MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Come to the 81st Annual Meeting of the New England Surgical Society!

Plans have been completed for the central, annual event of the NESS, the Annual Meeting, which will occur October 6-8, 2000 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston.

The Samuel Jason Mixter Lecture will be delivered by Dr. John L. Cameron, Surgeon-in-Chief of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Cameron will also participate in a panel discussion on the surgical evaluation and management of pancreatic malignancies. The panel moderator will be Dr. Andrew L. Warshaw of the Massachusetts General Hospital.

An unusual feature of the program in this millennial year will be the presentation of the history of surgery in each of our New England States, by selected speakers.

The Program Committee, under the direction of Dr. Francis D. Moore, Jr., has carefully selected fourteen scientific papers to be presented.

My Presidential Address is entitled “Tenax Propositi on Uncharted Seas.” Dr. Hermes C. Grillo will be presented the Nathan Smith Award at the conclusion of the Presidential Address.

An well-known speaker has agreed to address those attending the annual banquet on Saturday evening, October 7th. The dress is business attire.

Please make plans to join your friends and colleagues in Boston for a memorable weekend in early October. Details regarding registration and hotel reservations are included with this mailing.

Ashby C. Moncure, M.D.

Seventh Annual Surgical Resident / Fellow Research Presentation Day

On Friday, May 19, 2000, the Surgical Resident Fellow Research Presentation Day, sponsored in part by the New England Surgical Society (NESS), was held at Tufts/New England Medical Center, Sterns Auditorium. While this was the 7th annual presentation day held at Tufts, this was the first year in which major sponsorship was provided by NESS.

Twenty-two papers were presented by 21 residents and fellows representing 12 surgical programs throughout New England. There were nearly 40 in attendance during the daylong presentation. A wide range of basic and clinical science topics were covered in three outstanding scientific presentations.
Seventh Annual Surgical Resident Day

“The quality of the resident presentations, and the interaction between the presenters and the audience was a far cry from that which would have occurred in most residency settings as little as ten years ago,” noted David Crombie, NESS President-Elect. “The residents and fellows in our New England programs are the future members of NESS. It is appropriate that our Society continue to encourage the growth and development of these programs.”

The judges for the competition were Dr. Francis Moore, Dr. Nicholas Coe and Dr. John Russell. Dr. Francis Moore also provided the featured visiting lecture entitled “Academic Surgery in the 21st Century”.

Three resident prizes (as well as an honorable mention) were awarded. The first prize of $1500, sponsored by NESS was given to Dr. Malini Iyer for her presentation entitled “Tumor Necrosis Factor Down Regulates Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptors in Vivo”. This work is from the Department of Surgery, University of Connecticut School of Medicine in Farmington, Connecticut and the Harrison Department of Surgical Research, University of Pennsylvania.

The $1000 second prize, sponsored by the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, went to Dr. A. Tavakkolizadeh from the Departments of Surgery at Brigham Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School and the Division of Health Sciences and Technology, Harvard-Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge. His presentation was entitled “Glucagon-Like Peptide 2 (GLP-2) Promotes Intestinal Recovery Following Chemotherapy-Induced enteritis.

The third place prize of $100 sponsored by the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Surgeons went to Dr. Jen Jen Yeh from the Department of Surgery, BU Medical Center, for the presentation titled “AKT and Prostate Tumor Genesis”. Of note, Dr. Yeh also won a prize in last year’s presentation.

Honorable Mention was given to Dr. Bernard Benedetto from Baystate Medical Center for his presentation on “The Use of Hyperbaric Oxygen (HBO) for the Management of Calciphylaxis.

The size of the program, including the number of participating residency programs, has increased steadily over the past seven years. With the continued support of NESS, this can truly become a New England-wide resident research forum.

The abstracts from this year’s meeting will be published in Current Surgery, the official journal of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery.

Additional sponsors of the Seventh Annual Surgical Resident/Fellow Research Presentation Day included the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute, the Massachusetts and Connecticut Chapters of the American College of Surgeons, and the Department of Surgery at Tufts-New England Medical Center.

Unrestricted corporate support was received from the following donors: Ethicon Endosurgery, Merck and Company, Ortho-McNeil, Pfizer, United States Surgical Corporation and Wyeth-Ayerst.

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ATTENTION 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.
Report of the President

Dr. Moncure noted that Dr. John L. Cameron of Johns Hopkins would be this year’s Mixter Lecturer and Dr. Hermes C. Grillo of the Massachusetts General Hospital will receive the Nathan Smith Award. The banquet speaker will be Hockey Hall of Famer, Bobby Orr.

