



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dr. Vincent Rowe



Congratulations to the contributors the first edition of *The True Lumen*. The feedback from the members is positive. I dreamed to create a space for us to celebrate the victories of our members and share society info beyond the emails. This edition the members have risen to the occasion with contributions and achievements to celebrate.

Summer edition contributions are from Dr. Ron Dalman who is the President of SVS and celebrates the work in DEI despite the pandemic challenges this year. Our Historian Dr. Zierler who will share the details on the titans in vascular surgery who built WVS to be the edification of the education that it is today. We will get more evidence that we are standing on the shoulders of giants!

Here are the member making a difference this month. Dr. Venita Chandra and Program Committee who have created the brilliant program including 27 of the member institutions who will present on all that we need to learn to maintain the goal of cutting-edge patient care.

- Dr. Karen Woo – the first woman President of the Southern California Vascular Surgical Society. She helmed the successful live meeting in Ojai, CA June 18-20. Invited Guest Lectures were Dr. Melina Kibbe and Dr. Gretchen Schwarze.
- Dr. Jason Lee for his nomination as President of Society of APDVS

• Executive Council Member Dr. Misty Humphries is to be congratulated for her SVS Foundation Vascular Volunteers In Service To All (VISTA) Pilot Project grants that supports initiatives that emphasize patient education, risk assessment and advance awareness of vascular health and focus on bringing vascular care to areas of need, especially underserved populations.

• Dr. Greg Magee who received the SoCal VOICe contribution award and was nominated for Program Chairman for the SCVSS.

• Congratulations Dr. Sherene Shalhub 2021 Pioneer in EDS and HSD Clinical Care Award! Recognizing your long-term commitment to outstanding research and support of the vEDS community.

• Dr. Linda Reilly on your retirement from UCSF. We are proud of you as our first and only woman WVS Past President. You have inspired us all!

• Congratulation to Dr. Ronald Dalman who retired from his position of Chief of Vascular Surgery at Stanford where he ran the show for 16 years. We trust his contributions will live on in that program for years to come.

• Keeping up the strong Western tradition of powerful leadership we can trust the Presidency of the SVS in 2024 will flourish under the keen eye of our member Dr. Joe Mills.

If you have a member to celebrate or want to send out a memo on upcoming meetings please send a message to admin@surgicalcs.com.

Vascular Events Registration Links

- **VAM**—August 18-21, 2021 San Diego, CA
- **WVS**—October 16-19, 2021, Jackson Hole, WY
- **PNWVS**—November 18-19, 2021, Portland, OR
- **6th Annual UCLA/SVS Symposium**—October 1-3, 2021, Beverly Hills, CA
- **24th Annual Max R. Gaspar, MD, Symposium: Current Management and Treatment Strategies for Venous Disease**—September 9, 2021, Pasadena, CA
- **DFcon**—October 21-23, 2021, San Francisco, CA

HISTORICAL NOTE

R. Eugene Zierler, M.D., WVS Historian



At the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Western Vascular Society in Wailea, HI, Dr. Ben Starnes asked me to serve as the first WVS Historian, and this gave me an opportunity to see what I could find out about the beginnings of our Society. In the early 1980s, a number of small vascular surgery organizations existed in the Western United States, but there was no regional society. On October 22, 1984, Dr. Wesley Moore invited representatives from the Western vascular surgery academic groups to meet at "Mama's" on Nob Hill in San Francisco to discuss forming a larger vascular surgery organization that would facilitate recognition of the work done by vascular surgeons in the Western region. This luncheon was attended by Drs. Victor Bernhard, Sterling Edwards, Jerry Goldstone, John Porter, Robert Rutherford, and D. Eugene Strandness. After some discussion, the decision was made to establish the *Western Vascular Society*, and these seven surgeons became the Organizing Committee.

Each member of the Organizing Committee submitted a list of potential members, with the Western region encompassing Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Oklahoma, British Columbia, and Alberta. This resulted in a list of 87 surgeons who were invited to be the "Founding Members" of the WVS in 1985. I had just joined the University of Washington faculty in 1984, and I am grateful to Dr. Strandness for including me on that list.

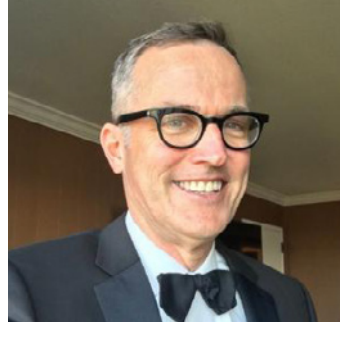


The first meeting of the WVS was held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Laguna-Nigel, California on January 23-26, 1986 with Dr. D. Emerick Szilagyi as the invited guest. The first slate of WVS officers included: President - W. Sterling Edwards, President-Elect - Robert B. Rutherford, Secretary-Treasurer - Wesley S. Moore, Recorder - Victor Bernhard, and Membership Committee - Jerry Goldstone, John Porter, and D. Eugene Strandness. Twenty-one papers were presented at that first meeting, and ten of those were subsequently published in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* or other surgical journals. The social program was an important feature of the meeting with tennis and golf tournaments and a theme dinner referred to as the "The Western Vascular Roundup".

