

50 Year History of the SESPRS

In April 1958 the SESPRS was founded by a little more than a score of professionals who wanted to form a sectional group in order to discuss scientific and socio economic issues. Goals and objectives quickly turned to maintaining professional excellence within the group, providing a forum for the exchange of information, experience and opinions and to promote medical and surgical training and research in the expanding areas of plastic and reconstructive surgery. The Southeastern Society is now approaching its 50th Anniversary and it is fitting that an account of its history and accomplishments be reviewed. There is a good deal of information and material concerning the first four decades of the society, therefore this history will focus primarily on the fifth decade from 1997 to the present.

At the outset I am reminded of the words of John R. Lewis, a founding member and first historian of the society, in making an apology for any errors of information or opinion expressed in this historical account. In addition, I want to thank the previous members before me who have laid down important historical accounts of this society. I am also indebted to present members to whom I have sought advice and counsel regarding events and opinions. I have also been able to research valuable materials that are now stored at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Archives. In early 1998 Drs. Kenna Given, Anthony Pizzo, and Luis Vásconez after touring the historical collections facilities at UAB recommended that all available historical materials be placed in this environmentally controlled facility. In later years some of these materials and other information have been digitized and are now available on the website of the society. Special thanks go out to Tony Pizzo who not only has been key in laying down much of the later history of the society but also has provided me with assistance and information in this regard.

The founding of the Southeastern Society has been told and retold by many and can almost be narrowed down to a specific date and time. John Hamilton a founding member from St. Petersburg, Florida has actually transcribed this in poetic fashion in his ode to the Southeastern Society. The beginning goes like this:

*The year was '57 and fourteen took the Boards.
We met in San Francisco and started work towards
A group in the Old South, where several came to stay.*

*Mac DeMere's room was chosen for an organizing site
In the Old Fairmont Hotel, high atop Nob Hill so bright.
We needed interaction in many business ways;
Insurance, crippled children and birth deformities
Were the order of the day.*

*We pledged to meet in New Orleans in the spring of '58.
Neal Owens chose location and helped us pick the date.
We met at International House at the foot of Canal Street
There were only twenty-six of us who were able there to meet.*

The organizational structure of the society and the fledgling years of growth are again well chronicled in previous accounts. The Southeastern amulet was created by Clifford Snyder, using gold that he obtained from shipwrecked Spanish galleons. The tradition of the Southeastern is that the president and all past-presidents should wear their amulet at all Southeastern functions or else suffer economic hardship by having to pay for the drinks of all those present. An update on the great arms and seal of the Southeastern is appropriate. It was created by Robert Haggerty a founding member from South Carolina. It was taken from a wood engraving of Andreas Vesalius issued in 1543 from his work, the Epitome. The background is similar to the battle flag of the Confederacy but instead of the original 13 mullets there are but eleven representing the number of states in our society. The motto is *Décor et Facultas*, which is best translated, beauty and function. The seal of the society incorporates the same elements as the arms and contains the founding date and the official name of the Southeastern Society. Specific instructions were laid down for use of the arms and the seal of the society. A growing controversy regarding these symbols especially the symbol of the flag came to a head in the 5th decade of the society. Several formal and informal discussions were conducted in this regard. Several heated and at times emotional business meeting discussions were conducted. The board listened to these discussions and set out to commission the design of a new seal that would be acceptable to all members. Eventually this was presented to the membership and was voted to approve. Although there remained significant disagreements among some of the members, the society held fast to uphold the traditional southern values of honor, hospitality, loyalty and civility while at the same time rejecting past actions or perception of injustice and prejudice. This closed a difficult chapter in the workings of the society but has permitted it to progress boldly into the new century.

1997-2006 – The Last Decade

We will now review the significant events and achievements of the Southeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons during the years 1997 to the present. During this 5th decade of the society the membership experienced significant changes in plastic surgery and in fact in medicine as a whole. The Southeast was not immune to the effects of decreases in third party reimbursement. The debacles of increasing litigation along with rising premiums in insurance liability coverage that was becoming common place in the east and west coasts of the country began to creep into our region as well. Changes in clinical practice from more complex reconstructive procedures to simpler less invasive more cosmetic procedures were also being felt in our region. The society and its members have dealt with these changes first through education, by providing high quality scientific material at the meetings. They have continued to work with other regional and national

organizations including our umbrella organization ASPS in helping the membership deal effectively with ongoing socio- economic challenges.

