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Complete Foot Care Course: A team effort

Don’t miss the opportunity for you and your team members to register for the biennial AOFAS Complete Foot Care Course, September 28-29, 2012 in Falls Church, Virginia. This multidisciplinary course will emphasize the non-surgical team approach to foot and ankle care and is designed for physicians and other health care professionals involved in foot care.

“This course offers a comprehensive review and a fresh perspective on those conditions commonly seen in a foot and ankle practice,” says Course Chair Steven Neufeld, MD, Falls Church.

“What makes the course unique is its integration of all aspects of foot and ankle care – making it an important component in the continuing education of your nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, orthopaedic technicians, physical therapists, prosthetists/orthotists, and pedorthists.”

Topics will include the evaluation and office treatment of common causes of forefoot, midfoot and hindfoot pain, the assessment of foot mechanics, the aging foot, the role of footwear and orthotic devices in treating disorders, foot and ankle injuries, and foot complications in the diabetic patient. In general sessions, members of the faculty, including physicians, nurses, physical therapists, orthotists, and pedorthists will discuss their roles in the integrated care of a wide variety of foot and ankle conditions.

In my mind, the top horizontal extension of the “F” represents health care and the lower one, research. They branch off our vertical pillar of knowledge. There is much we don’t know, more to comprehend, and so many more techniques and protocols to develop. Our shared interests draw us closer in education, collaboration, and social interaction. As we strive to improve lower extremity pain and dysfunction as our overarching goal, we also derive insight through investigation. I know that each of us is grateful for our skills and wisdom, but also for the stability derived from fellows, friends, and family.

The perfectly concentric “O” can roll with and symbolize movement. In AOFAS the “O” stands for Orthopaedics, the field that focuses on the motion of humanity. Our students and young patients are in need of our attention, guidance and direction. Our teachers and elderly patients deserve no less.

A is for Ankle and is perhaps representative of the most unique anatomical designs of the talus and its complementary housing comprised of the complementary housing comprised of the

continued on page 3
At the Society’s 2012 Annual Meeting, Lew Schon, MD, was installed as president and Steven Haddad, MD, was elected as president-elect – both to serve one-year terms. Bruce Sangeorzan, MD, was elected vice president for a one-year term, and Jeffrey Johnson, MD, was elected treasurer for a two-year term.

Bruce Cohen, MD, and Sheldon Lin, MD, were elected as members-at-large on the Board for two-year terms. Continuing their service on the Board are Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH, immediate past president, Keith Wapner, MD, past president, Mark Easley, MD, secretary, Eric Bluman, MD, PhD, and Jonathan Deland, MD, members-at-large.

Lew Schon receives Johns Hopkins Professors’ Award

AOFAS President Lew Schon, MD, received the Johns Hopkins Professors’ Award for Excellence in Teaching, Part-Time Faculty. The award honors a member of the part-time faculty whose teaching is judged to have had a profound effect on students in the School of Medicine at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Schon is director of the Division of Foot and Ankle Surgery at Union Memorial Hospital, and provides Johns Hopkins orthopaedic residents with the majority of their foot and ankle training. His great impact has increased the profile of foot and ankle to such levels that nearly one half of the orthopaedic residents plan to enter foot and ankle fellowships in the next two years. Under his mentorship, students have won awards in the Hopkins Center for Bioengineering, Innovation and Design (CBID) Design Day, including first prize for a stem cell suture project and third prize for a drill project.

In addition to his teaching, Dr. Schon has completed 118 peer-reviewed publications, 12 non-peer reviewed publications, and 41 book chapters.

Paul Sponseller, MD, MBA, nominated Dr. Schon for the prestigious award with praise for the “pre-eminent specialist” and “master teacher.”
Thank you for the honor of serving as AOFAS President

Judith F. Baumhauer, MD, MPH

Concluding her presidential year, Judy Baumhauer, MD, MPH, highlighted the accomplishments of the AOFAS in her address to the membership on June 22 during the AOFAS Annual Meeting 2012 in San Diego.

“IT takes the work of many to advance our strategic plan,” she said, and extended a “hearty thanks to the many who have contributed to this work.”

She cited the successful AOFAS programs funded by the OEF – Traveling Fellowships, Resident Scholarships, Research, and the Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam.

“Through these programs the AOFAS is reaching out to the world,” she said, “and here in the US our excellent programs are exciting residents and drawing them to our specialty.”

Highlights of the 2011-12 AOFAS year included:
- Decision to transition Foot & Ankle International (FAI) to SAGE Publications – the new journal publisher beginning January 2013
- Increase in manuscript submissions to FAI
- First Performance Improvement Module (PIM) submitted to the ABOS for Maintenance of Certification
- Launch of the patient-reported outcomes research pilot study to evaluate the efficacy of outcomes instruments and build an infrastructure for member research
- Course registration is up
- Launch of the new webinar series
- Record number of applicants for foot and ankle fellowships
- Annual membership growth continues
- 37% increase in abstract submissions over 2011
- Largest exhibit hall to date with 22 new companies
- Industry support is up
- 16% increase in Annual Meeting registration over 2011
- Highest Specialty Day attendance in 10 years
- OEF benefit auction at Annual Meeting Gala

Dr. Baumhauer thanked and paid tribute to members of the Board, committees, and staff for the ongoing work that keeps the AOFAS strong, and to her family for their unwavering support.

Complete Foot Care Course continued from page 1

variety of common foot and ankle ailments. Hands-on afternoon breakout sessions will address aspects of foot and ankle care relevant to each participant’s specific practice and provide an environment conducive to interaction and learning. Case presentations will demonstrate treatment principles and facilitate open discussion.

Faculty
Steven Neufeld, MD, Chair
Matthew Bernier, MPT
Constance Booker, CWS
Matthew Buchanan, MD
Rebecca Cerrato, MD
Daniel Cuttica, DO
Robert Dehne, MD
Daniel Farber, MD
Marcia Graddon, ATC
Josie Hyams, PA-C
Dennis Janisse, CPed
Kevin Johnson, MD, Radiologist
Carroll Jones, MD
Gabrielle Morgan, BSN, CMOM
Deborah Nawoczenski, PT, PhD
Margaret Rowell, RN, BSN
Nate Shafer, PA-C
Saul Trevino, MD
Elliot Weintrob, CPO

“Aside from the valuable information and hands-on experience your team members will gain from this experienced faculty, the course is a great opportunity for them to earn valuable continuing education credits in their respective fields,” says Dr. Neufeld.

Certified Athletic Trainers
AOFAS is recognized by the Board of Certification, Inc. to offer continuing education for BOC Certified Athletic Trainers: P3647. This program has been approved for a maximum of 13.5 Category A continuing education hours. Certified Athletic Trainers are responsible for claiming only those hours actually spent participating in the continuing activity.

Nurses
This continuing nursing educational activity has been approved for 7 contact hours by the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses, an accredited approver of the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Orthotists, Orthotic Assistants, Orthotic Technicians, Pedorthists
This program has been approved for up to 13.5 credits through the American Board for Certification (ABC). Full participation in this program is required to be eligible for the full amount of credits.

Physical Therapists
This activity has been approved for up to 13.0 contact hours by the Virginia Physical Therapy Association, provider number: P1275.

Physicians and Physician Assistants (PA-C)
The AOFAS designates this live activity for a maximum of 13.5 AMA PRA Category 1 credits™. The American Academy of Physician Assistants accepts Category 1 Credits from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

For further course details, the complete program, exhibit opportunities, and registration and venue information, please visit www.aofas.org/completefoot or phone 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US).
Thanks to the volunteers who move the AOFAS forward
2011-2012 Committees

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE
A. Samuel Flemister, MD, Chair
Reviewed applications and selected five recipients for the Traveling Fellowship Program and organized local hosts and travel to centers of foot and ankle education and research following the Annual Meeting; reviewed applications and selected recipients for the Resident Scholarship Program. A total of 28 residents attended the Annual Meeting as Resident Scholars. The Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) provides funding for the Resident Scholarship Program with support in part by an educational grant from Stryker Orthopaedics, and the Traveling Fellowship Program with exclusive support from an educational grant from DUO Global.

FELLOWSHIP MATCH COMMITTEE
Daniel C. Farber, MD, Chair
Implemented the provisions of the Fellowship Match Program Agreement; provided oversight for administration of the AOFAS-sponsored Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Fellowship Match Program; represented the AOFAS on the BOS Match Oversight Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Bruce J. Sangeorzan, MD, Chair and AOFAS/OEF Treasurer
Managed and supervised financial operations, investments, and policies and served in advisory capacity to the Board of Directors on financial affairs.

