



THE SURGICAL SCENE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA CHAPTER, ACS • FALL 2010

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President's Report



It is my pleasure to introduce you to the first edition of the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons' newsletter. We hope to use this format to keep the membership informed of the activities of the Chapter. We also hope to use this newsletter to educate our member surgeons regarding the ACS Congress, legislative activities affecting the house of medicine in the Commonwealth, and changes to the healthcare landscape emanating from Washington DC.

Please do not hesitate to provide us feedback regarding topics you would like to see covered. This is a very volatile time in Medicine and it is more important than ever to get involved. Our Chapter is interested in increasing its numbers and its presence around the state. If you know of Surgeons who are eligible to be Fellows of the College but who have not taken steps to join, please offer to sponsor them. Find out more at: <http://www.facs.org/memberservices>. If you know of Surgeons who are members of the College but are not members of the Virginia Chapter, please encourage them to contact us at www.virginiaacs.org. **We are offering incentives to members who bring in new members this year--discounting your dues by 50%.** Another initiative for the coming year has been a closer cooperation with the MSV than in previous years. **We are going to join their "White Coats on Call" campaign this year with Surgeons encouraged to visit Richmond together to meet with our legislators on Wednesday February 9, 2011.**

We look forward to seeing you in Washington, DC at the Clinical Congress in October and please stop by the Joint Reception of the Academic Departments at MCV, UVA, EVMS and Carilion on Tuesday October 5, 2010, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Washington Marriott in Wardman Park, Washington DC (Thurgood Marshall North room). ■

Craig Derkay, MD, FACS, President, Virginia Chapter-ACS

Meet the Virginia Chapter Leadership

The 2010-2011 Officers and Council members were elected in April during the 2010 Annual Meeting. We welcome your comments, suggestions and input. Feel free to contact us.

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2011 Annual Meeting



May 13 - 15, 2011

Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump
www.richmondshortpump.hilton.com

Plans are underway for the 2011 Annual Meeting of the VA Chapter, American College of Surgeons and the Virginia Surgical Society. The meeting will be held May 13 – 15, 2011 at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa. One topic we will focus on is how Virginia would mobilize and use physician manpower in a declared disaster. Dr. Marrison Levine, MD, MPH, Deputy Commissioner for Disaster Preparedness and Response for the VA Department of Health will address this important issue. Much more is being planned. Be sure to visit our website, www.virginiaacs.org for program updates and to reserve your room at the Hilton.

We hope you and your family can join us for the 2011 Annual Meeting! ■

Virginia Chapter, White Coats on Call Day

At the invitation of incoming MSV President, Dr. Cyn Romero, the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons has been offered the opportunity to join the MSV in their annual MSV White Coats on Call days.

The Virginia Chapter of the ACS's White Coats on Call Day will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2011. The American College of Surgeons is offering a grant to State Societies to participate in such events and our Chapter is applying for the funds (Day at the Capitol grant).

MSV's White Coats on Call days are MSV's signature grassroots lobbying days held each year during the General Assembly session in Richmond. White Coat days ensure the near-daily presence of physicians at the Capitol and give physicians the opportunity to tell their delegates and senators about the challenges facing the practice of medicine and Virginia's health care system.

Save the date on your calendar now for the Chapter's White Coat Day! Without your efforts to reach out

to legislators, they may not have your best interests in mind!

The schedule for 2011 is as follows:

- Tuesday, January 18* — District 1 and District 2
- Wednesday, January 19* — CMPLI, District 7 and District 10
- Thursday, January 20* — District 6 and Radiology Day
- Monday, January 24* — District 5 and District 9
- Tuesday, January 25* — District 8 and VACEP Day
- Wednesday, January 26* — District 3
- Thursday, January 27* — Pediatric Day
- Tuesday, February 1* — Family Physicians and Old Dominion Medical Society
- Thursday, February 3* — District 2 and Otolaryngology Day ▶



*Tuesday, February 9 — Virginia Chapter,
American College of Surgeons*

*Monday, February 14 — District 1, District 9 and
District 10*

Tuesday, February 15 — District 6 and District 7

Wednesday, February 16 — District 5 and District 8

Thursday, February 17 — District 3

MSV will provide more information about registering for the 2011 days this fall. Visit www.msv.org/wcoc for more information. The FAQ contains additional details about the event. ■

Issues Committee Meeting during MSV Annual Meeting

Representatives from all of the state subspecialty surgical societies are invited to become members of the Virginia Chapter's Issues Committee. (Committee members are required to be members of both the American College of Surgeons and the Virginia Chapter). The Committee serves as a unifying entity, so that at the time of the Medical Society of Virginia meetings and the surgical caucuses, surgeons could show up with common goals and common support from fellow surgical societies.

