The SVS PAC is critical to vascular surgeons and our patients. We must continue to keep our agenda at the forefront of those in Congress who are making decisions about our profession and reimbursement.

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Message from Randall De Martino, MD, SVS PAC Steering Committee Chair

Dear Colleagues:
On behalf of the SVS Political Action Committee (PAC) Steering Committee, I want to sincerely thank the 248 SVS members who contributed to the PAC in 2015, which helped us score three major victories on Capitol Hill:

- Repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate formula that determined Medicare physician reimbursement.
- Reform of the Medicare physician payment system.
- Preventing the elimination of the 10- and 90-day global surgical packages.

Among the PAC supporters were 100 percent of the SVS Board of Directors and 100 percent of partners in seven vascular surgery practices. The PAC Steering Committee agrees with the Board that this is one of your professional duties as an SVS member.

Also, five regional vascular societies competed for best overall PAC participation in 2015. As in 2014, the New England Society for Vascular Surgery (NESVS) set the bar with 16.5 percent of members contributing to the PAC. NESVS will again be recognized during the 2016 Vascular Annual Meeting (VAM) and we look forward to continuing this competition in the coming years.

Your 2015 contributions totaled $103,000, which was from only 6 percent of the SVS membership. Even among similar-sized surgical groups, we remain the smallest surgical PAC. And, our colleagues in radiology, orthopedic surgery, and anesthesiology are 2-3 times more likely to contribute to their PACs. SVS PAC is the main way to have our voice heard in Washington, DC—we must remain active to ensure priorities are understood.
SO WHY CONTRIBUTE? This is the ONLY PAC that is totally focused on the interests of VASCULAR SURGERY.

- One hundred (100) percent of SVS PAC contributions are used to gain access to Congressional members and non-incumbent candidates who decide and/or are supportive of our issues in both political parties.
- PAC contributions enable SVS members and staff to personally interact with targeted members of Congress who determine the future of vascular surgery, particularly those who serve on health committees, are in leadership positions and/or are physicians.
- SVS members and staff attended fundraising events for 44 members of Congress and one non-incumbent candidate in 2015, and advocated for important vascular issues at every event.
- Although SVS achieved legislative victories in 2015, we always have issues to oppose or support.

Unlike the SVS Foundation that can accept corporate contributions, SVS PAC must rely on individual contributions, which can be made by personal check or online at svspac.org by personal debit or credit card on a monthly, quarterly, or one-time basis.

All SVS members who contribute to the PAC will receive pins. Those who contribute $1000 or more are recognized as our Capitol Club members and will receive a gold pin for these generous contributions and an invitation to an exclusive PAC event with members of Congress on Capitol Hill during the 2016 Vascular Annual Meeting. Please consider contributing as an investment in your future.

Thank You to Regional Societies for your Support

The PAC Steering Committee has developed a way to honor regional societies for their support. SVS members who belong to regional societies take part in a friendly competition each year based on their PAC contributions. A plaque is presented to the winning society during the Vascular Annual Meeting that achieves the highest contribution percentage from its members. The New England Society for Vascular Surgery achieved this distinction in 2014 and again in 2015. Below are the results from 2015:

- **New England Society for Vascular Surgery** 16.5%
- **Western Vascular Society** 13%
- **Eastern Vascular Society** 10.8%
- **Midwestern Vascular Surgical Society** 8.7%
- **Southern Association for Vascular Surgery** 8.4%
University Surgical Associates, the faculty for University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, is proud to be recognized for the commitment of its vascular surgeons to the SVS PAC. Several members of our group have been consistent contributors to the PAC, but this year we were able to achieve 100 percent participation as the benefit to our profession has become more obvious to us.

The SVS PAC is an independent committee formed to raise funds used to make contributions to the campaigns of United States House and Senate candidates, which allow SVS members and staff to attend fundraisers and discuss important vascular issues with candidates and staff. With the advent of novel medications, revolutionary devices and updated techniques, care of the vascular patients has been advanced, but we continue to have concerns with practitioners who have incomplete knowledge and skill sets. The SVS has been proactive in creating evidence-based guidelines and ensuring that our members understand the issues relevant to vascular medicine.

