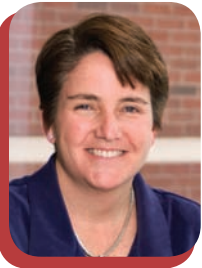




# IN~STRIDE

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Judith F. Baumhauer,  
MD, MPH

Dear Colleagues,  
I am writing to you from the AAOS Fall Meeting in Seattle. This meeting brings together the AAOS Board of Councilors (BOC), Board of Specialties (BOS), and Academy leaders. It is

impressive to see the number of AOFAS members volunteering in orthopaedic leadership!

We now have three AOFAS members – Steve Ross, Naomi Shields, and David Teuscher – on the AAOS Board of Directors. David Teuscher is chair of the BOC, which is made up of representatives from the state orthopaedic societies. David has put together an outstanding program at this AAOS Fall Meeting. At the BOS meeting, Steve Ross was voted in as chair-elect of the BOS. Additionally, we have AOFAS members serving as vice chairs of three BOS committees: Mike Aronow – Fellowship Oversight

Committee; Bryan Den Hartog – Communications Committee; and Ruth Thomas – Education Committee. Other AOFAS members are here representing their state orthopaedic associations: Chris Chiodo (MA), John DiPreta (NY), John Early (TX), and Kurt Kunkel (WI). Matt Roberts is here as one of the AAOS Leadership Fellows. Indeed, AOFAS members are involved and making a difference in orthopaedics.

One of our exciting new initiatives this year is the national foot and ankle data collection pilot project. It is being organized through the Research Committee, chaired by Tim Daniels, with an initial work group led by Nelson Soohoo, and based on an idea brought to the Board by Ian Alexander. With input from the entire committee, as well as Ian and Charlie Saltzman, the AOFAS is identifying data elements and developing forms for the pilot using state-of-the-art computerized adaptive testing data collection techniques and reporting systems developed by Northwestern University under an NIH grant. The goal

is to develop an instrument that can be tested in a pilot study and later opened to AOFAS members to collect their own data, compare themselves to a larger data pool, and use their data to satisfy ABOS requirements for Maintenance of Certification (MOC). This exciting project is a tremendous step forward for the AOFAS that I anticipate will provide real value for our members.

*These are good times for the AOFAS with positive, forward-thinking initiatives being advanced by our dedicated members.*

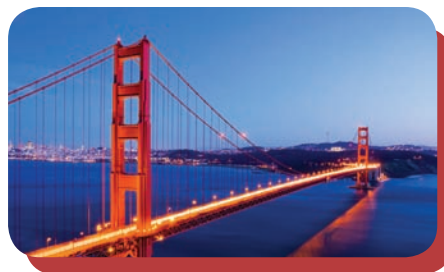
Fellowship applications for the 2012 match are running strong, and we are on course to having the largest pool of applicants for foot and ankle fellowships ever. Influencing this boom in applications are resident outreach initiatives started two years ago with funding provided by the OEF.

*continued on page 7*

## Understanding Complications: Specialty Day Program 2012 Saturday, February 11, 7 am – 5 pm

The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual AOFAS Specialty Day, held on the last day of the AAOS Annual Meeting in San Francisco, will be chaired by Gregory Berlet, MD. Presented in Room 2005 at the Moscone Convention Center West, the meeting format combines original research presentations and symposia dedicated to the prevention and management of complications.

“Attendees will receive solid information compressed into one non-stop day of education – including practical symposia full of practical pearls,” says Dr. Berlet. “The faculty will focus on complications of common and select complex surgical procedures, offering relevant take-home points for both the general and foot and ankle surgeon. I am confident our audience will leave Specialty Day with the



confidence that they are doing the right thing or armed with new concepts they can readily apply.”

For the second consecutive year, the program will include the Foot and Ankle Journal Club session, created around the invited faculty’s choice of the most provocative and important articles from the past year.

*continued on page 6*

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AMERICAN ORTHOPAEDIC  
FOOT & ANKLE SOCIETY.

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## Baumhauer on tour

Foot injury prevention advice and the voice of AOFAS President Judy Baumhauer, MD, reached more than eight million radio listeners across the country in September through the collaborative efforts of the AOFAS and the AAOS. The AOFAS and the Academy teamed up to produce a radio media tour titled "Take the Stress (Fracture) Out of Your Workout: Take it Slow While Running or Exercising."

The tour featured Dr. Baumhauer's participation in 17 radio shows (seven live) hitting national and local markets nationwide. Questions from reporters focused on how to prevent foot injuries while running or working out, what to look for in a running shoe, proper posture for running, barefoot running, and more. Dr. Baumhauer spent four hours fielding questions from reporters, panelists, and callers.

