



STSA News

SUMMER 2011

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

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Keith Naunheim, MD passes the gavel to newly elected STSA President Joseph Coselli, MD at the Annual Meeting in Orlando.

Letter From the President

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the STSA 57th Annual Meeting in Orlando. The meeting was a great success! Attendance was fantastic, and results from the evaluation forms, plus numerous comments I have heard all indicate attendees were impressed with the quality of the educational programming and enjoyed the unique social events that took place. We also had a record number of exhibitors, and I hope most of you had an opportunity to spend some time in the exhibit hall, meeting with our industry colleagues.

We now turn our full attention to planning the 58th Annual Meeting in the San Antonio Hill Country. Our meeting takes place November 9th through the 12th at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort, which my wife Kelly and I toured during a site visit earlier this year. Newly opened in 2010, the resort is beautifully situated in the Texas Hill Country in Cibolo Canyons, just 20 minutes from downtown San Antonio. The grounds are expansive and there's a great pool with a giant water slide and a lazy river that the kids will love. The golf course is among the PGA Tour's TPC Network of premier clubs, and I can attest that it is a beautiful and challenging course. Tennis, hiking, biking, arts and crafts, star gazing, s'mores by the fire, and much more are available on site, so there truly is something for everyone. It is a perfect family venue and just the right size for our group. I encourage you to make plans now to attend. Hotel registration is already open for STSA members and meeting registration will be available shortly.

Rick Feins, MD and Eric Mendeloff, MD, co-chairs of the 2011 Post-Graduate Committee, along with their team have assembled an outstanding program for Thursday morning. As in years past, the Post-Graduate Program will consist of separate sessions for adult cardiac, congenital, and general thoracic. This will be followed by a heated pro-con debate on the topic of whether CT surgery would be better served by merging the STS and the AATS. Brand new this year, three "Worst Case Scenarios" will be presented, one in each of the specialties, and attendees will have audience response clickers to weigh in with their comments as each case is presented. The Postgraduate Program will conclude with a timely talk on Accountable Care Organizations.

After a successful abstract submission and review period, your Program Committee, chaired by Rodney Landreneau, MD and William Ryan, MD, met in Chicago in May and put together an impressive program with a great line up of presentations and speakers. Watch for your advance program coming soon. And of course there will be time in the schedule for socializing and enjoying the beautiful San Antonio Hill Country with your colleagues and family.

I'm pleased to report that David Taggart, MD has agreed to give this year's President's Invited Lecture. His talk titled, "CABG in 2012: Implications of the new ESC/EACTS Guidelines," should not be missed. The Kent Trinkle Lecture this year will be given by John Calhoon, MD, who is doing innovative things in San Antonio at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

This is also the time of year 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 cardiothoracic surgeons who are the future of our specialty. Please reach

Continued on page 2



STSA President Keith Naunheim, MD (center) with new members at the 2010 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 5, 2010 at the Disney Yacht and Beach Club.

Shahab A. Akhter, MD
 Geoffrey A. Answini, MD
 Edward Michael Bender, MD
 Louis Christopher Benjamin, MD
 Malcolm V. Brock, MD
 Subhasis, Chatterjee, MD
 Joseph Brian Clark, MD
 Nilton C. De Oliveira, MD
 Chadrick E. Denlinger, MD
 Todd M. Dewey, MD
 Melanie Edwards, MD
 Peter I. Ellman, MD
 Lisardo Garcia-Covarrubias, MD
 Eric L. Grogan, MD
 Michael E. Halkos, MD
 Michael E. Jessen, MD
 Peter C. Kouretas, MD
 Nicholas M. Lopez, MD
 Hersch Maniar, MD
 Michael E. Mitchell, MD
 Robert J. Moraca, MD
 Charles Patrick Murrah, MD
 Anastasios C. Polimenakos, MD
 Basel Ramlawi, MD
 Hassan K Reda, MD
 Mahesh S. Sharma, MD
 Karen S. Thompson, DO
 William M. Yarbrough, MD
 Kenton J. Zehr, MD

