



STSA News

SUMMER 2010
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

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INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING

Membership Application

Letter From the President

I have always counted myself among the many STSA members who identify the Southern as their favorite professional association. Not only do we have the opportunity for surgical “enlightenment” at STSA meetings, there also exists a unique sense of camaraderie which makes this get together as much a social as an academic event. Frankly, there is just a special quality to the Southern which will be accentuated this year by the venue for our Annual Meeting - Orlando, Florida, the home of Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Pluto and Hal Urschel (just threw that one in to see if you were paying attention). Our meeting takes place November 3rd through the 6th at the Disney Yacht and Beach Club, which Rosanne and I toured during a site visit earlier this year. We can report that the Yacht and Beach Club remains a beautiful and charming property perfectly suited to our needs. As you recall, Epcot is immediately adjacent and provides an exciting and convenient opportunity for adventure. I am confident it will be another wonderful Annual Meeting experience and I hope you will start making plans now to attend. Hotel registration is already open for STSA members; meeting registration will be available shortly.

Orlando is also a great destination for the entire family. Five years ago STSA had record attendance at its Orlando meeting with many attendees bringing spouses and children. Not only is the Yacht and Beach Club just steps away from Epcot, it’s only a short drive to Disney’s Magic Kingdom, the Universal Studios Park and multiple SeaWorld attractions. For those who do bring children (and who fail to ditch them successfully in a theme park) there’s affordable babysitting at the hotel’s Sandcastle Club, a closely supervised childcare facility with special activities daily and into the evening. There will also be a Disney character making a surprise appearance at the President’s Mixer, and we are planning to have dessert after the Mixer at Epcot — just in time for the fireworks display.

We are going to break with tradition somewhat for the Saturday evening dinner in Orlando. This year it won’t be a black tie, but rather a resort casual event — my one ‘presidential fiat’. I’m just glad I don’t have to wear a tie.

Against Secretary Cerfolio’s advice, we have decided to go forth with the full educational program (he’d hoped for three full days of Mickey). I want to thank the STSA Program Committee and the Post-Graduate Committee for all their hard work. Vinod Thourani and Mike Hines chaired the Program Committee, which included Rodney Landreneau, Will Ryan, Richard Freeman and Stephen Hazelrigg as well as Robert Cerfolio, Mike Mack and me in ex officio roles. We had a productive meeting in Chicago in May, reviewing 276 excellent abstracts, the most ever submitted for an STSA meeting. Ultimately, we selected 69 outstanding papers for presentation in Orlando. Watch for blast emails coming soon with information on presentations and speakers.

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Dr. Keith Naunheim and Mickey in Disney

SAVE THE DATE!

The STSA 57th Annual Meeting will be held November 3 – 6, 2010 at Disney’s Yacht & Beach Club in Orlando, Florida. With an outstanding lineup of educational and social activities you won’t want to miss this opportunity to experience STSA in Disney World!

Hotel reservations are currently being accepted and meeting registration materials will be available soon. Please visit www.stsa.org for additional information.



STSA Secretary/Treasurer Robert Cerfolio, MD (left) presents new member John Mayer, MD with his certificate of membership at the 2009 STSA Business Meeting

STSA Welcomes New Members

Congratulations and welcome to the following cardiothoracic surgeons approved for membership in the STSA during the Annual Business Meeting held November 6, 2009 in Marco Island.

William Michael Boedefeld, II, MD	Baton Rouge, LA
William Bolton, MD	Greenville, SC
Umar Sekou-Toure Boston, MD	Memphis, TN
Phillip Todd Burch, MD	Salt Lake City, UT
Jeffrey Todd Cope, MD	Lancaster, PA
James Edward Davies, Jr., MD	Birmingham, AL
John Deel, MD	So. Charleston, WV
Mark Groh, MD	Ashville, NC
Benjamin Haithcock, MD	Chapel Hill, NC
Anthony Austin Holden, MD	Florence, AL
William Clifford Kitchens, MD	Augusta, GA
Jonathan Kraut, MD	Wilmington, DE
Saqib Masroor, MD	Milwaukee, WI
Inder Mehta, MD	Jackson, MS
Peter Mikhail, MD	Gainesville, FL
Douglas Minnich, MD	Birmingham, AL
Muhammad Mumtaz, MD	Norfolk, VA
Alden Parsons, MD	Houston, TX
Vijay Patel, MD	Augusta, GA
Himanshu Patel, MD	Ann Arbor, MI
Clifton Reade, MD	Chattanooga, TN
James Rowe Scharff, MD	Chesterfield, MO
Mark Slaughter, MD	Louisville, KY
Matthew Allen Steliga, MD	Little Rock, AR
Richard Thompson, MD	Lancaster, PA
Nirmal Veeramachaneni, MD	Chapel Hill, NC
Jennifer Walker, MD	Wilmington, DE
Henry Walters, MD	Detroit, MI
Bradley Wolf, MD	Memphis, TN

Friedrich Wilhelm Mohr, MD of Leipzig, Germany was elected to STSA Honorary Membership during the Association's 2009 Annual Business Meeting. Dr. Mohr is Professor and Chairman of Cardiac Surgery at the University of Leipzig and is also the Medical Director of the Heart Center. He is a member of multiple international societies and serves in Editorial Boards of several prestigious medical journals.

