



NEWSLETTER

and Society Minutes

TEXAS SURGICAL SOCIETY

APRIL 2017



The 200th meeting of the Texas Surgical Society was held April 7-9 in Midland, Texas at DoubleTree by Hilton under the direction of Local Arrangements Chair **Michael Dragun** and his wife **Gire Dragun**. Their coordinated efforts generated a delightful experience for attendees. One hundred and two members, 5 Raleigh Ross Scholars, 1 member candidate and 30 guests registered for and attended the Scientific Sessions. Sixty spouses attended social activities, for a grand total of 205 participants at this meeting.

On Friday morning **John Staub** directed the golf tournament at the *Midland Country Club* for eleven golfers. He himself received the Brindley Cup – Low Gross award! The Arlington Cup for Low Net was presented to **Bill Turney** of Waco.

Tennis under the direction of **Chuck Fraser** was held at the *Racquet Club of Midland*. Guest **Valerie Bauer** of Odessa won the Waco Cup.

David Young organized the sporting clay shooting event at *WishBone Ranch*. There were a total of ten shooters who participated. **John Bawduniak** of Waco was the winner of the Fort Worth Shooting Trophy.

Early Saturday morning **Terry Staub** escorted five joggers to his home to begin the course. **Patrick Nguyen** from San Antonio was awarded the The San Antonio Cup for the fastest time.

The first Scientific Session was begun by our recent President, **Lee Bloemendal**, passing the gavel to our 101st **President Ross B. Reagan** at 1:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon. Dr. Reagan welcomed attendees and introduced the LAC,

Michael Dragun, who reviewed the meetings social event itinerary with attendees.

The first Scientific Session proceeded well, with 4 member presentations.

President Ross Reagan then presented the 2017 Spring Raleigh Ross Scholars to all in attendance. Each recipient was introduced by their Department Chair or Residency Program Director. Richard Lu from UTMB Galveston was unable to attend and will be presented at the Fall Meeting in San Antonio. Andrew Miller from Dell UT Medical School Austin attended and was presented at this meeting as he was not able to attend the Fall 2016 meeting in Dallas. The scholars are guests of the Society and receive a personalized plaque noting their accomplishments as well as a monetary award. Recognized were:

Milad Mohammadi

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center –
Lubbock

John Admire

UT Health Science Center – San Antonio

Matt Tillman

Texas A&M UHSC – Temple

Richard Lu

University of Texas Medical Branch - Galveston

Yuichi Ishida

Texas Tech University HSC El Paso

Andrew Miller

Dell UT Medical School Austin

President Ross B. Reagan introduced the honored guest scientific speaker, **Lenworth Mayhew**

Jacobs, M.D., Vice President, Academic Affairs and Director of Trauma Institute, Hartford Hospital. Dr. Jacobs delivered an educational talk entitled “The Evolving Role of Simulation in Operative Surgical Education” on Friday afternoon and again on Saturday afternoon when he presented “Strategies to Increase Survival in Active Shooter and Intentional Mass Casualty Events”.

The Executive Session began at 4:25 p.m. with **President Ross B. Reagan** presiding. Minutes of the previous meeting in Dallas were unanimously approved.

Richard Frazee presented the Treasurer’s report. Financial compilations from the accountant for the six-month period ending 12/31/2016 were presented. The Society remains in a strong financial position. Total assets of the Society were \$837,429, which represented balances in the Texas Surgical Society Educational Fund of \$92,934.06; the Texas Surgical Society Educational Endowment of \$454,425.69 in the Vanguard Account and \$107,705.72 in Wells Fargo, as well as \$182,363 in the operating accounts. There were added expenses for the audit compared to prior years, which were covered through operating expenses.

The Raleigh Ross Trust had assets of \$3,003,997 in the Vanguard Wellington Account. As a result of this, awards to the 11 recognized programs will be \$9900 for 2017.

The IRS form 990 for TSS, prepared by Henry & Peters accounting firm for tax year 2016 was reviewed by the Council, discussed and approved.

The Investment Policy Statement (IPS), initially prepared in 2016 to comply with the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) was reviewed. No changes were deemed necessary at this time.

The spending assumptions for the Society for the next year were reviewed as required by the IPS.

No significant changes in spending are anticipated.

