



World Congress of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent: Why?

There is no doubt interest in Plastic Surgery, in particular Aesthetic Surgery, has increased tremendously over the last decade. Parallel to this increased interest is a proliferation of procedures being performed by surgeons not fully trained or even by none plastic surgeons. Though some are providing good service, most are contributing to the negative publicity our specialty is having nowadays in Lebanon. Illegal media interviews and unethical billboards are misleading the public and detracting patients from the real Plastic Surgeons, members of the Lebanese Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Society. The **WORLD CONGRESS OF PLASTIC SURGEONS OF LEBANESE DESCENT** is the occasion to put things in their proper perspective and to demonstrate the real value, knowledge and artistic skills of the true Lebanese Plastic Surgeons in Lebanon as well as abroad.

This Newsletter is a forum for all Association members to share their knowledge as well as important information about their activities. You are all invited to send your contribution to batyeh@terra.net.lb

Why to have an Association of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent?

Fabio Nahas

What I am about to tell you really happened. I always wanted to go to Lebanon, to find out more about my origins. Finally, my father accepted to come with me to visit Lebanon. My father was an academic surgeon in Brazil, but his busy life never allowed him to take a time to visit the Middle East. It was 2006 and the war began some months before our trip was scheduled. Unfortunately my father passed away one year after that and he has never got to visit our ancestor's land. In 2008 I was kindly invited to the Lebanese Meeting and I accepted right away. It was the opportunity to know my roots. I decided to look for my origins. My great grandfather decided to go to Brazil around 1900, to begin his life. Little I know about the reason that led him to this decision. Why is that he decided to leave Lebanon? He was probably a poor young man. But what led him to Brazil? And he first settled in the most unexplored part of my country: in a city near the Amazon. He was a self made man and when he got money enough to go to Lebanon he went back to see his family and friends. He still had a house that he built in Zahle, before he came to Brazil. He restored it when he returned. One of his daughters went along with him and fell in love with a Lebanese man. She got married and lived the rest of her life in Lebanon and Egypt. Her daughter lives now in Beirut and I decided to contact her in 2008. So, I asked her where my great grandfather house was and she gave me some references. I had a guided tour to Baalbek with plastic surgeons from several different countries. After telling them my story, everyone wanted to know if I would be able to find the house. Finally, when we arrived in Zahle, we went near the Kadri Hotel, as my relative indicated me. Just across the street, some steps up, there it was: the old house of my ancestor. I knocked at the door and an old man came. With the help of my guide he could understand who I was and he was also a far relative of mine. He hugged me and cried over my shoulders. It was a very special moment for me. I told him that it was not possible to wait for the coffee that he offered me. He asked me to stay for one more minute. He went away and brought me a very large picture in a wood frame



Fabio and his great great grandpa !

with the image of my great grandfather and offered me. I was thrilled. I went back to the van that was waiting for us with that large picture over my head showing to the plastic surgeons what I found about my roots. It was a very emotional moment of my life. Now, his picture is hung on the wall of my office.

I experienced the pride of being a Lebanese. I didn't know this sensation before that. Lebanese people are special, kind, refined and gentle - everywhere they may live. A country with so many people spread all over the world should have an Association of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent to gather these colleagues. This Association will stimulate the feeling of brotherhood with the Lebanese Society of Plastic Surgery, thus increasing knowledge exchange. Bishara Atiyeh asked me to contact some Lebanese Descendants in Argentina, Colombia and Venezuela and I had a hard time to find them. The idea of founding an Association gathering Lebanese Descendants seems to be a solution to this problem. This will be a good opportunity to increase the number of foreign guests in the National Meeting of Lebanon with a scientific gain in quality of the sessions. This Association could be a chapter of the Lebanese Society and the members would not have the right to vote. If this model is approved, Lebanon will have the best annual plastic surgery meeting in the region.

Anyway, when I got back to Brazil, it was a great opportunity to gather the family in my house (scattered in more than 3 states of Brazil) to see the "famous picture" of our great grandpa!