The purposes of the Committee are:

1. Improving communication among surgical societies
2. Improving collaboration among the surgical

specialty societies

3. Coordination of efforts (and attempts not to duplicate efforts) to resolve issues pertinent to surgical practice in the state of Virginia
4. Cooperation, where appropriate and fiscally beneficial, in holding annual meetings.

The Issues Committee will meet during the MSV Annual Meeting. This year, it is scheduled for Saturday, October 23 from 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, VA. If you are interested in attending, please contact Susan McConnell at 804/643-6631 or via email at smcconnell@ramdocs.org. ■

Humanitarian Surgical Resident Travel Scholarship Program

In 2009, the Virginia Chapter, American College of Surgeons (VA-ACS) established the VA-ACS Humanitarian Surgical Resident Travel Scholarship Program. This program was established to offset travel expenses for Surgical Residents in Virginia who are interested in participating in programs to deliver surgical care as part of Humanitarian missions to underdeveloped countries.

This year, two recipients have been selected for the travel scholarships: Stephen M. Wold, MD (Eastern Virginia Medical School) and Phillip G. Chen, MD (University of Virginia). Each recipient received \$500.00 to offset travel expenses.



Stephen M. Wold, MD led a team from Eastern Virginia Medical School to hospital Loma de Luz (Hill of Light) near Balfate, Honduras. The goals of the trip were to maximize the direct and indirect medical benefit to the people of Balfate as well as the medical system at the hospital. The medical mission team supported ongoing hospital efforts by providing head and neck consultation and surgery. Past procedures have included the treatment of facial trauma, thyroid malignancy, and benign tumors of the head and neck. ▶▶



Phillip G. Chen, MD from the University of Virginia will work with the “Mission of Hope, Bolivia” which is an organization that runs a free medical clinic in Santa Cruz. Each year, a team of otolaryngologists, anesthesiolo-

gists and nurses from across the United States volunteer their time and services to provide free surgical care for the needy patients of this clinic. Surgeries include tonsillectomies, sinus surgery, cleft lip and palate repairs and excision of masses. ■

2010 Leadership Conference



Dr. Feliberti

The 2010 ACS Leadership Conference for Young Surgeons and Chapter Leaders and the Third Annual Joint Surgical Advocacy Conference (JSAC) was held July 24 – 27, 2010 at the Hyatt Capitol Hill, which is located a few blocks from the College’s new DC-headquarters building.

The Chapter sent two members to attend as Young Surgeon Representatives: Dr. Eric Feliberti from EVMS and Dr. David Lanning from VCU. This year’s conference featured advocacy training and meetings with legislators. This conference offered attendees from the surgical community the opportunity to

join their peers in a collaborative advocacy effort.

“The Leadership Conference was very interesting and informative. There was a nice breadth of speakers and a great group of surgeons from around the country. I would strongly recommend it to all surgeons interesting in pursuing a leadership role in their institution” says Dr. Lanning.



Dr. Lanning

If you are interested in attending a future Leadership Conference, please contact Susan McConnell, Chapter Administrator, at smcconnell@ramdocs.org ■

Claude Moore Physician Leadership Institute

Virginia’s Surgeons are invited to apply to the MSV’s Claude Moore Physician Leadership Institute in the coming year. The Institute’s goal is to produce a network of physician leaders to work individually and together to advance health and health care in our state. The Institute operates over 12 months from September-

September with live sessions in Richmond in September, January and May and web-based activities in the intervening months. Applications are available at www.msvfoundation.org. Additional information is available from Katy Sawyer ksawyer@msv.org. ■

ACS Clinical Congress

Listed below are the surgeons from Virginia who will speak during the Clinical Congress, October 3 – 7, 2010 in Washington DC.

