



# NEWSLETTER

And Society Minutes

TEXAS SURGICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2014



The 194<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Texas Surgical Society was held October 10-12, 2014 in Fort Worth, Texas at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel under the direction of Local Arrangements Chair **Richard Vigness** and his wife **Linda Vigness**. Their coordinated efforts and the hospitality of the event chairmen generated a wonderful experience for the 164 members and 46 guests who participated in the weekend activities. Dr. and Mrs. Vigness were truly exceptional in organization, hospitality and expertise.

On Friday morning **Doug Lorimer** directed the golf tournament at the *River Crest Country Club*, where he was awarded the Brindley Cup Low Gross award. **Peter Baay** of Amarillo was awarded the Arlington Cup for Low Net.

Tennis under the direction of **Peter Rutledge** was also held at the *River Crest Country Club*. **Jeff Stoltenberg** of Brenham and his wife, **Lynne**, were awarded The Waco Cup.

**Robert Lovett** organized the sporting clay shooting event at *the Alpine Shooting Range*. **David Young** of Tyler was the winner of the Fort Worth Shooting Trophy.

Early Saturday morning **David Donahue** escorted our joggers to *Trinity Trails along Trinity River*. **Chris Bell** from Dallas was awarded the Raleigh R. White Trophy.

The first Scientific Session was called to order by **President Shelton Viney** at 1:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon. He introduced the LAC, **Richard Vigness** who welcomed the membership to Fort Worth and informed them of the many events planned for the weekend. Six outstanding papers were presented on Friday afternoon.

**Treasurer Ross Reagan** and **President Viney** then recognized the 2014 Fall class of [Raleigh Ross Scholars](#). Recipients were introduced by their Department Chair or Residency Program Director. The scholars are guests of the Society and receive a personalized plaque noting their accomplishments and also receive a monetary award. Recognized were:

**Ashley Egan**

Baylor University Medical Center - Dallas

**Eileen Bernal**

UT Southwestern Medical Center - Dallas

**Laura Hollinger**

Methodist Hospital – Houston

**Austin Eagleton**

UT Southwestern – Austin

The recipients from Baylor College of Medicine – Houston and UT Medical School at Houston were unable to attend the meeting, and will be presented their awards at the Centennial meeting in Galveston in April.

Following presentation of the Raleigh Ross Scholars, President Shelton Viney introduced the honored guest speaker, **Dr. Demetrios Demetriades, Professor of Surgery and Director of the Division of Trauma, Emergency Surgery and Surgical Intensive Care Unit, Los Angeles County and University of Southern California Medical Center**. **Dr. Demetriades** delivered an educational talk entitled “**Blunt Thoracic Aortic Injuries: Changing Perspectives.**” Dr. Demetriades’ well-received address, beautifully delivered, highlighted the improvements in care over the past three decades. His presentation generated a

significant amount of discussion. The Executive Session began at 5:15 p.m. with **President Shelton Viney** presiding. Minutes of the previous meeting in El Paso were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by **Ross B. Reagan**. The report included a comparison of the first six months of 2014 with the same period in 2013. As of 6/30/2014 the Society had total assets of \$301,500 (vs \$200,231 in 2013) which included \$16,350 in accounts receivable, i.e., unpaid dues. There were no liabilities. The Income and Expense statement showed meeting expenses for the 6 month period of \$69,844 (vs \$63,566 in '13) with general and administrative expense of \$14,181 (vs \$12,122 in '13). Net income for the period was \$99,935 (vs \$92,043 in '13) which included grants from industry and donations of \$55,600. The Raleigh Ross Trust had assets on 6/30/2014 of \$2,838,897 (vs \$2,510,308) and income for the 6 month period of \$173,530 (vs \$204,584). The Ross Grants to the residency programs for 2014 are \$9,125 per program and the number of programs included increased from 8 to 11 with the addition of Methodist Hospital Houston, Texas Tech-El Paso, and UTSW-Austin.

The initial report on the status of the Centennial Campaign showed gifts of \$45,000 with additional pledges of \$80,000 to be paid over the next few years.

### Memorial tributes were read for:

George K. Hempel, Jr.



