



# Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

# NEWSLETTER

<http://savs.vascularweb.org>

Spring 2010

## 2010 - 2011 OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Daniel S. Rush, M.D.  
*Johnson City, Tennessee*

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

John F. Eidt, M.D.  
*Little Rock, Arkansas*

### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Spence M. Taylor, M.D.  
*Greenville, South Carolina*

### RECORDER

Thomas S. Huber, M.D.  
*Gainesville, Florida*

### COUNCILORS-AT-LARGE

Michael B. Freeman, M.D.  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*  
William A. Marston, M.D.  
*Chapel Hill, North Carolina*  
J. Gregory Modrall, M.D.  
*Dallas, Texas*

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Kimberley J. Hansen, M.D.  
*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*  
Thomas C. Naslund, M.D.  
*Nashville, Tennessee*  
Bruce A. Perler, M.D.  
*Baltimore, Maryland*

### REPRESENTATIVE TO SVS

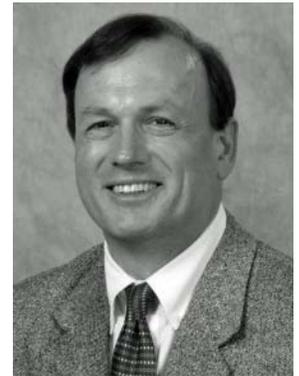
Scott L. Stevens, M.D.  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U  
Beverly, MA 01915  
(978) 927-8330  
(978) 524-8890 FAX  
[savs@pri.com](mailto:savs@pri.com) / E-MAIL

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By many measures, the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas under the leadership of President Bruce Perler met all of our expectations and was by far one of the best and most enjoyable meetings ever. Not only did attendance by members of the Association exceed all past records, but we also enjoyed the largest number of accompanying spouses and children. It is refreshing to see that a top quality scientific and professional program can also be a memorable family affair. Considering the depressed economy, resurgent winter weather, and the health care reform stalemate which was then still looming in Congress, these benchmarks speak well for the vitality of our association and the support of its members. It just goes to show that an excellent educational opportunity in a proper venue combined with good friends and colleagues can prevail over adversity. Again this year the Mock Oral examinations and the Postgraduate Program attracted strong



Daniel S. Rush, M.D.

*(continued on page 7)*

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING



Additional photo highlights of the 2010 Annual Meeting appear inside.

## UPCOMING SAVS ANNUAL MEETINGS

**2011**  
**January 19-22**  
Ritz-Carlton  
Naples, Florida

**2012**  
**January 18-21**  
Hyatt Regency at  
Gainey Ranch  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**2013**  
**January 23-26**  
Atlantis  
Paradise Island,  
Bahamas

# Southern Association for Vascular Surgery

Highlights of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting / January 23, 2010 / Paradise Island, Bahamas

The Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 10:50 a.m. at Atlantis Resort with President-Elect Daniel S. Rush presiding. The minutes from the 2009 Annual Business Meeting at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort and Spa, Tucson, Arizona were approved unanimously without revision as written in the Spring newsletter.

As directed in Article III, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws, Secretary-Treasurer Taylor submitted the following report of the Executive Council meeting held on January 20, 2010 to the membership:

The Executive Council of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 3:03 p.m., with President Bruce A. Perler presiding. The minutes from the Executive Council Meeting of June 11, 2009 Hyatt Regency Denver, Denver, Colorado were approved.

## PR/RI Report

April Conti, Meeting Coordinator from PRRI, Inc., presented a written and oral report. Once again the 2010 meeting entertained abstracts through electronic submission and received 159 total abstracts by the September 4th deadline. This included 142 free papers/case reports and 17 Founders Award papers. This year the Program Committee met via phone conference on September 28, 2009 and selected the program. The total number of abstracts increased 22% from last year and represents one of the highest submissions in recent years.

As of January 13, 2009, there were 133 members, 22 candidate members, 30 guest physicians, 22 non-member presenting authors, 13 residents, 10 allied health, and 106 spouse/guests pre-register for a total of 336 pre-registrants. This represents one of the largest pre-registered ever recorded by the Association and a 30% increase from last year. The contracted room block at the Atlantis Paradise Island, Bahamas includes 875 room nights. On January 13<sup>th</sup> the Association had picked up 1389 room nights and thus does not anticipate a problem with room block attrition.

