



# STSA News

FALL 2008

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2

STSA 55th Annual Meeting

Guest Speakers

Annual Meeting Highlights

3

Annual Meeting  
Schedule of Events

4

Annual Business Meeting  
Announcement

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

## INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING

55th Annual Meeting  
Registration Form

Spouse & Guest Activity Sheet

Proposed Social Events  
Questionnaire

Register for the STSA  
55th Annual Meeting  
by October 10, 2008  
to avoid onsite  
registration fees

## Greetings from the President

Our 55th Annual Meeting in Austin is just around the corner and I invite you to register for this great meeting, if you have not yet done so. The meeting this year promises to be another exceptional educational event. Be sure to arrange your travel for arrival in Austin by Wednesday November 5 when the meeting will officially begin with Surgical Motion Pictures at 8 p.m. The Postgraduate program on Thursday morning is an outstanding program with separate sessions for congenital, adult cardiac and general thoracic followed by the always popular pro-con debates. The Postgraduate Keynote Address will be delivered by Dr. Roberto Canessa, an Andes plane crash survivor who will share his inspiring story with meeting attendees.

Spouses and guests are also invited to attend this address. On Friday morning Paul Barringer, JD, has agreed to serve as the President's Invited Speaker and will speak on "Medical Liability, Health Courts and Patient Safety." Dr. Curt Tribble, Chair of CT Surgery from the University of Florida, will present the Kent Trinkle Lecture and attendees will have an opportunity to learn about his innovations in resident training. My presidential address is titled "By the Numbers" and will conclude the Friday morning session. Other meeting highlights include a Coding Update for 2009 as well as an Ethics Debate moderated by Dr. Robert Sade and Drs. Michael DiMaio and Tomas Salerno debating whether cardiothoracic surgeons can refuse to operate on drug-abusing patients. An outline of the 55th Annual Meeting Program is included on page 3 of this Newsletter. I am confident you will find many important sessions relevant to your patients and practice.



*John W. Hammon, MD*

In addition to the outstanding Post Graduate program and scientific sessions, STSA and the Lost Pines Resort offer numerous opportunities for fun and relaxation. Everyone is invited to attend the President's Mixer on Friday evening, and I invite you to buy your tickets in advance for the Texas Tuxedo Dinner on Saturday evening. Golf and Tennis tournaments will take place at the resort on Saturday afternoon. There are plenty of other activities offered at the resort for the entire family to enjoy throughout the meeting, including relaxing in a beautiful swimming pool and lazy river, hiking, biking, and horseback riding guided trips through the resort's nature preserve, and even a large horseshoe pit. Additionally, a full service spa is located on the resort grounds.

To download a meeting registration form and to secure hotel reservations at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort, visit the STSA Web site at [www.stsa.org](http://www.stsa.org). Don't forget, the deadline for registration is October 10, 2008, so please send in your forms today.

As you know, this is also the time of year when STSA concludes its annual membership recruitment campaign. At press time, we have received 40 membership applications. I would like to extend a special thanks to Michael Mill, STSA Membership Chair and the Membership Committee for their work in recruitment and their work still to be done in reviewing the applications. My thanks to everyone who encouraged a colleague to apply and provided letters of support to these prospective members. For those members attending the Annual Meeting, be sure to participate in the Annual Business Meeting on Friday, November 7, at 5 p.m. when we will vote on candidates presented for membership and other important items of Association business will be discussed.

I look forward to seeing you in Austin in November!

# STSA 55th Annual Meeting – November 5-8, 2008

## Guest Speakers



*Paul J. Barringer, JD*

**Paul J. Barringer, JD**, head of Common Good's health court initiative, will be the President's Invited Lecturer at the STSA 55th Annual Meeting. Common Good is a non-profit, non-partisan legal reform coalition that works to develop practical solutions to restore reliability to our legal system through conducting polls, hosting forums, and engaging with leaders in health care, education, law, business, and public policy from across the country.

Health care reform is among Common Good's major initiatives and Mr. Barringer's talk titled, "Medical Liability, Health Courts and Patient Safety," will offer timely and informative insights into a topic that is of great importance to the specialty of cardiothoracic surgery.

Prior to joining Common Good in 2005, Mr. Barringer worked as a health care consultant with Accurium, a company he co-founded. He has also worked in private law practice in Raleigh, North Carolina and Washington, DC. He received a J.D. from the University of North Carolina, a Master's Degree in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and a B.A. from Davidson College.

Paul Barringer will deliver the President's Invited Lecture on Friday morning, November 7 at 10:30 a.m.