1934-2013

Joseph A. Kuhn



1958 - 2014

John S. Stehlin



1923 - 2013

**George K. Kempel, Jr.** of Dallas  
(By Ronald M. Stewart)

**Joseph A. Kuhn** of Dallas

(By Ronald M. Stewart)

**John S. Stehlin** of Houston  
(By Ronald M. Stewart)

**The Secretary then gave the report of the Council.** Dr. Stewart reviewed the current meeting with respect to activities, audiovisuals and organization. He thanked Richard and Linda Vigness for their tremendous effort, expertise and thoughtfulness. He reviewed the Council meeting with members in attendance providing information with respect to membership, demographics, future meetings and the new ad hoc committee for the Centennial Campaign. He reviewed and gave a report on the upcoming centennial meeting planning. The Secretary was given guidance to improve the TSS Web Site. The council authorized funding within reason for these improvements.

**The Report of the Archivist** was given by **Mac Sykes**. He discussed the upcoming Centennial and the plans and ongoing work on the Centennial Volume. The Council has approved publishing of the volume including the potential for assessments to the membership to pay for the printing.

Current membership statistics were reviewed. There are **557 members**, of whom **140 are active, 382 are senior, 5 are honorary, 4 are distinguished and 29 are non-resident members**. There were **3 deaths** recorded since the last meeting. The importance of nominating quality surgeons was discussed. This was also a part of the ad-hoc committee on Membership, noted above. **Members are encouraged to propose candidates for membership who meet or exceed Society qualifications as outlined in the constitution and by-laws.**

The following members were **elevated to senior** status:

**O.J. Chastain** of Longview  
**Leo C. Mercer** of Wichita Falls

Fellowship applications were reviewed by the Council. **The following candidates will be included on the April ballot:**

**Farshid Araghizadeh** of Dallas  
**Samuel Campbell** of Lubbock  
**Brian Davis** of El Paso  
**Sharmila Dissanaik** of Lubbock  
**Glen Garner** of Houston  
**Ronald Brent New** of Austin  
**Laura O'Halloran** of Tyler  
**Charles West** of Houston

Information or comments regarding these or other applicants should be sent to the secretary.

**Candidates for fellowship were reviewed.** The following candidates who were up for first consideration were recommended for movement to second consideration:

**Ali Azizzadeh** of Houston  
**Sherilyn Burroughs** of Houston  
**William Fisher** of Houston  
**Rohan Jeyarajah** of Dallas  
**Natasha Keric** of San Antonio  
**Jonathan Mathy** of Sugarland  
**Sandeepa Musunuru** of Midland  
**Richard Peterson** of San Antonio  
**Aaron Stike** of Midland  
**Michael Truitt** of Dallas  
**Reagan Viney** of Midland

The following members who were reviewed for second consideration were recommended by the Council and **unanimously approved for active fellowship by the members:**

**John Bawduniak** of Waco  
**Joe Johnston** of San Antonio  
**Lillian Kao** of Houston  
**Anne Rizzo** of Wichita Falls  
**Tammy Sartor** of Burnet  
**DeEte Vasques** of Fort Worth

Wayne Schwesinger presented the Nominating Committee report. **Shannon Smith** was nominated for Council Member 2017. **Laurens**

**Pickard** was nominated for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. **Michael Dragun** was nominated for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. **Lee Bloemendal** was nominated for President-Elect. A motion was made and seconded to unanimously endorse the nominating committee's recommendations. There was no further discussion and the nominees were unanimously approved by all in attendance.

The Friday evening cocktail dinner at the **Joe T. Garcia's Mexican Restaurant** was enjoyed by **207 members and guests**. Members and guests had a very good dinner and enjoyed the colorful ambiance of the restaurant. The hospitality of the entire team from Fort Worth was very evident and greatly appreciated.

At 6:30 a.m. Saturday morning **Shelton Viney** presided over the **New Members' Breakfast**. Society officers and Council members welcomed eight of the ten new members, presented them with copies of books recording the history of the Society and shared glimpses of Society tradition.

The Saturday spouse activity was attended by 38 guests. Spouses were transported to a historical and cultural tour of downtown led by renowned historian Quentin McGown, then lunch and shopping in the Stockyards.

