



SOUTHERN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

Office of the Secretary

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Colleagues and Fellow Members of The Southern:

Bonnie and I join with fellow officers Kelly and Beth McMasters, Suzanne Klimberg and Sam Storthz and Local Arrangements Chair, John and Patty Sweeney, to let you know how excited we are about the Annual meeting of the Association this year to be held at The Breakers in West Palm Beach, December 2 - 5. The agenda has been set and the Program selected from an extremely competitive group of submitted abstracts. I think the Program is well constructed to offer a wide range of topics of interest in clinical outcomes, new technology and surgical education. We all owe a round of thanks to Secretary McMasters and his staff, especially Ms. Pam Schmidt, for organizing (yet another) outstanding Program.

The Breakers Staff is preparing outstanding venues for meetings and social events and they appear ready and able to put on another enjoyable meeting. Plans for the New Members Dinner on Sunday Night and the Annual Reception on Tuesday night look excellent. Dr. Sweeney is setting up a full schedule of social events in the usual tradition of The Southern. We hope you are making your travel plans to join us in December.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't extend to all of you my sincere thanks and appreciation for the honor of the Presidency this year. It truly is a high point in my career, and my family and I will remember this for years to come.

We look forward to seeing you in Florida. If I can help in any way with questions or issues, please feel free to contact me.

With sincere appreciation,

John B. Hanks, M.D.

President, Southern Surgical Association