This year the Association attained pledges from industry of \$80,000 (\$85,000 is budgeted). This represents a continuation of the declining trend of corporate sponsorship. This year we have Platinum Sponsorship from Cook Inc. and W. L. Gore and Associates (\$30,000 each). Other contributors include CryoLife (\$2200), Medtronic (\$12,800), and Vascutek (\$5,000). We lost contributions from Abbott Vascular and Boston Scientific Vascular. Currently, industry funding is in flux. It is anticipated that resources will decrease further, making efforts to recruit increasingly more futile. A discussion regarding the Annual Meeting budget ensued. This year the Secretary-Treasurer submitted a budget with a negative margin (-\$12,000) for the 2010 Annual Meeting, chiefly due to the loss of corporate support. The Council felt strongly that Secretary-Treasurer Taylor and Meeting Manager Conti should submit a 2011 Annual Meeting budget with a positive margin to the Executive Council in June. This will require substantial expense reduction and scaling back of various events at next year's meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor felt confident that substantial cuts could be made without compromising the integrity and quality of the meeting.

The 35th Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 19-22, 2011 at the Ritz-Carlton in Naples, Florida. The Association has a guaranteed room rate of \$399 single/double Coastal View Room. The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 18-21, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Scottsville Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch in Scottsville, Arizona. The Association has a guaranteed room rate of \$279 single/double occupancy.

Given the overwhelming response to our off shore venue this year, the Council unanimously voted to continue our pattern of holding an off-shore meeting every third year. They instructed Meeting Manager Conti to explore properties in Puerto Rico, Costa Rica and the Bahamas for the 2013 meeting. That includes the possibility of returning to The Atlantis resort.

## Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The current membership stands at 162 active members and 79 candidate members, with 249 senior members (111 of whom are retired members) and 22 honorary members. One new honorary member, Anton N. Sidawy, M.D., will be added this year. Since January 2009, 2 active members resigned their membership, 2 senior members retired, and 1 senior member and 3 honorary members died. These were Malcolm O. Perry, Texas, Emerick Szilagyi, Michigan, H.H.G. Eastcott, United Kingdom, and James Seeger, Florida. Eleven members will advance to senior status at this meeting; 11 will advance in January 2011, and 11 will advance in January 2012. There are currently 9 active members residing outside of the geographic area, representing 5.6% of the total active membership, which is within the 10% allowed by the Constitution and Bylaws.

Twenty-seven active members have missed two consecutive meetings; 4 will advance to senior status at this meeting. Eighteen are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2010 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership.

Three active members have missed 3 consecutive meetings. Two are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2010 meeting to maintain their membership.

Two active members have missed 4 consecutive meetings. Both are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2010 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership.

One request has been made for an excused absence from the 2010 Annual Meeting. Twenty-seven members have failed to pay their 2010 dues despite several reminders from the Secretary-Treasurer. One member has failed to pay his 2009 dues making him in arrears greater than one year. He was notified in writing by the Secretary-Treasurer that his membership has been terminated in accordance with Article VII., Section 3. of the Constitution and Bylaws, until past and present dues are paid.

As of December 31, 2009, assets in the treasury included: \$375,010.20 in a money market checking account at Wachovia Banking Trust, N.A., \$144,337.92 and \$59,485.00 in two accounts held by PRRI and \$3,067.83 in a Scudder investment account. Therefore the

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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

total financial assets of the Association were \$581,900.95, which compares favorably to the \$529,959.90 in January of 2009.

The 2009 Association Management Budget was reviewed. The Association was \$2086 unfavorable to budget reflecting a \$3927 loss for 2009. The unfavorability was a consequence of a \$4563 loss at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Despite this, the Association's finances continue to be quite robust with reserves capable of financing two Annual Meetings.

## Local Arrangements Committee

Local Arrangements Committee Chair Money was absent and therefore Secretary-Treasurer Taylor gave his oral report. He reviewed the social and sporting events for this year's meeting which include the usual venue of golf, tennis, and the 5K fun run. As well, the membership will have access to the outstanding amenities at the Atlantis resort which this week include the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Michael Jordan Celebrity Invitational Golf Tournament and a comedy show by Jerry Seinfeld.

## Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Secretary-Treasurer Taylor gave an oral and written report. Sadly, Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman James Seeger died unexpectedly in October, leaving this committee chair vacant. Present-elect Rush, under the direction of President Perler, appointed Past President Mitch Goldman to replace Chairmen Seeger for the balance of his term. Acting on the direction of the Executive Council, Secretary-Treasurer Taylor proposed the following bylaws change to Article I Section 5 (a):

### Article I, Section 5(a) currently reads:

..... Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons is required. With rare exception, applicants must be graduated from approved vascular training programs and hold a certificate of Added or Special Qualifications in Vascular Surgery from the American Board of Surgery.

