The 32nd Annual Meeting in Naples, Florida was a success in all areas. The Scientific Program was superb, organized by another skilled effort from our Program Committee chaired by William Marston. Likewise the Postgraduate Course arranged by Scott Stevens on the topic of venous disease was excellent. The amenities at the Ritz Carlton provided our membership the highest degree of luxury and services available.

While the scientific program continues to produce exceedingly high quality papers, the mock oral exams have emerged as a cornerstone attraction for our vascular trainees. Recorder Tom Huber’s efforts are making the mock orals an important assessment for trainees throughout our region, assisting both trainees as well as program directors in any perceived fellow deficiencies. The environment of these exams provides regional fellows familiarization with the nature of oral board examination and the SAVS. Expanding participation by fellows can only enrich this experience in future years.

Next year’s Annual Meeting at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort will be held January 14-17. Efforts are already underway to make this another valued gathering in terms of the scientific program, postgraduate course, mock oral exams, and the social events. Please set aside time now to attend this meeting and enjoy the beauty of winter in the Arizona desert.

I look forward to seeing you in Tucson.

Thomas C. Naslund, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer Taylor submitted the following report of the Executive Council meeting held on January 16, 2008:

April Conti, Meeting Coordinator, presented a written and oral report. Once again the 2008 meeting entertained abstracts through electronic submission and received 136 abstracts by the September 7th deadline. The Program Committee met in Atlanta, Georgia on October 1, 2007 and selected the program.

Preregistration for this meeting as of January 3, 2008 was as follows: 135 members, 14 Candidate members, 15 guest physicians, 22 non-member presenting authors, 13 residents, 4 allied health, and 62 spouse/guest for a total of 265 pre-registrants.

We have received corporate pledges of $106,900. While this is slightly below budget, we have been able to exceed budget on exhibit registration.


Current membership stands at 153 active members and 73 candidate members, with 241 senior members (99 of whom are retired members) and 23 honorary members.

Four members have passed away in 2007: Robert J. Schramel, New Orleans, Paul R. Liebman, West Palm Beach, George Johnson, Chapel Hill, William Fry, Ann Arbor and Garland Purdue, Atlanta.

As of December 31, 2007, assets in the treasury included: $368,192.10 in a money market checking account, $158,786.96 in an account and $2,980.84 in an investment account. Total financial assets of the Association were $529,959.90, which compares unfavorably to $368,192.10 in a money market checking account, $158,786.96 in an account and $2,980.84 in an investment account. Total financial assets of the Association were $529,959.90, which compares unfavorably to the $554,326.43 in January 2007.

Local Arrangements Committee
Chair Benjamin reviewed the social and sporting events for this year’s meeting which includes the return of sporting clays.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee
Chairman Robert B. Smith, III reported that after conferring with Secretary-Treasurer Taylor, it became apparent that a change in the Bylaws was necessary to accommodate the evolving paradigm in vascular training as it pertains to Candidate Membership. He proposed a change to Article I, Section 2 and Article I, Section 5d. The following changes are recommended:

Article I, Section 2, paragraph 2, last sentence currently reads: Candidate membership shall have a maximum term of 5 years.

The proposed change (Article I, Section 2, paragraph 2) reads: Candidate membership shall have a maximum term of 5 years following completion of training.

Article I, Section 5d, last sentence currently reads: Candidate membership shall have a maximum term of 5 years following completion of training.

Both were unanimously approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Archivist Dan Rush informed the group that this year the Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to G. Melville Williams, M.D. of Baltimore by Past President and Archives Committee Chairman David Rosenthal at the Opening Session.

As was determined by the reorganization last year, Archivist Rush will serve as Archivist until 2009. He will be succeeded by Communications Committee Chair Stuart Myers. At that time a new Communications Committee Chair will be named. A mandatory trip to the Atlanta Historical Society will be made by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor, Communications Committee Chair Myers and himself in the spring to make an assessment of our current archives. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor reported that the Association donated $1000 to the Atlanta Historical Society, as is customary.

Budget and Finance Committee
Chair Marc Passman reported that all contracts and budgets, supplied by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor, were reviewed and the financial health of the Association is satisfactory. He recommended no increase in dues at this time.