In the past year, SVS strongly supported the repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate formula, creation of a new Medicare reimbursement system by 2019, and re-establishment of the 10- and 90-day Global Surgical Packages. All of these were enacted into law in 2015. Also, as highlighted by an article in the New York Times, SVS responded to controversies surrounding outpatient lab procedures.

This year, we ask that our fellow members contribute to the SVS in two crucial ways:

1. **Make a contribution to the SVS PAC.**
   Our donations during this election year will be of particular importance as we help shape the new Medicare reimbursement system - Merit-based Incentive Payment System and Alternative Payment Models - as well as other issues that have an impact on vascular patients and providers.

2. **Share your concerns with those around you.**
   The public can provide a loud voice when educated and directed appropriately. We have previously utilized educational letters, which our patients have eagerly signed, to send messages to our members of Congress. Also, as a teaching faculty, we have the opportunity, privilege, and responsibility to guide our students, residents, and fellow healthcare providers, including in matters of systems-based practice. We encourage you to do the same. These students will likely carry forward your guidance as you have carried forward the wisdom of your mentors.
Vascular Surgery Practices with 100 Percent Participation

The following practices have recognized the important role the SVS PAC has in keeping vascular surgery relevant in Washington DC. Thank you for your support.

**Maine Medical Partners Surgical Care**
- Elizabeth Blazick, MD
- Jens Eldrup-Jorgensen, MD
- Robert Hawkins, MD
- Christopher Healey, MD
- William Herbert, MD

**New York University Vascular and Endovascular Surgery**
- Mark Adelman, MD
- Todd Berland, MD
- Neal Cayne, MD
- Glenn Jacobowitz, MD
- Lowell Kabnick, MD
- Patrick Lampanello, MD
- Joanelle Lugo, MD
- Thomas Maldonado, MD
- Caron Rockman, MD
- Mikel Sadek, MD
- Frank Veith, MD

**Novant Health Vascular Specialists, NC**
- Joel Deonanan, MD
- Shawn Fleming, MD
- Phillip Moore, MD
- Stephen Motew, MD
- Bradley Thomason, MD
- Raymond Workman, MD

**Sarasota Vascular Specialists, FL**
- Michael Lepore, MD
- Deepak Nair, MD
- Russell Samson, MD
- David Showalter, MD

**Stritch School of Medicine, Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy, Loyola University Medical Center, IL**
- Bernadette Aulivola, MD
- Jae Cho, MD

**University of Massachusetts Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery**
- Francesco Aiello, MD
- Elias Arous, MD
- Louis Messina, MD
- William Robinson, MD
- Andres Schanzer, MD
- Jessica Simons, MD

**University Surgical Associates, Vascular/Endovascular Surgery, TN**
- Daniel Fisher, MD
- Mark Fugate, MD
- Jeffrey Horn, MD
- Charles Joels, MD
- Sachin Phade, MD
- Richard Spouse, MD

*SVS Member Giancarlo Piano, MD with House Candidate Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) at a PAC fundraiser.*
Young and Experienced Vascular Surgeons Need to Contribute

By Christopher Healey, MD

I was pleased to be asked by Randall De Martino, MD, SVS PAC Steering Committee Chair, to write this piece for two reasons: first, I was thrilled to still be considered a “young surgeon”, but second and more importantly, because of how vital I think it is for SVS members, particularly young members, to contribute to the PAC.

Decisions are being made in Washington regularly that have an impact on the care of our patients and the payments we receive for providing this care. In the words of my senior partner who encouraged me very early in my career to contribute: “If you are not at the table, you will not be part of the meal.” We, as young vascular surgeons, need to have a voice at the table as decisions are being made, and contributing to the PAC provides that voice.

I have been contributing to the SVS PAC for several years and it is “Easy.” I contribute $100 per month and have it automatically charged to my credit card, making contributing quick and painless.

I am proud to be a member of a practice, Maine Medical Partners Surgical Care, that has had consistent 100 percent participation. Pledging as a group during your first year of contributing is a good way to start the commitment; and your group will receive appropriate recognition at the Vascular Annual Meeting and in the PAC Annual Report.