## CNN is on the line

Have you ever felt unprepared when interviewed by a news reporter asking tough questions? Do you equate the media interview with a trip to the dentist for a root canal? If so, AOFAS media relations staff can help.

The AOFAS provides members with resources to use when approached by the media for an interview on a foot-related topic or for comment on a foot-related news story. Resources include:

- Talking points on specific foot-related topics
- Tips on how to handle the TV interview
- Tips for handling the radio interview
- General media interviewing techniques.

Outreach to the media benefits all members by increasing public awareness of the medical expertise of orthopaedic foot and ankle surgeons.

The AOFAS builds relationships with the media through news releases, member interviews, pitching story ideas, and providing AOFAS spokespersons on specific foot and ankle topics. For more information, contact Peggy Reilly at [preilly@aofas.org](mailto:preilly@aofas.org).

**AOFAS**

**AOFAS**

## AOFAS Annual Meeting – Save the date

The 28<sup>th</sup> AOFAS Annual Meeting will take place June 20-23, 2012 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel in San Diego, California, where stimulating, comprehensive educational programs will provide the perfect complement to the intensity and excitement of this year's host city. San Diego, with its idyllic climate, exceptional beauty, fine dining, and array of entertainment is waiting to be enjoyed by adults and children alike.

"Superb educational opportunities, the latest in products and services, networking with colleagues and long-time friends, and all that San Diego has to offer ... it all adds up to the premier annual AOFAS event," says AOFAS President Judy Baumhauer, MD.

### Regenerative Strategies Course leads the way

Begin your educational experience by attending the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Pre-meeting Course, this year focusing on Regenerative Strategies, on Wednesday, June 20. Co-chaired by Drs. Sheldon Lin and Eric Giza, this in-depth, pre-conference symposium will include three main sessions covering regenerative strategies related to foot and ankle surgery. Sessions will consist of featured lectures designed to take each of the three topics from basic science to medical technology and a final progression to clinical practice. Case presentations will wrap up each session in an evidence-based format.

"This course and its separate symposia will support research and evidence-based medicine," says Dr. Lin.

"The expansion of foot and ankle surgery is directly dependent upon data and this will be addressed from conception to application in clinical practice," adds Dr. Giza. Based on the success of past Pre-meeting Courses, this one will again include non-CME industry-presented satellite symposia between sessions.

### Annual Meeting filled with programming innovations

The three days of programming following the Pre-meeting Course are highlighted by scientific paper presentations, guest speakers, research updates, symposia, electronic poster displays, and an Exhibit Hall featuring the latest technical innovations and devices. AOFAS Program Chair Gregory Berlet, MD, has developed

a meeting that will deliver a dynamic and diverse educational program.

"The opportunities for scientific exchange and debate are endless and we promise programming on cutting-edge techniques presented by our specialty's innovators and entrepreneurs," says Dr. Berlet.

The program is formatted to balance proven and innovative techniques; invited speakers will be encouraged to present a wide range of clinical outcomes based on evidence and scientific research. Plans are underway to make the e-Poster stations more interactive, to continue last year's success with the newly created Research Forum, and to provide attendees with more opportunities to interact with industry partners.

"The Program Committee is working hard to incorporate what the members want from this meeting, and I have no doubt this meeting will offer something for everyone. I encourage all of you to submit your ongoing research for consideration," says Dr. Berlet.

### Growing with the times

"This year's meeting will again include emphasis on the use of social media and related technology to provide information on our specialty and the meeting itself," says Dr. Berlet.

To further enhance your experience before, during and after the meeting, a dedicated Annual Meeting mobile application is being developed that will be compatible with your laptop, iPad or tablet PC, and smartphone.

Watch for more information about this in the coming months and be prepared to bring your favorite electronic device to the meeting. And don't worry – if you are new to this mobile technology application, the AOFAS will have a Help Desk in the Exhibit Hall to help you utilize the app to get the most out of the meeting.

### Welcome to paradise

San Diego, well known as a user-friendly city with a centrally located airport and sophisticated meeting facilities, is one of the country's most desirable and multi-purpose destinations. The Hilton San Diego Bayfront, perfectly positioned at the water's edge, delivers both an unobstructed view of the sparkling San Diego Bay and easy access to just about



Gaslamp Quarter



USS Midway



Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel

everything: dining, shopping, activities, touring, etc.

Just steps from the hotel's front door you'll find the historic Gaslamp Quarter, Seaport Village, PETCO Park – home to the San Diego Padres, Horton Plaza, and more. A short ferry ride brings travelers to unique Coronado Island to enjoy its beautiful beaches and fine dining. For convenience and fun, board the Old Town Trolley to numerous attractions and activities including the USS Midway Museum, Little Italy, Old Town, the museums and gardens in Balboa Park, and the world famous San Diego Zoo with its affiliated Wild Animal Park. The opportunities for you and your family are truly limitless.