40th Anniversary Meeting, 1997 Williamsburg, Virginia

The return to this historic site was proper and appropriate. Already at the welcoming reception the members and their families were able to meet and reminisce about how the society had grown and developed over the past four decades. The next day the meeting was begun with the opening invocation by Joel W. Madison which had become a tradition and the welcoming remarks of President, Barry Bishop. Then another tradition was upheld with update reports by the Presidents of ASPRS, Dr. Ron Iverson and PSEF by our own Kenna Given. Following their presentations the membership characteristically asked a number of cogent questions and opened the floor to constructive discussion. This was quickly followed by the keynote address given by Colonel M. Neil Jones, USAF, Retired, entitled "There is a way". Colonel Jones was a US Air Force pilot captured in North Vietnam and held prisoner for six and a half years. He held the audience spellbound by describing the five faiths that guided him through his prisoner of war experience including; God, country, family, fellow POW's and faith in yourself. To cap this most memorable morning Joel W. Madison chaired a panel discussion on the changes in plastic surgery which included panelist Charlie Horton, Leonard Furlow and Bernard Kaye. These giants in the field gave their perspective and experiences in plastic surgery and what they felt were the most significant achievements and the greatest challenges in the future. The talk of Leonard Furlow is actually present in the UAB Archives and is entitled "Reconstructive Plastic Surgery over the Last Forty Years". His description of the future is prophetic in many ways and although his prediction of immunologic tolerance within 10 years has not yet come to pass the exciting new realm of tissue transplantation including hand, face, larynx, intestines, etc. has certainly become a reality. Excellent talks on facelifts and rhinoplasty delighted the audience with such papers as John Hamilton's 3600 facelifts, John Hartley's 30 year experience in rhinoplasty and Calvin Johnson's open structure rhinoplasty. And if that wasn't enough the Upchurch Lecture was then given by Carl Hartrampf entitled, "The Story of Breast Reconstruction: Southeastern Contributions". Not only was his talk comprehensive and educational from the point of view of one who developed the TRAM flap, but in typical style of an innovator such as Dr. Hartrampf it was filled with humility in pointing out the contributions of others. As a special treat the first TRAM patient done by Dr. Hartrampf, Ms. Bobbi Ballou of Atlanta was in the audience listening attentively to this presentation which was followed by a standing ovation for both pioneers. The meeting also presented an update on what was still a new technique, "Ultrasonic Liposuction," by one of its developers, Michele Zocchi followed by a panel discussion lead by Jim Grotting, Simon Fredricks and Jack Fisher. The resident competition continued to be a highlight of the meeting and had several very interesting papers. The winner was Dr. Henry F. Gorazo from the Medical College of Georgia who received the Glancy Award for his presentation entitled, "Development of a Lag Screw Fixation Jig in the Treatment of Mandibular Fractures". The presidential dinner dance was held in the

Virginia Room hosted by Barry Bishop. Here the athletic awards were presented in tennis, golf and running. Present and past dignitaries in the audience, were recognized. The Pickerell Award, given only on special occasions, was presented to Dr. Robert F. Hagerty, a founding member of the Southeastern Society. To further honor the Hagerty family the special achievement award was presented to his son, Richard "Duke" Hagerty. Then Dr. Bishop turned over the gavel to the new president, Dr. Kenna Given who invited all those present to next year's meeting.

41st Annual Meeting, June 6 to 10, 1998, Naples, Florida

Dr. Kenna Given presided at The Registry Resort in Naples, Florida to open the first meeting of the fifth decade of the Southeastern. The welcoming reception was held at the Sunset Deck, a fitting place to reunite family and friends as well as new members and guests of the Southeastern. The beautiful setting by the beach brought out the hats, smiles and sunglasses of the participants. After the invitation, President Kenna Given welcomed the members and proceeded to introduce the representatives of the three major national plastic surgery organizations to give their report and update of their activities: President, Dennis Lynch from ASPRS, President, Robert Russell from PSEF and President, Lawrence B. Robbins from ASAPS. This was soon followed by the keynote address given by the honorable Tim Hutchinson, US Senator from Arkansas who gave a most pertinent and well received address entitled, "A Senator's View of Healthcare Delivery in the 21st Century of the United States." The rising problems with managed care and the potential solutions were discussed. This truly got the spirits of the meeting flowing. This was followed by an update on the status of liposuction given by ASPRS President, Dennis Lynch and outcome studies given by our own Ed Luce. The morning was capped by a history of the Southeastern Society given by Tony Pizzo. That evening the members and guests and families enjoyed the theme of a true clambake at the poolside deck and after a band played to the setting of the Florida sun, dancing, singing and great deal of clam consumption was noted to occur.

The scientific program resumed the next day with a panel on the breast implant status which still focused on the ban by the FDA. Several resident competition presentations were given that showed variety and innovation in the different areas of the Southeast. The morning was capped by the Upchurch Lecture given by our own John B. Mc Craw, in which he gave a thoughtful and prophetic talk about the shaping of the future of plastic surgery. The sporting events continued that afternoon in tennis and of course in golf. Others chose less athletic endeavors including a unique visit to the winter homes of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. The next day started off with a Problems and Pearls session which has been a trademark of the Southeastern in which cases are presented and discussed in an open and very candid manner. Dr. Susan Mac Kinnon then shared her very broad experiences in peripheral nerve surgery while Mike Jabaley convened a panel on "Current Issues in Hand Surgery" that was very well received by the members. However the treat of the morning session was the presentation by the astronaut, Lt. Commander Susan L. Still, who gave her talk entitled, "*Around the World in 90*

Minutes.” It was a spellbinding and earth shaking presentation of her experiences in outer space that left the audience in an ethereal delight.

The Southeastern has been a society of innovation but also of tradition. An established tradition has been to highlight the scientific program with an expert from the aesthetic field and to keep the members updated in these areas. This year was no exception in which Jack Friedland was invited to give his experiences in what he termed “Evolution of Nasalplasty in My Practice.” This was followed by a panel moderated by our own Gus Colon which included Norm Cole, Jack Friedland, Foad Nahai, and Tom Orcutt to discuss, “*Aesthetic Surgery Practice Year 2000 and Beyond.*” This was followed by presentations that included, laser surgery and treatment and then capped by an educational and interesting presentation by Karen Zupko on “Building Your Aesthetic Practice.”

The presidential dinner dance was held in the Crystal Foyer. This gave all those present an opportunity to talk, dance, eat and listen to humorous and serious speeches. President, Kenna Given, recognized the past presidents in the audience as well as the Upchurch Lecturer, John Mc Craw. He then proceeded to present the Pickerell Award to John B. Lynch from Vanderbilt for all his clinical works and dedication to teaching throughout his years as faculty and Chairman of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Vanderbilt.

