



New England Surgical Society Newsletter

Volume 8, Number 1

December 2005

2005-2006 Executive Committee

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Office of the Executive Director

900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U
Beverly, Massachusetts 01915
(978) 927-8330 / (978) 524-8890 fax
ness@pri.com

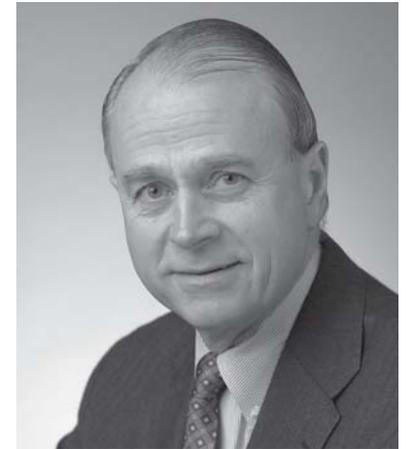
FROM THE PRESIDENT

The New England Surgical Society held its 86th annual meeting at the Mount Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire from September 30th through October 2nd 2005. The meeting was outstanding, with a common refrain heard throughout the weekend: "We need to come here next year", evidence of the meeting's appeal in education, entertainment, and camaraderie.

Ben Cosimi presided over 16 podium presentations, 12 "quick shot" brief reports, and 14 posters selected from the 65 abstracts submitted. Rounding out the educational portion of the program was Ben's fascinating address on Nobel prize winning surgeons, the Nathan Smith award recipient Michael Curci's moving words and slides on third world medicine, and Patricia Donahoe's Mixter lecture about her genetic research and clinical work with diaphragmatic hernia. The Program Committee headed by David Clark, ably assisted by Neil Yeston, Fred Bagley, Richard Barth, Desmond Birkett, John Louras, Rocco Orlando, and Tom Tracy are to be congratulated for the articulate and informative sessions. Kudos to the presenters and our audiovisual team, Rillahan and Associates.

The Saturday night banquet was delightful. In addition to great food and fun, the well-known group Rockapella provided extraordinary musical entertainment. Listening to all the favorable comments, I wondered how to get Bruce Springsteen for next year's post-prandial "show".

(continued on page 6)



Robert M. Quinlan, M.D.

Editor's Corner

Maybe it was the weather. Maybe it was the good food and drink. Maybe it was a well-attended meeting with excellent presentations, capped by a sensational singing group on Saturday evening. In any case, our recent Annual Meeting at the Mount Washington Hotel at Bretton Woods was a very enjoyable affair. It brought home to me how much I have enjoyed growing up in New England and then staying on to learn and practice surgery.

As a boy in Connecticut, I visited the whaling museum at the Mystic Seaport and the General Israel Putnam Revolutionary War campground and the

(continued on page 7)

Edward Z. Walworth, M.D.

With this edition, I finish my term as Editor of the Newsletter. My six year stint as the Maine Representative has ended and it is time for someone else on the Executive Committee to take over. These columns have tended to be personal, because one writes what one knows best, and I thank you for your indulgence. Within the ranks of the Society there are many prominent authors and there certainly must be others with something to say. This column should be an open forum for all members of the Society and will continue to serve as a connection between us.

EZW

**Photo Highlights of the
86th Annual Meeting of the New England Surgical Society
September 30 - October 2, 2005 / Mount Washington Hotel, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire**



What a difference a day makes! On September 29, New Hampshire was enveloped in rain and the famous foliage was still green. But as NESS members began to check in on Friday, September 30, the skies cleared, the sun drenched the Presidential Range, and seemingly overnight, the reds and oranges swept over the hillside. What a backdrop for the NESS 86th Annual Meeting.

And the membership responded. Three hundred and sixty-two members attended the meeting – an all-time high! Furthermore, over 60 children accompanied their parents to the meeting, attesting to the fact that young surgeons (the future of our society) are actively participating in the annual meeting.

