2012 ANNUAL MEETING—MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Date: September 28-30, 2012
Meeting Location: SUTTON BAY
28950 Sutton Bay Trail
Agar, SD

Located in the heart of South Dakota, Sutton Bay sits along one of the most beautiful lakes you have ever laid eyes on ... Lake Oahe. Come relax in the solitude of the prairie.

The clinical conference will feature:

John Sperling, MD, MBA, Mayo Clinic, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Sperling has a Fellowship in Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery.

Keith Baumgarten, MD, Orthopaedic Institute of Sioux Falls, will also be presenting. Dr. Baumgarten specializes in Upper Extremity and Sports Medicine.

Joshua Jacobs, MD, Chicago, IL will be presenting an AAOS Update.

The Planning Committee is also trying to secure either Governor Daugaard or Lt. Governor Matt Michaels to be a part of the meeting.

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Friday, Sept 28
5:00 pm    Gathering time and cocktails
6:30    Dinner
8:00    Interesting Cases - Dr. Steve Eckrich

Saturday - Sept 29
7:00 am    Breakfast
8:00    John W. Sperling, M.D. - "Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty: Tips and Tricks"
8:45    Keith Baumgarten, M.D. - "Findings of the MOON Shoulder Consortium"
9:30    Coffee Break
9:50    Josh Jacobs, M.D. - "AAOS Update"
10:30    Business Meeting
11:00    Recess for activities
4:00 pm    John W. Sperling, M.D. "Shoulder Arthritis in the Young Adult: Arthroscopy to Arthroplasty"
4:45    Keith Baumgarten, M.D. - "The Use of Human Growth Hormone for Injury Recovery"
5:30    Cocktails and dinner
7:30    Governor Daugaard OR Interesting cases

Sunday, Sept 30
7:00 am    Breakfast
8:30    Adjournment

All in all, the meeting is shaping up well — so mark your calendar and plan to attend. CME credits are available for this conference. Sutton Bay offers many recreational opportunities, hunting, fishing, golf, sporting clays!!

Brochures and registration information will be available in late spring. Hope to see you there!!
SUTTON BAY — ACTIVITIES

Rated 85th Top Golf Course in the US —
By Golf Magazine

Excellent Hunting, Fishing and Sporting Clays Available

Pontoon Rides and Spa Services

Come relax and enjoy the solitude of the prairie!!!
This year’s annual meeting in San Francisco marked my first year as South Dakota’s member on the AAOS Board of Councilors. There are 97 total councilors, and about 20 new councilors are seated each year; we are required to attend the three BOC meetings that are held during the year. I have attended the National Orthopedic Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., the Fall meeting in Seattle, and the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The most compelling thing that I have learned during this year is that even though the BOC is officially only an advisory body to the AAOS Board of Directors, it wields great influence on the actions of the BOD. Two of the most notable areas of influence this past year relate first to our Board recertification process, the “MOC” or Maintenance of Certification, and the second is the complete turn-around that the Department of Justice has taken on anti-trust issues.

**Maintenance of Certification:** The American Board of Orthopedic Surgery (ABOS) representatives have heard an earful, (and probably went home with stinging gluteals) regarding the confusion and miscommunication regarding the entire MOC process. Several State Orthopedic societies presented formal resolutions urging the AAOS to step in and significantly change, or even eliminate the ABOS’s role in Board certification. To their credit, the ABOS representatives provided a detailed history of the development of the MOC process. The MOC process is not unique to Orthopedic Surgery, and in fact all specialty Boards have been directed by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) to develop a process that demonstrates four key elements:

1. Demonstration of Professional Standing (State licensure, hospital privileges, etc)
2. Demonstration of on-going learning (CME courses, self assessment exams)
3. Demonstration of cognitive knowledge (test, either written or oral)
4. Demonstration of Performance in Practice (3 month case lists in most cases)

During the times of heated discussions, it became clear that the ABOS has done a poor job communicating the underlying impetus for the changes, as well as coordinating and facilitating appropriate record keeping required to comply with the process. As you may know, you can quite easily enter and track your CME credits on the AAOS website. Unfortunately, the ABOS has not had the ability to simultaneously gather this information and use it to track a physician’s progress during the MOC process. The Academy and the ABOS have committed to develop means by which the MOC requirements can be tracked through the Academy’s database. Additionally, they committed to develop “ticklers”, or periodic e-mail notifications to physicians to let them know where they stand in the process and when important deadlines are approaching. All of these improvements came directly from input to the Board of Councilor’s through the various State orthopedic societies.

