FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this Newsletter finds everyone safe, well, and ready for the coming summer! As the 36th President of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, I am pleased to report that our Association is secure, strong and more vibrant than ever. Please take time to read through the pages of this Newsletter to see the activity and feel the energy of the SAVS for yourself. It is truly a magnificent organization.

Serving as the President of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery is quite surreal for me. I vividly remember being approached during a general reception at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico by Past President David Rosenthal who inquired about the strength of my administrative infrastructure in Greenville and its ability to absorb some the administrative functions of the Association. That was the first hint that my personal relationship with the SAVS was about to radically change. Almost nine years later and consecutive terms as Councilor, Secretary-Treasurer and President-Elect, my connection with the SAVS has become visceral; it is part of my inner being. The mention of the SAVS conjures emotions of deep respect, devotion, responsibility (continued on page 10)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Additional photo highlights of the Annual Meeting appear inside.

UPCOMING SAVS ANNUAL MEETINGS

2013
January 23-26
Atlantis
Paradise Island, Bahamas

2014
January 15-18
The Breakers
Palm Beach, Florida
The Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 12:54 p.m. at Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, AZ with President John F. Eidt presiding. The minutes from 2011 Annual Business Meeting at the Ritz-Carlton, Naples, FL were approved unanimously without revision as written online in the spring newsletter.

As directed in Article III, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws, Secretary-Treasurer Endean submitted the following report of the Executive Council meeting held on January 18, 2012 to the membership:

The Executive Council of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was called to order on Wednesday, January 18th at 3:10 p.m. with President John Eidt presiding. The minutes from the Executive Council Meeting of June 16, 2011 at the Sheraton Hotel, Chicago, IL were approved.

PR/RI Report

April Conti, Meeting Coordinator from PR/RI, Inc., presented a written and oral report. The 2012 meeting entertained abstracts through electronic submission and received 128 total abstracts by the September 2nd deadline and the Program Committee was able to review and score on-line. The Committee met via phone conference on October 12th and selected the program.

As of January 13, 2012, there were 136 members, 17 candidate members, 28 guest physicians, 22 non-member presenting authors, 13 residents, 6 allied health, and 63 spouse/guests pre-registered for a total of 285 pre-registrants. 63% of the attendees registered on-line. There were 94 exhibit personnel pre-registered. The contracted room block at the Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, Arizona includes 690 room nights. On January 13th we had picked up 735 room nights and thus do not anticipate a problem with room attrition.

This year, the Association attained pledges from industry of $102,500 ($87,000 was budgeted). This represents continued success for corporate sponsorship for the Association. Platinum sponsors include Cook, Inc and W.L. Gore and Associates ($30,000 each). Other contributors include Medtronic ($15,000), Endologix, Inc. ($12,500), Covidein ($7,500), Vascutek ($5,000) and Medrad ($2,500).

The 37th Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 23-26, 2013 at Atlantis in Paradise Island, Bahamas. We have a guaranteed room rate of $270.00 single/double occupancy for the Coral Tower and $320.00 single/double occupancy for the Royal Tower. The 38th Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 15-18, 2014 at the Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida. We have a guaranteed room rate of $355.00 single/double occupancy.

The Council discussed options for the 39th Annual Meeting, including venues in California, off-shore sites, Las Vegas, Mexico and Arizona. After much discussion, there was consensus to pursue options in Phoenix, Arizona. Meeting manager Conti was instructed to negotiate terms with venues in Phoenix, including the Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch and the Fairmont in Scottsdale. Details will be reviewed and final selection of location will be made at the June Executive Council Meeting.

Secretary Treasurer’s Report

Secretary-Treasurer Endean gave a written and oral report. The current membership stands at 177 active members and 69 candidate members, with 266 senior members (120 of whom are retired members), and 24 honorary members. One new honorary member Roy Greenberg, MD will be added this year.

Secretary-Treasurer Endean reported that over the past year, two of our senior members have died: Dan Nunn of Jacksonville, FL and Peter Goluwe of Bel Air, MD. President Eidt asked for the members to remember the deceased members with a moment of silence.

