

Dr. John Kosinski Moves from "God's Country" to "God's Country"



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_____ 2023 WSSS OFFICERS

President: Larry Narkiewicz (WSU/GS 2004/09) Vice-President: Joseph Sferra (WSUGS 1991) Secretary-Treasurer: Bruce McIntosh (WSU/GS 1989/94) Members-at-Large: Jay Dujon (WSUGS 2011) Robert Holmes (WSUGS 1983) Jennifer Bradley (WSUGS 2015)

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Resident Member:

Dr. John Kosinski (WSU/GS 1978/82) is a native Detroiter who was born at the Harper Hospital in 1951 and grew up on the near east side near Belle Isle. His early years represent how lucky we are to be brought up in the good ole USA, the land of opportunity. His father died at an early age so that his mother, who Dr. John Kosinski, his wife, Kris, and their sons worked as a research technician in a very pro-



Nicholas and Charles in 2011

ductive hematology research lab in the DMC, in order to put her three young boys through school; all three, John, the oldest; Rick, the middle; and Mike, the youngest, became physicians. Each of them worked during their early educational years. John often joked about the fact that one of his earlier jobs was helping his Italian grandparents as a winemaking assistant. During high school, his mother was able to get him a job at Hutzel Hospital where he was first exposed to medicine; this experience stimulated his desire to go to medical school. Being a hardworking native Detroiter and being raised by a single mom, he did all of his undergraduate and subsequent medical school training at Wayne State University (WSU). While in medical school, John met and married Kristen, who taught elementary school and later became involved in real estate activities after they moved up to "God's Country" in Marguette in the Upper Peninsula. They became true "Yoopers."

John and his medical school colleagues were influenced by Dr. Anna Ledgerwood (WSUGS 1972), and they all decided to come into the WSU surgical program and helped turn the program around which, prior to their arrival, was in the doldrums. He and his colleagues brought a lot of talent, enthusiasm, and fun into the surgical program; this is discussed elsewhere in this report. During his surgical training, John

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Dr. John Kosinski Moves from "God's Country" to "God's Country", cont..

became influenced by the outstanding surgical skills and patient rapport demonstrated by Dr. Bill Carpenter, who performed private practice primarily at Harper Hospital. Their enthusiasm and love for life meshed, so that this became an excellent professor/resident relationship. During John's training years, they realized that they had common interests as it relates to a love for the outdoors.



Dr. John Kosinski (1978)

Influenced by John's discussions about hunting and fishing and other outdoor activities, Dr. Carpenter introduced him to Dr. Matthew Bennett who was an outstanding sur-

geon in Marquette and shared the same interest for the great outdoors of upper Michigan. John had enough sense to follow Dr. Carpenter's advice, even though he would have to leave his beloved Tigers, Red Wings, and Lions behind as he moved to the north land in Marquette, which is at the northern end of the upper peninsula. His fellow "Yoopers" were all Michiganians and included Dr. Larry Lewis (WSU/GS 1977/88) who was born in Adrian, Michigan; Dr. Greg Bombach (WSU/GS 1992/97) who grew up in Tecumseh, Michigan, which is just north of Detroit; and Dr. Ryan Edwards (WSU/GS 2002) who was born in Livonia, Michigan. They became the leading surgeons and were referred patients from all over the upper peninsula and continued to be strong supporters of Detroit and Michigan surgery by their participation in the local and regional surgical meetings. Whenever the "Yoopers" gathered at these meetings with their colleagues from the lower peninsula, there was always lots of fun, clowning, joking, and a little bit of bragging. During one of the state meetings in Traverse City, John was involved in exciting conversations and began to complain about the U.S. government taking so much of their income in the form of taxes. While in the middle of a can of beer, he stopped talking and exclaimed, "My God, this is terrible!" The people listening to him thought that he must have gotten a bad can of beer and asked him whether it was too old. He then responded in a very emotional way, "The beer is fine! I just realized that I am a God....Damned....Republican." He then went on and philosophized about how life changes when you're a young hardworking pre-medical and medical student trying to make ends meet and then become a very busy practicing surgeon, supporting the good works that Uncle Sam provides for the children of not-so-well-off Democrats. This helped make John realize how lucky he was to be brought up in the good ole USA.

