

## MEMBERSHIP

# Three SVS members receive honors for service to community practice

Patricia Furey, MD, Clifford Sales, MD, and G. Stephen (Steve) Vincent, MD, received the SVS Excellence in Community Practice Award during VAM 2023.

This honor is bestowed upon members who have exhibited outstanding leadership within their communities as practicing vascular surgeons.

Furey practices in Bedford, New Hampshire, as director of Vein and Vascular Specialists at Catholic Medical Center and as an associate director of surgical services at the New England Heart and Vascular Institute, which includes work in promoting and integrating vascular and cardiac surgeons and cardiologists in order to help advance endovascular service lines.

She has been integral in developing, planning and implementing a state-of-the-art outpatient interventional suite with a full-time vascular lab on-site, and is participating in the planning and oversight of a new cardiovascular construction scheduled to open in 2025.

She has held numerous leadership positions, including within her medical center plus within the specialty, such as vice president for the New England Society for Vascular Surgery. She was an inaugural member of the SVS Women's Section Steering Committee.

Sales is a vascular surgeon, managing partner and CEO of the Cardiovascular Care Group in Westfield, New Jersey.

He is former chief of vascular surgery and director of the noninvasive vascular lab at Overlook Hospital and, since 1998, he also has been clinical assistant professor of surgery at Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Sales is currently vice president, vascular services, RWJBarnabas Health Care System—the largest healthcare system in the state of New Jersey.

His society memberships have include the Eastern Vascular Society, Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery, the Vascular Society of New Jersey, American Venous Forum and the Frank J. Veith Society (founding member). He also has been involved with the SVS Community Practice Section, which was founded in 2021.

Sales also runs an annual program for 15–20 college students who spend one month at his institution rotating through different specialties, including vascular surgery. The program has become nationally recognized, and Sales receives hundreds of applications each year for the limited number of positions.

Vincent has spent his career in Ohio. When he began practice in the Columbus area, he collaborated with a community hospital in an underserved area to begin an outreach vascular program to patients that lacked access to vascular care. This initially began with development of a vascular office practice and simple procedures, but has progressed to provide full-service vascular care, with angiography, angioplasty, stenting, bypass procedures, endarterectomy, aneurysm and

dialysis-access procedures.

He was instrumental in building the local wound care service line, which offers extensive services for a rural community, including the availability of two hyperbaric treatment chambers.

Vincent is on the staffs of several hospitals, some for 35 years, and is medical director for the non-invasive vascular laboratories at two.

He volunteered to help organize and start the Society of Black Vascular Surgeons (SBVS). Vincent serves as vice president. He “had a significant amount of history of the denigrating issues facing Black vascular surgeons who were either in private or academic practice in the 80s and 90s,” said a colleague also involved in forming the SBVS.

“His insight, leadership and support were crucial to getting a more comprehensive understanding as to the mission of the organization. Because of his influence we were able to form an organization that focused on mentoring those currently in practice and those following our footsteps.”

Vincent also has been a medical leader within the community, been involved with 17 medical societies and been chapter president of the National Medical Association.

His community activities include the Park Foundation, as well as extensive involvement with the Boy Scouts of America.—Beth Bales

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Clifford Sales, G. Stephen Vincent and Patricia Furey with Robert Molnar