Since January 2011, 1 active member resigned his membership and 5 senior members retired. Eleven members will advance to senior status at this meeting; 14 will advance in January 2013, and 9 will advance in January 2014.

There are 13 active members currently residing out of the geographic area, representing 7.4% of the total active membership, which is within the 10% allowed by the Constitution and By-laws.

Sixteen active members have missed two consecutive meetings; 2 will be advancing to senior status at this meeting. Eight are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2013 annual meeting to maintain their membership.

Eleven active members have missed three consecutive meetings; one will advance to senior status at this meeting. Eight are pre-registered for this Annual Meeting and the remainder have been notified by the Secretary-Treasurer that they must attend the 2013 Annual Meeting to maintain their membership. One member has missed four consecutive meetings, moved out of the region and has sent a letter resigning his membership.

Two requests were made for an excused absence from the 2012 Annual Meeting. Thirty-six members have failed to pay their 2012 dues despite several reminders from the Secretary-Treasurer.

As of December 31, 2011, the total financial assets in the treasury were: $735,867.82. Treasurer’s fund: $418,511.83 ($317,355.99. Central Bank Checking and $101,321.94 Jesse Thompson Educational Endowment CD); PR/RI account: $317,355.99.

Due to the Association’s excellent financial state, the Council asked the Secretary-Treasurer to investigate the feasibility of decreasing the registration fee for the Annual Meeting and report to the Council at its June meeting. The Council approved the Secretary-Treasurer report.

Local Arrangements Committee

Local Arrangements Committee Chair Robert Winter was present and provided a written and oral report. This year’s meeting continues to offer the 5K run, Women’s Tennis, Sporting Clays, Golf Tournament, Men’s Tennis and a Camelback Mountain Hike. As was done in the 2011 meeting, Event Captains will be assigned for the Association activities.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee Report

Dr. Mitchell Goldman, Chair of the Constitution Bylaws Committee was present and gave an oral report. Changes to the Constitu-
Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

tion Bylaws have been made and were distributed to the membership in the Fall Newsletter. Copies of these changes will be made available to the membership at the meeting in accordance with the Bylaws. The membership will vote on the changes at the business meeting.

Archives Committee Report

Archivist Myers was present and gave an oral report. As is customary, the Association donated $1000 to the Atlanta History Center for the excellent work that they have done managing the Association’s archives. Dr. Rush and Dr. Taylor are reviewing Association information stored in boxes to determine what to send to the Archives. Dr. Myers has served a three-year term as Archivist. The intent was that the Communications Committee Chair would rotate to the Archive Committee. Because Communications Committee Chair Sheehan has served only one year in her position, President-elect Taylor will make a decision regarding this appointment. Dr. Myers gracially indicated his willingness to comply with Dr. Taylor’s decision.

Budget Committee Report

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Richard Feinberg was unable to attend and his report was given by Secretary-Treasurer Endean. The Association’s July-July 2011 budget resulted in a $131,236 surplus, primarily due to income from the 2011 Annual meeting of $93,521. The 2012 budget projects a favorable balance of $131,236 surplus, primarily due to income from the 2011 Annual meeting of $93,521. The 2012 budget projects a favorable balance of $31,000. The finances of the Association remain strong and no increase in dues is recommended at this time.

Report of Representative to the SVS Executive Council

Representative Stevens was present and gave a detailed oral and written report.

1. **Membership and Financial:** The Society of Vascular Surgery is productive, growing, and strong. Total assets as of November 30, 2011 are $6,481,964. Total membership in June 2011 is 3,454 with 142 new members this year. There are 1,922 active members.

2. **Conflict of Interest:** The SVS guidelines regarding compliance, transparency and accountability are published in the JVS supplement on Conflict of Interest in 2011 and are on the website under SVS policies.

3. **2011 Vascular Annual Meeting:** Evaluations of the 2011 annual meeting had strong reviews for the videos, rapid-paced sessions, poster presentations, and postgraduate courses. The plenary content was judged weaker than in past years. New features have been proposed for the 2012 meeting including waiving the registration fee for the Wednesday PGE courses, offering a free RPVI course on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, offering self-assessment, and developing a phone application for the meeting.

