Service: A Message from the President

Service. To others, to the profession, to the future. “Service” is the watchword for the Texas Radiological Society (TRS). It defines not only our “what,” but also our “why,” and is intrinsic in our mission statement, “to serve promote and advance the profession of radiology in Texas.”

Under the TRS leadership, including our Executive Director, Christy McDonald, the TRS is an exemplary chapter of the ACR with twenty TRS ACR Chapter (Div. D) Awards since 2003, including eight “Overall Excellence,” four “Excellence in Membership,” two “Excellence in Communications,” three “Excellence in Meetings/Education,” and three “Most RADPAC State Contributions!”

I am humbled to be a part of an amazing legacy of TRS leadership and will strive to uphold this path of excellence.

“How do you guys do this?” is a question I often get. It’s a rather simple answer: Family. Think about it. Texas-sized hospitality permeates the TRS, which is indeed a Texas community and family of friends! The first-time resident is treated as warmly and enthusiastically as the veteran.

We have created a culture of respect and collegiality. When controversy emerges, opinions are heard, debate is respectful, and decisions are made among colleagues.

What better way to witness this in action than to encourage our trainees and young professionals to attend a TRS meeting and witness the “TRS Culture!” It is truly an organization that embodies its devotion to our patients, its members, and radiology. I am truly proud to be a TRS member.

We continue to push ourselves to strengthen and expand our scope of practice. When challenges arise in the diagnostic and therapeutic practice of radiology, nuclear medicine/nuclear radiology, radiation oncology, interventional radiology, and medical physics, who holds the key? We should! Active involvement in your local institution, especially in the credentialing process, will help to dictate what procedures can be performed and who can perform them in your institution.

I strongly encourage our TRS members to be involved in their institutional medical staff leadership and especially in the credentialing process. Appropriate credentialing is key to ensure that our patients receive quality care performed by board-certified radiologists. TRS members must be a part of the credentialing process!

In summary, the TRS exists to serve and protect the specialties of radiology in our great state of Texas for the benefit of our patients. We have a century-plus history of doing so; let’s continue to be the shining “Lone Star” example for the rest of the nation!
Camaraderie

- Old friends reconnect and new friends are made.
- Attendees also enjoyed meeting former classmates and faculty and discussing opportunities with potential future employers.
- For more photos, visit the TRS Facebook page!

Quality Speakers

Many hot topics were discussed including Patient Centered Care, Head & Neck Imaging, Body Imaging, Mammography, Interventional Radiology, Physician Burnout, Chest and Stroke & Spine Imaging. Thank you to all of our speakers for your time, great presentations and valuable discussions.

Valuable CME

- Attendees had access to up to 20 hours of CME, much of which was interactive with case presentations and the use of an audience response system.
- Residents participated in the Resident Case Review Course and Career Fair Reception.
- Radiation Oncologists, Medical Physicists, and residents enjoyed their specialty programs.

Special Thanks

A special thanks to the following platinum level ($7,500) exhibitors:

- HOLOGIC
- radiology partners
- SIEMENS Healthineers
- ZOTECH PARTNERS

Thanks also to Radiology Associates of North Texas, a gold level ($5,000) exhibitor.

Audience Favorite Poster Award Winner

Congratulations to Sara Ortiz-Romero, MD (University of Texas Medical Branch) who won the Audience Favorite Poster Award for Starting Mammograms at Age 40.
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
Sheraton Austin Hotel | Austin, TX

Awards
We celebrated together with another great Awards Banquet. Members gathered to honor and recognize their peers for their outstanding service to radiology.

- I. Ray Kirk, MD, FACR, received the 43rd TRS Gold Medal.
- Mark Montgomery, MD, FACR, received the Outgoing President Award.
- Luke Gilman, MD, won the TRS Foundation’s Guiberteau Award for Resident Excellence.

In addition, we were honored to have many of our Past TRS Presidents and Gold Medalists in attendance. It’s a true testament to the strength of the organization when so many past leaders and honorees continue to participate actively in TRS.