*Curt Tribble, MD*

Each year, in honor of Dr. J. Kent Trinkle's remarkable dedication to student education, an STSA member is selected to present on his/her training program. This year's Kent Trinkle Lecture will be given by **Curt Tribble, MD**, Chair of CT Surgery at the University of Florida. Dr. Tribble's lecture will provide attendees with the opportunity to learn about his innovations in resident training and should not be missed. He will speak Friday morning, November 7 just before Dr. John Hammon's Presidential Address.

## Activities and Entertainment

Each year, the STSA Annual Meeting provides attendees and guests with opportunities for networking and relaxation that are among the meeting's most enjoyable memories. With a wide array of planned activities and numerous adventures available at the resort and in the area, the 55th Annual Meeting promises to have something for everyone. Please review the enclosed information about planned activities and entertainment and be sure to register in advance!

## STSA 55th Annual Meeting Join us in Austin!

**November 5-8, 2008**

**Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa**

### 2008 Annual Meeting Highlights

- ★ Cardiac, General Thoracic, and Congenital Breakout Sessions
- ★ Presidential Address by John W. Hammon, MD  
"By the Numbers"
- ★ Coding Update for 2009
- ★ Postgraduate Keynote Address by Andes plane crash survivor Roberto Canessa, MD
- ★ Spouse and Guest Activities including a Nature Tour
- ★ Golf and Tennis Tournaments
- ★ Ethics Debate: Can We Refuse to Operate on Drug-Abusing Patients?
- ★ President's Invited Lecture by Paul J. Barringer, JD
- ★ STSA Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance



Experience the timely and practical scientific educational programming and the distinctive camaraderie that make the STSA Annual Meeting unique.

Review a detailed program and register online at [www.stsa.org](http://www.stsa.org), or complete the enclosed registration form. Be sure to register by October 10, 2008. Please note that there will be an additional \$50 charge for attendees registering on-site.

## 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 activity for a maximum of 20.25 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually devoted to the activity.

### Wednesday, November 5, 2008

3:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Registration
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Surgical Motion Pictures

### Thursday, November 6, 2008

6:30 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am – 8:15 am	Postgraduate Program – Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, Congenital, and General Thoracic Breakouts
8:15 am – 8:30 am	Break
8:30 am – 10:10 am	Postgraduate Program
10:10 am – 10:25 am	Break
10:25 am – 12:05 pm	Postgraduate Program
12:05 pm – 1:00 pm	Break
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Exhibits Open
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	First Scientific Session A
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Break & Visit Exhibits
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	First Scientific Session B

### Friday, November 7, 2008

6:30 am – 5:30 pm	Registration
6:30 am – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast in the Lost Pines Foyer
7:00 am – 7:50 am	Basic Science Forum
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Second Scientific Session A
9:45 am – 11:30 am	Exhibits Open
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Break & Visit Exhibits
10:30 am – 11:05 am	President's Invited Lecturer: Paul J. Barringer, JD "Medical Liability, Health Courts and Patient Safety"
11:05 am – 11:20 am	Kent Trinkle Education Lectureship: Curt Tribble, MD University of Florida

11:20 am – 12:00 pm	Presidential Address: John W. Hammon, MD "By The Numbers"
12:00 pm	All Attendee Luncheon
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Dessert Served in the Exhibit Hall
1:00 pm – 4:15 pm	Exhibits Open
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Third Scientific Session A Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, Congenital, and General Thoracic Breakouts
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Break & Visit Exhibits
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Third Scientific Session B Simultaneous Adult Cardiac, Congenital, and General Thoracic Breakouts
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	STSA Business Meeting
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<i>STSA Members Only</i> President's Mixer

### Saturday, November 8, 2008

6:30 am – 11:30 am	Registration
6:45 am – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall
6:45 am – 10:30 am	Exhibits Open
7:15 am – 8:15 am	Ethics Debate: "Ethical Obligation of Surgeons to Non-Compliant Patients: Can a Surgeon Refuse to Operate on a Drug-Abusing Patient with a Recurrent Aortic Prosthesis Infection?"
7:15 am – 8:15 am	Coding Update: "Update on CPT and Physician Payment Issues for 2009"
8:30 am – 9:45 am	Fourth Scientific Session A
9:45 am – 10:15 am	Break & Visit Exhibits
10:15 am – 11:30 am	Fourth Scientific Session B
11:30 am	Program Adjourns
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Golf & Tennis Tournaments*
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance*

\* Ticketed Event





## Plan to Attend the STSA Annual Business Meeting on Friday, November 7, 2008

The STSA Annual Meeting will be held from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa, Lost Pines 1-4, in Austin, Texas. Members will hear reports and updates from Committee Chairs. Included in the reports will be the Nominating Committee's presentation of a slate of candidates to fill leadership positions in 2009. Additionally, the Membership Committee will present for election a list of candidates to become new members of STSA. Members attending their first Annual Meeting will also be recognized and presented with a membership certificate. Please note that the Annual Business Meeting is open to STSA members only.