A more detailed early history of the WVS is available under the History tab on the WVS web site, along with a "Presidents and Meetings" page which includes a listing of past presidents, meeting locations, and invited guests. I am still looking for some president photos and biographies, so if you can help with any of the missing information, please let me know.

WVS UPDATE

Ronald L. Dalman, MD



Greeting WVS members, and welcome to the evolving post-pandemic world of summer 2021! Like all of you, I'm looking forward eagerly to getting together again in Jackson WY, this October, to celebrate our recovery from shelter-in-place and virtual everything.

Thanks to leadership for moving forward with their commitment to resuming our in-person meeting, the rationale for the WVS in the first place, this fall. My colleagues and I at Stanford are looking forward to enthusiastic attendance and an exciting program.

Drs. Quiroga and Rowe asked me to provide a few reflections on this past year from the SVS perspective, especially regarding our efforts to expand inclusion and equity within the national society.

Beginning with the launch of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force two years ago, the SVS is comprehensively reconsidering what it means to be a member of our organization. From vastly expanding direct member participation in officer elections (Congratulations to WVS Member and Past President Joe Mills on his election to SVS Vice President this year, based on over 600 votes cast in our online election!), to completing our first-ever member census and practice survey, to limiting volunteer appointments to no more than two appointments per member, to launching our Leadership Training Program to provide early- and mid-career stage members with specific skills to advance their opportunities within the organization, the SVS is re-defining our mission as a "member services organization".

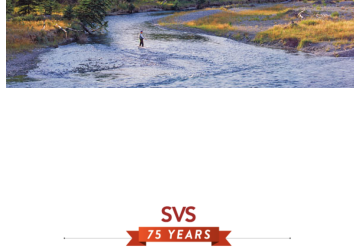
To the very core of our organization, we have re-considered what it means to be an SVS member, down to our new Mission Statement, overwhelmingly approved by the membership in online voting and announced at the virtual business meeting in June: "The Society's objective shall be to enhance the lives of its members and patients by promoting optimal vascular care, education, and research while encouraging and supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion at the leadership and membership levels."

And this summer, the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* will publish an updated Diversity Supplement, with contributions from several WVS members, measuring our progress in DEI goals vs. 2010 when the first JVS Diversity Supplement was published.

As Kim Brooks wrote in the *New York Times* earlier this year, "Pandemics make visible what's been hidden". Through the tumult of the murder of George Floyd and the social unrest that followed, the social media firestorm surrounding the professionalism controversy ignited by #MedBikini, and the growing diversity of interests and backgrounds in the SVS demonstrated in our member census this year, we recognized that the SVS needed to evolve as an organization to meet the changing needs of our membership and society at large. I thank all the members of the WVS who reached out to me this year to convey their advice and support regarding our challenges and opportunities at the national level.

And I hope to see many of you at our in-person VAM in San Diego this August, as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the SVS. We have accomplished much together as a specialty in partnership with our regional and national organizations since 1946, but we have much more to do to realize our full potential to alleviate suffering, disability, and risk for premature death from vascular disease. Embracing contributions from all who aspire to a meaningful career in vascular surgery will maximize our ability to reach that goal. At the national level, we look forward to partnering with the WVS DEI Committee to do just that.

See you all this summer and fall!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Timothy K. Liem, MD, MBA, FACS



Dear Western Vascular Society members,

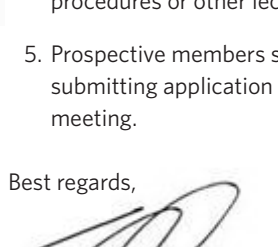
As you know, the 36th Annual Meeting of the Western Vascular Society was pushed back from the usual September timeframe to October 16-19, 2021. As a result, membership applications also have been pushed back, with a deadline of August 15, 2021. If you have vascular surgery colleagues who are interested in applying for membership, please take this opportunity to remind them that it's not too late to apply. Here is a link to the application portal: <http://westernvascularsociety.org/online-membership-application/#>

As a reminder, the criteria for membership are listed below:

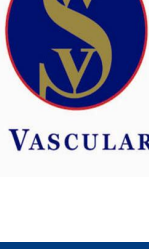
1. Candidates for membership shall be certified by the American Board of Surgery added Certification in Vascular Surgery or the Royal Canadian College of Surgeons Certificate of Special Competence in Vascular Surgery.
2. Members shall be drawn from the Western states, provinces and the Pacific Rim. This will be defined as follows: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia and the Pacific Rim. Exception to this rule is in the case of any active duty military personnel, who are welcome to membership regardless of their geographic location.
3. Prospective members should have completed a minimum of one (1) year of practice, after vascular surgery training, before applying for membership.
4. The prospective member should meet one or more of the following three (3) criteria in order to be considered for membership:
 - Excellence in Clinical Care—this can be reflected by letters from colleagues and collaborators, regional reputation, years in practice, peer-recognition awards (Chief of Staff, senior surgeon in group, HMO recognition award), service on peer-review organizations, case lists and outcomes, community involvement or participation in clinical trials.
 - Contributions to Vascular Science—this can be reflected by peer-review publications, non-profit or federal grant support, invited lectures, professorships, faculty appointments, invited publications, participation in clinical trials, device development, active participation in local/regional vascular societies or serving on hospital committees.
 - Contributions to Vascular Education—this can be reflected by teaching responsibilities at a vascular or general surgery training program, hospital grand rounds, seminars, proctorship of new vascular procedures or other lectureships.