Informative Exhibits
From hardware to software and medical books to business services, attendees greatly enjoyed and benefited from the “one-stop shopping experience” provided by the wide array of products and services in the exhibit hall.

Productive Leadership Meetings
TRS leaders discussed issues and formulated TRS policies. We are making good progress towards meeting goals and objectives outlined in the strategic plan.

Break the Case Winners
Congratulations to the Break the Case Winners Chris Prause, MD (Baylor College of Medicine Fellow) and Michael Orsi, MD (Diagnostic Radiologist). By Solving the majority of the unknown cases, they get ‘Brainiest Radiologist at the 2019 Annual Meeting’ bragging rights!
The perennially popular Economics Forum focused on core payment policies under MACRA, CPT code valuation, the work of the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Update Committee (RUC), Medicaid payments and other topics. Texans led the charge at the Forum. ACR Commission on Economics Chair Ezequiel Silva, MD, FACR (San Antonio) moderated the forum. As the ACR's advisor to the RUC, Kurt Schoppe, MD (Fort Worth) discussed the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS), which, he noted, few people really understand.

Other talks concerned issues related to RUC recommendations for radiology codes, raising member awareness about the importance of Medicaid to millions of people, the important work of the ACR's Radiology, Radiation Oncology and Nuclear Medicine Carrier Advisory Committee (CAC) Network, and updates on lung cancer screening, PET/CT and CT colonography. MACRA, price transparency, and the Affordable Care Act were some of the topics debated during the Forum as well.

Thirty-one TRS Leaders attended ACR 2019 held May 18-22, 2019 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. Congratulations to Debra L. Monticciolo, MD, FACR, of Temple, TX, who was elected President of the American College of Radiology (ACR) at ACR 2019.

A highlight of the meeting was TRS again winning the Chapter Recognition Award for Meetings & Education and the RADPAC Award for the State with the Most Contributors (Division E).

More than 500 radiologists, including 31 from Texas, participated in the ACR’s annual Capitol Hill Day. In total, radiologists made their voices heard in over 275 congressional offices. Discussions centered on surprise billing, mammography screening, radiologist assistants and legislation halting the accrual of interest from medical school loans as physicians continue their education during their medical residency. Already, the efforts of Hill Day participants have bore fruit as more than 15 Members of Congress have agreed to co-sponsor legislation radiologists addressed during the ACR’s Hill Day.
ACR Meeting Highlights (continued from page 4)

The Diversity Forum lunch, titled “#MeToo Comes to Medicine: Transforming the Culture,” highlighted further areas in need of examination, including the intersectionality of race and gender, which was met with enthusiasm by the attendees.

Nearly 100 recipients donned their caps, gowns, and colors representing their medical schools and marched down the aisles to receive their ACR Fellowship, including 8 from Texas.

Case in Point

Case in Point is a daily publication from ACR that gives readers the opportunity to learn, claim CME and submit cases for publication (and inclusion on their CV). Case in Point editors make this all possible through their hard work and commitment to publishing quality cases. There are several TRS members who serve as editors for Case in Point. Thank you to our colleagues from Texas:

Section Editors:
Brett Carter, MD: UT MD Anderson Cancer Center (Chest)
Michael Opatowsky, MD: Baylor Scott and White Dallas (Neuroradiology)

Suraj Reddy, MD: private practice in Frisco, Texas (MSK)
Christopher Smith, MD: Baylor Scott and White Dallas (MSK)

Resident Editors (a unique program allowing trainees to learn important editorial and scholarly skills while in training under the supervision of senior editors)
Barrett Duncan, MD: Baylor Scott and White Dallas
Nick Phelps, MD: Baylor Scott and White Dallas

Case Selection Editor:
Michael Opatowsky, MD

Save the Date!