Lebanese-Brazilian Plastic Surgery

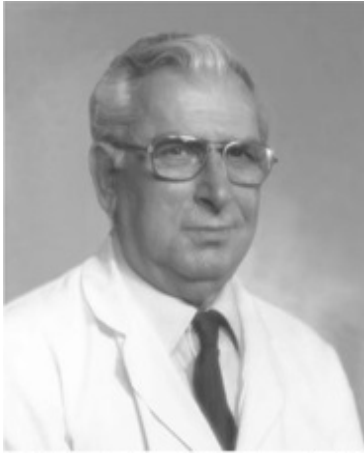
Ricardo Baroudi

For the occasion of the 1st World Congress of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent, 2010

Along of our professional activities we attend scientific meetings of all magnitude inside our country and abroad. In our specialty the presence of our wives and accompanying persons in these events does not reach 40%. In 1999, Prof. Bishara Atiyeh and I organized the First Brazilian - Lebanese Meeting in Beirut, with the presence of local colleagues and the Brazilian Lebanese Descent Plastic Surgeons. There were no more than 100 surgeons attending the Meeting, but to our surprise there were around 120 accompanying ladies!!! Never such a thing has happened in Meetings of our specialty and we believe that also it never did in other specialties. The question is: Why did it happen? Why in Lebanon and not in other countries? We cannot explain it. If we ask the Lebanese that are living there, the Lebanese descent that live abroad, or to the surgeons with no Lebanese origins, that attended that meeting, all will present personal reasons, according to their emotional reactions. The answers are based on the pleasant events during their stay, by the rich and diversified Lebanese cuisine, the millennial culture, the agreeable atmosphere, the geographic site, the sea, the warm hospitality, etc...

All these several aspects impress those that visit Lebanon and even those that live there. The feelings seem to be similar... We really enjoyed it. We still do not know why that for many thousand years, things have been occurring in the Lebanese history transmitted by our ancestors. This is Lebanon with a diversity of good quality of life, with ups and downs, that survived, after several invasions keeping its

integrity, its autonomy and its individuality along the centuries. May God continue blessing this country!!! Going back to our question about the high rate attendance of accompanying persons, we believe without any doubt, that the Lebanese plastic surgeons provide us the best environment scientific and tour meeting with the firm purpose to place their Society in an even more evidence in the international map of the specialty. Their First National Annual Congress this year will be the landmark of a new era for the Lebanese Plastic Surgeons led by Prof. Dr. Bishara Atiyeh, a real conductor and hard worker, to whom I have the privilege of his friendship and confidence. Besides, Prof Bishara Atiyeh interacting with his fellow colleagues is making the Lebanese Society of Plastic Surgery highly active both scientifically and socially. An expressive number of Brazilian plastic surgeons that attended the First Brazilian - Lebanese Meeting in 1999, did not forget that memorable period, as well as, like myself, my wife and daughter. Next October my party will be about 10 people including, colleagues with their wives, sons, friends and relatives. We use to say that in Medical Congresses, the scientific program is always the great motive to our presence, but a good deal will be forgotten and the little will be applied in our practice. On the other hand, a pleasant social program will remain much more time in our memory and in the memories of our beloved. Unpleasant experience may prevent our families to attend other meetings. We are sure that our Lebanese hosts are organizing an excellent Scientific and exquisite Social Program that shall remain in the memory of those attending this meeting. HUASSALLAM...



Lebanese Contribution to Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery: The Deltopectoral Flap

Vahram Y. Bakamjian 1918-2010

Roswell Park Cancer Institute official photograph of Dr. Bakamjian taken in the 1990's

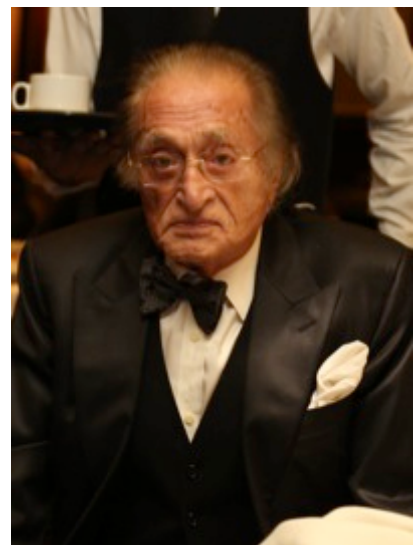
The deltopectoral (DP) flap, also known as the Bakamjian flap, was actually first described by Aymard in 1917. In 1931, Joseph, using illustrations of Manchot from 1889, justified and published illustrations of DP flaps as vascularized pattern flaps. The DP flap, however, did not spark much interest until it was reintroduced by Vahram Bakamjian in 1965. Bakamjian reported the use of DP to reconstruct head and neck areas following disfiguring cancer surgery and for pharyngoesophageal reconstruction after laryngopharyngectomy. The DP flap became the “workhorse” flap for head and neck reconstruction and enjoyed great popularity in the 1960s. The head and neck literature from 1960 on has many articles by Dr. Bakamjian that attest to his innovative spirit as a plastic surgeon.

