



**Delaware Society of
Orthopaedic Surgeons**

DSOS NEWSLETTER FALL 2016

VOL 6, ISSUE 1



IN THIS ISSUE

President's Address

by Peter Townsend, M.D.

Dear Colleagues,

It will be at this year's DSOS business meeting that my four years as both President-elect, and President come to an end. It is also the day when Dr. Steve Malone will take over as our very capable, and engaged new president. It has been my absolute privilege to be both president and advocate for the DSOS.

As I look back at what we, as a group of concerned orthopaedic surgeons, have accomplished, along with our advocacy colleagues in others fields of medicine, I realize that we have a legitimate voice in our government's policies, and in our own collective futures.

Among our accomplishments, we have seen legislation passed for liability coverage of traveling sports medicine physicians. We have convinced CMS to acknowledge inherent difficulties of ICD 10, and change the launch date to incorporate a grace period of one year. We have also accomplished together, the continued defunding of IPAB. Though these are significant accomplishments, none of us, under any circumstances should sit back and be passive about the future of healthcare. We have in front of us opportunities to potentially allow Delaware physician

ownership of Physical Therapy practices. Also, MACRA, MIPS, APM and all the other healthcare "reform" alphabet soup acronym programs are not yet written in bone, so are therefore, moldable with our continued efforts.

My time spent with legislators and colleagues, as one of the Delaware representatives to several National Orthopaedic Leadership Conferences (NOLC) has provided insight into what can be accomplished. It was at the 2016 NOLC conference that Delaware received an award for the most improved state for PAC contributions. I would like to thank all of you who contributed to that award, and can only emphasize that there is much work to do, so please continue to support our Orthopaedic PAC.

A big shout out and THANK YOU to Executive Director Megan Hayes for her knowledge, organization, and hard work to keep our DSOS running smoothly.

I look forward to seeing you all at the 2016 Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium, and hope you will consider attending the DSOS business meeting.



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DSOS News & Updates

The DSOS Annual Business Meeting will be held prior to the start of the 9th Annual Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 7:15 – 7:45 a.m. The meeting will be in Rooms 8/9 of the John H. Ammon Medical Education Center and all DSOS members are invited and encouraged to attend.

If you have an item for inclusion on the agenda, please contact Megan at megan.hayes@medsocdel.org by October 17, 2016.

ELECTIONS

Elections for DSOS Leadership for the two-year term 2016-2018 will be held at the Annual Business meeting, so please plan to attend.



DELAWARE SOCIETY OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

2016-2018 BALLOT

The following is the slate of nominees for the Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Approval of this slate elects the following officers for the term of 2016-2018 (*unless otherwise noted*):

PRESIDENT

Stephen Malone, M.D.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Randeep Kahlon, M.D.

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP

Craig Smucker, M.D.

SECRETARY

David Solacoff, M.D.

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AAOS

Peter Townsend, M.D. (3-year term 2017-2020)

DSOS 2016 NOLC Update

by Daniel Davis, M.D.

As an orthopaedic resident in my final year of training it was a privilege and an honor to join the representatives from the Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons as we participated in "The Hill Day" of the 2016 National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC). Before summarizing the fantastic experience we had in advocating for orthopaedic interests with our congressional leaders, I would first like to introduce myself and my interest in advocacy.

I am currently a fifth year resident at the Thomas Jefferson University orthopaedic program in Philadelphia and will be continuing on

next year at same institution as a fellow in Shoulder and Elbow surgery. A native of northeastern Pennsylvania, my training has taken a circuitous route to find me back in the mid-Atlantic. After growing up near the Pocono Mountains, a new family job took me with my parents to St Thomas in the Virgin Islands to graduate from high school. From there I came back to the states, but the southeast, for college at Wake Forest University. Medical school took me even further south to New Orleans at Tulane University and residency brought my wife and I back again to Pennsylvania. After finishing her Ob/Gyn residency at the University of

Pennsylvania, my wife found the perfect practice opportunity with First State Women's Care in Wilmington, which made us residents of North Wilmington last year.

My interests in advocacy have been developed through my mentors in residency, my participation in the inaugural Resident Assembly of the AAOS, and being a member of the Health Policy Committee of that organization. Through these organizations, I learned more about the NOLC and was fortunate (and very grateful) to be sponsored by the DSOS to participate this year.