TRS 2020 Annual Meeting
February 21-23, 2020
Westin Riverwalk Hotel
San Antonio, TX

ACR 2020 Annual Meeting
May 16-20, 2020
Marriott Wardman Hotel
Washington, DC

Movers and Shakers
(continued from left sidebar)

Richard Strax, MD, FACP continues to serve a three year term on the ACR Board of Chancellors.

Aradhana Venkatesan, MD continues to serve a two-year term on the ACR Council Steering Committee.

Radiology-TEACHES is a free ACR program for medical students and residents that contains education on clinical decision support and appropriate imaging. The program includes Choosing Wisely topics as well as an integrated clinical decision support tool (Care Select Imaging or ACR Select). This prepares students for the new PAMA regulation. Visit https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Radiology-TEACHES for more information.
The 86th Texas Legislature ended on May 27th and, true to form, this session was not without its share of surprises and controversies. The key initiatives that state legislators touted as successful related to school finance and property tax reform. Legislators dubbed their efforts as “transformative.” Legislation totaling $11.6 billion will result in cuts to property taxes, increased spending on pre-kindergarten, cuts to the controversial “Robin Hood” payments from wealthier to poorer school districts, increased funding to impoverished school districts, teacher pay raises, and increasing the burden of the state to offset local school district costs. As with any legislative effort, the “devil is in the details” and many critics are concerned that changes will not be substantive and lasting. Time will tell.

Although it may have been completely coincidental, the Texas Medical Board’s untimely release at the beginning of the 86th legislature of a proposed rule calling for a change to the standing delegation orders specifically as they apply to radiological services by mid-level providers was unfortunate. The timing of this proposed rule change at the beginning of session created a firestorm of controversy related to radiological scope of practice as it pertains to mid-level providers. Bills on both sides of the issue were filed. At the end of the day, nothing was passed legislatively; however, there will be a June stakeholder meeting on this issue and your TRS leadership will continue to monitor and participate in these discussions.

The resurfacing of the surprise billing issue was definitely unexpected. Our legislative leadership team thought this had been effectively dealt with during the last session and over the interim. SB 1264, which prohibits healthcare providers from charging emergency room patients any or all of a bill that insurance does not pay, was passed and forwarded to the Governor for signature. This new law, filed by Sen. Kelly Hancock (R), replaces the existing mediation process with a “baseball-style” arbitration in which insurers and providers submit a one-time, best and final offer for reimbursement. An independent arbiter oversees these negotiations and patients are removed from the arbitration process. The TMA was initially opposed to this legislation, but important safeguard language was added to the bill to assure that healthcare providers will be given a fair shake during the arbitration process. Facility claims will continue to be allowed to go through mediation and any claims that contain professional or technical components of a healthcare provider services will qualify for arbitration. We will need to evaluate how this legislation works in real world situations. In the meantime, practitioners are advised to carefully consider their options regarding services provided to out-of-network facilities. Your TRS legislative leadership team will monitor this new arbitration process to assure that the balance of accountability is maintained with the insurance companies.

Thanks to the efforts of many of our TRS members, we were successful in passing HB 170, a bill calling for certain insurance plans to provide coverage for diagnostic mammograms at a rate “no less favorable than the coverage for screening mammograms”. Passage of this legislation is a big win for the TRS and most importantly for the patients under our care!

HB 1504, the sunset bill providing for re-authorization of the Texas Medical Board, includes language to authorize the licensure of Radiologist Assistants (RAs) in Texas under the supervision of radiologists. The TRS has been working with the RA community for many years on this important legislation. Your TRS leadership recognizes the hard work that has gone into making this legislation a reality.

Passing legislation in Texas is not an easy task, and most bills hit the chopping block or are dead on arrival. No significant legislation was passed this session related to increased funding for Medicaid.
Although legislation did pass to slightly expand medical marijuana access through HB 3703 by adding epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, and spasticity to the list of eligible conditions, our state continues to have no significant appetite for efforts to legalize marijuana.