Representative to the Board of Directors of the SVS
John Eidt reported on the SVS Board of Directors Meetings held in October, 2007.

The Journal of Vascular Surgery is accepting applications for Editor-in-Chief and Senior Editor at this time. The current Editors, Cronenwett and Seeger, are scheduled to complete their terms of service in January 2009.

At the June 2008 meeting, the Board voted to terminate further financial support for the American Board of Vascular Surgery. In order to fulfill a perceived commitment to pursue independence for vascular surgery, the SVS Board appointed an ad hoc committee to develop/implement a strategy for independence that could be supported by the SVS. The committee, called the Vascular Specialty Action Committee, is chaired by Jack Cronenwett and includes Pat Clagett, WO Brown, Elliot Chaikof, Clem Darling, Julie Freischlag, Peter Lawrence, Linda Reilly, and Greg Sicard. The specific plans of the committee have not been determined at this time but will be forthcoming shortly. It is believed that the two most significant concepts underlying the continued movement toward vascular independence are 1) control of training and certification and 2) ownership of identity. It is believed that both of these goals may be achieved within the current organizational structures.

Robert Zwolak reported that the publication of the Rutherford Textbook of Vascular Surgery will be assumed by the SVS.

Greg Sicard reported that the Lifeline Registry and the Carotid registry now hold over five thousand patients.

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the SVS will be held in San Diego.

A Vascular self-assessment program similar to SESAP is being developed under the direction of Kim Hodgson. It is expected to be available in the spring of 2008. In addition, the Vascular In-service training exam (V-Site) is expected to be administered to all vascular fellows in the spring 2008.

(continued on next page)
The SVS is making a serious commitment to increase the participation of vascular surgeons in clinical trials. Toward this end, a Clinical Trials Research conference will be held in conjunction with the SCVS meeting in Las Vegas.

There is considerable interest on the part of the SVS in continuing the process of educating referring physicians and the general public about the activities of vascular surgeons. The membership of the SAVS is reminded that the SVS has developed a number of “branding tools” that can be used to market individual vascular practices.

Dr. Eidt solicited the help of the SAVS Council to answer a question: How should the SVS focus its attention over the next 10 years? Answers included increased efforts toward public branding, an increased focus on improved outcomes assessment, and the development of a national case registry.

Communications Committee
Chairman Stuart I. Myers proclaimed that the service quality provided by PR/RI for the biannual Newsletter, a concern expressed at the June meeting of the Executive Council, to be much improved.

Resources Development Committee
Chair Samuel Money reported that the Association should expect more difficulty in obtaining corporate support over the next several years. This is of concern since a large portion of the Annual Meeting’s revenue is derived from corporate support.

Government Relations Committee
Chair and Past President Hugh Trout reiterated that the finances of medicine in Washington remain a concern. While proposed Medicare cuts have again been thwarted, current reimbursement is failing to keep up with the cost-of-living. Medicine is a failing industry.

New Business
In response to the changing needs of the Association, President Hansen sought approval from the Council for the following:

The Association will dissolve the Research and Resource Committee, since its role as originally proposed is no longer applicable. The Founder’s Award, currently selected by this committee, will be chosen in the future by the Program Committee.

President Hansen proposed the development of the Continuing Medical Education Committee. The function of this committee will be to manage the Post Graduate Course. He proposed that the committee be comprised of a Chairman (who will serve recurrent one-year terms up to a maximum of three years) and the Secretary-Treasurer. Chip Sternbergh of New Orleans, Louisiana has agreed to serve as Chairman of this committee.

President Hansen named three replacements for the Resource Development Committee, a committee currently comprised only of Chairman Sam Money. Proposed replacements included Eugene Langan, Mark Farber, and Martin Back. President Hansen’s vision is for this committee to not only help with corporate resource development but to also address ethical business compliance issues with our corporate partners as they arise.

A motion to approve President Hansen’s proposals was called and the proposals were approved unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Taylor sought guidance in the development of a policy regarding corporate behavior as it applies to contributions/grants given to the Association. He reported a general trend by industry away from contributing to the Association’s Unrestricted/Grant Sponsorship System (Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze) and more to special private corporate events that sometimes compete with the Association’s planned, legitimately sponsored social activity. President Hansen appointed an ad hoc group consisting of the newly appointed Resource Development Committee, President-Elect Naslund and Secretary-Treasurer Taylor to develop a policy that would be considered at the June meeting of the Executive Council.