## STSA extends special THANKS to 55th Annual Meeting SPONSORS!

Please support our sponsors by visiting them in the STSA Exhibit Hall at the Annual Meeting.

**Platinum Sponsor**  
**St. Jude Medical**  
[www.sjm.com](http://www.sjm.com)



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## STSA FUTURE MEETINGS

**November 5-8, 2008**

Hyatt Regency Los Pines Resort & Spa  
Austin, Texas

**November 3-6, 2010**

Disney Yacht & Beach Club  
Orlando, Florida

**November 8-9, 2012**

Naples Grand Beach Resort  
Naples, Florida

**November 4-7, 2009**

Marriott Marco Island Golf Club & Spa  
Marco Island, Florida

**November 9-12, 2011**

JW Marriott  
San Antonio, Texas

### The Official Newsletter of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association

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STSA News is published twice annually for members  
of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.  
Comments may be referred to STSA via [stsa@stsa.org](mailto:stsa@stsa.org).  
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**Stay in touch:** Send change of address and  
new e-mail information to [STSA@STSA.org](mailto:STSA@STSA.org)

# BEGIN PLANNING A FUN-FILLED TRIP TO AUSTIN WITH YOUR WHOLE FAMILY

## RESORT ACTIVITIES

- Spa Django, a full-service spa, salon and fitness center
  - Two tennis courts
- Wolfdancer Golf Club with 18-hole golf course
  - Hiking, biking and jogging paths
  - Horseback riding center
- Canoeing, kayaking and rafting on the Colorado River
  - Quiet reading in the resort's library
  - Video arcade
- Water park with Crooked River pool and water slide; separate quiet and active pool sections too
  - Retail outlets
  - Live entertainment
- Nature walks and local folklore storytelling
  - Seasonal water / yoga aerobics
- Interpretive Center—a place to learn and experience the rich history and allure of Central Texas



## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

- 1,100-acre McKinney Roughs Nature Park with ropes course / Academy in the Roughs and Mark Rose Science Center
- Numerous recreational and entertainment options in Austin (17 miles)
- Nearly 200 live music venues throughout the city
  - Four lakes and countless parks within the city limits
- Internationally renowned music, film, food and media festivals throughout the year  
(Visit [www.austintexas.org](http://www.austintexas.org) for a comprehensive listing of activities in Austin)
- 54 golf courses within an hour's drive
- Shopping at the country's largest outlet center—San Marcos (29 miles)



# ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR SPOUSES AND GUESTS

## Spouses' Hospitality Suite

Thursday, November 6 - Saturday, November 8

Time: 8:00 a.m. - Noon

STSA is providing a hospitality room for your spouse to mingle with other spouses and to make plans for exploring Lost Pines and the surrounding areas.

## Spouses' Event - Tales of Texas

Thursday, November 6

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Cost: Complimentary

Hear humorous and interesting historical stories about the Lost Pines region. A Texan in authentic attire will tell these engaging tales including entertaining and educational historical facts!



## Spouses' Event - Stepping Out in Nature

Friday, November 7

Time: 8:30 a.m. -

10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$30

*Registration by October 10 required.*

Come join a McKinney Rough's Park Naturalist and discover the flora and fauna of the Texas eco-regions represented

throughout the area's nature trails. Identify birds and butterflies, search for animal tracks. The Park Naturalist will show you the natural world from a whole new perspective. This outing will cover between 1-2 miles. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes, walking shoes, and use sunscreen. Sign up early!

*Subject to cancellation if there is a lack of interest. Registrants will be notified in advance and refunds will be issued if this event is cancelled.*

## President's Mixer

Friday, November 7

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Cost: Complimentary

Gather with fellow meeting attendees for an evening of networking and fun.

*Attendees receive 2 tickets with registration. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$15.*

## Golf Tournament

Saturday, November 8

Time: 1:00 p.m. - Shotgun Start

Cost: \$170 (Includes greens fees and box lunch.)

The Wolf dancer Golf Club is an Arthur Hills & Steve Forrest and Associates design that opened in June 2006.

Please note the following dress code is to be followed: Shirt with collar, shorts must be at least mid-thigh and cannot be denim, shoes with soft spikes. *Limited number of tee times available. Be sure to register in advance!*



## Tennis Tournament

Saturday, November 8

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35 (Includes court fees, tennis balls, and refreshments.)

*Registration by October 10 required.*

Join fellow attendees for a day of tennis. The Hyatt Regency Lost Pines offers guests top-notch courts and amenities.

*Subject to cancellation if there is a lack of interest. Registrants will be notified in advance and refunds will be issued if this event is cancelled.*

## Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance

Saturday, November 8

Reception: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner: 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Cost: \$110 per person

Advance registration recommended. A limited number of tickets will be sold on site.