### Social events add the icing on the cake

Plans are underway for social events designed to enhance your week with additional networking opportunities, entertainment, a chance to cut loose and enjoy the surroundings, and time to relax and recharge. You will want to take advantage of all scheduled activities:

- **Welcome Reception** – Following the Pre-meeting Course on Wednesday and before you head to dinner on the town, stop by the opening of the expansive Exhibit Hall to preview the innovative products and services exhibiting companies are eager to share with you to enhance your practice. Enjoy appetizers and beverages and good conversation with friends and company representatives. This event is free and open to all registered meeting attendees and their registered guests (age 16 and over).
- **Bayside Gala** – On Friday night, after a great day of learning, enjoy a spectacular outdoor dinner event on the Hilton Bayfront's beautiful grounds overlooking the San Diego Bay. The hotel's idyllic Waterfront Park setting will be filled with the sound of conversation, laughter, music, children enjoying activities, and much more. Keep this night open to join in the fun. More information coming soon.
- **Steppin' Up for the Cause: OEF Auction Benefit** – The annual fundraising event for the AOFAS Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) will be held during the Bayside Gala. Be ready to bid

on the fun and unique Silent Auction items and then raise your bidding paddle high during the Live Auction segment. Thanks to a generous outpouring from members, donated items are rapidly accumulating for the event, including tickets to a Boston Red Sox game at Fenway Park, rooftop tickets for a Cubs game at Wrigley Field, vacation weeks at private homes around the country, time share getaway destinations like Orlando (Disneyworld), and more. Complete details are forthcoming and items will be on display prior to the event. If you wish to donate an item for the auction, please contact Lois Bierman, [LBierman@aofas.org](mailto:LBierman@aofas.org); all (tax deductible) auction gifts are appreciated.

### Watch for more information

The complete educational program, including information about additional learning opportunities, access to meeting registration, housing reservation details, travel suggestions, local transportation information, and the social activities schedule will be available in early February. Visit the AOFAS website at [www.aofas.org/annualmeeting](http://www.aofas.org/annualmeeting) for the most current updates and watch your e-mail and standard mail for ongoing meeting announcements. Annual Meeting registration will open in February.

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Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel



Waterfront Park

## Annual Meeting abstract deadline: January 4, 2012

The deadline to submit an abstract for the 28<sup>th</sup> AOFAS Annual Meeting in San Diego, California is Wednesday, January 4, 2012. Abstracts may be submitted for podium presentation and/or e-Poster presentation in the following categories:

- Ankle
- Ankle Arthritis
- Basic Science / Biologics
- Diabetes
- Hindfoot
- Midfoot / Forefoot
- Sports
- Trauma
- Other

During the online submission process authors will be asked to enter the name of the presenting author, the presenting author's contact information, and the

names and e-mail addresses of all co-authors. The presenting author's e-mail address is the sole method of communication so please ensure it is accurate. In addition to pertinent contact information, authors must disclose any relevant conflicts of interest they, or any of their co-authors, may have with the content of their proposed presentation. There is a limit of 500 words for each abstract and a single image or table may be uploaded for each submission. Abstracts will be reviewed in a blinded fashion by the AOFAS Program Committee and notifications of presentation confirmation will be distributed by the end of February.

To submit an abstract, visit [www.aofas.org/annualmeeting](http://www.aofas.org/annualmeeting) for more information and submission instructions.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES Current as of 11-15-11

### January 4, 2012 – Abstract Submission Deadline: [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org)

For Annual Meeting 2012 (June 20-23, 2012 – San Diego, California)

AOFAS Members: Login to [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) for convenient online registration at member rates.

**January 2012** (date / time to be announced)

#### AOFAS WEBINAR SERIES

##### WEBINAR 1: THE BEST OF AOFAS MEETINGS

Hosted by: *Steven Haddad, MD*

Information and registration: [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org)

### February 11, 2012

#### AOFAS SPECIALTY DAY

Program Chair: *Gregory Berlet, MD*

The Moscone Center West – San Francisco, California

Program: [www.aofas.org/specialtyday](http://www.aofas.org/specialtyday)

Housing and Registration: [www.aaos.org](http://www.aaos.org)



Moscone Center West  
Photo by John Louie

### May 3-5, 2012

#### AOFAS ADVANCED FOOT AND ANKLE COURSE

Course Chair: *Bruce Sangeorzan, MD*

Wyndham Chicago – Chicago, Illinois

Information and registration: [www.aofas.org/advancedfoot](http://www.aofas.org/advancedfoot)

