## **AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**

## **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

## Sunday, June 22, 2014

# **WELCOME**

Dr. Byrd opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 25th Annual Scientific Sessions.

# **CALL TO ORDER**

## President Benjamin Byrd, MD, FASE called the annual membership meeting to order and read the Society’s Conflict of Interest Policy.

## **MINUTES**

## The minutes had been announced in newsletter and posted online for member viewing. With a proper motion and second, the minutes from June 2013 were approved as written.

# **STATE- OF-THE- ASE**

## Dr. Byrd gave a review of his Presidency noting that during that time membership came to an all-time high with International Membership continuing to increase resulting in 16% of members residing outside the U.S. He stated Early-Career Physician and Fellows are engaged leading to a 36% growth since 2012. We’re seeing a growing number of ER, Critical Care, and Primary Care Practitioners joining ASE.

## Dr. Byrd stated that ASE had a good year in 2013 and set aside a significant dollar amount toward the Foundation’s long-term investment portfolio. Currently the ASE has over 5 million in reserves. In addition, the leadership focused on reinvesting a large portion of the yearly returns into creating and enhancing member benefits and offerings. He stated that during his presidency, ASE launched new MOC products, “Best of ASE” educational DVDs, and a new ASE Echo Textbook is being created which will debut later 2014. He was pleased to say we are also giving the largest research grant in the Society’s history - $200,000 - to an investigator to obtain data that demonstrates the relevance and impact of echocardiography on patient outcomes.

Dr. Byrd stated that ASE’s Advocacy efforts had been fruitful. We’ve retained a lobbyist to fight federal echo restrictions. And we have experienced significant success in AMA RUC coding.

## Dr. Byrd announced that we’ve expanded live webinars, online articles, and that webinars are now on ASEUniversity.org. He noted that our Guidelines have been translated into French, Spanish, Mandarin, and Portuguese, and that almost a dozen new guidelines are in various stages of production. Echo’s value is being promoted through codified policy on supporting lab accreditation for adult, echo and vascular labs. We’ve made progress on standardization of strain imaging. To further promote the value of echo, the Summit 2014: A Focus on the Value of Echocardiography will be held September 12, 2014, in Washington, DC. It will be an assembly of thought-leaders from the government, insurers and practice to explore the important role that cardiovascular ultrasound plays in patient-centered healthcare, discussing patient outcomes, physician practice models, and cutting-edge research.

Dr. Byrd said it’s been a wonderful year representing ASE and talking to our members throughout the world at JSE, EuroEcho, CSE and here in the U.S.

# **PRESENTATION OF BOARD ROTATION**

# Dr. Byrd thanked Dr. Patricia Pellikka for her outstanding service to ASE in the past year serving as Past President on the Executive Committee.

He also thanked the outgoing ASE Board Members for their three years of service to the society:

* Dr.Wyman Lai
* Margaret Park
* Dr. Lawrence Rudski
* Dr. Marielle Scherrer-Crosbie
* Monet Strachan

Dr. Byrd introduced the new and continuing ASE Executive Committee Members

* President – Dr. Neil Weissman
* President-Elect – Dr. Susan Wiegers
* Vice President – Dr. Allan Klein
* Treasurer – Dr. Sherif Nagueh
* Secretary – Kenneth Horton
* Member at Large – Joe Kreeger
* And, I will be serving as the Immediate Past President (Benjamin Byrd, MD)

Dr. Byrd welcomed the new Directors:

* Benjamin Eidem, MD, FASE
* Aasha S. Gopal, MD, FASE
* Tasneem Z. Naqvi, MD, MMM, FRCP, FASE
* Hollie Carron, RDCS, FASE
* Andrew Pellett, PhD, RECS, FASE

Dr. Byrd recognized the 2014 Program Chair, Dr. Jonathan Lindner for his leadership, enthusiasm and dedication as Chairman of the 2014 Scientific Sessions He presented Dr. Linder with a plaque.

Dr. Linder thanked the 2014 Session Chairs for all of their hard work

* Dr. Rebecca Hahn, MD, FASE – Abstract Chair & Incoming 2015 Program Chair
* Todd Belcik, BS, RCS, RDCS, FASE – Sonography Track Chair
* Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE – Perioperative Track Chair
* Andrew Powell, MD, FASE – Pediatric & Congenital Heart Disease Track Chair
* Soo Kim, MD, MPH, RPVI – Vascular Track Chair

# Dr. Byrd thanked the 2014 Industry Roundtable Partners:

* Bracco Diagnostics, Inc.
* GE Healthcare
* Lantheus Medical Imaging
* Phillips Healthcare
* Toshiba America Medical Imaging

Dr. Byrd introduced Dr. Tom Ryan, Chair of the ASE Foundation Taskforce who provided an update on the Foundation’s activities. He stated that the Annual Appeal has started and the goal is to raise $250,000 to support the Society’s initiatives. Monies raised will support:

* Research awards
* Guidelines-based projects to standardize patient care
* Student and fellow travel grants and scholarships
* Humanitarian missions (Global & U.S.-based)
* Training for international sonographers

Dr. Ryan stated that the scope and success of these projects are completely dependent on donor giving. Each year, we look to ASE members, the greater community of health care providers, and corporate partners to secure the funding needed to realize these goals. Together, we can make a world of difference!