The scientific sessions were outstanding. Sixteen podium presentations were made, accompanied by 12 brief presentations and 14 poster presentations. Congratulations to the winners of the Resident Prize Essay Awards – see the list.

Outside of the scientific sessions, the opportunities to enjoy the area were outstanding – tennis, golf, hiking, and the cog railway. And it was warm enough to enjoy the outdoor pool.

The President's dinner was highlighted by Rockapella, a New York-based a cappella ensemble that charmed and thrilled the audience with their vocal talents.

*See you in Mystic in 2006!
Fred Bagley
Immediate Past Secretary*



Photos by Edward Z. Walworth, M.D., Editor

RESIDENT PRIZE AWARD WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

**Neoadjuvant Therapy
and Local Recurrence
in Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma**

Sarah E. Greer
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

SECOND PLACE

**Risk Factors for the Development
of Abdominal Abscess Following
Operation for Perforated
Appendicitis: A Multi-Center
Case Control Study**

Marion C. W. Henry
Yale University School of Medicine

THIRD PLACE - TIE

**Is Right Hemicolectomy for
2.0 cm Appendiceal
Carcinoids Justified**

Zubin M. Bamboat
Massachusetts General Hospital

**Women in Surgery: Do We Really
Understand the Deterrents?**

Debra A. Gargiulo
University of Vermont
College of Medicine



Highlights of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

September 30 and October 2, 2005

Bretton Woods, New Hampshire



Report of the President

Dr. Cosimi reported that meeting pre-registrants numbered 330, almost equaling the level of the 2000 Annual Meeting in Boston. With potential onsite registrants, this may be a record breaking year in terms of attendance. A total of 36 registrants signed up for the SAGES endoscopic course. Dr. Cosimi reported that there had been no adverse feedback to the presence of Olympus and its corporate sponsorship. He suggested that additional corporate sponsorship be pursued.

Report of the Treasurer

Total assets at the end of June were \$222,319, versus year-to-date 2004 assets of \$147,229. For the year, receipts totaled \$232,745; and disbursements, \$157,655, for a net operating surplus of \$75,090. Total income of \$232,745 exceeded the budgeted income of \$187,575.

Report of the Editor of the *Archives of Surgery*

Julie A. Freischlag, MD, reported that the journal would transition to electronic manuscript submission and online review and she anticipates submissions increasing by 33%. The Archives' impact factor continues to grow, and is now ranked second, behind the *Annals of Surgery*. Upcoming changes to the journal include: the "Image of the Month" feature replacing the photo of a highlighted institution/department of surgery on the journal's cover; and the addition/expansion of a residents sections, with papers/articles/commentaries written and reviewed by residents.

Dr. Freischlag addressed whether presenters at the NESS Annual Meeting should be required to submit manuscripts to the Archives. The Executive Committee discussed the manuscript submission issue and presented many scenarios. The NESS wishes to continue its relationship with the Archives, and, over the next year, the Society will develop a more flexible policy for abstract submission.

Report of the Charitable Foundation

Dr. Radke reported beginning cash of \$185,626 at the start of the fiscal year on July 1, 2004, and an operating surplus of \$4,693 at the end of the fiscal year, resulting in total assets of \$190,320. This compares similarly to the \$5,334 surplus over the same period a year ago.

Report of the Representative to the American Board of Surgery

Dr. Hebert commented that the Maintenance of Certification Program was expected to create additional discussion.

Report of the Representative to the

American College of Surgeons Board of Governors

Dr. Moore reported that the conflict between the College and the ASBS regarding certifying bariatric centers of excellence was still unresolved, with competing certification processes in place.

Old Business

A proposed change to the by-law regarding Annual Meeting attendance was distributed. The Society would offer a one-year grace period to members who have missed three consecutive Annual Meetings, allowing them to meet one of the revised criteria for active participation in the Society. If a member fails to meet any of the criteria, he will then be offered the opportunity to resign, then dropped from the rolls. Since the amendment counts attendance at the Spring Resident research forum as one year's active participation, the Executive Committee agreed that proper registration/attendance records would have to be kept at the forum—which, as an added benefit, would guarantee an increased NESS audience.