Joining together with Dr. Peter Townsend (Delaware Orthopaedic Specialists and President of DSOS), Dr. Alex Bodenstab (First State Orthopaedics and AAOS Board of Counselors), Dr. Brian Galinat (Delaware

DSOS 2016 NOLC Update cont'd

Orthopaedic Specialists and AAOS Board of Directors), and Dr. Reid Nichols (A.I. DuPont Department of Orthopaedics and AAOS Health Policy Committee), we went out on a cool, misty Thursday morning in May to voice our positions along with other member of the AAOS to our elected officials.

As Congress was out of session, all meetings were held with Health Policy Staff of the congressional offices, but this led to many enlightening discussions. Being from Delaware, we were certainly one of the smaller contingents; however this gave us the opportunity to learn quickly from each other, build an excellent rapport, and put together a strong pitch for the issues that matter most to us as orthopaedic surgeons. There were four main issues, which we as orthopaedic surgeons were supporting in our visit to Capitol Hill. I will summarize these below.

The Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act is a bill that promotes that ability of malpractice coverage to cross state lines in an effort to protect physicians who cover sports teams and travel to other states. This is a measure which is very important to Delaware physicians as interstate competition is a daily occurrence. In our discussions with the staffers it seemed as though the bill should have bipartisan support and is unopposed by other common opponents (trial lawyers), so should theoretically move through quickly. This is not the first year this bill has been proposed, but we are still optimistic for positive results.

The bulk of our discussions were focused on modifying rules and regulations set forth in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010. While we received positive feedback that many of our suggestions were most likely reasonable adjustments to make, we were informed that any movement of modifying the ACA is being met with strong resistance as the only modifications that many would like to see is a complete repeal. Stead forth, however, we treaded onward and made our push.

As most orthopaedic surgeons who perform joint arthroplasty know, the

Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CCJR) or "bundled payment" initiative was implemented as a model of initiating payments for the in hospital and after care of total hip and knee patients. This was rolled out in predetermined markets around the country beginning April 1, 2016. The position we pushed for as delegates of the AAOS is that the initiative was rolled out too quickly without giving adequate time for practices to implement these bundles appropriately. Only five months of lead time was given, which is not enough to create adequate coordination of care as is required with such a large initiative. A request was therefore made to delay implementation until January 2018. Despite the April 1 start date, the payments are delivered retroactively, so there is still time to act and delay this legislation.

A past point of emphasis of the AAOS was the repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) reimbursement model of Medicare. This repeal was successful last year with the passage of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015, which showed what our unified efforts in Washington can accomplish. Along with the repeal of SGR, MACRA created a new Quality Payment system with two paths: Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Alternative Payment Methods (APM). The MIPS program specifically folds in many portions of prior quality initiatives into one system. One of these initiatives is the Meaningful Use (MU) criteria of EHR.

Under current legislation, MU is to be reported for a complete 365 day period. This means that there is no time from the end of one collection period to the beginning of the next to determine what criteria you are collecting well and what needs improvement. While we discussed many other changes with MU (specialty specific, more uniform EHR, etc.), the main focus we had as representatives of AAOS, the Flexibility in EHR Reporting Act, was to decrease the reporting period to 90 days. This would give CMS adequate time to report back to physicians on their MU and allow them to make changes as needed.

The final point we discussed was focused on was the ban that was placed on expansion or new construction of physician owned hospitals. Under the ACA, no new construction or expansion of a physician owned hospital is allowed to bill Medicare or Medicaid. While it was noted that this is not currently a major issue for Delaware physicians, it could be in the future as continued competition is always the way to better quality. The statistics of quality improvement seen in physician owned hospitals is outstanding. Under the Hospital Star Rating System, 42% of physician owned hospitals achieve a 5-star rating; this is countered with 0.5% of non-physician owned hospitals reaching the same level. Patient satisfaction, length of stay, and cost of care have also all been shown to be improved in physician owned hospitals. The Protecting Access, Competition, and Equity (PACE) of Physician Owned Hospitals Act asks to repeal the ban for a period of three years. After this period if a hospital is unable to attain a 3-star rating then it would not be allowed to participate in CMS.

This event was a great experience for me personally as it furthered my interest in advocacy. While the day also opened my eyes more to the difficulties in accomplishing political goals, it taught me the resources that are available to anyone to have their voice heard and to speak about what is important to them. Finally, as an organization, I believe our Academy does a wonderful job of succinctly organizing our base and prioritizing matters which are most important to us as orthopaedic surgeons. I would encourage every orthopaedic surgeon to get involved with the Delaware State Orthopaedic Society, the Orthopaedic Political Action Committee, or the AAOS Board on Health Policy if you would like to continue the work of optimizing our ability to practice this great profession.