### June 20-23, 2012

#### AOFAS 28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Program Chair: *Gregory Berlet, MD*

##### Pre-meeting Course: Cartilage and Other Regenerative Strategies

Course Chairs: *Sheldon Lin, MD, and Eric Giza, MD*

Hilton San Diego Bayfront – San Diego, California

Information and registration available February 2012

Abstract Submission Deadline: January 4, 2012: [www.aofas.org/annualmeeting](http://www.aofas.org/annualmeeting)



Hilton San Diego Bayfront

### September 28-29, 2012

#### AOFAS COMPLETE FOOT CARE COURSE

Course Chair: *Steven Neufeld, MD*

Fairfax, Virginia

Information and registration available early 2012

### September 29-30, 2012

#### MASTERS EXPERIENCE: FOOT & ANKLE ARTHROSCOPY

Sponsors: *AANA and AOFAS*

Orthopaedic Learning Center – Rosemont, Illinois

Information and registration: [www.aana.org](http://www.aana.org)

[www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org)

Visit often to view the most current program information

## Specialty Day *continued from page 1*

Specialty Day lectures and session include the following topics:

- Motor Sport Injuries: Understanding the mechanism and picking up the pieces
- Definition of a Complication: Is it in the eye of the beholder?
- Reconstructing Soft Tissue Defects of the Foot and Ankle: The ortho-plastic approach
- Patients as Partners: Opportunities for self-management
- AOFAS Research Grant Updates
- Focused Sessions on Articular Complications of Ankle Fractures; Syndesmosis; Calcaneal Fractures; Sports; Ankle Fusion; Ankle Arthroplasty; Bunions; Hammertoes; and Flatfoot
- Numerous Original Research Papers

AOFAS Active and Associate Members – Osteopathic are encouraged to attend the Annual Business Meeting scheduled at 12:05 pm.

## AOFAS Member Reception

All AOFAS members are invited to the annual Member Reception immediately following the scientific program until 7 pm in Room 2006 of Moscone West.

The Reception will be supported in part by an exclusive educational grant from BioMimetic Therapeutics, Inc.

## CME Update for the AAOS Meeting

It is important for you to check in with AAOS Registration as soon as you arrive in San Francisco. The AAOS transcript system will not allow you to claim CME credit for any educational activities you participated in before you officially check in to the meeting. CME for Specialty Day attendance will be credited to your AAOS CME transcript.

## Accreditation

The AOFAS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education.

## CME Credit

The AOFAS designates this live activity for a maximum of **9 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AOFAS

## The best referrals come from members

The next new member application deadline is January 1, 2012. If you know an orthopaedic foot and ankle surgeon who is not yet an AOFAS Member, please have them contact Lois Bierman, Director of Membership & Marketing, at [LBierman@aofas.org](mailto:LBierman@aofas.org) or 847-384-4832.

## Advanced Foot and Ankle Course: Chicago

The Advanced Foot and Ankle Course: Reconstruction and Salvage of Complications will be held May 3-5, 2010 at the Wyndham Chicago Hotel.

The course, chaired by Bruce Sangeorzan, MD, is designed for orthopaedic surgeons, fellows and residents with a solid foundation in the management of common and complex foot and ankle trauma, sports injuries, and reconstructive procedures.

"Material in this course will be presented in a case-based format, with faculty interaction a primary goal," says Dr. Sangeorzan. "The most challenging problems and how to manage them will be the focus of this two and one-half day interactive course designed to discuss what's new and cutting edge in a technique-oriented manner."

The course will address challenges when treating fractures and reconstructive procedures, including a variety of techniques of managing both acute and chronic foot and ankle problems. Registrants are encouraged to submit challenging cases from their own practices to discuss either one-on-one or in a group setting.

For further course details, the complete program, exhibit opportunities, and registration and venue information, please visit [www.aofas.org/advancedfoot](http://www.aofas.org/advancedfoot).

AOFAS



## Time to update COI records

Through a collaborative partnership with the AAOS, AOFAS is asking its members to review and update their individual disclosure of potential conflicts of interest record, which is maintained through the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program.

The AAOS Mandatory Disclosure Policy requires the disclosure record be updated at least semiannually – in April and October – and members should have received an automatic reminder from the AAOS in October. AOFAS members involved as CME faculty and authors, as well as committee and governing Board members, are required to complete disclosure. Participants should report any changes to the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program as soon as possible and participants are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of all submitted information.

