President’s Message

Note that the ORA Specialty Day program is in your AAOS packet. Please include ORA in Las Vegas, Saturday, February, 28, 2009 and join us at our next membership meeting, 7:30am, Room 3401, The Venetian Hotel.

I thank Mary Ann Keenan, M.D. for her many years of dedication to ORA as our Executive Secretary, a voluntary, time intensive, non-paid position. Barbara Weinraub has been replaced by Mickey Marsolais as a non-paid Executive Director. Past President, Byron Marsolais, MD, PhD is our new Executive Secretary. Note the new address of our Secretariat: ORA, 2835 Drummond Road, Shaker Heights, Oh., 44120.

Our President-elect, Catherine Hawthorne, MD is scheduled to take over as our next President at the 2009 Annual meeting (ORA XX) The Board elected me to succeed Pedro Beredjiklian, M.D. as President. Pedro completed his term in September and we thank him for his efforts and contributions. We are in discussion with the Orthopaedic Trauma Association (OTA) and we plan a possible joint session in San Diego next October 2009. In the meantime, the Association of Child Prosthetics and Orthotics (ACPOC) desires a shared meeting and other matters of potential mutual interest and benefit. We are THE MAJOR Orthopaedic Specialty Society whose mission is to combine all possible treatments, surgical or not, to elevate the patient to the highest possible functional level. We bring patients integrated rehabilitation techniques, principles and practice to service their very special needs and conditions. At the Unit Summit called by AAOS in early October and attended by Dr. Marsolais and myself, we were considered to be “unique” and a very desired orthopaedic organization in this era of expanding body part specialization. I request our membership to keep its interests and come and express themselves at our meetings – the board wants to listen to you. If possible, help us recruit some new (younger) members. At 20 years since our inception, we need to insure the understanding of our concepts “one generation” further.

Lastly, with the holiday season approaching, on behalf of the Board of Directors, please let us wish you Happy Holidays and a Prosperous 2009.

Sincerely,

John Hsu, President
Research Awards 2009
The 2008 Award Competition

The Research Committee chaired by Dr. Byron Marsolais has received a number of papers for the Jacquelin Perry and Vernon Nickel Awards for 2009. The recipient of the J. Perry Award will receive $2,000 for travel expenses to present at the ORA Specialty Day Program in Las Vegas, February 28, 2009. The 2008 recipient of the V. Nickel Award was Nicolas O. Noiseux for his paper entitled "The Effect of Sitting Pressure on Ischial Blood Flow in Spinal Cord Injured Patients vs. Non-Injured Controls." Dr. Noiseux receives $1,500 for travel expenses and will also present his paper at the Las Vegas meeting. The 2009 recipient of the V. Nickel Award will present at the ORA Annual Meeting in fall of 2009 planned for San Diego.

OREF Report
OREF 2007 Annual Campaign.
If you've already made a gift for 2008, please accept my gratitude and join me in encouraging our colleagues to do the same. You can make a contribution to the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association (ORA) through the 2008 Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF) Annual Campaign. OREF has made it easy for our members to contribute and support the mission of ORA. Please make your 2008 contribution now through www.oref.org/ora.

REMINDER
Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association Endowment Fund

Established in 2005, the purpose of the Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association Endowment Fund is to provide funding for research and education so that the functional nature of persons with musculoskeletal disability can be improved utilizing surgical and non-surgical methods in their care.

Emphasis will be made on requests related to orthopaedic rehabilitation projects which include all of the traditional orthopaedic subspecialties. This also includes such areas as amputation surgery, prosthetics, orthotics, neuromuscular disorders and the various neurological disorders which defy easy classification. All disciplines are eligible for funding from this fund. Emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary care and priority given to proposals that involve both clinicians and researchers.

If you contribute to the OREF fund, Please consider a certain amount to the ORA Endowment Fund as well.

The Endowment Fund is continuing to grow.

BOS Report
Drs. Hsu and Marsolais represented ORA at the Fall Meeting in Dallas. Suggested ORA BOS committee reps are: Advocacy (Keenan), Communication (open), Education (Hsu), Research (Marsolais). Each society may have 4 representatives, but all will not be funded for all meetings and there will be no funding for the AAOS Annual. Funded activities include Research Day, NOLC, and the Fall Meeting. The BOS is gaining significant importance in the Academy direction. ORA needs to maintain a strong presence in BOS in order to support the concept of integrated rehabilitation in orthopaedic surgery.

2008 Financial Report

The Society is currently in good financial shape with prompt return of dues and increased voluntary duties by members. The dues for 2009 are $200.00 and are payable to ORA and should be sent to ORA, 2835 Drummond Road, Shaker Heights, OH, 44120. An addressed envelope is included.

SAVE THE DATE

2008 ORA Specialty Day Program, Saturday, February 28, 2009, Venetian Hotel, Room 3401, Las Vegas, Nevada

2009 ORA Annual Meeting planned for October 10, 2009, San Diego, CA (OTA meets Oct 8-10 Manchester Grand Hyatt, San Diego, CA) (tentative for OTA/ora to have some combined sessions open to both societies). Ten minute open papers & symposia ideas are requested. Email to ebmzzz@aol.com.