HEALTH POLICY COMMITTEE
Nicholas A. Abidi, MD, Chair
Represented the AOFAS in the AMA House of Delegates and the ACS Board of Governors; serves as a resource on health policy issues, partnered with the AAOS and other organizations to increase AOFAS influence on health policy matters.

HUMANITARIAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Mark P. Slovenkai, MD, Chair
Organized the Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam; supported humanitarian service projects to Haiti; maintained liaison with Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO) on other service opportunities. Humanitarian service projects are funded by the OEF.

INDUSTRY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Saul G. Trevino, MD, Chair
Facilitated communication for organizational relationships with corporate supporters and exhibitors; and created a combined brochure featuring both AOFAS commercial support opportunities and OEF corporate donor opportunities for distribution to industry.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Terrence M. Philbin, DO, Chair
Provided outreach and promoted benefits of membership to target audiences; reviewed membership applications and recommended qualified applicants in all membership categories; identified benefits to enhance the value of membership.

ORTHOAEPICIA® FOOT & ANKLE SECTION
EDITORIAL BOARD
Johnny T.C. Lau, MD, Editor-in-Chief
Provided oversight and developed foot and ankle content for Orthopaedia — the collaborative orthopaedic knowledgebase, a repository of educational materials and a social network of the exchange of information; continues to review articles and recruit authors to write articles.

POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE
Benedict F. DiGiovanni, MD, Chair
Provided oversight for the Visiting Professor Program and two Resident Review Courses; matched Resident Scholars with mentors for the Annual Meeting; continues update of the Resident Lecture Series to increase resident exposure to foot and ankle during training. These initiatives are funded by the OEF.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Gregory C. Berlet, MD, Chair
Developed program content for Specialty Day, the Annual Meeting, and worked with Drs. Sheldon Lin and Eric Giza on the agenda for the Pre-meeting Course; ranked abstracts and selected papers for presentation and e-Posters; selected papers for the Mann Award, Goldner Award, and IFFAS Award.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE
John G. Anderson, MD, and Donald R. Bohay, MD, Co-Chairs
Developed new patient-education microsite: www.FootCareMD.org, linked to the www.AOFAS.org website; updating and developing new patient-education information for www.FootCareMD.org; continuing to develop communication messages to raise the profile of the AOFAS and its members to public and medical audiences through press releases and media outreach.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE
Timothy R. Daniels, MD, Chair
Reviewed and ranked grant applications and made funding recommendations to the Board for 2012 research grant awards; provided oversight for research grants to ensure accountability; selected guest research speaker for the Annual Meeting; organized the Research Forum at the Annual Meeting; investigated options and feasibility for a national foot and ankle data center. The Research Program is funded by the OEF.

YOUNG PHYSICIANS COMMITTEE
Selene G. Parekh, MD, Chair
Organized Young Physicians Forum and Reception at the Annual Meeting; worked with the Public Education Committee and its Patient Education Subcommittee in developing content for the patient-education microsite: www.FootCareMD.org.

CPT/RUC COMMITTEE
Walter J. Pedowitz, MD, Chair
Represented the AOFAS at CPT and RUC meetings; reviewed coding proposals and relative value recommendations; worked with the AAOS Coding, Reimbursement and Coverage Committee; educated members on coding through In-Stride articles, a dedicated webinar, and coding session at the Annual Meeting.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
J. Chris Coetzee, MD, Chair
Provided oversight and direction for educational programs, courses, and webinars; ensured that the AOFAS continued to be in compliance with the guidelines of the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME); provided oversight for the annual progress report to the ACCME; provided liaison with the AAOS on all foot and ankle educational programs.

EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE COMMITTEE
Christopher R. Chiido, MD, Chair
Developed the hammer toe surgery Performance Improvement Module (PIM), the first specialty society PIM submitted to the ABOS; PIM now available on the ABOS website for MOC credit in lieu of self-assessment exam and earns CME; finalized position paper on DVT; serving as a resource on PIM development, evidence-based medicine initiatives, and guidelines.

FAI/MANAGERIAL BOARD
Charles L. Saltzman, MD, Chair
Conducted extensive RFP process with major publishers for next journal publishing agreement for Foot & Ankle International; selected SAGE as FAI publisher for 2013-17; managing publisher relations and providing financial oversight for transition; worked with Editor-in-Chief and SAGE on launch of new manuscript submission system for FAI.

FAI/ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE
Saul G. Trevino, MD, Chair
Facilitated communication for organizational relationships with corporate supporters and exhibitors; and created a combined brochure featuring both AOFAS commercial support opportunities and OEF corporate donor opportunities for distribution to industry.

FAI/EDITORIAL BOARD
Robert R. Mankin, MD, Chair
Provided oversight and developed foot and ankle content for Orthopaedia — the collaborative orthopaedic knowledgebase, a repository of educational materials and a social network of the exchange of information; continues to review articles and recruit authors to write articles.

FAI/PUBLICATION COMMITTEE
Selene G. Parekh, MD, Chair
Organized Young Physicians Forum and Reception at the Annual Meeting; worked with the Public Education Committee and its Patient Education Subcommittee in developing content for the patient-education microsite: www.FootCareMD.org.
Join your colleagues for the annual AOFAS Specialty Day, Saturday, March 23, 2013, at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago. Co-chaired by Drs. John Anderson and Donald Bohay, the meeting will take place from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm.

“The comprehensive program has been designed to allow for more discussion, as well as expanded and hopefully energized, audience interaction opportunities,” says John Anderson, MD. “This redirection of time from the podium to the floor will enable time to compare, contrast, and challenge, and of course, better understand the topics being presented.”

“It will provide state-of-the-art information for both the general orthopaedic surgeon and the orthopaedic foot and ankle specialist,” adds Donald Bohay, MD.

Meeting highlights include:
- Early Bird Symposium: Using Technology to Enhance Your Practice
- Original Research Papers
- Focused Symposia: Valgus Ankle with Flatfoot; Bunion Surgery (Chicago Style!); Flatfoot Buffet (Celebrity Challenge)
- Journal Club Presentations
- Special Masters Series
- Joint AOFAS/OTA Session with symposia on Lisfranc injuries; Calcaneus; Ankle, Syndesmosis Controversies; and Ankle Posterior Malleolus

Immediately prior to the lunch hour, all AOFAS Active and Associate Members-Osteopathic are encouraged to engage in the decision making of the Society by attending the Interim Business Meeting.

CME for Specialty Day
The AOFAS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AOFAS designates this live educational 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 Member Reception
All AOFAS members are invited to the annual Member Reception immediately following the scientific program.

AAOS Registration and Housing
Watch your mail and e-mail from the AAOS for detailed program and registration information. AAOS Member housing is now open (www.aaos.org) and registration for AAOS Members will open October 3. General Registration and Non-Member Housing opens October 10.

Course on Surgical Complications in Durham, 2013
Mark your calendar for the fourth biennial course on Surgical Complications, taking place May 16-18, 2013 at the Washington Duke Inn in Durham, North Carolina. Under Course Chair Mark Easley, MD, a faculty of experts willing to share their experiences will discuss the challenges of complications in foot and ankle surgery.

“Since its inception in 2007, the AOFAS Surgical Complications Course continues to be well-attended,” says Dr. Easley. “While all of us strive for optimal outcome in the surgical management of our patients, results are not always predictable, even for relatively routine procedures. For the 2013 Surgical Complications Course, I will have the faculty balance the salvage of complications with the best-evidence on how to prevent these complications. The program will be case-based with emphasis on panel discussion. The course format favors an open forum, promoting faculty interaction and an easy interface with the attendees. In addition to the academic sessions, workshops and breakout sessions will further facilitate exchange between faculty and participants. I am excited to be hosting the meeting at the beautiful Washington Duke Inn, the same venue for the 2009 Sports Course, and while it is always great to be in North Carolina, there is perhaps no better time than May.”
AOFAS hits new highs

Excellence in Orthopaedic Education

Picturesque San Diego provided an ideal setting for the largest AOFAS Annual Meeting on record. With 644 meeting registrants, the foot and ankle specialists took in all the AOFAS had to offer in its educational sessions, social events, as well as the largest Exhibit Hall in AOFAS history.

