



Aloha!

The Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics welcomes members and guests to our 73rd Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort in Kona on the big island of Hawaii. The island of Hawaii is the largest of the Hawaiian group and it boasts a wide variety of landscapes that include rain forests, lava deserts, mountains, fabulous beaches and an active volcano. Sun is pretty much guaranteed along with all of the recreational activities that accompany this tropical climate.

Our meeting is at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort which is a fabulous resort hotel complete with a spa facility, tennis, golf and a fitness center with a great ocean view. The hotel had a major renovation completed just two years ago and all of the rooms are new and many with ocean views. We have a room rate of \$189.00 per night which is also guaranteed for 5 days pre and post meeting. Registrations should be made by contacting the Hotel's Central Reservations Office directly at (866) 837-4256 or through a personalized web site created by the resort for our meeting. By accessing the site you can learn more about the event and book your reservation. The link to access the site is: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=0802018516&key=91802>.

It is very important that you make them aware that you are attending the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics meeting to ensure that you get the group rate and also that the Society is credited with your reservation. Free self parking is included in the room rate for the meeting.

Note that the cut-off date for reservations is May 23, 2008.

The Society's annual golf tournament will be on Wednesday, June 18 at the Kona Country Club Ocean Course teeing off at 10:00 am. The Clubhouse is a 5 minute shuttle ride from the hotel and rental clubs are available if you want to travel light (rental fee is \$40.00).

Wednesday night's Welcome reception will be on-site at Crystal Blue Point looking out on the blue Pacific. Our evening theme of "Streets of Chinatown" will provide a blend of East and West as we gather to renew friendship and make new attendees welcome in our tropical setting.

On Thursday, spouses, children and guests not attending the scientific sessions can embark on a boat ride to the Captain Cook Monument in Kealakukua Bay that includes time for some fabulous snorkeling in the Bay. This bay is considered one of the premier snorkeling sites on the islands. It is a boat trip of about 8 miles each way along the beautiful coastline but the waters around Kona have a reputation for calmness so you can enjoy the ride. Snorkeling equipment is provided on board, but you do need to bring your own towels and sunscreen.

Thursday evening will be free for dinner at one of the many great restaurants in the Kona area and the evening will conclude back at the hotel with our post-dinner President's reception out on Crystal Blue Terrace.

Friday morning will see spouses and guests embark on a coach tour to explore some of the fascinating history that surrounds the Kona District. A visit to the Greenwell Store Museum will give a kaleidoscope view of shopping for supplies in the late nineteenth century. Then it is on to the Kona Coffee Living History Farm which was originally homesteaded by Japanese immigrants at the turn of the 20th century. After lunch our tour takes us to Pu'uhonua o Honaunau, a National Historical Park preserving the royal grounds of the Hawaiian chiefs of bygone days. As you walk around, the cove which was once reserved for landing the royal canoes is now a great place to see some sea turtles

Friday evening's social event is a traditional Luau on the Bay Terrace lawn of the hotel looking out on the beautiful Keauhou Bay. The night's entertainment is a special show that highlights the wonderful myths and legends of Hawaii.

Plan on staying for the Saturday night President's Dinner which is always a grand finale to our meeting. As a special treat this year, President, Baldwin Marchack has arranged for the World Latin Ballroom Champions, Bryan Watson and Carmen to perform for us.

There are direct flights from the mainland that take you to Kona International Airport and it is a short ride down to our hotel situated on the picturesque Keauhou Bay. Ground transportation is available to get you to the hotel, but for those who want to see more of the island, car rentals from all the major agencies are also available at Kona airport. Self parking is complimentary for PCSP guests staying at the hotel.

If you forgo renting a car, there is a free trolley service from the hotel that will take you into historical downtown Kailua-Kona. Once the home of King Kamehameha the Great it is now a great place to shop, stroll and dine as well as visiting the historical sights.

To help with your planning and packing, dress for social events will reflect the tropical setting, so break out those Hawaiian shirts and dresses. For the scientific sessions tropical business attire is appropriate – collared shirts and slacks for the gentlemen, and corresponding style for our lady dentists.

The Saturday night President's Dinner will still have the tradition of formal attire with black tie optional.

A good information and touring guide available in bookstores is "Hawaii – The Big Island Revealed" by Wizard Publications.

June will be upon us before we know it so get cracking with your planning and flight arrangements and I look forward to seeing you in Paradise in June.

Joe Cooney
Local Arrangements Chair