### Proposed amendment to Article I, Section 5(a):

..... Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons is required. With rare exception, applicants must be graduated from approved vascular training programs and hold Certification in Vascular Surgery from the Vascular Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery. Individuals with such certification shall not be required to document the aforementioned 50 major peripheral vascular reconstructive procedures for each of the 3 years preceding application.

The amendment updates the current terminology as it pertains to Board Certification in Vascular Surgery. As well, it exempts candidates for Active Membership from having to submit a case list to the Program Committee prior to membership consideration if they have Certification in Vascular Surgery. This has become an onerous and unnecessary deterrent for potential members since similar such case lists have already been submitted for both Vascular Board Certification and Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons. Several word changes were suggested by Council Members. The amendment was passed unanimously and will be read before the membership at the opening session by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor in accordance with Article IX, Section 2 of the Constitution and Bylaws. The amendment will be considered by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday.

## Archives Committee

Archivist Stuart Myers was present and provided an oral report. He reviewed the status of the archives and reported that an additional 8 boxes of material have been sent from Past Secretary-Treasurer and Past President James Seeger to be cataloged.

This year two Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Awards will be awarded at the opening session of the Annual Meeting to Past Presidents Norman Rich and Robert Smith. As well, the Council was informed that the Archives Committee plans to honor Past-President Seeger with an additional Matas Award as well. Carolyn Seeger, Jim's widow, will be present at the opening session to receive the award.

A larger discussion ensued regarding how to appropriately memorialize the contributions made by Jim Seeger for the Association. The Council asked Secretary-Treasurer Taylor and Recorder Huber to explore options and bring back recommendations to the June Council meeting. Ideas included the creation of a Seeger Educational Award, a Seeger Educational Endowment and the naming of the Distinguished Guest Lecture to honor Past-President Seeger.

## Budget and Finance Committee

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Mondy was present and gave an oral report. He reported that in the 2010 budget submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor, Association operations were projected to have a favorable balance of \$2108 against \$62,700 in projected revenues (Membership dues). However, the Annual Meeting is projected to lose \$12,255. Despite the unfavorable financials projected for 2010, the Budget and Finance Committee believes that the finances of the Association remain strong. The committee recommended no increase in dues at this time.

## Report of the Representative to the SVS Executive Council

Representative John Eidt was present and gave detailed written and oral reports. His report was an aggregate from several Board of Directors Meetings of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS).

The **SVS Executive Council** approved the following statement regarding healthcare reform. Below are the principles of health care reform that SVS supports:

1. All Americans should have access to health care, which includes affordable coverage choices;
2. The doctor-patient relationship must be preserved;
3. Quality of care can and must be improved through comparative effectiveness and other methods;
4. Medical malpractice reform is urgently needed;
5. Meaningful reform must include elimination of the Sustainable Growth Rate formula for physician payment and rebasing of the perceived "debt" to Medicare that has been brought on by this flawed formula;
6. Insurance carriers must be regulated to exclude pre-existing conditions, caps on benefits and egregious bonuses for executives;
7. Specialist services are just as important to health care in the United States as primary care services;
8. Prevention and healthy lifestyles including exercise, weight loss, tobacco avoidance, blood pressure control and appropriately targeted disease screenings are the most important methods for maintaining health and reducing medical expense;

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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

9. The next generation of doctors, including specialists, must be educated so that shortages are alleviated;
10. Adequate funding for research must be maintained.

Dr. Perler, chair of the **Clinical Practice Council**, provided an update on the activities of the committees reporting to the Council.

- ♦ The Comparative Effectiveness Committee is working on a meta-analysis of cost effectiveness studies for CLI and claudication. The Committee is also working with the Research Council to develop a CHOICE grant proposal.
- ♦ The Women's Leadership Committee recently completed a leadership development retreat and is working on a leadership session for the 2010 Vascular Annual Meeting (VAM). The Committee is also planning two JVS supplements, one on radiation safety, the other on vascular disease in women.
- ♦ The Young Surgeons Committee is developing toolkits to help young surgeons entering practice and is planning educational sessions for the 2010 VAM.
- ♦ The Community Practice Committee is planning a breakfast session for the 2010 VAM.
- ♦ The VascularWeb Committee is working with SVS staff to move the website to a new technical platform and to develop new navigation for the site.
- ♦ The Communications Committee is involved in a major AAA awareness campaign and is developing patient education DVDs from the SVS podcast library.
- ♦ The Diversity Committee is working on a JVS supplement.

### Communications Committee

Communications Committee Chairman George Meier reported that nearly 100 podcasts have been produced in the passed year on vascular topics for audiences including vascular surgeons, trainees and the general public.

