



Newsletter of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association

900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915

www.westernthoracic.org

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The 31st Annual Meeting to be Held in British Columbia, Canada

General Information

The 31st Annual Meeting of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association will be held at the Fairmont Empress Hotel, June 22-25, 2005. Half-day scientific sessions will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with afternoons free to enjoy the many activities available in and around Victoria.

Educational Objectives

The Annual Meeting is designed to provide a forum for communicating to members and guest physicians the latest developments in the art and science of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery. The program will include original papers presenting new information and a postgraduate course that amplifies areas of clinical interest through integration with associated basic scientific knowledge. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss the latest clinical and research efforts in the field.

Scientific Highlights of the Program include:

- ♦ **Presidential Address** by Steven W. Guyton, "Tough Questions, Tougher Answers".
- ♦ **Controversies in Thoracic Surgery** - "Endoscopic Therapy for High Grade Dysplasia in Barrett's Esophagus Should Be Considered in Good Surgical Candidates" moderated by John D. Mitchell with invited pro given by Drew B. Schembre and the con side by Donald E. Low.
- ♦ **Simultaneous Breakfast Sessions:** Adult Cardiac Session - "How to Organize a Thoracic Endovascular Program" with invited speaker R. Scott Mitchell; General Thoracic Session - "Optimal Management of the Small (<2cm) NSCLC: Is Sub-Lobar Resection a Reasonable Option? with speaker Eric Vallieres; and Congenital Heart Disease Session - "Minimally Invasive Congenital Cardiac Surgery" with speaker Richard Ohye.
- ♦ **Postgraduate Course**, Sponsored by White Memorial Medical Center and Foundation — Lyman A. Brewer, III Fund / "Progress Toward A Tissue Engineered Heart Valve" by John E. Mayer, Jr.
- ♦ **Concurrent Poster Forum Sessions** in General Thoracic, Adult Cardiac and Congenital
- ♦ **C. Walton Lillehei Point/CounterPoint Session** "Minimally Invasive OPCAB Should Be the Standard of Care Within the Next Two Years", moderated by Donald B. Doty / Pro: Roxanne Newman and Con: Vincent Gaudiani

Social Program Highlights (included in registration fee)

- ♦ **New Members' Reception** on Wednesday, June 22 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm. The reception will be held in the elegant Tea Lounge of the Empress Hotel; rumor has it that the Queen, herself, might be attending, so come with your manners in place! Children ages 5-11 are invited to their own Kid's Reception, to be held in the Kensington Room. (Additional cost of \$35 per young person.)

2004 Annual Meeting

In Review

More than 600 physicians, spouses, residents, guests, and exhibitors joined the Western Thoracic Surgical Association for the 30th Annual Meeting at the Wailea Marriott in Maui, Hawaii June 23-26, 2004. The meeting combined an excellent scientific program with an exquisite social agenda, taking advantage of the lush tropical setting.

The scientific program included a moderated poster forum session, traditional

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Highlights of the Council Meeting - June 23, 2004 and the Annual Business Meeting - June 26, 2004

Wailea, Hawaii

Report of the President

Dr. Starnes expressed his gratitude to the membership for having had the privilege of serving as President and paid special thanks to the Council, Committee Chairs, and Members for their extraordinary effort in ensuring a successful year and 2004 Annual Meeting at Wailea.

Report of the Secretary

Dr. R. Scott Mitchell, Secretary, informed the Membership that there are presently 203 Active, 201 Senior and 13 Honorary members of the Association for a total of 417 Surgeons. Nine new Active members were elected in 2003 and 10 Active members were advanced to Senior membership. Ten Active members will be advanced to Senior membership at the end of the year.

During the past year the following members had passed away; the Membership stood for a moment of silence:

John C. Callaghan, MD, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
John W. Kirklin, MD, Birmingham, AL
Guan Bee Ong, MD, Hong Kong
Harry W. Power, MD, Arlington, TX

Dr. Arthur N. Thomas delivered a moving eulogy for Past President John C. Callaghan, M.D.