Access the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program at [www.aaos.org/disclosure](http://www.aaos.org/disclosure) with your AAOS username and password and follow these steps to review and update your information:

1. Click on the "View Disclosure" button.

2. Select one of the two options, "Confirm as Accurate" or "Revise Disclosure"
3. If you click on the "Confirm as Accurate" button, your process will be complete, the program will date-stamp your information, and a confirmation will be sent to your e-mail address on file.
4. If you click on "Revise Disclosure" button, you will have the option to make changes to your disclosure. Once changes are complete, click on the "Submit" button which will take you to the final review screen. After the final review is complete, click on the "Save" button to complete the process. The program will date-stamp your information, and a confirmation will be sent to your e-mail address on file.

The AAOS and AOFAS use the AAOS Orthopaedic Disclosure Program as a way to increase transparency, simplify the disclosure process, reduce the requests made on its members, and save time. Please take a few moments to complete your review and update today. If you have any questions, please write to [disclosure@aaos.org](mailto:disclosure@aaos.org).

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## President's message *continued from page 1*

The Resident Scholars have been enthusiastic about their experiences at our 2010 and 2011 Annual Meetings, have applied for fellowships, and have returned to their residency programs as positive ambassadors for AOFAS. This speaks well for the future of our subspecialty. In fact, up for vote at our business meeting to be held during Specialty Day, the AOFAS Board will propose a Bylaws amendment to allow Resident and Fellow Members to serve on AOFAS committees.

Our Education Committee, under the leadership of Chris Coetzee, has been hard at work. Beginning in January, the AOFAS will be offering nine webinars covering a range of foot and ankle topics and will be available FREE to AOFAS members and orthopaedic residents and fellows.

The end of the calendar year is a key time for fundraising initiatives. I know you receive appeals from a number of organizations, but I urge you to contribute to the AOFAS Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF). You can add a donation to the OEF when you pay your AOFAS dues or donate to the OEF and designate a portion of your contribution to the OEF. We need your financial contribution to strengthen our ability to support meaningful initiatives.

Lastly, I want to encourage you to attend our upcoming AOFAS educational programs. On February 11 in San Francisco, Greg Berlet will be serving as program chair for what promises to be an outstanding Specialty Day program focusing on the prevention and solutions for common foot and ankle surgery complications. In Chicago, May 3-5, Bruce Sangeorzan will chair the Advanced Foot and Ankle Course, which, as in years past, will certainly be an excellent educational opportunity. Our 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, June 20-23 in San Diego, will feature the Pre-meeting Course, chaired by Sheldon Lin and Eric Giza, focusing on Regenerative Strategies and a comprehensive scientific program.

These are good times for the AOFAS with positive, forward-thinking initiatives being advanced by our dedicated members. Come participate and get involved. See you in San Francisco!

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## IFFAS carries on with tradition

While plans for the 4<sup>th</sup> Triennial Meeting of the International Federation of Foot & Ankle Societies (IFFAS) were thwarted due to the devastating earthquake and tsunami earlier this year in Japan, the organization continues to move forward.



**Dr. Neto presents the IFFAS Presidential Medallion to Dr. Kinoshita**

The meeting, scheduled for this past September, was to have marked the transition of the IFFAS presidency from Osny Salomão, MD, of São Paulo, Brazil to Mitsuo Kinoshita, MD, of Osaka, Japan. Instead, the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Surgery of the Foot, scheduled in Nara, Japan to coincide with the IFFAS meeting, became the backdrop for the symbolic transfer.

Yoshinori Takakura, MD, president of the Japanese Society and the first IFFAS president, was on hand for the ceremony. Traveling from São Paulo to Nara as a representative of Dr. Salomão, his father-in-law, João de Carvalho Neto, MD, had the honor of transferring the IFFAS presidential medallion to Dr. Kinoshita during a ceremony at the meeting.

Dr. Neto, who recently completed his term on the IFFAS Council, originally met Dr. Kinoshita some years ago in Chicago when Dr. Kinoshita presented a lecture on



**(L to R) Yoshinori Takakura, MD; Mitsuo Kinoshita, MD; and João de Carvalho Neto, MD**

clubfoot and Dr. Neto was an international clinical research fellow.

The next Triennial IFFAS Meeting will be held September 19-21, 2014 in Chicago, and IFFAS Vice President Charles Saltzman, MD, will be program chair. The AOFAS Annual Meeting will follow the IFFAS meeting on September 21-23.

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## AOFAS Patient-Education Brochures

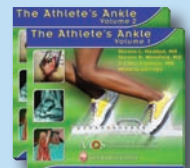
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## AAOS/AOFAS Athlete's Ankle DVD Volumes 1 and 2

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## OEF – 10 years and going strong

The Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) is the funding organization that supports essential AOFAS programs in research, educational outreach, and humanitarian service.

