Dear Colleagues:

After 27 years of enjoying the fellowship of the STSA, I am particularly honored to be at the helm for this year’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. I am sure we are all in agreement that the 2002 Annual Meeting was a remarkable success and that kudos are in order for Dr. Constantine Mavroudis and everyone involved in the Program and Postgraduate Committees. As I face the task at hand, I am confident that together we can accept the challenge of meeting everyone’s high expectations for this most auspicious year—a celebration of 50 years of fellowship, tradition, innovation and education.

Tops on the list of STSA achievements this past year was the rousing success of our Recruitment Campaign. Hats off to Dr. Geoffrey Graeber and the membership committee members, who surpassed their goal of 50 new members by recruiting 82 physicians! While the STSA has always maintained an impressive 97% retention rate, due in great part to its “once a member, always a member” credo, our average of 20 new members per year was stunningly surpassed with this year’s figures. Hopefully, Dr. William A. Walker and the Membership Committee will be able to keep this wonderful momentum going.

In relocating our 50th Annual Meeting to the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs, Florida, the STSA staff has managed to transform a scheduling snafu into a relocation coup. I have personally explored the facilities and have found the amenities to be top notch. I think you will find the golf, tennis and swimming facilities to be first class and sure to enrich your meeting experience.

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Presidential Message by Joseph I. Miller, Jr., MD (continued from page one)

In an effort to always keep our program informative and innovative, this year’s meeting will include a Poster Session, beginning on Friday and continuing through Saturday morning. The focus of this year’s Video Session is “New Technology and New Techniques.”

Dr. Hal Urschel is busy spearheading the gathering of memorabilia both large and small for our 50th Year Memory Book. Photos and assorted historical items have been steadily arriving at the STSA’s Chicago offices—but, of course, more are always welcome.

Senator William H. Frist has been invited to speak at our meeting. I remain hopeful that his understandably busy schedule will allow for his participation.

I welcome the baton being passed to me at this most significant moment in the history of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. The half century marks a natural time for reflection on the accomplishments that make us proud, the memories that bind us to each other, the traditions that keep us strong and the commitment to the STSA that makes our organization so vital. I encourage each of you to participate fully in the excellent opportunities for continuing education and the exciting social events that have been planned for this year’s meeting. Again, I look forward to seeing you in November.

STSA 50th Anniversary Preparations Underway!

Nestled between the communities of Fort Myers and Naples, Bonita Springs, Florida provides visitors with a captivating confluence of surf, sand and sun. As Dr. Miller mentioned in his Presidential Message (see page one), the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs boasts first-rate golf and tennis facilities. As in past years, the social calendar of this year’s meeting will include both Golf and Tennis Tournaments. Additionally, the rich fishing heritage of the area will be reflected in the inclusion of both Deep Sea and Fly Fishing Tournaments.

Mrs. Louise Miller has voiced her concern that spouses enjoy the same camaraderie experienced by members and is organizing the Spouse Social Events accordingly. Please encourage your spouse to plan on participating in the welcoming mix of activities that are being planned.

Be sure to check in regularly with our Web site at www.stsa.org for continuing updates on our 50th Anniversary Meeting.
The STSA Welcomes 82 New Members

Congratulations and welcome to the following 82 physicians approved for membership in the STSA during the Annual Business meeting held November 8, 2002.

Mark Anstadt          Mercedes Dullum          Richard Mainwaring          Scot Schultz
Douglas Appleby, Jr.  Mark Dylewski            Tomas Martin              Jeffrey Sell
William Arnold        Luis Echeverri          William McGee            James Shoptaw, Jr.
Vinay Badhwar         Harold Erath, Jr.          Robert Messier, Jr.      Scott Silvestry
Richard Battafarano   Anthony Estrera          Cary Meyers              Eric Skipper
Thomas Beaver         Paul Evans, Jr.            Carmelo Milano         James St. Louis
Darien Bradford       Mark Felger              Charles Mulligan, Jr.    Kenneth Stahl
Lawrence Breitkreutz  Joseph Forbess          Clarence Owen            John Sutton
Scott Buchanan        J. William Gaynor        Anthony Palazzo          Michael Szware
Bradley Bufkin        Joseph Greenlee          Benjamin Peeler          James Takara
Tung Cai              Bartley Griffith          Christopher Peters      Neil Thomas
Michael Cannon        Stephen Hazelrigg        David Peterseim          Timothy Trotter
Gerald Chapman        J. Robert Headrick, Jr.    Kathleen Petro          Marcus Williams
John Cho              Kuo Fon Huang            Marvin Peyton            Stephen Yang
William Cooper        Andrew Hume              Taylor Pickett          Thomas Yeh, Jr.
John Crouch           John Ikonomidis          Ganga Prabhakar          David Zolfaghari
Harry D’Agostino      William Jones, II         Miguel Puig            Miguel Puig
Emmanuel Daon         Paul Kirshbom            John Roberts            John Roberts
Abelardo DeAnda, Jr.  Andy Kiser                Forrest Rubenstein       Forrest Rubenstein
Frank Detterbeck      Omar Lattouf            Sean Russell             Sean Russell
J. Michael DiMaio     Jennifer Lawton          Michael Ryan              Michael Ryan
Gregory Di Russo      R. Eric Lally            Frank Schmidt            Frank Schmidt

