



NORTH AMERICAN SKULL BASE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2011

11300 West Olympic Blvd., Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90064 p. 310 424 3326 f. 310 437 0585 e. info@nasbs.org w. nasbs.org

“We are confident that the 2012 meeting of the NASBS will be one time when ‘what happens in Vegas, doesn’t stay in Vegas!’”

Inside

Presidential Message

1

NASBS 2012 Annual Meeting

1

Skull Base Surgery Journal

2

NASBS Summer Course

2

NASBS 2013 Annual Meeting

2

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Dr. Dennis Kraus

The 22nd North American Skull Base Society meeting will take place February 17-19 at Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas, Nevada. The theme of the meeting will be “Managing Risk at the Skull Base”. The program committee consists of Dr. Carl Snyderman, Chair, and Drs. John Golfinos, Daniel Pieper and Rick Friedman, co-chairs. A 2 day pre-meeting dissection course will be held at MITI Lab in Henderson, NV under the leadership of Drs. Vijay Anand, James Evans, Ehab Hannah, Jacques Marcos and Sandeep Samant. Honored guests for this year’s meeting include Dr. Jatin Shah of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Anil Nanda of Louisiana State University-Shreveport and Dr. Michael Gleeson of Guys and St. Thomas NHS Foundation Trust in London. An outstanding program has been prepared, including keynote speakers, invited lectures, multidisciplinary tumor boards, breakfast panels and the now infamous “Skull Base Jeopardy”. An outstanding social schedule has been planned. The abstract deadline is September 30, 2011 and can be accessed at www.nasbs.org. Included in this years proffered paper sessions are awards for the best resident paper in the clinical and research category and a best medical student paper award. The Awards Committee consists of Dr. Micheal Link, Chair and Drs. Sam Marzo, James Liu, Adam Zanation, Arturo Solares and Marilene Wang. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending an educational and collegial meeting during Presidents’ Weekend in Las Vegas!



NASBS 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Carl Snyderman

The 2012 meeting of the NASBS will be in Las Vegas, February 17-19. It is a perfect venue for this year’s theme: *Managing Risk at the Skull Base*. The program will include international experts in all areas of Skull Base and include Breakfast Seminars, Plenary Sessions with exciting keynote speakers, Panel Discussions dealing with a wide variety of specific topics, and Proffered Papers. Highlights of the meeting include a Jeopardy game pitting the smartest minds in skull base against each other and 3D Anatomy sessions. There are plenty of opportunities to participate in the meeting. If you would like to be more involved, please contact the Program Chair or Maribeth Balon in the NASBS office at Maribeth@nasbs.org.



We are confident that the 2012 meeting of the NASBS will be one time when “what happens in Vegas, doesn’t stay in Vegas”!

Skull Base Surgery Journal

Micael Gleeson and Dennis Kraus continue to serve as co-editors in chief of the *Skull Base Surgery* journal, published by Thieme Medical Publishers. The focus of the journal has recently changed from the prior format of predominantly skull base case reports to articles focusing on original contributions to the literature focusing on the treatment and basic science of skull base diseases. The change in the format has been reflected in a significant increase in the impact factor assigned to the journal. The editors continue to seek original material from the membership of skull base societies around the world that will favorably impact on the quality of the journal and provide educational material for our readership. A recent feature is the development of Skull Base Reports, an on line case report site edited by Drs. Derrick Lin and Rupert Obholzer. Submissions are published immediately upon acceptance on line and plans are in place to provide an annual compendium of skull base case reports. The editors encourage all practitioners engaged in the management of skull base surgery and diseases to submit material for consideration of publication in the journal.

“A recent feature is the development of Skull Base Reports, an on line case report site...”

NASBS SUMMER COURSE

Dr. Daniel W. Nuss, 2009 NASBS President

NASBS Keeping Residents and Fellows at the Forefront

The North American Skull Base Society held its annual Hands-On Dissection Workshop for Residents and Fellows at the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, July 29-August 1, 2011.

The multidisciplinary faculty, a genuine *who's who* of skull base experts in Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, and Anatomy, included Distinguished Lecturer Albert Rhoton Jr., Course Directors Ehab Hanna and Daniel Nuss, NASBS President Dennis Kraus, and Drs. Jon Robertson, Carl Heilman, William Cauldwell, James Evans, Harry Van Loveren, John Golfinos, Michael Link, Moises Arriaga, Frank Culicchia, Madison Michael, Rohan Walvekar, Chad Zender, Richard Whitworth, William Swartz and David Beahm.

Attendees included a full complement of 30 senior residents and fellows in Neurosurgery and Otolaryngology (from head & neck surgery, rhinology and neurotology). This NASBS course, given every summer, is unique in that its format is designed to promote close collaboration between the specialties in learning the technical aspects of skull base surgery. The side-by-side pairing of neurosurgeons with otolaryngologists allows for free exchange of specialty-specific clinical information that goes beyond what most residents and fellows receive in their respective training programs.

At each of 15 fully equipped stations in the state-of-the-art LSU surgical laboratory, a neurosurgeon is paired with an otolaryngologist, and they assist each other in anatomic dissection and performance of surgical approaches using freshly prepared cadaveric specimens that have been injected to illustrate the arterial and venous vasculature and other fine details of skull base anatomy. Technical aspects of the dissections include open surgery, endoscopic surgery, micro-otologic surgery and intraoperative CT imaging at all stations.

The didactic portion of the course is heavily based on the masterful three-dimensional microsurgical anatomy work of Professor Rhoton, along with clinically oriented presentations by the other attending faculty. These lectures are arranged so that participants in the lab can receive concise, practical, stepwise instruction in how to apply the most advanced dissection techniques in skull base surgery.

The combination of world-class faculty and facilities, energetic and inquisitive residents and fellows, and a dash of classic New Orleans hospitality resulted in a fantastic course for all involved.



NASBS 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Carl Heilman, President-Elect NASBS

The 2013 NASBS Annual Meeting will be held on February 15-17, 2013 with premeeting courses held February 13-14, 2013 at the Doral Golf Resort and Spa in Miami Florida. The theme of the meeting will be “The Complexity of Measuring True Quality”.

The determination of quality health care delivery in surgical practice is very difficult. Determining quality from medical claims data, such as surgical mortality rates, is often misleading and provides little if any estimation of true quality medical care. The 2013 NASBS Annual meeting will highlight the complexity of determining true quality and attempt to develop measures for an accurate assessment of quality treatment of several common skull base conditions. The meeting will thoroughly analyze current quality measures and attempt to advance this important aspect of our specialty. Please plan to join us in Miami, 2013, for a multidisciplinary exchange of ideas regarding approaches, surgical techniques, imaging modalities, pathology, treatment outcomes and the development of quality measures in skull base surgery.