### Education Council

Goal 1: Develop methods to measure practice gaps to be incorporated into educational products including the VAM. This is prompted by need to comply with ACCME regulations regarding CME. Goal 2: To develop protocols for handling Conflict of Interest issues.

### Registry

Dr. Sidawy reported that plans to develop a national vascular database for reporting are ongoing.

Representative Eidt's term as SVS Representative ends after the national meeting of the SVS in June. His services have been greatly appreciated.

### Resources Development Committee

Resources Development Committee Chair Langan was present and gave an oral report. He predicted more difficulty in raising financial resources from industry for future Annual Meetings. He felt our strategy to cut expenses for next year's meeting to match the anticipated loss of corporate sponsorship was wise. Indeed, things are bleak enough to question the need for a Resource Development Committee going forward.

### Communications Committee Report

Communications Committee Chairman Brothers was absent and his report was given by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor. Both the Spring and Fall newsletters were delivered without issue. As a cost cutting measure, it was suggested that the newsletter be published as an online PDF file and not mailed, hard copy, to the membership. A motion was made and unanimously passed to publish the newsletter exclusively online. Thus, there will be no hard copies mailed this year.

### Government Relations Committee

Government Relations Committee Chair and Past President Hugh Trout was present and gave an oral report. A lively discussion on healthcare reform ensued. This is truly a time of change capable of substantially altering traditional healthcare delivery.

### Old Business

The following items were discussed:

**1. PRRI contract** — While the Association has generally been pleased with the service provided by our meeting management company, PRRI, the Council felt it would show fiduciary prudence to examine the current meeting management contract and submit a request for proposal to other meeting management companies for comparison. The timing of this is important since the office of the Secretary-Treasurer will transition in April 2011. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor and President-Elect Rush were instructed by the Council to perform due diligence and bring several proposals back to the Council in June.

**2. An update from the AAVS meeting** – The AAVS met during the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in October in Chicago. At that meeting SVS President Anton Sidawy discussed the current SVS policy of publishing abstracts from scientific posters presented at the Vascular Annual Meeting in the Journal of Vascular Surgery. After publication of these abstracts, some authors have chosen to re-submit their work for consideration to the regional society meetings. In some cases, regional societies have considered these abstracts as “duplicate submissions” or “previously published work” and have chosen not to consider them for their scientific programs. President Sidawy suggested that these abstracts should not be considered “previously published work” and should be considered without bias. After some discussion, the regional society representatives agreed to allow these abstracts to be submitted for consideration to their respective scientific programs without bias.

**3. The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery's request to the Vascular Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery to be considered as a Nominating Organization** – As directed by the Executive Council in June, a letter was sent to Dr. John Ricotta, the Chairman of the Vascular Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery, requesting that the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery be considered as a Nominating Organization to the Vascular Surgery Board. The rationale given for such a request was based on the historical precedent set by the American Board of Surgery which has traditionally welcomed regional societies as Nominating Organizations for general surgery. This precedent has impelled a sense of inclusiveness, diversity and fairness to the certification process and has significantly enhanced the membership value of the regional societies. Our letter was considered at the recent American Board of Surgery retreat, and our request was denied. The concept of extending Nomi-

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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

nating Organization status to the regional vascular societies was received rather favorably, however, Board logistics at this time preclude granting the SAVS its request. Discussion at the Executive Council ensued. It was felt that further pursuit of becoming a Nominating Organization should include working with the other regional vascular societies to possibly explore attaining such status through the SVS which currently has 3 nominations to the Vascular Surgery Board.

Secretary-Treasurer Taylor was instructed to keep the Council abreast of progress as it relates to the topic.

### New Business

The following topics were considered:

**1. New Members Breakfast** — This year at the Annual Meeting a new member's breakfast will be held prior to the Thursday morning opening session. New members will meet with the Executive Council to become acquainted with the Association leadership and to meet one another. The new members will then proceed to the opening session where they will be introduced to the membership.

**2. Vascular Study Group of New England** — Honorary Member Jack Cronenwett will address the membership immediately after the plenary session on Thursday to discuss using the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery as a mechanism to expand The Vascular Study Group of New England (VSGNE). The VSGNE is a group of physicians and hospitals in New England who collect and share patient data on a number of vascular diagnoses/procedures. The physicians meet biannually to review data and conduct various quality initiatives. The VSGNE has been organized to meet the formal criteria to become a Patient Safety Organization (PSO) which protects the confidentiality of patient information and outcomes. This initiative qualifies as a CMS Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI), entitling its participants a 2% reimbursement enhancement from all Medicare billings. It is Dr. Cronenwett's vision to have several small groups like the VSGNE in the Southern region. These groups would contribute data to the existing database and participate in similar quality processes. It was speculated that the SAVS Annual Meeting may serve as a potential site for one of the two biannual meetings.