Name	City	Session Code	Session Title
Kenneth J. Cherry MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PG21	Getting Out of Trouble during Open Vascular and Endovascular Procedures
L.D. Britt MD, MPH, FACS	Norfolk	PS318	Duty Hour Restrictions for Surgical Residents: Impact on Patients, Residents, and Faculty
L.D. Britt MD, MPH, FACS	Norfolk	SC15	Surgeons as Effective Communicators: Sharpening Skills for Critical Moments
Mary E. Maniscalco-Theberge MD, FACS	Reston	SC01	Surgical Education: Principles and Practice
John B. Hanks MD, FACS	Charlottesville	TH01	The Future of General Surgery
John B. Hanks MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PS232	Surgeon Burnout: Putting Out the Flames
Tayseer A. Aldaghlis MD	Falls Church	SPO5	Trauma Care
G. Wilkins Hubbard II MD. MS. FACS. FRCS(C)	Norfolk	PS129	Perils, Pitfalls, and Benefits of a Surgeon as a Hospital Employee
Jean M. Panneton MD, FACS, FRCS	Norfolk	PG21	Getting Out of Trouble during Open Vascular and Endovascular Procedures
David R. Brenin MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PS118	Newer Approaches to the Management of Breast Cancer
John T. Sinacori MD FACS	Norfolk	PS211	Iatrogenic Endotracheal Tube Injuries: A Practical Approach to Treatment and Prevention
Omar M. Rashid MD	Richmond	PS209	Spectacular Cases from Residents
Amani D. Politano	Charlottesville	SE07	Perioperative and Critical Care Surgery
Stephanie R. Akbari MD, FACS	Arlington	SC02	Fundamentals of Breast Imaging for the General Surgeon
Brian A. Nosek PhD, MPhil	Charlottesville	PS207	Unconscious Bias: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention
Rod Huebbers	Leesburg	PS406	Developing a Successful Breast Reconstruction Team
Roberta L. Gartside MD, FACS	Reston	PS406	Developing a Successful Breast Reconstruction Team
Tjasa Hranjec MD	Charlottesville	SF28	Critical Care III: Trauma
Gerald J. Bechamps MD FACS	Winchester	PS232	Surgeon Burnout: Putting Out the Flames
Gerald J. Bechamps MD FACS	Winchester	SPO3	Surgeons: Studying Ourselves
Rosemarie Metzger MD	Charlottesville	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy
Christine Carter Toevs MD FACS	Roanoke	SC03	Ultrasound Course for Residents
Christine Carter Toevs MD FACS	Roanoke	SC03	Ultrasound Course for Residents
Todd W. Bauer MD, FACS	Charlottesville	SF15	Surgical Oncology
Todd W. Bauer MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PG22-1	General Surgery Review Course
Anna M. Leung MD	Richmond	SF05	Urology and Reproductive Surgery I
Paris Desoto Butler MD	Charlottesville	SE21	Posters of Exceptional Merit
James M. Ecklund MD FACS	Falls Church	PS206	Practice
Brian J. Kaplan MD FACS	Richmond	PS222	Lower Gastrointestinal Bleeding: Will It Ever Stop?
James Forrest Calland MD	Charlottesville	PS321	Surgical Management of Acute Pancreatitis
Benjamin D. Kozower MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PG22-1	General Surgery Review Course
Joshua M. Judge MD	Charlottesville	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy

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Louis C. Lee MD	Springfield	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy
Tarek M. Waked MD	Falls Church	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy
Susan C. Modesitt MD FACS	Charlottesville	PS225	Surgical Management of Common Vulvar Conditions
Cecelia H. Boardman MD FACS	Richmond	PS225	Surgical Management of Common Vulvar Conditions
Paula Ferrada MD	Richmond	SC03	Ultrasound Course for Residents
Damien J. LaPar MD	Charlottesville	SF04	Cardiothoracic Surgery I
Damien J. LaPar MD	Charlottesville	SF06	Cardiothoracic Surgery II
Damien J. LaPar MD	Charlottesville	SF06	Cardiothoracic Surgery II
Gregg R. Eure MD FACS	Virginia Beach	PS239	Diagnosis and Treatment of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia and Male Lower Urinary Tract Obstruction
Linda Duska MD	Charlottesville	PS225	Surgical Management of Common Vulvar Conditions
Raymond A. Costabile MD	Charlottesville	PS231	Sexual Dysfunction: Why, Who, and What Can Be Done?
Charles M. Friel MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PG22-1	General Surgery Review Course
John A. Kern MD, FACS	Charlottesville	SF04	Cardiothoracic Surgery I
John A. Kern MD, FACS	Charlottesville	PS112	Cardiac Surgery: Current Topics in Thoracic Aortic Disease
Reid B. Adams MD, FACS	Charlottesville	SC01	Surgical Education: Principles and Practice
Craig A. Peters MD FACS	Charlottesville	VE18	Urological Surgery
William D. Steers MD FACS	Charlottesville	PS239	Diagnosis and Treatment of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia and Male Lower Urinary Tract Obstruction
Don E. Detmer MD FACS	Crozet	PS205	Federal Incentives for Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Implementation: How to Get Yours
L.D. Britt MD, MPH, FACS	Norfolk	SC15	Surgeons as Effective Communicators: Sharpening Skills for Critical Moments
L.D. Britt MD, MPH, FACS	Norfolk	PS308	Trauma and Emergency Surgery Cases: Experts on the Hot Seat
Jennifer E. Mihalik-Koch MD	Roanoke	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy
Robert Swanson MD	Roanoke	PS307	Surgical Jeopardy
Craig S. Derkay, MD FACS	Norfolk	ME311	Teaching Old Dogs New Tricks: The Challenge of Introducing New Procedures into Your Surgical Practice

ACS WEB PORTAL

Don't forget to update your personal information on the ACS web portal. You can also retrieve your CME credits. Visit www.efacs.org

Billing Tips/Changes for 2010

Virginia Medicaid (DMAS) and Medicare have eliminated payments for consultations effective July 1, 2010. This covers codes 99241-99245; 99251-99255).

