

# Living with Polio in the 21st Century

April 23-25, 2009



Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation, Warm Springs, Georgia; (Top to bottom) Quadrangle, Roosevelt Hall, Columbus Colonnade, Inside Georgia Hall

**Living with Polio in the 21st Century** is the theme guiding the program of Post-Polio Health International's 10th International Conference.

The conference will open officially on Thursday, April 23, 2009, at 1:00 pm in historic Roosevelt Hall on the campus of Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation (RWSIR), Warm Springs, Georgia.

The closing lecture, "Polio: A Look Back at the Public Health Crusade that Mobilized a Nation" will be presented by David M. Oshinsky, author of *Polio: An American Story*, a book for which he received the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in History. The session will conclude at 4:00 pm, Saturday, April 25, 2009. A social event will be held that evening at Camp Dream on the RWSIR campus.

The core program takes advantage of RWSIR's current facilities by offering sessions such as "Your Mobility Device and Your Posture"; "Demonstration and Discussion of a Post-Polio Examination: Sorting out Secondary Conditions"; "Demonstration and Discussion of a Post-Polio Examination: Don't Forget Breathing"; "Benefits and Techniques of Aquatic Therapy"; and "Demonstration and Discussion of a Seating Evaluation: Cushions and Pressure Sores."

RWSIR is the perfect setting for sessions such as "Warm Springs during the Epidemic Years: Not the Usual Story" and a "Memoir Writing Workshop."

The program committee recognizes that the basics of the late effects of polio are readily available and chooses to offer targeted and in-depth sessions, as well as sessions that offer "tools" to live with polio in the 21st century. Other examples of the 40 sessions include: "Tools to Use in Evaluating Treatment Choices"; "Making the Tough Decisions: Palliative Care and

**David M. Oshinsky,**  
Jack S. Blanton  
Chair in History,  
University of Texas,  
and Distinguished  
Scholar in  
Residence, New  
York University.



Photo by Don Rogers  
(www.drogersphoto.com)

End-of-Life Decisions"; "Complementary and Alternative Medicine: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You"; "Anesthesia Update: Separating Fact from Fear"; "Housing Options: What's Out There"; and "Poly Pharmacy: Making It All Work." ▲

The program schedule, with the session titles and names of presenters for the 40 sessions, will be available on the PHI ([www.post-polio.org](http://www.post-polio.org)) and RWSIR ([www.roosevelt-rehab.org](http://www.roosevelt-rehab.org)) websites in the fall. Registration materials will include information about lodging, ranging from historic and/or rustic rooms on campus to area chain motels to Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. Rates range from \$60 to \$109 per night for double occupancy, less for single. There are also campgrounds in the area.

The regional airport is Hartsfield-Jackson International on the southwest side of Atlanta. The drive to Warm Springs is about 1½ hours. A list of rental car agencies, including their disability services, will be provided.

Roosevelt's Little White House Historic Site, operated by Georgia State Parks, is adjacent to RWSIR, and tours will be available. The site also includes the FDR Memorial Museum & Video and the Historic Pools Museum. Tours will also be available of RWSIR, a National Historic Landmark, which is home to the Smithsonian Exhibit "Whatever Happened to Polio?" and the Polio Hall of Fame.

Watch [www.post-polio.org](http://www.post-polio.org) and [www.roosevelt-rehab.org](http://www.roosevelt-rehab.org) for details. Lodging information will be posted in early September. If you do not have access to the Internet and want to receive the registration materials, send your name and address to PHI or call 314-534-0475.