



# Newsletter of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association

Thirteen Elm Street, Manchester, MA 01944

[www.westernthoracic.org](http://www.westernthoracic.org)

## 2002 Annual Meeting - *In Review*

More than 460 physicians, spouses, residents, guests, and exhibitors joined the Western Thoracic Surgical Association for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at the Big Sky Resort in Big Sky, Montana from June 19-22, 2002. The meeting combined an excellent scientific program with an exceptional social agenda which took full advantage of this beautiful location.

For the first time, the scientific program included a moderated poster session and an Invited Lecturer, as well as the traditional paper presentations, breakfast sessions, and Point-Counterpoint debates. Twenty-two papers were presented covering such topics as: "Early and Late Results of Minimally Invasive Mitral Valve Surgery Suggests Earlier Operation for Mitral Valve Disease"; "Early Outcomes in Neonatal Tricuspid Atresia with Normally Related Great Arteries: A Multi-institutional Study"; "Is There a Difference in Costs Between On- and Off- Pump Bypass Surgery: Results of a Randomized Pilot Study"; and "Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery for Pulmonary Nodules: Rationale for Preoperative Computed Tomography-Guided Hookwire Localization."

Dr. Albert Starr from Portland, Oregon was the Invited Lecturer and presented "How to Run a Profitable Cardiothoracic Practice" on Saturday morning. In addition, Dr. Starr was presented with the David J. Dugan Distinguished Service Award. The Award is given in recognition of distinguished achievement and outstanding contributions to thoracic surgery in science or leadership. Dr. Starr became the 4th recipient of this esteemed award.

Simultaneous breakfast sessions, covering "Surgical Treatment of Atrial Arrhythmias in Adults and Children" and "New Surgical Approaches to Lung Cancer" were held on Friday morning.

In keeping with the western location, the traditional Presidential Address, given by Dr. Donald Doty was entitled "Lewis and Clark, Pioneers and the American Dream."

The C. Walton Lillehei Point-Counterpoint Session, held on Saturday, addressed, "Cardiologists Will Make Cardiac Surgeons Obsolete in Five Years." The session was moderated by Dr. D. Craig Miller and panelists were Drs. Steve Oesterle and Bruce Lytle.

The Samson Resident Prize Essay Competition attracted an exceptional group of papers and the award was presented to Dr. Susan D. Moffatt-Bruce from Stanford University for the paper "Lung-Transplantation: A Review of a Decade of Experience"

The Annual Postgraduate Course was once again sponsored by the White Memorial Medical Center and Foundation - Lyman A. Brewer, III, Fund. The course, held on Friday morning, included: "Advances in Aortic Surgery" by Dr. Nicholas Kouchoukos; "Advances in Congenital Heart Disease Surgery" by Dr. Frank Hanley";



and "Advances in Cardiac Valve Surgery" by Dr. Robert Karp.

In addition, the program included a Controversies in Thoracic Surgery presentation, moderated by Dr. John R. Benfield on "Lung Volume Reduction Surgery and the NETT: A Good Concept Gone Awry?": Drs. Richard Whyte and Douglas Wood debated.

The social program offered a variety of activities and additional tours which allowed participants to relax and enjoy the area and keep busy with all of the traditional WTSA athletic events. The annual tennis and golf tournaments, and the traditional Samson Fun Run were held, as well as a fabulous Western Theme Dinner, featuring live entertainment, hayrides, panning for gold, and horse-shoes. A highlight for many participants was the optional tour to Yellowstone National Park.

Participants were also treated to the customary President's Reception and Banquet, the New Members' Reception and a picnic buffet luncheon on Saturday at the Resort.

**PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE.....**

**Mark Your Calendar..**

**29th Annual Meeting  
June 18-21, 2003**

**LaCosta Resort  
Carlsbad, California**

# Highlights of the Council Meeting - June 19, 2002 and the Annual Business Meeting - June 22, 2002 Big Sky, Montana

## Report of the President

Dr. Doty expressed his gratitude to the membership for having had the privilege to serve as President of the Association and gave special thanks to the Council and Committee Chairs and Members for their extraordinary effort in ensuring a successful year.

