Presidential Message

Dear Colleagues:

The 2003 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting of the STSA was celebrated in great style! I am sure most will agree that it was one of the best, if not the best, meetings ever for the society. Dr. Joseph Miller and the Ad Hoc Committee for the 50th Anniversary did a fabulous job, making it a meeting to remember.

The social events at the meeting were greatly enhanced by the wonderful venue of Bonita Springs. This proved particularly exciting for Bill Cook, because a record number of fish were caught. Lynn Harrison had a hole-in-one at the golf outing. Everyone enjoyed the fantastic weather for tennis and other activities. New aspects of the program were the video supplements and the poster sessions, which both added significantly to this years meeting. The success of this 2003 meeting gives us great impetus to begin the next 50 years with a great deal of confidence and anticipation accomplishing new goals as we face new challenges.

Cancun promises to be an extremely exciting venue for our 51st meeting. If you remember our previous trip to Cancun, you will remember that spectacular hotel, the Fiesta Americana Grand Coral Hotel and the golf, tennis, fishing, and unlimited swimming that is available. There are great opportunities for day trips to the ruins. Many of us may wish to add a mini-vacation on either end of our meeting.

The Post-Graduate Committee has already been hard at work and outlined an excellent program for our meeting in Cancun. The program committee plans to continue the poster session, but will provide some time for a moderated poster session, which should enhance those sessions. I expect the program will be a virtual smorgasbord of new and innovative ideas and look forward to sharing those with all of you.

As noted previously, the membership of the STSA has significantly increased in the last two years, in large part due to the hard work of Geoff Graeber and Bill Walker and their membership committees. A change in the bylaws allows those who did residencies in the south to become members even though they are not practicing in the south. I would encourage you to notify your friends and fellow residents who may be eligible for membership to join our group and enjoy the fellowship and education of the Southern Thoracic. Dr. Jack Marburger, current chairman of the membership committee, will greatly welcome information about potential new members.

While our 50th anniversary celebration is still fresh in our minds, hope that we can take advantage of this great opportunity to consider what this society has accomplished in the last 50 years and use that as a firm base for our accomplishments during the next 50 years. I am ready to begin our 51st meeting and look forward to it with great anticipation. I hope all of you will join us.

— D. Glenn Pennington, M.D., STSA President
STSA Welcomes our New Members!

Congratulations and Welcome to the following 60 physicians approved for membership in the STSA during the Annual Business meeting held November 14, 2003 in Bonita Springs.

Giorgio M. Aru, MD - Jackson, MS
Vinay Badhwar, MD, MSC - Saint Petersburg, FL
Mark I. Block, MD - Charleston, SC
Steven F. Bolling, MD - Ann Arbor, MI
Richard T. Bowman, MD - Plano, TX
F. Curtis Bryan, II, MD - Myrtle Beach, SC
Joseph Caspi, MD - New Orleans, LA
Edson H K. Cheung, MD - Dallas, TX
Arthur C. Coffey, MD - Indianapolis, IN
William H. Cook, MD - Cincinnati, OH
Larkin J. Daniels, MD - Mobile, AL
Nestor F. Dans, MD - Charleston, WV
David J. Dodd, MD - Albany, GA
Jonathan J. Drummond-Webb, MD - Little Rock, AR
Pirooz Eghtesady, MD, PhD - Cincinnati, OH
Charles D. Fraser, Jr., MD - Houston, TX
Richard K. Freeman, MD - Indianapolis, IN
James S. Gammie, MD - Baltimore, MD
Claudio Guareschi, MD - Greenwood, SC
Alfredo F. Gurmendi, MD - Lufkin, TX
Timothy S. Hall, MD - Morgantown, WV
William J. Harris, III, MD - Jackson, MS
Philip J. Hess, MD - Gainesville, FL
Arthur M. James, MD - Birmingham, AL
Robert DB Jaquiss, MD - Milwaukee, WI
Robert N. Jones, MD - Saginaw, MI
John J. Kelemen, III, MD - Asheville, NC
James W. Klena, MD - Marquette, MI
Harry Kourlis, Jr., MD - Dallas, TX
Alan P. Kypson, MD - Greenville, NC
Antonio Laudio, MD - Charleston, SC
Scott A. LeMaire, MD - Houston, TX
Joseph LoCicero, III, MD - Mobile, AL
Michael P. Macris, MD - Houston, TX
Mark A. Malias, MD - Melbourne, FL
Peter B. Manning, MD - Cincinnati, OH
Marc Margolis, MD - Washington, DC
Victor O. Morell, MD - Tampa, FL
Michael J. Moulton, MD - Keesler AFB, MS
Peter M. Moy, MD - Hampton, VA
James E. O’Brien, Jr., MD - Kansas City, MO
Sebastian Pagni, MD - Louisville, KY
Scott J. Petit, MD - Columbia, SC
Pavel V. Petrlik, MD - Lancaster, CA
Timothy W. Pettitt, MD - New Orleans, LA
Thomas R. Pollard, MD - Knoxville, TN
Eyal E. Porat MD - Houston, TX
Alfredo Rego, MD, PhD - Melbourne, FL
Ross M. Reul, MD - Houston, TX
Joseph Franklin Rowe, III, MD - Roanoke, VA
Hartzell V. Schaff, MD - Rochester, MN
Walter W. Scott, Jr., MD - Greenville, NC
Brett C. Sheridan MD - Chapel Hill, NC
Arun K. Singhal, MD, PhD - Philadelphia, PA
Eric Thompson, MD - Columbia, MO
Luca A. Vricella, MD - Baltimore, MD
Matthew J. Wall, Jr., MD - Houston, TX
Thomas C. Wozniak, MD - Indianapolis, IN
David Alan Wyatt, MD - Cookeville, TN
David D. Yuh, MD - Baltimore, MD