**3. Jesse Thompson Endowment** — Meeting Manager April Conti was contacted this past weekend about a potential donation of \$15,000 to the Association to establish an award for the best paper devoted to cerebrovascular disease honoring the memory of Past President Jesse Thompson. Secretary-Treasurer Taylor will pursue this and will report his findings to the Council in June.

With all business completed, the meeting was adjourned 5:18 p.m.

President-Elect Rush asked for, and received, a motion for approval of the Secretary-Treasurer's report. The report was approved unanimously.

**Membership Committee Report:** Membership Committee Chair Edwards was absent and his report was delivered by Secretary-Treasurer Taylor. On December 23, 2009 the Membership Committee met on a conference call and reviewed 20 applications for Active Membership and 11 applications for Candidate Membership. Two candidates for Active Membership failed to meet the requirements outlined in the Article I, Section 5(a) of the Constitution and Bylaws (not Fellows of the American College of Surgeons). The remaining 18 applications were approved.

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## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

<b>Mark P. Androes</b>	<i>Greenville, SC</i>
<b>Todd D. Bengtson</b>	<i>Tyler, TX</i>
<b>James E. Craven</b>	<i>Baton Rouge, LA</i>
<b>R. Clement Darling, III</b>	<i>Albany, NY</i>
<b>JimBob Faulk</b>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<b>Todd W. Gensler</b>	<i>Virginia Beach, VA</i>
<b>Christopher J. Godshall</b>	<i>Winston-Salem, NC</i>
<b>Alfred D. Harding, Jr.</b>	<i>Jacksonville, FL</i>
<b>Joseph P. Hart</b>	<i>Charleston, SC</i>
<b>W. Tracey Jones, III</b>	<i>San Antonio, TX</i>
<b>Jonathon R. Molnar</b>	<i>Rome, GA</i>
<b>Erin M. Moore</b>	<i>Jacksonville, FL</i>
<b>Timothy C. Oskin</b>	<i>Easton, PA</i>
<b>John E. Rectenwald, III</b>	<i>Ann Arbor, MI</i>
<b>Maureen K. Sheehan</b>	<i>San Antonio, TX</i>
<b>L. Richard Sprouse</b>	<i>Chattanooga, TN</i>
<b>Patrick A. Stone</b>	<i>Charleston, WV</i>
<b>Carlos H. Timaran</b>	<i>Dallas, TX</i>

## Candidate Membership

<b>W. Austin Blevins, Jr.</b>	<i>Greenville, SC</i>
<b>Michael J. Boros</b>	<i>Charlotte, NC</i>
<b>Luke P. Brewster</b>	<i>Atlanta, GA</i>
<b>Michelle L. DesChamplain</b>	<i>Richmond, VA</i>
<b>Michael B. Hogan</b>	<i>Chattanooga, TN</i>
<b>Ginger L. Manos</b>	<i>Greenville, SC</i>
<b>Thomas C. Matthews</b>	<i>Birmingham, AL</i>
<b>Jennifer L. McDougal</b>	<i>Huntersville, NC</i>
<b>Brenton E. Quinney</b>	<i>Birmingham, AL</i>
<b>Syed Z. Rizvi</b>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<b>Christopher L. Stout</b>	<i>Norfolk, VA</i>

## Honorary Membership

<b>Anton A. Sidawy, M.D</b>	<i>Washington, D.C.</i>
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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

### Program Committee Report

Program Committee Chair Geary was absent and his report was given by Committee Member Scott Stevens. He reported that the Program Committee consisting of Drs. Randy Geary (Chair), Scott Stevens, Ali R. AbuRahma, Spence Taylor, and Thomas Huber and Meeting Manager Conti participated in a phone conference on September 28, 2009 to select abstracts for the 2010 program. This year's program was selected from a robust pool of 159 abstracts. Twenty-two percent of the abstracts were selected for the program. That includes 23 free papers, 8 case reports (4 devoted to endovascular technology), The Founders Award and 4 basic science papers. There will be a special topics session devoted to hemodialysis access on Saturday. This year the Distinguished Guest Lecture will be given by Anton A. Sidawy.