Dr. Doty opined that the Annual Meeting was a huge success with a strong Scientific Program including an innovative Postgraduate Course, the Controversy sessions, a first-ever moderated Poster Session, and a special Invited Lecturer Session.

## Report of the Secretary

Current membership statistics: 211 Active, 182 Senior and 14 Honorary members for a total of 407 Surgeons.

During the past year the following members of the Association had passed away and a moment of silence was observed:

G. Hugh Lawrence, MD, Friday Harbor, Washington  
F. Beachley Main, MD, Anaheim, California  
Michael A. Mendez, MD, Monrovia, California  
Melvin M. Newman, MD, Pasadena, California  
John L. Wilson, MD, Palo Alto, California

## Report of the Treasurer

Dr. Wood presented a Review by the CPA firm of Russell, Brier, and Company for the year-ending December 31, 2001 and noted total assets of \$271,892; \$177,003 were restricted to the Samson Endowment Fund and \$5,000 to the Lyman Brewer Fund. Total income for the year was \$383,951 against expenses of \$389,477 resulting in a deficit of \$5,526.

Dr. Wood had distributed an eight-year financial trend report and noted that over the past eight years, the Association had Assets of approximately \$300,000 in 1996, suffered a loss of \$103,000 in 1997 and was building the asset base back to the 1996 level. It was suggested that additional attention should be paid to adding to the Samson Endowment Fund.

The Council approved the Policy on Honoraria and Expense Reimbursement for the Annual Meeting, as well as the Policy and Procedures for the Local Arrangements Chair.

## Report of the Editor

In reviewing acceptance rates for the 2001 Meeting papers, Dr. Andrew S. Wechsler, Editor, noted that the WTSA acceptance rate was approximately 67%, which compared favorably to the overall acceptance rate for all papers including unsolicited ones submitted to the *Journal* which averaged a 33% acceptance rate. The *Journal* received 100% of the papers presented at the 2001 Western Meeting.

Dr. Wechsler reviewed a number of initiatives implemented for the *Journal*, including:

- ♦ A dramatic increase in the number of solicited editorials
- ♦ The opportunity to provide online videos to accompany authors' manuscripts which can be seen in video format via the *Journal* website or CTSNet.
- ♦ A new cover and internal redesign of the *Journal*
- ♦ The recognition of the extraordinary contributions of the *Journal's* best reviewers through the "Distinguished Reviewer" program. (At least three members of the WTSA Council have been recognized as distinguished reviewers.)
- ♦ The publication of several articles on ethical topics and an important series of articles entitled "Statistics for the Rest of Us".

## Report of the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education

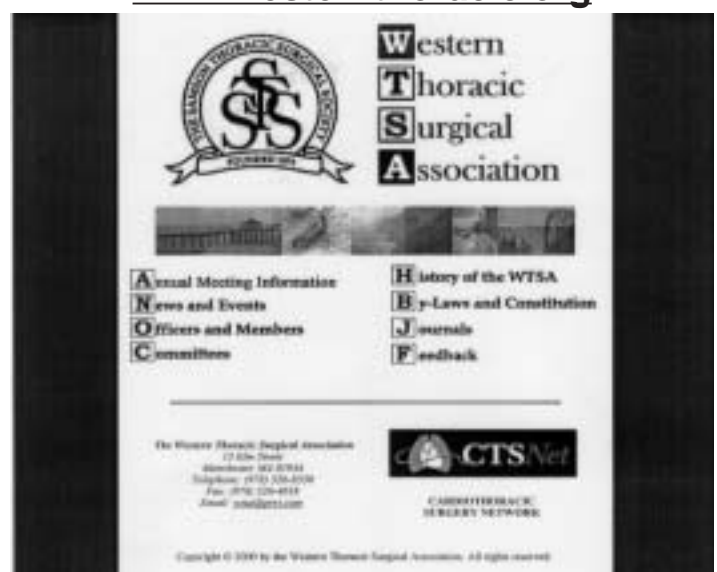
Dr. Fosburg reported on fund raising noting that the Foundation raised \$1,552,730 in 2001 compared to \$4,162,352 in 2000. He also noted that the Foundation's first recipient of the jointly sponsored TSF/NHLBI Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (KO8) was Dr. Michael Mulligan of Seattle, Washington.