Dr. Bakamjian attended the **American University of Beirut**, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1940 and his Doctor of Medicine degree in 1945. In 1951, he left Lebanon to the United States for an Ear, Nose, and Throat Residency at Columbia University followed by a Plastic Surgery Residency under Dr. Webster. In 1956, Dr. Bakamjian was recruited to Roswell Park Memorial Institute and the Department of Head and Neck Surgery. After a long and distinguished career, Dr. Bakamjian retired in 1996.

Yves Gerard Illouz was in Beirut on Oct. 23-26, 2014 for the 3rd World Congress of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent. On Dec 4, 2014 he wrote: “Thank you for a good memory of a fantastic meeting, see you soon. Prof. YG Illouz”.

Unfortunately, he passed away soon after in January 2015. We have lost a good friend and great supporter of APSLD. He never missed an APSLD congress. Yves-Gerard actively participated at the 1st Congress in Beirut in 2010 and his Foundation was present at the 2nd Congress in Cancun in 2012. While in Beirut, he made a firm commitment to participate at the 4th Congress planned for 2017 in São Paulo. For all of us who met him, we have lost a friend, a mentor, a brilliant free spirit, constantly on the move for new ideas and technologies.

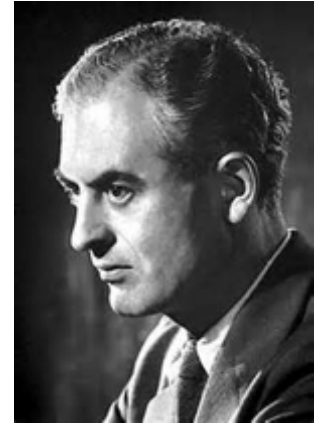
Dear Yves Gérard, you will be missed.



A Lebanese Brazilian Success Story

Peter Medawar 1915 -1987

Winner of the 1960 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Sir Peter Brian Medawar was **born in Petrópolis in Brazil of a British mother and a Brazilian businessman of Lebanese descent, Nicholas Medawar**. He left Brazil with his family for England towards the end of WWI, and he lived there for the rest of his life.

Medawar studied at Marlborough College and Magdalen College, Oxford. He was professor of zoology at University of Birmingham and University College London. He was head of the transplantation section of the Medical Research Council's clinical research center, Harrow, from 1971 to 1986. He became professor of experimental medicine at the Royal Institution (1977-83), and president of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School (1981-87). Until he was partially disabled by a cerebral infarction, he was Director of the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill.

Medawar was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1949. The British government conferred him a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) in 1958, knighted him in 1965, and appointed him to the Order of Merit in 1981. He was elected Fellow of the British Academy in 1981. He received the Royal Society's Royal Medal in 1959, and its Copley Medal in 1969. He was President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science during 1968-1969. He was awarded the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science in 1985 and was awarded a DSc Honorary Degree in 1961 by Birmingham University.

Peter Medawar was a scientist of great inventiveness. His work on graft rejection and the discovery of acquired immune tolerance was fundamental to the practice of tissue and organ transplants. His involvement with what became transplant research began during WWII, when he investigated possible improvements in skin grafts. He was awarded the 1960 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet for their work in tissue grafting that was applied in burn patients requiring skin grafts. Medawar's work resulted in a shift of emphasis in the science of immunology from one that attempts to deal with the fully developed immunity mechanism to one that attempts to alter the immunity mechanism itself by attempting to suppress the body's rejection of organ transplants. For his works he is regarded as the "father of transplantation". He is also remembered for his wit in real life and popular writings. Famous zoologists such as Richard Dawkins, referred to him as "the wittiest of all scientific writers", and Stephen Jay Gould, as "the cleverest man I have ever known".

Photographs of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd World Congress of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent as well as the ISAPS Course Body Contouring Conference and Live Surgery and the 1st Lebanese Hand & Reconstructive Surgery Conference can be viewed on the following link of our page:
<http://1drv.ms/1tzZ8NO>

How the Lebanese Conquered Brazil

Success came through hard work and perseverance

From 1860 to 1914, between a third and a half of Mount Lebanon's population is believed to have emigrated. They fled across the world looking for a better life, becoming the first generation of the Lebanese diaspora. Of these emigrants, around a third are estimated to have reached the Brazilian coast. Quite how so many ended up making the country their new home is a matter of debate. The popular story, particularly among the Lebanese-Brazilian community, is one of divine providence. In this particular version of history, Brazil's last emperor Dom Pedro II offered the Lebanese the chance to start again in a new land. In the 1870s the emperor made two trips to the Middle East, the latter of which involved an extensive tour of Lebanon. An enlightened and kind man, legend has it that on the road to the ruins of Baalbeck he stopped at the side of the road to talk to some peasants. After hearing of their woes, he implored them to abandon the Bekaa's arid ground in favor of more luscious climes in Latin America.