The Committee selected the paper entitled, "Restenosis following Renal Artery Angioplasty and Stenting: Incidence and Risk Factors" by Dr. Matthew A. Corriere from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Winston-Salem, North Carolina for the 2009 Founders' Award. The award will be presented on Thursday of the Annual Meeting

The S. Timothy String Presidential Award will be given to John W. York of Greenville, SC at the opening session of the Annual Meeting for his paper entitled "Clinical Success Using Patient Oriented Outcome Measures after Lower Extremity Bypass and Endovascular Intervention for Ischemic Tissue Loss" which was presented at last year's annual meeting. This year's Founders Award will be presented to Naren Gupta for his paper entitled "Cerebral Microembolization: Open Versus Percutaneous Chronic Revascularization."

President-Elect Rush congratulated the Program Committee for an outstanding job.

### Recorder's Report

Recorder Thomas Huber was present and provided a written and oral report. A total of 31/41 possible manuscripts were submitted for publication to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* from the SAVS Annual Meeting 2009. As of 1/16/10, 61% had been accepted for publication. Notably, these numbers reflect all the types of papers presented including the free papers, case presentations, basic science, and special session. Among the free papers, 21/23 were submitted for publication and 57% were accepted. Both the S. Timothy String Presidential and Founder's Award manuscripts were accepted. Notably, the acceptance rate was somewhat lower than the traditional 70% rate.

A total of 18 Examinees took the Mock Oral Examinations on January 20<sup>th</sup> with an overall pass rate of 61%. Twenty-two members of the organization graciously donated their time to serve as Examiners or Alternates. The format of the examination was altered somewhat this year in response to last year's survey of the Examiners, Examinees, and Program Directors. Notably, digital images were incorporated with the booklets, and a feedback session between the Examiners/Examinees was held after the review session to provide some "real time" feedback. The results of the examination will be forwarded along to the Examinees and their respective Program Directors. W. L. Gore generously provided scholarships (\$1000/individual) to offset the cost of the examination for the Examinees and has also sponsored a reception for the Examiners/Examinees.

The content of the SAVS website has been updated and all the links searched to confirm that the information is accurate. The website is being actively managed by PRRI.

### Continuing Medical Education Committee

Continuing Medical Education Committee Chair Chip Sternbergh was present and gave an oral report. On Wednesday, January 20, 2010, Chairman Sternbergh presided over our annual Post Graduate Course which was devoted to current management of cerebrovascular disease. This topic was picked after an on-line survey of the membership examining 1) whether or not to have a postgraduate course and 2) what topic should be discussed. The course was extremely successful. An outstanding faculty including Dr. Wesley Moore from Los Angeles was assembled. The attendance was the highest in recent memory with well over 70 members and guests attending.

Next year's Post Graduate Course will be discussed at the June meeting of the Executive Council

### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee, named at the beginning of the Annual Meeting by President Perler, consisted of Charles Ross (Chairman) of Louisville, KY, Michael Stoner of Greenville, NC, and Patrick Stone of Charleston, WV. Committee Chairman Ross reported that the Committee had met with Secretary-Treasurer Taylor to review the Association's finances. The committee reviewed the audit report from Jennings Cook & Co., PA of Greenville, South Carolina and found the financial status of the Association to be healthy, with all matters of finance having been transacted in good-faith. The general ledger was in balance.

### Unfinished Business

President-Elect Rush called for Unfinished Business and entertained none.

### New Business

President-Elect Rush called for New Business and entertained none.

### Nominating Committee Report

Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee, James Valentine, provided the report of the Nominating Committee. This year's committee consisted of Past Presidents Valentine, Hansen and Naslund. The following slate of officers for 2009 was presented for consideration by the membership:

**President:** Daniel S. Rush of Johnson City, Tennessee

**President-elect:** John F. Eid of Little Rock, Arkansas

**Secretary-Treasurer:**

Spence M. Taylor of Greenville, South Carolina

**Recorder:** Thomas S. Huber of Gainesville, Florida

**Counselor-at- Large (2011):**

Michael B. Freeman of Knoxville, Tennessee

**Counselor-at- Large (2012):**

William A. Marston of Chapel Hill, North Carolina

**Counselor-at – Large (2013)**

J. Gregory Modrall of Dallas, Texas

**Representative to the SVS Executive Council (2010):**

Scott L. Stevens of Knoxville, Tennessee

President-Elect Rush asked for additional nominations from the floor, and there were none. A motion was made for approval and the

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## Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

slate was unanimously approved by the membership. Past President Valentine then installed Daniel S. Rush as the 34<sup>th</sup> President of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery and passed him the Matas and Nashville gavels. President-elect Rush graciously accepted his role as President and expressed his thanks for the honor of serving. He recognized the contributions of President Perler.

