Letter From the President

Change is the key theme for the STSA 2013 Annual Meeting, which will be held this year during Halloween at a fabulous resort – The Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch – from October 30-November 2.

The Saturday dinner will be family-oriented this year. Children are invited to come and eat with their parents. Tuxedos for men and formal gowns for women are still encouraged, keeping with tradition, but not necessary. The dress code is optional and varied and can range from formal to business casual for men (tuxedo, jacket and tie, or just a sports coat) and formal to casual for women (from evening gowns to cocktail dresses and a blouse with slacks or a skirt). Since the meeting falls on Halloween this year costumes may also be worn by both children and parents alike. The whole family can dress up in a theme if desired, or just the kids. Children can also wear their costumes on Halloween (Thursday during the Annual Meeting) to trick-or-treat at the booths in the Exhibit Hall at a designated time.

There will be no band this year at the Saturday night dinner – and fewer awards than in past years. A disc jockey will be present to play requests after dinner but he or she will not play during the dinner hours so conversations can be more easily heard. I hope you’ll all plan to attend what is sure to be a fun and lively event!

Before we move our full attention to the upcoming STSA 60th Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, I would like thank everyone who attended and made valuable contributions to the STSA 59th Annual Meeting in Naples, Florida. The meeting was a great success and attendee evaluation forms praised the quality of the educational programming and the unique social spirit that is such an important part of all STSA meetings. For the third year in a row, we had record participation among exhibiting companies, and I hope most of you had an opportunity to spend some time in the Exhibit Hall, meeting with our industry colleagues. At the Business Meeting on Friday afternoon STSA welcomed 21 new Active Members and 8 new Resident Members. And concerning the topic of membership, applications for new members are currently being accepted until September 15. Be sure to encourage colleagues who are not STSA members to apply. I’d particularly like to ask you to reach out to younger CT surgeons and residents, tell them about the Southern Thoracic, and offer to write a letter of support. The application form can be found at www.stsa.org.

There has been much activity for the organization since the conclusion of our meeting in Naples. We are well underway with the planning for the 60th Annual Meeting. Be sure to save the date! STSA staff is working to finalize details before registration opens this summer, but rest assured that we will be offering a variety of great social activities, including the previously mentioned family-friendly Saturday night awards dinner and outings to make the most of our beautiful Scottsdale location.

Kristine Guleserian, MD and Neal Kon, MD, co-chairs of the 2013 Post Graduate Committee, along with their team have assembled an outstanding program for Thursday morning. See page 6 of this newsletter to review the preliminary Post Graduate speakers and topics. With abstract reviews recently completed, your Program Committee, chaired by Charles Fraser, MD and Scott LeMaire, MD, met in Chicago this May to finalize

Continued on page 2
STSA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations and welcome to the following cardiothoracic surgeons approved for STSA Membership and residents approved for Resident Membership during the Annual Business Meeting held November 9, 2012 in Naples.

Active Members
Umraan Ahmad New Orleans, LA
Michael J. Bates Iowa City, IA
Mark F. Berry Durham, NC
John Brown Indianapolis, IN
Anthony D. Cassano Richmond, VA
Rafe C. Connors Winchester, VA
Steven P. Cummings Ogden, UT
Ignacio G. Duarte Brandon, FL
Matthew G. Hartwig Durham, NC
W. Brent Keeling Louisville, KY
James K. Kirklin Birmingham, AL
Truc Trung Ly Mishawaka, IN
Jefferson M. Lyons Columbus, OH
Thomas Scott Maxey Charlotte, NC
L. Wiley Nifong Greenville, NC
John C. Ofenloch San Antonio, TX
Jay D. Pal Rochester, MN
Joseph Turek Iowa City, IA
Leonard James Wudel, Jr. Nashville, TN

