

News from SOAR

By Trudy Taylor, MD, FRCPC

A strong contingent of rheumatologists from across the Maritime provinces descended on Dalvay by the Sea on Prince Edward Island for the 35th annual meeting of the Society of Atlantic Rheumatologists (SOAR) from June 22-24, 2018. The meeting was a great venue for rejuvenation of the mind and spirit, while spending some much-needed time with colleagues and family.

This year's David Hawkins Lecture in Rheumatology, "Mortality in Rheumatoid Arthritis, Have We Made Any Headway?" was given by Dr. Diane Lacaille, MD, MHSc, FRCPC, from the University of British Columbia. She followed this up with a thought-provoking lecture on "Comorbidities in RA."

Our second expert lecturer was Dr. Rebecca Manno, MD, MHS, from John Hopkins University, Baltimore. She gave us two excellent talks, "Large Vessel Vasculitis" and "Cutaneous Vasculitis."

In a break from tradition, we welcomed Dr. Mark Gilbert, PhD, Medical Humanities-(HEALS) Program from the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University to our meeting this year. He enlightened us on the use of visual arts in medicine and made some great ties between the visual arts and the field of rheumatology.

Finally, there were original research and interesting case presentations from our bright and talented rheumatologists-to-be. We are very fortunate to have such promising talent in our region!



Dr. Diane Lacaille (left) and Dr. Rebecca Manno (right) were guest speakers at the meeting.

After their inaugural appearance at the 2017 SOAR meeting, The Big Country Ramblers were back by popular demand to get the group tapping their toes and moving to the rhythm of their rich bluegrass tunes. Rumor has it there was even a Bosnian Circle Dance performed. Now the unofficial band of SOAR, we are looking forward to having them join us again next year!

SOAR members loved the venue so much that we unanimously decided to return to Dalvay by the Sea next year for the annual meeting from June 21-23, 2019. Save the date!



The 35th annual SOAR meeting took place from June 22-24, 2018, at Dalvay by the Sea on Prince Edward Island.

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