4. **TASC IIb:** Due to insufficient evidence the SVS did not endorse the TASC2b guideline and requested that it not be published. The TASC IIb document has been abandoned and two SVS members have been appointed to serve on the TASC3 committee. Target publication is February 2013.

5. **Carotid artery guidelines:** Recent communication has occurred between the SVS and the ACC and AHA regarding the 2011 ACCF/AHA guidelines on the management of extra-cranial carotid and vertebral artery disease. Removal of the SVS from the guidelines was threatened. The SVS position is that, based on new evidence that developed after publication of the ACC/AHA document in January 2011, there was no violation of the concordance agreement. The SVS stood firm in stating that 1) carotid endarterectomy is the first-line therapy in symptomatic patients and 2) there is insuficient evidence to support CAS in asymptomatic patients. The SVS replied that it had no intention to withdraw the published guidelines and that to do so would be ethically and academically dishonest and contrary to SVS core values.

6. **Media:** A plan is in place to initiate a SVS journal covering venous and lymphatic diseases. The journal would be published with Elsevier under a contract separate from JVS, and would be branded as *Journal of Vascular Surgery-Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*. The *Journal of Vascular Surgery* is ranked #1 among all vascular surgery journals. The Impact Factor for 2011 was 3.851, the highest earned in the 27-year history of the JVS.

7. **Practice guidelines:** The SVS plans to delineate practice guidelines for follow-up after vascular surgery, radiation safety, management of venous ulcers, management of arterial graft infections, and thoracic outlet syndrome. The Document Oversight Committee has three more practice guidelines in progress: symptomatic PAD and claudication, treatment of CLI, and management of the diabetic foot.

8. **Health Policy:** The Health Policy Committee is overseeing activities for federal legislative and regulatory issues affecting vascular surgery including monitoring and participating in Medicare physician payment reform, monitoring efforts for overall health care reform, participating in Surgical Advocacy Conference/Hill visits and determining SVS positions on legislative and regulatory issues. As such they are involved in a wide variety of issues as relates to vascular surgery.

9. **SVS Political Action Committee:** Carlo Dall’Olmo, Political Action Committee Chair reported that approximately $40,000 was raised since the last report. Only 13% of the 1,700 active members were PAC contributors.

10. **Health Care Reform:** Sean Roddy, Chair of the Health Policy Committee provided the SVS with an exhaustive list of coding and reimbursement concerns. An updated version of the SVS coding manual is to be released in January 2012. The format is Web-based using HTML programming allowing for mid-year updates as needed.

11. **Vascular Quality Initiative:** The number of centers participating in the Vascular Quality Initiative (VQI) has grown with 117 centers from 33 states plus Ontario participating. There are 6 regional quality groups accredited by the SVS PSO. Additional growth is anticipated as many more sites are currently in the contracting phase. FDA-Industry involvement has been explored. The FDA has expressed interest that industry use this system so that reporting would be uniform across manufactures for similar devices and so that control groups could be assembled using the same database.

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

12. **VESAP2**: Drs Eidt and Hodgson, editors for VSAP2, proposed that VESAP would evolve from a new edition every three years into a “living edition” with continuous updates. The Publication Committee chose them to edit the next version.

13. **Educational Initiatives**: Chaired by Dr. John Eidt, the Education Council recommends the investment in a learning management system. This platform will be used for the administration, documentation, tracking, and reporting of SVS e-learning programs and training content. Dr. Eidt outlined the components of such a system.

14. **Research Council**: The Research Council activities focus on increasing the role of vascular surgery in research and overseeing the basic science and clinical research activities of the SVS. Activities under the direction of the Council include: 1) comparative effectiveness research, 2) performance goals and evaluation of CLI therapies, 3) the Clinical Research Seed Grants program and, 4) the annual Vascular Research Initiative Conference.