Councilors attending the American College of Radiology meeting this year in Washington, DC were requested by ACR leadership to discuss four key issues with their elected officials. Your 31-member TRS delegation was well-represented at the ACR-sponsored Capitol Hill Day on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. Councilors were specifically asked to discuss with their representatives and senators the following issues: 1) surprise billing; 2) PALS (Protecting Access to Lifesaving Screenings); 3) MARCA (Medicare Access to Radiology Care Act); and 4) the REDI Act (Resident Education Deferred Interest).

Federal legislation is currently being considered regarding the surprise billing/balance billing issue. We specifically requested that our elected officials endorse a multiconsortium statement by over 100 state medical societies and national physician organizations which provides language to assure a fair arbitration process during mediation of disputed claims and forces accountability on health insurance plans by requiring full transparency regarding networks and their adequacy.

Congresswomen Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL), herself a breast cancer survivor, and Susan Brooks (R-IN) are cosponsoring PALS legislation that would extend the current moratorium on the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendation, which assigns a “C” grade to screening mammography for women age 40-49 years and a “B” recommendation for biennial screening mammography beginning at age 50. As radiologists, we are keenly aware that these recommendations are a significant departure from guidelines from nearly every credible scientific society and organization.

HR 1970 (MARCA) calls for allowance of submission of claims to Medicare for non-diagnostic services performed by Radiologist Assistants (RAs) under the supervision of a radiologist in both hospital and office settings as well as diagnostic services in hospitals. Thirty-one states now recognize licensure for RAs and passage of this bill will provide further credibility to this important group of providers.

Passage of the REDI Act would be beneficial for the entire house of medicine. HR 1554 would effectively halt the accrual of interest from medical school loans as physicians continue their education during their medical residency. This important legislation would be effective in curtailing the tremendous debt our trainees incur during their educational training.

All of these state and national issues, as well as many others, will need constant surveillance and adjustment going forward. Your donations to the TRS PAC and RAD PAC continue to help fund these efforts. Your ongoing involvement in our society as dues-paying members is critical to our success. As always, your participation and involvement are encouraged! If you would like to contribute to the TRS PAC you may do so online at www.txrad.org/PAC or with the donation form in this newsletter.
The Texas Radiological Society Foundation Board of Directors is proud to announce our intention to establish the Marianne and Stewart Reuter Interventional Radiology Symposium at TRS Annual Meetings. While this has been in the planning stages for many months, it was decided at our recent board meeting to proceed with planning after receiving initial donations in excess of $30,000 for the symposium.

At the TRS Annual Meeting in February 2020, the TRS Foundation will sponsor an interventional radiology (IR) keynote lecture in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Reuter. The inaugural Reuter IR Symposium is being planned for the 2021 TRS Annual Meeting in Houston.

The Reuter IR Symposium will be a half-day educational symposium and meet in conjunction with the annual TRS meeting. The CME program will feature a national keynote speaker focused on cutting-edge issues and technology related to interventional radiology. The format will be “open” – reflective of Dr. Reuter’s philosophy of encouraging engaged discourse – and will include panel discussions, workshops, and active exchange of member ideas. As per Dr. Reuter’s legacy and interventional radiology culture, an annual, case-based “angio club” dinner will be incorporated during the symposium weekend. The ultimate goal is to further develop member skills for quality and value-based patient care, to enable attendees to meet annual CME requirements, and to facilitate networking with colleagues in a desirable meeting location.

The TRS Foundation exists to educate radiologists not only in the medical practice of radiology, but also to be strong leaders on the economic, business, and ethical side of medicine. To endow this annual IR Symposium in perpetuity, the TRSF must achieve a funding goal of $250,000 in order to generate adequate annual funding for the meeting. To establish the IR Symposium as an independent TRS annual session, at least one-half of the targeted funding goal is needed (i.e., $125,000). Several colleagues have already given generously to this fund and are challenging the Texas IR community to match their pledge in order to inaugurate the Reuter IR Symposium at the 2021 TRS Annual Meeting.