Secretary-Treasurer Taylor sought from the Council, and received clarification on the mission of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery as it pertains to advocacy. The council unanimously agreed that the Association is not an advocacy organization and therefore, will not, as a general rule, endorse or devote resources to solicitations from other groups, organizations or causes regardless of merit except under extraordinary circumstances.

Membership Committee
Chair Farber reported that the Membership Committee met on a conference call and reviewed 20 applications for Active Membership and 21 applications for Candidate Membership. All applications were recommended to the Executive Council for approval.

Program Committee Report
Chair Marston reported that the Program Committee met in Atlanta, Georgia on October 1, 2007 to plan the program and review submitted abstracts. This year’s program was selected from 145 abstracts, which included 99 free papers and 37 case reports. Forty-eight percent of the abstracts were graded as good or better. Approximately 30% of the papers were selected for the program and included 23 free papers, 12 case reports, four basic science papers and a special session on thoracic endografts. This year’s program featured two case report sessions, and a basic science session in addition to the special session.

Recorder’s Report
Recorder Huber reported that from the 2007 Annual Meeting, 32 out of a possible 37 manuscripts were submitted to the Journal of Vascular Surgery. As of January 15, 2008, 88% have been accepted (continued on page 7)
Highlights of the 32nd Annual Meeting
January 16-19, 2008
The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Florida

Mock Oral Board Examinees

Presenting **THE S. TIMOTHY STRING AWARD** was Kimberley J. Hansen, M.D. (left) to Scott P. Berceli, M.D. Gainesville, Florida for his work, *Surgical and Endovascular Revision with Endovascular Vein Bypass Grafts: Analysis of Midterm Outcomes from a Multicenter Prospective Trial*

Kimberley J. Hansen, M.D. (left) and Mitchell H. Goldman, M.D.

**SPORTING EVENT WINNERS**

**5k RUN**
**1st Place**
Female: Britt Tonnessen
Male: Rick Endean

**TENNIS TOURNAMENT**
**1st Place**
Female: Kathy Parent
Male: Atef Salam

**SPORTING CLAYS**
**1st Place:** Daniel Fisher

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**
**1st Place Foursome:** Score of 61
David Rosenthal
Mark Rheudasil
Stan Snyder
Frank Arko

Closest to the Pin: Chris Lecroy
Longest Drive: Bill Marston

**FOUNDERS’ AWARD PAPER**
Dorian J. deFreitas
East Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina
Cost per Day of Patency:
Understanding the Impact of Patency and Reintervention in a Sustainable Model of Healthcare

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to G. Melville Williams, M.D. (right) by David Rosenthal, M.D.
2008 NEW MEMBERS

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Clinton K. Atkinson, M.D.  
Ali Azizzadeh, M.D.  
James H. Black, M.D.  
Phillip M. Brown, M.D.  
W. Darrin Clouse, M.D.  
Sheila M. Coogan, M.D.  
Jeffery B. Dattilo, M.D.  
William P. English, M.D.  
Brian G. Gerndt, M.D.  
Brad R. Grimsley, M.D.  
Michael R. Lepore, M.D.  
Peter H. Lin, M.D.  
Huey B. McDaniel, M.D.  
Richard F. Neville, M.D.  
Jean M. Panneton, M.D.  
Glen S. Roseborough, M.D.  
Luis A. Sanchez, M.D.  
Todd P. Smith, M.D.  
Charles A. West, M.D.  
Eleftherios Xenos, M.D.