Chicago, IL
 Cincinnati, OH
 Cape Girardeau, MO
 Baton Rouge, LA
 Baltimore, MD
 Evanston, IL
 Hershey, PA
 Madison, WI
 Charleston, SC
 Dallas, TX
 New Orleans, LA
 Pinehurst, NC
 Miami, FL
 Nashville, TN
 Atlanta, GA
 Dallas, TX
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Paducah, KY
 St. Louis, MO
 Milwaukee, WI
 Pittsburgh, PA
 Tallahassee, FL
 Chicago, IL
 Houston, TX
 Lexington, KY
 Dallas, TX
 Rockford, IL
 Charleston, SC
 Temple, TX

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.

Continued from page 1

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, Reid Tribble, MD, the Membership Committee chair, will be happy to help.

I want to close by thanking our Leadership Council and Committees for their hard work and careful planning. It is a real pleasure to get together with this great group of old friends and their families and to meet the new members. With a relevant and timely educational program and all the fun and camaraderie STSA is famous for, it's a meeting you won't want to miss.

I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

Joseph S. Coselli, MD

BYLAWS REVISION TO BE PRESENTED AT STSA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING IN SAN ANTONIO

An important revision to the STSA Bylaws will be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting in San Antonio this year. The STSA Council recently approved, for consideration of the membership, a new STSA Resident Membership category that would allow residents matched or enrolled in a thoracic surgery educational program within the STSA region to apply for Resident Membership. After completion of thoracic surgery training a Resident Member may retain their membership status for up to three years and then transition directly to Active Membership after becoming ABTS certified. Please refer to the enclosed *STSA News* insert to read the specific changes being voted on. The 2011 Annual Business Meeting will be held from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort on Friday, November 11. **Be sure to attend and cast your vote.**

Members attending the Business Meeting will also hear reports and updates from the Executive Council and Committee Chairs. Included in the reports will be the Nominating Committee's presentation of a slate of candidates to fill upcoming 2011-2012 leadership positions; the Membership Committee will present for election a list of candidates to become new members of STSA; and members attending their first Annual Meeting will be recognized and presented with a membership certificate. Please note that the Annual Business Meeting is open to STSA members only.

2010 STSA ANNUAL MEETING AWARD RECIPIENTS



Kevin Accola, MD (left) presents the Osler Abbott Award to Vinod Thourani, MD.

The **Osler Abbott Award**, given annually to a member of the Association who excels in the art of discussionmanship, was presented to **Vinod Thourani, MD** at the 57th 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.



Kamal Mansour, MD (left) receives the Inspiration Award from Vinod Thourani, MD at the Awards Dinner.

The **STSA Inspiration Award** was presented to two deserving recipients at the 57th Annual Meeting in Orlando - **Kamal Mansour, MD** and **Francis Robicsek, MD**. 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.



Peter Smith, MD (center) receives the Tiki Award from Jeff Jacobs, MD (left) and STSA President, Keith Naunheim, MD.

Peter K. Smith MD, STSA Councilor and past Chair of the Post-Graduate Program, was awarded the 2010 **Tiki Award**. This highly coveted award is given to the person who presents the most memorable and noteworthy slide at the Annual Meeting.



Constantine Mavroudis, MD (left) and Harold Urschel, MD (right) present the Mavroudis-Urschel Award to Keith Naunheim, 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. Keith Naunheim** was selected as the deserving recipient of the 2010 Mavroudis-Urschel Award.

RECRUIT A NEW 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, especially recent trainees. Part of the Southern's unique character comes from newly graduated cardiothoracic surgeons who are the lifeblood and future of the specialty. Please look to your colleagues to identify potential new STSA members, and be sure to reach out to younger CT surgeons; tell them about the Southern and encourage them to apply for membership. **Prospective members are most likely to apply to STSA after receiving an invitation from a current member to do so. 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, 2011.