During their years up north, the "Yoopers" gave back to the community and helped improve Continue page 3



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the activities at the Marquette General Hospital, which under their guidance became verified by the American College of Surgeons as a Level II trauma center. John and Kris raised two children, Nicholas and Charles, who became very successful in life. Dr. John Kosinski passed away on December 11, 2022 in Marquette of pulmonary fibrosis and his family was with him.



Dr. John Kosinski 1951-2022

Dr. Tom Siegel (WSU/GS 1977/82), one of the fabulous eight, remembers John.

I was deeply saddened to learn of John's death. I did not even know he was ill. As you know, John was the spirit of our class. His enthusiasm and humor were infectious. Being around him was just plain fun.

John seemed to know everyone. If he saw a new face, it would only take a brief conversation to establish that he had grown up with, or went to school with, or knew someone who was related to that person. John was able to reduce the "six degrees of separation" theory to three, at most four degrees. He liked to put everyone at ease, and accomplished this in his masterful; "hail-fellow-well-met" way.

An example of John's cleverness and sense of humor comes to mind:

John and I were senior residents at the VA, when it was in Allen Park. Each of us was on a different service. Dr. Walt had decided to come to the VA to conduct "Chairman's rounds." John had been out late the night before and was not eager. As you will recall, both the VA and Detroit General Hospital, had no private rooms. Most of the wards had rooms with as many as 10 beds. As space was limited, the rooms were shared by multiple surgical subspecialties One of these subspecialties was ophthalmology. Those patients could be distinguished by their eye patches. So, John distributed eye patches. The veterans really liked John and were always up for some fun. They agreed to go along.

Dr. Walt was leading a parade of residents, students and faculty. At the first room he peered in and saw that all the patients were wearing eye patches. John stepped up and explained that

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Dr. John Kosinski Moves from "God's Country" to "God's Country", cont..

these were ophthalmology patients. "I see," said Dr. Walt. So, we moved on to the next room and the one after that with the same result.

But John didn't reckon on Dr. Arnold Jones and Dr. Charles Huang. They had alerted Dr. Walt to the plan. Ultimately John got his due. Dr. Walt asked if he was related to Blackbeard, as he seemed to have so may "pirates" with eye patches and amputations and wooden legs. Then he asked why so many of the patients also had dressings on other parts of their bodies. Most of us cringed and expected to see John forced to "walk the plank!"

But, John, caught, smiled broadly and loosed one of his great laughs. The situation thus defused, he led us back to the first room and completed "Chairman's rounds" competently, and without further incident.

Although we didn't see one another often, when we did get together, we just started up where we left off. He will be missed.

Dr. Anna Ledgerwood remembers John:

Dr. John Kosinski was "ring leader' of the "Magnificent Eight," who rescued the Wayne State University Residency Program in the late 1970s. This was an era when we had more openings for surgical residents than we had American medical student applicants. The positions were primarily filled by foreign medical graduates. Dr. Bruce Brink had been serving as the surgical Residency Coordinator, and Dr. Alexander Walt was the Program Director. Dr. Brink was leaving to join his mentor at the University of Michigan, and there was an opening for a Surgical Residency Coordinator, and I was asked to fill that position. I did so reluctantly and conditionally. The Chiefs of Surgery at all the hospitals where the residents rotated met a 7 a.m. on a Saturday morning, and all of the residents in the program were reviewed. This group made the decision to terminate 16 of the residents in the program at the end of their year. This decision was made because our resident program was no longer competitive. We had only seven American graduate applicants for eight positions the previous year. It was my responsibility to meet with each of these 16 residents from Years 1 thru 4 to inform them that we would not have a position available for them the next July. The Chiefs of Surgery at all of the hospitals agreed to this marked decrease in the number of residents and tightening of the schedules. Some of the

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Dr. John Kosinski Moves from "God's Country" to "God's Country", cont..

services were run with the PGY-4 as the Chief Resident, including the Emergency Surgery Division. The following year, we had 33 American graduate applicants and matched our eight from the first thirteen on the list. That "Magnificent Eight" included Dr. John Kosinski, Dr. Tom Siegel (WSU/GS 1977/82), and Dr. Larry Lewis (WSU/GS 1977/82) from Wayne State; Dr. Delford Williams (WSUGS 1982), Dr. Clark Newhall, and Dr. John Sennish (WSUGS 1982) from the University of Michigan; Dr. Clyde Dawson (WSUGS 1982) from the University of Illinois, and Dr. Tim Mullin (WSUGS 1982)from Loma Linda University. Dr. John Kosinski would have been considered the "ring leader" of the group.