Continued from page 1

The Post-Graduate Committee is chaired this year by Jennifer Lawton and Bill Holman. Committee members include Rick Feins, Eric Mendeloff, Richard Lee, Mitchell Magee and David Jones. Details on this session will also be forthcoming soon, but you can look forward to great clinical breakout session topics, a thought-provoking critical care pro/con debate, and timely presentations related to the issue of the hospital employment of surgeons. There will also be an update on health care reform, which should be especially meaningful just two days after the November mid-term elections.

I'm pleased to report that Tim Gardner has agreed to give this year's President's Invited Lecture. He'll address the effects on our specialty of corporate and governmental encroachment on healthcare — something you won't want to miss. The Kent Trinkle Lecture this year will be given by Michael Mill, who is doing innovative things at UNC.

This is also the time of year to ask you to encourage colleagues who are not STSA members to apply for membership, especially recent trainees. Part of STSA's unique character comes from newly graduated thoracic surgeons who are the lifeblood and future of our specialty. These 'kids' not only challenge us by questioning surgical dogma (which is not infrequently wrong), they are often the innovators, thinking outside the box and keeping our specialty moving forward. After all, innovators like Chitwood, Landreneau, Reed and Puskas were all once snout-nosed kids before they evolved into the luminaries they are today. Please reach out to younger CT surgeons; tell them about the Southern and encourage them to apply for membership. The application form can be found at www.stsa.org. And don't forget to offer to write a letter of support; that show of encouragement is important. If you have questions, John Howington, the Membership Committee chair, will be happy to help.

I look forward to seeing you in November at Disney's Yacht and Beach Club!

Keith S. Naunheim, MD

2009 Awards to be Presented at the 57th Annual Meeting

Scott H. Johnson, MD, of Lansing, Michigan was selected to receive the **2009 Clifford Van Meter President's Award** for the best scientific paper given at the Annual Meeting. This superior paper titled, *Use of a Statewide Cardiac Surgery Quality Collaborative for Process Improvement: Internal Mammary Artery Utilization During Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting*, was selected by STSA President Michael J. Mack, MD on the basis of originality, content and presentation.

The Hawley H. Seiler, MD Resident's Award is presented each year to an outstanding cardiothoracic resident whose presentation is deemed superior to all others. The recipient of the 2009 award is **Jeremiah Geoff Allen, MD** for his paper and presentation titled, *Transcriptional Profile of Brain Injury in Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest and Cardiopulmonary Bypass*.

2009 STSA Annual Meeting Award Recipients

The **Osler Abbott Award**, given annually to a member of the Association who excels in the art of discussionmanship, was presented to **Kevin D. Accola, MD** at the 56th Annual Meeting. This award signifies the importance of open, frank and candid discussion with a healthy give-and-take among members, resulting in the enhanced camaraderie and esprit-de-corps which have traditionally characterized the STSA.



John Hammon, MD (right) presents the Osler Abbott Award to Kevin Accola, MD.

The **STSA Inspiration Award** was presented to **Dr. Irving L. Kron** at the 56th Annual Meeting in Marco Island. The Inspiration Award was established to recognize the important contribution of mentorship to the specialty and the organization and to encourage upcoming generations of CT surgeons by helping to cultivate mentors worthy of emulation. **Gorav Ailawadi, MD**, who works with Dr. Kron at the University of Virginia, presented the award.



Irving Kron, MD (left) with mentee Gorav Ailawadi, MD at the Awards Dinner.

Jeffrey P. Jacobs, MD, STSA Councilor and past Chair of the Post-Graduate Program, was awarded the 2009 **Tiki Award**. This highly coveted award is given to the person who presents the most memorable and noteworthy slide at the Annual Meeting.



Jeff Jacobs, MD (left) receives the Tiki Award from Curt Tribble, MD.

The **Mavroudis-Urschel Award** was established in 2006 to recognize and honor an STSA member who has made important contributions to the STSA scientific program and has also uniquely personified the social spirit, camaraderie and fun for which STSA is famous.

Dr. John Calhoun was selected as the 2009 recipient of the Mavroudis-Urschel Award. Dr. Calhoun rarely misses an STSA Annual Meeting and has always been an active member of the organization. He served as Secretary/Treasurer for 4 years, frequently presents at the Annual Meeting, and is a past winner of the Osler Abbott Award and frequent member of the double-secret Tiki and Osler Abbott Committees.