2010 AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 58TH ANNUAL MEETING

Kenneth A. Kesler, MD, of Indianapolis, IN was selected to receive the 2010 **Clifford Van Meter President's Award** for the best scientific paper given at the Annual Meeting. This superior paper titled, "Survival Following Surgery for Metastatic Testicular Nonseminomatous Germ Cell Cancer to the Lung or Mediastinum: Risk Factor Analysis from a Single Institution Experience," was selected by STSA President Keith S. Naunheim, 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 2010 award is **Castigliano M. Bhamidipati, DO** for his paper and presentation titled, "Have Thoracic Endografting Outcomes Improved Since FDA Approval."

JAMES W. BROOKS MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP



Inaugural Brooks Scholarship recipient, Elizabeth Spradlin (center), with members of the Brooks Family and Dr. Stephen Yang, a mentee of Dr. Brooks'.

Applications are currently being accepted until August 1, 2011 for the STSA James W. Brooks Medical Student Scholarship. Established in 2010 to pay tribute to Jim Brooks, past president of the STSA and a great mentor to countless residents and students, the **Brooks Scholarship seeks to identify 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year medical students in the STSA region who are interested in cardiothoracic surgery.** The recipient, selected by a committee of STSA leaders,

will receive funding to attend the STSA Annual Meeting and benefit from the mentorship of STSA members, thus extending Dr. Brooks' legacy as a great mentor.

If you know a medical student in the STSA region with an interest in CT surgery, please encourage him/her to apply at www.stsa.org, and offer to write a letter of nomination. Your letter of nomination should give a brief description of the candidate's dedication to CT surgery through community service, education, and leadership and should be e-mailed to www.stsa.org by August 1, 2011. The online application form and all other application materials can be found on the STSA homepage. Please note members may nominate no more than one medical student.

If you would like to contribute to the James W. Brooks Medical Student Scholarship fund, please visit www.stsa.org to complete a pledge form.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SAN ANTONIO HILL COUNTRY!



Dr. and Mrs. Coselli enjoying one of the resort's many relaxing outdoor patios during their recent site visit to San Antonio.



A twilight view of the resort's pool, waterslide, and lazy river situated in the beautiful Texas Hill Country.

The STSA 58th Annual Meeting will be held November 9 – 12, 2011 at the newly opened JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort. With an outstanding lineup of educational and social activities, you won't want to miss this opportunity to experience STSA in Texas! Located just 12 miles from San Antonio International Airport, the resort provides the ultimate get-away with activities for everyone. Featuring an impressive water park and a relaxing lazy river, 36-hole professional golf course, fully outfitted spa, and seven on-site restaurants and lounges, this destination is sure to please everyone in your family! Nature lovers have plenty to explore on the property's 600 acres of rolling, oak tree-covered hills with an adjacent bird sanctuary, and downtown San Antonio attractions are only twenty minutes away. The peaceful, luxurious atmosphere at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa creates the perfect backdrop to relax and enjoy Southern Texas. Make plans now to attend with your whole family!

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

STSA PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING



Program Committee members William Ryan, MD, Joseph Coselli, MD, Andrew Fiore, MD, Keith Naunheim, MD and Scott LeMaire, MD (from left to right) work to select the 58th Annual Meeting program.

The 2011 Program Committee met in Chicago on May 13 to review abstracts and plan the program for the 58th Annual Meeting at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort. There were 272 abstracts submitted for review, and the Committee had many excellent papers from which to choose. Under the leadership of President Joseph Coselli, MD and Program Committee Co-Chairs Rodney Landreneau, MD and William Ryan, MD, 69 outstanding papers were selected and an exceptional program was compiled. Visit www.stsa.org for a program outline and watch for your advance program book to arrive in the coming weeks.

