

RSNA 2008 Gold Medalists

RSNA will award three individuals its Gold Medal—RSNA's highest honor—at the 94th Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting. They are Peggy J. Fritzsche, M.D., of Redlands, Calif., Anthony V. Proto, M.D., of Richmond, Va., and Lee F. Rogers, M.D., of Tucson, Ariz.

Peggy J. Fritzsche, M.D., never doubted her bold decision—at age 8—to pursue a career in medicine. That same spirit fueled a long and successful career championing radiologic innovation and improving patient care.

"I have always admired Dr. Fritzsche," said 2008 RSNA President Theresa C. McLoud, M.D. "She has been a strong leader in organized radiology and a creative and tireless worker. She has emphasized the commitment that radiology as a specialty must make to improving communications with our patients and referring clinicians."

Said Dr. Fritzsche, a professor of radiology at Loma Linda University, "It is an honor to be recognized for the innovation, vision, whatever it is that I have been able to contribute to further the cause of radiology and RSNA."

Dr. Fritzsche was medical director of Riverside MRI Center in Riverside, Calif., from 1991 to 2004, and established her reputation as a pioneer in private practice by introducing advanced MR imaging techniques into the community setting. Her prototype office design made patient comfort a priority and became a model for MR practice in the 1990s.

Dr. Fritzsche has also conducted innovative research into urologic radiology and MR imaging, particularly related to contrast material use and to procedures such as percutaneous nephrostomy and ureteral stent placement.

An RSNA member since 1978, Dr. Fritzsche joined the RSNA Board of Directors in 1995, advocating expanded public communication efforts. She helped launch the public information Web site *RadiologyInfo.org* and chaired the committee responsible for RSNA's 3-year radiology exhibit at Disney's Epcot Tech-

nology and Science Center in Orlando, Fla. In 2003, she became RSNA's second female president.

Dr. Fritzsche is a past-president of the American Association for Women Radiologists, an honorary member of the



Peggy J. Fritzsche, M.D.

European Society of Radiology, and a corresponding honorary member of the Swiss Radiological Society. She has even made time to learn to fly an acrobatic plane. While she has since hung up her pilot's jacket, she talks fondly of the constant urge to learn something new.

"There is always a cutting-edge aspect to radiology and I'm not afraid of change," said Dr. Fritzsche. "It's a very dynamic and exciting field."

As *Radiology* editor, **Anthony V. Proto, M.D.**, showed a particular sense of pride in implementing and upholding standards for consistency, accuracy and intellectual integrity.

While most radiologists know Dr. Proto from his *Radiology* role, he has also had a distinguished career as a thoracic radiologist, said 2008 RSNA President Theresa C. McLoud, M.D. "During my own career I have highly valued our friendship, professional collaboration and mentorship," she said. "During his tenure as editor of *Radiology*, he brought the journal to new heights through his visionary leadership, dynamism and dedication to the task at hand."

Said Dr. Proto, "Being honored with the RSNA Gold Medal is an event that will never fade from my memory, an event I will always cherish."

Dr. Proto is a tenured professor of radiology at the Medical College of Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he served as chair of the Department of Radiology from 1990 to 1997.

As the sixth editor of *Radiology*, serving from 1997 to 2007, Dr. Proto brought major transformations to the journal. He reformed its authorship criteria, streamlined the peer-review process, transitioned to an online version of the journal and an online submissions system, implemented a requirement for manuscript review by statisticians and helped establish *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* for reviewers. In 2006 he introduced the journal design scheme nicknamed the "New Gray," along with a new layout, features and sections to help busy readers glean information more efficiently.

Dr. Proto received his medical degree from Yale Medical School in 1971 and completed a residency and surgical internship at the State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a training officer (Major) and chief of diagnostic and chest radiology at the Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center at San Antonio's Lackland Air Force Base. He was also a clinical associate professor of radiology at The University of Texas Health Science Center.

An RSNA member since 1973, Dr. Proto has been a trustee and assistant executive director of the American Board of Radiology and is a senior member of the Fleischner Society. He has been awarded honorary membership in the Rocky

Mountain Radiological Society, Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society, Canadian Association of Radiologists, Italian Society of Medical Radiology and Chicago Radiological Society.



Anthony V. Proto, M.D.

Lee F. Rogers, M.D., is an expert in skeletal trauma imaging in adults and children and a diligent advocate for the responsible practice of radiology.

“Dr. Rogers is truly a renaissance man in radiology—he has served in numerous capacities,” said 2008 RSNA President Theresa C. McLoud, M.D. “To his friends and professional colleagues he is perhaps most admired for his unflinching good humor, collegiality and high sense of professionalism. Dr. Rogers has had a significant impact on my professional life. He has been a mentor to me and many others over the years.”

Said Dr. Rogers, “It is a distinct honor and privilege to receive the RSNA Gold Medal and to have my name added to that impressive roster of outstanding radiologists who have been previously so recognized.”

Dr. Rogers, a clinical professor of radiology at the University of Arizona School of Health Sciences in Tucson, was editor-in-chief of the *American Journal*

of Roentgenology (AJR) from 1995 to 2004. His two-volume text, *Radiology of Skeletal Trauma*, is considered “must” reading by scholars across the world.

He received his medical degree from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago in 1959 and served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps as chief of radiology at Second General Hospital in Landstuhl, Germany.

Dr. Rogers was a professor and chair of the Department of Radiology at Northwestern for more than 21 years. He was named I. Meschan Distinguished Professor of Radiology at Wake Forest University School of Medicine in 1995, the same year he became *AJR* editor.

His editorials in *AJR* often called for responsibility, cooperative standards and integrity among radiologists.

An RSNA member since 1966, Dr. Rogers has served as president of the American College of Radiology (ACR), American Board of Radiology, American Roentgen

Ray Society (ARRS), Chicago Radiological Society (CRS), Association of University Radiologists (AUR) and Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments, as well as first vice-president of RSNA.

Dr. Rogers is an honorary member of a dozen radiological societies, including the American Society of Neuroradiology, American Association for Women Radiologists and the Society for Pediatric Radiology. He has been awarded gold medals from ACR, ARRS, AUR, CRS and American Society of Emergency Radiology.

For expanded versions of the biographies of Drs. Fritzsche, Proto and Rogers, see the *RSNA Meeting Program* or go to RSNA2008.RSNA.org and click Meeting Program in the left-hand column.



Lee F. Rogers, M.D.

