

Chapter news

by Rhonda Peebles, Chapter Services Manager, Division of Member Services

To report your chapter's news, contact Rhonda Peebles toll-free at 888/857-7545, or via e-mail at rpeebles@facs.org.

South Texas to meet April 1-2

In a departure from its regular schedule, the South Texas Chapter plans to meet April 1-2, just before the meeting of the Texas Surgical Society. The meeting will take place at the Omni Hotel in Houston. Along with presentations from members of the chapter, the education program will feature presentations on clinical and basic science research completed by residents from the various training programs in the chapter. The chapter leaders are also using this opportunity to evaluate members' needs, especially with regard to expanding the chapter's educational programs. For more information about these new initiatives, the CME meeting, and other activities, contact the chapter's President, Mary L. Brandt, MD, FACS, at brandt@bcm.tmc.edu.

Brooklyn-Long Island hosts clinic day

The Brooklyn-Long Island Chapter (BLIC) hosted its annual clinic day on December 3, 2003, in conjunction with the Nassau Surgical Society (NSS). The program also included a keynote address by Max Gomez, MD, a medical reporter for NBC in New York City. The title of Dr. Gomez's presentation was "Medicine in the Media. Good Idea? Bad Idea?" A photo of Dr. Gomez and the BLIC and NSS leaders appears on this page.

Utah addresses mandatory interpreter requirements

The Utah Chapter leadership presented the following resolution to the Utah Medical Association's house of delegates. The resolution directs the American Medical Association to seek federal funding for mandatory interpretive services for patients who have hearing impairments



Brooklyn-Long Island Chapter, left to right: Robert F. D'Esposito, MD, FACS, BLIC President; Michael O. Bernstein, MD, FACS, BLIC Vice-President; Dr. Gomez; Michael Setzen, MD, FACS, BLIC Program Chair; and David J. Chalif, MD, FACS, NSS President.

or who do not speak English. The Utah Chapter's resolution was adopted and reads as follows:

Resolution 1 - Medical Interpreters

RESOLVED, That the Utah Medical Association direct our delegation to the American Medical Association to introduce a resolution in the AMA House of Delegates commending the AMA for its efforts to obtain federal funding for medical interpretive services, to reaffirm its policy as stated in H-385.928 and to direct the AMA to redouble its efforts to remove the burden from physicians for the cost of medical interpretive services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the resolution direct the AMA to urge the administration to reconsider its interpretation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as requiring medical interpretive services without reimbursement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Utah Medical Association inform the Utah congressional delegation of its concerns regarding the interpretation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and request that they contact the administration and urge them to reconsider this interpretation.

Chapter anniversaries

Month	Chapter	Years
January	Northern California	52
	Louisiana	52
February	Arizona	52
	Australia-New Zealand	19
	South Florida	50
	Iowa	36
	Italy	18
	Lebanon	41
	Montana-Wyoming	39
	Eastern Long-Island, NY	36
	Peru	27
	South Korea	17
Washington State	52	

Uruguay Chapter reestablished

The Uruguay Chapter has been reestablished. The officers of the reformed chapter include: Roberto Rubio, MD, FACS, President; Luis Alberto Carriquiry, MD, FACS, Vice-President; Luis Alberto Ruso Martinez, MD, FACS, Secretary; and Gonzalo Estape Carriquiry, MD, FACS, Governor.

Ohio initiates PAC

The Ohio Chapter recently began funding its Surgeons Political Action Committee (S-PAC). With the intention of advancing the goals of the profession, the Ohio Chapter plans to form relationships with legislators who are supportive of the concerns and needs of surgeons and their patients. For more information about S-PAC, contact Brad Feldman, Executive Director, at 877/677-3227, or via e-mail at ocacs@ohiofacs.org.

New York plans lobby day in Albany

On March 16, the New York Chapter will host a legislative day in Albany. All ACS members who reside in the state are invited to participate. For more information, or to schedule a visit

with elected officials, contact Heather Bennett, JD, Executive Director, at 518/433-0397, or via e-mail at bennett@bennettfirm.com.

Lebanon conducts education program

Last September, the Lebanon Chapter, in conjunction with the Lebanon-based specialty societies for plastic surgery and head and neck surgery, hosted the X Clinical Congress. More than 400 surgeons from the Middle East and Europe attended the four-day education program, held in Beirut. Michel Daher, MD, FACS, President-Elect, and Whibi ShuAyb, MD, FACS, Governor, coordinated the education event.

Chapters continue to support College funds

During 2003, 22 chapters contributed a total of \$28,365 to the College's endowment funds. The chapters' commitments to the various funds support the College's pledge to surgical research and education.

Chapters may contribute to several different funds, including the Annual Fund, the Fellows Endowment Fund, or the Scholarship Fund. Chapters that contribute at \$1,000 annually are named members of the Fellows Leadership Society (FLS)—the distinguished donor organization of the College. Chapter that have contributed \$25,000 are FLS Life Members. Chapters that contributed in 2003 include:

Life Members of the FLS: Arizona, Southern California, Louisiana, Maryland, Nebraska, Brooklyn-Long Island (NY), Ohio, South Carolina, North Texas, and Illinois.

Annual Members of the FLS: Alabama, Florida, South Florida, Georgia, Hong Kong, Metropolitan Chicago, Indiana, Michigan, North Carolina, Oregon, Metropolitan Philadelphia, Southwest Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington State, West Virginia, and Japan.

Contributors: Hawaii, Missouri, Southwest Missouri, Montana-Wyoming, and New York.

Leadership conference scheduled for May 16-18

The 2004 Leadership Conference for Chapter Officers and Young Surgeons will take place May 16-18, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington, DC. For the second year in a row, chapter officers, young surgeons, and administrators will have an opportunity to attend a congressional reception and to meet with their members of Congress on Capitol Hill. A preliminary schedule follows:

Sunday, May 16: *Afternoon*: Three concurrent sessions: Special session for young surgeons, special session for chapter officers, and special session for chapter executives. *Evening*: Welcoming reception for chapter officers, young surgeons, chapter administrators, spouses, and guests.

Monday, May 17: *All Day*: Plenary and special education program sessions. *Evening*: Congressional reception.

Tuesday, May 18: *Morning*: Breakfast and briefings, visits with members of Congress. *Afternoon*: Debriefings, lunch, and adjournment.

Next month in JACS

The March issue of the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* will feature:

Original Scientific Articles

- Vascular Invasion in Well-Differentiated Thyroid Cancer
- Management of Duodenal Ulcers

Surgical Forum

- Quality of Life after Transurethral Prostate Resection

What's New in Surgery

- Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery
- General Surgery: Transplantation

