



# INDIANA CHAPTER *American College of Surgeons* NEWSLETTER

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## Dr. Schwartz to give Moore Lecture

Seymour I. Schwartz, MD, FACS, Distinguished Alumni Professor and chair, department of surgery, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, NY, will give the 1997 Will C. Moore Lecture. Dr. Schwartz is the editor-author of the widely used textbook "Principles of Surgery", and is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*. He is currently Chair of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons and President-Elect of the College. He is undoubtedly the best known person in American surgery today. Dr. Schwartz will dine with the I.U. faculty and Moore family on Thurs., Nov. 20. He will have ward rounds and case presentations, lunch with the residents and the dinner meeting with Indiana Chapter fellows and guests on Fri., Nov. 21. He will give a scientific presentation at Grand Rounds on Sat., Nov. 22. The Chapter dinner will be at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis. The social mixer starts at 6:30 PM, dinner at 7:30 PM. A Board of Councilors meeting will be held at 5:30 PM.

## Washington Report

As has been done for the last two years, a report to Indiana fellows concerning the visit to Washington by two members of the Chapter is included with this Newsletter.

## Indiana Chapter in the *BULLETIN*

An article on the Indiana Chapter Annual Meeting is in the August 1997 copy of the *American College of Surgeons Bulletin* on page 59. It features the resident award winners and contains a photograph of the chapter officers. Rhonda Peebles wrote the article. She has attended the last three Annual Meetings of the Chapter.

Jeanne  
Schilder, MD;  
1997 Carl H.  
McCaskey Award  
winner



## Dr. Thomas Broadie

Dr. Broadie's term as Governor is due to expire in October with the Clinical Congress and appointment of a new governor. Dr. Broadie has served for two terms of three years each. This is the maximum permitted. For his years of service, Dr. Broadie will receive a "Thank you" at the Board of Governors dinner at Chicago. As is traditional, no certificate or other recognition is given.

Dr. Broadie's service to the Indiana Chapter has extended over a longer period of time than six years. He served on the Board of Directors, and was elected Secretary, serving three years. He revised the bylaws and organized the Chapter as a not for profit corporation. He straightened out what might have been a costly tax situation. He has been the Chairman of the Committee on Trauma. He served as President in 1989-90 and succeeded Dr. Jay Grosfeld as Governor in 1991.

Dr. Broadie will continue as chair of the Bylaws Committee. Most certainly he will continue to serve the Chapter and College in other capacities.

Governor's Annual Report to the College  
June 15, 1997  
John P. Lynch  
Director, Organization Department  
American College of Surgeons

Dear Mr. Lynch:

The items of concern to fellows in the state of Indiana are:

#### **Economic Issues**

In a time when the economy is flourishing and employment is full, surgeons are facing discounted payments for their services, more federal regulations, increasing harassment by insurance companies and expanding costs of doing business. This one aspect of surgical practice today far exceeds any other concern.

"If the events of the past two years continue for another three years, I will have to find something else to do. I will be unable to make a living as a surgeon." This comment is from a solo surgeon in a small community. He has a small attractive office and operates in a well equipped profitable community hospital, but the volume of surgery is limited. "I am trained as a surgeon, and I love what I do, but I also have obligations to my wife and children to make their future secure."

The discounting of fees, diminished payments by Medicare and Medicaid, the hassle of supplying different information in different formats to different insurance companies, preauthorization requirements, and the expertise necessary to properly code both diagnosis and procedure are daily economic issues for the practicing surgeon. Taking care of patients is not an issue; quality of care is not an issue; keeping up with emerging technology is not a real issue; getting paid for what is done is a problem. It is a problem because none of the non-issues can be accomplished without a solution.

Because of the pressures of decreased reimbursement for services, surgeons must invest wisely what they do make. The best investments are in areas that you know. Federal Trade Commission restrictions on investment in the area we know best, medicine, continue to be an issue adverse to surgeons.

The continued encroachment of the surgical subspecialties diminishes the number of cases available to the general surgeon. The advent of specialized "breast centers" and "hernia centers"

## **Coming Events**

**Oct. 12-17-** A.C.S. Clinical Congress - Chicago, IL.

**Tues. Oct. 14,** 7:00 A.M.; Indiana Chapter Breakfast. Chicago Hilton and Towers. Hosted by Ethicon.

**Fri. Nov. 21** - Will C. Moore Lecture - 6:30 P.M. social, 7:30 P.M. Dinner; Dr. Seymour I. Schwartz. Radisson Plaza Hotel, Indianapolis.

**Fri. Feb. 20, 1998** - John E. Jesseph Lecture; 6:30 P.M. Social, 7:30 P.M. Dinner; Dr. Jerry M. Shuck. Columbia Club, Indianapolis.

**May 7-9, 1998** - Holiday Inn Lakeview, Clarksville, IN; The 1998 Annual Meeting.

compound this problem.

The surgeon in the small community continues to be concerned about maintaining surgical services to the community and hospital. The long hours of call and the inability to obtain coverage for CME or vacation have been a difficulty for a long time. Decreasing case loads and reimbursements are making this difficulty more acute. Communities of 5000 - 10,000 population have lost their surgeons through death and retirement. This is now occurring in communities of 10,000 - 15,000.

#### **Other Issues**

Professional liability has not been the issue in Indiana that it is in other parts of the country. The Indiana Compensation Act for Patients (INCAP) continues to be under attack. Complacency among young surgeons about the importance of INCAP is a concern.

The absence of funding by managed care for surgical education has immediate concern for those involved in surgical education. The absence of a solution to this issue will have long term effects on all surgeons.

Mergers and acquisitions continue to be a worry but as yet have not appeared to have major impact on surgical practice.

The sharing of risk by managed care organizations and insurance companies will decrease the pressure on surgical decision making. Legislation along this line is encouraged.

Robert P. Inlow, MD, FACS  
Governor at Large, Indiana