



New England Surgical Society Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 1

DECEMBER 2000

2000-2001 Executive Committee

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H. David Crombie, M.D.

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Representative - Vermont

Frederick H. Bagley, M.D.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



H. David Crombie

It is a given that no organization, least of all a professional society, can expect to remain vigorous and relevant in today's ever-changing world by equating the status quo with forward progress. Under the leadership of our recent past-presidents, your New England Surgical Society has continued to move forward into the 21st century in its organizational, financial and membership characteristics. I take on the honor and responsibility of your presidency with every expectation that together we will continue to enhance that healthy progression into the future of surgery in our region. In conversations with those currently in the leadership, and among the membership, it is clear that in the ranks of our professional affiliations this organization stands at or near the top for all of us.

In membership numbers, the by-laws have been adjusted again to permit expansion of the active membership to 300. This action creates the opportunity to infuse new talents and varied interests into the organization in an era in which new scientific discoveries and technologies appear regularly on the surgical horizon. It is incumbent upon all of us to seek out as potential members those individuals in our communities and academic centers who demonstrate initiative, leadership and achievement in bringing these innovations into the surgical mainstream. In doing so, there will be opportunities to recruit candidates from surgical disciplines closely allied with general surgery, and to assure them that the scientific program at our annual meetings will be of sufficient interest to motivate them to submit abstracts, attend and participate.

During President Ashby Moncure's term the issue of seeking corporate support as a significant financial component of the annual meeting was addressed at the state level and by the Executive Committee. It was concluded that the society as a whole is not presently inclined to seek reliance on the corporate community in achieving financial stability for the annual meeting. The objections to corporate support come mainly from our senior members; it is the continued non-obligatory

(continued inside)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!

2001 Annual Meeting

September 21-23

Westin Hotel

Providence, Rhode Island

Highlights of the Executive Committee and Annual Business Meetings

October, 2000
Boston, Massachusetts

Report of the President

The Executive Committee reviewed the report of the 7th Annual Resident/Fellow Surgical Research Presentation Day, held on May 19, 2000. The session was fairly well attended and the Massachusetts Chapter of the ACS had contributed \$1,000 for a second prize and the Connecticut Chapter had contributed \$100 towards a third prize, to supplement the \$1,500 first prize presented by the New England Surgical Society Charitable Foundation. The Program Committee will review the possibility of the prize-winning paper(s) being presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society. Ed Walworth reported that the Maine Chapter had agreed to supplement the Connecticut Chapter's support for the third prize by committing \$100 to recognize a third prize winner in 2001.

Report of the Secretary

Current Membership totals 632 surgeons: 249 Active, 350 Senior, 31 Associate and 2 Honorary. In 1999, the Membership voted to increase the maximum number of Active members from 250 to 300 and the Executive Committee stresses their desire to receive nominations for more subspecialists interested in the interdisciplinary aspects of surgery. The Society had co-sponsored a Resident Research Day in May at Tufts and looks forward to continuing this affiliation with the intent of encouraging resident participation from all six states in the region.

Report of the Treasurer

During the past year, revenues totaled \$173,000, while expenses amounted to \$141,000, resulting in a \$32,000 surplus. The Society has \$112,000 in assets; close to its goal of maintaining one and a half to two times the operating budget in reserves.

Report of the Recorder

Twelve of the 17 manuscripts presented at the 1999 Annual Meeting had been accepted for publication in the *Archives of Surgery*. This 71% acceptance rate is consistent with past years. The Executive Committee has mandated peer review of each manuscript prior to the meeting and approximately 2/3 of the authors had complied last year. These tended to be the manuscripts that are accepted. During the current year, only eight of the 14 presenters complied with this request by the Executive Committee. In response to the Editor's concern over the publication delay that resulted from the delay of submission of discussions, discussants have been requested to prepare a typed copy of their remarks which should be presented to the Recorder at the meeting. The Executive Committee has agreed to urge that the *Archives of Surgery* name an Active member of the New England Surgical Society to its Editorial Board.