### Thank you!

Your contributions and support really do make a difference. Because of generous donations to the OEF since its inception in 2001, look at what the AOFAS has already accomplished:

### Research

- 67 grants totaling nearly \$695,000 have been awarded
- Grant recipients have made 146 scientific presentations, published 81 journal articles, and received nearly \$3.6 million in grants from other funding sources

### Education

Unique programs are being offered to residents, fellows, and young physicians in practice including:

- Resident Review Course
- Resident Scholarship Program
- Resident Lecture Series
- Visiting Professor Program
- Traveling Fellowship Program

### Service

Twenty-six AOFAS members have participated in the annual Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam and five members have provided services in a new program to benefit children and adults in Haiti. Volunteers pay their own travel costs, and in-country expenses are covered by the project budget. Services provided:

- Life-changing foot and ankle surgery for more than 700 disabled Vietnamese children and adults at no cost to the patient or family
- More than 2,000 patients seen in clinics in Vietnam
- 100 Haitian children and adults received needed foot and ankle surgery at no cost
- An environment of collaboration and knowledge sharing between AOFAS members and local orthopaedic surgeons

### Make your 2011 donation to the OEF today.

Visit [www.aofas.org/oef](http://www.aofas.org/oef) to view more information and to submit your donation.



### RESEARCH



### EDUCATION



### SERVICE



## Educating the future of foot & ankle

Most members recall that defining moment, experience or lecture that solidified their decision to specialize in foot and ankle. For Benedict DiGiovanni, MD, that defining moment was attending an AOFAS Resident Review Course.

"I got hooked on foot and ankle after attending an AOFAS Resident Review Course as a 3<sup>rd</sup> year resident. Faculty provided valuable insight into the unique surgical world of foot and ankle, which intrigued me to want to learn more and ultimately pursue the specialty."

Now chair of the AOFAS Post-Graduate Education and Training Committee, Dr. DiGiovanni is charged with development and oversight of these courses.

Resurrected in 2010 after a 10-year hiatus, the course is designed to complement residency training and encourage residents to consider foot and ankle as a career choice. Brian Toolan, MD, chaired the first newly designed course in October 2010 in Chicago. Two successful courses followed in 2011 at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas (August 27) with James Brodsky, MD, chair, and at

Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston (October 1) with Eric Bluman, MD, chair. The chairs were supported by a total of 33 faculty members presenting and inspiring the residents. The course format utilizes 10-minute case-based presentations on basic foot and ankle procedures followed by OITE practice questions.

The AOFAS will offer two courses each fall with a geographic rotation so all areas of the country are covered. The 2012 dates are being determined, with courses slated for the western and southeastern regions.



## AOFAS/OEF launch outreach program to Haiti

In response to growing member interest in humanitarian service, this fall the AOFAS and OEF Boards approved a new Overseas Outreach Program – this one to Haiti at the Hôpital Adventiste d'Haiti in Carrefour on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, an area hard hit in the 2010 earthquake.

The impetus to move forward with this project came from Bryan Den Hartog, MD, who was in Haiti at the time of the earthquake. In July of this year he led a successful 10-day pilot project to Haiti that included fellow AOFAS members Dean Jameson, MD and Steven Weinfeld, MD. The AOFAS team, plus six volunteer medical support personnel, staffed an orthopaedic clinic and performed 50 surgical procedures. With financial support from our OEF, all patients received care free of charge.

Following the success of the pilot program, the AOFAS and OEF Boards of Directors approved the first official mission, October 24 – November 5, staffed by AOFAS members Ian Alexander, MD, and Mario Adames, MD, and two ancillary medical personnel, all of whom volunteered at the same site as July's pilot program.

"This hospital is an island in the middle of a sea of tremendous need for

orthopaedic services. Although conditions are not what you would expect at home, for a third world country the ORs are incredibly well equipped, allowing our team to make a significant difference," says Dr. Alexander.

The team held clinics and performed surgery on 50 patients. Surgical procedures included correction of clubfoot and polio deformity, malunited ankle and foot fractures, arthrodesis for post-traumatic arthritis, and debridement and antibiotic bead placement for tibial osteomyelitis. They evaluated patients treated by the first team and did follow-up procedures on three patients operated by the previous group of AOFAS surgeons.

"The opportunity to help people in such need is most gratifying," says Dr. Alexander. "Being in the midst of such poverty gives a true appreciation of how fortunate we are to live where there is abundance and opportunity."

One of the primary objectives of the outreach project was to improve the existing orthopaedic infrastructure and knowledge base by working with Haitian orthopaedic and surgical personnel. Haitian-trained surgical personnel worked closely with the AOFAS team and benefitted from the numerous teaching opportunities.



AOFAS Team in Haiti (July 2011)

"The conditions in Haiti have improved somewhat since the 2010 earthquake, but much rebuilding of infrastructure is still yet to be done. Despite the challenges ahead for this small island nation, the people remain incredibly optimistic and very much appreciative of the care given," says Dr. Den Hartog.

