



WESTERN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

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March 2011

Dear Colleagues:

The 118th Annual Scientific Session of the Western Surgical Association was held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, Illinois from November 7-10, 2010. This was a great place for the annual meeting. Our special thanks to Constantine Godellas for providing the perfect touches of a local arrangements chair, and of course thanks to our meeting planner Nonie Lowry of LP etc. for another terrifically well-organized venue site. President Michael Farnell's Address, "Surgery 2010: Finding the Silver Lining on a Cloud of Regulation", was excellent and very well received. I encourage you to read this address if you missed the meeting.

A total of 9 of the 11 new members were in attendance, which is a significant improvement over last year. This is a good opportunity to remind all the membership that new members are expected to be present at the year of their induction to receive their certificate and to be formally introduced. Four new members competed for the J. Bradley Aust Award, and the winner was Thomas Robinson of Aurora, CO for his work entitled "Accumulated Frailty Traits Predict Post-Operative Discharge Institutionalization in Geriatric Patients". Please drop a note of congratulations to Tom if you have the opportunity.

A copy of the minutes of the Business Meeting will be sent via email. For those that attended the Annual Meeting, we ask that you take a moment to complete and return the Post Meeting Evaluation, which was distributed via email. If you did not attend the meeting, a copy of the program should be enclosed. The program book includes the 2010 Scientific Program as well as the Transactions of the 2009 Meeting, including the complete 2009 presidential address, memorials to deceased members, and the membership directory. Please review your demographic in the directory to confirm its accuracy. Note too that we are trying to add your date of birth to our private membership directory to help us determine when you will become a senior member. Please email the secretary's office with your date of birth and any corrections to your address. You may also make these changes yourself by logging into the member's only portion of the website:
<http://westernsurg.org/members/login.php>

Also enclosed is the list of 13 new members elected to the Association. Our bylaws cap active membership at 350, and currently there are 316 active members. The health of our organization is dependent on active, productive, participating membership. Please encourage and recruit such outstanding individuals whenever possible. It is a nice tradition of the Western for each of us to send a note of welcome and congratulations to our new members.

Now is the time to start the application process for new members. Please consider sponsoring a new member this year. The application process again will be handled "on-line". Prospective members must submit an on-line application and an updated curriculum vita. The applicant and/or sponsoring member is still responsible for submission of the sponsoring letter as well as 2 endorsing letters to the Secretary's office by June 1, 2011. Please review the application form on our website.
http://westernsurg.org/applications/appl1_instructions.php

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING: NOVEMBER 13-16, 2011 AT THE LOEWS VENTANA CANYON, TUCSON, ARIZONA



WESTERN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

Several members completed their terms of service to the Western Surgical Association this November. They include Vice Presidents Donald Fry and Gerard V. Aranha, Secretary Gregory J. ("Jerry") Jurkovich, and District Representative M. Ashraf Mansour. Their efforts on behalf of the Association are most appreciated.

The new officers elected at this years business meeting are:

President:	Gregory J. ("Jerry") Jurkovich	Seattle, WA
First Vice-President:	James R. DeBord	Peoria, IL
Second Vice-President:	Stanley M. Goldberg	Minneapolis, MN
Secretary:	R. James Valentine	Dallas, TX
District Representative:	Randall W. Smith	Temple, TX

The formal call for abstracts will be included in the March Newsletter, but it is not too early to start working on your submissions. The deadline for abstract submission is June 1, to comply with ACS/CME requirements.

Locations and dates for upcoming meetings are listed below. Be sure to mark the dates on your calendars and PC's, Blackberry's, iPhones, etc. Also, please check out the link on our website soon to this year's meeting site at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Arizona. Local arrangement chair Peter Rhee and meeting planner, Nonie Lowry will certainly work to make this a memorable meeting for you and hopefully your guest/spouse. Mark your calendars! It is a great venue for a meeting.

Future meeting plans at the present time include:

Loews Ventana Canyon	Tucson, AZ	November 13-16, 2011
The Broadmoor Resort	Colorado Springs, CO	November 4-7, 2012
The Grand America Hotel	Salt Lake City, UT	November 3-6, 2013
Miramonte Resort & Spa	Indian Wells, CA	November 8-11, 2014

Please check out our website, <http://westernsurg.org>. The membership directory is very user friendly, and can be used to look up your fellow members as well as to update your own contact information. Please be sure we have your correct email address, as our hope is to communicate more via email, saving some postage and printing costs. Also, dues payments can be made online, thanks to LP etc. and Treasurer Chapman's work. At \$200 per year for annual dues, the Association remains an excellent value compared with similar surgical societies.

Please feel free to call or email me or my assistant, Heidi Lindsey, if there is anything we can do to support the Western.

Respectfully submitted,

R. James Valentine, M.D.
Secretary, Western Surgical Association

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