President Rush announced the following committee appointments for the year 2010-2011:

**Budget and Finance Committee:** Stuart A. Harlin, (Chairman), Richard L. Feinberg, Nancy L. Harthun

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee:** Mitchell H. Goldman, Spence M. Taylor

**Government Relations Committee:** Hugh H. Trout, III

**Local Arrangements Committee:** Eugene M. Langan, III

**Membership Committee:** Raul J. Guzman, Cynthia K. Shortell, Charles B. Ross

**Program Committee:** Ali F. AbuRahma, (Chairman), William D. Jordan, Jr., Marc E. Mitchell

**Post Graduate Course Committee:** W. Charles Sternbergh, III, (Chairman), David J. Minion, Spence M. Taylor

**Communications Committee:** Thomas E. Brothers (Chairman)

**Resource Development Committee:** Eugene M Langan (Chairman), Mark A. Farber, Martin R. Back.

There being no further business, the 2010 Annual Business Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was adjourned at 11: 40 a.m.

## From the President

(continued from page one)

interest and were well attended thanks to the efforts of Recorder Tom Huber and CME Chairman Chip Sternbergh. We should also be proud that the SAVS scientific program continues to be one of the strongest and most competitive among the regional vascular societies. This fact is a tribute to the continued interest and academic efforts of our members. I further wish to recognize Secretary-Treasurer Spence Taylor, Program Chairman Randy Geary and his committee, and April Conti and her staff at PRRI for their important roles in making this meeting a success. We were also especially pleased this year to welcome Tony Sidawy as our Honored Guest Lecturer and appreciate his contributions and comments.

I want to turn for a moment to the unexpected passing of Past-President Jim Seeger just a few months prior to the past meeting. I knew Jim for nearly twenty-five years, and I always marveled at his encyclopedic knowledge of vascular surgery and his clarity of thought. Few people have left their mark on the SAVS like Jim Seeger. At one time or another Jim served in almost every official capacity within the SAVS including a term in the all important position of Secretary-Treasurer and was last serving as the Bylaws Chairman. No one knew the SAVS better than he did. De-

spite all of his many other activities and responsibilities, the SAVS was always one of Jim's special interests and pet projects. As a professional organization we will benefit from his legacy for many years to come. His eloquent eulogy delivered by Past-President Stan Snyder was a fitting remembrance of his great talent, tireless effort, leadership, and many other contributions to vascular surgery and the SAVS. Jim will be greatly missed. We were all especially pleased to see Carolyn Seeger at the meeting to receive Jim's well-deserved Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Award and hope that she will continue to be a familiar face at SAVS meetings in years to come.

For next year's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting we return again to the elegant Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Naples, Florida from January 19 - 22, 2011. As many of you will recall, this hotel has some of the finest meeting facilities of any venue that we have used in recent years. Plans for another outstanding meeting next year are already in progress. The abstract deadline for the scientific program has been set for September 3, 2010.

I hope you will all plan to attend, and I look forward to seeing you in Naples.

Daniel S. Rush, M.D., President

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*I knew Jim [Seeger] for nearly twenty-five years, and I always marveled at his encyclopedic knowledge of vascular surgery and his clarity of thought. Few people have left their mark on the SAVS like Jim Seeger.*

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### 2010 ANNUAL MEETING SPORTING EVENT WINNERS

#### WORST SHORTS AWARD

Spence M. Taylor

#### 5k RUN

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Phil Goodney

#### TENNIS TOURNAMENT

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Female: Susan Elliott

Male: Tony Katras



#### GOLF TOURNAMENT (44 players)

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Place Foursome: Score of 59

Ron Doyle

Tony Gates

Stan Snyder

Richard Sprouse

**Closest to the Pin:** Jerry Light

**Longest Drive:** Mark Rheudasil

# Photo Highlights from the 2010 Annual Meeting



**2010 Founders' Award**  
 Cerebral Microembolization:  
 Open Versus Percutaneous  
 Carotid Revascularization  
 Naren Gupta, MD, Emory  
 University School of Medicine,  
 Atlanta, Georgia

**2009 S. Timothy String Presidential Award**  
 Clinical Success Using Patient-Oriented  
 Outcome Measures after Lower Extremity  
 Bypass and Endovascular Intervention for  
 Ischemic Tissue Loss  
 John W. York, MD, Greenville, South  
 Carolina



**The Rudolph Matas Lifetime Achievement Award**  
 Norman M. Rich and Robert B. Smith

**THANK YOU**  
*to the following compa-  
 nies for their support:*

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Vascutek, a Terumo Company

**EXHIBITORS**

3Mensio Medical Imaging  
 AngioDynamics  
 Angioscore  
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 Bolton Medical, Inc.  
 Boston Scientific  
 Cook Medical  
 Edwards Lifesciences  
 Endologix, Inc.  
 EV3, Inc.  
 W.L. Gore & Associates  
 Hancock Jaffe Laboratories  
 Le Maitre Vascular, Inc.  
 Lifenet Health  
 M2S, Inc.  
 Medtronic Cardiovascular  
 Terumo Cardiovascular Systems

**2011 ANNUAL MEETING**

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 19-22, 2011 at the Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Florida. 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.