Pre-meeting Course

Chaired by Drs. Sheldon Lin and Eric Giza, the meeting kicked off on Wednesday with this year’s ambitious Pre-meeting Course: “Regenerative Strategies and Emerging Technologies.” Delivered by an expert, multi-disciplinary faculty, this highly anticipated course also had record attendance and covered topics of bone, cartilage, and soft tissue innovations, took lectures in the three main topics from basic science to the newest technology, and concluded with faculty providing relevant clinical practice applications in an evidence-based format.

“The depth of the scientific information presented during the Pre-meeting Course was remarkable,” reported Dr. Lin.

“From a cumulative perspective, the panels and presentations formed an overall educational experience that succeeded in offering the most relevant cutting-edge tools for the specialty,” added Dr. Giza.

Annual Meeting

“The high number of scientific program offerings for the meeting was truly outstanding,” said Scientific Program Committee Chair Gregory Berlet, MD. “A lot of thought went into the effort and our domestic and international attendees were the beneficiaries. As reflected in our record attendance, the meeting brought home for me how important our Annual Meeting is to everyone involved in our specialty.”

Compelling features of the meeting included 96 original basic science and clinical research papers, a series of video technique tips, focused topic-driven symposia, award-winning presentations, special invited guest speakers, upwards of 200 e-Posters, and special interest forums. Technological innovations were also evident in San Diego beginning with the first AOFAS Annual Meeting mobile app providing easy access to all aspects of the meeting, extensive use of Twitter and texting technology to communicate with faculty, programs provided on a flash drive, and complimentary wireless internet service throughout the meeting.

Special Presidential Guest Speaker J. A. “Tony” Herring, MD, renowned orthopaedic surgeon, presented a moving presentation of his PBS award-winning Stories of Polio documentary. Richard Gershon, PhD, associate professor, vice chair for research, Department of Medical Social Sciences, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, presented on PROMIS® (Patient Reported Outcome Measurement Information System) as the Guest Research / Kenneth Johnson Memorial Lecturer. Dr. Gershon also participated in the Research Forum, which focused on the challenges, importance and rewards of funding, collecting, organizing, and sustaining research studies.

Award Winners

The AOFAS congratulates this year’s winner of the J. Leonard Goldner Award for the outstanding basic science paper entitled A New Paradigm for Patient-reported Outcomes Assessment in Foot and Ankle Research: Computerized Adaptive Testing.

Charles L. Saltzman, MD; Man Hung, PhD; Florian Nickisch, MD; Timothy C. Beals, MD; Daniel O. Clegg, MD; Tom H. Greene, PhD Salt Lake City, Utah

The Roger A. Mann Award for the outstanding clinical paper was awarded for COFAS Multicenter Study Comparing Total Ankle Replacement and Ankle Fusion: Mid-term Results.

Timothy Daniels, MD, FRCS; Alastair S.E. Younger, MBCHB, MSC CHM, MD, FRCS; Murray J. Penner, MD, BSc(M.Eng), FRCS; Kevin J. Wing, MD, FRCS; Peter J. Dryden, BSc, MSC, MD, FRCS; Hubert Wong, PhD; Mark A. Glazebrook, MSC, PhD, MD, FRCS Toronto, Ontario, Canada

continued on page 7

J. A. “Tony” Hening, MD; Judy Baumhauer, MD, MPH

Outcomes Assessment in Foot and Ankle Research:

Patient-reported

New Paradigm for

Computerized Adaptive Testing.
The third annual International Federation of Foot & Ankle Societies (IFFAS) award for the best international paper presented at the meeting was awarded for The Effect of Lower Limb Cast Immobilisation on Calf Pump Function – A Simple Strategy of Exercise Can Maintain Flow.

Mr. Ben A. Hickey, BM, MRCS, Orthopaedic Registrar; Amy Claire Morgan, MBBCh, MRCS, Orthopaedic Registrar; Dr. Neil Pugh, PhD F.Inst.P C.Phys., Consultant Medical Physicist; Anthony Perera, MBChB, MRCS, MFSEM, PGDip (Med Law), FRCS (Orth) Cardiff, Wales

**e-Poster Award Winners**

**1st Place:**
Comparative Analysis of Inter- and Intra-ligamentous Distribution of Sensory Nerve Endings in Ankle Ligaments: A Cadaver Study
Susanne Rein, MD; Uwe Hanisch; Hans Zwipp, MD, PhD; Sophie Lwowski; Armin Fieguth, MD, PhD; Elisabet Hagert, MD, PhD

**2nd Place:**
Effect of Hindfoot Stiffness on Osteolysis in Total Ankle Arthroplasty
Robert Flavin, MD FRCS; Scott Coleman, MS, MBA; James Brodsky, MD

**3rd Place:**
Tripod Index Part 1: New Radiographic Parameter Assessing Foot Alignment
Marut Arunakul, MD; Phinit Phisitkul, MD; Jessica Goetz, PhD; John E. Femino, MD; Ned Amendola, MD

**Special interest sessions: Something for everyone**

AOFAS members Walter Pedowitz, MD, and Peter Mangone, MD, once again reviewed the crucial elements of effective CPT Coding of Foot and Ankle Procedures. Hosted by the Young Physicians Committee, AOFAS members 45 years and under were invited to attend a Young Physicians Forum designed to provide tips on topics such as getting through the first few years of practice, preparing for the ABOS exam, considerations of hospital employment vs private practice, using a PA, and practice marketing strategies.

**Awards Programs benefit young physicians**
Twenty-eight residents interested in learning more about a career in foot and ankle, and five International Members in the early years of their careers participated in a unique learning opportunity that enabled them to attend the Annual Meeting.

**Industry Satellite Symposia**
Registrants were given the opportunity to select from 10 independent satellite symposia educational offerings during the four days of the meeting. The industry presentations included hands-on interactive workshops, Sawbones labs, didactic lectures, and cadaveric lab sessions and enabled registrants to customize their learning experiences while at the meeting.

**Expanded Exhibit Hall showcases new products**
This year’s Exhibit Hall was the largest on record for the AOFAS with 153 spaces filled by 72 companies, including 22 participating for the first time. Following Wednesday’s Pre-meeting Course, the Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall was filled with meeting attendees and their guests. This dedicated time offered meeting-goers the first opportunity to view the many new products and services that would be on display throughout the meeting. The annual Exhibit Hall event provides an ideal venue for attendees to meet with company representatives, colleagues, and friends.

**Young Physicians Forum**

The San Diego meeting marked the launch of the first AOFAS Speaker School, conceived and offered by the Education Committee in direct response to survey data collected over the year. Designed to help young members in their development and delivery skills of clinical presentations, registration was limited to the first 14 meeting registrants, 45 years and under who applied. It sold out within 12 hours. AOFAS educators Drs. Steven Haddad, Bruce Cohen, Thomas Lee, and Mark Easley worked as a team to assess speaking skills of each participant as they presented the pre-assigned standardized talk: Management of Stage Two Flatfoot Disorder due to Posterior Tibial Tendon Disruption. Presentations were rated on overall content, PowerPoint production, use of multimedia, delivery, and entertainment. There was overwhelming enthusiasm and camaraderie expressed by all during the exercise, and congratulations go to Gabriel Khazen, MD, who was voted the top presenter.

**continued on page 8**
Steppin’ up the social activities

In addition to the Welcome Reception and other receptions held throughout the week, the main social event – Bayside Gala – drew a large crowd out to the lawn of the Hilton fronted by the San Diego Bay. The Gala, hosted by the AOFAS Board of Directors, brought together colleagues, friends, and families for a relaxed evening of fun. Guests were invited to enjoy the bar, dinner and dessert buffet offerings, and the musical backdrop provided by a local DJ while taking in the spectacular sunset and watching the kids have a ball climbing to the top of a coconut tree or trying their hands at spin art and other crafts. The Bayside Gala was supported in part by an exclusive grant from BioMimetic Therapeutics.

About an hour into the event, the OEF Board of Directors led by President Hodges Davis, MD, got the night’s main entertainment started. Presented for the first time, the OEF developed Steppin’ Up for the Cause, a live auction to benefit the Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF). For the next hour, attendees had the opportunity to bid on 16 unique items, all generously donated by AOFAS members. A professional auctioneer got things rolling with the first item and it was all uphill from there. Everyone got into the spirit and raised their paddles high. The total dollars bid came in at just under $40,000. The net profit from the event set yet another record. Both organizations thank everyone who made this event successful. (See page 14 for full auction recap.)