The previously disseminated proposed By-Laws changes regarding streamlining the membership application timeline were redistributed.

Both Amendments were unanimously approved by the membership and the changes are printed in their entirety on page 5.

Report of the Ad Hoc Issues Committee

A previously disseminated notice regarding a meeting to be held during the Annual Meeting to reinvigorate interest in a community project was distributed. Dr. Berger commented that the project could result in a presentation during a portion of next year's Annual Meeting devoted to the junior members of the Society. A suggested project focus could be the difficulties young surgeons have with balancing commitments to teaching, research, and OR time.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, Roger S. Foster, M.D., Chair, together with Drs. Albert W. Dibbins and Walter B. Goldfarb, presented the following slate:

President:	Robert M. Quinlan, M.D.
President-Elect:	John P. Welch, M.D.
Vice President:	David W. Butsch, M.D.
Secretary:	Thomas F. Tracy, Jr. M.D.
Treasurer:	Nicholas P.W. Coe, M.D.
Recorder:	Neil S. Yeston, M.D.

BYLAW CHANGES APPROVED

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP *(the following sections changed)*

Section b. Active membership shall be limited to 300 members. No more than 35 new Active members shall be elected in any single year. Honorary membership shall be limited to 5 members. There shall be no limitation for senior or associate members.

Section d. Nominations for membership in the Society may be submitted by any Active or Senior member. On request to the Secretary of the Society, an appropriate application form and a statement for prospective applicants shall be made available to any Active or Senior member of the Society who wishes to serve as the primary sponsor of an applicant. It shall be the responsibility of the primary sponsor to review with the applicant the statement adopted by the Executive Committee and to insure that the applicant understands the purpose of the Society and intends to support them. It shall be the responsibility of the primary sponsor to complete the application form, and it shall be the responsibility of the co-sponsors to write letters of support, which shall be submitted with the application form to the Secretary of the Society prior to January 1st of the calendar year in which the application is to be considered. It shall be the responsibility of each state representative to review the application forms of applicants from his or her state, to seek advice from other members of the state about the proposed applicant, and to present the composite recommendations from members of that state for consideration by the Executive Committee at its first meeting after January 1st.

Section e. Procedure for nomination: The Secretary will furnish each member of the Society with copies of the master list. Election of candidates whose names have been selected from the master list by the Executive Committee shall be by vote of the entire Society. The Secretary will distribute voting ballots to all members via U.S. mail. Completed ballots must be returned to the Society by April 15th to be considered eligible. The Executive Committee shall review the ballots received by April 15th and elect those candidates selected by the membership ballot vote. Twenty negative votes shall exclude an applicant from membership.

Section f. A candidate's name will remain on the master list and will automatically come up for consideration by the Executive Committee each year for a period of three years after which time if the candidate has not been selected for presentation for vote, his name will be deleted. The names of candidates deleted from the master list may be proposed a second time after an interval of one year. No candidate shall be proposed more than twice.

Section j. Any active member who fails to actively participate in the Society for three years shall be automatically dropped from the membership. Active participation can be met by: 1) attendance at an annual meeting; 2) inclusion as an author of an abstract submitted for consideration for presentation at the annual meeting; 3) attendance at a Spring Resident research forum; or 4) participation in committees and/or performance of official business sanctioned by the Executive Committee.*

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

The Society shall meet annually in the autumn. The time and place shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Application forms for new membership to the Society shall be distributed at the annual meeting. Special meetings may be held when ordered by the Executive Committee.