The Saturday morning Scientific Session was opened by **President Shelton Viney** at 7:30 a.m. Nine scientific papers were presented in the morning session, with five coming from new members.

New members were presented to the membership just prior to Saturday morning's recess by Second Vice-President, **Richard C. Frazee**. Receiving certificates and welcomed into the Society were:

**David Callender** of Galveston  
**Brittany DeBerry** of San Antonio  
**Brian Dunkin** of Houston  
**Lillian Liao** of San Antonio  
**Ricardo Martinez** of Edinburg  
**Patrick Nguyen** of San Antonio

**Kent Van Sickle** of San Antonio  
**Russell Woodard** of San Antonio

**Jayson Aydelotte** of Austin and **Jill Stephenson** of Dallas were not able to attend and will receive their certificates at the upcoming meeting in Galveston.

The member-guest luncheon was held at noon with 163 members and guests in attendance. Our own TSS member, **Aureliano Urrutia**, delivered a talk entitled “The Other Dr. Urrutia” - a fascinating tale about Dr. Urrutia’s grandfather and the impact he made on medicine and surgery in Texas.

At 1:00 p.m. the Saturday afternoon Scientific Session convened with **First Vice-President, Robert W. Feldtman** presiding. Our guest speaker **Dr. Demetrios Demetriades**, delivered an informative talk entitled “Selective Nonoperative Management of Penetrating Abdominal Injuries: How far can we go?” This provocative and stimulating presentation generated a significant amount of positive discussion. The meeting reconvened in the afternoon and presentations from eight members were given before the scientific session adjourned.

Saturday evening cocktails and dinner were held at the hotel, with **341** members and guests in attendance! **Richard Vigness**, local arrangements chair, presided over trophy presentations to the sporting event champions.

**President Shelton Viney** hosted a memorable evening highlighted by guest speaker, **Dr. Benjamin Carson**, world renowned surgeon and author, who delivered a stimulating and thought provoking presentation entitled, “America the Beautiful: Rediscovering What Made This Nation Great.” In his presentation he highlighted his personal and inspirational lifetime journey. He emphasized the loving support of his mother who instilled the values of hard work and education as a path to success. Dr. Carson signed copies of his book after his presentation.

**The James E. Thompson award** for best paper by a new member was awarded to **Lillian Liao** from San Antonio for her presentation, “**Invasive Fungal Soft Tissue Infections – Small Organism, Giant Problem.**” The judges for the James E. Thompson award had a difficult time in choosing the best paper by a new member as all were excellent!

The Presidential Award for Discussion was awarded to **Kenneth Mattox** of Houston.

Members and guests joined **President Shelton Viney** after dinner and the book signing for coffee, dessert and liquors.

The Ethics Breakfast was held at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning. **Karin Zaner**, a local attorney and public speaker in Fort Worth, addressed the 79 attendees with an informative and timely talk entitled “Social Media – A Physician’s Guide to Avoiding Pitfalls.”

The **next meeting** of the Society – **OUR CENTENNIAL MEETING** - will be held in **Galveston, April 10-12, 2014**, at the **Moody Gardens Hotel**. Local Arrangements Chair, **Kristene Gugliuzza**, and **President Hazim Safi** are planning a great meeting for members and their families. Please mark your calendars!

**Please review your demographic information and forward any changes to the Secretary. If you would like to update your photo please forward a JPEG via email to [texassurgicalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:texassurgicalsociety@gmail.com) .**

**And again, please strongly consider nominating great young surgeons** in your local area for membership in the Texas Surgical Society.

Please email [texassurgicalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:texassurgicalsociety@gmail.com) or [stewatr@uthscsa.edu](mailto:stewatr@uthscsa.edu) for any suggested corrections or edits to the newsletter/minutes.

**A few photos from the meeting** taken by the Secretary are on the next two pages. These and all other full sized photos may be downloaded at the following link:

<http://rmstewartphotography.smugmug.com/Events/2014-Fall-TSS-Fort-Worth/n-t2FJP/>

Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Stewart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ronald M. Stewart, MD  
Secretary