Dr. Mitchell reported that at its meeting earlier in the week, the Council reviewed the AdVaMed Medical Technology Association's recently updated "Code of Ethics on Interactions with Health Care Professionals." The new code sets out clear expectations for ethical interactions between industry and health care providers. It follows on the pharmaceutical industry's Pharma Code, which has been in effect for three years. Since the language of the amended code is still under revision, the Council deferred taking any action on endorsement at this time, but wanted the Members to be aware of the AdVaMed Code, which became effective January 1st of this year and will affect all CT surgeons.

Report of the Treasurer

Dr. Douglas E. Wood, Treasurer, presented a Review by the CPA firm of Russell, Brier, and Company of Boston, for the year-ending December 31, 2003. Dr. Wood noted total assets of \$297,521, total income was \$353,441 against expenses of \$351,680 resulting in a surplus of \$1,761.

Dr. Wood presented an eight-year financial trend report, noting 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.

Reports of Committees

Program Committee

Dr. Robert C. Robbins, Chairman, reported that for 2004, with the addition of a Moderated Poster Session, a total of 30 papers were accepted: 22 papers for Podium Presentation and 8 Posters. Of the 22 podium presentations, 12 were from WTSA members and 10 non-members including 4 international papers. Three hundred and fifteen abstracts had been submitted, 101 of which were resident abstract submissions. The overall acceptance rate was 10%.

The Program Committee will review the current categories for abstract submission to ensure that the categories represent the current flavor of CT Surgery (i.e., categories regarding arrhythmia surgery, heart failure surgery, and emerging technologies.) The Committee will review the evaluation forms and consider the evaluation of each presentation rather than just the Scientific Session as a whole.

Local Arrangements

Dr. Winfield J. Wells, Chair, reported on the attendance figures for the 2004 Annual Meeting noting there were 262 professionals and 465 total registrants in attendance. In addition, the Annual Meeting had 110-140 children in attendance. The Samson Fun Run had over 150 runners participating; the golf tournament had 78 golfers; and the tennis tournament had 12 players.

Report of the Editor

In reviewing acceptance rates for the 2003 Meeting papers for both the AATS and the WTSA, it was noted that the AATS acceptance rate was approximately 73% and the WTSA 61%. The WTSA acceptance rate compared favorably to the overall acceptance rate for all papers including unsolicited ones submitted to the *Journal*, which averaged 31%.

Beginning with the 2005 Annual Meeting, the authors of all abstracts accepted for poster presentation will be required to submit a manuscript to the *JTCVS* just as the Podium Presentation authors are required to do so.

Report of the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education

Dr. John R. Benfield, President, reported that \$275,000 in Grants and Awards were offered by the TSFRE including: five Research Grants at \$135,000, three Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowships at \$105,000, and one Alley-Sheridan Harvard MPA Scholarship at \$35,000.

Two of the four jointly sponsored NHLBI/K08 Award recipients were from the Western Section: Drs. Michael Mulligan at the University of Washington and Anthony Azakie of the University of California, San Francisco.

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Meeting Highlights

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Without objection, it was agreed that the WTSA would make a \$5,000 contribution to the TSFRE during 2004 and the Council will consider an additional contribution subsequent to a final accounting of the 2004 Annual Meeting.

Report of the Representative to the ACS Board of Governors

Dr. Guyton reported that the ACS had reorganized as a 501(c)(6) organization, the American College of Surgeons Professional Association and the original ACS, a 501(c)(3) organization, which now had a new Political Action Committee. The Council will be receiving a solicitation for a \$1,000 contribution to the College's Fellowship Fund.

The College's Political Action Group was worthy of consideration for a contribution inasmuch as the ACS PAC was responsible for advances that could be made in reimbursement and other federal government issues regarding CT Surgery.

Dr. Guyton has been succeeded by Dr. Gabriel Aldea who will be attending the next meeting of the ACS Board of Governors as the Western Representative.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Dr. Kent W. Jones, Chair, reported that the Nominating Committee, consisting of Drs. Donald B. Doty, David R. Clarke, Bradley J. Harlan, Edward D. Verrier, and himself recommended the following slate of officers:

President: Steven W. Guyton, MD

Vice President: R. Scott Mitchell, MD

Immediate Past President: Vaughn A. Starnes, MD

Secretary: John A. Hawkins, MD

Treasurer: Robbin G. Cohen, MD

Historian: Marvin Pomerantz, MD

Councillors-at-Large: Elliot T. Gelfand, MD, J. Scott Millikan, MD, Colleen F. Sintek, MD