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58th 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 9, 2011

7:45 P.M. -10:00 P.M.
Surgical Motion Pictures

Thursday, November 10, 2011

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

8:15 A.M. -8:30 A.M.
Break

8:30 A.M. -11:30 A.M.
Postgraduate General Session: *Includes case presentations with audience participation and a talk on Accountable Care Organizations*

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 11, 2011

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:
David P. Taggart, MD

11:00 A.M. -11:20 A.M.
Kent Trinkle Education Lectureship:
John H. Calhoon, MD

11:20 A.M. -12:00 P.M.
Presidential Address:
Joseph S. Coselli, MD

12:00 P.M.
All Attendee Luncheon

2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Third Scientific Sessions A and 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 12, 2011

7:00 A.M. - 7:45 A.M.
Coding Update: *Update on CPT and Physician Payment Issues for 2012*

7:50 A.M. - 8:50 A.M.
Ethics Forum: *Prisoners on Death Row should be Accepted as Organ Donors*

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: *Robert R. Shaw, MD: Thoracic Surgical Hero; Afghanistan Medical Pioneer; Champion for the Patient; Never a Surgical Society President*

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.
*Golf and Tennis Tournaments and Mountain Biking Excursion

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

**Ticketed Events*

NOMINATIONS FOR THE STSA INSPIRATION AWARD NOW BEING ACCEPTED

To acknowledge the crucial importance of mentorship in developing CT surgeons and to recognize and positively reinforce STSA members who have excelled in their mentorship roles, STSA established its Inspiration Award in 2007. The Inspiration Award is given to the STSA member who has demonstrated exceptional efforts in motivating, inspiring, and cultivating the clinical and research talents of medical students, residents and/or early career CT surgeons.

To nominate someone for the STSA Inspiration Award, please submit your nomination in writing by September 1 to be considered for presentation at the 2011 STSA Annual Meeting. Recommendation letters should outline the specific merits of the nominee and his or her positive influences on 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.

Mail or E-mail nominations to: Joseph Coselli, MD, President, Southern Thoracic Surgical Association, 633 N. Saint Clair St., Suite 2320, Chicago, IL 60611, E-mail: stsa@stsa.org

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

TEXAS TUXEDO DINNER DANCE



STSA Members at the 2008 Texas Tuxedo Dinner in Austin, Texas.

The Saturday Night Awards Dinner has been a tradition at STSA Annual Meetings for many years. At this year's meeting in San Antonio, the Saturday night event is goin' Texan!

Plan now to attend the STSA Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance on Saturday, November 11 at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort. For a Texas Tuxedo event, gentlemen are invited to wear jeans with either a tuxedo shirt and jacket or a dark suit coat. Cowboy boots are not required, but are encouraged! Ladies, as always, can choose from the full spectrum of fancy: cocktail dresses or pants suits, floor-length skirts – or maybe even a denim skirt, silk blouse and cowboy boots. The important thing is to be comfortable and have fun!

It will be a special and fun evening – the perfect finale to a great meeting. Make your travel plans now to include the STSA Texas Tuxedo Dinner Dance on Saturday, November 11.

COMING SOON – STSA MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

STSA will be conducting a membership survey this fall to better understand the needs of its members. In the coming months you can expect to receive via e-mail an invitation to complete the brief 10-minute online survey. If you prefer to complete a hard copy version, you will have the option to do so. Your participation in this survey is very important and will assist leadership and staff in future strategic planning efforts to ensure your STSA membership is as beneficial as possible. We are hoping for a 100% response rate and thank you in advance for your participation!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION TODAY!

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.

STSA FUTURE MEETINGS

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

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

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

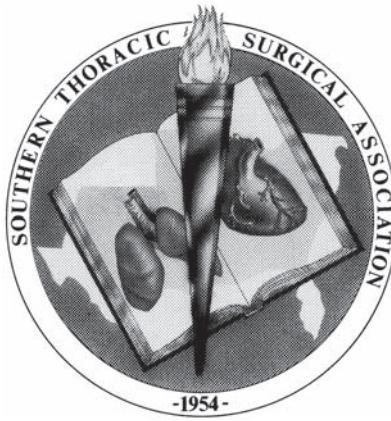
November 4-9, 2014
JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort
and Spa
Tucson, Arizona

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
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STSA Annual Business Meeting Announcement

Please plan to attend the STSA Annual Business Meeting on Friday, November 11, 2011. The meeting will be held from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort and Spa.