Resident Members
Jonathan Enlow Medical University of South Carolina
Damien J. LaPar University of Virginia
Jennifer Marks MD Anderson Cancer Center
Joseph M. Monfre UTHSC San Antonio
Raghav A. Murthy UTHSC San Antonio
Soumya Neravelta Emory University
Asad A. Shah Duke University
James E. Wiseman USC Keck School of Medicine, The Methodist Hospital System

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 current and recent trainees. Part of the Southern Thoracic’s unique character comes from newly graduated cardiothoracic surgeons who are the lifeblood and future of the specialty. Additionally, STSA now has a newly approved Resident Member category and welcomes resident applicants as well. Prospective members are most likely to apply to STSA after receiving an invitation from a current member to do so. When inviting a colleague or trainee to apply for Active or Resident membership, 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 to you.

The deadline for new member applications is September 15, 2013.
HONORING STSA PAST PRESIDENT, CAROLYN E. REED, MD

The STSA Council met during the AATS Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN on May 4. During this meeting, Council members voted to make a $5,000 contribution on behalf of the Southern Thoracic to the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship in honor of our Past President, Dr. Carolyn Reed.

As you all know, Dr. Reed was a thoracic surgeon, educator, and successful researcher who sadly died early and before her retirement. To honor Dr. Reed’s legacy, TSFRE in conjunction with WTS, established the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship, which will allow a clinically established woman thoracic surgeon to travel to another institution in order to learn a new skill or technology. The reality and success of this award requires a specialty-wide fundraising effort. Join STSA in supporting this initiative by donating to the Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship.

There are several ways to give:
- Make a credit card donation online at www.tsfre.org.
- Mail your donation to TSFRE, 633 North Saint Clair Street, Floor 23, Chicago, IL 60611. Please make checks payable to TSFRE and note the Carolyn E. Reed Fellowship in the memo section of your check.

Dr. Reed’s many contributions to the Southern include serving as the STSA President from November 2006-07; her November 9, 2007 Presidential Address was published in The Annals of Thoracic Surgery in 2008. She also served as STSA Councilor at Large from 1996-1997 and Secretary/Treasurer from 1999-2002. She is sorely missed.

2012 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 Dr. Duke E. Cameron at the 59th 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.

Dr. Vinay Badhwar was awarded the 2012 Tiki Award. This highly coveted award is given to the person who presents the most memorable and noteworthy slide at the Annual Meeting.

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. Unfortunately, due to illness, Dr. Hal Urschel was unable to attend the STSA 59th Annual Meeting, and he passed away shortly thereafter on November 12, 2012. Dr. Urschel was a dear friend and great supporter of STSA. He had many accomplishments but those specific to the STSA included winning the President’s Award in 1965, the Tiki Award in 1978, and the Osler Abbott Award in 1973. Additionally, Dr. Harold C. Urschel, Jr., MD was selected as the recipient of the 2012 Mavroudis-Urschel Award this past November. In this way, STSA members honored Hal for his many contributions to the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association’s scientific programs and his personification of the STSA social spirit and camaraderie.

Dr. Hal Urschel, 2012 Mavroudis-Urschel Award recipient, and his wife, Betsy Urschel, at the 2008 STSA Annual Awards Texas Tuxedo Dinner.
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. In 2012, STSA bestowed Inspiration Awards upon three deserving STSA members and mentors: Dr. Harvey Bender, Dr. Fred Grover, and Dr. Ara Vaporciyan.

To nominate someone for the STSA Inspiration Award, please submit your nomination in writing by September 1 to be considered for presentation at the 2013 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 in good standing of the STSA. The award will be given at the discretion of the President in consultation with the Council.

Mail or e-mail nominations to: Robert Cerfolio, MD, President, Southern Thoracic Surgical Association, 633 N. Saint Clair St., Floor 23, 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/awards.