*Editor's Note: Please see the discussion which took place during the Annual Meeting regarding this amendment on page 4 under "Old Business"

2005-2006 COMMITTEES

Ad hoc Issues Committee

David L. Berger , Chair
David W. Butsch
Richard S. Fox
E. Scott Frost
Orlando C. Kirton
Dicken S. Ko
Joel D. LaFleur
Guy Lancellotti
Kathleen A. LaVorgna
William S. Laycock, III
Bruce J. Leavitt
Thomas E. MacGillivray
Jerry D. Rankin
Selwyn O. Rogers, Jr.
Janice G. Rothschild
Richard S. Swanson
Michael P. Vezeridis

Archives Committee

H. David Crombie, Chair
Walter B. Goldfarb
James O. Menzoian
Dominic Zazzarino

Program Committee

Richard J. Barth, Jr., Chair
Desmond H. Birkett
Theresa A. Graves
John C. Louras
Rocco Orlando, III
Thomas F. Tracy, Jr.
John P. Welch, *Ex-Officio*
Robert M. Quinlan, *Ex-Officio*
Neil S. Yeston, *Ex-Officio*

Nominating Committee

Albert W. Dibbins, Chair
A. Benedict Cosimi
Walter B. Goldfarb

NESS Charitable Foundation

Dennis W. Vane, President
Graeme L. Hammond, Secretary
R. James Kones, Treasurer
David C. Brooks, Director
Jonathan Dreifus, Director
John E. Sutton, Jr., Director

The feeling of collegiality throughout the weekend was palpable among all attendees- residents, young members, senior members, spouses, and guests. The annual meeting is the "jewel in the crown" of NESS and Mount Washington certainly provided the perfect backdrop.

The Society thanks outgoing Secretary Fred Bagley who will spend more time sailing (not a bad choice!) but continue his attendance as an active member. Special thanks also to Bob Toulikian, past Vice President, Chip Moore, past Representative to the American College of Surgeons, Ed Kwasnik, past Connecticut Representative, and Ed Walworth, past Maine Representative and Editor of our newsletter. I am sure you will agree it has been a great bonus to have Ed in the post.

We welcome newly elected Vice President David Butsch, Secretary Tom Tracy, and Jonathan Woodson as Representative to the American College of Surgeons. Connecticut will now be represented on the Executive Committee by Ken Ciardiello from New Haven and Maine will be represented by Fred Radke from Portland.

David Clark will get a well-deserved rest as Program Committee Chair and Desmond Birkett will have a tall order to fill in that position. David Berger from Boston will continue to serve in the all-important post of Chair of the Issues Committee. This has morphed into a young surgeon's effort and very likely, holds the future of our Society. I encourage all members, regardless of age, to share their thoughts and become involved.

I express the congratulations of the entire NESS membership to a dear friend and outstanding surgeon, John Welch of Hartford, who has become our new president elect.

This was an important year for decisions, demonstrated by the Society's commitment to move with vigor toward our 100th anniversary in 2016.

- ♦ Our newsletter and expanding web site will be strongly supported. I encourage you to read and contribute to the newsletter and to add the website www.nesurgical.org to your list of frequently visited sites.
- ♦ A by-law amendment to Article II - Membership, Section D will allow for a more efficient, timely election of newly proposed members and an amendment to Section J will provide a more realistic approach to a member's required commitment to the Society.
- ♦ Our treasury, ably shepherded by Nick Coe, is on target with self-supporting meetings and dues sustaining operational expenses. The operational expenses approximate \$65,000.00 annually and there is currently almost a one-year safety net. It is hoped that dues will be held stable.
- ♦ To maintain the quality of presentations at our annual meeting, it was decided to allow work from authors who prefer publication other than in *Archives of Surgery*. The Executive Committee discussed the options with Julie Freishlag, the new editor of *Archives*, and it was agreed that this would be acceptable if at least 10-12 papers were submitted annually. It was also recognized that *Archives* is gaining ground as a place for publication, made easier with electronic submissions.

These actions required a meeting of the minds and included the opinions of both younger and older members. We congratulate the effort and applaud the result.

What can we do with this momentum?