**Abstracts**

All abstract submissions 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 2011 Annual Meeting is Friday, September 3, 2010.

**Case Reports Accepted for Panel Presentation at the 2011 Annual Meeting**

Case Reports will be solicited for panel presentation during the 35<sup>th</sup> 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 2011 Annual Meeting. The award consists of \$5000 and will be presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

**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 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Florida. 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 19, 2011 and will feature a current vascular topic to be decided. Please contact the SAVS office at (978) 927-8330 or [savs@prri.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

If you wish to sponsor a colleague for SAVS Membership, an application form must be requested from the Secretary-Treasurer by the *sponsoring member*.

**Qualifications for Active Membership:**

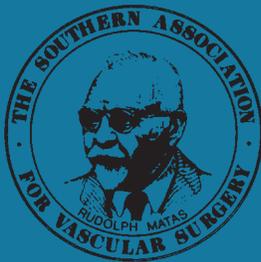
1. The active membership consists of those surgeons recommended by the Executive Council from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC;
2. Applicants must have been in practice for three years, be certified by the American Board of Surgery (ABS) and/or the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, with Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, and, with rare exception, be graduated from an approved vascular surgery training program and be certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS;
3. Applicants not certified by the Vascular Surgery Board of the ABS 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.



35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
January 19-22, 2011

The Ritz-Carlton  
Naples, Florida

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3,  
2010**

## ELECTRONIC CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Go to [www.savs.vascularweb.org](http://www.savs.vascularweb.org) for  
information and to submit your abstract.

On behalf of the SAVS Program Committee, we invite you to submit your abstract as a Free Paper or Case Report for consideration to the Association's 35th Annual Meeting. Abstracts are limited to 500 words unless being submitted for the Founders' Award, which allows for an extended abstract of no more than 1500 words.

### ABSTRACT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

#### S. TIMOTHY STRING PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The 2011 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale at Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona from January 18-21, 2012.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility for this award includes ALL ACTIVE MEMBERS. The President's Award Committee will choose the best overall manuscript from among those presented at the 2011 Annual Meeting. To be eligible for the award, an abstract must be accepted by the Program Committee for presentation at the regular Scientific Sessions. A manuscript, suitable for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*, is required at the time of presentation. Someone other than the member may present the accepted paper, but the member must close the discussion. The quality of the presentation and discussion are major considerations in the award.

**Manuscript:** The content of the manuscript must represent original work relating to clinical material, clinical research, or basic investigation on peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease. The material must not have been presented, submitted, or published elsewhere. The manuscript should be prepared according to the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* guidelines.

#### FOUNDERS' AWARD

The 2011 award will consist of \$5,000 and will be presented at this year's meeting in Naples, Florida.

**Submission Guidelines:** An Extended Abstract not to exceed 1500 words, representing original research on a basic science or clinical vascular subject should be submitted by a Trainee (student, resident or fellow) currently in a program located in one of the states comprising the membership of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery.

The material must concern peripheral arterial, venous or lymphatic disease and must not have been presented, submitted or published elsewhere. A manuscript suitable for publication in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* will be required at the time of presentation. Judging will be based on the quality of the extended abstract and authors will be notified prior to this year's meeting.

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ◆ Mock Oral Examination, Wednesday, January 19
- ◆ Postgraduate Course, Wednesday, January 19
- ◆ S. Timothy String President's Award
- ◆ Founders' Award
- ◆ Original Scientific Presentations
- ◆ Guest Lecture
- ◆ Panel Discussions

#### VASCULAR SURGERY MOCK ORAL EXAMINATIONS

In an effort to prepare Candidate Members and Vascular Surgery Fellows in training from the SAVS region for the Vascular Surgery Qualifying Examination, Mock Oral Examinations are planned for the 2011 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. These mock oral examinations will be organized by Dr. Thomas S. Huber. Broad participation from the SAVS membership is needed to provide the best examination possible. If you are interested in serving as an Examiner, please email Dr. Huber at [huberts@surgery.ufl.edu](mailto:huberts@surgery.ufl.edu).