The portfolio performance was reviewed. Total return of investment funds (Vanguard Wellington Fund, Admiral Shares) for the previous calendar year was 11.09 %. For the same period, the S&P 500 had a return of 9.84% and Barclays Intermediate Term Corporate/Government Bond Index showed a return of 2.43%. A continuation of the present investments was recommended unanimously by the Council.

President **Reagan** addressed the membership and read the amendments to the constitution regarding oversight of the Treasurer’s duties in Article V Section 5:

- Delete “and countersigned by the President and Secretary”
- Delete “shall be bonded in a proper amount with the expense of such bonding being borne by the society”
- Oversight of the Treasurer will take place by a financial monitoring committee to be assigned by the President, and/or an accounting firm to be approved by the council (currently Henry and Peters. The financial monitoring committee or accounting firm will promptly report any concerns regarding financial, accounting, or regulatory irregularity to the President and the Secretary in writing with a monthly report. If needed, the matter of concern will be addressed by the Council, and corrective action taken as needed. Ross Reagan moved to approve adding to the current financial policy: “An audit committee of the Society will consist of the immediate past 2 treasurers of the society; if one or both are unable to serve, they will be replaced by an appointee of the president of the society”.

The Secretary, **Shannon Smith**, gave the report of the Council. A current meeting overview was given, including an explanation of the fact that this is the Society’s 200th meeting, with our 101st

President; commemorative cups have been made for gifting and sales to registrants and an interesting historical essay on this “Numbering Chaos” has been written by **Mac Sykes** and will be dispersed to registrants at this meeting in the form of a brochure.

Chris Sherman and his wife Heather, our A-V specialists are providing, at **Shannon Smith’s** request, an amplifier for personal use hearing amplification, to be tested by member **John Smith** at this meeting. If it succeeds, the society will try to provide a number of the amplifiers for loan to members with hearing disability during meetings.

Online payment, online abstract submission, CME verification, verification of attendance, self-assessment CME, online updating of the data base elements by members or the Secretary have all been completed by **Ronnie Stewart** and **Mac Sykes** and these functions seem to be working very well. The Council reaffirmed its goal to try to maintain an all-electronic communication strategy for the semi-annual meetings.

A “**Stop the Bleed**” booth will again be stationed at the meeting lobby/registration area as a part of the national educational campaign which originated from the Hartford Consensus based on the study and efforts by our Scientific Guest Speaker for this meeting, Lenworth Jacobs, after the tragic Sandy Hook School mass casualties. TSS members **Patrick Walker** and **Ronnie Stewart** are leading this campaign in Texas.

The Texas Surgical Quality Collaborative (TSQC), a joint effort by the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists and the American College of Surgeons) meeting arranged to immediately precede the TSS meeting onsite was discussed; invitation to its members to attend the TSS scientific sessions was debated. Ronnie Stewart recommended considering this; all of these attendees are in Texas and the surgeon members are ripe for TSS membership. No conclusions were drawn.

TMA’s “Cutting Edge: A History of Surgery”, the travelling exhibit originally guided by Mac Sykes and honoring the Centennial of the Texas Surgical Society in 2015, will continue to follow and be on display at the TSS meetings.

Dr. Smith reviewed the Report of the Archivist and Archivist Emeritus given by **Mac Sykes during the council meeting**. He pointed out that the TSS is the only remaining singular surgical society that is not a part of ACS! In the upcoming book, every TSS meeting and event will be chronicled. Dr. Sykes highlighted two singularities particularly to the TSS: membership is by invitation only and papers are given by members only. Dr Sykes also presented new member by year historical graphs: membership is increasing and apparently has not followed generational deemphasis on “joining”. Tee number if presentations by meeting is growing steadily. The consumer price index is historically in line with our dues. Membership is actually increasing but a decrease in a number of active members is a concern: we need to petition all members to seek new, active, vital members for the TSS.

Dr. Smith continued: we have had recommendations for reminders on our website with strategies to help initiate and track new members. Reminder: candidates must be out of medical school for 9 years minimum to be eligible for membership.

Dr. Smith clarified with elevation to senior fellowships due continued to be paid until age 72 or until retired, but absences are excused.

The following members were elevated to senior status:

Michael Oszczakiewicz of Beaumont
Edward Sako of San Antonio
Charles Iliya of Dallas
Drue Ware of Round Rock
Joseph Minei of Dallas

Vote sheet candidates for TSS membership were reviewed.

The following candidate will be advanced to the Fall ballot:

Jose Almeda of Edinburg.