Orthopaedic Political Action Committee Manual

Understanding the legislative issues that affect you as an orthopaedic surgeon is a critical first step in becoming more politically active. Political advocacy covers a wide range of activities, including voting in elections, lobbying a member of Congress, or contributing to the political action committee of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (Orthopaedic PAC). Formed in 1999, the Orthopaedic PAC works to advance the advocacy goals of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the Specialty Societies. The Orthopaedic PAC is the only national political action committee in Washington, DC solely dedicated to representing the interests of orthopaedic surgeons before Congress.

What is the Orthopaedic PAC?

Political Action Committees are organized for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect or defeat candidates for public office. PACs such as the **Orthopaedic PAC** are legal entities affiliated with and administered by an organization that can solicit contributions from its members and other individuals connected with the organization. Most PACs represent professional or ideological interests and maintain separate, segregated funds from their associated organization's general treasury which allows a group to advocate on behalf of a large constituency with related interests; in our case Orthopaedic Surgeons who are AAOS members.

The Orthopaedic PAC specifically supports members of Congress and candidates for federal office who understand the issues orthopaedic surgeons face on a daily basis, and who will be sensitive to these

concerns while in office. The PAC is a nonpartisan entity that contributes to Democrats, Republicans and party committees who share and support its views. By engaging politicians and their staff, the Orthopaedic PAC promotes access to musculoskeletal care and influences health policy.

The mission of the Orthopaedic PAC is to help advance the legislative agenda of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons and Specialty Societies by opening political doors and providing access to policymakers. This access provides opportunities to express our well-reasoned viewpoints on the issues of the day (e.g.: Physician Payment Reform, Medical Liability Reform, Access to Care Issues, Anti-trust reform, Research Funding, GME funding etc.).

How Much Can PACs Spend and What Role Did the Citizens United Decision Play?

Federal multi-candidate PACs may contribute up to \$5,000 to a candidate or candidate committee each election (primary and general elections are treated as separate elections). PACs can also contribute up to \$15,000 annually to a political party or party committee (e.g.: Democratic or Republican National Committee) as well as up to \$5,000 to another PAC per year. PACs can also participate in races by making unlimited contributions to fund expenditures independent of a specific candidate or political party (independent expenditures; or expressed advocacy on an issue).

In 2010, the United States Supreme Court decided in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* that laws prohibiting political expenditures by unions and corporations were unconstitutional. The Citizens United decision legalized corporations and unions to spend from their general treasuries to finance political expenditures independent of a specific candidate or political party. The Court did not alter the prior prohibition excluding corporations or unions from contributing directly to federal campaigns or party committees.

With the influx of special interest groups in Washington and in lieu of the Citizens United decision, the advocacy bar has been raised. This is why it has become increasingly important to develop and maintain relationships between elected officials and AAOS members and Government Relations staff. These relationships establish an open line of communication between the orthopaedic community and policymakers.

How Much Can an Individual AAOS Member Contribute and What is the Difference between Corporate and Personal Contributions?

Individuals can contribute up to \$5,000 to any PAC per year. Corporate contributions (or soft dollars) include checks and credit cards processed on a physician's business account (LLC, PC, or Inc.) Personal contributions (or hard dollars) are checks and credit cards from a physician's personal account. Under federal FEC law, personal contributions can be used for political candidates whereas corporate contributions cannot. Corporate contributions are in turn used to pay the PAC's operational expenses (FEC filing software, etc.). Therefore, all contributions are greatly appreciated but **personal contributions are preferred.**

Membership in the Orthopaedic PAC begins with a monetary donation of any amount.



John Gill, MD, Chairman,
Orthopaedic PAC

Orthopaedic PAC Manual cont'd

Who Decides How the Orthopaedic PAC's Funds are Dispersed?

The Orthopaedic PAC Executive Committee is charged with developing a method and strategy for determining and making contributions to federal candidates. Orthopaedic PAC reports are made to the AAOS Board of Directors on a regular basis and the chair of the Orthopaedic PAC Executive Committee also reports at least annually to the Board of Directors regarding its specific activities and progress.