**Governmental Role in Anti Trust issues:** This is a fascinating story of grass roots politics at it’s best and I cannot do it justice in this short article. BOC member Michael Connair, MD from Connecticut has championed this cause for years, and it seemed a quixotic quest. Several years ago, the Idaho and New Jersey Orthopedic societies were both targets of DOJ investigations and though never prosecuted, both organizations and their physician leaders spent huge amounts of money defending themselves from the DOJ “witch-hunt”. Despite the aggressive posture the DOJ had against physicians, they have never investigated the activities of insurers or hospitals despite allegations of anti-competitive behavior. Dr. Connair, with the support of the Orthopedic PAC, held a fundraiser for Rep. Conyers (D-MI) who happened to be the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. It turned out to be a very successful event, which, not coincidentally, featured one of Mr. Conyer’s favorite jazz bands. He subsequently chaired a hearing before his committee where he excoriated the leaders of the DOJ after they admitted that although they have investigated numerous physicians for alleged anti-competitive behavior, they were unable to come up with a single instance where similar investigations were held against health insurers. This has lead to a major shake-up in the DOJ and the development of a list of potentially anti-competitive activities on the part of insurers or hospitals which would prompt DOJ investigation. I refer you to the December, 2011 issue of AAOS NOW, or see the link, [http://www.aaos.org/news/aaosnow/dec11/advocacy5_t1.pdf](http://www.aaos.org/news/aaosnow/dec11/advocacy5_t1.pdf).
There is now a bill in the House of Representatives (HB 1409), which will exempt physicians from the anti-trust laws that are currently in place. Again, this is a story of a few orthopedic surgeons coordinating their efforts through the BOC, using the Orthopedic PAC in a very effective manner, to positively impact the practice of all orthopedic surgeons.

Finally, I am in the process of creating a brief presentation about the organization of the AAOS, its Board of Councilors, and a synopsis of the major issues that are currently being studied. With all the kind of activities to which I travel around the State, I hope to take this road show with me and present it to as many of the State’s orthopedic surgeons as possible. I look forward to hearing what is on your mind.

National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC)

The NOLC is scheduled for April 25-28, 2012 in Washington, DC. Dr. Stephen Eckrich will be representing SDSOS as the Board of Councilors Representative and the SDSOS President. Other attendees are Drs. Rick Little, Patrick Miller and Bryan DenHartog, as well as Mary Bechler. The NOLC gives the delegation an opportunity to spend quality time “on the hill” with the legislators to discuss issues that are near and dear to the hearts of orthopaedic surgeons.

SDSOS Officers

Officers for 2012 will remain the same as the 2011 slate. The Executive Committee tried to draft some “new blood”, but was not successful. Plans are on hold on election for 2013 officers at the September Business meeting. If you are interested in being a part of the board or would like to nominate someone for a board position, please contact either Dr. Eckrich or Mary Bechler.

MEMBERSHIP

The board is happy to report that membership numbers are remaining very stable for 2012. Thank you to those of you who have supported the organization with your dues check. If any of you have new partners or know of someone who is not a current member, please encourage them to join. Dues are $200 per year and as the legislative and external issues become more of an infringement on private practice, it becomes all that much more important to be a part of the state society. There truly is strength in numbers!!
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ......... 2012

PRESIDENT ................................. Stephen Eckrich, M.D, Rapid City, SD
VICE PRESIDENT ............................ Richard Little, MD, Spearfish, SD
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AAOS BOARD OF COUNCILORS & SOUTH DAKOTA STATE
MEDICAL SOCIETY REP................... Stephen Eckrich, MD, Rapid City, SD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ................. Mary A. Bechler, FACMPE
Sioux City, IA
Email: mbechler@cableone.net

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.
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY, PO BOX 1901, Sioux City, IA 51102-1901

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