Looking ahead to July 2013

With AOFAS President Lew Schon, MD, at the helm and Program Committee Co-Chairs John Anderson, MD, and Donald Bohay, MD, guiding the educational programming, AOFAS Annual Meeting 2013 is sure to deliver the finest in orthopaedic foot and ankle education.

Technology will abound and attendees are in for great surprises. Given the spectacular oceanfront setting in Florida, plenty of outdoor fun is already being planned. Mark your calendar now and watch for more information early next year.

Annual Meeting 2012 CME Certificates

Registrants may download their own CME certificates by logging into www.aofas.org and clicking on the View CME Transcript link found at the bottom of the home page.

AOFAS members have their login information and non-member registrants can request login information from the AOFAS. For login specifics, write to aofasinfo@aofas.org. Once logged in, select the meeting session and print what you need. Should you see only a 1.0 credit shown for the session(s) attended, it either means that you did not submit a CME verification form, or you might not have entered the number of credits you are claiming. Please contact the AOFAS Executive Office at aofasinfo@aofas.org or call 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US) with questions or needs.

Annual Meeting continued from page 7

Annual Meeting 2013

Destination: Florida

AOFAS Annual Meeting 2013
July 17-20
The Westin Diplomat
Hollywood, Florida

continued on page 9
Annual Meeting continued from page 8

September 1, 2012: Online Submission Site open for Annual Meeting abstracts

Deadline: December 12, 2012
Abstracts for the AOFAS Annual Meeting 2013, July 17-20 in Hollywood, Florida, may be submitted until December 12, 2012 for podium presentation and/or an e-Poster presentation, and should be submitted in the following categories:
Ankle, Ankle Arthritis, Midfoot / Forefoot, Hindfoot, Trauma, Diabetes, Basic Science / Biologics, Sports, Other

During the online submission process authors will be asked to enter 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 make sure it is accurate. In addition to pertinent contact information, authors must report any relevant conflict 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 blind fashion by the AOFAS Program Committee and notifications of presentation confirmation will be distributed by late February.

To submit an abstract, visit www.aofas.org/annualmeeting for more information and submission instructions.

Thank You!
The AOFAS expresses its appreciation to the following companies for their generous support of Regenerative Strategies and Emerging Technologies

The AOFAS expresses its appreciation to the following companies for their generous support of Annual Meeting 2012
**FAI transition to SAGE Publications on track**

SAGE Publications will be the new publisher for *Foot & Ankle International (FAI)* beginning with the January 2013 issue. The journal’s new manuscript submission system went live on June 7, 2012. Authors should submit all new manuscripts to SAGE and follow the links at www.faijournal.org or by going directly to http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/fai.

Manuscripts submitted prior to June 7 will be handled through the current manuscript system with Data Trace Publishing. Data Trace will publish FAI issues through December 2012.

Beginning in 2013 all AOFAS members will receive free online access to FAI and its archives as an added member benefit. More details will be sent to members when this service becomes available. The journal will also feature a new cover design and special emphasis will be made to expand the journal’s access internationally to improve foot and ankle care for patients around the world.

The journal will continue under the expert direction of Editor-in-Chief David Thordarson, MD.

As part of the transition, the editorial office function has been moved to the AOFAS Executive Office. Questions about the new manuscript process should be directed to Elaine Leighton, Managing Editor, via e-mail at FAIjournal@aofas.org or by phone at 847-384-4383.

**AOFAS partners with AAOS: International Foot and Ankle Symposium**

Plan to attend the International Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Symposium, sponsored by AOFAS and AAOS, November 29-December 1, 2012 in Orlando, Florida. This new course will offer combined lectures, concurrent sessions, hands-on bone model workshops, panel discussions and industry sessions on the most current issues, controversies and treatment options for foot and ankle injuries and conditions.

“This meeting promises to be a distinctive new educational experience in both surgical and nonsurgical foot and ankle care,” predicts Course Director Steve Haddad, MD. “Concurrent sessions will function as instructional course lectures, allowing the attendee to tailor the course to their own interests. Hands-on training by national and international experts will supplement didactic learning through both practice of surgical skills and smaller group personal interaction with faculty.”

Topics to be covered include bunions surgery, hindfoot and ankle disorders, Achilles and peroneal tendon disorders, Charcot disease, deltoid ligament reconstruction, and total ankle replacement options.

“Both simple and complex solutions will be addressed, allowing a broad range of physicians with varied foot and ankle experiences to achieve education commensurate with their level of experience and encourage them to pursue a higher level,” notes Haddad.

“On Saturday afternoon we will present a special joint session with our pediatric colleagues (combining two international meetings, IOFAS and the International Pediatric Orthopaedic Symposium, running concurrently) designed to address problems related to adolescent foot deformities, diagnosis and treatment of foot and ankle sports injuries in teenagers; and the biomechanical implications of congenital/pediatric foot deformities and their long term sequelae,” continues Haddad. “In this session, we are emphasizing long term outcomes from common pediatric conditions, while providing solutions for adult manifestations of pediatric problems. This will be an exciting and unusual method of revealing the complete patient history not normally explored in standard teaching venues.”

Drs. John Davids, Richard Davidson, Vincent Mosca, Scott Mubarak, and Kenneth Noonan will conduct this session in combination with their AOFAS counterparts.

**Course Directors:**

Steven Haddad, MD
Charles Saltzman, MD
Robert Anderson, MD
Caio Nery, MD

**International and US Faculty:**

Christopher Chiado, MD
Thomas Clanton, MD
Chris Coetzee, MD
Timothy Daniels, MD
Mark Davies, MD
W. Hodges Davis, MD
Christopher DiGiovanni, MD
Mark Easley, MD
Paul Fortin, MD
Thomas Lee, MD
William McGarvey, MD
Mark Myerson, MD
Lew Schon, MD
David Thordarson, MD
Hans Trnka, MD

For complete program and registration information, visit www.aaos.org/IOFAS.
AOFAS Opportunities – deadlines approaching

Coming up quickly are important deadlines for a host of AOFAS programs. Apply and also encourage your residents, fellows, and colleagues to take advantage of these opportunities where appropriate. View information, submit abstracts, and download application forms at www.aofas.org or contact the AOFAS Executive Office with questions at aofasinfo@aofas.org or by phone at 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US).

December 1, 2012
• Traveling Fellowship Program Application
  Open to Active, Associate, International and Candidate members age 45 and under www.aofas.org (About OEF)
• Research Grants Program Application
  Principal investigator or co-investigator must be an Active, Associate, International, or Candidate member www.aofas.org (Medical Community)
• Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam Application
  Open to Active, Associate, International, and Candidate members www.aofas.org (About OEF)

December 12, 2012
• Abstract Submission for AOFAS Annual Meeting 2013
  (July 17-20, Hollywood, Florida) www.aofas.org/annualmeeting

January 1, 2013
• New and Elevating Members Application
  (Elevation application required for members who completed training in 2012) www.aofas.org (Membership)

March 1, 2013
• Resident Scholarship Program Application
  Open to orthopaedic residents PGY-2 or PGY-3 with an interest in foot & ankle www.aofas.org (Medical Community/ Resident and Fellow Opportunities)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES  Current as of 8-31-12
Visit www.aofas.org (Education / Calendar) for ongoing program updates.

December 12, 2012 – Abstract Submission Deadline: www.aofas.org/annualmeeting
For Annual Meeting 2013 (July 17-20 – Hollywood, Florida)
AOFAS Members: Login to www.aofas.org for online registration at member rates.