This energetic, hardworking, hard playing group turned the residency program around, so that we then became an attractive program for our own medical students. There were some highlights that I vividly remember. This included the second week of October, when Dr. John Kosinski came to my office to inform me that he would be absent one day the following week; remember, this was before residents had guaranteed days off. He told me he was going hunting and would not be into work that day. This is when I learned that hunting and fishing were very important to him. I also believe it was Dr. Kosinski who was helping the elder Dr. Thomas Flake (WSU/GS 1979/84) do a circumcision, which was "rather bloody," and they had about 20 hemostats on the foreskin when Dr. Flake had a syncopal episode and collapsed in the operating room. It was a dramatic introduction for a first-year resident who proudly stated how he completed the operation. It was the first week of April during their first year of residency that the "Magnificent Eight" appeared at the Athens Bar on a Friday Afternoon. Dr. Charles Lucas WSU/GS 1962/67), myself, and Dr. Ralph Cushing had gone to the Athens Bar for beer and peanuts after work. The "Magnificent Eight" had diligently completed all of their work duties in order to attend opening day of the Tiger game and proudly showed up at the Athens Bar to tell us about it. Neither Dr. Lucas nor I, Dr. Anna Ledgerwood (WSUGS 1972), thought they had the time (Emergency Surgery Clinic was always on Friday afternoon) or the money to attend such functions. Shortly after that we purchased a small packet of tickets for Friday night Tiger games. I will always consider the "Magnificent Eight" as turning our resident program around and making it an attractive residency for the Wayne State students.





RESIDENT CONTRIBUTIONS OUTSIDE THE BOX

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 to defend the Affordable Care Act (ACA). There were many organizations that filed "amici curiae" briefs in support of the defense of the ACA. The Court concurred that this Medicaid extension has increased access to medical care among many citizens who have low income and no health insurance. This has resulted in an improvement in the care Dr. Jose Wilson Mesquita-Neto



of many life-threatening diseases, including cancer, diabetes, maternal and infant health, and mental care. By definition, the benefits extend to all 11 circuit courts. There were many authoritative bodies that influenced the court decision. One of these bodies included that which was led by Dr. Jose Wilson Mesquita-Neto (WSUGS 2023) and his colleagues who identified the "disparities in access to cancer surgery after Medicaid expansion," which was published in the 2020 issue of the American Journal of Surgery. The Wayne State University Department of Surgery and all of the University are proud to acknowledge and support one of our chief surgical residents in promoting the successful defense of the Affordable Care Act.





GRAND ROUNI

Dr. Larry Diebel (WSU/GS 1980/86) presented the Surgical Grand Rounds on December 7, 2022 entitled "Review of Imaging Techniques for the Surgical Management of Primary Hyperparathyroidism." He discussed the approach to patients who have overt hyperparathyroidism and those who have the criteria for the diagnosis of hyperparathyroidism but are asymptomatic. Regarding the latter group, he emphasized the importance of looking at whether the patient is re-



Dr. Larry Diebel

ceiving calcium and vitamin D and whether there are any complications of hyperparathyroidism even though the patient has no complaints; these would include kidney stones, problems with constipation, and bone pain, which would more likely be in the lateral portion of the clavicle or in the small bones of the wrist and hand. He also talked about the role of bisphosphonates in this setting where patients have no symptoms. He compared the diagnostic accuracy of ultrasound and sestamibi scans, showing that both had excellent positive predictive values in patients with primary hyperparathyroidism, and he showed samples of both techniques. He discussed some of the difficulties that may occur during operation related to associated thyroid disease, particularly in patients with thyroid goiter, thyroiditis, or previous thyroid operations. He also discussed the technical difficulties associated with re-operation and the problems of having the parathyroid adenoma being located in an abnormal location within the tracheal-esophageal groove, the mediastinum, the thymus, or intra-thyroidal. He also discussed the potential for there being one adenoma, which occurs about 10% of the time. The four dimensional CT scan provides additional three-dimensional imaging, which may be very helpful in difficult circumstances, and he also discussed the problem of hyperparathyroidism seen in the MEN syndromes.