The Glancy Award was given to the best resident paper given by Kim Edward Koger, MD from Duke University for the paper entitled, “Balloon Dissection Accelerates Tissue Expansion and Increases Flap Advancement.” The gavel was then handed over to Howard Kisner, who invited all present to go just across the lake to Boca Raton the following year.

42nd Annual Meeting, June 5-9, 1999 Boca Raton Resort and Club, Boca Raton, Florida

The 42nd Meeting of the Southeastern Society was held again in Florida at the Boca Raton Resort and Club. Members and guests started arriving early in order to get into the mood of southern life as well as to enjoy the wonderful south Florida weather. The welcoming reception was fittingly held in the Grand Assembly of the Resort. The next morning President Kisner convened the meeting and after the invocation and welcome of the members and guests, the reports of the national organizations were given by the respective representatives: ASPRS by President C. Lin Puckett, PSEF by President, Kenna S. Given and ASAPS by President, Fritz E. Barton Jr. were given by the respective representatives. The keynote address was then given by Leonard Shalain, MD with the title “The Alphabet Versus the Goddess: The Conflict Between Word and Image.” Dr. Shalain a surgeon turned author and philosopher proceeded to give a most compelling visual and historical analysis in which he contrasts the concepts of masculine with feminine, right brain with left brain, word with image and how a culture develops its principles based on these contrasting concepts. The audience could truly see a paradigm

shift in the development of history and the mind. This was then followed by a little more pragmatic discussion of , “Eyelid and Mid-face Rejuvenation” in a panel moderated by James Carraway with panelist, Luis Vásconez, Bill Little, Mark Codner and Mike Patipa. C. C. Lockwood then delighted the audience with “Around the Bend – A Mississippi Adventure. The theme dinner that evening laid out a Louisiana Bayou atmosphere for a true Cajun celebration. All had a good time spicing the evening with music and cayenne pepper while stuffing themselves with delicious crawfish, shrimp Étouffée and jambalaya as you like it.

The next morning started strong with a panel on “Facial Rejuvenation Potpourri” moderated by Bill Little that included Fernando Ortiz-Monasterio, Fritz Barton, Jr. and Gary Rosenberg. The Italian-Brazilian plastic surgeon, Carlo Gasperoni then gave us a presentation on the technique that he terms superficial liposuction. The morning was capped by an exciting and most memorable Upchurch Lecture given by none other than our own Ralph Millard Jr. in which he surveyed “Fifty years of Plastic Surgery Guided by Principles” as only Dr. Millard can do. We finished the morning with an interesting set of resident and paper presentations and a review of websites by Dr. Eric Welling entitled, “Web Sites - If You Have to Ask What They Are - You Need One.” The afternoon was filled with sporting activities as well as an adventurous tour to the Everglades. Finally, that evening for those lucky enough to get a ticket, a soothing and relaxing sunset cocktail cruise was enjoyed by many.

The next day members heard about various techniques in microsurgery and how to avoid the pitfalls. Then another session of Problems & Pearls entertained the audience. After another set of resident presentations Fernando Burstein moderated a panel of Fernando Ortiz - Monasterio, Tony Wolfe and Luis Vásconez discussing “Autologous Versus Prosthetic Reconstruction of the Facial Skeleton and Cranium.”

The final day of the scientific session concentrated on breast surgery and liposuction which were fully covered by panels moderated by Frank Elliott and Dick Mladick. President, Howard Kisner then ably conducted the dinner dance in the Royal Salon. Special members and guests were presented along with their families. The athletic awards were also given out. The Glancy Award was given to the best resident paper given by J. Timothy Katzen from Vanderbilt University for his presentation, “Reduction Mammoplasty and Breast Cancer Risk.” The president then presented the Pickrell Award to Dr. Joel Madison, for his tireless efforts on behalf of plastic surgery and the Southeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons. The gavel was then turned over to Cole Goodman who made a special invitation to go halfway across the pond to next years meeting.

43rd Annual Meeting, June 4-8, 2000 Southampton Princess, Bermuda

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern kept alive the promise of Joel Madison and other previous members in returning to the beautiful island of Bermuda and The Southampton Princess Hotel. President, R. Cole Goodman worked hard with his board to

make this a resounding success. As the members arrived and took the long trip from the airport to the hotel they were again witnesses to a unique and lovely setting. Many stories of travel adventures were heard during the welcome reception. President Goodman started the scientific session with a hearty welcome and convened the first meeting of the new millennium by introducing the representatives of the umbrella societies. Dr. C. Lin Puckett, President of the newly named ASPS having just dropped reconstructive from the name at the past national meeting presented an update and the new opportunities for the new century. Bruce Achauer from PSEF and Wm. B. Riley Jr. from ABPS gave their reports respectively. Next came the Upchurch Lecture given by Burton D. Brent entitled, "Learn to Make Wings." In classic Burt Brent style he presented an artistic and very creative specimen of what it means to be a plastic surgeon. The keynote address was given by Clifford Smith entitled, "Bermuda Shipwrecks Recovering Cultural Treasure." This talk gave a history of the island through the treasures that have been recovered from unfortunate shipping disasters. Then after a set of resident papers were given our own John Bostwick gave us his view of the status of endoscopic plastic surgery which he was instrumental in developing. The morning then concluded with a set of member papers on microsurgery and reconstruction. The evening theme dinner was based on the calypso beat. In addition to the wonderful music and boundless food there was a lot of dancing and some were seen to bend their back on some limbo excursions. The next day's session started with Problems & Pearls, and then a panel moderated by Jim Grotting on "Facelifts" with panelist, Duke Hagerty, Bryant Toth, Rod Hester and Vince Zubowicz. Then after some more interesting resident and member presentations, Bryant Toth gave a comprehensive review of his techniques for: "Rejuvenation of the Middle Third of the Face." The members and guests then went out to try their hand on the beautiful links around the hotel and also on the tennis courts. Others were able to rent bicycles or scooters or other motor vehicles and toured various parts of the island.