September 28-29, 2012
AOFAS COMPLETE FOOT CARE COURSE
Course Chair: Steven Neufeld, MD
Hyatt Fairfax at Fair Lakes – Fairfax, Virginia
www.aofas.org/completefoot

September 29-30, 2012
MASTERS EXPERIENCE: FOOT & ANKLE ARTHROSCOPY
Sponsors: AANA and AOFAS
Orthopaedic Learning Center – Rosemont, Illinois • www.aana.org

October 6, 2012
AOFAS RESIDENT REVIEW COURSE
Course Chair: Michael Clare, MD
Tampa General Hospital – Tampa, Florida
www.aofas.org/residentreview

October 20, 2012
AOFAS RESIDENT REVIEW COURSE
Course Chair: Eric Giza, MD
University of California San Francisco, California
www.aofas.org/residentreview

October 9, 2012 (7:15 – 8:15 pm CT)
WEBINAR COURSE #3288: LISFRANC INJURIES IN ATHLETES
Sponsors: AAOS and AOFAS
Director: Terrence Philbin, DO
www.aaos.org

November 29 – December 1, 2012
INTERNATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC FOOT AND ANKLE SYMPOSIUM
Sponsors: AAOS and AOFAS
Directors: Steven Haddad, MD; Charles Saltzman, MD; Robert Anderson, MD; Caio Nery, MD
Loews Royal Pacific – Orlando, Florida • www.aaos.org

March 23, 2013
AOFAS SPECIALTY DAY 2013
Program Chairs: John Anderson, MD; Donald Bohay, MD
McCormick Place – Chicago, Illinois
www.aofas.org/specialtyday

AOFAS WEBINAR SERIES 2012 • (8:00 – 9:30 pm CT) www.aofas.org/webinars
Registration is ongoing for any or all sessions. Live Series is FREE for AOFAS Members and all orthopaedic foot and ankle residents/fellows. Non-member residents and fellows must submit training program verification. Subscriptions to access recordings from past and upcoming sessions are available for purchase and may be viewed for one year after purchase. Evaluations completed at the end of the live webinars provide learners with 1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

January 17, 2012 (online recording access only)
WEBINAR #1: BEST OF AOFAS MEETINGS
Moderator: Steven Haddad, MD

April 17, 2012 (online recording access only)
WEBINAR #2: SPORTS
Moderator: Ned Amendola, MD

May 15, 2012 (online recording access only)
WEBINAR #3: CODING / BILLING
Moderator: Peter Mangone, MD

July 17, 2012 (online recording access only)
WEBINAR #4: TRAUMA
Moderator: William McGarvey, MD

August 14, 2012 (online recording access only)
WEBINAR #5: ANKLE ARTHROPLASTY
Moderator: Chris Coetzee, MD

September 11, 2012
WEBINAR #6: FLATFOOT
Moderator: Brian Toolan, MD

October 16, 2012
WEBINAR #7: OITE
Moderator: Selene Parekh, MD

November 6, 2012
WEBINAR #8: LESSER MTP & HAMMERTOES
Moderator: Ian Alexander, MD

December 18, 2012
WEBINAR #9: ACHILLES / TENDON DISORDERS / TENDINOPATHY
Moderator: Eric Giza, MD

The AOFAS Webinar Series 2012 is supported by an exclusive educational grant from Arthrex.
Fellowship Match Program: Applications now open

AOFAS is now accepting applications for the 2013 Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Fellowship Program Match for 2014-15 fellowship positions. A total of 62 positions are currently being offered by 38 fellowship programs.

The match is designed to be a transparent, unbiased process in which applicants are matched to foot and ankle fellowship programs on a competitive basis. Participating programs and applicants are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct for Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Fellowship Programs and Applicants. The AOFAS administers the application receipt and distribution process while the San Francisco Matching Service (SF Match) handles the rank lists and the match process.

Participation in the match requires graduation from an allopathic or osteopathic medical school and fellowship is dependent upon successful completion of an approved orthopaedic residency program. Fellows in programs that participate in the match are eligible for benefits from the AOFAS, including waiver of dues during the fellowship year, a 50% reduction in dues during the first year of practice, and being listed as having completed a Foot and Ankle Fellowship on the AOFAS website.

Applicants can submit applications to the AOFAS now through March 4, 2013. However, some fellowship programs may have earlier deadlines or interview dates, thus submission of applications by December 3, 2012 is strongly recommended. The results of the 2013 match will be released to applicants and programs on Match Day, April 2, 2013. For complete application instructions and a list of participating fellowship programs, please visit www.aofas.org (Resident and Fellow Opportunities).

Review Courses prepare residents for OITE

Registration for the AOFAS Resident Review Courses are well underway, with two locations available to provide convenient options for attendees. Michael Clare, MD, will facilitate the program on the east coast at Tampa General Hospital on October 6 and Eric Giza, MD, will lead the program out west at the University of California, San Francisco on October 20. Each has assembled an experienced faculty ready to fully engage the audience.

The comprehensive one-day Saturday courses are open to residents enrolled in ACGME-approved orthopaedic residency programs and are designed to expand knowledge of foot and ankle surgery, help residents get ready for the OITE – including review of previous exam questions, and to foster interest in foot and ankle as a career choice.

Residents are encouraged to register early to take advantage of a lower fee and to ensure their seat. The registration fee includes lunch and program materials. Resident Review Courses are funded in part by the OEF. AOFAS members are asked to guide their residents to attend this beneficial course. Information and registration available at www.aofas.org/residentreview.

AAOS “A Nation in Motion” campaign

The AAOS recently launched a new public awareness campaign, “A Nation in Motion: One Patient at a Time.” The campaign was introduced at the 2012 AAOS Annual Meeting and launched in April. The AOFAS supports the campaign’s mission to advance the overall reputation of orthopaedic surgeons and orthopaedic care. The AAOS is looking for more stories of successful foot and ankle surgery. View the AAOS campaign website at www.anationinmotion.org.

Ways you can get involved include:

• Share your own patient stories by submitting them to the website. AAOS is compiling patient stories and using them throughout the campaign.
• Upload a YouTube video on the You Tube A Nation in Motion playlist by emailing the URL to media@aaos.org. You can describe a patient success story and identify yourself as an orthopaedic surgeon along with your practice location.
• Link the campaign website to your practice website to provide patients with stories of successful orthopaedic care.
• Request the board game, A Nation in Motion, and use it in your waiting room. The game is free, but shipping charges are applied. Call AAOS Public Relations at 847-384-4036.

The best referrals come from members

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 or 847-384-4832.

Orthopaedic Surgeon with Foot & Ankle Fellowship

Ten surgeon practice in growing areas of eastside Seattle with offices in Kirkland and Monroe, Washington, and Ambulatory Surgery Center, MRI and Physical Therapy.

EOC is part of Proliance Surgeons, Inc PS

Contact Glenda Smith
Practice Administrator
(425)481-6301 extension 224 or (206) 612-9414 cell
g.smith@proliancesurgeons.com
Resident Scholars appreciate special opportunity

A record was set for this year’s Annual Meeting with the number of applications for the 2012 Resident Scholarship Program submitted to and reviewed by the AOFAS Awards and Scholarships Committee. Funding is provided by the OEF with support in part from an educational grant from Stryker Orthopaedics.

“The increasing interest in this program and the positive feedback by participants is a testament to the impact of early outreach,” says Committee Chair A. Samuel Flemister, MD.

Twenty-eight Resident Scholars attended the Pre-meeting Course plus the Annual Meeting General Session, Young Physicians Forum, OEF Reception, and Gala. Scholars were each assigned an AOFAS committee member who volunteered to act as a mentor during the week. Extending a personal welcome and talking about a career in foot and ankle was appreciated as noted by the Scholars in survey feedback. Also of note from the survey are the following statistics:

- 100% of respondents say they gained a greater understanding of the subspecialty through this experience
- 40% of respondents indicated that attendance at this meeting solidified/changed/enhanced their decision to pursue a career as an orthopaedic foot and ankle specialist
- 80% of respondents are now considering membership in the AOFAS

This year’s Scholars say it best:

“With a somewhat limited foot and ankle experience in residency, it was great to go to the conference and see the broad range of pathology and treatment options going on in the field of foot and ankle.”

Kathryn O’Connor, MD

“The Resident Scholarship Program provided a great opportunity to learn more about foot and ankle surgery. The conference was educational and my interactions with the leaders within foot and ankle surgery were invaluable. I couldn’t be more satisfied with my experience at this year’s conference.”

Joshua Olsen, MD

“Being a Resident Scholar was a great experience. I met with faculty from many different programs, heard the latest research in foot and ankle, and networked with multiple physicians looking for future colleagues to add into their practice. I would highly recommend applying to be a Resident Scholar to anyone interested in foot and ankle as a career.”

David Macias, MD

Terrific experience. Great opportunities to talk and learn from the best and brightest in the field.”

Matthew Beuchel, MD

“It was a great learning opportunity and a wonderful chance to meet and speak with people in the field of foot and ankle. I would encourage everyone with any interest to apply.”

Lindsey Caldwell, MD

Applications for the 2013 Resident Scholarship Program are due March 1, 2013. The application is available on the Residents & Fellows page at www.aofas.org. The program is open to PGY2 and PGY3 orthopaedic residents.