## Report of the Representative to the ACS Board of Governors

Dr. Guyton reported that the ACS Board of Regents had approved a plan to create a 501(c)6 organization in addition to the present 501(c)3 College. This would allow more lobbying and

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## Meeting Highlights

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political activity by the new organization. Dr. Guyton also reported on the College's discussions of national tort reform, Medicare physician payment legislation and the new ACGME restrictions for resident duty hours. The restrictions for resident duty hours issue engendered a spirited discussion among Council members.

### Reports of Committees

#### Program Committee

Dr. Gundry reported that with the addition of a Moderated Poster Session, a total of 32 papers were accepted with 22 papers for podium presentations and 10 posters. Of the 32 papers, 16 were from WTSA members and 16 non-members including 6 international papers.

#### Local Arrangements Committee

Dr. Hawkins reported that there were 174 physicians and 7 allied health professionals in attendance, as well as 75-80 children. The Samson Fun Run had over 85 runners participating; the golf tournament had 56 golfers; and the tennis tournament had 16 players.

#### Report of the Nominating Committee

Dr. Daniel J. Ulyot submitted the following slate of officers:

President	Edward D. Verrier, MD
Vice President	Vaughn A. Starnes, MD
Immediate Past President	Donald B. Doty, MD
Secretary	R. Scott Mitchell, MD
Treasurer	Douglas E. Wood, MD
Historian	Richard G. Fosburg, MD
Councillor-at-Large	Robbin G. Cohen, MD
	Elliot T. Gelfand, MD
	W. R. Eric Jamieson, MD
Councillor / Founder	Arthur N. Thomas, MD

## FUTURE MEETINGS

29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
June 18-21, 2003  
LaCosta Resort  
Carlsbad, California

30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
June 26-29, 2004  
Outrigger Wailea Resort  
Maui, Hawaii

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

***The following new members and membership changes were approved during the 2002 Business Meeting:***

#### **New Active Members**

Gabriel S. Aldea, MD, Seattle, Washington  
David P. Bichell, MD, San Diego, California  
John D. Blizzard, MD, Portland, Oregon  
Emery Charles Douville, MD, Portland, Oregon  
David Mark Jablons, MD, San Francisco, California  
Marsahl V. Marchbanks, MD, Santa Rosa, California  
Michael S. Mulligan, MD, Seattle, Washington  
Alan D. Muskett, MD, Billings, Montana  
Bassam O. Omari, MD, Torrance, California  
Peter F. Roberts, MD, Sacramento, California  
Barry B. Sheppard, MD, Burlingame, California  
James C. Stringham, MD, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Andrew C. Tsen, MD, Portland, Oregon  
Nan Wang, MD, Loma Linda, California

#### **New Honorary Member**

Walter G. Wolfe, MD, Durham, North Carolina

#### **Advanced to Senior in 2001**

Aftab Ahmad, MD, Portland, Oregon  
William R. Dietrick, MD, Portland, Oregon  
William A. Gay, MD, St. Louis, Missouri  
J. Donald Hill, MD, San Francisco, California  
Forrest L. Junod, MD, Sacramento, California  
J. Judson McNamara, MD, Honolulu, Hawaii  
Richard R. O'Reilly, MD, Bakersfield, California  
William G. Plested, MD, Santa Monica, California  
Samuel L. Selinger, MD, Spokane, Washington  
Gary M. Silver, MD, Los Altos, California  
Burt S. Strug, MD, Tucson, Arizona  
Kevin Turley, MD, Middletown, California  
Daniel J. Ulyot, MD, Burlingame, California

