



Past and elected Presidents of the PTS

The Presidents of the Pan-American Trauma Society: Dr. Susan Briggs from Boston USA and Dr. Juan Lombardi from Chile. Dr. Briggs gave her presidential address on disaster medicine. Dr. Lombardi will be presiding over the next congress of the PTS in Guayaquil, Ecuador in November 16-18, 2005.



Surgeon General Addressed PTS Congress

Richard Carmona MD, FACS, Surgeon General of the United States, addressed the plenary session of the Pan-American Trauma Society Congress on November 20, 2004. Dr. Carmona, a bonafide trauma surgeon in his own right, discussed the current status of injury prevention initiatives in this country. Injury prevention, an integral component of a comprehensive trauma care system, is often overlooked in initial trauma system design. Many of the injury prevention programs developed in this country may be effectively applied in other countries as well. The PTS was honored to have the Surgeon General attend our meeting

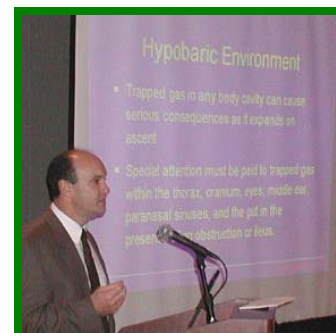
Aurelio Rodriguez Invited Lecture

Dr. Susan Briggs introduced Dr. Donald Trunkey who gave the Aurelio Rodriguez lecture. Dr. Trunkey spoke about the effect of Violence, Drugs, and Trauma in the Western Hemisphere and proposed an alternative solution. This was an outstanding presentation of the current state of affairs of drug policy in the United States and its effects on societal economical and health related issues as well as trauma care in the USA and the Latin American Countries.



Advanced Disaster Medical Response Course Precedes Opening of Congress

The Advanced Disaster Medical Course was offered on November 17th as part of the educational mission of the Society. This highly regarded program included our nation's leading disaster experts. A copy of the Advanced Disaster Medical Response Manual, considered one of the most authoritative and practical text in the field, was given to all who registered for the course. The manual will be available in Spanish by summer 2005 for members of the Society. Experts from the United States provided up-to-date information on disaster care and management issues.



Tracheostomy Workshop during the XVIII Congress of PTS



A percutaneous tracheostomy course was given on November 17th, 2004 immediately preceding the Congress. The objective of this course was to introduce a relatively new, safe and reliable technique of percutaneous tracheostomy including relevant information pertaining to the clinical, economical and medico-legal factors related to the to the impact of bedside tracheostomy on trauma and critically ill patients. The course was a complete success, with emphasis on providing comprehensive knowledge of the theoretical and practical

aspects of PCT, emphasizing the advantages of the dilatational percutaneous technique.

President's Page: Letter from the President



The Pan American Trauma society was created in Ecuador, the same country that 18 years later will be the headquarters of our next annual congress, the Pan American Trauma Society (PTS). This is one of one of the most prestigious scientific clinical societies of the world. In a road that has not been exempt of difficulties, the success of the PTS is supported by the presence in the society of a group of personalities that has always been willing to defend it and to give all their efforts for the society's growth and development. Much has been said about the cultural difficulties among Latin and North American people and their ability to engage in combined activities and enterprises. Differences in cultural, social and of other manners have been attributed as factors precluding successful collaborations. That has not been the case for the PTS. Clearly, the society has been the result of blending of those very differences and has produced an outstanding partnership. Uniting the continent, the PTS has created an atmosphere of mutual respect and mutual understanding. A group of healthcare professionals, guided by the same principles and ideals, has come together under the auspice of the PTS to gather the best specialists of Trauma and Critical Care in the Americas. The best example of such an endeavour is the quality and quantity of professors who go unconditionally year after year to the international congress of the PTS enriching them with outstanding scientific presentations. Without a doubt, this constitutes one of the biggest strengths in our society. Being able to attend the annual congress of the PTS is like submerging ourselves in a dance with the best books, personal experiences and publications of trauma care, living next to their authors in a true scientific fantasy, in a dream that we want to prolong to the maximum. We are

proud and very aware of the benefits that come from being a member of the PTS. The major role of the PTS' is the expansion of knowledge across all borders. To this end, the PTS is promoting strategic alliances with the surgical, trauma and critical care local scientific societies of the continent, even granting economic facilities to its members so that through its own local societies they can become members of the PTS. We hope that many more members will join us. In the PTS they will find the possibility to enhance their knowledge, to meet many and different new people, to make very good friends, to live very happy moments and to realize how a scientific society has been able to amalgamate the best of two worlds.

Dr. Juan Lombardi Solari

Announcements:

1. The XVIII Annual Meeting of the PTS will take place in Guayaquil, Ecuador from November 16th - 18th of 2005. Information on the meeting is now available on the web at www.panamtrauma.org and/or

<http://ecuadortrauma.com>

E-mail: info@ecuadortrauma.com

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2. Our new PTS coordinator is Gloria Wissinger who will be pleased to assist you and can be reached at:

Phone: (412) 647-2041

E-mail: wissingergi@upmc.edu

3. We remind you of that the PTS will be hosting a meeting in conjunction with the Trauma Association of Canada for the spring of 2006. The trauma meeting will take place from March 22-25, 2006 at the Banff Park Lodge in Banff, Canada.

4. The XIX Annual Trauma Congress will take place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia on November 16th - 18th of 2006.

5. The invoice for yearly dues is enclosed.

6. The next issue of the PTS Journal will be mailed to you by June 2005, please make sure that you have updated your mailing information to receive this publication on time.

7. A reminder to let you know that the SPT needs your cooperation by making your payments. Without your support this society won't be able to keep developing.

Please visit our new web site:
www.panamtrauma.org

The following are of lectures from our last meeting in Miami that are now readily available on line:

1. Endovascular Techniques
Raul Coimbra, MD., UCSD
2. Heroic Techniques for Limb Salvage
David Feliciano
3. Manejo Conservador del Trauma Toracoabdominal Penetrante
Luis Alarcon, MD., Univ. of Pittsburgh
4. Penetrating Transmediastinal Injuries
Juan Asensio, MD.
5. Vascular Isolation Techniques
David B. Hoyt
6. Laparoscopy in Trauma
Rao R. Ivatury, MD.
7. Arteriograf con Tomografía Helicoidal
Carlos H. Morales, MD
8. Perforaciones del Esófago
Rafael Andrade, MD
9. Servicio de Emergencia
Samir Rasslan, MD

You are cordially invited to join us for the XIX Annual Trauma Congress
in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia November 16-18, 2006

Cartagena de Indias

Colombia