Call for 2013 Research Grant applications: Deadline December 1, 2012

Research today = improved treatments for tomorrow’s practice

Eligibility for grant funding is a membership benefit and the principal investigator or co-investigator must be an Active, Associate, International, or Candidate member.

The AOFAS Research Grants Program is funded by generous donations from individuals and corporations to the Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) and to the Orthopaedic Research & Education Foundation (OREF) with designated giving to AOFAS/OEF.

Applications will be accepted through December 1, 2012. The grant application form is available for download at www.aofas.org under the Medical Community tab. Contact the AOFAS at aofasinfo@aofas.org or phone 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US) for further information.

1997-2012 Stats

Grants awarded by AOFAS have resulted in innovative insights in foot and ankle care, presentations at AOFAS and other educational meetings, articles in Foot & Ankle International and other journals, and larger grants to investigators from national funding sources.

Grants awarded: 71
Total funds awarded: $773,787
Subsequent funding from other sources: $4.17 million
Presentations: 158
Published articles: 89
OEF Board of Directors 2012 - 2013

In accord with the OEF Bylaws, Troy Watson, MD, was elected by the AOFAS Board of Directors to serve as a member-at-large on the OEF Board for a two-year term. He replaces Dr. Bryan Den Hartog, who completed a second two-year term in June as a member-at-large on the OEF Board. Sheldon Lin, MD, completed his term of service on the OEF Board as the immediate past president.

W. Hodges Davis, MD, continues as OEF President for 2012-13. As the newly-elected AOFAS treasurer, Jeffrey Johnson, MD, will also serve as the OEF treasurer for two years. AOFAS secretary Mark Easley, MD, will continue serving for one more year as the OEF secretary. Other continuing OEF Board members are: Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH; Steven Haddad, MD; Bruce Sangeorzan, MD; Lew Schon, MD; and Judith Smith, MD. Saul Trevino, MD, chair of the AOFAS Industry Relations Committee, continues as an ex-officio member of the OEF Board.

STEPPIN’ UP for the Cause
OEF Fundraiser 2012

Bidder paddles raised high

The OEF appreciates all contributions that led to the auction’s success.

The AOFAS Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) is the fundraising arm that supports the AOFAS in providing excellent opportunities in research, education and humanitarian service. Donations may be made throughout the year at www.aofas.org/oef.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Winning Bidder</th>
<th>Final Bid</th>
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<tr>
<td>#1 How Blue is Your Scotch</td>
<td>Sheldon Lin, MD</td>
<td>Hodges Davis, MD</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 Getaway to New York City</td>
<td>Martin O’Malley, MD</td>
<td>Thomas Clanton, MD</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3 Sun Kind of Fun in Orlando</td>
<td>Judith Smith, MD</td>
<td>Sheldon Lin, MD</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4 Carolina Panthers Spirit</td>
<td>Hodges Davis, MD</td>
<td>Troy Watson, MD</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4 Carolina Panthers Spirit</td>
<td>Hodges Davis, MD</td>
<td>Gregory Berlet, MD</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>#5 By the Bay in Upstate New York</td>
<td>Judith Baumhauer, MD</td>
<td>Saul Trevino, MD</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 Beautiful Lake Washington</td>
<td>Bruce Sangeorzan, MD</td>
<td>Bruce Sangeorzan, MD</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7 Hey, Hey Cubs Win</td>
<td>Steven Haddad, MD</td>
<td>Michael Henderson, MD</td>
<td>$800</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8 Savor the Flavors of Baltimore</td>
<td>Lew Schon, MD</td>
<td>Murali Moorthy, MD</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9 Black Hills of South Dakota</td>
<td>Bryan Den Hartog, MD</td>
<td>Vinod Panchbhavi, MD</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10 Are You Ready For Some Football?</td>
<td>Sheldon Lin, MD</td>
<td>Wen Chao, MD</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11 Lights Are Bright on Broadway</td>
<td>Jonathan Deland, MD</td>
<td>Wen Chao, MD</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11 Lights Are Bright on Broadway</td>
<td>Jonathan Deland, MD</td>
<td>Robert Steele, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>#11 Lights Are Bright on Broadway</td>
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<td>Susan Ishikawa, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>#12 Disney Is Calling You to Orlando</td>
<td>Keith Wapner, MD</td>
<td>Beth Abidi</td>
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<td>#13 Boston’s Got Red Sox Fever</td>
<td>Eric Bluman, MD</td>
<td>Benedict DiGiovanni, MD</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>#14 Ohio - Rock &amp; Roll and Football</td>
<td>Ian Alexander, MD</td>
<td>Kathleen Ybarra</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#15 Cape Cod Weeklong Adventure</td>
<td>Michael Aronow, MD</td>
<td>Lance Silverman, MD</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#16 Destination Maui (Onsite donation)</td>
<td>Nicholas Abidi, MD</td>
<td>Susan Ishikawa, MD</td>
<td>$4,750</td>
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</table>

TOTAL: $39,400
Traveling Fellows give thumbs up to this year’s program

Following receipt of a record number of applications for the 2012 Traveling Fellowship Program by the AOFAS Awards and Scholarships Committee, five young members were chosen to participate in this year’s unique learning experience. Beginning at the Annual Meeting in San Diego, California and concluding two and a half weeks later in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, the Fellows gained new insights on their chosen specialty, shared their perspectives, and built professional and personal bonds that will remain throughout their careers.

In addition to attending the Pre-meeting Course plus the General Session, Young Physicians Forum, OEF Reception, and the Gala at the Annual Meeting, the Fellows then set out together to continue the journey. The Fellows traveled within the western US and into Canada to visit clinics, observe in ORs, present clinical papers, tour hospitals and labs, learn new surgical techniques, and network with renowned foot and ankle surgeons.

Funded by the OEF with support from an exclusive educational grant from DJO Global, the goal of the AOFAS Traveling Fellowship Program is to provide a unique learning opportunity for early career AOFAS members to visit leaders in foot and ankle education and research. The program fosters relationship building, exchange of ideas, and encourages new thinking on research and clinical care topics.

Feedback

Survey responses from this year’s Fellows highlight a program that met and then exceeded their expectations. The 2012 Fellows found the program so successful they were hard pressed to come up with comments for improvement. Local hosts also weighed in positively with their feedback on their experience with this year’s program. Detailed input from all program participants will be used to fine-tune the 2013 program.

Local Hosts

Local hosts went above and beyond the scope of their duties to ensure strong learning and sharing environments. Hosts were often assisted by a team of colleagues and staff. This year’s hosts included:

- David Thordarson, MD
  Los Angeles, California
- Charles Saltzman, MD
  Salt Lake City, Utah
- Michael Coughlin, MD
  Boise, Idaho
- Michael Brage, MD
  Seattle, Washington
- Stephen Pinney, MD
  Vancouver, BC, Canada

Statements from the Fellows

These sum up the consummate benefits of the Traveling Fellowship Program.

- “The AOFAS Fellowship was extremely inspiring regarding surgery, clinics and research. However, the most important and motivating experience was meeting all these famous foot and ankle surgeons and their families in person! Back home I will now strive for excellence in all fields even more.”
  Arno Frigg, MD (Switzerland)

- “Meeting the greatest surgeons, I learned they are really enjoying life as foot and ankle surgeons. I found that discovering the mysteries of foot and ankle surgery and contributing to the fields of foot and ankle surgery, and helping patients with up-to-date skills can be so joyful. Getting in balance with work and family is another lesson I learned from the masters.”
  Hyong Nyun Kim, MD (South Korea)

- “Foot surgery is my passion and it was an amazing experience to have been in the same environment, interacting and exchanging information on a one-to-one basis with the masters of whose articles and books I have been reading for years. It was a wonderful opportunity to upgrade myself professionally, as well as being socially involved with these outstanding people. The atmosphere of friendship and collaboration among the fellows will continue in the future.”
  Tahir Ögüt, MD (Turkey)

- “There was a great balance of programmed educational, clinical activities and leisure activities. Our hosts were friendly, accessible and welcoming. I would recommend the fellowship to anyone. There were so many good things but having the opportunity to get to know the people in person whose books, papers and lectures have shaped my career was the best part. I know that hosts and travelers will keep in touch and there are already plans afoot for collaborative work across the continents.”
  Christopher Pearce, MBChB (Singapore)

- “This was a wonderful trip with high efficiency. Every host was very kind and generous. I gained a lot of useful experiences in this short period which is helpful for my future career development. I learned a lot not only on specialization but also on how to lead a happy life with a career plan and work-life balance.”
  Xu Wang, MD (China)

2013 Traveling Fellowship Program

Application form is available at www.aofas.org (About OEF / Traveling Fellowship Awards). Submission deadline for all required documents is December 1, 2012. Program is open to current AOFAS members (Active, Associate Member – Osteopathic, Candidate, and International) who are 45 years or under at the time of application.