Constantine Mavroudis, MD (right) and Harold Urschel, MD (left) present the Mavroudis-Urschel Award to John Calhoun, MD.

RECRUIT A MEMBER

As a member, you know STSA offers CT surgeons the opportunity to participate in a truly unique organization. Please also remember how vitally important new members are for STSA to maintain its valuable role in the thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon community. STSA needs your help in recruiting new members. **Prospective members are most likely to apply to the STSA after receiving an invitation from a current member to do so.** With the expansion of membership criteria in recent years to include those who previously practiced cardiothoracic surgery for at least two consecutive years in STSA states and regions, it is particularly important that you look to your colleagues and identify potential new STSA members. **An application to join STSA is enclosed; please take a moment to share it with a colleague.** Don't forget to offer to write a letter of support. Your encouragement will be an important incentive. Membership applications are available electronically at www.stsa.org, or call us at (800) 685-7872 to have one mailed or faxed to you. **The deadline for new member applications is September 15, 2010.**

► UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION TODAY!

Please visit www.stsa.org to log in and update your contact information or call (800) 685-7872 and STSA staff will be happy to help you.

Experience STSA in Disney with the Whole Family

Save the date for Disney! The one-of-a-kind Disney World experience awaits you and your family at the STSA 57th Annual Meeting. Disney's Yacht and Beach Club is conveniently located just steps from Epcot. Disney's Magic Kingdom, multiple SeaWorld attractions, and The Universal Studios Park - where the Wizarding World of Harry Potter will have recently opened - are all located within a short ride of the hotel. Keep in mind that the hotel also offers affordable babysitting at their Sandcastle Club Children's Activity Center. As you plan your trip to Disney, be sure to stay through the weekend. You won't want to miss the Saturday night awards dinner, a true highlight of the STSA Annual Meeting experience! Visit www.stsa.org today and begin planning a fun-filled trip to Disney with your family.



STSA members and guests pose with Mickey at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Disney.

In Memoriam

Dr. Kit Arom, a Dear Friend of the STSA



Dr. Kit Arom with Dr. Carolyn Reed receiving the Mavroudis-Urschel award at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Dr. Kit V. Arom, MD, PhD passed away on the morning of May 30, 2010 at the Bangkok Heart Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Dr. Arom, a Past President of STSA, was a great supporter of the association, contributing to its educational activities and social spirit for more than 30 years. He served as Vice President in

1993 and President in 1997. He and his wife Sue regularly attended STSA Annual Meetings, rarely missing a year even after they moved to Bangkok. Dr. Arom presented frequently at Annual Meetings and won the Tiki Award in 1982 and the Osler Abbott Award in 1993. In 2007 he was honored as the first STSA member to receive the Mavroudis-Urschel Award, which was established to recognize an STSA member who has made important contributions to the STSA scientific program, but who has also uniquely personified the camaraderie for which STSA is famous. Dr. Arom's numerous contributions in both arenas made him an obvious choice and a deserving recipient. Those who attended the 2009 STSA Annual Meeting in Marco Island may have had the chance to say hello to Dr. Arom, who, despite his failing health, once again made the trip from Thailand to spend time with his STSA friends and expand his knowledge of the profession he spent his life improving.

Dr. Arom trained and worked in the United States for many years, then returned to Thailand to practice at the Bangkok Heart Hospital where he became Director and Chief Cardiothoracic Surgeon. Among many honors and accomplishments throughout his career, Dr.

Arom was a co-founder of the Minneapolis Heart Institute and President of the Thailand Society of Thoracic Surgeons as well as President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. He was also a pioneer in the application of a technique, originally developed by adult stem cell pioneer Amit Patel, to inject patients' own stem cells into their failing hearts.

News of his death elicited many words of respect, admiration, and sadness from his colleagues and friends at STSA. In the words of Carolyn Reed, MD, "He was truly a giant of the STSA and represented the best of our organization. I will cherish the memories of him and his wonderful smile." Dr. Arom will be deeply missed and always remembered.

STSA Program Committee Meeting



Program Committee members Robert Cerfolio, Richard Freeman, Rodney Landreneau, and Keith Naunheim (from left to right) work to select the 57th Annual Meeting Program.

The 2010 Program Committee met in Chicago on May 14 to review abstracts and plan the program for the 57th Annual Meeting in Orlando. With a record high 276 abstracts submitted, the Committee had many excellent papers from which to choose. Under the leadership of President Keith Naunheim, MD and Program Committee Co-Chairs Michael Hines, MD

and Vinod Thourani, MD, an outstanding program was compiled. Please visit www.stsa.org for a program outline and watch for your advance program book to arrive in the coming weeks.

