



**Vascular Society of New Jersey**  
202 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08608  
tel: (609) 392-7553  
fax: (609) 392-2664  
website: [VascularSocietyNJ.org](http://VascularSocietyNJ.org)  
e-mail: [Membership@VascularSocietyNJ.org](mailto:Membership@VascularSocietyNJ.org)

---

## MONTHLY REPORT – March 2006

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Steve Hertz, MD**

It is an honor to write my first newsletter as the newly inducted President of the Vascular Society of New Jersey. Looking at the distinguished list of the 27 previous Presidents of our Society, I feel quite humbled. It makes me feel nostalgic to remember the first VSNJ meeting that Herb Dardik brought me to as a junior resident, nearly 20 years ago. It was largely his fascination and enthusiasm for vascular surgery that drew me to the field. I hope that I have been able to have even a fraction of the positive influence on students, residents and fellows that was bestowed on me.

The mainstay of our Society has always been our Spring educational meeting. We had a great turnout for this year's meeting. The program was excellent. Thanks again to Terry Impeduglia for her efforts at coordinating the program. I feel confident that everyone who attended got something out of it. It is clear that the surgeons of our society have been able to keep pace with the rapid evolution of technology in our field. Hopefully, by sharing and discussing it, we can help flush out the techniques most worth embracing.

As the executives of your society, we are eager to act to represent our membership. It is critically important, therefore, that you update us with your thoughts and concerns. Give us suggestions for symposium talks, suggest a new vascular surgeon at your hospital to be contacted for possible membership.

Again, it is with pride and honor that I begin my term as VSNJ President. I wish to pass on a personal thanks to our outgoing President, Peter Pappas, for his hard work this past year. Please feel free to contact me through the Society.

---

### ***It Used to Be That "Cover your tail" was just an expression.....Now Asset Protection Planning is a Way of Life***

Jury awards (and malpractice insurance premiums) have been getting larger while the financial stability of malpractice insurance carriers has come into question. This makes a "perfect storm" scenario for the practicing physician who has not taken steps to protect his or her assets from potential creditors (law suit plaintiffs).

Asset protection planning takes many shapes and forms, from \$3,000 kits containing books for do-it-yourselfers, to complicated and expensive offshore trusts, to sensible financial and estate planning that does double duty on the asset protection planning front.

Many of the estate planning and retirement plan techniques that will help anyone with their financial situation will also work to protect a physician's assets. Some of these techniques include moving assets into a spouse's name (outright or in a trust for the spouse), using 529 College funding plans, Qualified Personal Residence Trusts (QPRT), and fully funding retirement (ERISA) plans.

Each physician's situation is unique and requires a full review and analysis. The Healthcare Business Planning Group, a corporate partner of the Medical Society of New Jersey, is available to meet with physicians to assist them with all their planning needs.

Jeanne Naglak, J.D. is a consultant with The Healthcare Business Planning Group and can be contacted directly at 732-326-5339.

Please be advised that The Healthcare Business Planning Group does not render legal or tax advice. Consult your legal or tax advisor accordingly.