

Acting Editor:
D. Roxanne Todor, MD



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The Spirit of WINS: Remembering Sherry

By D. Roxanne Todor, MD

It was with great shock and sorrow that I learned of Sherry Apple's death in July. There are no words to express how her loss will affect this organization to which she devoted so much of her time. The editorial board would like to dedicate this issue of the WINS newsletter in honor of Sherry L. Apple, MD, who ceaselessly exemplified the "Spirit of WINS."

Sherry always seemed full of life and projected a strong aura of self-confidence and competence. Her pre-residency and residency years were not without struggle, but Sherry persevered and drew on her experiences to aid women in neurosurgery. She was also known to go the extra mile for her patients as demonstrated by the following story: A middle-aged man was transferred to the hospital at which Sherry was a resident, reportedly in a coma. She was able to detect a spark of awareness in his eyes and eventually proved that he was really locked in, despite the skepticism of her colleagues and the practical difficulties involved. Several years later this patient was communicating



Sherry L. Apple, MD, MS

with a special computer and was able to interact with his wife and children.

Sherry had an active private practice in Charleston W.Va., where she was the only female neurosurgeon in the state. She was instrumental in bringing new technology to the region, including stereotactic radiosurgery and balloon vertebroplasty. She was known for her trademark apple bandages as well as her empathy and professionalism.

Despite her busy schedule, Sherry managed to create and manage the WINS Web site. In our newsletter last spring, Sherry wrote the Spirit of WINS column and shared some of her struggles during medical school and residency and how she thrived despite those challenges.

We will all miss Sherry and our deepest sympathy is extended to her husband, Art, who is struggling to deal with her loss. As Sherry wrote last spring, "Ah, there is nothing like life in its many forms. And isn't life the perfect thing to pass the time away?"

Leadership Conference Moved

The leadership conference has been moved to the AANS Annual Meeting in Chicago. It will be offered as a practical course from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday April 7. The conference will include nationally recognized speakers leading workshops that address career promotion, time management and organizational skills.

A WINS-sponsored luncheon in memory of Sherry Apple, MD, will be held immediately preceding the workshop. The luncheon will be open to all Annual Meeting attendees. Look for more details in the spring newsletter.

WINS Holds Meetings

The WINS' Executive Committee will hold its biannual meeting at the CNS Annual Meeting from 6-7:15 a.m. on Tuesday October 2 in the Orlando Room at the San Diego Marriott.

The WINS' business meeting and reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2 in the Santa Rosa Room at the Marriott. After elections are held, Alexa Canady, MD, will be the guest speaker.

Acting President's Message

By D. Roxanne Todor, MD



D. Roxanne Todor,
MD

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Edie Zusman, MD, for her unparalleled leadership and her continued active support during this time of loss. The 8th Annual Ruth Kerr Jacoby Lecturer and WINS reception was a great success with a standing-room-only crowd. Secretary Lynn Martin was both humorous and informative, and the members of the audience were greatly impressed with her presentation.

The recently renamed Louise Eisenhardt Resident Travel Scholarship was awarded to Eve Tsai, MD, of the University of Toronto and Deepa Soni, MD, of Children's Hospital/Harvard for their outstanding abstracts. Each resident received \$1,000 to help defray the cost of attending the meeting.

At the meeting the new brochure, *So You Want to Be a Neurosurgeon*, was unveiled. Kudos to Deborah Benzil, MD, and Karin Muraszko, MD, for their hard work and excellent results. I have tested the brochure on several medical students and they uniformly

have found it to be helpful and informative. In the future we hope to incorporate the brochure on our Web page.

Spotlight on WINS Members

Congratulations to Kathryn Ko, MD, who was recently appointed as Chief of Neurosurgery at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Ko served as Chief of Neurosurgery at Jacobi Medical Center and Coney Island Hospital, all in New York City.