The Orthopaedic PAC strongly encourages its PAC members to attend "in-district" events to facilitate open communications and develop relationships with their members of communications and develop relationships with their members of Congress. To facilitate this, the Orthopaedic PAC Executive Committee considers all contribution requests brought forth by a contributing Orthopaedic PAC member. To make a request, simply contact the AAOS PAC Manager in the AAOS Office of Government Relations at (202) 546-4150 or at Monroe@aaos.org. The Orthopaedic PAC has also developed and regularly updates a "Criteria for Making Political Contributions to Candidates" which helps to better guide the dispersal of funds in a strategic and coordinated approach. Visit aaos.org/pac to view this "Criteria for Giving." In 2014, the Orthopaedic PAC was over 88% successful in the 213 Congressional races it supported and has set even greater expectations for each new election cycle it faces.

Why it Matters?

Political, social and economic changes continue to have dramatic effects on the practice of orthopaedic care in the United States. PACs have a significant role within the political discourse and continue to be the primary means by which organizations gain access to policy makers.

When the Orthopaedic PAC makes a contribution, it sends a strong, collective and clear message from

orthopaedic surgeons to a particular candidate. As the PAC grows, that message resonates deeper. The Orthopaedic PAC is the only national PAC solely dedicated to representing the interests of orthopaedic surgeons in the nation's capital. It strengthens our voice on Capitol Hill! The choice is simple: to either sit and watch from the sidelines, or to stand up, make the collective voice of the orthopaedic community heard, and give orthopaedic surgeons the opportunity to help shape legislation that is in the best interest of our patients and our profession. 

DELAWARE AWARDED STUART L. WEISTEIN PAC AWARD



From Left: John Gill, MD, Alex Bodenstab, MD, BOC Representative, Peter Townsend, MD, DSOS President, Brian Galinat, MD, MBA, Member, AAOS Board of Director

Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons (DSOS) leaders Alex Bodenstab, MD, Peter Townsend, MD and Brian Galinat, MD, MBA were presented with the Stuart L. Weinstein PAC Award for 'Orthopaedic PAC Most Improved 2016' at this year's NOLC in Washington, DC.

Thank you to everyone who stepped up and donated to OrthoPAC. Our goal for 2017 is for Delaware to achieve 100% OrthoPAC participation!

DONATE TO ORTHOPAEDIC PAC

Orthopaedic PAC gives orthopaedic surgeons a voice on issues that impact our patients and our profession. We cannot afford to be silent or complacent. The stakes are much too high.

DSOS has set a goal of 100% OrthoPAC participation in 2017. Currently, Delaware is at 53% participation. We are in reach of our goal but we need the other 47% to step up and make a contribution today!

Don't wait, visit www.aaos.org/Advocacy/PAC or make an Ortho PAC donation thru text message! Simply text the word AAOS to 41444 and you will receive a link via text message to make a donation.

Questions?

Contact Ortho PAC Manager, Stacie Monroe at monroe@aaos.org or (202) 546-4150

2016 Annual Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium

Saturday, October 29, 2016

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

delawareorthopaedicsymposium.org



For a detailed agenda and to register for this event please visit:

www.delawareorthopaedicsymposium.org

The ninth annual Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at the John H. Ammon Medical Education Center at Christiana Hospital in Newark. Presented by [The Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons \(DSOS\)](#) and [Christiana Care Health System's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery](#) the symposium features a robust **AGENDA** to include two keynote addresses, multiple lectures on the latest advancements in musculoskeletal health and orthopaedic surgery and a live anatomical dissection of the knee. 2016 Education Tracks include orthopaedic surgery, primary care orthopaedic medicine, and PT Specialty Services. **Don't wait, Register today!**

Keynote Speakers



Andrew Grose, M.D.

Dr. Grose is a specialist in reconstruction of the pelvis and extremities after complex trauma, treatment of fracture nonunion, bone infections, and primary and revision total joint replacement. He is actively involved in research on bone healing and improving clinical outcomes after musculoskeletal trauma. He educates residents and surgeons throughout the United States on advanced trauma care as a member of the AO North America Trauma Faculty.



Christian Lattermann, M.D.

Dr. Latterman is the Director for Cartilage Repair and Restoration at University of Kentucky HealthCare®. He received his medical degree from Hannover Medical School in Germany and completed his residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Hannover Medical School. His clinical interests include cartilage and knee surgery, complex shoulder problems, orthopaedic surgery, shoulder replacement, shoulder surgery including instability surgery and sports medicine.

Visiting Speakers



John D. Kelly IV, M.D.

Dr. Kelly is the Director of Sports Shoulder and a Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. Some of his clinical expertise and areas of interest include: arthroscopic knee reconstruction, arthroscopic shoulder surgery, elbow loose bodies, hip arthroscopy, knee cartilage tear, knee instability and shoulder replacement. Dr. Kelly graduated from University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and fellowship at Temple University Hospital.