15. **Outcomes**: The Outcomes Committee’s current activities include: Collaboration with the FDA, Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR), Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), and industry on post-approval assessment of thoracic endografts used to treat acute, complicated Type-B aortic dissection and collaboration with the FDA and SIR in response to FDA Public Health Notice regarding inferior vena cava filters. At the invitation of the FDA, the SVS and SIR have formed an IVC Filter Study Task Force that met on February 1, 2011 at FDA headquarters. The SVS and SIR are collaborating to address the FDA’s concern for safety of IVC filters and have drafted a cooperative R&D agreement.

16. **Accreditation**: The Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), the American College of Phlebotomy (ACP), and the Society for Vascular Medicine (SVM) have invited the SVS to participate in the development of an accreditation program for facilities that treat venous disease. The Executive Council approved SVS participation in the development of an IAC accreditation program for such facilities and will request two seats on the governing body.

**Communications Committee Report**

Communications Committee Chair Sheehan was absent but submitted a written report. The semiannual newsletter was sent in both the spring and the fall. Since spring of 2010 the newsletter has been sent by email only and this continues to be the format used for newsletter distribution. The fall newsletter contained the revised bylaws for members to review. The current newsletter as well as the archived newsletters can also be accessed through the SAVS website.

**Government Relations Committee Report**

Government Relations Committee Chair Trout was present and gave an oral report. Dr. Trout indicated that there are tough financial times ahead. We will be facing a work force issue as the population ages. The issue of health care cost control is complex, but some “low-hanging fruit” will likely be addressed including tort reform, decreasing the administrative overhead payment to insurance companies, limiting care for demented patients, and limiting care for ICU patients predicted to die.

**Old/Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business**

**SVS PAC**

Dr. Dall’Olmo, Chair of the SVS Political Action Committee had requested an opportunity to address the membership at either the Plenary Session or the Business Meeting. The Council discussed that the Association’s purpose is educational and while the SVS PAC is a worthy cause, would potentially open the door to numerous such requests. The Council recommended that the SAVS should have a representative to the SVS PAC who would report to the Council. President-elect Taylor suggested that this should be a function of the Government Relations Committee. Government Relations Committee Chair Trout agreed, and while he felt that he was not the person to do this job, would be willing to mentor a younger member to take over his position. The Council agreed that Dr. Taylor should make this appointment.

**Outgoing Council Members**

Dr. Eidt recognized and thanked Dr. Bill Marston for his service to the Association as a Councilor-at-Large.

With all business completed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

**Membership Committee Report**

Membership Committee chair Cynthia Shortell was present and gave an oral report. On November 18, 2011 the Membership Committee met on a conference call and reviewed 8 applications for Active Membership and 31 applications for Candidate Membership. Membership Committee Chair Cynthia Shortell proposed to the Council an electronic membership application form. She proposed the following process: Sponsor requests an application from SAVS Secretary; Interactive PDF sent to sponsor or directly to the applicant; Application Form is completed by applicant; Applicant mails completed form to SAVS Secretary. The Sponsor will mail a signed letter of support to the SAVS Secretary. Two letters of support will be mailed to the SAVS Secretary. President-elect Taylor moved to give the Membership Committee the leeway to streamline the application process while maintaining its spirit and the integrity of the process. The Council approved the motion.

President Eidt called for a vote and all applicants for Active and Candidate Membership were unanimously approved. Honorary Membership was approved by acclamation for the 2012 Distinguished Guest Lecturer, Roy K Greenberg, M.D, from Cleveland, OH.

**Program Committee Report**

Program Committee Chair William Jordon was present and gave an oral report. There were a total of 125 submissions, of which 113 were free papers and 13 were Founder’s Award. This compares favorably to 135 total submissions in 2009 and the 110 submissions in 2006. The mean score for all of the abstracts was 3.17 with a range of 1-5. There were 24 abstracts presented including the Founder’s Award. There were 4 focused sessions: Endovascular, Special Cases, Basic Science, and Dialysis:

**Day 1**: included venous disease; cerebral vascular disease; thoracic outlet papers. The Founder’s Award was related to carotid disease and was also presented on that day.