Dr. Diebel emphasized that the many invasive procedures are not appropriate re-operations and identified potential problems with injury to the recurrent laryngeal nerve. Most centers have access to intraoperative parathyroid measurements, which provide an excellent guide to demonstrating that the offending parathyroid adenoma has been removed. With difficult cases, he discussed the role of indocyanine green (ICG) in helping identify the parathyroid glands, particularly when performing an associated total thyroidectomy. He indicated that the ICG and the parathyroid fluorescein provide equal help in identifying the parathyroid glands in difficult locations.

Following his presentation on the treatment of hyperparathyroidism, he showed a movie which highlights the worsening pandemic that we have regarding mass casualties, particularly of young children who are killed at school with high-velocity rifles which allow for multiple gunshots to be fired in a short period of time.

Following this movie presentation, he answered multiple questions regarding parathyroid disease. The question-and-answer session was quite valuable.





HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Dr. Jennifer McLeod (WSUGS 2021) and her family send their wishes that everyone had a happy holiday season. Dr. McLeod is busy doing general surgery just north of Ann Arbor, Michigan.



The McLeod Clan: Steve, Jennifer, Jermaine, and Mayo

Dr. Dan Smith (WSUGS 1988) and his lovely bride, Norita (DRH ICU nurse) sent their season's greetings and an update as to what is happening in their lives. Dan continues to be very busy in the practice of surgery, and Norita is still working as a nurse in the Med/Surg unit at their hospital. Their son, Mark, finished his Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Surgery in San Antonio and has moved back to Park Rapids to join Dan in their general surgical practice. Mark's wife, Anna, accepted a job as a physician's assis-

tant at the Essentia Health Clinic in Park Rapids. Mark and Anna have two boys, Liam (3) and Noah (2).

Their son, Steve, has started a new job at the Royal Bank of Canada and is studying for his level 3 CFA examination.

Their son, Scott, is studying Cyber Security full-time. His wife, Jenna, is ^s working as a nurse at their local ICU hospital. Scot and Jenna have a son, Eli (1) who is just learning to walk on his own.

Their daughter, Christina, is working as a nurse and is in school working for her Doctor degree in Nursing Practice. She recently got engaged to her fiancé, Adam.

Their daughter, Julia, moved to Minneapolis in June and started her career as a cardiac device specialist working for Atricure.

All of them wish the Wayne State University team blessings for a successful 2023!!