57th ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM OUTLINE

Schedule of Events

The Southern Thoracic Surgical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The STSA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 19.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Wednesday, November 3, 2010

8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
Surgical Motion Pictures

Thursday, November 4, 2010

7:00 A.M. - 8:15 A.M.
Post-Graduate Breakouts
Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, General Thoracic and Congenital Breakouts

8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.
Post-Graduate General Session
Session will include presentations on Hospital Employment of Surgeons

1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
First Scientific Session A

3:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
First Scientific Session B

Friday, November 5, 2010

7:00 A.M. - 7:50 A.M.
Basic Science Forum

8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.
Second Scientific Session

10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
President's Invited Lecturer
*Timothy J. Gardner, MD
Wilmington, DE*

11:00 A.M. - 11:20 A.M.
Kent Trinkle Education Lectureship
*Michael R. Mill, MD
University of North Carolina*

11:20 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Presidential Address
Keith S. Naunheim, MD

12:00 P.M.
All Attendee Luncheon

1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Dessert Served in the Exhibit Hall

2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.
Third Scientific Session A
Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, General Thoracic and Congenital Breakouts

4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Third Scientific Session B
Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, General Thoracic and Congenital Breakouts

5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
STSA Business Meeting
STSA Members Only

7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
*President's Mixer

Saturday, November 6, 2010

7:00 A.M. - 7:45 A.M.
Coding Update
Update on CPT and Physician Payment Issues for 2011

7:50 A.M. - 8:50 A.M.
Ethics Forum
Surgeons Must Tell MV Repair Candidates about a New Percutaneous Repair Device That is only Available Elsewhere

9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.
Fourth Scientific Session A
Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, General Thoracic and Transplant Breakouts

10:30 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.
History Presentation
Contributions of George Heuer to Surgical Education

10:50 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.
Fourth Scientific Session B

11:50 A.M.
Program Adjourns

1:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
*Fishing, Golf and Tennis Tournaments

7:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.
*Reception, Awards Dinner and Dance

**Ticketed Events*



James W. Brooks, MD

Honoring a Teacher and Mentor

At their Council Meeting in May, the STSA Council approved Dr. Steve Yang's proposal to raise money to endow an STSA Medical Student Scholarship as a tribute to Dr. James W. Brooks. Dr. Brooks was the 23rd President of the STSA and a life-time supporter of the organization. He was also a great mentor to countless residents and students during his career at the Medical College of Virginia. Once the \$50,000 endowment has been raised, a scholarship to attend the STSA Annual Meeting will be given annually to a medical student interested in thoracic surgery. The recipient, selected by STSA leadership, will attend the meeting and benefit from the mentorship of STSA members, thus extending Dr. Brooks' legacy as a great mentor. If you would like to contribute to the James W. Brooks, MD Medical Student Scholarship fund, please visit www.stsa.org to complete a pledge form.

STSA Receives ACCME Accreditation for 4 More Years

At its March 2010 meeting, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) awarded STSA accreditation through March 31, 2014. ACCME's decision was based on a review of STSA's self study report, evidence of performance-in practice files and accreditation interview, which were completed by Walter Merrill, MD, Past Director of CME, Vinod Thourani, MD, Director of CME, and STSA staff. A progress report will be submitted after the November meeting and the CME Committee and staff will continue their work to ensure STSA complies with ACCME policies and fulfills STSA's mission to deliver high-quality, practical, and scientifically rigorous educational programming at its Annual Meeting. For questions or comments regarding STSA's CME policies or ACCME accreditation, please contact headquarters at (800)685-7872.

A Reminder to New STSA Members

Active status will not become effective, nor a certificate of membership presented, until the elected applicant registers at one of the next four annual meetings following his/her initial election to membership. Exception to this requirement may be granted by a majority vote of the Council. Failure to comply with the procedure, however, will require reapplication for membership.

Nominations for the STSA Inspiration Award Now Being Accepted

To nominate someone for the STSA Inspiration Award, please submit your nomination in writing by September 1 to be considered for possible presentation at the 2010 STSA Annual Meeting. Recommendation letters should outline the specific merits of the nominee and his or her positive influences for the 'mentee(s)'. The recipient must be a member of the STSA in good standing. The award will be given at the discretion of the President in consultation with the Council.

Nominations can be mailed to:

Keith Naunheim, MD
President, Southern Thoracic Surgical Association
633 N. Saint Clair St., Suite 2320
Chicago, IL 60611

For additional information regarding the STSA Inspiration Award, and all other STSA awards, please visit www.stsa.org and click on "Awards."

STSA FUTURE MEETINGS

November 3-6, 2010
Disney's Yacht & Beach Club
Orlando, Florida

November 9-12, 2011
JW Marriott San Antonio Hill
San Antonio, Texas

November 6-9, 2013
Hyatt Regency Bonaventure
Weston, Florida

November 7-10, 2012
Naples Grande Beach Resort
Naples, Florida

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