Note: There is a proposed change to the STSA Bylaws that will be voted on at this meeting. See reverse side for details.

Visit www.stsa.org to learn more about the 58th Annual Meeting, November 9-12, 2011, at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort and Spa.

STSA Constitution & Bylaws

Proposed Revisions

Shaded and Underlined text indicates a proposed change that would be added to the Bylaws.

Article IV:

SECTION 1: Membership

There shall be four (4) categories of members: Active, Senior, Resident and Honorary Member. Members shall be individuals who support the purpose of the Association and who agree to comply with the Association's rules and regulations. Active and Senior members shall be entitled to hold office and shall have voting privileges. Active and Senior Members must be board certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery or its foreign equivalent. If an Active Member moves from the designated membership geographical area outlined in SECTION 2, he or she may retain membership as long as all other requirements for membership are satisfied. Members whose practices have been limited because of disability, or who have reached the age of 65 years, may apply for Senior Membership. The Association shall not be required to subscribe to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery for Senior members. Honorary membership can be bestowed upon a worthy recipient upon recommendation of the Council and ratification by a two-thirds majority of the votes at the annual meeting. Honorary Members are welcomed at all scientific and business meetings of the Association, but have no obligations or responsibilities in the organization. Resident Members must be matched or enrolled in a thoracic surgery educational program, accredited by the Residency Review Committee for Thoracic Surgery under the authority of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, that is within the STSA region provided for in SECTION 2. Resident Members may retain membership up to three years following the completion of their thoracic surgery training. Resident members who have been certified in thoracic surgery by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery may, upon written request to the Association and with approval of the Membership Committee and the Council, transition directly, with no initiation fee applied, to Active Membership. If no such official request is forthcoming, Resident Membership will be terminated and reinstatement will be dependent upon a formal application for Active Membership, with its associated requirements, including initiation fee and approval by the full membership. Honorary and Resident Members do not have voting privileges, nor may they hold office.

SECTION 2. Applicants

An applicant for Active Membership must at the time of acceptance reside, or have previously practiced cardiothoracic surgery for at least two consecutive years, or have completed a thoracic residency program, or have completed a thoracic or cardiovascular research or clinical fellowship for at least twelve consecutive months in one of the following states or regions: Alabama; Arkansas; Florida; Georgia; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maryland; Mississippi; Missouri; North Carolina; Oklahoma; South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas; Virginia; West Virginia; District of Columbia; the U.S. territories and commonwealths in the Caribbean. An applicant for active membership must be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS). Applicants who meet the practice requirement above but whose training has been in countries other than the United States of America, and who are certified as proficient in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery by appropriate authorities in their home country, may apply. At least seventy-five percent of the practice of the applicant must be devoted to the field of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, which may include research and peripheral vascular surgery. If an applicant is unsuccessful in obtaining membership in two successive years, an interval of two years must elapse before he/she may reapply. The Membership Committee and the Council may recommend acceptance of foreign training and certification by stating that, in their opinion, it represents equivalent status. The Membership Committee and Council may recommend acceptance of individuals who, despite not meeting membership criteria regarding training, practice or research in the STSA region, have demonstrated significant involvement with the organization through their participation in the annual meeting, contributions to the scientific program, and service to the organization. Applicants so approved by the Membership Committee and the Council may become Active Members upon election by the membership at an annual meeting.