5. Prospective members should attend an annual meeting of the Western Vascular Society prior to submitting application for membership. The prospective member is encouraged to attend the annual meeting.

Best regards,



Timothy K. Liem, MD, MBA, FACS
Professor of Surgery, Knight Cardiovascular Institute, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon



WESTERN VASCULAR SOCIETY



VSIG Update

Reminders for Program Directors and Medical Students Applications Close September 1, 2021 for Medical Student Stipends for Annual Meeting: [Share this link with students](#)

Building off the successful webinar aimed at Medical Students we are pivoting to have a webinar aimed at helping vascular Surgeons start and maintain a successful VSIG.

Plan to join host Dr. Niten Singh and featured expert Dr. Michael Amendola for all the information you need to launch a program to vitalize the future of vascular.

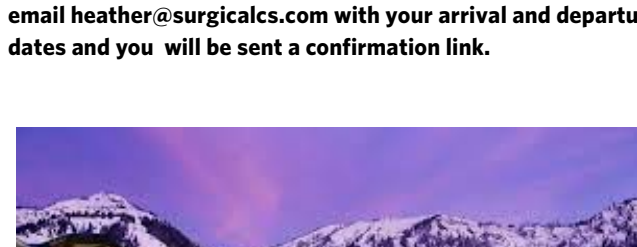
Starting a VSIG: Tips and Advice for Success
Guest Speaker; Dr. Michael Amendola
August 30, 2021, 6:00PM
Register today!



FOUR SEASONS JACKSON HOLE
7680 GRANITE LOOP ROAD, P.O. BOX 544,
TETON VILLAGE, WYOMING 83025, U.S.A.
<https://www.fourseasons.com/jacksonhole/>

GUEST ROOM BLOCK
SOLD OUT! New block is available at the Hotel Terra which is a two minute walk from the scientific sessions!

Western Vascular Society negotiated rates are as follows. Guest Room single or double \$339.00 plus applicable tax and room heater@surgicalcs.com with your arrival and departure dates and you will be sent a confirmation link.



OPTIONAL EVENTS

Working with Local Arrangements Chairman Dr. Mark Morasch Western Vascular Society will have options to join in on group events that include wildlife tours, group hiking and a trip to the National Wildlife Museum in Jackson, WY. Attendees can also arrange a shuttle trip to Jackson for shopping, or a visit to the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar.



COVID PROTOCOL

<https://www.cdc.gov>

Jackson Hole has been welcoming guests since 2020 in accordance with an enhanced global health and safety program. Upon arrival, there will be a screening procedure that may include temperature checking and questions regarding health and recent travel. Employees will be wearing masks and all faces (age 10 and above) will be required to wear a mask or face covering when in public indoor spaces and when receiving in-room service. Masks are strongly recommended for children age 2-9 years old. In accordance with local health authorities, some restaurant and facility services and hours may also be modified.

TRAVEL

You fly into the Jackson Hole Airport and it is a 35-minute drive to the resort. All car rental companies are represented at the airport. Group shuttle options will be available on peak days.

CONTACT

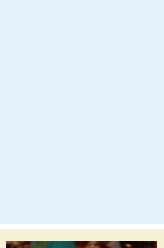
Heather Roderick

Executive Director, Western Vascular Society

1411 5th St., Anacortes, WA 98221

Telephone: 360-420-6906 | Fax: 360-261-6077

Email: surgicalcs@gmail.com | Web: www.surgicalcs.com



WESTERN VASCULAR SOCIETY

2021 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President
MICHAEL S. CONTE, MD

Michael Elect
VINCENT ROWE, MD

Secretary-Treasurer
AHMED ABOU-ZAMZAM, MD

Recorder
MATTHEW MELL, MD

Program Chair
VENITA CHANDRA, MD

Membership Chair
TIMOTHY LIEM, MD

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair
ELINA QUIROGA, MD

Vascular Surgery Interest Group Chair
MISTY HUMPHRIES, MD

Past President, Councilor
BENJAMIN W. STARNES, MD

Past President, Councilor
YORK N. HSIANG, MB, ChB, MHSC, FRCS

Past President, Councilor
E. JOHN HARRIS, MD

Local Arrangements Chair
MARK MORASCH, MD

MISSION

The Western Vascular Society promotes and advances excellence, research, inclusion and leadership in the art and science of compassionate vascular health in the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim.

VISION

The Western Vascular Society (WVS) seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health through education, research, public awareness and advocacy. WVS membership is recognized in the vascular communities of the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim as a mark of the highest professional achievement. WVS seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health.

VALUES

Education | Research | Public Awareness | Advocacy | Career Development | Diversity

westernvascularsociety.org