

Welcome to the *Pennsylvania Surgical News*, January 2024 edition. We know your time is valuable and we hope the new abridged format will keep you updated on Chapter and ACS information and events. We welcome your thoughts, ideas, and articles.

*Keystone/Metro Philly Collaborative Action Request.* An action request was sent to all members with an update from the Keystone and Metro Philly Collaborative Task Force. Voting members are requested to weigh in on whether the two chapters should consider a merger. Voting members are Fellows (FACS), Sr. Fellows, and Retired members with the Chapters. Make sure your voice is heard on this important matter and submit your ballot by 11:59 PM, February 1, 2024. [READ]

*Meanderings of a Wandering Surgeon.* (Dr. Shannon Marie Foster). I hope to find all well and thriving, especially as we are now into another New Year. I suspect we launched into the 2024 calendar year without much ado, and the good work and balancing act of our lives continues mostly unchanged.

At Keystone/Metro Philly, and the PA Collaborative we have been busy. This year brings the opportunity to consider growth and a formal Chapter merger opportunity. We need your participation, your vote, and your continued local membership. If you have not received and are not aware of these important initiatives, please [READ].

*Membership Update*. (Robbi Cook, CAE). Thank you to members who have pledged to continue their support of the local ACS Chapters by renewing your 2024 members. If you have not renewed, log into your member portal to remit your dues. Missing your dues invoice? Contact Executive Director, <u>Robbi Cook</u> for assistance. Keystone Members click <u>HERE</u>. Metro Philly Members click <u>HERE</u>.

ACS Briefs. Did you miss this week's ACS Briefs? Click <u>HERE</u> for the January 23, 2024 issue.

A collaborative monthly publication of the Keystone and Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapters of the American College of Surgeons providing resources and educational content for the Pennsylvania Surgical Community

- Surgeons Can Help Prevent Fires in the OR: It is estimated that nearly 100 surgical fires occur each year in the US. A recent alert from The Joint Commission aims to help surgeons and their teams avoid these dangerous sentinel events. [READ]
- ACS Celebrates Two Wins in CMS Ruling: For the last several years, the ACS has been urging CMS to finalize many of the requirements contained in this rule.
  [READ]
- Review ACS Well-Being Resources Aimed at Improving Mental Health: Take advantage of surgeon well-being resources and further your understanding of how to incorporate a well-being focus into your career. [READ]

## Upcoming Events:

<u>ACS Leadership & Advocacy Summit</u>. The ACS Leadership & Advocacy Summit 2024 will be held April 13-16 at the Westin Washington, DC Downtown Hotel. Registration is now open.

*Keystone Chapter Spring Educational Conference*. (Dr. P. Kurt Bamberger, Chair). May 3, 2024, at WellSpan Park (York Revolution Stadium, 5 Brooks Robinson Way, York, PA. A full day of educational lectures, poster competition, Surgical Jeopardy Tournament, and Exhibit Hall will provide opportunities for learning, networking, mentoring, and sharing of surgical knowledge. Registration opens in March. Watch for additional details in your inbox.

*Keystone Chapter Spring Poster Competition*. (Dr. P. Kurt Bamberger, Chair). Abstract research papers and case report submissions are being accepted for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> KCACS Poster Competition being held in conjunction with the Spring Educational Conference. Deadline to submit is April 1, 2024. [DETAILS]