Dr. Byrd presented the 2013 ASEF Awards. He presented the Donor Award to Dr. Ryan for being the ASEF Annual Appeal biggest donor. Additional donor awards went to Dr. Edward Gill and John Toptine.

Bernhard Mumm, the president of TomTec presented the Foundation’s Research Travel Award to Hiroyuki Iwano.

The 2014 Annual Appeal Partners and Supporters were thanked.

* Esaote North America
* Hitachi-Aloka
* Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC)

Dr. Byrd introduced Patricia Pellikka, MD, FASE. Dr. Patricia Pellikka, of the Mayo Clinic, was named the 25th annual ASE Edler Lecturer. He stated this lecture, created in 1990, honors Inge Edler, MD, the founder of cardiac ultrasound over 50 years ago. He presented Dr. Pellikka with a copy of Edler’s original thesis as a thank you. Dr. Pellikka presented her lecture titled “Echocardiography in an Era of Multimodality Imaging.”

**AWARDS PRESENTATIONS**

# Dr. Byrd presented the annual awards on behalf of the Society. Recipients included:

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## Nelson B. Schiller, MD

# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

## Thomas J. Ryan, MD, FASE

# RICHARD POPP EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

## Mikel D. Smith, MD, FASE

# CARDIOVASCULAR SONOGRAPHER DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

## S. Michelle Bierig, MPH, RDCS, RCS, RDMS, CPHQ, FASE

# EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING IN PEDIATRICS AWARD

## Tal Geva, MD, FASE

# OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PERIOPERATIVE ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY AWARD

## Daniel M. Thys, MD

# 2014 ALAN D. WAGGONER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

## Brittney Blicharz, Hoffman Heart & Vascular School of Cardiac Ultrasound, Hartford, CT

## Jerrid Brabender, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

## Alicia Brooks, South Hills Business & Technology, State College, PA

## Bryan Dake, Bellevue College Diagnostic Ultrasound, Bellevue, WA

## Yanfeng Ding, Sanford Brown College, Dallas, TX

## Sean Hackett, John Hopkins Hospital School of Diagnostic Sonography, Baltimore, MD

## Delanie Sapelli, Hoffman Heart & Vascular School of Cardiac Ultrasound, Hartford, CT

## Nicole Soellner, John Hopkins Hospital School of Diagnostic Sonography, Baltimore, MD

## McKenzie Watzka, Mayo Clinic, Cardiac DMS, Rochester, MN

## Adam Wood, South Hills Business & Technology, State College, PA

# Honorary Fellows of the American Society of Echocardiography

* Hiroshi Ito, MD, PhD, FASE
* Jagdish C. Mohan, MD, DM, FASE
* Yun Zhang, MD, PhD, FASE

# The organization then showed a list of the 110 members that were awarded the Fellow of the American Society of Echocardiography (FASE) designation. This designation is given to members who apply and meet rigorous standards showing that they are dedicated echo professionals with proven contributions. Congratulations to the new FASE from June 2013 through April 2014!

Dr. Byrd introduced Albert Starr, MD, an internationally-acclaimed surgeon, scientist, inventor, and teacher. He noted that few individuals have had such a profound and enduring effect on the practice of medicine and healing of the human heart as Dr. Starr.

Dr. Starr introduced the special guest speaker, Oregon’s senior US Senator, Ron Wyden.   Senator Wyden gave his presentation.

**WELCOME ASE’s NEW PRESIDENT!**

# Dr. Byrd introduced and welcomed Neil Weissman, MD, FASE, as the new president of the ASE.

# **ADDRESS BY ASE’s NEW PRESIDENT**

## Dr. Weissman thanked Dr. Byrd for his work and presented him with a plaque for his inspiration and dedication as President of the American Society of Echocardiography from June 2013 - June 2014. The crowd gave a round of applause in appreciation for his service. Dr. Weissman gave a brief presentation with an overview of his upcoming term as President.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

# With no further business to report, the meeting adjourned with the announcement of the next annual meeting, the 26th Annual Scientific Sessions to be held in Boston, MA.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Robin Wiegerink  
CEO