Speaking at a prominent club for Lebanese expatriates in São Paulo, Amin Maalouf declared that for many, Brazil was the materialization of the Lebanese dream. It is hard to disagree with him. Perhaps more so than any other country outside of their homeland, the Lebanese run Brazil. In virtually every sector of the economy, some of the most powerful individuals can trace their lineage back to the Cedar country. Though the exact number is disputed, it is clear that there are at least 6 million Brazilians of Lebanese origin. In business, economics, culture and many other fields, Lebanese people sit at the top of



Photo of Beirut Port with ships used for migration

Brazilian society. Despite making up less than 5 percent of the population, 10 percent of parliamentarians have Lebanese origins.

Yet these migrants were not always so successful. Arriving in the late 1800s, much of the first generation brought with them nothing but the clothes on their backs. The story of how they came to make up the Brazilian elite is one of free markets, risky decisions, stigma, and above all, hard work. It is believed that the Lebanese succeeded due to a combination of an impressive work rate and natural salesmanship. By the early 1950s, the Lebanese diaspora had succeeded in becoming some of the country's top industrialists. Nowadays, the extent of Lebanese influence in Brazil is also matched by their integration. Far from being the closed community that critics called their forefathers, the Lebanese community is now highly mixed into society. In economics, politics, the arts and many other fields, those of Lebanese origin now occupy some of the top rungs of the ladder. Though their roots are now only a small part of their identity, Lebanese-Brazilians are usually incredibly proud of their heritage.



Lebanese in merica

Read more:

<http://www.everyculture.com/multi/Le-Pa/Lebanese-Americans.html#ixzz3MvdkzIKC>

The earliest immigrants from the Eastern Mediterranean to North America were generally lumped together under the common rubric of Syrian-Lebanese, and it is consequently difficult to separate the number of ethnic Lebanese immigrants from ethnic Syrian immigrants. Neither of these countries came into being as nation-states until the mid-twentieth century; thus records and statistics for both groups are generally combined for early immigration patterns. Such difficulties with early immigration records are further exacerbated because of religious affiliation, which cuts across national and ethnic lines in the region.

Immigrants from the region of Lebanon and Syria account for close to two-thirds of the estimated 2.5 million people in the United States who are of Arabic descent. Christian Lebanese were the first Arabic-speaking people to come to the Americas in large numbers. Their earliest immigration to the United States began in the late 1870s, peaked in 1914 at 9,023, dropped to a few hundred a year during World War I, and rose again during the early 1920s, fluctuating between 1,600 and 5,000. Later, with the passage of the Immigration Quota Act (1929–1965), it dropped to a few hundred a year. When the second wave of Arab immigration to the United States began in the late 1960s, the descendants of the early Lebanese immigrants were in their third generation and had almost completely assimilated into mainstream America. In the 1970s and 1980s, the Arabic-speaking population of the United States began to grow again, and Lebanese Americans assumed a higher ethnic profile.



Many factors spurred large-scale Lebanese immigration to America in the late nineteenth century. For the majority, the determining factors were economic ambition and family competition. For many Lebanese families, having a son or daughter in America became a visible mark of status. Young men were the first to emigrate, followed by young women and later wives and entire families. Some villages lost their most talented young people. Between the late 1870s and World War I (1914–1918), Lebanon lost over one quarter of its population to emigration. During World War I, it lost about another fifth to famine. Immigrants abroad played a major role in the country's postwar reconstruction and subsequent independence. The 1975–1991 war sparked a new wave of emigration from Lebanon. Many Lebanese went to Europe. Those who came to the United States reinvigorated Lebanese American ethnic life. Most of the new immigrants were better educated and were more conscious of their Arab identity than their predecessors.