Starting this year, WINS will have a representative at the CNS Scientific Committee Meeting. The committee will meet at the CNS Annual Meeting in San Diego to plan the scientific program of the next CNS meeting, which will be in 2002 in Philadelphia. The WINS Executive Committee has appointed the immediate past president to this position and Dr. Zusman will represent WINS in San Diego.

If anyone wishes to contribute to the Spotlight section, please send an e-mail to me at todorr@pol.net by March 1, 2002, and it will appear in the spring newsletter.

I look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego!

Where Are the Women Leaders?

By Isabelle M. Germano, MD



Isabelle M. Germano,
MD

A recent article in *Academic Medicine* (76:453-465) was titled "Why aren't more women leaders in academic medicine? The views of clinical department chairs." The authors report what 34 chairs and two division chiefs in five specialties have to say. The chairs universally acknowledged the existence of barriers to the advancement of women. A spectrum of approaches to correct the problem is proposed. School-level changes seem to

have a greater likelihood of achieving enduring impact as opposed to individual intervention.

This article stresses the fact that as a group (WINS), we will be more successful in changing the environment for ourselves and future generations than by acting separately. Let's continue to be cohesive and work within our WINS group.

Another interesting article on the same topic was recently published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (www.chronicle.com). The article was titled "Critics question: Why are so few minority scholars elected?" This article talked about the National Academy of Science. Most scientists would agree that being elected a member of this society is the greatest honor that an American scientist can aspire to, next to the Nobel

Prize. This spring 72 new members were elected and only seven were women! The article was very informative and covered several important topics such as lack of clear information on how the selection process is done.

Thus the struggle of women in being on the outskirts of "organized" neurosurgery seems to be a common problem in other competitive fields such as science. Once again, I believe that by working as a group we have been successful and will continue to be successful.

Lynn Martin's Talk Covered

A summary of former U.S. Secretary of Labor Lynn Martin's WINS talk is available on the AANS Web site. Go to: www.neurosurgery.org/aans/bulletin/summer01/annualmeeting.html. Secretary Martin gave the 8th Annual Ruth Kerr Jacoby Lecture at the WINS reception in April at the AANS Annual Meeting in Toronto.

Secretary Martin said that women neurosurgeons who want to advance the status of women in neurosurgery must be more assertive and emulate the tough-minded negotiating strategies of men.

WINS Highlights at the 2001 CNS Annual Meeting

We are grateful to the leadership within the Scientific Program Committee for including WINS members in the CNS program in San Diego. These are some of the many panels in which women neurosurgeons will be participating. For a complete listing, check your CNS Annual Meeting program.

Saturday, September 29

Practical Courses 8 AM-NOON

PC06 Image-Guided Cranial Surgical Navigation

Course Directors: **Isabelle M. Germano**, Kevin T. Foley
Faculty: Richard D. Bucholz, Robert J. Maciunas, Christopher R. Mascott, Haring J.W. Nauta, Michael G. Nosko, Philip E. Stieg, William D. Tobler, David G. Walker, Ronald E. Warnick, Kim Herbert Manwaring

PC07 Posterior Circulation Aneurysms: Surgical and Endovascular Treatment

Course Director: Thomas A. Kopitnik, Jr.
Faculty: H. Hunt Batjer, Jonathan A. White, Phillip D. Purdy, Lee Pride, John McMahon, Robert E. Replogle, Jon A. Krumerman, **Zeena Dorai**, **Debra L. Steele**, Samuel Lee Barnett, Thomas G. Psarros

PC08 Lumbar Fusion: Cages, Dowels, and Pedicle Screws

Course Directors: Regis William Haid, Jr., Christopher I. Shaffrey
Faculty: Daniel H. Kim, Joseph T. Alexander, Daniel K. Resnick, R. John Hurlbert, Rick L. Sasso, Michael W. Groff, **Julie E. York**, Anthony Frempong-Boadu, Marc Eichler, Kaushik Das, Juan C. Bartholomei, James P. Hollowell, Barry D. Birch, Michael A. Morone, William S. Rosenberg, Mitchell R. Gropper, Robert F. Heary