Report of the Program Committee

Francis D. Moore, Jr. expressed his appreciation to Ashby Moncure for his contribution in developing an excellent panel on the pancreas presented during the Annual Meeting and for his support of local arrangements activities. Of the 51 abstracts submitted for consideration, 14 were chosen for presentation. Dr. Moore expressed his appreciation to these members who provided historical vignettes for each of the six New England states: Walter B. Goldfarb, Maine; Seth A. Resnicoff, New Hampshire; James C. Hebert, Vermont; Paul Friedmann, Massachusetts; Robert W. Hopkins, Rhode Island; H. David Crombie, M.D., Connecticut

Representative to the ACS Board of Governors

Francis Moore noted this was his first year serving in this capacity and the October Clinical Congress will be his first as a Governor. He had communicated with the College regarding the expense of the postgraduate courses which, coupled with the proximity of the New England Surgical Annual Meeting to the Clinical Congress, could adversely affect attendance at both sessions for economic reasons. He raised the issue of allowing abstracts submitted for the ACS Surgical Forum to be presented at the New England Surgical Society Annual Meeting for they couldn't possibly be published in the time between the two meetings. He noted that he has requested that a workshop be sponsored by the ACS to assist the regional surgical societies and the state chapter officers in maintaining an appropriate level of isolation from commercial sponsors while at the same time benefiting from their largesse.

Representative to the ACS Advisory Council for Surgery

Peter Deckers indicated that the Advisory Council is primarily responsible for the program of the Spring Meeting of the College and for certain elements of the Clinical Congress. He requested that the Membership provide him with new topics, speakers, and creative strategies in teaching and learning which he might be able to share at the national level. The Advisory Council is also addressing the issue of commercial support for regional society meetings and has developed an Ethics Statement describing appropriate relationships with industry which has been forwarded to the Board of Regents for their consideration.

Report of NESS Charitable Foundation

David Pilcher, President of the Foundation, reported that the Foundation currently has \$150,000 in assets and continues to grow through contributions from the membership, initiation fees, and its investment in Treasury-Bills. The Foundation has agreed to expend one half of its income each year on the resident awards presented at this meeting, support of the Resident Research Day at Tufts, and in support of the Mixter Lecturer.

Highlights of the Executive Committee *(continued)*

Report of the Nominating Committee

Paul Friedmann presented the Report of the Nominating Committee, which consisted of himself as Chairman, together with Peter J. Deckers and Leslie Ottinger. The Committee submitted the following slate:

President	H. David Crombie, M.D., <i>Hartford</i>
President-Elect	Roger S. Foster, Jr., M.D., <i>Shelburne</i>
Vice President	Barbara K. Kinder, M.D., <i>New Haven</i>
Secretary	John P. Welch, M.D., <i>Hartford</i>
Treasurer	Robert M. Quinlan, M.D., <i>Worcester</i>
Recorder	Thomas A. Colacchio, M.D., <i>Lebanon</i>

About the New President-Elect.....

Dr. Roger S. Foster, Jr. from Shelburne, Vermont, received his undergraduate degree from Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania and his medical degree from Western Reserve University Medical School.

Until 1992, he was Professor of Surgery at the University of Vermont College of Medicine and the Director of the Vermont Cancer Center at the University of Vermont. In 1992 he moved to Georgia as the Wadley Glenn Professor of Medicine at Emory University and Chief of Surgical Services at the Crawford Long Hospital of Emory University.

A member of many medical and surgical societies, Dr. Foster has been a fellow of the American College of Surgeons since 1972. Most recently, he has served on the ACS Board of Regents, as chairman of the Fellowship Liaison Committee, Regental Advisor to the Commission on Cancer, as well as President of the Vermont Chapter of the ACS in 1981.

In addition to authoring more than 150 articles, chapters, and letters, he has served as a manuscript reviewer for numerous publications, including the Archives of Surgery and the New England Journal of Medicine.

About the New Vice President.....