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

Day 2: endovascular case presentations followed by the plenary session of aortic disease and renal artery disease. Of note, the distinguished guest lecturer from Dr. Greenberg’s talk was also related to aortic disease. Also, we had the Case Report Panel Discussion prior to Dr. Eidt’s presidential address.

Day 3: basic science session (4 presentations) followed by free papers that included miscellaneous topics. The next session included dialysis and lower extremity disease in the second half of the morning. We also had a debate session centered on outpatient angio centers discussing both the safety and the financial implications associated with this new practice paradigm.

Considering the scoring system that was used by the six members of the Program Committee, the papers essentially required a score of 3 or higher to be presented at the meeting. There were some exceptions done for new topics, such as dialysis that included some lower scoring abstracts but became a focus of emphasis for this meeting.

At the direction and request of Dr. Eidt, we pursued self-assessment questions written by the abstract authors to satisfy portion of the self-assessment (SA) of CME that is required for MOC. Ultimately, we are set to offer 14.75 hours of CME with 10 hours of SA that can be used for MOC by the attendees.

President Eidt congratulated Dr. Jordon and recognized the members of the committee for an outstanding scientific program.

Recorder’s Report

Recorder Edwards was present and reported a total of 24/37 possible manuscripts were submitted for publication to the Journal of Vascular Surgery from the 2011 SAVS Annual Meeting. Notably, 19/23 of the Free Papers were submitted. As of January 4th, 58% of the manuscripts submitted to the Journal had been accepted for publication including 58% of the Free Papers. Most of these are now available in the November and December issues of the Journal. 33% of submitted manuscripts were rejected following review. 1 paper remains under review (and awaits editorial decision) and 1 was withdrawn after 4 months of lapsed time without authors’ response to initial review. The acceptance rate for the Free Papers was lower than our historical average. All Invited Discussions and Authors’ Responses have been transcribed, collected, edited, and submitted. I would like to thank Ms. Crystal Gilliam from the Editorial Office of the Journal for her assistance in collating, tracking, and processing all of the submissions.

The winner of the 2011 S. Timothy String President’s Award for the outstanding paper at our annual meeting was Dr. Christopher A. Durham from East Carolina University for his paper entitled “The Role of Statin Therapy and Angiotensin Blockade on Patients with Asymptomatic Moderate Carotid Artery Stenosis”. The award winning paper was chosen by a Committee comprised of President-elect John Eidt, Program Committee Chairman Ali AbuRahma and the immediate past Recorder Tom Huber. The winner of the 2011 Founder’s Award was Dr. Sadaf S. Ahanchi from Eastern Virginia Medical School for his paper entitled “Endovascular Aneurysm Repair and the Anatomic Severity Grading Score: A Validation Study with Early Outcomes and Cost Analysis”. The Founder’s Award manuscript was published in the November issue of the Journal of Vascular Surgery. Unfortunately, the S. Timothy String Award manuscript was rejected for publication. It has been accepted and is in press at Annals of Vascular Surgery.

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Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)

The winner of the 2012 Founder’s Award is Dr. Sternbergh from the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans for his paper entitled ‘Carotid endarterectomy is more cost effective the carotid artery stenting.’ The paper has already been accepted for publication by the Journal. As of 1/10/2012 it was the only manuscript from the 2012 program that had been submitted.

A total of 20 Examinees took the Mock Oral Examinations this week with an overall pass rate of 45%. Of note, we employed the new scoring system used for the Vascular Sub Board certifying examinations for the first time. An itemized breakdown of the individual results will be sent to each of the Examinees and their respective Program Directors. This year’s exercise again incorporated a follow-up session between the Examiners/Examinees to provide some “real time” feedback. The Mock Oral Examinations will again be given at the 2013 Annual Meeting. Letters of invitation will be sent out to the Program Directors in the geographic regions represented by the SAVS and to all appropriate Candidate Members and/or Vascular Surgical Fellows. Anyone interested in participating as an Examiner should contact me.

I would like to formally thank Jeff Wiggins from W. L. Gore for providing scholarships to offset the Examinees travel expenses and am hopeful that the support will be continued next year. Furthermore, I would like to formally thank the Examiners that participated in the exercise, especially Dr. Scott Stevens and Dr. Dan Rush for filling in at the last minute to allow us to examine all of the fellows who attended. Clearly, the exercise would not have been possible without their efforts.