2012 AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 60TH ANNUAL MEETING

Haritha Reddy, MD, of Ann Arbor, MI was selected to receive the 2012 Clifford Van Meter President’s Award for the best scientific paper given at the Annual Meeting. This superior paper titled, “Analyzing “Failure to Rescue”: Is This an Opportunity for Outcome Improvement in Cardiac Surgery?” was selected by STSA President Walter Merrill, 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 surgery resident whose presentation is deemed superior to all others. The recipient of the 2012 award is Timothy George, MD for his paper and presentation titled, “Septuagenarians Bridged to Heart Transplantation With a Ventricular Assist Device Have Similar Outcomes as Younger Patients.”

Walter Merrill, MD presented Sameh Said, MD, PhD (left) with the 2011 Hawley Seiler Resident’s Award at the Annual Awards Dinner in Naples.
Plan to attend the STSA 60th Annual Meeting October 30-November 2, 2013 in Scottsdale, AZ. This meeting was originally planned to take place in Weston, Fla. from November 6-9. The meeting location and dates changed in August 2012. Read the Fall 2012 issue of STSA News (page 5) to learn more about this update.

STSA staff traveled to Scottsdale, Arizona in March to conduct a site visit at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch. Based on the visit, staff is confident that this venue will be a perfect fit for STSA members, friends, and families. The meeting space is just the right size for STSA, and we will be the only group using the space October 30-November 2. The resort features breathtaking mountain views and accommodations that are sure to please your whole family, including numerous on-site dining options, nightly entertainment, and two and a half acres of water playground. The resort fee will be waived for STSA Annual Meeting attendees; this means complimentary wifi access in hotel rooms, free bike rentals and tennis court access, and more. Spa Avania is conveniently located on the resort property and hosts an expansive menu of first-class spa services and treatments. Children ages 3 to 12 can participate in Camp Hyatt, an on-site center featuring fun and interactive games and programming. Baby-sitting services are available to accommodate your family’s schedule. Learn more about the resort online.

See you in Scottsdale!

STSA 60th Annual Meeting

OCT. 30 - NOV. 2, 2013 - SCOTTSDALE, AZ - HYATT REGENCY RESORT AND SPA AT GAINEY RANCH

Plan to join STSA this fall at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch!

STSA PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

The STSA Program Committee met in Chicago on May 17 to review abstracts and plan the program for the 60th Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona. Authors will be notified of the status of their submissions as soon as possible. Many excellent submissions were received and an outstanding program will undoubtedly be compiled under the leadership of President Robert Cerfolio, MD and Program Committee Co-Chairs, Charles Fraser, MD and Scott LeMaire, MD. Visit www.stsa.org in the coming weeks to review the Advance Program outline.
### GENERAL SESSION – 7:00 am - 9:00 am

**CASE PRESENTATIONS & EXPERT PANELS (WITH AUDIENCE RESPONSE SYSTEM)**

**Moderators:** Neal D. Kon, Kristine J. Guleserian, Seth D. Force

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am - 7:40 am</td>
<td>Adult Cardiac Case Presentation &amp; Expert Panel: Complex Redo Aortic Valve Operation with or without Aortic Root Enlargement</td>
<td>Case Presenter: Neal D. Kon; Panelists: Michael R. Petracek; Robert Salley</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:40 am - 8:20 am</td>
<td>Congenital Heart Surgery Case Presentation &amp; Expert Panel: Operative and Neuroprotective Strategies for Complex Neonatal Aortic Arch Reconstruction</td>
<td>Case Presenter: Kristine J. Guleserian; Panelists: TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:20 am - 9:00 am</td>
<td>General Thoracic Case Presentation &amp; Expert Panel: Solitary Pulmonary Nodule Clinical Stage One in a Basal Location</td>
<td>Case Presenter: Seth D. Force; Panelists: John H. Howington, Shanda H. Blackmon</td>
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**BREAK ---------------------------------------9:00 am - 9:15 am------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUTS – 9:15 am - 10:35 am

**General Thoracic Breakout**

**Moderators:** John A. Howington & Robert B. Lee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am - 9:42 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Thoracoscopic Lobectomy</td>
<td>David R. Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:42 am - 10:09 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Robotic Lobectomy</td>
<td>Robert J. Cerfolio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:09 am - 10:35 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy</td>
<td>Joshua R. Sonett</td>
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</table>