Dr. **Barbara Kinder** is a graduate of Smith College and Yale University School of Medicine. She completed her training in general surgery at Yale School of Medicine and the Yale New Haven Hospital. Following her residency she remained on the faculty on the Department of Surgery at Yale with a special interest in Surgical Endocrinology and Oncology.

Dr. Kinder was Chief of the Surgical Service at the West Haven Veteran's Hospital from 1989 to 1998 where she established a research laboratory studying the cell biology of parathyroid hormone secretion. Currently she serves as President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and on the Council of the International Association of Endocrine Surgeons.

About the New Chair of the Program Committee.....

Victor E. Pricolo, M.D., FACS is a Professor of Surgery at Brown University and Director of Medical Education at Rhode Island Hospital. He is also Chief, Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery at the Brown University Medical School. Dr. Pricolo has authored or co-authored more than seventy peer-reviewed scientific articles and 10 book chapters.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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contributions to the dues structure from among our 350 senior members that allow the society to maintain its present stance on this issue.

At the recent annual meeting in Boston, the Program Committee, under the leadership of Francis D. Moore, Jr., truncated the scientific program to allow for six presentations on the history of surgery in the respective six New England states. Their inclusion reflected interest on the part of the membership and the leadership in disseminating the rich history of surgery in our region as well as some desire on the part of the editorial board of the Archives of Surgery to include historical elements among the papers to be published in the journal. One byproduct of this interest in history was the request by President Moncure that I organize and chair an Archives Subcommittee to collect and collate the materials representing the "story" of the society since its founding in 1916. At this writing, the committee is being assembled and when its work is completed the membership should have computer access to a meaningful database consisting of a roster of past and current members, bios, and presidential addresses, etc. Suggestions and contributions of information and time are welcomed.

Plans are already underway for next year's meeting in Providence, September 21-23, 2001. Please begin early to prepare abstracts for the Program Committee, chaired this year by Victor Pricolo. It is also important that all authors desiring publication of their manuscripts in the Archives of Surgery submit them for pre-review by the Program Committee.

It is the ultimate honor and privilege of a career in surgery to serve this year as your president. I encourage you all to strive to maintain equilibrium in these difficult times for doctors, to continue your commitment to this remarkable professional society, and to share your observations, suggestions and concerns with me throughout the year.

H. David Crombie, M.D.

Bylaw Changes Approved

Article II, Section F

"Election of candidates whose names have been selected from the Master List by the Executive Committee shall be by vote of the Society at the annual meeting. Twenty NEGATIVE VOTES ~~blackballs~~ shall exclude an applicant from membership."

Article II, Section G

"Honorary members shall be distinguished individuals in the field of surgery or the related sciences and shall be proposed by the Executive Committee. Election shall be by the usual method of ballots at the annual meeting, and twenty NEGATIVE VOTES ~~blackballs~~ shall exclude a candidate from membership."

From the NESS State Representatives

CONNECTICUT

John C. Russell, M.D.
jrussell@nbgh.org

Lenworth Jacobs, M.D. was elected to a two-year term as President of the Connecticut Chapter, American College of Surgeons, at the Chapter's Annual Meeting on November 14, 2000.

MAINE

Edward Z. Walworth, M.D.
ezwmd@aol.com

The Maine Chapter of the American College of Surgeons invites all members of the New England Surgical society to attend its 50th Anniversary meeting at The Grand Summit Hotel at Sugarloaf/USA in Kingfield, Maine. This annual meeting will take place February 16 -18, 2001. Featured speakers will include Jonathan Meakins MD FACS of McGill University, a Regent of the American College of Surgeons, and Thomas Russell MD FACS, the Executive Director of the College.