The next day's scientific session opened with a panel on "Chronic Wounds," moderated by H. Hollis Caffee and had panelists, Bruce Mast, Bruce Shack, and Louis Argenta present their experiences. Louis Argenta presented his very interesting work on the "Vacuum Assisted Closure" technique. Then probably the highlight of the scientific session was the Inaugural Jurkiewicz Lecture that was set up jointly by the Southeastern Society and the Jurkiewicz Society. Dr. Jurkiewicz, himself gave the inaugural lecture and spoke of: "The Fullness of Who We Are." As expected it was a most inspiring lecture in which Dr. Jurkiewicz recounted his career, spoke of the future of the specialty, but most importantly exhorted his colleagues to be in addition to excellent clinician's to be virtuous individuals. This was then followed by several more resident and member papers on different aspects of breast surgery and reconstruction. Karen Zupko gave an animated discussion on how to stop the revenue hemorrhage in people's practices. The Presidential Dinner Dance was a very festive affair. President, R. Cole Goodman, recognized many people and their families. He thanked the Upchurch Lecturer, Burt Brent and Dr. Jurkiewicz for their active participation at this meeting and throughout their careers. The awards for the sporting events were given out. The Glancy Award for the best resident paper was given to Richard Rosenblum, from Vanderbilt University for his paper "In Vivo Comparison of topical Antiseptics on Wound Healing." The gavel

was then turned over to Frank Elliott who invited all present to next years meeting back on the mainland.

43rd Annual Meeting, June 9-13, 2001
Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort, Orlando, FL.

The Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Southeastern met with uncommon sadness with the loss of one of our own esteemed members, John Bostwick. John was known throughout the world not only for his teachings and achievements but also for his honesty and friendship. President, Frank Elliott, a past resident of John Bostwick dedicated the meeting in his memory. After all had arrived at the land of Disney the meeting began with presentations by the representatives of the national organizations. However, this time there was an extended list of reports that not only included ASPS by Walter L. Erhardt, PSEF by Robert L. Ruberg, ASAPS by Gustavo A. Colon, ABPS by Bruce M. Achauer but also the Florida Society of Plastic Surgery by Dean L. Johnston. Recent deaths from liposuction and the problems with office-based surgery leading to a ban in the State of Florida were hot topics for discussion. This was then followed by an update on an increasing area of interest throughout medicine namely anti-aging medicine by Brian Kinney. Then after a set of resident presentations the second bi-annual Jurkiewicz Lecture was given by Carl Hartrampf entitled, "Plastic Surgery at Emory Before Jurkiewicz and Plastic Surgery at Emory, 1971-2001." In characteristic fashion Carl gave full credit to Dr. Jurkiewicz and his collaborators although it was clear to the audience that Carl Hartrampf's participation was also a key to the Emory success. Those ready to do battle on the tennis courts and links went their merry ways and the evening found music, dinner and good cheer at Bongo's one of the more popular Cuban restaurants in the Orlando area.

The next day started with Problems & Pearls to liven up the group. This was followed by papers on Pediatric Plastic Surgery and culminating in a panel on "Cleft Lip and Palate" moderated by Kevin Hagan and panelist, Court Cutting and Bill Magee. Then Court Cutting gave his innovative techniques on "Secondary Cleft Nasal Reconstruction."

The scientific session finished with the Upchurch Lecture given by Jacques Baudet, a famous hand surgeon from France. He gave a comprehensive and philosophical talk on "Reconstructive Surgery: Past Is the Old Good Time, Present Is Unfortunately the Reality, Future Is Hopefully Still a Dream."

The next day started an interesting photographic essay by our own historian in residence, Gus Colon on a pivotal figure in New Orleans medicine, and for that matter world medicine and surgery, Dr. Rudolph Matas entitled, "A Photographic Essay of the Plastic & Reconstructive patients of a 19th Century New Orleans Surgeon." The keynote address was then given by a famed surgeon and author Seymour Schwartz entitled, "This Land Is Your Land." In addition to all his surgical and literary accomplishments it turns out that Dr. Schwartz has one of the best old map collections of North America. He then proceeded to tell the history of the Southeastern states through his prized collection of

maps. Dr. Schwartz presented the audience with a cartographic wonderland. This was followed by a medical-legal panel moderated by Ron Johnson and including Mark Gorney and Alan Strain, Esq. discussing how to stay out of medical, legal trouble. Karen Zupko then finished the morning session with an interesting talk on internet marketing.

The final day of the scientific session was focused on aesthetic and breast surgery. A panel moderated by Richard Gregory, including panelist Gary Rosenberg and Jason Pozner talked about innovations in laser surgery. Then after a set of member papers Karen Zupko again gave the audience important tips on managing one's practice.

The Presidential Dinner Dance was exciting and reflective as well as quite memorable. President Frank Elliott recognized past and present members and guests in the audience. He then presented the Pickrell Award to John Bostwick III in a posthumous and emotional setting by giving the award to his widow Jane Bostwick. The Special Achievement Award was then given out to our own Earl Peacock for all of his accomplishments not only in medicine but in medical-legal defense area. The Glancy Award entitled "Vascularized Sural Nerve Graft – A Reliable Nerve Graft" this year went to Colon Riordan, MD again from Vanderbilt University. The gavel then went to Andy M. Moore II from the Bluegrass Country in Kentucky and he invited those present to next years meeting.