Thank you to the initial major Reuter IR Symposium Donors:

$10,000
Darlene Metter, MD, FACR
(2019-20 TRS President)
Mark Montgomery, MD, FACR
(2018-19 TRS President)
Mrs. Marianne Reuter

We are challenging the greater Texas IR community to match or exceed these generous contributions so that this Symposium can be an ongoing component of the TRS Annual Meeting.

The TRSF is a federally-recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization, which allows your donation to be tax deductible. Recent changes in tax law make larger contributions, including legacy gifts as a part of your estate and tax planning, more likely to take advantage of the full deduction. Group practice contributions are strongly encouraged. We also welcome the opportunity to meet with your practice to further discuss and/or make a formal presentation to be considered for a major contribution.

The TRSF and the TRS look forward to creating the Marianne and Stewart Reuter Interventional Radiology Symposium. We hope you will join us in making this plan a reality.
I had the honor of participating in the TMA Leadership College (TMALC) class of 2018-2019 this past year. As part of this leadership program, I attended sessions on interpersonal skills, team building, personal branding, and media interaction. The sessions on political advocacy and Texas legislation constituted the most interesting and unique aspect of the training. These sessions culminated in learning how to be an effective communicator as I visited with legislators during Capitol Hill Day to advocate for medicine and our patients. This was without a doubt the most exhilarating and rewarding part of the program. At the finale of the program, I had the opportunity to attend and participate as a delegate in my first TMA conference, an incredible sight to behold with thousands of physicians from all parts of Texas and across all fields of medicine coming together to ensure that our voices as physicians and those of our patients are heard.

I believe the most invaluable aspect of my experience was gaining a network of talented and energetic physician leaders that participated in the training with me. Learning about each other both professionally and socially, sharing our differences and talents to help each other, and finding how incredibly similar our challenges are despite how different our practices and personalities may seem on the surface have resulted in the formation of lifelong friendships. Thank you to the TRS Foundation for the stipend to attend this program. I am also immensely thankful for the support of the TRS and TMA and truly appreciate their vision to educate and empower physicians for the betterment of medicine and our patients.

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**2019 Guiberteau Award for Resident Excellence Winner**

**Luke Gilman, MD**

The Guiberteau award was a great recognition of my hard work and accomplishments during residency training. More importantly, it was an even greater reflection of the amazing mentorship that I have received at BCM from our outstanding faculty, most notably from Dr. Diaz-Marchan, Dr. Watson, and Dr. Sepulveda. I am excited to start the next step of my career as a Breast Imaging Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital. After Fellowship, I look forward to returning to practice in Texas and continuing my involvement with the Texas Radiological Society.

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**TRS Foundation Donation and PAC Contribution Form**

Please return this donation/contribution form along with payment to:

TRS • 24165 IH-10 West, Suite 217 #510 • San Antonio, TX 78257 • or fax to (512) 276-6691

Name (please print): ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________

I would like to make a contribution to the ☐ TRS Foundation and/or the ☐ TRS PAC in the following amount:

☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ $500 ☐ $750 ☐ $1,000 ☐ Other: ____________________________

☐ Check (made payable to “TRS Foundation” or “TRS PAC”) ☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Card Number: ____________________________ Expiration Date: ____________________________

Billing Address: ____________________________ Billing Zip Code: ____________________________

CVS Code: ____________________________ Name on Card: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________

The TRS Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization with a public charity status under 509(a)(3). Donations are tax-deductible to the extent provided by the law. Federal EIN 76-035382.

Contributions to TRS PAC are strictly voluntary and can be made from a PA, PC or LLP, but cannot come from any corporate source. Contributions are voluntary and are not tax deductible. All contributions will be reported to the Texas Ethics Commission in accordance with state law.
In March 2019, the Texas Radiological Society Resident and Fellow Section (TRS RFS) hosted an engaging and well-attended program at the TRS 106th Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. The second annual Resident Career Fair Reception was held with even more participation than last year from both residents and fellows as well as radiology groups throughout the state of Texas. This year, a total of eight radiology practices gave presentations about their practice model and employment opportunities. This event is a networking opportunity that allows residents and fellows to meet with these radiology groups and discuss future business relationships.