#### **Advanced to Senior in 2002**

Hewes D. Agnew, MD, Billings, Montana  
Aurelio Chaux, MD, Santa Monica, California  
Pat O. Daily, MD, San Diego, California  
Donald D. Doty, MD, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Theodore L. Folkerth, MD, Oceanside, California  
Bruce L. Frazier, MD, Bakersfield, California  
Richard E. Hicks, MD, Eugene, Oregon  
George Kafrouni, MD, La Canada, California  
Dev R. Manhas, MD, Seattle, Washington  
Michael B. Pliam, MD, Daly City, California

# Photo Highlights of the 2022 Annual Meeting





**WTSA's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
June 18-21, 2003  
La Costa Resort  
Carlsbad, California**



La Costa Resort and Spa is a legendary resort known for its superb guest rooms and meeting space, nestled amidst the beautiful coastal climate of Carlsbad, California. La Costa Resort and Spa also boasts the finest in golf and tennis facilities, with two championship golf courses and twenty-one tennis courts on more than 400 lush green acres.

La Costa guest accommodations elegantly enhance the total resort experience. From deluxe rooms to breathtaking one, two and three-bedroom suites - your lodging is luxurious and unique.

**Spa**

Discover a world of paradise at Spa La Costa. You'll luxuriate in Roman pools, sauna and steam. Your body will be soothed by therapeutic treatments, facials and specialty body wraps. You'll experience the latest and most advanced treatments available gathered from every corner of the world. Spa La Costa is also home to both the world-renowned Chopra Center and the United States Golf Fitness Association. Whether you desire a custom package or an a la carte experience, we have brought together a professional staff all dedicated to improving your health and well being.

**Golf**

It's been said that the best thing about playing La Costa is that you can measure your performance against the best players in the world. For golfers of all abilities, La Costa is a dream come true. The two PGA Championship 18-hole courses are both beautiful, traditional in design and home of the World Golf Championships - Accenture Match Play Championship. At La Costa, you can experience the courses which have challenged the PGA TOUR's finest for over thirty years.

***Thank you  
to the following companies for their support  
as exhibitors at the 2002 Annual Meeting:***

**ABIOMED, Inc.  
ATS Medical, Inc.  
Bayer Corporation  
CardioGenesis Corporation  
CardioVations  
Coalescent Surgical, Inc.  
Cohesion Technologies  
CryoLife, Inc.  
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Medtronic USA, Inc.  
Somanetics  
St. Jude Medical  
Sulzer Carbomedics  
Terumo Cardiovascular Systems  
Vitalcor, Inc.  
W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.**

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## 2002 - 2003 Officers and Councillors

### President

Edward D. Verrier, M.D.  
*Seattle, Washington*

### Vice President

Vaughn A. Starnes, M.D.  
*Los Angeles, California*

### Immediate Past President

Donald B. Doty, M.D.  
*Salt Lake City, Utah*

### Secretary

R. Scott Mitchell, M.D.  
*Stanford, California*

### Treasurer

Douglas E. Wood, M.D.  
*Seattle, Washington*

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Andrew S. Wechsler, M.D.  
*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

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*British Columbia, Canada*

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Arthur N. Thomas, M.D.  
*San Francisco, California*

### Historian

Richard G. Fosburg, M.D.  
*Del Mar, California*

### ACS Board of Governors

Steven W. Guyton, M.D.  
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Richard G. Fosburg, M.D., Alt.  
*Del Mar, California*

### ACS Advisory Council

Winfield J. Wells, M.D.  
*Los Angeles, California*

## 2002 - 2003 Committees

### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Douglas E. Wood, M.D., CO-CHAIR  
Joanne LeBlanc, M.D. CO-CHAIR

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Mark B. Ratcliffe, M.D.  
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Alfredo Trento, M.D.  
E. Lance Walker, M.D.

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Kent W. Jones, M.D.

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Edward D. Verrier, M.D., *EX OFFICIO*  
Andrew S. Wechsler, M.D., *EX OFFICIO*

## Western Thoracic Surgical Association

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