PC13 Image-Guided Spinal Navigation

Course Directors: Kevin T. Foley, **Isabelle M. Germano**
Faculty: Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., Kenneth S. Yonemura, Haring J.W. Nauta, Gary Zimmerman, Iain Kalfas, J. Patrick Johnson, William D. Tobler, Lloyd Zucker

PC15 Lumbar Fusion: Cages, Dowels, and Pedicle Screws

Course Directors: Regis William Haid, Jr., Christopher I. Shaffrey
Faculty: Michael W. Groff, Charles Kuntz, IV, Juan C. Bartholomei, Paul D. Sawin, Michael G. Kaiser, **Julie E. York**, R. John Hurlbert, Kaushik Das, Marc Eichler, Eric J. Woodard, Seth M. Zeidman, Anthony Frempong-Boadu, Daniel K. Resnick, Brian R. Subach, Gregory R. Trost, Joseph T. Alexander, Rick C. Sasso

PC16 Pediatric Traumatic CNS Injury and Critical Care: Management Guidelines and Case Studies

Course Directors: P. David Adelson, John Ragheb
Faculty: Douglas L. Brockmeyer, **Ann M. Ritter**, Mark R. Proctor, Michael David Partington

Sunday, September 30

Practical Courses 8 AM-NOON

PC24 Managing and Building a Neurosurgical Practice Using Marketing, Media and the Internet

Course Directors: Leonard J. Cerullo
Faculty: **Catherine Gilmore**

PC33 Endoscopic Carpal Tunnel Techniques

Course Director: David F. Jimenez
Faculty: Adam I. Lewis, Wesley A. King, John G. Frazee, Paul A. Grabb, **Lori A. McBride**

1-5 PM

PC36 Brain Mapping and Surgery for Epilepsy

Course Directors: **Isabelle M. Germano**, Nicholas M. Barbaro
Faculty: P. David Adelson, William E. Bingaman, Jr., Robert R. Goodman

PC37 Intracranial Endoscopy

Course Directors: David F. Jimenez, Paul A. Grabb
Faculty: Adam I. Lewis, Wesley A. King, John G. Frazee, **Lori A. McBride**

Monday, October 1

Luncheon Seminars 12:30-2 PM

M01 International Luncheon and Program Impact of the Internet on the Global Neurosurgery Village

Moderator: Michael E. Carey
Faculty: Nelson M. Oyesiku, Alexander N. Kononov, Adelola Adeyoye, Abdeslam El Khamlichi, Richard Perrin, Brigadier Ramamurthi, **Yoko Kato**

M02 Controversies in the Management of Craniovertebral Junction Abnormalities

Moderator: Arnold H. Menezes
Faculty: John G. Strugar, Haynes Louis Harkey, III, Fraser C. Henderson, Dennis McDonell, **Karin M. Muraszko**

M05 Current Surgical Options for Lumbar Discectomy: Comparison of Results

Moderator: Maurice M. Smith
Faculty: **Andrea L. Halliday**, Nathan E. Simmons, Christopher B. Adams, Gary Robert Simonds

M17 Pediatric Spine Surgery: Management Issues and Controversies

Moderator: Richard G. Ellenbogen
Faculty: **Monica C. Webby**, Douglas L. Brockmeyer, Anthony Michael Avellino, Leon E. Moores, Dachling Pang

**Section on Neurotrauma and Critical Care I
Spinal Trauma**

5:10-5:25 Prognostic Indicators of Outcome from Penetrating Brain Injury, **Beverly C. Walters**

Council of State Neurosurgical Societies

2- 3:30 Open Papers 740-749, Moderators: *Frederick A. Boop, Edie E. Zusman*
4-4:40 Oral Posters 27-39, Moderators: *Frederick A. Boop, Edie E. Zusman*
4:40-5:30 Washington Committee Update, Moderators: *Frederick A. Boop, Edie E. Zusman*

Tuesday, October 2

Luncheon Seminars 12:30-2 PM

T34 Guidelines and Outcomes Assessment For Spinal and Cranial Surgery: What is Supported by the Literature in 2001?