Additionally, the Medicaid HMO payors (Health-keepers Plus, Optima Family Care and Virginia Premier will be following DMAS' policies. As of this date, commercial carriers and TRICARE have not made the decision to follow suit. ■

Health Care Reform Becomes Law—with Flaws

After more than a year of heated debate, HR 3590 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Reconciliation Act of 2010 became law on March 30, 2010. The final bill was opposed by the College because of the Senate's decision to not address several provisions that the College felt were essential to be included or that we believe may have a negative effect on surgical patients.

These include: a failure to permanently repeal the flawed sustainable growth rate (SGR); lack of meaningful medical liability reforms; inclusion of an independent Medicare commission that may undermine transparency.

A few improvements that were part of the final bill resulting from ACS lobbying included: elimination of the proposed tax on cosmetic surgery; removing budget neutrality as a funding mechanism for bonus payments to rural surgeons; removal of Medicare application fees for physicians; redistributing unused GME residency slots; creating pediatric specialty loan repayment programs; establishing regionalized emergency care services and creating incentive programs for major surgical procedures performed in Health Professional Shortage areas. The ultimate impact of the legislation may not be known for several years as many major provisions do not go into effect until 2014 and 2015. ■

Virginia General Assembly Legislative Wrap-Up for Physicians

The budget for FY2011 included a 3% cut in Medicaid provider reimbursement. With this budget, Virginia now ranks 49th out of 50 states in terms of physician reimbursement rates ahead of only Mississippi. Fortunately, Virginia will receive in an extension of the increased fed-

eral match for Medicaid (FMAP) funds. Of that total, there are \$177.5 Million in legally required restorations (either state or federal requirements) of health care cuts that were passed by the General Assembly in February. The FMAP money will be used to fully restore the 3% ▶

cut from October 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

However, on July 1st 2011, the scheduled 4% cut in physician payments will still go into effect unless we can successfully advocate for the General Assembly to restore the funding during the 2011 General Assembly Session.

On the positive side, the GA mandated coverage for telemedicine services; protected peer review and quality information from being discoverable; improved the appeal and reconsideration processes when an adverse decision is made by an HMO. ■

Look for Dues Renewal Invoices this Fall

As surgeons, we need the benefits that derive from belonging to an organization that looks out for us when time is limited and demands heavy. The Virginia Chapter, American College of Surgeons is that organization.

Please join your colleagues by choosing to remain a member of the Chapter in 2011! Your annual dues help preserve and defend the sanctity of the physician/pa-

tient relationship; help build programs that keep our members updated; and position you and your practice as healthcare leaders in Virginia.

By reinvesting in the Chapter, Virginia can remain a great place to practice medicine and receive medical care.

Invoices for 2011 dues will go out in October. ■

VA Chapter Council Meetings

The Chapter's Council meets quarterly. In the past, we have held four face-to-face meetings. In an effort to cut costs, the Chapter has decided to hold only two face-to-face meetings and two conference calls. The next conference call will be held on September 16th and the next

meeting will be held on December 16th. If there are any topics you would like the Council to address, please contact our Chapter Administrator, Susan McConnell at smcconnell@ramdocs.org. ■

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE

Please make sure we have your correct contact information, including your mailing address and email address. Contact Susan McConnell at 804/643-6631 or via email smcconnell@ramdocs.org

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____ DATE _____

PRACTICE NAME _____

OFFICE ADDRESS _____

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE _____ FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

HOME TELEPHONE _____ HOME FAX _____

MEDICAL SCHOOL _____ DATE GRADUATED _____

INTERNSHIP _____ DATES _____

RESIDENCY _____ DATES _____

DATE ENTERED INTO PRACTICE IN VIRGINIA _____

BOARD CERTIFIED? Y _____ N _____ BOARD ELIGIBLE? Y _____ N _____

STATE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS? Y _____ N _____

MARK APPROPRIATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

ACTIVE \$75
Fellows or Associate Fellows of the American College of Surgeons residing or practicing in Virginia

AFFILIATE \$0
Members of the Candidate Group of the American College of Surgeons residing or practicing in Virginia

STUDENT \$0

PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION WITH APPROPRIATE DUES PAYMENT TO ADDRESS ABOVE. PLEASE NOTE: DUES MAY ALSO BE PAID ONLINE AT WWW.VIRGINIAACS.ORG