**Adult Cardiac Breakout**

**Moderators:** Marcus G. Williams and Vinod H. Thourani

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am - 9:42 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Thoracoabdominal Aneurysms and Abdominal/Thoracic Debranching Procedures</td>
<td>George Chad Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:42 am - 10:09 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Tricuspid Valve Procedures</td>
<td>Edward H. Kincaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:09 am - 10:35 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Surgical Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation</td>
<td>Harold G. Roberts</td>
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**Congenital Breakout**

**Moderators:** James J. Gangemi and Jorge D. Salazar

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 am - 9:42 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Aortic Valvuloplasty in Neonates, Infants and Children</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:42 am - 10:09 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Mitral Valvuloplasty in Neonates, Infants and Children</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:09 am - 10:35 am</td>
<td>Tricks, Tips and Pearls in Tricuspid Valvuloplasty in Neonates, Infants and Children</td>
<td>Joseph A. Dearani</td>
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**BREAK ---------------------------------------10:35 am - 10:50 am---------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

### GENERAL SESSION – 10:50 am - 12:00 pm

**PRO/CON DEBATE (WITH AUDIENCE RESPONSE SYSTEM)**

**Moderators:** Neal D. Kon and Robert J. Cerfolio

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 am - 11:20 am</td>
<td>In Moderate Risk Patients, TAVR is Economically Feasible</td>
<td>Pro - Michael J. Reardon; Con - TBA</td>
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### SPECIAL SESSION

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:20 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Health Care System Employment: How Surgeons Maximize Their Pay (Subject to Change)</td>
<td>Randolph W. Chitwood, Jr.</td>
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**LUNCH BREAK ---------------------------12:00 pm - 1:00 pm-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

*Program subject to change.*
STSA HEADQUARTERS STAFF UPDATE

STSA Executive Director, Megan Wright Drumm
Megan was promoted to STSA Executive Director on September 16, 2012; the Council voted to confirm Megan in this role at the STSA Council Meeting on November 7, 2012. Megan has worked with STSA since December 2010, when she joined The Society of Thoracic Surgeons as the Society’s Marketing & Communications Coordinator. She later served STSA as Senior Coordinator, Affiliate Organizations. She looks forward to working with STSA leadership to further STSA’s mission to support its members in the pursuit of the highest quality patient care, education, scientific achievement, collegiality, and life balance. Megan also serves as the Executive Director of Women in Thoracic Surgery. Contact Megan at mdrumm@stsa.org or (312) 202-5864.

Senior Coordinator, Affiliate Organizations, Rachel Pebworth
Rachel joined the STS on January 14, 2013 as Senior Coordinator, Affiliate Organizations. Most recently, she served as Administrator of Association Management Services at the American College of Surgeons. Rachel comes to the STSA with experience in providing support to various surgical associations including marketing, database management, abstract processing, governance and financial services. Rachel will bring her communication skills, insight and commitment to an array of STSA projects and will also serve as Senior Coordinator of TSDA, TSRA, TSFRE and WTS. Be sure to stop by the registration desk in Scottsdale and welcome her to the STSA team! You can reach her at rpebworth@sts.org or (312) 202-5835.

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.

2013 MEMBERSHIP DUES
If you have not yet paid your 2013 membership dues, be sure to log in and pay your dues online today! For membership assistance contact STSA staff at (800) 685-7872.

STSA FUTURE MEETINGS

October 30 – November 2, 2013
Hyatt Regency Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch
Scottsdale, Arizona

November 4 – 7, 2015
Disney's Yacht & Beach Club
Orlando, Florida

November 5 – 8, 2014
JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort and Spa
Tucson, Arizona

November 9 – 12, 2016
Waldorf Astoria Naples
Naples, Florida

Visit www.stsa.org for additional information