The Maine Chapter was the second chapter of the ACS, chartered in 1951. The annual meeting will also feature a special seminar on the new coding compliance guidelines. For more information, contact the Maine Representative to the NESS, Edward Walworth MD, 710 Main Street, Lewiston ME 04240, 207-783-1449, or contact the Chapter Secretary, Joel Lafleur MD via jlafleur@ctel.net

MASSACHUSETTS

Nicholas P.W. Coe, M.D.
nicholas.coe@bhs.org

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Seth A. Resnicoff, M.D.
(603) 224-0584 / Fax: (603) 225-5769

RHODE ISLAND

Victor E. Pricolo, M.D.
(401) 553-8306 / Fax: (401) 868-2315

VERMONT

Fred Bagley, M.D.
frederick.bagley@vtmedmed.org

NESS MEMBERS - If you have local news which you would like to share with the NESS membership in this section of the Newsletter, please contact your State Representative.

NECROLOGY

OCTOBER, 1999 - SEPTEMBER, 2000

Clifford C. Agnew, M.D., Boca Raton, Florida
Charles F. Chandler, M.D., Sebasco Estates, Maine
Warren F. Eberhart, M.D., Contoocook, New Hampshire
Cordell E. Gross, M.D., Burlington, Vermont
Mark A. Hayes, M.D., New Haven, Connecticut
Thomas Lacey, M.D., Keene, New Hampshire
Irving M. Madoff, M.D., Newton, Massachusetts
Thomas Perry, M.D., Providence, Rhode Island
George W. B. Starkey, M.D., Boston, Massachusetts

Plan Now to Attend the 8th Annual Surgical Resident and Fellow Research Day

May 17, 2001

New England Medical Center, Boston

The 8th Annual Surgical Resident and Fellow Research Presentation Day will be held on Friday, May 17, 2001. This program has been sponsored by the New England Surgical Society, The Massachusetts and Connecticut Chapters of the ACS and the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute. Last year 22 presentations from 11 New England programs were delivered. Winners of the Best Presentation competition were awarded plaques and cash prizes.

The program has grown steadily each year and we hope that Surgical Residents and Fellows in Surgical Subspecialties (vascular, cardiothoracic, pediatric, critical care etc) will continue to participate. While the quality of the science is a key component, particular emphasis on the quality of the written abstract, oral presentation, and audiovisual aids will be made. This levels the playing field for those who wish to submit clinical work for consideration.

Many residents use this forum as a "test run" before going to larger meetings or as an opportunity to refine their presentation skills in a more relaxed atmosphere. Each participant will receive feedback from the judges highlighting strengths and areas for improvement. This has been a great opportunity for residents and fellows from different programs to meet and exchange ideas. The publication of the meeting abstracts has not limited subsequent journal submissions in any way.

This year's Visiting Professor Address on Academic Surgery will be given Dr. David Rattner from the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

The Call for Abstracts will be mailed in January to Program Chairman, Program Directors, and any interested parties. For information please call Steven Schwaitzberg, MD at 617 636 5585 or e-mail sschwaitzberg@lifespan.org.

Current Surgery Publishes Abstracts from 2000 NESS Research Day

The September/October 2000 issue of *Current Surgery* contains the abstracts from the 7th Annual Surgical Resident and Fellow Research Day, held at the New England Medical Center in the spring and sponsored by the New England Surgical Society.

Current Surgery is the official journal of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery.

New Members

- Paul E. Bankey, M.D.**
Worcester, Massachusetts
- Giacomo P. Basadonna, M.D.**
New Haven, Connecticut
- Ronald Bleday, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Henning A. Gaissert, M.D.**
Providence, Rhode Island
- Felix Hernandez, Jr., M.D.**
Bangor, Maine
- Richard H. Koehler, M.D.**
Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts
- Robert A. Kozol, M.D.**
Farmington, Connecticut
- David N. Krag, M.D.**
Burlington, Vermont
- Joel B. Lafleur, M.D.**
Lewiston, Maine
- William C. Mackey, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- George A. Perdrizet, M.D.**
Hartford, Connecticut
- Frank B. Pomposelli, Jr., M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- John A. Powelson, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Juan C. Puyana, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Patricia L. Roberts, M.D.**
Burlington, Massachusetts
- Michael S. Rosenblatt, M.D.**
Burlington, Massachusetts
- Jay J. Schnitzer, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Steven D. Schwaitzberg, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Robert L. Sheridan, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Douglas R. Smego, M.D.**
Stamford, Connecticut
- John O. Thayer, Jr., M.D.**
Hartford, Connecticut
- Gus J. Vlahakes, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Richard B. Wait, M.D.**
Springfield, Massachusetts
- Michael T. Watkins, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Robert M. Weiss, M.D.**
*New Haven, Connecticut**
- Cameron D. Wright, M.D.**
Boston, Massachusetts
- Daniel E. Wroblewski, M.D.**
Providence, Rhode Island