Councillor / Founder: Arthur N. Thomas, MD



(seated l. to r.) R. Scott Mitchell, Vaughn A. Starnes, Steven W. Guyton, Douglas E. Wood. (standing l. to r.) Arthur N. Thomas, Richard G. Fosburg, Robert Robbins, Colleen F. Sintek, Robbin G. Cohen, Edward D. Verrier

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

The following new members and membership changes were approved during the 2004 Annual Business Meeting:

NEW MEMBERS

Ross M. Bremner	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
Joseph C. Cleveland, Jr.	<i>Denver, Colorado</i>
David R. Goff	<i>Ogden, Utah</i>
Ming Lu Huang	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
Junaid H. Khan	<i>Oakland, California</i>
Luis A. Lanza	<i>Phoenix, Arizona</i>
James Longoria	<i>Sacramento, California</i>
Michael A. Savitt	<i>Portland, Oregon</i>
Irving Shen	<i>Portland, Oregon</i>
Angelo A. Vlessis	<i>Bend, Oregon</i>
Shaohua Wang	<i>Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</i>

Advanced to Senior Membership

Tom R. DeMeester	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
Frederick L. Grover	<i>Denver, Colorado</i>
E. Carmack Holmes	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
W. R. Eric Jamieson	<i>Vancouver, British Columbia</i>
Siavosh Khonsair	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
Robert L. Mitchell	<i>Mountain View, California</i>
James H. Oury	<i>Stevensville, Montana</i>
Aguedo A. Retodo	<i>Hayward, California</i>
Rolf Sommerhaug	<i>Concord, California</i>
Rostik Zajchuck	<i>Chicago, Illinois</i>

To Be Advanced to Senior Membership in 2004

Stanley S. Baldwin	<i>Eugene, Oregon</i>
Robert H. Bartlett	<i>Ann Arbor, Michigan</i>
R. Leighton Fisk	<i>Scottsdale, Arizona</i>
Richard J. Hurvitz	<i>Los Angeles, California</i>
Wei-I Li	<i>Mercer Island, Washington</i>
Robert D. Pipkin	<i>Fremont, California</i>
Robert J. Stallone	<i>Oakland, California</i>
Edwin E. Vyhmeister	<i>Loma Linda, California</i>

Requests for Senior Membership

William I. Brenner	<i>Beverly Hills, California</i>
Daniel L. Smith	<i>Greenwood Village, Colorado</i>

Photo Highlights of the 2004 Annual Meeting



paper presentations, breakfast sessions, the point-counterpoint debates, and a postgraduate course. Twenty-two papers and eight posters were presented.

Simultaneous breakfast sessions, covering adult cardiac, general thoracic, and congenital heart disease were held on Friday morning: "Update on Robotically Assisted Cardiac Surgery" and "Manpower Issues: Physician Assistants' Roles" or "Optimal Staging of Lung Cancer" or "Update on the Use of Chemotherapy for Resected Early Stage Lung Cancer" and "Palliative Repair of HLHS: The Sano vs. Norwood Procedure."

Presidential Address, given by Dr. Vaughan A. Starnes "Cardiothoracic Surgery: An Evolving Discipline."

C. Walton Lillehei Point-Counterpoint Session, sponsored by St. Jude Medical, Inc. "Atrial Fibrillation Should be a Catheter-based Procedure."

The **Samson Resident Prize Essay Award Winner**: Frederick A. Tibayan from Stanford University "Annular or Subvalvular Approach to Chronic Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation?"

The Postgraduate Course sponsored by the White Memorial Medical Center and Foundation - Lyman A. Brewer, III, Fund, presented by Norman E. Shumway "Where, When and How it all Started."

Controversies in Thoracic Surgery presentation, "Moderate Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation Usually Should Be Repaired at the time of CABG."

Invited Lecturer: Leonard L. Bailey, from Loma Linda, California who also received the **2004 David Dugan Award**.