STSA's traditional Saturday night dinner is goin' Texan! For the Texas Tuxedo event, gentlemen are invited to wear jeans with either a tuxedo shirt and jacket or a dark suit coat. Cowboy boots and ten-gallon hat are not required, but are encouraged! Ladies, as always, can choose from the full spectrum of fancy: cocktail dresses or pants suits, or floor-length skirts. So feel free to wear Black Tie, Texas Tux or any combination of the two. The important thing is to be comfortable and have fun! It will be the perfect finale to a great meeting.





# STSA 55TH ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Southern Thoracic Surgical Association  
November 5-8, 2008  
Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa  
Austin, Texas



All names should be printed as you'd like them to appear on your badge. Please print or type.

## REGISTRANT INFORMATION

LAST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL FIRST NAME DESIGNATION/DEGREE

SPOUSE/GUEST LAST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL FIRST NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE

FAX E-MAIL

☐ Check here if this will be your first STSA Annual Meeting as a member.

STATUS/EVENT	REGISTRATION FEE	TOTAL
<b>Member</b> Membership dues must be paid in order to receive this rate. Members with dues outstanding will be asked to remit payment prior to registration, or pay the non-member fee.	\$350	
<b>Non-Member</b>	\$550	
<b>Faculty</b> (presenter)	\$350	
<b>Residents/Fellows</b>	No charge	
<b>Nurses, PAs, Paramedical</b>	\$300	
<b>Spouse/Guest</b>	No charge	
<b>Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance</b> A limited number of tickets will be sold on-site. Be sure to register in advance.	\$110 per person	
<b>Golf Tournament</b> A limited number of tee times are available. Be sure to register in advance.	\$170 per person	
<b>Tennis Tournament*</b>	\$35 per person	
<b>President's Mixer additional</b> (2 complimentary tickets are included with registration)	\$15 per person	
<b>Stepping Out In Nature Excursion*</b>	\$30 per person	

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE

You must pre-register by October 10, 2008. After October 10, 2008, you must register on-site. Please note, there will be an additional \$50 charge for attendees registering on-site.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

The deadline for all cancellation and refund requests is October 10, 2008. Unfortunately, we are unable to honor any subsequent requests. Refunds are subject to a \$50 administrative fee.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Credit Card (Please circle one.)  
Visa MasterCard AmEx

Cardholder Billing Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

STSA NEWS

\*Advance registration required. Subject to cancellation if there is a lack of interest. Registrants will be notified in advance and refunds will be issued.

**NOTE:** All events are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

**PLEASE FAX TO THIS FORM TO: (312) 202-5829 or MAIL TO: STSA, 633 N. Saint Clair St., Suite 2320, Chicago, IL 60611**

# SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

## 55TH ANNUAL MEETING SOCIAL EVENTS!

November 5-8, 2008 – Hyatt Lost Pines Resort – Austin, Texas

Two additional Saturday afternoon (November 8) social events have been proposed for the STSA 55th Annual Meeting in Austin. **Please let us know by October 17 if you want to participate in either event described below.**

### Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

The game Texas is famous for! With a minimum of 20 participants, STSA will coordinate a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament in a hotel meeting room. Professional dealers will be engaged and our own Joyce Gambino, Director of Meetings & Conventions, will serve as "Pit Boss."

A light lunch with a soft drink or beer will be provided. Additional beverages can be purchased. Note that actual gambling is not allowed. Participants will play with chips, and the winner, selected through a process of elimination, will receive a prize (but no financial payout).



**Fee: \$60 per person**

☐ *I would like to participate in the Texas Hold 'Em Tournament.*

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### Mountain Biking Adventure



Rocky Hill Ranch is only 15 miles away from the Lost Pines resort in Smithville and has some of the most beautiful biking trails in Texas. If you love to mountain bike, this event is for you. With a minimum of 30 participants, STSA will coordinate with the Bicycle Sport Shop in Austin to have bikes available for the afternoon and arrange for a mechanic to be available on site. A box lunch will be provided. (Trails can be strenuous. May not be appropriate for young children.)

Visit [www.trails.com/tcatalog\\_trail.aspx?trailid=BGS082-033](http://www.trails.com/tcatalog_trail.aspx?trailid=BGS082-033) for more information about Rocky Hill Ranch.

**Fee: \$75 per person** (Bring your own bike and receive a discounted rate.)

☐ *I would like to participate in the Mountain Biking Adventure.*

---

Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please FAX this form to Katie Bochenek at STSA at 312-202-5829 no later than October 17.\*\***

*The credit card used for your meeting registration will be charged the appropriate fee or an invoice can be provided. Note: These events are subject to cancellation due to lack of interest. In the event of cancellation, your credit card will be refunded.*