Lastly, I am a member of the New England Society of Vascular Surgery. In 2014, our society won a friendly competition among regional societies with 16.48 percent of members contributing. I am proud that we won, yet this seems like a low number and I think we can do much better. In the words of our local football coach: “I urge you all to Do Your Job”, and contributing to the PAC is part of the job. You may set up payments online at svspac.org or visit the SVS PAC booth at VAM, being held at the Gaylord Resort near Washington, DC in June. See you there!

Automatic Contribution Payments are the Easiest Way to Make PAC Contributions

The SVS PAC offers automatic payments from your credit card. You may choose monthly, quarterly, or annual contributions. Set up your contribution online at svspac.org.

Thank you in advance for your support.
SVS PAC Thanks all Capitol Club Donors for their Generosity

While all SVS PAC contributions are very appreciated, those who contribute $1,000 or more during the year genuinely recognize the value of the PAC. These Capitol Club contributors receive a special gold pin, more recognition, and an invitation to the exclusive PAC Reception on Capitol Hill during the 2016 Vascular Annual Meeting.

2015 Capitol Club $1000-Plus

Zachary Arthurs, MD
Martin Back, MD
Andrew Bakken, MD
Brian Beeman, MD
James Black, MD
Thomas Brothers, MD
Kelly Brown, MD
Jae-Sung Cho, MD
Daniel Clair, MD
William Clouse, MD
Ronald Dalman, MD
Clement Darling, MD
David Deaton, MD
Randall De Martino, MD
Matthew Eagleton, MD
Mark Fillinger, MD
Mark Fugate, MD
Michael Greer, MD
Vivienne Halpern, MD
Allen Hamdan, MD
Joseph Hart, MD
Allen Hartsell, MD
Christopher Healey, MD
Stephen Hoenig, MD
Karl Illig, MD
Krishna Jain, MD
Bradley Johnson, MD
Patrick Kelly, MD

Larry Kraiss, MD
Paul Kreienberg, MD
Timothy Kresowik, MD
Kara Kvilekval, MD
Peter Lawrence, MD
Christopher Lesar, MD
Sean Lyden, MD
Daniel Martin, MD
Jeffrey Martinez, MD
Firas Mussa, MD
Kathleen Ozsvath, MD
Sachin Phade, MD
Jeffrey Rhodes, MD
Geoffrey Risley, MD
Sean Roddy, MD
Stephanie Saltzberg, MD
Russell Samson, MD
Marc Schermerhorn, MD
Joseph Schneider, MD
Gary Seabrook, MD
Marc Sedwitz, MD
Matthew Sideman, MD
Richard Sprouse, MD
Sunita Srivastava, MD
Bauer Sumpio, MD
Robert Zwolak, MD
The SVS PAC contributed to the campaigns of the following Congressional members/non-incumbent candidate:

**United States Senate**
- Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO)
- Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)
- Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)
- Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)
- Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
- Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA)
- Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
- Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)
- Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
- Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA)
- Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)

**National Republican Senatorial Committee**

**SVS PAC Parameters**

Because SVS has limited PAC funds, the following are the priorities for distribution of contributions:

1. Primary sponsors of bills/language specific to vascular surgery;
2. Majority party members of the Health Subcommittees of House and Senate committees of jurisdiction - House Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce and Senate Finance and Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, with emphasis on established relationships;
3. MDs who serve in Congress;
4. Minority party members of the Health Subcommittees of jurisdiction, with emphasis on established relationships;
5. Majority party leadership;
6. Minority party leadership;
7. Other sponsors of bills specific to vascular surgery.

**United States House of Representatives**
- Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA)
- Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)
- Rep. John Boehner (R-OH)
- Rep. Charles Boustany, MD (R-LA)
- Rep. Larry Bucshon, MD (R-IN)
- Rep. Michael Burgess, MD (R-TX)
- Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO)
- Rep. Renee Ellmers (R-NC)
- Rep. Bill Flores (R-TX)
- Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)
- Rep. Andy Harris, MD (R-MD)
- Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD)
- Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ)
- Rep. Sean Maloney (D-NY)
- Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)
- Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA)
- Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ)
- Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)
- Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA)
- Rep. Tom Price, MD (R-GA)
- Rep. Phil Roe, MD (R-TN)
- Rep. Raul Ruiz, MD (D-CA)
- Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI)
- Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)
- Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA)
- Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL)
- Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE)
- Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA)
- Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI)
- Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR)
- Rep. Brad Wenstrup, DPM (R-OH)

**National Republican Congressional Committee**
What is SVS Political Action Committee (PAC)?
The SVS PAC is an independent committee formed in 2002 to raise funds and make contributions to the campaigns of United States House of Representatives and Senate candidates who understand the importance of high quality diagnosis and care for patients with vascular disease and the challenges of physician reimbursement. The Nominating Committee appoints a PAC Steering Committee.