The following candidates will be advanced to second consideration:

John Birbari of Fort Worth,
Sam Buchanan of Fort Worth,
Ramon Cestero of San Antonio,
Robert Esterl of San Antonio,
Charles Jordan of College Station,
Jonathan Lundy of Fort Sam Houston,
Joseph Mills of Houston,
Alberto Pena of Edinburg,
Charles Richart of Edinburg,
Roger Smith of Round Rock,
David Sugarbaker of Houston.

The following candidates are recommended for membership from second consideration:

Mark Davies of San Antonio
Mark Muir of San Antonio

Memorial tributes were read for:



Ernest Poulos
1926-2016



Denton A. Cooley
1920-2016



Ted Huang
1937-2016

Ernest Poulos of Dallas
(By Jim Conyers)

Denton Cooley of Houston
(By Chuck Fraser)

Ted Huang of Galveston
(By Kris Gugliuzza)

The Friday evening cocktail buffet at the **Permian Basin Petroleum Museum** was attended by **112 members and guests**. Members and guests enjoyed an open bar, and dinner and were able to tour the delightful museum.

At 6:30 a.m. Saturday morning President **Ross B. Reagan** and President-Elect **Ronnie Stewart**, along with Society officers and council members presided over the New Members' Breakfast in the Civics Room of the DoubleTree by Hilton. They welcomed four new members, Drs. Mimari, Radhaksrishnan, Stewart and Todd. They were presented with copies of books recording the history of the Society and shared glimpses of Society tradition. Dr. Kroeker of Austin was unable to attend this meeting.

The Saturday spouse activity was attended by twenty four guests. **Reagan Viney** organized and escorted this fun outing. Spouses and children were transported to the Museum of the Southwest where they were able to see Kentucky Derby trophies along with the rose blanket worn by Alysheba in 1987. After they enjoyed lunch at exclusive Racquet Club, followed by a tour of Susie's South 40 Candy Factory.

The Saturday morning Scientific Session was opened by **President Ross B. Reagan** at 8:00 a.m. New member **Donald Stewart** presented an outstanding paper. Nine other scientific papers were presented followed by the presentation of new members.

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

Damon A. Mimari of San Antonio
Ravi S. Radhakrishnan of Galveston
Donald A. Stewart of Waco
Samual R. Todd of Houston

Teresa Kroeker of Austin was not present.

The presentation of new members was followed by the member guest luncheon held in Ballroom D/E. **Jim Henry from Midland spoke on “Tales From the Oil Patch”**. Fifty-seven members and guests were entertained by his interesting discussion. **Michael Dragun**, local arrangements chair, presided over trophy presentations to the sporting event champions.

At 1:15 p.m. the Saturday afternoon Scientific Session convened with **First Vice-President George E. Mimari** presiding. Our guest speaker **Dr. Lenworth Jacobs** delivered his second presentation. The meeting reconvened in the afternoon and presentations from seven members were presented.

Saturday evening cocktails and the Presidential Banquet were held at the Midland Country Club, with 163 members and guests in attendance.

President Ross B. Reagan hosted a memorable evening highlighted by guest speaker **M. Ray Perryman** who delivered an enlightening presentation about “An Economic Perspective on Changes Affecting Healthcare and Healthcare Providers.”

The James E. Thompson award for best paper by a new member was awarded to **Donald Stewart** of Waco for his presentation, “**From Ancient Egypt to Modern Day Texas: How Bladder Stone Disease Affected Medicine, Surgery, and History.**”

The Presidential Award for Discussion was once again awarded to **Kamal Khalil**.

Members and guests joined **President Ross B. Reagan** after dinner for cocktails and socializing.

The Ethics Breakfast was held at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning in Ballroom D of the hotel. **The Reverend W.L. “Chip” Prehn** addressed the 28 attendees regarding very pertinent “*Post-Postmodern Shifts in Our Thinking.*”

The **next meeting** of the Society will be held in **San Antonio, October 6-8, 2017**, at **La Cantera Resort and Spa**. Local Arrangements Chair, Patrick Nguyen is planning a delightful weekend for members and their families. Mark your calendars now!

Please strongly consider nominating ethical and gifted young surgeons in your local area for membership in the Texas Surgical Society!

Email texasurgicalsociety@gmail.com for any suggested corrections or edits to the newsletter/minutes.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Smith, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Secretary