Recruit a Member!

As you know, new members are a key ingredient in maintaining STSA’s vital role in the thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon community. Many of you have already educated others on the benefits of our association, like the unique camaraderie and social cohesion of STSA, combined with a rigorous clinical education process. Please look to your colleagues that fit the STSA profile. Membership forms are available electronically at our Web site, www.stsa.org or call us at 800/685-7872 to have one mailed to you.
Congratulations to the 2003 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 2003 President’s Award was awarded to Robert J. Cerfolio, MD of Birmingham, Alabama for his paper and presentation entitled “The Accuracy of PET-CT Compared to PET Alone for the Staging of Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer.”

**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 2003 Hawley H. Seiler, MD Resident’s Award was given to Brian T. Bethea, MD for his paper and presentation entitled “Results of Aortic Valve-Sparing Operations: Experience with the Remodeling and Re-implantation Procedures in 65 Patients.”

**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. Betsey Urschel of Dallas, Texas was named the 2003 Tiki Award recipient.

**Osler Abbott Award**
The Osler Abbott Award is given to the member who excels in the art of discussion. The 2003 Osler Abbott Award was awarded to Dr. Constantine Mavroudis of Chicago, Illinois.

2004 Call For Abstracts

You are invited to submit abstracts for consideration to be presented at the STSA’s 51st Annual Meeting in Cancun, Mexico. All abstracts must be submitted electronically by 11:59pm EST (GMT -5), Friday, April 9, 2004. The online submission tool can be accessed at: http://www.ctsnet.org/abstracts/stsa/855/

Abstracts must be submitted in English. Abstracts will not be accepted on paper or disk. Video abstracts must be submitted by the electronic submission deadline with submission of the video to the STSA offices by or on 4/5/04. The work presented must not have been presented, published, or submitted for publication elsewhere.
STSA Central Office Staff

Welcome STSA Executive Director, Nancy Gray Puckett.

Nancy began as Executive Director for STSA on December 1, 2003. She continues to serve as Director of Communications for the STS, which provides management services to the STSA. Nancy has an extensive background in association management, publishing - both commercial and non-profit, and association consulting. Among her positions before joining the STS in 2003, she was Managing Editor for Medscape General Medicine, an on-line, peer-reviewed medical journal published by Medscape.com. She was also Vice President of Publications at the American College of Healthcare Executives and Director of Publications at the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Nancy has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago. To contact Nancy, please call 800/685-7872 or e-mail her at npuckett@stsa.org.

Welcome STSA Affiliate Coordinator, Jeanne Delaney.

Jeanne began as Affiliate Coordinator in January 2004. Prior to working at STSA, she was an advertising associate and staff writer for the Chicago-based American Dental Hygienists’ Association. Jeanne has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Xavier University in Chicago, and a Master of Science Degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University, in Chicago. In her new position, Jeanne’s primary responsibilities include assisting with the day-to-day operations for STSA, as well as special projects. To contact Jeanne, please call 800/685-7872 or email her at jdelaney@stsa.org.