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South Dakota State

Orthopaedic Society Newsletter

WINTER 2017

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President's Letter
- 2017 Annual Meeting
- New Board of Directors 2016-2017
- BOC Reports
- New BOC Representative
- A Note from Mark Wheeler, MD
- Membership Reminder

President's Letter - Robert Woodruff, MD



As we put 2016 behind us and look forward to 2017, I thought that I would update everyone on where we have been and where I see us going in the coming year. As a society, I feel that we are making strides in our maturation process and I want you all to be informed.

Last Spring, Steve Eckrich, Pete Looby, and I attended the National Orthopedic Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. This is an amazing event where we have the opportunity to sit down with staff from our senators' and representative's offices to discuss issues that directly influence our profession. Unfortunately, Congress was out of session so we did not have the opportunity to talk face-to-face with our elected officials, but it turned out that this was a blessing in disguise. We had more time to spend with each staff in a relaxed environment. I think that this really helped and the results showed as Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act finally passed in the House after several years. If enacted into law, this will allow physicians to cross state lines with their teams and still be covered by their malpractice insurance. This spring, I look forward to attending the NOLC again as I think that this year could be a very active legislative session and we will have the opportunity to have several more bills passed that will positively affect orthopedic surgeons everywhere.

We capped off 2016 with our most successful and highly attended SDSOS meeting at Sutton Bay. In fact, because of the success, our board has decided that we have outgrown the venue. I am excited about the opportunity to continue to grow our numbers at this year's meeting at The Prairie Club in Valentine, NE in the last week of August. This new location allows us the opportunity to house more members on site, give us expanded meeting space, increase the number of CME credits that we will be able to offer, and possibly allow us to partner with our Nebraska counterparts to continue to expand our meeting in the future. Unlimited golf is only an added bonus! I encourage as many of you to attend as possible.

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President's letter continued.....

On the horizon there are a few other projects that could positively affect our society down the road. I am looking into creating a SDSOS PAC, which would allow us to take a more active role in state legislative issues as we see fit. It may not be a frequently used tool, but if another IM 17 comes our way or if one of our members decides to run for state office, we will be prepared to fully support our interests. I am excited about the opportunities that this will afford us!

Speaking of PACs, I cannot pass up the opportunity to put in a plug for the Orthopedic PAC. This is our most powerful and effective way to support orthopedic issues on a federal level. A small contribution goes a long way and the PAC proved to be very successful in the last election, boasting a nearly perfect winning record of supporting both Democratic and Republican candidates that show promise to advocate for our profession in Congress. That kind of success needs to be built upon and takes minimal time and money. Just text "AAOS" to 41444 and the prompts will take it from there.

I wish you all a Happy New Year! 2017 is going to be a year of growth for the SDSOS. We will be able to increase participation and collaboration between all of our members for the greater good of orthopedic surgery in South Dakota. I hope to have the opportunity to work with each and every one of you to make our society the best that it can be!

2017 Annual Meeting Venue Has Changed!!!!



The Prairie Club

Come and join your leadership at the Annual Meeting, August 25-27 at the Prairie Club, Valentine, NE.

This change was necessitated by the size of the meeting. This is an extremely good problem to have. In order to accommodate all of our members, guest speakers and exhibitors, we needed to find a larger venue with larger meeting rooms and ample sleeping rooms.

The Prairie Club comes highly recommended and even though it is located in Nebraska, the distance is about the same as it was for Sutton Bay from either Sioux Falls or Rapid City. And for the mid-state folks, it will be a bit farther, but we are sure the trip will be worthwhile!

Dr. Rob Woodruff is working hard on the program and is actively looking for ways to include more CME credits for attendees.

So mark your calendars and watch for updates. Make sure you attend the Annual Meeting on **AUGUST 25-27 AT THE PRAIRIE CLUB, VALENTINE, NE.**

New Board of Directors 2016-2017

At the 2016 Annual Meeting, the following Board of Directors was elected.

The SDSOS says thank you to the Board for their commitment to the SDSOS in giving of their time and resources to ensure a healthy state society.



PRESIDENT Robert Woodruff, MD



SECRETARY/TREASURER Gregory Alvine, MD



PRESIDENT—ELECT Geoffrey Haft, MD



MEMBER-AT-LARGE Keith Baumgarten, MD



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT & BOC REPRESENTATIVE Peter Looby, MD

2016 Report Board of Councilors Report ... Stephen Eckrich, MD



The Fall Meeting is one of the AAOS' most prominent leadership events. The event provides forums for the Board of Councilors (BOC) and the Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) to conduct their business, such as open hearings, business meetings, and committee meetings. Members of the AAOS Board of Directors, the Leadership Fellows Program, the Resident Assembly and physicians and staff from several state orthopaedic societies participate in the AAOS Fall Meeting as well. In all, two hundred twenty-two (222) people, excluding staff members, attended the 2016 Fall Meeting in Rosemont, Illinois this past October.

At the time of the meeting, Election Day was still two weeks away, and although the meeting didn't dwell on the possible outcomes, many of the topics of discussion involved the myriad of changes in health care regulation including MACRA, Bundled Payment Initiatives (BPI), Alternative Payment Models (APM's), the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and a whole host of more acronyms. How quickly and to what extent these programs change with the new administration is still anyone's guess, but it is likely that many of them will change dramatically. The nomination of orthopedic surgeon Tom Price, MD for Secretary of HHS is especially important. He is a long-time member of the AAOS and has received strong support throughout his career from the AAOS PAC. I have met him several times at various BOC related functions, and like most orthopedic surgeons, he is smart, personable and very goal oriented.