Pinehurst, North Carolina  
Houston, Texas  
Baltimore, Maryland  
Wilmington, North Carolina  
Lackland AFB, Texas  
Houston, Texas  
Nashville, Tennessee  
San Antonio, Texas  
Cookeville, Tennessee  
Dallas, Texas  
Sarasota, Florida  
Houston, Texas  
Jackson, Mississippi  
Washington, DC  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Baltimore, Maryland  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Tyler, Texas  
Shreveport, Louisiana  
Lexington, Kentucky

CANDIDATE MEMBERSHIP

Michael F. Amendola, M.D.  
Michael P. Brown, D.O.  
Michael S. Cicchillo, M.D.  
Ross P. Davis, M.D.  
Matthew S. George, M.D.  
Michael C. Hartley, M.D.  
Marion R. Hochstetler, M.D.  
Scott M. Hovis, M.D.  
Chance L. Irwin, M.D.  
Jason K. Kim, M.D.  
Daniel J. Martin, M.D.  
John W. Mix, M.D.  
Phillip S. Moore, M.D.  
Robert E. Noll, M.D.  
Tzvi Nussbaum, M.D.  
Damon S. Pierce, M.D.  
Brendon M. Quinn, M.D.  
Taylor A. Smith, M.D.  
Michael C. Stoner, M.D.  
Chad R. Swan, M.D.  
Bryan W. Tillman, M.D.

Richmond, Virginia  
Gainesville, Florida  
Greenville, South Carolina  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
Anderson, South Carolina  
Greenville, South Carolina  
Greenville, South Carolina  
Gastonia, North Carolina  
Nashville, Tennessee  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Gainesville, Florida  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Dallas, Texas  
Greenville, South Carolina  
Dallas, Texas  
Greenville, North Carolina  
Nashville, Tennessee  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Anthony J. Atala, M.D.

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Deadline for new member application and supporting information is October 1, 2008. Application forms must be requested from the Secretary-Treasurer by the sponsoring member. Please see Page 6 - From the Secretary-Treasurer for additional details on SAVS Membership.
FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Spence M. Taylor, M.D.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING

The 33rd Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 14-17, 2009 at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, Arizona. Details regarding the meeting and hotel registration information will be mailed in the Fall. We encourage you to make your airline reservations early in order to secure the best possible fares and itinerary to this beautiful resort.

Abstracts

All abstract submission will be on-line at http://savs.vascularweb.org. For additional information please contact the Association’s Administrative Office, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-8330 / Fax: (978) 524-0498. Submission deadline for abstracts for the 2009 Annual Meeting is Friday, September 5, 2008.

Case Reports Accepted for Panel Presentation at the 2009 Annual Meeting

Case Reports will be solicited for panel presentation during the 33rd Annual Meeting. In addition to an abstract, a maximum of four images may be submitted for the Program Committee to review. If selected for presentation, a manuscript is optional and will not be required.

S. Timothy String President’s Award

The S. Timothy String President’s Award will recognize the best overall paper presented during the 2009 Annual Meeting. The award consists of $5000 and will be presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting in the Bahamas.

Founders’ Award

The Founders’ Award is for original clinical or basic science papers presented by a trainee (Residents, Fellows or Students). This award, which consists of $5000, will be presented at the 33rd Annual Meeting in Arizona. Eligibility is extended to programs located in states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

Postgraduate Course on a Current Vascular Topic

A postgraduate course will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2009 and will feature a current vascular topic to be decided. Registration will be limited. Please contact the SAVS office at (978) 927-8330 or savs@prri.com for further details.

Mock Oral Board Examinations

Mock oral board examinations will be offered to individuals preparing for the Vascular Surgery Certifying Examination. Examinees should reside in the states comprising the SAVS region. Interested individuals should contact Dr. Thomas Huber at (352) 273-5515 or thomas.huber@surgery.ufl.edu.

Guests

Members who wish to invite non-member physicians as their guests should contact the office of Spence M. Taylor, MD, Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center, Academic Department of Surgery, 701 Grove Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29605, (864) 455-5795 / staylor2@ghs.org. Invited guests will receive a letter of invitation and the necessary reservation forms, as well as meeting information.

Active, Candidate, and Corresponding Memberships

Deadline for new member application and supporting information is October 1, 2008. Application forms must be requested from the Secretary-Treasurer by the sponsoring member.

Qualifications for Active Membership: 1. The active membership consists of those surgeons recommended by the Executive Council from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC; 2. Applicants must be certified by the American Board of Surgery and/or the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, with Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons; 3. Applicants must document at least fifty (50) major peripheral vascular reconstructive procedures in each of the three years preceding application, exclusive of residency and fellowship training; 4) The application must be accompanied by letters of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association. One of these members must be from the Applicant’s home state.

