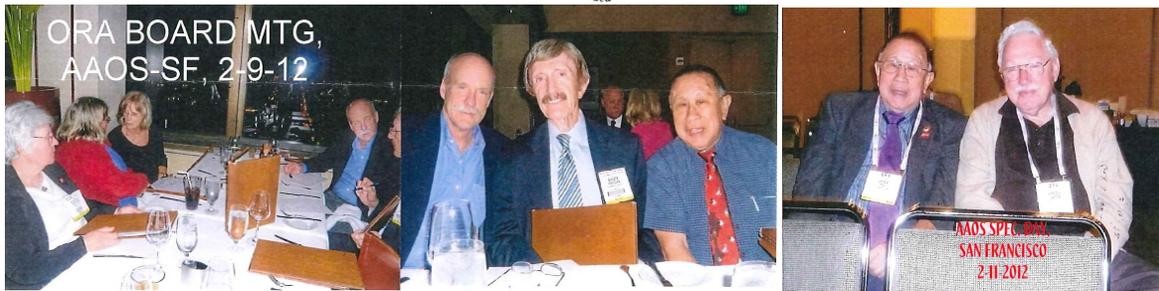


ORTHOPAEDIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION



Dear ORA Members:

April 2012

It is with pleasure that I have completed my first year as your President. I have agreed to take on one additional year and am very honored to be part of the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association. Presidential duties involve a lot of hard work and for me I certainly could not have done this without significant help from my secretary, Debbie Finch, as well as Dr. Marsolais and Dr. Harish Hosalkar. Without help, I think this would have been impossible. Starting out this year we had a very good Specialty Day presentation at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeon meeting in San Francisco. Generally the weather for the meeting was good and the kick-off of the Chinese New Year, in this case “the year of the dragon” happened very close to our hotel.

The Hand Transplantation Symposium went over quite well. I gave a talk explaining how our amputees are currently treated in short and long-term follow-up. Pat Prigge from Advanced Arm Dynamics explained state of the art prosthetic fitting and what we would see in the future. Linda Cendales from Emory University in Atlanta gave a tremendous talk on the details of upper extremity transplantation, patient selection and results. Dr. Gerald Brandacher from Johns Hopkins gave a compelling talk on immunology and explained some of the tremendous advances that have occurred in this field. Capping off the symposium were talks by Scott Frey regarding central nervous system mapping and Steve Moran from the Mayo Clinic talking about how their program has been set up, patient selection and other ethical issues. Finishing Specialty Day was an organization of talks arranged by Dr. Harish Hosalkar on upper extremity problems. This was very well done and I would like to send a word of appreciation to all of the speakers on Specialty Day.

The Jacquelin Perry award was presented to Addisu Mesfin, M.D. who discussed “An Analysis of the Orthopaedic In-Training Examination Rehabilitation Section”. This year we decided to defer the Nickel Award until next year’s annual meeting. We may perhaps announce this award at next year’s ACPOC meeting.

I have been very busy lately and just returned from the ACPOC Annual Meeting in Banff, Canada (April 11-14). On behalf of the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association, I presented a symposium on amputation level selection, both pediatric and adult with an

emphasis on vascular salvaging procedures, including an extensive discussion of surgical techniques to create the ideal residual limb. It is our hope that the ORA will continue to have a presence at ACPOC and we would like to get a symposium together with a number of ORA members on spinal cord injury. ACPOC has expressed a sincere interest in this. I also discussed with Eugene Banziger from ACPOC starting a tradition of enclosing in the ACPOC Newsletter, the ORA Newsletter.

I am already trying to plan with our Board members our next years meeting agenda. We would like to continue our presence at the Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons on Specialty Day and hopefully next year we can present a symposium both on Workers Comp and perhaps an afternoon session on total knee rehabilitation. We need to start appealing to “the masses” so as to get maximum attendees and increase some of our income. I have tried to “piggy back” our symposium on hand transplantation with the American Society for Surgery of the Hand as well as the American Association for Hand Surgery. This however has been difficult. They really want to keep their meetings involved with their own members so at this point we are more or less on our own.

ORA’s finances are not in very good shape. Specialty Day in San Francisco cost us roughly \$7000. Our membership is declining however our members are highly involved and passionate about rehabilitation. I thank all of you for your support. ORA however does need your help so please send in your dues now and if you wish, we would be most appreciative if you could donate to the OREF. Your donation to the OREF can be directed to the ORA as your desired society and 50% of your donation to the OREF will then go directly to the ORA. Any of these funds would be greatly appreciated. **I appeal also to all of our membership to stay active and for those of you who have dropped off the high activity, please renew your membership. We still need all of your help.** Enclosed below is a listing of the various membership dues.

Regular: \$300/year
Supporting: \$500
Sustaining: \$1000
Developing: \$5000

I look forward to seeing all of you in Chicago at the upcoming AAOS. I have also been kicking around the idea of possibly having a separate ORA meeting here in Minneapolis at the Shrine Children’s Hospital that would be just simply a “brown bag” type meeting where we have informal discussions on rehabilitative issues.

Thanks again for all of your help, stay well.

Sincerely yours,

Robin C. Crandall, M.D.