45th Annual Meeting, June 1-5, 2002 The Westin Resort, Hilton Head, SC

After a warm and southern welcome to members and guests the Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting was convened by President, Andy Moore and the invocation was given. The reports from the national societies, ASPS by previous Southeasterner, Ed Luce, and ASAPS by Mark Jewell and ABPS by John J. Coleman were given and were followed by a vigorous question and answer session. The keynote address was then given by Ray Mabus Jr. former Governor of Mississippi and Ambassador to Saudi Arabia during the Clinton Administration entitled, "the United States and Saudi Arabia: Culture, Politics, and Relationships." In the aftermath of 911 this was a most educational and thought provoking presentation. This was followed by a set of resident presentations and then a "Panel on Augmentation Mammoplasty" moderated by Mark Codner. Those that wanted to stay for more politics heard about the possibilities of state advocacy programs which was a targeted strategic issue of ASPS. The theme dinner that evening was entitled "Low Country" referring to the marsh lands below sea level of the South Carolina coast. This, however, did not interfere with everyone's gastronomic delights.

The next day opened with a special presentation by Claes Lauritzen from Sweden on "Craniofacial Surgery in Infants" where he discussed his techniques for reconstruction including the simple "spring" technique. Then after other related craniofacial papers, a panel moderated by Mike Jabaley on "Carpel Tunnel Surgery" was presented. Fred Menick then gave a brilliant presentation on "What's New in Nasal Reconstruction." Here he presented much of his work that led to his winning the James Barrett Brown Award for the best paper in the White Journal. After another set of resident

presentations, Leonard Furlow gave the Upchurch Lecture entitled “What’s on Our Minds (Yours and Mine?).” Leonard stimulated the audience to think about various issues in plastic surgery, in particular the future of plastic surgery.

The next day the members and guests were treated to a rich and rewarding presentation by Milton Edgerton, a pioneer and leader in plastic surgery for over four decades. Then after a set of member papers and useful tips about marketing in your practice by Karen Zupko the ASAPS visiting lecturer at this meeting Greg LaTrenta gave a beautifully illustrated presentation on “The Anatomy of Facial Aging.” Dr. LaTrenta and Karen Zupko stuck around after the morning session to talk with residents and several Southeastern members.

Then on the final day of the program Greg LaTrenta gave the second part of his lecture entitled “Facelifting for Men & Women Using Applied Anatomical Principles.” Member’s papers were then given on various topics and Karen Zupko gave some of her thoughts on in-office surgical suites. She advised that a lot of thought and preparation were necessary before anyone embark on these types of office procedure rooms.

The Presidential Dinner Dance was presided over by Andy Moore who had his family and siblings with him in order to give a rich and enjoyable atmosphere for all. He then presented the Pickrell Award to Milton T. Edgerton, for all his achievements in so many areas of plastic surgery including research, clinical and academic areas. The Glancy Award was given to Julia MacRae for “Human Adipocyte Viability Testing” from the University of Virginia. Ronald J. Johnson then assumed the Presidency for the Southeastern and invited all the guests to next years meeting at the Breakers.

46th Annual Meeting, May 31 – June 4, 2003
The Breakers, Palm Beach, Florida

The Southeastern members looked forward all year to the Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting at the premier resort, The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida. Luxury and regalia were well in view at the welcome reception. The next day after the invocation President, Ron Johnson welcomed the members and convened the meeting. He then introduced the Presidents of ABPS, Bruce Cunningham, ASAPS, Robert W. Bernard, and PSEF, Stephen J. Mathes. The keynote address was then given by Senator Bill Frist, Republican from Tennessee and just recently chosen the Senate Majority Leader. Senator Frist talked about his experiences both in the senate and as a cardiothoracic surgeon. His remarks were well received and very timely. This was followed by a set of resident papers and then Jim Carraway moderated the “Anti-Aging Medicine Seminar” panel and included Dean Kane and Edward Lichten who has done a lot of work on anti-aging hormonal therapy. This got the audience thinking young and everyone sprung out at the end of the session to various outdoor activities including tennis, golf and a bike tour of the Palm Beach area. The theme dinner that evening was at seaside and ocean front. There was some threat of rain that did not occur so people were in and out all evening, while quenching their thirst and filling their gut.

The following day got started with a set of resident papers as well as member papers in various topics. Then our very own Norm Cole gave the Upchurch Lecture, "What Are We Thinking (You and I)?" Then President, James Wells of ASPS who was not able to be present the day before gave his report from his vantage point. He spoke of integration of the smaller societies under the umbrella organization of ASPS as well as the value of advocacy. Then in a change in format John Tebbetts gave his presentation on breast augmentation in a manner of an instructional course so that he could go into detail about his technique.

The next day saw the meeting open with Karen Zupko talking about hiring a new associate or joining a specific practice. A lot of people in the audience were seen taking a lot of copious notes. A series of member papers and research projects funded by the Southeastern were then presented. The Jurkiewicz bi-annual lecture was then given by Leonard Furlow. He deftly traced the beginnings of the Jurkiewicz Society and pointed out principles and traits of Dr. Jurkiewicz along the way. Ted Lockwood then gave his presentation on body contouring again in an instructional course format. He discussed the way he evaluates the massive weight-loss patient, how he prepares the patient for surgery and the surgical techniques he uses to obtain his impressive results.