- ♦ Look around your hospital for potential new members for NESS. An applicant needs to be FACS or certified by an ABMS surgical subspecialty board with an unrestricted license to practice medicine and surgery in New England. Applicants should be known to you for several years and be academically successful or, if in a non-university environment, demonstrate leadership ability in the hospital and or community setting. The potential applicant should express an interest and commitment to the Society. A team player is everyone's favorite. Secure an application and 2 supporting members to write letters of recommendation, in addition to your own and send to the NESS office by January 1, 2006. The applicant could be a member by next September. It is especially important to increase our diversity by adding women and younger surgeons to our ranks.
 - ♦ Become knowledgeable in the issues shaping your future as surgeons. Study your state's tort reform package, healthcare spending, manpower issues, or residency work hours. Exercise your findings on family and colleagues, expressing the pros and cons. Develop consensus in your own mind. Then spend a half day with a group of like minded NESS members visiting state and federal elected officials. Make a commitment to revisit them and share your experiences with the NESS office.
 - ♦ Become knowledgeable on quality measurements (eg. NSQIP) and discuss at your M & M meetings. Participate in a quality assessment project, whether looking at your own data or as part of a surgical department project. Share your thoughts with colleagues.
 - ♦ Brainstorm what your community needs for surgical care and envision what you would do to train surgeons to meet those needs. Think about how that extrapolates to the entire nation.
 - ♦ What interesting surgical data or questions have you and your colleagues been researching or considering? Encourage your faculty to report their data to the NESS. The Abstract deadline for the 2006 meeting is May 8, 2006. If your data is not yet mature enough, consider a report in 2007.
 - ♦ Become knowledgeable about a foreign country's medical & surgical policy. Converse with someone from another country and compare notes on the state of medicine in their native country vs. the United States.
- If you pursue just one of these activities, you will help move our ship of surgery forward. The effort will be worth it. It might take decades, but winning beats whining.
- Mark the calendar now for Friday, September 15 – Sunday, September 17, 2006, at the Mystic Marriott in Groton Connecticut. NESS promises to deliver education, entertainment, and camaraderie. This is your organization. Participate and tell us what you want.

I thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your president.
Robert M. Quinlan, MD, FACS

Editor's Corner (continued from page one)

water sculpted potholes at Kent Falls. Thus imprinted and impressed with nearby historical and natural features, I came to appreciate the other New England states during hikes up Mount Washington and Katahdin, canoe trips on Lake Winnepesaukee and the Saco River, and three prep school years north of Boston. College and medical school pulled me west, all the way to New Jersey and New York City. It was marriage to a P&S classmate from New Hampshire that brought me back to God's country – five years in the Upper Valley at Dartmouth-Hitchcock for internship and residency.

Two years in the Navy in Charleston, South Carolina, provided a different perspective. It was actually a refreshing change. Everyone needs some seasoning away from home. At the same time, my wife and I realized that we wanted to return to New England for the long haul. We looked over the northern tier, from Bangor to Ticonderoga, and eventually landed in a mill town in between.

The medical profession gives its practitioners the opportunity and privilege to see the full scope of humanity. In Lewiston we treat loggers, retired shoe stitchers, college professors, Somali immigrants – the list goes on. All NESS members can come up with comparable patients, given the varied but concentrated population we serve. New England has shoreline and forests, dirt roads and interstates, shingled summer cottages and house trailers, all fairly close together. In Maine we have the Beans of Egypt and LL Bean.

New England is small enough for surgeons within each state to know each other well. Referrals and transfers are made to acquaintances, not strangers. Courses and workshops in Boston, Hanover, New Haven, and other academic centers allow us to extend our relationships across state lines. The New England Surgical Society allows us to expand these relationships into friendships, from Bangor to Stamford, from rural outposts to the Ether Dome.

So now I'm looking forward to a trip back to Mystic next September.

Necrology

Kirk K. Barnes, M.D.

New Bern, North Carolina

Lloyd Brown, M.D.