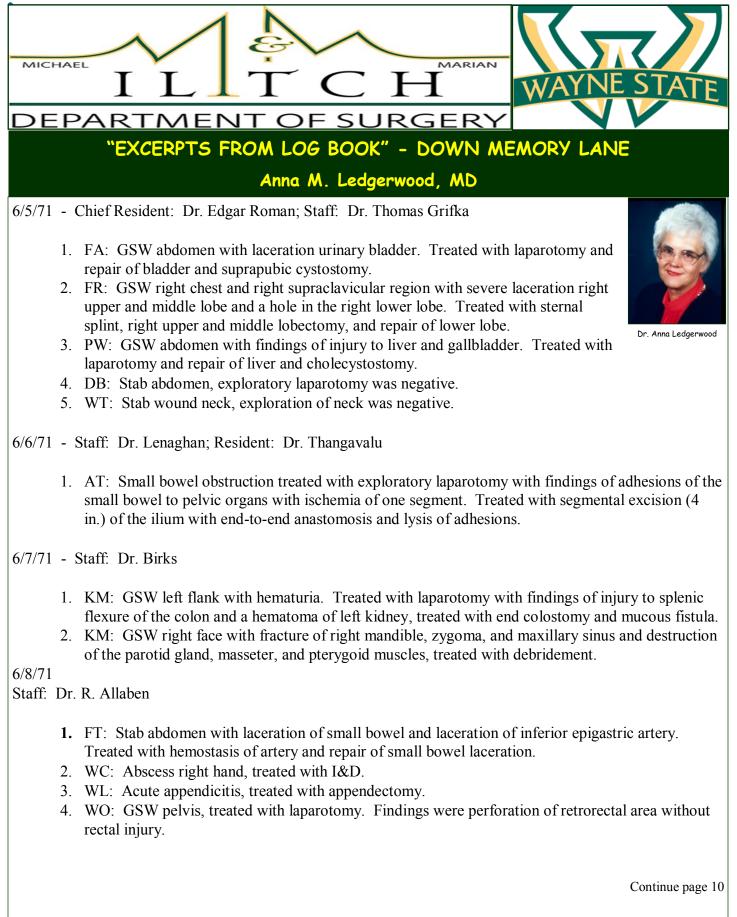




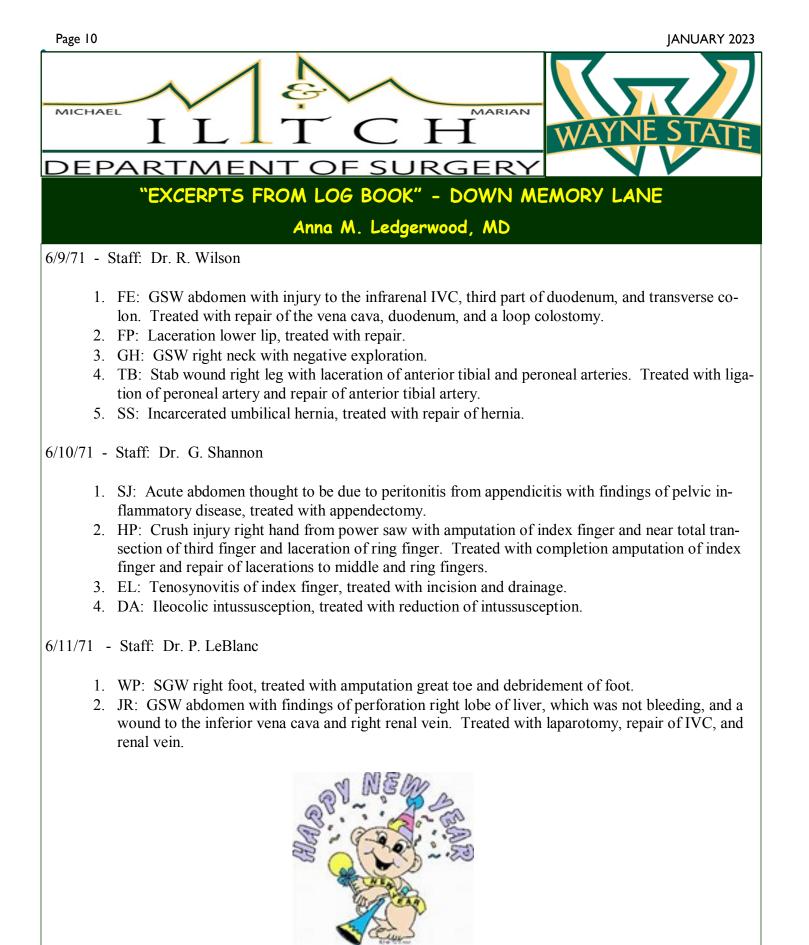
The Smith Family 2021



Scott & Jenna with Eli Christmas 2021



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MICHAEL ILITCH ILTCH WAYNE STATE	
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY	
Wayne State Surgical Society	MARK YOUR CALENDARS
2023 Donation	
	American Surgical Association 143 ^{ad} Annual Meeting
Name:	April 20-22, 2023
Address:	Westin Karbour Castle Ontario, Canada
City/State/Zip:	
Service Description Amount	Michigan Chapter ACS Meeting May 17-19, 2023
2021 Dues Payment\$200	Nay 17-19, 2023 Boyne Mountain Resort
My contribution for "An Operation A Year for WSU"	Boyne Falls, M.I
*Charter Life Member\$1000	Central Surgical Association 80 th Annual Meeting
Total Paid	June 8-10, 2023
Payment by Credit Card	Kilton Cleveland Downtown Cleveland, Ohio
Include your credit card information below and mail it or fax it to 313-993-7729.	Midwest Surgical Association Annual Meeting
Credit Card Number:	July 30-August 1 Eaglerisood Resort and Spa
Type: MasterCard Visa Expiration Date: (MM/YY) Code	Itasca, Illinois
Name as it appears on card:	
Signature:	
Billing address of card (if different from above):	e-mail
Street Address	e-mu.
City State Zip Code	Diarea Lindata Vaur
*I want to commit to becoming a charter life member with payment of \$1000 per year for the next ten (10) years.	Please Update Your Information
Send check made payable to Wayne State Surgical Society to:	The WSUSOM Department of Sur-
Charles Lucas, MD Department of Surgery Detroit Receiving Hospital, Room 2V 4201 St. Antoine Street Detroit, Michigan 48201	gery wants to stay in touch. Please email Charles Lucas at clucas@med.wayne.edu to update your contact information.



Missing Emails

Over the years the WSU Department of Surgery has lost touch with many of its alumni. If you know the email, address, or phone number of the following WSU Department of Surgery Residency Program graduates please email us at clucas@med.wayne.edu with their information so that we can get them on the distribution list for the WSU Department of Surgery Alumni Monthly Email Report.