The final day of the meeting was begun with member papers. Dennis Hammond gave an extended presentation on breast contouring. Here he showed his excellent results including the SPAIR technique that he developed for breast reduction. The morning session was concluded with a panel entitled "Reconstructive Breast Surgery: Can We Afford to Do It?" This was moderated by Grant Carlson from Atlanta with panelists Frank Elliott, Jim Grotting, Dennis Hammond and Robert Allen. The conclusion was that in some cases and circumstances autogenous breast reconstruction could still be done although it is getting harder and harder from an economic viewpoint.

The presidential dinner dance was filled with stars both inside and out. President, Ron Johnson presented his family as well as those dignitaries in attendance that had participated in this year's meeting. The Glancy Award was given to Julia MacRae, for the second year in a row from the University of Virginia for her paper, "Ex Vivo Fat Graft Preservation: Effects and Implications of Cryopreservation." This reminded some people of E D Newton who took the prize in 1979 and 1980 from the University of Tennessee. Ron Johnson then turned over the gavel to the incoming President, William H. Wallace who invited the folks to The Homestead the following year.

47th Annual Meeting, June 5-9, 2004 The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia

The Southeastern returned to Hot Springs, Virginia after 27 years and found in some way why it had taken so long. The meeting site was superb as was the scientific program. However, several members thought it was a religious experience especially once they saw the bill. The meeting started on Sunday with the invocation given by Ron Johnson and then the formal welcome by President, Bill Wallace. The reports from the Presidents of ASPS by Rod Rohrich, ABPS by R. Barrett Noone and PSEF by Allen L. Van Beek

were presented. This was then followed by the keynote address given by Daniel P. Jordan, President of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation entitled, "Thomas Jefferson's Method of Learning." This was a stimulating and enlightening review of the mind and achievements of Thomas Jefferson, a true renaissance individual. This was followed a set of resident competition papers. The morning was then concluded with a panel on, "Reduction Mammoplasty" moderated by Henry Vásconez that reviewed and contrasted different reduction techniques in vogue at the time. The panelists included; Don Lalonde and John McCraw who talked about the, "No Vertical Scar Technique"; Rod Hester discussed the, "Inverted -T Technique"; and Jim Grotting talked about the, "Vertical Scar Technique." All showed good results with their technique leading to a conclusion that an important factor is the surgeon not the scar. That evening the theme dinner consisted of a Chesapeake Bay Shore Party complete with hard and soft shelled crabs, music and fun entertainment.

The next day's session began with another set of resident competition papers. This was followed by coding tips on reduction mammoplasty by Karen Zupko. Then the Upchurch Lecture was given by our own Michael E. Jabaley from Mississippi with his presentation entitled, "4 Decades of Nerve Surgery: A 3 Dimensional View." Dr. Jabaley reviewed his extensive experience in upper extremity nerve reconstruction and the many innovations that he has witnessed and done. To close the morning session Glenn Jelks gave a seminar on "Peri-Orbital Cosmetic Surgery" going in depth about his techniques in this region while at the same time showing excellent anatomical studies.

The next day started with member papers, then a review of a research grant funded by the Southeastern, given by Wyndell Merritt. This was followed by another extended seminar instructional course given by Ron Gruber on "Rhinoplasty-Septoplasty Seminar." Dr. Gruber went into detail on his open technique for rhinoplasty and some innovative suture methods for cartilage contouring. Karen Zupko then gave some tips on coding and getting insurance approval for rhinoplasty and septoplasty.

The final day started off with member papers and then a special presentation by Steve Mathes on "Reconstruction of the Abdominal Wall Following TRAM Flap" surgery. Steve gave a comprehensive review of abdominal wall reconstruction and his specific techniques. The dinner dance was held in the Commonwealth Foyer and was presided over by President, Bill Wallace. He presented his family and then introduced other dignitaries in the audience. The athletic awards were given out for prowess on the tennis courts and golf links as well as the running events. The Glancy Award was given to M.I. Okwueze for, "Unexpected Prevalence of Motor Axons in the Distal Superficial Radial and Posterior Interosseous Nerves – a Cadaver Study" from Vanderbilt University. Bill Wallace then turned over the gavel to incoming President, Michael Beasley who in turn invited those present to next years meeting at The Atlantis in the Bahamas.

48th Annual Meeting, June 4-8, 2005
The Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas

A short trip by plane from Atlanta or Miami was the popular route for members and guests for the forty-eight annual meeting of the Southeastern. Once the people got situated in their selected areas and found where the casino was (not difficult at all), the meeting was ready to begin. The poolside welcome reception was a fitting place to reunite with old friends and to make new friends and acquaintances. The next day the meeting began with an invocation by Ronald Johnson and a welcome by President Michael Beasley. A set of resident competition papers were then presented. The keynote address was given by Archie Manning, known by many for his football exploits in college and the NFL, however as he pointed out much more well known for having fathered two NFL quarterbacks, Peyton and Eli. This was followed by the Upchurch Lecture given by P.G. Arnold, a Southeasterner transplanted to the north country of Minnesota. He gave a stimulating talk on the founding and development of the Mayo Clinic based on solid principles of the Mayo Brothers. The morning was capped by a seminar on, "Difficult /Secondary Rhinoplasty Symposium" by the expert Jack Gunter himself. That evening the theme party was held also at poolside. All enjoyed the calypso and reggae beat, ate more than they should and were entertained by the wonderful Aquarium and even some fire eating dancers.