Scarborough, Maine

Harold M. Clarke, M.D.

Matthews, North Carolina

Monroe Himmelstein, M.D.

West Hartford, Connecticut

C. Phillip Lape, M.D.

Cape Elizabeth, Maine

E. Sherburne Lovell, M.D.

Springfield, Vermont

Edward J. Manwell, M.D.

Northampton, Massachusetts

Ronald B. Ponn, M.D.

New Haven, Connecticut

John L. Pool, M.D.

Wilton, Connecticut

Eugene E. Record, M.D.

Marblehead, Massachusetts

Seth Arthur Resnicoff, M.D.

Concord, New Hampshire

Richard P. Sexton, M.D.

Barrington, Rhode Island

NEW MEMBERS (elected October 2, 2005)

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Walter L. Biffi, M.D.

Providence, Rhode Island

John A. Bonadies, M.D.

New Haven, Connecticut

Elizabeth M. Breen, M.D.

Boston, Massachusetts

Matthew G. Brown, M.D.

Hartford, Connecticut

Terry L. Buchmiller, M.D.

Boston, Massachusetts

Matthew A. Conway, M.D.

Rutland, Vermont

Dennis M. Cruff, M.D.

Pawtucket, Rhode Island

Burton L. Eisenberg, M.D.

Lebanon, New Hampshire

Timothy A. Emhoff, M.D.

Ashland, Massachusetts

Samuel R. G. Finlayson, M.D.

Lebanon, New Hampshire

Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D.

Farmington, Connecticut

Gregory R. Gadowski, M.D.

Brattleboro, Vermont

Peter P. Huang, M.D.

Bangor, Maine

Kamal M. F. Itani, M.D.

West Roxbury, Massachusetts

John D. Klemperer, M.D.

Bangor, Maine

Laurence E. McCahill, M.D.

Burlington, Vermont

R. Lawrence Moss, M.D.

New Haven, Connecticut

Cynthia N. Paciulli, M.D.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Mark Puder, M.D.

Boston, Massachusetts

David F. Reisfeld, M.D.

New London, Connecticut

Robert J. Winchell, M.D.

Portland, Maine

Rebecca C. Yang, M.D.

Burlington, Massachusetts

SENIOR MEMBERS

David C. Charlesworth, M.D.

Manchester, New Hampshire

Timothy J. Lepore, M.D.

Nantucket, Massachusetts

NESS State Representatives

CONNECTICUT Kenneth A. Ciardiello, M.D. / New Haven
(203) 789-3503 / Fax: (203) 867-5248
kciardiello@srhs.org

MAINE Frederick R. Radke, M.D. / Scarborough
(207) 883-0707 / Fax: (207) 883-0606
fradke@maine.rr.com

MASSACHUSETTS Michael D. Stone, M.D. / Boston
(617) 638-8655 / Fax: (617) 638-8653
michael.stone@bmc.org

NEW HAMPSHIRE Joseph P. Meyer, M.D. / Concord
(603) 224-0584 / Fax: (603) 225-5769
sajones@crhc.org

RHODE ISLAND Paul E. Morrissey, M.D. / Providence
(401) 444-5285 / Fax: (401) 444-3283
pmorrissey@lifespan.org

VERMONT Bruce J. Leavitt, M.D. / Burlington
(802) 847-4152 / Fax: (802) 847-8158
bruce.leavitt@vtmednet.org

www.nesurgical.org



The New England Surgical Society has a new and improved website. Check out the new website at www.nesurgical.org.

- ♦ Preliminary Information on the 2006 Annual Meeting and the Mystic Marriott in Mystic, Connecticut;
- ♦ Links to the abstracts presented at the 86th Annual Meeting;
- ♦ Society activities and information on upcoming events.

UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETINGS

September 15 – 17, 2006
Marriott Mystic Hotel and Spa
Groton, Connecticut

September 27 – 29, 2007
Wyndham Hotel
Burlington, Vermont



New England Surgical Society
900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915

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