For more information or questions contact Lois Bierman at LBierman@aofas.org or 847-384-4382.
Volunteering in Vietnam: Challenges and new perspectives

Feedback on the AOFAS Overseas Outreach Project

“I’m not exactly sure what motivated me to commit to a humanitarian mission in Vietnam. Perhaps it was the positive experience of other AOFAS members who have gone on earlier projects that influenced my decision. I know it was the right decision for me,” reflected Paul Juliano, MD (Hershey, Pennsylvania), on his return from the 2012 AOFAS Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam. “I worked outside my comfort zone, and my first e-mail home was OMG! However, this experience has made me a better surgeon and hopefully, a better person. The gratitude of the Vietnamese people for the care, the eagerness of the orthopaedic surgeons to learn, and the new perspectives I have gained made this a very valuable experience.”

“The experience was everything I expected and so much more,” said Jorge Acevedo, MD (West Palm Beach, Florida). “The Vietnamese doctors and residents were appreciative, helpful, and very creative despite their means. Many times I felt the people looked at us as the foreign miracle doctors who were going to fix the impossible and restore their lives back to normal. What they didn’t realize was the life-changing impact they were making on us! Although I always try to appreciate what we have, this experience really put things in perspective.”

This year’s other AOFAS volunteers – Drs. Aaron Guyer (Tallahassee, Florida), Naren Gurbani (Downey, California), and Naomi Shields (Wichita, Kansas) – expressed similar feelings about the time they spent in Vietnam.

“As a fourth-year medical student I spent time working in Kenya and this really opened my eyes to the medical needs of people in developing nations,” stated Dr. Guyer. “It encouraged me to pursue medical outreach and service in third-world countries. The AOFAS project was an opportunity to make a difference in the quality of life for those who do not have access to much-needed medical care.”

Despite the project’s hectic pace and the hot July weather, AOFAS members worked tirelessly in evaluating patients, sharing knowledge, and teaching new techniques.

“I love to teach surgery and, as the teacher, I also learn,” said Dr. Juliano. “I really enjoyed working with the Vietnamese surgeons and nurses, who were eager to learn. While I felt really good that I was able to teach many of our Vietnamese colleagues surgical and clinical evaluation techniques in treating complex foot and ankle problems, this experience also allowed me to grow as a surgeon,” reflected Dr. Guyer. “Having to think ‘outside the box’ on how to accomplish a specific surgical goal with the limited resources available was a daily occurrence. This forced me to think back about basic orthopedic principles and rely less on the many modern implants, instruments, and imaging modalities we have available in the United States for diagnosing and treating orthopedic foot and ankle problems.”

Patients, patients, and more patients

Dr. Shields, an 11-year veteran of Vietnam projects, and Dr. Juliano arrived at the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Institute in Hanoi to smiling patients waving from the windows. The first order of business was tea with the Institute director, and then on to the clinic.

“Working together with the local orthopaedic surgeons, we started evaluating the complex pathology walking in – or in some cases, being carried in,” said Dr. Shields. “Next it was off to the OR with the local surgeons to operate on the selected patients.”

“The Vietnamese orthopaedic surgeons did a marvelous job of pre-selecting a variety of foot and ankle deformity cases,” said Dr. Gurbani, whose volunteer time was in Thai Nguyen, Dien Bien Phu and the Viet Duc Hospital in Hanoi. “In Dien Bien Phu, as I was finishing the pre-op evaluation of a young lady with severe bilateral Equino Cavo Varus deformity of the feet, I asked her, ‘Do you have any brothers or sisters?’ She answered affirmatively and immediately her younger sister and male cousin were brought into the exam room. Now suddenly we were looking at three pairs of feet with severe Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease for surgical correction. Similar stories were repeated throughout my stay in Vietnam.”

continued on page 17
Expanding education at the local hospitals

As education is important for improving patient care, this year’s AOFAS Vietnam volunteers expanded the scope of the project by conducting small group educational sessions at the hospitals where they worked. The seminars provided the local orthopaedic surgeons with a focused educational opportunity on specific clinical issues. Some sessions included surgeons from other area hospitals and each of the six seminars had 13-20 attendees, an ideal size for interactive discussion.

Conference in Hanoi

Besides the one-on-one teaching in the clinics and ORs and the seminars at the local hospitals, the most visible educational event was the one-day conference held in Hanoi on July 21. Co-sponsored by the AOFAS, the Prosthetics Outreach Foundation (POF), and Viet Duc Hospital – the large teaching facility in Hanoi – the “Surgery of the Lower Extremities” conference brought together 135 Vietnamese orthopaedic surgeons from the northern provinces of Vietnam. AOFAS members and four Vietnamese surgeons presented, all with simultaneous translation, and the conference was reported by the local TV news station.

Recognition of AOFAS

The AOFAS also received media attention in other locations. In Vinh City a crowd of patients, doctors, nurses, government officials, and the media greeted Drs. Juliano and Shields as they arrived at the medical facility. The AOFAS was recognized by the chairman of the People’s Committee of the Nghệ An Province for the Society’s ongoing commitment to humanitarian service for the disabled children and adults of Vietnam and to help improve patient care.

In Dien Bien Phu, a sleepy town surrounded by mountains in the far north near the Laotian border, a local TV station filmed in the OR and reported on the work of the AOFAS volunteers and the further education for the local doctors.

“The power of television became evident the next day when a large number of “mountain people” showed up at the hospital, some traveling for two days by foot!” recalled Dr. Gurbani. “We examined them in mini-clinics between planned surgeries and even squeezed in an additional surgery for residual club foot release.”

“It was humbling that these patients and their families walked from their small mountain villages, sleeping on the road along the way, just to be seen by the American surgeons who may be able to help them or their children’s orthopedic problems,” said Dr. Guyer.

About our partner organization – POF

This recap would not be complete without a good word about the Society’s partner, Seattle-based Prosthetics Outreach Foundation (POF) and its Hanoi staff, who handle in-country logistics and organizational relationships in Vietnam for the AOFAS project. With its complimentary mission of “helping the developing world walk,” the POF has set up production and training to provide prosthetic devices for the indigent without charge. Through its expanding Ponseti program, the POF educates the public about club foot treatment through pamphlets, radio and TV and its staff fan out to smaller cities and towns in Vietnam to educate and train technicians in the Ponseti method of applying casts.

“The results of the Ponseti program organized by the POF were impressive,” said Dr. Gurbani. “We saw a number of small children who had been successfully treated with Ponseti casting and did not need surgery or only needed a TAL.”

Reflections

“I have volunteered my services in many countries in the past 15 years, and this visit to Vietnam was the best so far,” reflected Dr. Gurbani. “The AOFAS has been organizing and sending teams of members to Vietnam for 11 years, and I feel I was the beneficiary of their efficiency and professionalism.”

Your help is needed

AOFAS volunteers pay their own travel costs to Vietnam. In-country costs are covered by the Outreach & Education Fund (OEF) through charitable donations from members and industry. To help support the OEF or to volunteer to participate in a future AOFAS Overseas Outreach Project to Vietnam visit www.aofas.org (About OEF). The next application deadline is December 1, 2012.
tibia and fibula. The “A” can be seen as a longitudinal cross-section of a transected cone. The top portion is a triangle and the lower section is representative of the frustum, which we know is the geometric shape of the talus. The ability to complete a transfer of energy from horizontal to vertical through mechanics was facilitated by the frustum present in numerous machines from the industrial age, which shows human creativity and innovation through design. The three sides of the triangle: physicians, scientists, and engineers work together to overcome the challenges we embrace.

S is for Society, a group working to provide medical/surgical care, education, research, and service. The shape of the “S” is a curve following an opposite curve, a sinusoid wave from the ground to the sky. As orthopaedic surgeons we are familiar with oscillations, twists, and turns in the provision of care. The dynamic nature of the human condition energizes and inspires our members and draws us together. Collective involvement is instrumental to tapping our vast array of skills and human potential.