The next day was opened with the next set of resident competition papers followed by some member papers as well. In a slight twist of the program the reports from the national organizations were then given, which included ASPS by Scott Spear, ABPS by John A. Persing, ASAPS by Foad Nahai and PSEF given by Scott Spear. More member papers were then presented with frank and insightful discussion. The morning concluded with our own Foad Nahai giving an instructional course on facial rejuvenation as only he can.

The next day the scientific session opened with a lecture by Dennis Hurwitz on, "Body Contouring Surgery After Massive Weight Loss." Dennis showed the audience a great deal of material and could have gone on for several more hours more except for time limitations. This was followed by a presentation of the latest research grant subsidized by the Southeastern given by Jorge de la Torre from UAB. Then the bi-annual Jurkiewicz Lecturer now colloquially termed the "J" Lecture was given by Luis Vásconez, the first associate of Dr. Jurkiewicz when he moved to Emory in Atlanta. Luis, now Chief of Plastic Surgery at UAB gave a wonderful presentation on the principles that have guided his practice and talked about areas that he feels should be developed in the future, where plastic surgery can made a definite impact.

The following day was begun with a series of member papers with appropriate discussion and then a panel on "Patient Safety" by Felmont Eaves and Craig Vander Kolk. This area of increasing importance in medicine as a whole managed to keep the audience's attention. The presidential banquet as in previous years was filled with excitement and emotion. President Beasley introduced his family and then the other dignitaries in the room which included of course, Dr. Jurkiewicz, Foad Nahi, P.G. Arnold and others. He

then presented the Pickrell Award to Luis Vásconez for his long and illustrious career in the area of plastic and reconstructive surgery. He also pointed out his achievements in teaching and in technical innovations. The Glancy Award was given to Robert EH Ferguson from the University of Kentucky for his work on “The Use of Hydrogel Sealant on Tendon Repairs to Reduce Adhesion Formation.” Mike Beasley then handed the gavel over to the incoming President Tony Pizzo who invited all those present to next year’s meeting at The Cloister.

**49th Annual Meeting, June 4-8, 2006
The Cloister, Sea Island, GA**

The return of the Southeastern at Sea Island after a twenty-five year hiatus proved to be a welcome event for all concerned. A major renovation had just been completed at the majestic hotel and provided an elegant setting for the welcome reception.

The next day was kicked off by the invocation given by Ronald Johnson and then a hearty welcome by President, Anthony Pizzo. The customary reports from the national organizations including ASPS by Bruce Cunningham, ABPS by Thomas R. Stevenson, ASAPS by Foad Nahai and PSEF by Brian Kinney were delivered. Questions and answers were raised and appropriate discussion was conducted. The keynote address was then given by physician and poet, Dr. John Stone from Emory University. He conveyed in anecdotal and lyrical manner what it has meant to him to be a physician and a humanist. This was then followed by a series of resident competition papers. Dr. Henry Kawamoto from UCLA then shared in a very personal way the “Lessons Learned from Conjoined Twins.” He talked about what went on in the planning and execution of the successful separation of the cephalopagus conjoined twins. That elevated the prestige of plastic surgery around the country. The final session of the morning was a panel on “Bilateral Cleft Lip and Palate,” moderated by Joe Williams and included the presentations of Ian Jackson and Henry Kawamoto. The afternoon was filled with tennis and other outdoor activities. The theme dinner gathered the crew at beachside and provided a most enjoyable and tuneful evening.

The next day opened with Karen Zupko discussing “Practice Building on a Budget.” Then the other set of resident competition papers were presented. President Pizzo then had the pleasure of introducing this year’s Upchurch Lecturer, Luis Vásconez, professor of Plastic Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Vásconez then proceeded to delight the audience with a recap of many of the innovative techniques that he has developed especially in the area of cosmetic surgery. Dr. Mark Gorney from San Francisco then gave a lecture on “Safety in Surgery: The Wheel of Misfortune.” He made a strong case to keep patient safety in high regard and therefore try to diminish the potential for litigation. Pat Maxwell then moderated a panel on “Augmentation Mammoplasty with Mastopexy” that included James Grotting and Michael Beasley. All showed how excellent results can be obtained in this setting. Then Mark Gorney again gave his thoughts on the “Medicolegal Aspects of Augmentation Mammoplasty with Mastopexy.” He showed disturbing statistics about the rise of litigation in this area.

However, one of his conclusions was that he would recommend people to consult the Southeastern in order to view good results.

The next day opened with Karen Zupko and then Pearls and Problems, moderated by John McCraw and with active discussion by the audience. Bill Lineaweaver then moderated a panel on, "Reconstruction of Soft Tissue Loss of Lower Third of the Leg." The panelists Scott Levin and Lee Pu showed their approach to this very difficult problem. This was followed by a series of member papers as well as an update on the recent research grant awarded by the Southeastern. Then after a series of additional member papers the annual business meeting was conducted. The membership were then given an additional scientific day consisting of member papers followed by a panel moderated by Wyndell Merritt on the "Controversies Related to Carpal Tunnel Decompression," which included panelist J. B. Moore and Mike Jabaley. The morning was then concluded with Ian Jackson giving a masterful lecture on his large experience on "Local Flaps in the Reconstruction of the Nose and Face." The Presidential Dinner Dance was held on Wednesday evening in the lavish ballrooms of The Cloister. President Tony Pizzo introduced his family and other dignitaries. The athletic awards were then given out with a great deal of fanfare. The best resident competition paper was given the Glancy Award and was given to Dean DeRoberts, et al. for his paper on "Intense Pulse-Light Tattoo Removal in Conjunction with Imiquimod (Aldara Cream); A Double-Blind Randomized Controlled Study." The Pickrell Award was presented this year and was given to Mike Jabaley from Jackson, Mississippi for a long and illustrious career. Tony Pizzo then presented the incoming President, Bruce Shack, from Vanderbilt, who in turn invited all present to the next years meeting at Sandestin, Florida.