Members interested in volunteer service may contact AOFAS Executive Director Zan Lofgren, CAE, at [zlofgren@aofas.org](mailto:zlofgren@aofas.org). Volunteers pay their own transportation to/from Haiti, and the AOFAS covers in-country housing and food with a grant from the AOFAS Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF).

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## Fellowship applications on the rise for 2012 match

Applications for foot and ankle fellowship positions are running strong this fall with 62 applicants having submitted application materials by mid-November for the 2012 foot and ankle match. This number compares to 48 applicants at the same time last year.

"We are excited to see the growing interest in foot and ankle fellowships over the past couple of years," says Dan Farber, MD, chair of the Society's Fellowship Match Committee. "We have had very good feedback from fellowship directors on both the increased number

of applicants and the quality of those applicants."

The AOFAS-sponsored Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Fellowship Program Match is designed to be a transparent, unbiased process in which applicants are matched to foot and ankle fellowship programs on a competitive basis. The application process is administered by the AOFAS, and the match is handled by the San Francisco Matching Service. A total of 61 fellowship positions are offered in the 2012 match by 39 programs.

Applications will be accepted through March 1, 2012 but applicants are strongly encouraged to apply by December 1, 2011. Programs may conduct interviews from December 1, 2011 to March 23, 2012. Applicants and programs must submit their rank lists to the SF Match by March 27, 2012 and match day will be April 3, 2012.

For more information on fellowship programs, visit [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) and click on Residents and Fellows.

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### Coding for OCD lesions and repair of hallux varus

By Walter Pedowitz, MD, Chair, AOFAS CPT/RUC Committee

This Coding Corner column addresses two frequently asked coding questions: "How do I properly manage the coding of OCD lesions?" and "How do I code the repair of hallux varus?"

#### Coding osteochondritis dissecans (OCD) lesions

If you do an open arthrotomy and pin the detached fragment back in place, then use CPT Code 28445 – open reduction internal fixation fracture of the talus. Medial malleolar or lateral malleolar osteotomy is included as part of your approach. If you use autograft, add the bone graft code – usually 20900 for a small or button graft. There is no code for allograft.

CPT 28120 Partial excision (craterization, saucerization, sequestrectomy, or diaphysectomy), bone (e.g., osteomyelitis, or bossing), talus, or calcaneus

CPT 29891 Arthroscopy, ankle, surgical, excision of osteochondral defect of talus and/or tibia, including drilling of the defect

CPT 29892 Arthroscopically aided repair of large osteochondritis dissecans lesion, talar dome fracture, or tibial plafond fracture, with or without internal fixation (includes arthroscopy)

CPT 29897 Debridement, limited ankle

CPT 29898 Debridement, extensive ankle

#### Coding hallux varus

A specific code for the repair of hallux varus does not exist so this procedure is properly coded as follows using the component parts:

CPT 28306 Metatarsal osteotomy

CPT 28270 Capsulotomy

CPT 28750 Arthrodesis MTP joint

Note: Repair of hallux varus is not a bunionectomy with a tendon transfer (CPT 28294). A code does not exist for tendon transfer in the foot.

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### AAOS/AOFAS OKU 4: Foot and Ankle

Michael Pinzur, MD, Editor

This essential resource presents the most recent knowledge on foot and ankle injuries and conditions from the past five years and highlights today's most promising treatments and approaches. New features include more evidence-based data and discussions of the most modern and controversial techniques on total ankle replacements. It also includes expanded subject areas on ankle arthritis, fractures, and nonoperative treatment options, as well as an annotated reference list with summaries of key articles and levels of evidence.

List Price: \$179 • AAOS/AOFAS Members: \$129 • Residents: \$109  
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### SEEKING FOOT & ANKLE SURGEON

Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush (MOR) is nationally recognized as a leader in comprehensive orthopaedic services including sports medicine, joint, hand, foot & ankle, spine, cartilage restoration, pediatrics, trauma, orthopaedic oncology, and shoulder care. The orthopaedic program at Rush University Medical Center is ranked the #1 program in IL & 8<sup>th</sup> nationally by *US News & World Report*. MOR is currently seeking an exceptional foot & ankle orthopaedic surgeon interested in expanding the foot & ankle specialty within our group. Candidate must be an MD, Fellowship trained & eligible for, or in possession of, IL Medical License. For more information about us, visit [www.rushortho.com](http://www.rushortho.com). Forward Curriculum Vitae to Marcia Siguenza, VP of HR, Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush, 1 Westbrook Corporate Center, Ste 240, Westchester, IL 60154.  
**Ph 708-236-2662; Fax 708-492-5662;**  
**Email [msiguenza@rushortho.com](mailto:msiguenza@rushortho.com).**