RECRUIT A MEMBER TO THE STSA!

As the efforts of Dr. Graeber and the Membership Committee make abundantly clear, when the STSA sets its sights on a goal, the objective will be met. And now the task remains to not lose the wonderful momentum established this past year. New members are an important part of maintaining the STSA as a vital organization. With that in mind, please remember to look to your fellow thoracic surgeons for potential members to the STSA. This continuous recruitment of your colleagues, combined with the “Once A Member, Always A Member” credo that Dr. Miller refers to in his Presidential Message, is a winning combination for The Southern Thoracic Surgical Association. Keep up the good work!

“Hats off to Dr. Geoffrey Graeber, and the membership committee members who surpassed their goal of 50 new members…”
Celebrating 50 Years of Fellowship and Education

Congratulations to the 2002 STSA Annual Meeting Award Recipients

President’s Award
The President’s Award is given annually to the author of the paper judged to be superior to all others delivered at the Annual Meeting. The 2002 President’s Award was awarded to Joseph S. Coselli, MD of Houston, Texas, for his paper entitled “Left Heart Bypass During Descending Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm Repair Does Not Prevent Paraplegia.”

Hawley H. Seiler, MD Resident’s Award
The Hawley H. Seiler, MD Resident’s Award is presented to an outstanding cardiothoracic resident who excels in manuscript and oral presentation of their abstract submission. This award is supported by St. Jude Medical, Inc. The 2002 Hawley H. Seiler, MD Resident’s Award was given to Dr. Thomas S. Maxey of Charlottesville, Virginia, for his manuscript and presentation on “A Tailored Supraclavicular Approach to Thoracic Outlet Depression is Safe and Efficacious in Managing All Forms of Thoracic Outlet Syndrome.”

Tiki Award
The Tiki Award is given to the person who presents a slide judged by a committee appointed by the President to be the most memorable and noteworthy at the Annual Meeting. Dr. W. Steves Ring of Dallas, Texas, was named the 2002 Tiki Award recipient.

Osler Abbott Award
The Osler Abbott Award is given to the member who excels in the art of discussionmanship. The 2002 Osler Abbott Award was awarded to Dr. John C. Calhoon of San Antonio, Texas.

Meet Your 2003 Council and Committee Members
Included with this issue of STSA News is a listing of the 2003 STSA leadership. Newly elected members of the Council include: Dr. D. Glenn Pennington, President-Elect; Dr. Walter H. Merrill, Vice President; Dr. G. Alexander Patterson, Councilor. President Miller has also appointed Drs. Daniel Miller and David Harpole, Jr. to the Program Committee; Dr. Kevin Accola to the Membership Committee; and Drs. Robert Cerfolio and David Jones to the Postgraduate Committee. Dr. Miller has made the following special appointments to the 50th Anniversary Spouses’ Committee: Mrs. Betsey Urschel, Mrs. Louise Miller, Mrs. Martha Mavroudis and Mrs. Betsy Baumgartner. Finally, an Annual Meeting Site Selection Committee was formed to explore future meeting sites for the STSA Annual Meeting. Members appointed were Dr. Lynn Harrison, Dr. Joseph Miller and Dr. John Calhoon.

SOS to All Members! 1964 Program Needed!!
In an effort to gather together all historical documents, we are still trying to locate a copy of the 1964 Program Book. If you are in possession of this valuable document, please contact Mary Duggan at the STSA Headquarters (800)685-7872 or mduggan@sts.org. Mary will make a copy of the Program and return it to you ASAP. So please, check your private stash of memorabilia. HELP THE STSA COMPLETE ITS LIBRARY!

The Official Newsletter of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association
633 N. Saint Clair Street, Suite 2320
Chicago, IL  60611-3658
Phone: 312.202.5892 800.685.STSA (7872) Fax: 312.202.5801
E-mail: stsa@stsa.org Web: www.stsa.org