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 David Minion was present and reported that the annual Post Graduate Course “Curveballs and Controversies” was devoted to current management lower extremity vascular disease. This subject area was chosen after an on-line survey of the membership. “Curveballs” involved topics that should be “hit out of the park” but often are not handled well. Standard talks were given on such areas as wound care, atypical ulcers, smoking cessation, and arteriovenous malformations. “Controversies” covered topics in which the best course of action is not well defined. This section of the course included short and rapid talks with audience response. Subject areas included treatment of short and long-segment occlusion, tibial lesions, failed stents, juxta-renal aortic occlusion, anastomotic stenosis, and popliteal artery aneurysm. The course appears to have been extremely successful. The faculty was outstanding confirming the tremendous expertise that is present within the Association’s membership.

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

President Eidt extended his appreciation to Dr. Minion for the creativity which added to the value of the meeting and indicated that he will again be responsible for the Post Graduate Course at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

Audit Committee

The audit committee, named at the beginning of the Annual Meeting by President Eidt, consisted of Mohammed Moursi (Chairman) of Little Rock, AK, Ahsan Ali of Little Rock, AK and Ravi Veeraswamy of Atlanta, GA. Committee Chairman Moursi reported that the Committee had met with Secretary-Treasurer Endean 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.

Special Recognition

President Eidt next recognized and commended Councilor-at-Large William A. Marston from Chapel Hill, NC for his three years of service. A plaque commemorating his efforts was presented to Dr. Marston. President Eidt also recognized and thanked Gregory J. Pearl from Dallas, TX for coordinating the Jesse E. Thompson Distinguished Lecture.

Unfinished Business

President Eidt called for Unfinished Business and entertained none.

New Business

President Eidt called for New Business and entertained none.

Nominating Committee Report

Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee Tom Naslund provided the report of the Nominating Committee. First however, he thanked and recognized outgoing President Eidt. President Eidt was presented with a commemorative gavel plaque while at the podium. Additionally, a Southern Association for Vascular Surgery commemorative captain’s chair and silver Revere bowl engraved with the seal of the Association have already been sent to President Eidt’s home.

Chairman Naslund reported that this year’s Nominating Committee consisted of Past Presidents Naslund, Perler and Rush. The following slate of officers for 2012 was presented for consideration by the membership:

President: Spence M. Taylor, Greenville, SC
President-Elect: Thomas S. Huber, Gainesville, FL
Secretary-Treasurer: Eric D. Endean, Lexington, KY
Recorder: Matthew S. Edwards, Winston Salem, NC
Councilor-at-Large (2013): J. Gregory Modrall, Dallas, Texas
Representative to the SVS Executive Council: Scott L. Stevens, Knoxville, Tennessee

President Eidt asked for a motion of approval and the slate was unanimously approved by the membership. Chairman Naslund and President Eidt then installed Spence Taylor as the 36th President of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery and passed him the Matas and Nashville gavels. President-elect Taylor graciously accepted his role as President and expressed his thanks for the honor of serving. He recognized the contributions of President Eidt.

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**Annual Business Meeting (continued from previous page)**

President Taylor announced the following committee appointments for 2011-2012:

**Budget and Finance Committee:**
Nancy L. Harthun (Chairman), Richard F. Neville, Ali Azizzadeh

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee:**
Mitchell H. Goldman, Eric D. Endean

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

**Local Arrangements Committee:**
Jacob G. Robison

**Membership Committee:**
Charles B. Ross (Chairman), Peter H. Lin, L. Richard Sprouse II, Eric
Endean

**Program Committee:**
Marc E. Mitchell, Jr. (Chairman), Mohammed M. Moursi, Eugene M.
Langan III, Eric Endean

**Continuing Medical Education Committee:**
David J. Minion (Chairman), Gregory J. Pearl, David L. Cull, Eric D.
Endean

**Communications Committee:**
Maureen K. Sheehan (Chairman)

There being no further business, the 2011 Annual Business Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Eric D. Endean, MD, Secretary-Treasurer