### Website Corner

Check out the Presidential Timeline 1969 – 2011 at [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) and see how far the AOFAS has come over the years. Click on the **About AOFAS** tab and then the Presidential Timeline link.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### January 1 – deadline for new and elevating members

[www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) (Membership tab)

- **New AOFAS member applicants:**  
The next deadline is January 1 for completed application forms plus all required documentation to be submitted for consideration by the Membership Committee, Board of Directors, and voting members of the AOFAS. Those applying by January 1 will be informed of their membership status following the Interim Business Meeting held during the AOFAS Specialty Day on February 11, 2012 in San Francisco.
- **Current AOFAS Fellow members:**  
If your training will be completed by December 31, 2011, you are required by the Society to apply to elevate to the next membership level by January 1 to continue receiving member benefits. View online information and forms or write to [membership@aofas.org](mailto:membership@aofas.org) if you are not sure of the next appropriate category.
- **Current AOFAS Candidate members:**  
If you have been in the Candidate membership category for the maximum five years to date but are not advancing to Active Fellow or Associate Member – Osteopathic in the AAOS in 2012, please write to [membership@aofas.org](mailto:membership@aofas.org) to discuss immediate next steps in order to maintain member benefits.

### Looking for the Membership Directory?

If you have not yet visited the new AOFAS website, please be aware that the online directory is now listed as Find a Member located on the top left menu bar. Be sure to login first to view all current members and not just those in practice. Without a member login, the public will only see members in practice.

Logging in as a member, you will be able to view e-mails and home or cell phone numbers for those members who provided such information to the AOFAS and granted permission for this information to be available to AOFAS colleagues; this additional information is never provided to the public. If you do not see your e-mail, home or cell phone shown in your own profile but would like this information to be available to colleagues, please contact the AOFAS Executive Office.

### Do you need to print CME certificates?

Since the 2006 Annual Meeting, the AOFAS has maintained CME credits within your member record, with the exception of Specialty Day (see the AAOS for those certificates). Members may login to [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) and go to View CME Transcript (found at the bottom of the home page) at any time to print out any certificates needed. If you ever see only 1.0 credit shown, that is either because a CME Verification Form was not submitted or it was submitted but the number of credits being claimed was not identified. Contact the AOFAS Executive Office with questions or further needs.

### Annual “To Do” List:

- **Pay 2012 Dues**  
If you signed up for Auto Dues Renewal during 2011, you will receive notice when your 2012 payment is processed in January. An e-Receipt will follow once the credit card charge is successfully processed (held securely through Authorize.net). If you did not authorize Auto Dues Renewal, you may do so with your 2012 dues payment.  
All other current members, with the exception of those in the process of elevating to new membership levels in February, should already have received an e-mail message with directions on how to pay your 2012 dues. Paper dues notices will only be mailed out when specifically requested. This will result in significant time and postage savings for the Society and allows the organization to be more paper-light.
- **Donate to the OEF**  
Whether you opt to donate directly to the OEF or wish to donate through the OREF with designated funds going to the AOFAS/OEF, your support of this funding arm of the Society is essential to fund research, educational outreach, and humanitarian service programs. Thank you for your past and future participation.

- **Submit an abstract**

The next deadline for abstract submission is January 4, 2012. The link for submissions is available at [www.aofas.org/annualmeeting](http://www.aofas.org/annualmeeting). Selected papers will be presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting in San Diego, June 20-23.

- **Add your website link to your member profile**

To enhance your presence online in the AOFAS public directory, provide your company's website address to AOFAS staff so it will display in your member profile.

- **Add the AOFAS as a link from your website**

To enhance your own website credentials, add your membership in the American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society and include links for your patients to [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) and [www.footcaremd.org](http://www.footcaremd.org).

- **Include Foot & Ankle in your AAOS member demographics**

All ABOS and AOBOS-certified members of the AOFAS are also required to be members of the AAOS. In addition, many International Members of the AOFAS are also members of the AAOS as International Affiliates. Please check your AAOS profile and if you have not listed **Foot & Ankle** as an anatomical specialty, please consider making that addition now. The AAOS uses this information to bring foot and ankle products and other offerings directly to your attention.

- **Check contact information in your AOFAS member profile**

At least once a year, please login to [www.aofas.org](http://www.aofas.org) and check your member profile for accuracy. You may submit edits online but please allow 2-3 working days for staff to make the updates to your record. You may also indicate in the Comments section if you have a website to add or if you wish to change your mail preference to work or home.

**AOFAS**

Membership questions or needs: Lois Bierman, Director of Membership & Marketing, [LBierman@aofas.org](mailto:LBierman@aofas.org) or 847-384-4382