Moderator: *Stephen J. Haines*
Faculty: **Beverly C. Walters**, *Daniel H. Kim, Barry D. Birch, Peter C. Gerszten*

T37 Pituitary Surgery: From Minimally Invasive to Craniotomy

Moderator: *Marc R. Mayberg*
Faculty: *Hae-Dong Jho, Gail L. Rosseau, Andrew D. Parent, Dheerendra Prasad*

T45 Posterior Fossa and Brainstem Tumors in Children: Approaches and Complication Avoidance

Moderator: *James T. Rutka*
Faculty: **Liliana C. Goumnerova**, *Tadanori Tomita, J. Gordon McComb, Jeff H. Wisoff*

T46 Syringomyelia: Management and Outcome

Moderator: *Ulrich Batzdorf*
Faculty: *Marcus A. Stoodley, Karin A. Murazsko, Hiroshige Abe, Bermans J. Iskander, Neil Arthur Feldstein, Ghassan K. Bejjani*

T53 Diagnosis and Neurosurgical Management of Complex Pediatric Head Injury and Shaken Baby Syndrome

Moderator: *Mark S. Dias*
Faculty: *Peter B. Dirks, Carolyn Marie Carey, Mark R. Proctor*

T54 Management of Gliomas: Surgery and Adjuvant Therapies

Moderator: *Mitchel S. Berger*
Faculty: *Philip H. Gutin, Roberta P. Glick, Keith L. Black, Ronald E. Warnick*

**Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves I
Clinical Case Management-Cervical**

5:14-5:30 Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy, **Nancy Epstein**

Section on Tumors II

Advances in Pituitary Tumors

2-3 PM Open Papers 761-770, Moderators: **Linda M. Liao, Gene H. Barnett**

Wednesday, October 3

Luncheon Seminars 12:30-2 pm

W67 Coding for Spine

Moderator: *Samuel J. Hassenbusch*
Faculty: **Daria D. Schooler**, *Gregory J. Przybylski, John Wilson, Jeffrey W. Cozzens*

W73 Pediatric Brain Tumors: A Practical Perspective and Complication Avoidance

Moderator: *Theodore S. Roberts*
Faculty: *John Ragheb, Patricia A. Aronin, Mark D. Krieger, Herbert E. Fuchs*

W74 Management of the Difficult Shunt

Moderator: *James M. Drake*
Faculty: *Harold L. Rekate, Cheryl A. Muszynski, Alexa I. Canady, Michael H. Handler, Neil Arthur Feldstein*

Section on Cerebrovascular Surgery II

Neurovascular Critical Care

5:20-5:30 Documentation and Coding, **Veronica Chiang**

Section on Neurotrauma and Critical Care II

Maximizing Reimbursement from Neurotrauma and Critical Care 2

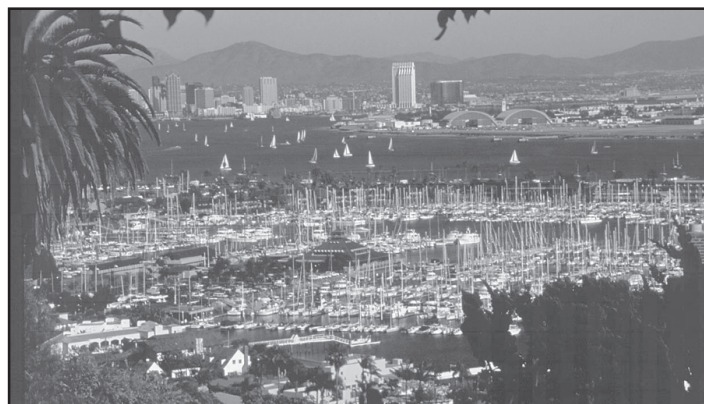
2-3:30 Open Papers 821-830, Moderators: *Alex B. Valadka, Jamie S. Ullman*
4-4:40 Oral Posters 105-117, Moderators: *Alex B. Valadka, Jamie S. Ullman*
4:40-5:30 Special Symposium, Moderators: *Alex B. Valadka, Jamie S. Ullman*