Eric Kropf, M.D.

Dr. Kropf is the Associate Professor and Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine. He is also the Director of Resident Education and Research for Temple University. His clinical interest include sports medicine, ligament injuries, rotator cuff disease and tears, labral tears, SLAP tears and shoulder and elbow injuries. Research interests include biological manipulation of ligament healing, advance imaging/MRI of knee injuries. Dr. Kropf received his medical degree at Georgetown University and completed his residency, internship and fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Thank you to ATI Physical Therapy
for being our 2016 Orthopaedic
Symposium Lead Sponsor!



The Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Is a proud sponsor of the

Arthritis Foundation Delaware's



The 7th Annual Arthritis Foundation Bone Bash will be held on Friday, October 28, 2016 at the DuPont Country Club (1001 Rockland Road Wilmington, DE 19803). Festivities begin at 6:30 pm and all proceeds benefit the Arthritis Foundation.

The 2016 Delaware Bone Bash will be a Halloween-themed cocktail reception and costume party featuring an open bar, gourmet food stations, spooky decorations, costume contests, an auction and frightfully fun entertainment including music, games and much more! This year's distinguished honorees are Candice Galvis and James Richard Bowen, MD, an orthopaedic surgeon at Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children.

DSOS members receive one complimentary ticket to the Bone Bash so be sure to register today at www.arthritis.org/bonebashdelaware!! Select "DSOS Members" at checkout and use discount code DSOS16.

Questions about the event may be directed to Lauren Yankolonis, Executive Director, Maryland and Delaware of the Arthritis Foundation at

443-738-9621 or lyankolonis@arthritis.org.



Member News

Congratulations to DSOS Member, Brian J. Galinat, MD, MBA, for being elected to serve on the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Board for 2016-2018! Dr. Galinat became a member of the AAOS Board of Directors at the AAOS's 2016 Annual Meeting. He is the first AAOS Board of Directors member from the state of Delaware!

Membership Update



The Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons seeks to unite orthopaedic surgeons from around the state in promoting information to our members, policymakers, and the public about issues that affect the orthopaedists' ability to provide timely and top quality musculoskeletal health care services to their patients.

DSOS welcomes new member:
Louis Reid Boyce Nichols, M.D.

Have a colleague who may want to



Contact Megan at Megan.Hayes@medsocdel.org or (302) 224-5181

Upcoming Events

Philadelphia Orthopaedic Society

Guest Speakers 2016-17
Jack E. Kazanjian, D.O., Program Chair

- November 14, 2016**
Fifth Annual Richard H. Rothman Lecture
Speaker: Jay Parvizi, MD
Balancing Life: Ten Commandments and Seven Sins
- December 12, 2016**
13th Annual Steinberg-Lotke Lecture
Speaker: Richard Iorio, MD
APMs, MACRA, MIPS and the Ethics of Total Joint Arthroplasty Care Delivery in a Value Based Health Care System
- February 13, 2017**
Shoulder Symposium
Moderator Jack E. Kazanjian, DO, Program Chair,
Panelists: G. Russell Huffman, MD, MPH; Louis Bigliani, Gerald R. Williams, III, MD, Mark Lazarus, MD

Christiana Care Health System

ORTHOPAEDIC LECTURE SERIES
Moving Freely Without Pain

Hip & Knee
Monday, October 24, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Foot & Ankle
Thursday, November 3, 6 – 7 p.m.

Spine
Tuesday, November 15, 6 – 7 p.m.



Save the Dates!!

2016 DATES	2017 DATES
7th Annual Arthritis Bone Bash October 28, 2016 DuPont Country Club	2017 AAOS Annual Meeting March 14 – 18, 2017 San Diego
9th Annual Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium October 29, 2016 John H. Ammon Medical Education Center	2017 AAOS NOLC April 26- 29, 2017 Washington, DC
MSD Campaign for Kids 4th Annual 5K Run/Walk November 5, 2016 Rockford Park	2017 AAOS Fall Meeting October 19-22. 2017 Dallas, TX
2016 MSD Annual Meeting November 19, 2016 Medical Society of Delaware Conference Center	8th Annual Arthritis Bone Bash October 27, 2017 DuPont Country Club
2016 MSD Inaugural Gala November 19, 2016 DuPont Country Club	10th Annual Delaware Orthopaedic Symposium October 28, 2017 John H. Ammon Medical Education Center