Epilogue

As the Southeastern Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary it stands among a select group of other Plastic Surgical Organizations that have stood the test of time. The umbrella organization of ASPS has celebrated its 75th Anniversary, the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons has celebrated its 60th Anniversary, the sister Society of the Ohio Valley is also celebrating its 50th Anniversary, and the American Association of Plastic Surgeons is approaching its 90th Anniversary.

During the past decade the Southeastern has seen continued growth in its membership as well as progress and improvement in its governing structure. It recently was again accredited by the ACCME as an institution that offers high quality educational material and a forum for its presentation. The Society has shown its generosity by increasing the distribution of funds among its members and residents in the area of research. We have seen the results of this investment in several paper presentations as well as peer reviewed publications.

The financial status of the Southeastern is solid and has been led very capably by its Board of Directors. A financial policy has recently been put into place which will continue to assure the solvency financial progress of the Society. The Society has continued to provide incentives for residents in academic programs throughout the Southeastern region. It not only maintains a very active resident paper presentation at its annual meeting but it also provides funding so that residents who have papers accepted can defray costs of travel and the meeting.

Although it was founded by a few enthusiastic Southeasterners in New Orleans 50 years ago the Southeastern now is recognized as one of the best and largest regional Plastic Surgical Organizations in the country. People have long recognized the special nature of its members, the pleasant and entertaining locations of its meetings and the high quality substance of its scientific programs. It has also been blessed with a talented and energetic Board of Directors. With these characteristics the Southeastern Society plans to face the challenges of the next decade with confidence and resolve and to provide leadership for the new generation of plastic surgeons.

The Atlanta Breast Surgery Symposium

The Breast Surgery Symposium began in 1984 as a small meeting of Southeasterners in Atlanta, and has grown into an internationally attended meeting hosting over 400 registrants from a dozen countries. The origin of the meeting was a combination of the surgical inspiration of Dr Carl Hartrampf and the educational motivation of Dr John Hartley under the sponsorship of the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. The purpose of the meeting was to share the experience related to the development and refinement of the TRAM flap in a setting which allowed observation of live surgical procedures.

The first 10 years of the Symposium were highlighted by a growing interest in autologous breast reconstruction as well as evolving techniques in aesthetic surgery of the breast. As the meeting continued to grow in scope, Dr Hartrampf enlisted the help of Dr Frank Elliott to chair the meeting. Dr Elliott recognized the importance of sharing the local contributions made by Atlanta surgeons including Drs. Jurkiewicz, Bostwick, Hester, Nahai and Vasconez with an esteemed group of international surgeons making Atlanta one of the undisputed centers for breast surgery. In addition, Dr Elliott began the Foreign Scholars Program which sponsored chief residents in plastic surgery from around the world to travel to Atlanta and attend the Symposium.

The last 10 years of the Symposium have seen the meeting gain popularity by the addition of invited guest surgeons highlighting their individualized accomplishments during the live surgery day of the meeting. As the meeting grew in size, Drs Elliott and Hartrampf invited co-chairs, Dr Mark Codner and Dr James Namnoum, to assist in the management of the Symposium. The live surgery moved from St Joseph's Hospital to Northside Hospital and the meeting venue outgrew The Ritz Carlton and was moved to The Grand Hyatt. In response to the meeting evaluations consistently requesting live surgical demonstrations, the live surgery became the cornerstone of the program providing an open forum for interactive discussion with invited observers. The attendees were allowed to participate in each case by engaging in dialogue with the faculty members. Comprehensive breast surgery was added to the original breast reconstruction program including surgical techniques of mastopexy, reduction mammoplasty, and augmentation. The didactic sessions have allowed the guest surgeons to provide more detail in an attempt to allow the registrants to gain enough education to perform the procedures safely. The program also was a forum for the Society to inform the participants on the up to date mandates from the FDA related to silicone breast implants.

Further steps to maximize the surgical educational value of the Symposium included providing the registrants with complimentary DVDs of the live surgery which are actually handed out before the end of the meeting. Some of the most popular sessions which have been added to the program over the past decade include the results of the previous year live surgery cases with commentary from both the patient and the surgeons and the surgical "before and afters" of the past 10 years. The Honorary Hartrampf Lecture was formed to provide a tribute to Dr Hartrampf and add a more comprehensive presentation as part of the scientific program. Previous Hartrampf Lectures have included

outstanding talks by Drs. Jurkiewicz, Lassus, Marchac, McCraw, Lejour, and Feller. The Foreign Scholars program has grown with support of the SESPRS and Dr. Luis Vásconez, Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at the University of Alabama. Recent Scholars from the Philippines, China, Iraq, and Colombia have spent a week in Atlanta followed by a week in Birmingham with Dr Luis Vásconez. The Atlanta Breast Symposium has also received generous corporate sponsorship from Northside Hospital and private companies which have allowed the live surgery to continue to be the fundamental core of the meeting. The meeting has been endorsed by The American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and sponsored by the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation with a portion of the proceeds donated to the PSEF.

The Atlanta Breast Surgery Symposium has remained the only meeting dedicated exclusively to breast surgery. While the essence of the scientific program has remained the same, the meeting has matured into an internationally acclaimed conference. The SESPRS is proud to sponsor and host this meeting each year in Atlanta.