Qualifications for Candidate Membership: 1. The candidate membership consists of Fellows in approved Vascular Surgery training programs, General Surgery residents accepted into approved Vascular Surgery training programs, or Vascular Surgeons who do not yet meet the requirements for active membership within the region of the SAVS; 2. A letter of sponsorship is required from either the applicant’s Program Director or a member in good standing of the Association from the applicant’s home state; 3. Candidate membership has a maximum term of five years following completion of training.

Qualifications for Corresponding Membership: 1. Corresponding membership consists of those surgeons residing outside the United States recommended by the Executive Council. 2. Applicants must meet the requirements for Active Membership in Article I, Section 5(a) of the bylaws. 3. Certification in Vascular Surgery from the American Board of Surgery or its equivalent is highly desirable. 4. The application must be accompanied by letter of sponsorship (1) and endorsement (2) by three members in good standing of the Association.

All application materials should then be returned to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Spence M. Taylor, MD, Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center, Academic Department of Surgery, 701 Grove Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29605.
for publication and 3% (one manuscript) was still under review. Both the 2007 Founders’ Award Paper and the S. Timothy String Presidential Award paper were accepted for publication.

Eighteen fellows and young vascular surgeons participated in the Mock Oral Board examination at this Annual Meeting. The examination, administered by 18 member examiners, resulted in 13/18 (72.2%) participants passing the examination. Recorder Huber will disseminate letters to the participants and to the program directors with results of the examination. He expressed thanks to the 18 examiners for their time and dedication. Again this year, W. L. Gore and Associates provided a grant to the Association of $1000 for each vascular fellow who participated. These grants will be disseminated back to the home programs to help offset the cost of travel and accommodations.

The state of the web site was good and is actively being managed by PR/RI and the SVS through its affiliation with VascularWeb.

Resource and Research Committee
Chair Scott Stevens reported that our annual Post Graduate Course, devoted to endovascular venous disease, was a success with approximately 50 participants. This will be Chairman Stevens last postgraduate course. President Hansen commended Chairman Stevens for his outstanding service to the Association. Next year’s Post Graduate Course topic will be decided at the June meeting of the Executive Council.

Audit Committee
The audit committee, named at the beginning of the Annual Meeting by President Hansen, consisted of Mark A. Patterson of Birmingham, Alabama and Bradley R. Thomason of Winston Salem, North Carolina. Committee Chairman Patterson reported that the committee had met with Secretary-Treasurer Taylor to review the Association’s finances. The committee concurred with the audit report from Jennings Cook & Co., CPAs, PA of Greenville, South Carolina, that the financial status of the Association is healthy, with all matters of finance having been transacted in good-faith and in an ethical manner.

Recognition of President Hansen
Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee Mitchell H. Goldman recognized President Hansen’s contributions to the SAVS. He presented President Hansen with a plaque and mounted symbolic gavel of the Association. A captain’s chair and engraved Revere bowl was mailed directly to Dr. Hansen’s office to commemorate his presidency.

Nominating Committee Report
Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee Mitchell H. Goldman provided the report of the Nominating Committee. This committee consisted of Past Presidents Goldman, Keagy and Valentine. The following slate of officers was presented for 2007:

President: Thomas C. Naslund of Nashville
President-elect: Bruce A. Perler of Baltimore
Secretary-Treasurer: Spence M. Taylor of Greenville
Recorder: Thomas S. Huber of Gainesville
Counselor-at-Large (2009): Alan B. Lumsden of Houston
Counselor-at-Large (2011): Michael B. Freeman of Knoxville
Representative to the SVS Executive Council: John F. Eidt of Little Rock

President Hansen asked for additional nominations from the floor and there were none. A motion was made for approval and the slate was unanimously approved by the membership. President Hansen and Past President Goldman then installed Thomas C. Naslund as the 32nd President of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery and passed him the Matas and Nashville gavels. President-elect Naslund graciously accepted his role as President and expressed his thanks for the honor of serving. He recognized the contributions of President Hansen.
33rd Annual Meeting

January 14-17, 2009
Loews Ventana Canyon Resort
Tucson, Arizona

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR VASCULAR SURGERY

Call for Abstracts

All submissions must be received by Friday, September 5, 2008.

Southern Association for Vascular Surgery
900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915