An applicant for Resident Membership must at the time of acceptance be matched or enrolled in a thoracic surgery educational program accredited by the Residency Review Committee for Thoracic Surgery under the authority of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in one of the following states or regions: Alabama; Arkansas; Florida; Georgia; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maryland; Mississippi; Missouri; North Carolina; Oklahoma; South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas; Virginia; West Virginia; District of Columbia; the U.S. territories and commonwealths in the Caribbean. Individuals who have completed their education in one of the above programs and are in the process of acquiring certification in thoracic surgery by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery are eligible to apply for Resident Membership.

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

SOUTHERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Full Name [include degree(s)]			Spouse's Name
Office Address			Birthdate
City	State	Zip	Birthplace
Office Phone	Office Fax	Home Phone	E-mail

2 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND APPOINTMENTS

	Name	Location	Number of Months	Grad/Completion Year
Medical School				
Internship				
Residency				
Fellowships				
Current Hospital or Institutional Appointments	Name	Location	Position	

American Board of Thoracic Surgery: _____
Certificate Number Year

3 CURRENT PRACTICE

Percentage of Current Practice: _____ General Surgery _____ Thoracic Surgery _____ Broncho-Esophagology
_____ Cardiac Surgery _____ Vascular Surgery _____ Other

Type of Current Practice: _____ Private Practice _____ Full Time Academic _____ Part Time

Academic: (check those that apply) _____ Regular Military _____ Veterans Adminis. _____ Other

4 MEMBER SPONSORS (2 REQUIRED)

Sponsor 1: _____ Letter of Recommendation ☐ Enclosed ☐ Pending
Name

Sponsor 2: _____ Letter of Recommendation ☐ Enclosed ☐ Pending
Name

*Please include a current copy of your curriculum vitae and bibliography with your application materials.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association shall be limited to thoracic surgeons practicing or having previously practiced in the southern regions of the United States of America or who have completed a thoracic residency training program in the STSA region.

Applicants for active membership must at the time of acceptance reside, or have previously practiced cardiothoracic surgery for at least two consecutive years, or have completed a thoracic residency training program, or have completed a thoracic or cardiovascular research or clinical fellowship for at least twelve consecutive months in one of the following states or regions: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, the District of Columbia, or the US territories and commonwealths in the Caribbean. Such residence must be current at the time of acceptance during the annual meeting of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.

Applicants who meet the practice requirement above but whose training has been in countries other than the United States of America and who are certified as proficient in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery by appropriate authorities in their home country may apply.

2. Applicants must be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Equivalent foreign training and certification may be acceptable following review by the Membership Committee and Council.
3. At least 75 percent of the applicant's practice must be devoted to the field of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery which may include research and peripheral vascular surgery. Applicants for whom thoracic and cardiovascular surgery comprises less than 75 percent of their practice may be required to submit a list of all cases performed for the previous two years.
4. Active status will not become effective, nor certificate of membership presented, until the applicant attends one of the next four annual meetings following initial election to the membership. Failure to comply with this procedure will require reapplication for membership.

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

1. Review the requirements for membership and complete the application.
2. Provide a current copy of your Curriculum Vitae and bibliography.
3. Have two members of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (sponsors) read the completed application, review the requirements, and submit a letter of recommendation. Only one sponsor may be a partner or associate of the applicant.
4. Mail or E-mail the completed application (with letters of recommendation if they have been supplied to you) to the address below.
5. The deadline for consideration of any application is September 15. Applications received after September 15 will be deferred to the following year's committee.
6. Sponsors should be familiar with the applicant's current practice.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SPONSORS

1. Review the requirements for membership with the applicant.
2. If you believe the applicant fulfills the basic requirements and would be a desirable member, send a letter of recommendation. This letter may be mailed or e-mailed to the address below or accompany the application. Include any reservations that you may have concerning the applicant's fulfillment of the basic requirements. If you have a limited or inadequate knowledge of the applicant's current practice, please also indicate the extent of this knowledge.

Dr. Reid Tribble, Membership Committee Chair
Southern Thoracic Surgical Association
633 N. Saint Clair St., Suite 2320
Chicago, IL 60611-3658
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E-mail: stsa@stsa.org