Tributes
I would like to recognize those in my past who created opportunity and personal inspiration. My grandparents and parents laid the foundation for compassion and set the standards for interaction with patients, co-workers, and colleagues. I received mentorship during medical school (1980-84) under department chairman Richard Jacobs, MD, at Albany Medical College in New York, and Arthur Sadler, MD, chief of orthopaedics at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx. During residency I was inspired by my chairman, Victor Frankel, MD, who had written about foot and ankle biomechanics, and my residency director Joe Zuckerman, MD (AAOS past president), who created the educational environment at Hospital for Joint Diseases Orthopaedic Institute (HJDOI) in New York. My most pivotal mentor at that institution was Melvin Jahss, MD, one of the founding members of the American Orthopaedic Foot Society (AOFS), later known as AOFAS, founding editor of Foot and Ankle Journal, later called Foot and Ankle International, and AOFAS President (1974-75).

Also at HJDOI, I benefited from the experiences of Michael Shereff (president 2000-01) and studied foot and ankle trauma under pioneers Howard Rosen and Arsen Pankovich. As a result of their influence, I received an AO scholarship to study foot and ankle trauma and reconstruction with Ted Hansen, MD, the inspirational AOFAS-OTA trailblazer at the University of Washington. When he invited me to assist him in a hands-on foot and ankle course held in Chicago in 1988, I found myself surrounded by our legendary educators and AOFAS leaders – including Ron Smith, Malcolm Brahms, Roger Mann, Ken Johnson, John Gould, Bill Hamilton, and Andrea Cracchiolo. These gentlemen were brilliant teachers and warm engaging human beings.

“We have come a long way in the 43 years since the Society’s inception.”

Following my HJDOI residency, I pursued a fellowship with Donald Baxter (president 1995-96) and Tom Clanton (president 1999-2000) at the University of Texas Houston. Both taught me to be a physician and surgeon and also modeled for me the altruistic provision of the art and science of orthopaedic care. The lessons I learned formed my foundation for subsequent mentoring in years to come.

After this intense and stimulating early exposure to the Society greats, I joined Mark Myerson (president 2004-05), another former Mel Jahss fellow, at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland in 1990. The Union Memorial Foot and Ankle Fellowship founded by Mark a few years prior to my arrival placed an emphasis on biomechanics and clinical research. Mark was a marvelous colleague who has made vast contributions to our specialty.

Further mentorship was provided along the way by many of our Society’s Board members and committee participants. Prominent orthopaedic educator, trumpeter, and co-founder of the AAOS Band, Fred Lippert, III, MD, CAPT MC USNR ret, deserves special mention. Not only did he encourage so many military surgeons to focus on our subspecialty, he helped inspire a generation of academicians through his courses and counsel.

I thank my colleagues at Union Memorial – Stuart Miller, MD; Greg Guyton, MD; Brent Parks, MSc; Zijun Zhang, MD, PhD; and Lyn Carnire (editor) for enhancing my ongoing acquisition of knowledge. Deep appreciation is also extended to my current and former fellows for enlightening me and providing friendship and support. All of this splendor is enhanced by love from my incredible wife, Erika, and our 5 sons: Jeremy, Ian, Andrew, Ben, and Jason.

Looking Ahead
So where will our Society go this next year? Our strategic priorities are numerous but focused under the following domains: education, membership, health policy, research, organizational excellence, communication, Outreach and Education Fund, and humanitarian outreach. I will reserve for another time my more detailed thoughts about these important components of our Society, but I offer gratitude to those who serve on our committees and hope the coming year brings continued growth of our accomplishments in every area where we invest our efforts. The AOFAS can serve as an example to other societies with its energy and commitment.

We have come a long way in the 43 years since the Society’s inception. As world citizens as well as foot and ankle providers we live in an amazing time, and we must not squander our opportunities. We must stay focused on identifying problems and potential setbacks and overcome these efficiently and safely. It is my honor to help steward a creative environment for good-spirited, dedicated surgeons and researchers who collaborate to advance health worldwide. With humility, excitement, and great respect, I thank you for this opportunity to serve as president of the AOFAS.
Although coding for lesser toe deformities seems rather simple, there are a number of different procedures that can be performed in a small area. Knowing the proper codes associated with those procedures will help you code properly and be paid appropriately for your efforts. The most commonly used codes are listed below with descriptors and small pearls as to their proper use.

Some payors restrict the number of codes that may be submitted during any one surgical setting. You should be familiar with the preferences of the payors in your region. If a payor restricts the number of codes allowed, it is recommended that you review the relative value units (RVUs) for each code and submit the codes with the highest RVU total value.

In all cases, appropriate toe modifiers, listed at the end of this article, should be used and multiple procedure modifiers (51 and 59) must be applied correctly to expect proper payment. Correct coding is the responsibility of the surgeon and should accurately represent the work performed during the patient encounter.

CPT 28285 Correction hammertoe (e.g., interphalangeal fusion, partial or total phalangectomy) – This code may be used to indicate any type of hammertoe repair. CPT 27690 and CPT 27691 are also correct and may be used. When performing this procedure on a lesser toe at the same time as performing a bunion procedure, it is recommended that you include the correct toe modifier on the hammertoe correction as well as a 59 modifier. Without the modifier, these codes may be improperly bundled and your payment may be decreased.

CPT 28010 Tenotomy, percutaneous, toe; single tendon and CPT 28011 multiple tendons – These codes are used for percutaneous flexor tenotomy of the toe flexors. The number of tendons transected determines whether to use CPT 28010 (one tendon) or CPT 28011 (multiple tendons). You can bill CPT 28010 for four lesser toes or bill CPT 28011 four times and CPT 28080 for the fifth toe. If done through a separate incision, this may be coded with a hammertoe correction (CPT 28285). Since carriers typically only pay for five lines on a bill, adding this to a CPT 28285 will not increase payment.

CPT 28232 Tenotomy, open, tendon flexor; toe, single tendon (separate procedure) – This code is used to indicate an open tenotomy of a single flexor tendon of the toe. This must be identified as a separate procedure in the operative note and not be a procedure normally included in the performance of another procedure. This may be coded with a hammertoe correction (CPT 28285), if done through a separate incision.

CPT 28313 Reconstruction, angular deformity of toe, soft tissue procedures only (e.g., overlapping second toe, fifth toe, curly toes) – This code is the workhorse for crossover corrections (varus or valgus) of the lesser toes. This could be a simple crossover second toe or possibly all the toes with a windswept type deformity that is corrected in this manner. This code encompasses a number of different procedures that are currently described as a “crossover toe correction.” This list includes: lateral ligament plication with medial capsular release; EDB transfer under the intermetatarsal ligament; and both the old and new techniques for plantar plate repair. A distal metatarsal osteotomy (Weil type) may be charged separately using CPT 28308 or could be coded as an angular deformity with CPT 28285.

CPT 28124 Partial excision (craterization, sauerization, sequestrectomy, or diaphyseotomy) bone (e.g., osteomyelitis or bossing); phalanx of toe – This code may be used to describe the partial excision of the condyles of phalanges to remove prominences that can generate such issues as “soft corns.” It is also an option to use when a partial excision of the phalanx is performed to remove osteomyelitis. It could also be described with CPT 11044. Since carriers typically only pay for five lines on a bill, adding this to CPT 28285 will not increase payment.
Missing an issue of *Foot & Ankle International*?

If you are missing a recent issue of *Foot & Ankle International*, it could be due to an address change not provided to the AOFAS Executive Office. All address updates should be routed directly to the AOFAS, not to the publisher. Current mailing lists are provided monthly to the publisher by the AOFAS.

It is essential that your member record remain current for best communications with the Society as well as to allow the public to locate you easily when using the Find A Member feature on the AOFAS website. Login and view your listing and write to LBierman@aofas.org with any updates or changes in preferred mailing address and/or e-mail address.

**Print your own CME certificates**

AOFAS members may login to www.aofas.org and click on **View CME Transcript** (bottom of the home page screen/red section) to see what certificates are available for printing at your convenience. If you see a 1.0 credit, it may indicate you did not submit a completed CME Verification Form. Contact the AOFAS at aofasinfo@aofas.org and the appropriate form(s) will be provided as needed.

The current AOFAS database reflects meeting attendance since July 2006 for meetings where the AOFAS processed registration directly. Specialty Day, for example, is registered through the AAOS so certificates are available only through the Academy at www.aaos.org.

**Congratulations to new and elevating members**

**Effective June 22, 2012**

**Current membership: 1,921**

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- Joseph Galles, MD
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- John Lynott, MD
- William Refvem, MD

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