Mohammad Ali (1973) David B. Allen (1992) Tayful R. Ayalp (1979) Juan C. Aletta (1982) Kuan-Cheng Chen (1976) Elizabeth Colaiuta (2001) Fernando I. Colon (1991) David Davis (1984) Teoman Demir (1996) Judy A. Emanuele (1997) Lawrence J. Goldstein (1993) Raghuram Gorti (2002) Karin Haji (1973) Morteza Hariri (1970) Harrison, Vincent L. (2009) Abdul A. Hassan (1971)

Rose L. Jumah (2006) R. Kambhampati (2003) Aftab Khan (1973) Samuel D. Lyons (1988) Dean R. Marson (1997) Syed A. Mehmood (2007) Toby Meltzer (1987) Roberto Mendez (1997) Mark D. Morasch (1998) Daniel J. Olson (1993) David Packer (1998) Y. Park (1972) Bhavik G. Patel (2004) Ami Raafat (1998) Kevin Radecki (2001) Sudarshan R. Reddy (1984) Renato G. Ruggiero (1994) Parvid Sadjadi (1971) Samson P. Samuel (1996) Knavery D. Scaff (2003) Steven C. Schueller (1974) Anand G. Shah (2005) Anil Shetty (2008) Chanderdeep Singh (2002) David G. Tse (1997) Christopher N. Vashi (2007) Larry A. Wolk (1984) Peter Y. Wong (2002) Shane Yamane (2005) Chungie Yang (2005) Hossein A. Yazdy (1970) Lawrence S. Zachary (1985)

Wayne State Surgícal Society

The Wayne State Surgical Society (WSSS) was established during the tenure of Dr. Alexander J. Walt as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery. WSSS was designed to create closer contact between the current faculty and residents with the former resident members in order to create a living family of all of the WSU Department of Surgery. The WSSS also supports department activities. Charter/Life Membership in the WSSS is attained by a donation of \$1,000 per year for ten years or \$10,000 prior to ten years. Annual membership is attained by a donation of \$200 per year. WSSS supports a visiting lecturer each fall and co-sponsors the annual reception of the department at the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Scott Davidson (WSU/GS 1990/96) passed the baton of presidency to Dr. Larry Narkiewicz (WSU/GS 2004/09) at the WSSS gathering during the American College of Surgeons meeting in October 2022. Members of the WSSS are listed on the next page. Dr. Narkiewicz continues in the hope that all former residents will become lifetime members of the WSSS and participate in the annual sponsored lectureship and the annual reunion at the American College of Surgeons meeting.

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Members of the Wayne State Surgical Society—2022-23 Dues

Novakovic, Rachel L.