* Denotes Senior Membership

Highlights of the 2000 Annual Meeting

The 81st Annual Meeting of the New England Surgical Society was held at The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston from October 6-8, 2000. In attendance were 211 members, 41 non-member physicians, and 84 spouses.

An excellent scientific program, selected by the Program Committee chaired by Francis D. Moore, Jr., included 14 preferred papers and a panel discussion on "Pancreatic Tumors: Strategies and Tactics", moderated by Andrew L. Warshaw. Panelists included Jeffrey Matthews, Mark P. Callery, and Carlos Fernandez del Castillo. In addition, a history of surgery in each state was presented by each Representative.

The 16th Annual Samuel Jason Mixter Lecture was presented by John L. Cameron who focused on "The Current Management of Pancreatic Cancer". In addition, the Presidential Address, "Tenax Propositi on Uncharted Seas" delivered by Ashby Mocure, was a highlight of the program. Following the presidential address, Hermes C. Grillo was presented with the Nathan Smith Award.

John P. Welch, Secretary

RESIDENT PRIZE ESSAY AWARDS

FIRST PLACE

James H. Balcom, IV, M.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School
*Ten Year Experience with 734 Pancreatic Resections:
Changing Indications, Older Patients, and Decreasing
Length of Hospitalization*

SECOND PLACE

Peter C. Wu, M.D.

University of Connecticut Medical School /
Connecticut Children's Medical Center
*Repair of Pectus Excavatum Deformities in Children:
A New Perspective of Treatment Using Minimal
Access Surgical Technique*

THIRD PLACE

Jean-Pierre E. N. Pierie, M.D., Ph.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
*The Effect of Grade and Surgery on Outcome of
Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors*

NESS ANNUAL MEETINGS

2001 Annual Meeting - September 21-23

The Westin Hotel, Providence, Rhode Island

2002 Annual Meeting - September 27-29

The Balsams Resort, Dixville Notch, New Hampshire

2003 Annual Meeting - September 19-21

The Doubletree Islander, Newport, Rhode Island



New England Surgical Society

2000 - 2001 Committees

NESS Charitable Foundation

Louis J. Vito, M.D., President
Morton G. Kahan, M.D., Secretary
Howard G. Pritham, M.D., Treasurer
H. David Crombie, M.D., Director
Frederick R. Radke, M.D., Director

Nominating Committee

Leslie W. Ottinger, M.D., Chair
Peter J. Deckers, M.D.
Ashby C. Moncure, M.D.

Program Committee

Victor E. Pricolo, M.D., Chair
David E. Clark, M.D.
Thomas A. Colacchio, M.D.
James C. Hebert, M.D.
Nick P. Perencevich, M.D.
David B. Pilcher, M.D.
Neil S. Yeston, M.D.
Edward Z. Walworth, M.D.
John P. Welch, M.D.
H. David Crombie, M.D., Ex-Officio

Ad Hoc Committee on Annual Research Day

John C. Russell, M.D., Chair
Nicholas P.W. Coe, M.D.
William L. Gage, M.D.
Francis D. Moore, Jr., M.D.
John P. Welch, M.D.

Ad Hoc Committee on Corporate Relations

Robert M. Quinlan, M.D., Chair
Peter B. Baute, M.D.
John P. Welch, M.D.



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