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**SPORTING EVENT WINNERS**

**5k RUN**

*1st Place Female:* Darlene Krohn (18:08)
*1st Place Male:* Dan Nuezil (18:51)

**TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

*1st Place Female:* Barbara Rushton
*1st Place Male:* Hernan Bazan

**SPORTING CLAYS**

*Winner:* Dan Fisher

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

*1st Place Foursome:* Lecroy, Harlin, Malone, Lomax
*Closest to the Pin:* Brubham
*Longest Drive:* Kalis

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**2012 Founders’ Award**

Gregory D. Crenshaw
Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, LA
*Carotid Endarterectomy is More Cost-effective Than Carotid Artery Stenting*

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**S. Timothy String Award**

Christopher A. Durham
East Carolina University
*The Role of Statin Therapy and Angiotensin Blockade on Patients with Asymptomatic Moderate Carotid Artery Stenosis*
THANK YOU to the following companies for their support:

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Cook Medical
Cordis Corporation,
A Johnson & Johnson Company
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Cryolife
Edwards Lifesciences
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Inavein, Llc
Lemaitre Vascular
Lifeline Vascular Access
M2s, Inc.
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Tayside Flow Technologies Ltd.
Terumo Cardiovascular Systems
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Vascular Transplant Services
W.L. Gore & Associates
FROM THE SECRETARY / TREASURER

Eric D. Endean, M.D.

2013 ANNUAL MEETING

The 37th Annual Meeting of The Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 23-26, 2013 at the Atlantis Paradise Island, Bahamas. 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 2012 Annual Meeting is Friday, August 31, 2012.

Case Reports Accepted for Panel Presentation at the 2013 Annual Meeting

Case Reports will be solicited for panel presentation during the 37th 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 2013 Annual Meeting. The award consists of $5000 and will be presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting at The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida.

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 37th Annual Meeting in Paradise Island, Bahamas. 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 23, 2013 and will feature a current vascular topic to be decided. 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. Matthew Edwards at (336) 713-5256 or medwards@wfubmc.edu.

Guests

Members who wish to invite non-member physicians as their guests should contact the office of Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-63466x243 / edende0@email.uky.edu. 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, Eric D. Endean, MD, Department of Surgery, University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, 800 Rose Street, Lexington, KY 40536-0293, (859) 323-63466x243 / edende0@email.uky.edu
From the President (continued from page one)

and love. The SAVS Annual Meeting is not just an event that I attend every January, but a major part of my professional and social fabric. It is the connectivity to academic vascular surgery and to some of the most amazing people in the world. The privilege of serving the Association has shaped me as a leader and has improved me as a surgeon and scientist. For that, I owe everyone a great debt of gratitude.

Provided in this Newsletter are the carefully recorded minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held this past January in Scottsdale, Arizona. As you can see from Secretary Treasurer Endean’s report, 2011 was an extraordinary year for the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery. It was capped off by the Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch, hosted by President and Mrs. John F. Eidt, M.D. The meeting was well attended, the scientific program, organized by Program Chair Will Jordan, was outstanding and the weather was perfect. (And as Founding Member and Past President Norm Rich, who has attended every Annual Meeting since the inception of the organization, reminds us, any meeting with excellent weather is always an excellent meeting!)

However, upon reflection, the 2012 Annual Meeting was different. It was really special. Perhaps it was indeed the weather, or the fact that I did not have to type the minutes of the Executive Council meeting, but I think the 2012 Annual Meeting turned out to be one of the best meetings in the history of the organization. Moreover, I think I know why. Not the weather or the minutes; it was the loving effort afforded by President & First Lady John & Lacy Eidt. Assisted by meeting manager April Conti and Local Arrangement Chair Rob Winter, John and Lacy carefully thought through every detail, from the scientific plenary sessions to the social events. Their fingerprints were on everything, and the results were amazing. Be it the inaugural Jesse E. Thompson Honorary Guest Lectureship delivered by Dr. Roy Greenberg or the “first annual” cigar and port bar after the black tie Presidential banquet, the Eidt’s attention to detail paid huge dividends. Please join me in recognizing both John and Lacy with sincere thanks. They have raised the bar forever. It will be a difficult act to follow next year.