This is my last column as your Board of Councilors Representative. The past six years have gone by much quicker than I ever realized. My goal has always been to keep you informed of what goes on in the background of the AAOS, the Board of Orthopedic Surgery, and the government at all levels that ultimately affects our ability to practice orthopedic surgery and take great care of our patients. I have learned that things don't occur in a vacuum; there are thousands of your colleagues from all over the nation quietly advocating for you and your patients. One may not be happy with the direction that health care is going and long for "...the good old days", but those days, and our future days, are dependent upon every one of us participating in some way outside of just going to work and seeing patients. Here are some suggestions: download and view the new video describing the work of the Board of Councilors on your behalf (www.aaos.org/About/Board_of_Councilors/);. Log on to the AAOS website and periodically peruse the Committee Appointment Program as opportunities are continually added. Read AAOS Now. Donate to the PAC. Attend the State Orthopedic Society meeting. Don't be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone and explore. The best part about getting involved is the people you will meet; orthopedic surgeons are the coolest, most interesting, and driven people you will ever encounter.

Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to represent you on the Board of Councilors, and welcome to Peter Looby, MD who will take over after the Annual Meeting in San Diego.

BOARD OF COUNCILORS REPRESENTATIVE.....Peter Looby, MD



Congratulations to Dr. Peter Looby. He was elected to serve as the DSOS Representative on the Board of Councilors for a three-year term (2017-2019). He will be eligible for re-election for the following three years.

A huge thank-you to Dr. Steve Eckrich for filling this position for the past six years. He has represented South Dakota very well and has committed a major chunk of time the BOC. We appreciate all of his efforts in our behalf. THANK YOU DR. ECKRICH!!

A Note from Mark Wheeler, MD



I am taking a break from the South Dakota winter by traveling to Tanzania for two weeks with Hope Ministries from Elk Point. This will be my fourth straight year to participate. Steve Eckrich will be accompanying us and I am looking forward to having his expertise and support. The trips

are always challenging, rewarding, and sometime frustrating. The challenge is in the types of orthopedic cases – fresh trauma (sometimes machetes or lion maulings), old neglected trauma (6-month old knee dislocations), congenital deformities, metabolic disease (rickets and floridosis), osteomyelitis (both acute and chronic), and many spine problems which are usually untreated. Also a major challenge is the lack of equipment and diagnostic tools which can make the simple cases hard.

The rewards are in helping people who have no other options and are too poor to access outside treatment. The people of Tanzania are truly what keep me coming back in that they are so appreciative, friendly, and happy even with their health and economic problems. Hope Ministries emphasis is on education of the professional people – orthopedic surgeons (there are 40 in a country of 40 million), residents, medical students, nurses, and other hospital staff. These people are unbelievably receptive and interested in any instruction. And I am always amazed on how much I learn from them.

Every trip brings frustration mainly with the inability to treat some cases due to lack of equipment and supplies or the disease process is too far advanced.

The patients still thank us for just evaluating and seeing them.

Bugando Hospital in Mwanza started an orthopedic residency program 2 years ago. This area has 4 orthopedic surgeons in an area of 16 million people. Qualified applicants have to pay \$2,500 US per applicant each year which is a prohibitive fee for most, and often prevents good doctors from entering the program. The Iowa Orthopedic Society has sponsored two residents for the last two years and I have personally sponsored another. I strongly feel that education is what will make the long term difference in this third world country and what better way for a society to spend some extra money. Would the South Dakota Orthopedic Society consider a scholarship?

Hope Ministries has two trips a year and can always use medical help. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about traveling to a great country or donating

NOLC Conference

National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference

This meeting will be held in Washington DC on April 26-29. Those attending representing SDSOS will be Dr. Gregory Alvine, Dr. Robert Woodruff and Dr. Peter Looby. The delegation will meet with the South Dakota legislators for a discussion regarding pertinent issues in the state and nation.

Membership

Membership In the SDSOS continues to be strong. For 2016, the society had 73 dues-paying members. This compares to 75 in 2015 and 64 in 2014.

Lets aim for 80 in 2017!!

If you have new partners or are aware of any new physicians in the state, please encourage them to be a part of the SDSOS, please get their name(s) and contact information to Mary Bechler.

mbechler@cableone.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

PRESIDENT;.....Robert Woodruff, MD, Rapid City, SD

PRESIDENT ELECTGeoffrey Haft, MD, Sioux Falls, SD

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT.....Peter Looby, MD, Sioux Falls SD

SECRETARY/TREASURER.....Gregory Alvine, MD, Sioux Falls, SD

MEMBER-AT-LARGE.....Keith Baumgarten, MD, Sioux Falls, SD

AAOS BOARD OF COUNCILORS & SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

MEDICAL SOCIETY REP.....Peter Looby, MD, Sioux Falls, SD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Mary A. Bechler, FACMPE

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Please feel free to contact any of the above or your Executive Director, Mary Bechler, if you have any issues, concerns, or good ideas for the society.

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