Thank you

to the following companies for their support as exhibitors at the 2004 Annual Meeting:

Atricure
ATS Medical, Inc.
Baxter
Boston Scientific
Carbomedics
Cardiogenesis Corporation
CryoLife, Inc.
Datascope Corporation
Edwards Lifesciences
Ethicon Products
Guidant
Medical Carbon Research Institute
Medtronic
MedicalCV, Inc.
Mettler Surgical
Scanlan International, Inc.
Somanetics Corporation
Terumo Cardiovascular Systems
Vitalcor, Inc. & Applied Fiberoptics
W.L. Gore & Associates
Weck-CV Evolutions, a Teleflex Company

2005 Committees and Representatives

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Steven W. Guyton, MD, CO-CHAIR
W.R. Eric Jamieson, MD, CO-CHAIR

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

David M. Gartman, MD, CHAIR
Myles S. Guber, MD
Jeffrey C. Milliken, MD
Mark B. Ratcliffe, MD
Dominic J. Tedesco, MD
Eric Vallieres, MD

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Bradley J. Harlan, MD, CHAIR
David R. Clarke, MD
Donald B. Doty, MD
Vaughn A. Starnes, MD
Edward D. Verrier, MD

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Robert C. Robbins, MD, CHAIR
John C. Chen, MD
James I. Fann, MD
Donald E. Low, MD
John D. Mitchell, MD
Patricia A. Thistlewaite, MD
Richard I. Whyte, MD
Steven W. Guyton, MD, EX OFFICIO
John A. Hawkins, MD, EX OFFICIO
Andrew S. Wechsler, MD, EX OFFICIO

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Gabriel S. Aldea, MD, Representative
John A. Hawkins, MD, Alternate

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Steven R. Gundry, MD, Representative

THORACIC SURGERY FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Daniel J. Ulyot, MD, Representative
Edward D. Verrier, MD, Representative



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Association's
Website

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31st Annual Meeting

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- ♦ **Samson Fun Run** on Thursday, June 23 6:00 am. This year's Fun Run will inspire and rejuvenate you as you take off from the hotel and travel through the beautiful Beacon Hill Park, where you may just want to stop and take in all the incredible flowers in bloom. But make your way back to the finish line where refreshments will be waiting for you. The 5K Run is open to all physician attendees, spouses, guests, family members and exhibitor representatives; pre-registration is requested.
- ♦ **Taste of British Columbia Theme Dinner** on Thursday, June 23 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm at the Royal British Columbia Museum just across the street from the hotel. Guests will be greeted by several of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police before getting a chance to take a look at the Canadian West Coast's natural, cultural and industrial heritage and experiencing British Columbia of "yesteryear". Guests can take a moment to pan for gold in the homestead area, walk through the streets of old Chinatown and be mystified by a Chinese Magician, listen to some previous era honky-tonk music or be astounded by the grace and agility of a Native Hoop Dancer from the First Nations tribe.
- ♦ **Saturday Barbecue** on Saturday, June 25 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm, in the courtyard outside of the convention center we'll enjoy a family barbecue, Canadian-style, where awards for the golf and tennis tournaments and the Fun Run will be presented. Registered physicians, spouses, guests, family members and exhibitors are welcome.
- ♦ **President's Reception and Banquet** on Saturday, June 25 7:00 - 11:00 pm. The President's Reception and Banquet will be held in the Palm Court and Crystal Ballroom. An incredible evening is planned with the exciting music and dance show of The Timebenders who will take us on a "Rock down Memory Lane" with an explosive and hilarious dance show that focuses on high energy, audience participation and lots of fun. Dress is black tie optional. For the younger set, the traditional Kids' Banquet (5-11 years) is planned to include great food and more fun activities under staff supervision. (Additional cost of \$35 per young person.) For the teenagers aged 12-16, we've set aside a special room of their own with age-appropriate videos, X-box games and food only a teenager could love for the cost of \$55. If they prefer, teens aged 12 and above are welcome to join the adult banquet, also at a cost of \$55.
- ♦ The **Annual Golf Tournament** (separate subscription required) will take place on Friday, June 24, 2005 at 1:00pm at the beautiful Bear Mountain Golf and Country Club. Preregistration is required with indication of handicap. \$140 per person includes greens fees, box lunch, cart and prizes.
- ♦ The **Annual Tennis Tournament** (separate subscription required).will take place on Friday, June 24, 2005 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at courts close to the hotel. Pre-registration is required with indication of level of play. \$50 per person includes courts, refreshments and prizes.

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