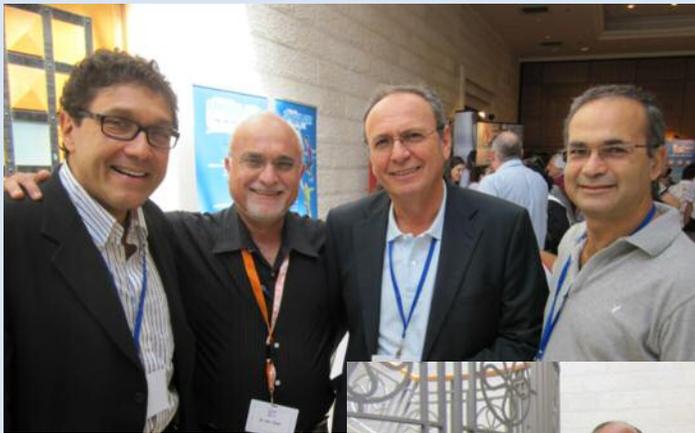
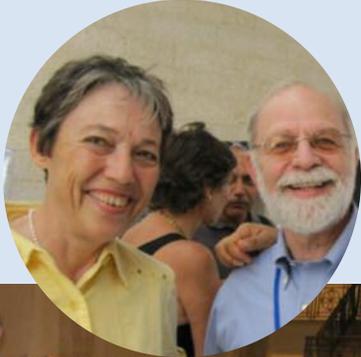
# IAACI Reception

## THE 2010 IAACI MEETING in NAZARETH, ISRAEL

AFI was pleased to have had a presence at the recent IAACI Meeting on October 14-15 held at the Crown Hotel in Nazareth, Israel. We were pleased to host the welcome reception in honor of our AFI fellowships and grant recipients.



# IAACI Reception (continued)



# 2010 AAAAI Annual AFI Dinner

## THE 2010 AAAAI MEETING in NEW ORLEANS

We had it all: State-of-the-art Conference, AFI Kiddush Reception, AFI Religious Services complete with Torah and two Megillah Readings, the enchanting Megillah reading by Ben Werner from Israel, a Sunday dinner event with wonderful speakers, food, drinks, music, meeting new and old friends and Purim costumes! *It doesn't get better than that!*



2010 AAAAI Annual AFI Dinner (continued)



## Allergists for Israel 2011 Membership Application Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies/Affiliations \_\_\_\_\_

Member since \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of interest \_\_\_\_\_

**Please let us know what you are interested in seeing Allergists for Israel achieve. Your comments and suggestions will help us to improve our organization.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Our primary mode of communication will be e-mail since it is easy to use and inexpensive. Please let us know if you would rather be contacted via an alternate method.**  Phone  Fax

**2011 annual dues are \$118. Please include a check payable to ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL with your completed form or provide your credit card information below.**

Visa  MasterCard

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

For questions or comments, please contact Beth at [afiadm@gmail.com](mailto:afiadm@gmail.com)  
Please visit our website at: [www.allergists4israel.org](http://www.allergists4israel.org)  
Membership dues may be paid on line through Paypal by visiting our website

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

**PLEASE MAIL OR FAX TO:**

Randee Mansfield, Treasurer  
Allergists for Israel  
2121 Wyoming Ave., El Paso, TX 79903  
PHONE 915-544-2557  
FAX 915-544-1817

AFI Membership 2011

*If you have not yet made your tax deductible contribution for AFI membership, please know your 2010 donation is still critical to the continuation of our work. Please once again contact Beth at [afiadm@gmail.com](mailto:afiadm@gmail.com) as there is now a comprehensive 2010 membership list. Of course we hope and depend on your continued support for 2011! Thanks!*