The second annual Resident Case Review Course was quite a success, also with greater resident and lecturer participation than last year. This case-based review course provides 1½ days of case-heavy presentations that focus on core topics in radiology. The course featured twelve lecturers from throughout our different residency programs. These twelve lecturers were nominated by residents, who recognize them as exceptional educators and radiologists. We know the amount of work the lecturers put into their presentations and we are so grateful for their enthusiastic and voluntary contribution. We look forward to continuing this complimentary case-based review course next year and expect even greater resident, fellow, and faculty participation.

At the 106th Annual Meeting, residents and fellows also had the opportunity to attend a multitude of engaging lectures from outstanding radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists from both the state of Texas as well as visiting professors from such prominent institutions as Mayo Clinic and Miami Cardiac and Vascular Institute. Furthermore, residents and fellows had the opportunity to present their research with a total nineteen abstract submissions covering various hot topics like “Platelet-Rich Plasma vs Steroid Injections For Hamstring Injury - Is There Really a Choice?” by Peter Yong Soo Park of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. The Audience Favorite Poster Award went to Sara Ortiz-Romero, MD, University of Texas Medical Branch, for “Starting Mammograms at Age 40.”

In addition to the dedicated TRS events, residents and fellow members were recognized for their exceptional roles in academics, leadership, and research. A special congratulation to TRS Senior Chair, Dr. Luke Gilman from Baylor College of Medicine, for winning the competitive Guiberteau Award for Resident Excellence. To be eligible for this award, a senior resident from each Texas residency radiology program must be personally nominated by their program director for excellence in areas that embody being an outstanding radiologist: leadership, humanitarianism, and research/scholarly activities. Additionally, congratulations to the Rutherford-Lavanty and Moorefield fellowship winners Isun Chong, MD and Zachary Jeng, MD (both from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston) who represent Texas radiology trainees at a national level in ACR.

This year, TRS RFS Chair Luke Gilman and Vice Chair Jesse Conyers were honored to represent the TRS RFS at the ACR meeting in Washington, DC. At the ACR, our residents actively participated in political discussion and advocacy regarding policies directly affecting radiology, such as the Protecting Access to Lifesaving Screening (PALS) Act to help ensure annual mammography screening for women ages 40-49. Additionally, our residents had the opportunity to directly discuss these radiology policies on Capitol Hill with Texas congressional representatives.

On behalf of TRS RFS, a big thank you to outgoing RFS chair, Luke Gilman, for his dedication, leadership, and enthusiasm in making TRS a great success while holding a chair position these past two years. We look forward to working with our incoming RFS Chair, Jesse Conyers of University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She has already formulated many innovative ideas that will further enhance the 107th TRS RFS annual meeting. I look forward to working with Dr. Conyers while serving as the RFS Vice-Chair this year.
In Memoriam

John H. Harris Jr., MD, DSc, FACR

John H. Harris, Jr, MD, DSc, FACR, 93, passed away on April 30, 2019, in his home in Seminole, Florida.

Dr. Harris, widely regarded as the father of trauma radiology, inspired generations of radiologists during his nearly seven decade-long career as a physician and researcher. He served leadership roles in various professional societies such as the American College of Radiology and Radiological Society of North America. He co-founded the ASER (American Society of Emergency Radiology). As Professor and Chair of Radiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, he helped train countless residents and students. He authored or co-authored hundreds of peer reviewed articles and multiple books, publishing his last book in 2014 at the age of 88. When he passed away at the age of 93, he was working on a manuscript on traumatic aortic injury.