In reflecting on the successes, challenges and opportunities of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, I continue to be impressed on how our Founding Members created the perfect venue for a scientific association. Our half-day scientific sessions allow time for collegial interchange of ideas by members and guests. The plenary sessions continue to yield manuscripts that boast top acceptance rates to the Journal Vascular of Surgery.

Speaking of next year, the 37th Annual Meeting of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery will be held January 23-26, 2013 at the Atlantis Resort in Paradise Island, Bahamas. My wife, Marie, and I would like to extend a special invitation to attend this meeting. We are bringing our family and are planning to totally immerse ourselves into the Atlantis experience. We hope you will join us and do the same. Please save up your best scientific work and submit it for consideration at the meeting. Program Chair Marc Mitchell is already preparing for the program next year. Like this year, we will provide self-assessment CME credits for those who participate. Continuing Medical Education Chair David Minion is preparing another outstanding post-graduate course and the social events, being arranged by Local Arrangements Chair, Jay Robison, promise to be extraordinary and will include swimming with the dolphins; something that even John and Lacy could not pull off in Scottsdale. I want this to be the best-attended and most memorable Annual Meeting ever. We promise to bring a large contingent from Greenville and will do our part!

In reflecting on the successes, challenges and opportunities of the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery, I continue to be impressed on how our Founding Members created the perfect venue for a scientific association. Our half-day scientific sessions allow time for collegial interchange of ideas by members and guests. The plenary sessions continue to yield manuscripts that boast top acceptance rates to the Journal Vascular of Surgery. Our meeting attendance remains strong. Camaraderie, friendship and collegiality continue to drive the Association to new heights. It is truly an honor to be part of this organization and I look forward to leading as our President over the next year.

Please have a safe and happy summer. But also remember to save your time, energy and money because Marie and I want to see everyone at Atlantis next January. As always, if there is anything I can do for you as your President; please do not hesitate to call.

Spence Taylor, MD
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS / VIDEOS

DEADLINE: Friday, August 31, 2012, 11:59 p.m. EDT
Go to www.savs.org for further information and to submit your abstracts/videos.

Abstracts can be submitted as a:
- Free Paper
- Case Report
- Video

Abstracts are limited to 500 words unless being submitted for the Founders’ Award, which allows for an extended abstract of no more than 1,500 words.

NEW! VIDEO SUBMISSION
If submitting a video, you MUST submit an abstract via the abstract submission site. All submissions must include an abstract with a maximum of 500 words. Videos may not exceed 5 minutes in length. Complete submission guidelines can be found online at www.savs.org.

NEW! RESIDENT POSTER COMPETITION
For abstracts to be considered as a part of the Resident Poster Competition, the author must meet all of the following criteria:
1. The author is a Resident, Fellow or Student at the time of submission.
2. The Resident/Fellow/Student is the first author on the paper.
3. The author will be present at the 37th Annual Meeting should the paper be accepted.

Abstracts not selected for the Resident Poster Competition Presentation are still eligible for inclusion within the general scientific program. Only one abstract submission is necessary.

ABSTRACT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

S. TIMOTHY STRING PRESIDENT’S AWARD
The 2013 award will consist of $5,000 and will be presented at the 38th Annual Meeting, January 15-18, 2014, at the Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida.

Eligibility
Eligibility for this award includes ALL ACTIVE MEMBERS. The President’s Award Committee will choose the best overall manuscript from those presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting. To be eligible for the award, an abstract must be accepted by the Program Committee for presentation during the 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 for 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 2013 award will consist of $5,000 and will be presented at this year’s meeting in Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Submission Guidelines
An Extended Abstract not to exceed 1,500 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 the submitting author will be notified prior to this year’s meeting.

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 2013 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 23rd. These mock oral examinations will be organized by Dr. Matthew S. Edwards. 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. Edwards at medwards@wfubmc.edu.