What is the difference between the SVS PAC and the SVS Government Relations Committee (GRC) and how do they work together?
The SVS PAC and SVS GRC work together to represent the interests of vascular surgery, providing a unified voice for vascular surgeons and their patients in Washington, DC. The SVS GRC oversees health policy activities, including federal legislative and regulatory issues affecting vascular surgeons and grassroots activities such as visiting and contacting members of Congress. The SVS PAC raises funds from SVS members to support political campaigns for members of Congress and non-incumbent candidates who champion issues that are important to vascular surgeons.

Will my participation make a difference?
Funds raised by the SVS PAC allow SVS members and staff to personally interact with targeted members of Congress and their staffs at small health care events on issues that have a major impact on the vascular surgery profession, such as Medicare physician reimbursement and reform and inappropriate cuts to vascular labs.

Where will my contributions go?
Most patients with vascular disease are Medicare beneficiaries. The committees of jurisdiction for Medicare issues include the House Energy and Commerce Committee, House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee. PAC contributions are targeted to House and Senate members who serve on these committees. SVS PAC also supports members who are physicians and understand the role of vascular surgery. Attending PAC events with targeted members assures access and one-on-one conversations with them on significant issues. PACs may contribute up to $5000 per election cycle to individual political candidates, both incumbents and non-incumbents, and 100 percent of SVS PAC contributions go directly to candidates.

Who can contribute and what is the maximum limit?
Voluntary contributions can be accepted from any United States citizen and those with green cards. However, solicitation for contributions is limited to SVS members. No corporate contributions are permitted and no individual may contribute more than $5000 in any calendar year to the SVS PAC.
SVS PAC Thanks all the Following Donors for their Generosity