Johnny L. Montgomery, MD, FACS

Johnny Lester Montgomery, MD, FACS, 84, passed away on January 3, 2019, after a long struggle with cancer.

Dr. Montgomery received his MD degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and became a general practitioner of medicine in Pasadena, Texas until he was drafted into the US Army in 1966 during the Vietnam War. While in the army, he completed a residency in radiology at Tripler General Hospital and Walter Reed General Hospital. He served as Chief of Angiography and then Chairman of Diagnostic Radiology at Walter Reed. Dr. Montgomery joined the staff at Scott and White Clinic in 1972 where he was instrumental in the development of the satellite clinic system and establishing the family medicine department. Throughout his career, he gained respect and admiration as an outstanding mentor, teacher, leader, and practitioner. He received numerous teaching awards at Scott & White and the Texas A&M College of Medicine. He was named the Ashbel Smith Distinguished Alumni Award from UTMB Galveston in 1998 and was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal from the Texas Radiological Society in 2015.

DID YOU KNOW?

Part-time Mountaineering—a Difficult Passion for a Texan!

Paul Weatherall, MD, FACS

Growing up in southeast Texas swampland, my fondest childhood memory was playing in a ditch and on a 9 foot high dirt pile, the biggest hill for miles - the peak of my early climbing career. In adult life I found something even more wonderful - the mountains!

My best friend and his wife started an Explorer Scout Post in Houston where I did my medical training. This was my ticket to freeloading on trips; parents liked a “doctor” going along. We started with Enchanted Rock, then on to Big Bend, and eventually we climbed real mountains in Colorado. Later, when stuck with a real job, no problem! Airport 2 miles away... Find Explorer Post in camp 6-7 hours later... Start adventuring up a Colorado “14’er” the next morning. The tent was up and food prepared; I just showed up. Using this foolish approach, I discovered the one mountaineering “skill” where I’m above average: My physiology is less prone to altitude sickness! Thus, began a 34-year habit of climbing Colorado 14’ers until I climbed all 54 of them.

We found more mountain beauty above 14,000’ in Mexico (18,000’) and then on the equator, summiting Kilimanjaro (19,340’) in 2016, helped by 20 Sherpas carrying our gear. After this warmup, it was an Alaskan near-arctic Denali (20,320’) attempt, a truly “polar-opposite” (sorry) experience. On Denali, you must carry 100 pounds of gear on your back and sled roughly 12 miles up the glacier and wait for good weather. Even though much of my gear was hauled by a 6’4” ex-Scout, I got nowhere near the summit. We reached 16,000’ but retreated to 14,200’ for 11 days. When the weather broke, I made breakfast and wished them luck on their summit bid. Bottom line? It was a wonderful - if not completely successful - experience in an amazing place with fantastic friends. And they didn’t even have to use the one major contribution I brought to the team: the prescription medications!
Upcoming Radiology Meetings of Interest

2019 AAPM Annual Meeting
• July 14-18, 2019, San Antonio, TX

AIRP Neuroradiology Categorical Course
• August 12-15, 2019, Silver Springs, MD

AIRP Pediatric Categorical Course
• August 19-21, 2019, Silver Springs, MD

2019 Radiology Leadership Institute (RLI) Summit
• September 6-8, 2019, Wellesley, MA

North American Society for Cardiovascular Imaging
• September 14-17, 2019, Seattle, WA

ASTRO 2019 Annual Meeting
• September 15-18, 2019, Chicago, IL

Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound 2019 Annual Meeting
• October 3-6, 2019, Chicago, IL

Society of Computed Body Tomography & Magnetic Resonance
• October 19-23, 2019, Denver, CO

Texas Radiological Society 2020 Annual Meeting
• February 21-23, 2020, San Antonio, TX

8-Time Winner!
The TRS has earned the American College of Radiology’s Overall Excellence Award (Div. D) eight times in the last eleven years!

We have also won awards for Excellence in:
• Communications (Div. D) (2009, 2007)