Perrone, Erin

Porter, Donald

Alpendre, Cristiano V. Asfaw, Ingida Babel, James Bambach, Gregory A. Barnwell, John Baylor, Alfred Bloch, Robert Bucci, Lorenzo Camero. Luis

Bouwman, David

Bradley, Jennifer

Cirocco, William C.

Carlin, Arthur Dawson, Konrad L. Dittinbir, Mark Dolman, Heather Dulchavsky, Scott A. Edwards, Ryan Fernandez-Gerena, Jose Field, Erin Gallick, Harold

Fromm, David G

Galpin, Peter A.

Gayer, Christopher P

Goltz, Christopher J. Hall, Jeffrey Hamamdjian, Khatch Hilu, John Hollenbeck, Andrew Holmes, Robert Jeffries, Christopher Joseph, Anthony Kaderabek, Douglas J.

Lange, William (Deceased)

Ledgerwood, Anna M.

Lau, David

- Klein, Michael D. Kosir, Mary Ann Larson, Sarah Liebold, Walter Lloyd, Larry Lopez, Peter Malian, Michael S. Marquez, Jofrances Mavuiers. Matt
- McGee, Jessica D. Meade, Peter C. Mueller, Michael J. Noorily, Michael Paley, Daniel S. Phillips, Linda G. Porterfield, Lee Robinson, Steven Schwarz, Karl W.

Shaheen, Kenneth W. Shanti, Christina Siegel, Thomas S. Spencer, Amy Taylor, Michael G. Tennenberg, Steven Thomas, Gregory A. Thoms, Norman W. Vasquez, Julio

Stassinopoulos, Jerry Sullivan, Daniel M.

Sugawa, Choichi

Ziegler, Daniel W. Zoellner, Steven M.



Operatíon-A-Year January 1—December 31, 2023

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Albaran, Renato G. Anslow, Richard D. Antoniolli, Anita L. Anthony, Joseph Bambach, Gregory A. Bradley, Jennifer Cirocco, William C.

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Chmielewski, Gary W. Conway, William Charles Davidson, Scott Dente, Christopher Dujon, Jay Edelman, David A. Francis, Wesley

r W. Gallick, Harold harles Gayer, Christopher P. Gutowski, Tomasz D. rr Hamamdjian, Khatch Herman, Mark A. Hinshaw, Keith A. Holmes, Robert J.

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Huebel, Hubert C. Johnson, Jeffrey R. Johnson, Pamela D. Joseph, Anthony Ledgerwood Anna M.

Lim, John J.

Lopez, Peter

Malian, Michael Marquez, Jofrances Martin, Donald J. Maxwell, Nicholas McGuire, Timothy McIntosh, Bruce Missavage, Anne

Nicholas, Jeffrey Novakovic, Rachel L. Perrone, Erin Porter, Donald Sankaran, Surya Sferra, Joseph Siegel, Thomas S.

Silbergleit, Allen Silbergleit, Allen Sugawa, Choichi Sullivan, Daniel M Tuma, Martin Whittle, Thomas J. Williams, Mallory

The WSU department of Surgery has instituted a new group of alumni who are remembering their

training by donating the proceeds of one operation a year to the department. Those who join this new effort will be recognized herein as annual contributors. We hope that all of you will remember the department by donating one operation, regardless of difficulty or reimbursement, to the department to

help train your replacements. Please send you donation to the Wayne State Surgical Society in care of Dr. Charles E. Lucas at Detroit Receiving Hospital, 4201 St. Antoine Street (Room 2V), Detroit, MI, 48201.

> Wills, Hale Wood, Michael H



WSU SOM ENDOWMENT

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The Wayne State University School of Medicine provides an opportunity for alumni to create endowments in support of their institution and also support the WSSS. For example, if Dr. John Smith wished to create the "Dr. John Smith Endowment Fund", he could donate \$25,000 to the WSU SOM and those funds would be left untouched but, by their present, help with attracting other donations. The interest at the rate of 4% per year (\$1000) could be directed to the WSSS on an annual basis to help the WSSS continue its commitment to improving the education of surgical residents. An yone who desires to have this type of named endowment established with the interest of that endowment supporting the WSSS should contact Ms. Lori Robitaille at the WSU SOM> She can be reached by email at *lrobitai@med.wayne.edu*.