Lebanese Americans have settled all over the

United States. Peddlers who traveled to New England and upstate New York communities, as well as those in the Midwest and the West, often stayed on and opened general stores. Lebanese developed important communities in Utica, New York; Boston, Lawrence, Lowell, and Springfield, Massachusetts; Fall River, Rhode Island; and Danbury, Connecticut. They also settled in New Orleans, Louisiana; Jacksonville, Florida; Detroit and Dearborn, Michigan; and Toledo, Ohio. Some of the largest concentrations of Lebanese Americans are found in the Northeast and Midwest. Detroit has one of the largest Lebanese American communities in the country, and there are new communities in Los Angeles and Houston.

By the time they began immigrating to the United States, the immigrants from Greater Syria had attended British, French, Russian, and American schools in their homeland for half a century or longer. However, the first immigrants who came to America were considered exotic—their baggy pants (*shirwal*) and fezzes made them stand out even among other immigrants. Later, when enclave living and the ubiquitous peddler made a visible presence, attitudes toward them darkened and they were even referred to as the "trash of the Mediterranean." Nevertheless, working as peddlers allowed them to meet regularly with other Americans, and helped them to quickly absorb the English language and American culture. The Lebanese adapted quickly to the American school system. Their attitudes paralleled the evolution of the attitudes of other Americans toward education. The generation of Lebanese Americans born after World War II attended college at the same rate as the rest of the nation's youth, studying business, medicine, law, pharmacy, computer science, and engineering. They worked hard to assimilate rapidly into mainstream American society and culture. Many even Anglicized their names, joined Western churches, and focused their energies on becoming financially successful. Because the vast majority of third-generation Lebanese Americans are middle class, they enjoy a higher educational level than Americans on average.



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An Analysis of the "Classic" Papers in Aesthetic Surgery

C.W. Joyce, K.M. Joyce, J.C. Kelly, J.L. Kelly, C. Sugrue. *Aesth Plast Surg* (2015) 39:8-16.

Over the past 50 years, there has been a significant increase in published articles in the medical literature. The aesthetic surgery literature is vast, consisting of a plethora of diverse articles written by a myriad of illustrious authors. Despite this considerable archive of published material, it remains nebulous as to which precise papers have had the greatest impact on our specialty. Sam Hamra has contributed with 3 papers to the top 50 most cited aesthetic papers. These were about composite rhytidectomy, the deep-plane rhytidectomy, and arcus marginalis release and orbital fat preservation in midface rejuvenation.

Medical Tourism And Cosmetic Surgery In Lebanon

Lebanon is well known among global travel circles for being the most sophisticated and cosmopolitan nation in the Middle East. Beirut, once called 'the Paris of the East,' is still an incredibly exotic and exciting destination despite the country's 16-year civil war that damaged much of the capital. Its spectacular location right on the Mediterranean boasts lovely beaches, vibrant dining and nightlife, and tempting shopping along its iconic Corniche seaside promenade.

Lebanon is bringing its ancient healing skills to the global arena as it seeks to become one of the Mediterranean's leading centers for medical tourism. With Beirut as its urban anchor, Lebanon as a savvy cosmopolitan nation has the ways and means to compete with the best in the booming medical tourism industry. The capital Beirut is where the majority of Lebanon's medical infrastructure is found. With costs significantly lower than in most developed countries and plenty of highly skilled surgeons and physicians, health care in Lebanon is an attractive prospect.

Although visitors from neighboring Arab nations make up the bulk of medical tourism patients here due to its proximity, Lebanon is strongly trying to woo more southern Europeans, Asians and North Americans to its land. Most of the foreign patients come for routine operations like plastic surgery, dental or eye care. Lebanon's hospitals are also capable of performing specialized procedures such as internal bypass surgery and other technical treatments. Its top clinics and hospitals are equipped to handle the full range of surgical procedures. Cosmetic surgery is a major component of medical tourism in Lebanon.



Lebanese Society of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery
Association of Plastic Surgeons of Lebanese Descent

LSPRAS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE



BEIRUT 2016
June 3-5



19th MBC Meeting

Euro-Mediterranean Council for Burns & Fire Disasters
10th International Humanitarian Conference
International Association for Humanitarian Medicine - IAHM

Organized with the participation of

European Burns Association - EBA
Société Française de Brûlologie - SFB



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IVth WORLD CONGRESS OF PLASTIC SURGEONS OF LEBANESE DESCENT

**In Association with the
Lebanese Society of Plastic
Reconstructive and Aesthetic
Surgery – LSPRAS**

**April 2017
SÃO PAULO - BRAZIL**

ASSOCIATION OF PLASTIC SURGEONS OF LEBANESE DESCENT