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ADVANCING PATIENT CARE THROUGH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BY ALLOWING NEUROSURGEONS IN ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL ABILITY AND INTEGRITY.

President's Message Steven D. Wray, MD

First, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as president of our society this year and appreciate the opportunity to do so. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding future activities or involvement, I would welcome hearing from you.

Those of you in attendance know what an exceptional fall meeting that we recently had at the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, Georgia. The program content was enriching from a scientific, political, and personal standpoint, and I want to thank Dr. Dan Suh for serving as scientific program chairman and for orchestrating an exceptional meeting. We are making preparations for the spring meeting for the 2010 calendar year which will be held May 28-30 at The Ritz-Carlton in Amelia Island, Florida. Please make plans to bring your family and

attend what promises to be another great meeting in a very family friendly venue.

At our recent meeting of the Board of Directors, we discussed a collective desire to increase active membership in the society and improve attendance at our biannual meetings. We are fortunate to have an active and effective state neurosurgical society but believe there is an opportunity to expand our membership. First, please plan to personally attend the meetings and encourage your partners, colleagues, and residents to do so as well. Additionally, if you hire or become aware of a new practitioner in our state, please encourage them to join and become active in the society. We will inevitably face future challenges with regards to proposed health care reform and our ability to appropriately and effectively care for our patients will be strengthened and enhanced

by organized efforts at a state and national level. Congressman Tom Price's presentation to the GNS/ Georgia OTO/HNS identifying ways we can become personally involved to promote patient care in our specialty illustrates the ability of our society to serve as a venue for information distribution. We are also fortunate to have several members who are active on a national level and provide excellent representation to us on that front.

Finally, I want to extend sincere gratitude to our executive director, Tara Morrison, for the exceptional service she continues to provide to our society.

Hope you and your families have a joyous Holiday season and a healthy, happy, and blessed 2010. See you in Amelia Island!



Spring Annual Meeting May 28-30, 2010 at The Ritz-Carlton in Amelia Island, FL

Next year's annual meeting will be May 28-30, 2010 at the Ritz Carlton in Amelia Island, FL.

For more information regarding the meeting, please visit <http://www.GAneurosurgical.org/> or call (770) 613-0932. For more information on The Ritz-Carlton, please visit their website at <http://www.ritzcarlton.com/end/properties/ameliaisland> or call (904) 277-1100.

Hard Decisions and Changes for the New Year

The Board of Directors of the Georgia Neurosurgical Society had a dilemma on their hands at their board meeting in November of 2008. Do we continue to hold our annual spring meeting at the Cloister, or do we try a new venue? After much discussion, it was decided to move forward and try a new location. "Many of our members have such fond memories of the Cloister and hold it as one of their yearly traditions" said GNS Executive Director, Tara Morrison. "but many of our younger members had never attended a GNS Spring meeting because they did not want to pay the room rates at The Cloister. We do not want to



(Pictured Above) The 2010 location for the GNS Spring Meeting, The-Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island.

alienate any of our members and therefore decided to make the change". A survey was sent out to all members asking for their opinion on location. The two locations considered were the Ritz Carlton at Lake Oconee and the Ritz Carlton Amelia Island. By a margin of 60% to 40%, the Ritz Carlton at Amelia Island won

out. Dr. Dan Suh, the 2009-2010 GNS Program Chairman said, "We are looking forward to a great meeting both scientifically and socially for our colleagues and their families".

Looking forward towards the program, we are excited to welcome Dr. John A. Wilson, M.D., F.A.C.S. from Wake Forest University as our Honored Guest Speaker. The meeting is scheduled to take place over the Memorial Day holiday from Friday, May 28 to Sunday, May 30. A call for abstracts will be coming soon as well as registration information. We look forward to seeing all of the familiar faces that we usually see at the GNS Spring meeting as well as members who are coming for the first time.

New! GNS Membership Logo Now Available



In order to improve relations and awareness within the community, Georgia Neurosurgical Society has newly released a membership logo for member publication needs.

To download the logo in .PDF, .JPEG, or .EPS format, please visit us online and click the 'Membership' tab.

For questions, please call our main office at (770) 613-0932.

MEMBER



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