Report of the Secretary

Dr. Welch noted that current membership of the Society is 634 members, including 249 Active, 352 Senior, 31 Associate, and 2 Honorary members. The following members has passed away since January 2000:
- Irving M. Madoff, M.D. of Newton, Massachusetts
- George W. B. Starkey, M.D. of Boston, Massachusetts

The Executive Committee also reviewed the “Recommendations to the NESS for the direct election of Senior members” and it was agreed to amend paragraph 4 to read as follows: “In lieu of establishing annual dues for Senior members, those candidates recommended for direct election to Senior membership may elect to make a one-time contribution of $1,000 to the NESS Charitable Foundation or to pay annual dues for a five-year period”.

Report of the Treasurer

Dr. Quinlan noted that cash on hand as of March 31, 2000 totaled $120,156 due to a year-to-date surplus of $39,371. The operating expenses for the Society totaled approximately $65,000 per year and the goal of achieving an asset level of two times operating expenses was well within reach. In reviewing the Income Statement and accompanying schedules, Dr. Quinlan highlighted the $14,000 in voluntary assessments which had been received in the previous fiscal year which assisted the Society in increasing its asset base. He noted the $5,000 decline in Senior contributions and indicated that, although this might be cyclical, this trend should be monitored in coming years.

Discussion took place regarding the surplus from the 1999 Annual Meeting and the budget will be monitored carefully so that member registration fees could be adjusted accordingly to result in a smaller surplus.

Report of the Recorder

Dr. Colacchio indicated that two of the 16 papers submitted to the Archives of Surgery had not been accepted and the status of the other 14 would be available from the Editor in the next several weeks.

Report of the Program Committee

Dr. Moore had distributed a copy of the program selected by the Committee from the abstracts submitted by the membership. Fourteen papers were considered suitable for presentation. The program will include historical papers outlining the development of surgery in the six New England states, a Mixter Lecture by Dr. John Cameron of Johns Hopkins, and a panel discussion on “Pancreatic Disease” moderated by Dr. Andrew L. Warshaw.

Report of the Representative to the American College of Surgeons’ Board of Governors

Dr. Moore discussed the concept of his joining with other Massachusetts Governors in submitting a single report to the ACS Board of Governors rather than to submit individual reports. There was consensus that Dr. Moore coordinate a report with ACS Governors from all six New England states with the intent of submitting a consensus statement. If there were issues of specific importance to the New England Surgical Society, however, a separate and distinct NESS report should be prepared.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Corporate Relations

Dr. Quinlan shared with the Executive Committee communications he had received from individual members and from the various state representatives regarding the possibility of seeking corporate support for future meetings of the Society. There was no clear consensus among either the members who had been polled, individual state representatives, or the Executive Committee itself regarding what course of action should be taken. There was general agreement that it was not appropriate at this time to seek such support given the financial condition of the Society, and the matter will be deferred to a later date.

Recommendations for Charitable Foundations Funds Disbursements

Dr. David Pilcher, President of the Charitable Foundation, noted that the Foundation had agreed to expend 50% of its income each year, which in the current year would amount to approximately $9,500 being available. It was agreed that the $2,500 honorarium for the Mixter Lecturer plus his expenses would total approximately $4,000. This coupled with the $3,000 for the Resident Prizes at the Annual Meeting and the $1,500 commitment to Surgical Resident/Fellow Research Presentation Day would leave approximately $1,000 available for other new activities.
81st Annual Meeting of the New England Surgical Society

October 6-8, 2000
The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel
Boston, Massachusetts

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

For additional information, registration and hotel reservation forms, please contact:
NESS Meetings
13 Elm Street
Manchester, MA 01944
(978) 526-8330 / Fax: (978) 526-7521 / E-Mail: ness@prri.com

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN MASSACHUSETTS
Paul Friedmann, M.D.

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN RHODE ISLAND
Robert W. Hopkins, M.D.

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN MAINE
Walter B. Goldfarb, M.D.

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN VERMONT
James C. Hebert, M.D.

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN CONNECTICUT
H. David Crombie, M.D.

HISTORY OF SURGERY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE
Seth A. Resnicoff, M.D.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
(Members Only)

PANEL DISCUSSION
Pancreatic Disease
MODERATOR: Andrew L. Warshaw, M.D.
John L. Cameron, M.D.
Baltimore, Maryland
Mark P. Callery, M.D.
Worcester, Massachusetts
Carlos Fernandez del Castillo, M.D.
Boston, Massachusetts

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS
Ashby C. Moncure, M.D.
TENAX PROPOSITI ON UNCHARTED SEAS

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL
SAMUEL JASON MIXTER LECTURE
THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF PANCREATIC CANCER
John L. Cameron, M.D.

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FUTURE MEETINGS of the NEW ENGLAND SURGICAL SOCIETY

2001 Annual Meeting
September 20-23
Westin Hotel
Providence, Rhode Island

2002 Annual Meeting
September 27-29
The Balsams Resort
Dixville Notch, New Hampshire

2003 Annual Meeting
September 17-21
The Doubletree Islander
Newport, Rhode Island

2004 Annual Meeting
September 30-October 3
Hilton Montral Bonaventure
Montreal, Quebec, Canada