2015 Individual PAC Donations
Up to $1000

Ali Aburahma, MD
Eric Adams, MD
Mark Adelman, MD
Francesco Aiello, MD
Jose Almeida, MD
Alex Ammar, MD
Leonard Anderson, MD
Paul Armstrong, DO
Elias Arous, MD
Shipra Arya, MD
Bernadette Aulivola, MD
Aaron Baker, MD
Dennis Baker, MD
Adam Beck, MD
Michael Belkin, MD
Todd Berland, MD
Irwin Best, MD
Elizabeth Blazick, MD
John Blebea, MD
Stefano Bordoli, MD
William Bowers, MD
Kevin Bruen, MD
Michael Buckmaster, MD
Robert Cambria, MD
Douglas Carlon, MD
Marlin Wayne Causey, MD
Neal Cayne, MD
Scott Charette, MD
Kristofer Charlton-Ouw, MD
Dawn Coleman, MD
Paul Collins, MD
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Paul Crisostomo, MD
John Curci, MD
Michael Curi, MD
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Ralph DeNatale, MD
Joel Deonanan, MD
Ajay Dhadwal, MD
Danielle Doucet, MD
Matthew Dougherty, MD
Audra Duncan, MD
James Ebaugh, MD
Jens Eldrup-Jorgensen, MD
Bruce Elliott, MD
James Elmore, MD
James Estes, MD
Ronald Fairman, MD
Alik Farber, MD
Robert Feezor, MD
Daniel Fisher, MD
Mark Fleming, MD
Shawn Fleming, MD
Julie Ann Freischlag, MD
Dennis Gable, MD
Vivian Gahtan, MD
Spencer Galt, MD
Matthew Garoufalis, MD
Robert Gasior, MD
Randolph Geary, MD
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Joseph Giglia, MD
Peter Gloviczki, MD
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Linda Harris, MD
William Harris, DO
Robert Hawkins, MD
William Herbert, MD
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Richard Hershberger, MD
Anil Hingorani, MD
Kim Hodgson, MD
Jeffrey Steven Horn, MD
Robert Hye, MD
Ralph Ierardi, MD
Benjamin Jackson, MD
Glenn Jacobowitz, MD
Donald Jacobs, MD
Jeffrey Jim, MD
Charles Joels, MD
Jill Johnstone, MD
Milan Jordan, MD
Lowell Kabnick, MD
Gurjeet Kaleka, MD
Neelima Katragunta, MD
Todd Kihara, MD
Michael King, DPM
Terry King, MD
John Kirkland, MD
Angela Kokkosis, MD
Mark Kulbaski, MD
Patrick Lamparello, MD
Glenn LaMuraglia, MD
Cheong Lee, MD
James Lee, MD
Gary Lemmon, MD
Michael Lepore, MD
Benjamin Lerner, MD
Joanelle Lugo, MD
Richard Lynn, MD
Michel Makaroun, MD
Thomas Maldonado, MD
Randolph Maloney, MD
William Marston, MD
Kevin Martin, MD
Stacey Mazzacco, MD
Richard McCann, MD
George Meier, MD
Louis Messina, MD
Robert Molnar, MD
Gregory Moneta, MD
Erin Moore, MD
Phillip Moore, MD
Mark Morasch, MD
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Stephen Motew, MD
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Richard Neville, MD
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Robert Patterson, MD
Benjamin Pearce, MD
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Jennifer Perri, MD
William Pevec, MD
Frank Pomposelli, MD
Richard Powell, MD
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Rajesh Raikar, MD
Seshadri Raju, MD
Daniel Reddy, MD
Robert Rhee, MD
Michael Ricci, MD
Edward Rigdon, MD
William Robinson, MD
Jacob Robison, MD
Caron Rockman, MD
Roger Rosen, MD
Patrick Ryan, MD
Mikel Sadek, MD
Timur Sarac, MD
Bhagwan Satiani, MD
Salvatore Scali, MD
Andres Schanzer, MD
Darren Schneider, MD
Peter Schneider, MD
Murray Shames, MD
Paula Shireman, MD
Cynthia Shortell, MD
David Showalter, MD
Anton Sidawy, MD
Jessica Simons, MD
Michael Singh, MD
Paul Skudder, MD
Matthew Smeds, MD
Christopher Smolock, MD
Andrew Stanley, MD
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Frank Veith, MD
Felix Vladimir, MD
James Steven Wagner, MD
Grace Wang, MD
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Franklin West, RVT
Grayson Wheatley, MD
Edward Woo, MD
Karen Woo, MD
Emily Wood, MD
Raymond Workman, MD
Jack Zeltzer, MD

SVS PAC Steering Committee Members
Randall De Martino, MD, Chair
Glenn LaMuraglia, MD
Sean Lyden, MD
Leila Mureebe, MD
Deepak Nair, MD
Sachin Phade, MD
Jeffrey Prem, MD
Kathleen Ozsvath, MD
Geoffrey Risley, MD
Sean Roddy, MD
The SVS PAC is an independent committee formed to raise funds used to make contributions to the campaigns of United States House of Representatives and Senate candidates who support high quality diagnosis and care for vascular disease patients and solutions to physician reimbursement challenges. Contributions from corporate accounts and SVS members who are not US citizens or do not have green cards are not permitted. Remember, 100 percent of your SVS PAC contribution goes directly to candidates.

With your $1,000 contribution, receive an invitation to an exclusive SVS PAC reception during the Vascular Annual Meeting and proudly wear a gold PAC pin in recognition of your donation.

SVS PAC Donation Form

Your donation is a political contribution under federal law and will be used for federal election purposes. Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. All contributions are voluntary and will not affect your status as a SVS member. Federal election law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and maintain the following information for individuals who contribute more than $200 in a calendar year.

Name
Street
City  State  Zip
Phone Number
Occupation
Employer

☐ Personal Check – Make checks payable to SVS PAC
Checks cannot be drawn from a corporate account. Send your PAC donation along with this form to: Society for Vascular Surgery, Political Action Committee, 35314 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1353

☐ Personal Credit Card or Debit Card
Please make your contribution online at svspac.org. You must designate your donation as monthly, quarterly, or for one or two years.

Thank you for your SVS PAC donation.