Thursday, October 4

General Scientific Session IV

Reinventing Neurosurgery: Sports and Spinal Neurosurgery

9:17-9:30 Guidelines for the Management of Acute Traumatic Cervical Spine and Cervical Spinal Cord Injuries, **Mark N. Hadley, Beverly C. Walters**



View of San Diego skyline from Pt. Loma. Photo courtesy of the San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau. Photo credit: James Blank

2002 Membership Dues Statement - Corporate Sponsorship and Donations

This is your invoice for 2002 WINS dues. Indicate on your checks that you are paying for 2002 dues.
Please return this form with your updated demographics. Additional contributions are welcome.

Name: _____

Business Address: _____

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Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Preferred form of contact: _____

Members Dues Categories:

- One-year Membership \$50
- Five-year Membership \$250
- Ten-year Membership \$500
- Lifetime Membership \$1000
- Resident Membership \$0
- Friends of WINS (Non-Neurosurgeon) \$50

Corporate Donor Categories:

- Corporate Founding Member \$10,000
- Corporate Patron \$5000
- Corporate Benefactor \$2500

Members Donor Categories: (For contributions in addition to required dues)

- For Louise Eisenhardt Resident Travel Scholarship \$_____
- Other: _____ \$_____

Please make check payable to Women in Neurosurgery and remit to:

Denise E. Crute, MD
Secretary-Treasurer WINS
c/o American Association of Neurological Surgeons
5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008

DUES MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 20, 2001

The Interview Trail: Still an Uphill Climb

By Jamie Leigh Wells, MD

Resident's Corner

“So, have you met any other females on the neurosurgery trail?” he asked with a smirk while we sat in the generic conference room waiting to be called for our next interview. To that I said, “Not yet. Why? Have you?” His response, though one I will not forget, was, as I would soon discover, anything but rare. “Yeah, I met one and she was CRAZY. ... You wanna know why?” he rhetorically replied. “Because she talked.”

Initially, I was stunned that the aforementioned was even verbalized so distinctly in the year 2001. Could he possibly be serious? Sadly, yes. Within seconds, however, this emotion was tempered and replaced with pity and amusement. I felt sorry for him since this belief likely stemmed from a deeper insecurity and, simultaneously, I found his candor entertaining. I felt almost empowered by the absurdity of the comment.

I could pen an epic if so inclined documenting the endless number of sexist vignettes that actually occurred this year; but I am certain that I would bore my predecessors since the genesis of such tales most definitely did not begin with me. I quickly realized that said situations were routine, but, concomitantly, I realized that their impact was absolutely within my control. Understanding this fundamental tenet early on made the remainder of the interview trail rather enjoyable. In fact, I began to revel in the acquisition of newer and funnier interac-

tions. Ultimately, it taught me to remain true to myself and encouraged me to forge ahead with confidence and fortitude. I understood that the responsibility was mine to portray myself in the best possible light and focus on my record, a history that no one could dispute.

Having not encountered such attitudes when interviewing for medical school, I was surprised when I encountered them in pursuit of neurosurgical training. As a result, I have gleaned some useful insights that I would like to share: 1) It is necessary for women to be almost 5,000 percent certain of their decision or the end result might not be worth the means required to accomplish the goal. 2) There are gems among the adversarial masses who do wish you to succeed. 3) Women, more often than not, are compelled to be exponentially better than average. 4) Finally, be yourself and let no individual dissuade you from pursuing your dream. This is the greatest power in your arsenal.

I am not advocating that one be blind to the struggle women face, nor do I believe it is always easy to prevent others from adversely influencing you. Bottom line: it is up to you to determine whether or not the fight is yours to make, while understanding that the system will not change tomorrow. Only as time passes and women assume more senior positions will the pendulum shift toward a ubiquitous solidarity that dispenses with gender lines. Till then, quiet effectiveness exacts the most formidable defense.