The Journal of **THORACIC AND CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY**

EDITORIAL

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THORACIC SURGERY AND *THE JOURNAL OF THORACIC AND CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY* GO ONLINE

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The American Association for Thoracic Surgery is now online at <http://www.aats.com>. Information about the Association and its committees is posted, as well as specific contact information about members. The AATS website hosts the full text contents of *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. The contents of the current journal issues are posted the same day the written copies are mailed, and the contents of several previous years are available in their entirety. The AATS has agreed to participate with CTSNet (<http://www.ctsnet.org>) as a resource for all cardiothoracic surgeons, and links to other resources are easy to explore.

AATS members can access the website using either IBM compatible or Macintosh equipment. Minimal screen resolution requirements are 640 × 480 pixels but higher resolutions are desirable. You

will find that the journal contents can be adequately accessed and displayed over a modem connection, but those with faster access will enjoy even better performance. Netscape (version 3.0 or greater) is the recommended browser for displaying the AATS website content. Members are encouraged to get online and create bookmarks to both CTSNet.org and AATS.org in order to take advantage of these premier information resources. The website will be taking advantage of several new technologies as they mature, including audio and video clip displays. Users are encouraged to download and install the plug-in for RealAudio and RealVideo at <http://www.real.com/products/player/download.html>. Details about other enhancements will be clearly displayed as the website evolves.

The AATS website initiative marks an unprecedented opportunity for all of us in thoracic surgery to improve communication with each other for business and teaching purposes. All AATS members are encouraged to access the website and to complete and update their member information profiles.

From The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, The Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, Pa.

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