

University of Louisville Hospital
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Going West: From Chicago to Phoenix

Specialty Day at the OTA had a near record attendance of 701 registrants, the highest number since the 1997 Specialty Day in San Francisco. The day consisted of a program jam-packed with 29 presentations, organized into 7 sections: Operative Tricks and Tips, Alternative Surgical Approaches for Complex Fractures, OTA 2005 am meeting Highlight Papers, Common Problems: Evidence-Based Solutions, Presidential Guest Speaker Presentation by Professor Sigvard Hansen entitled "Post traumatic Reconstruction of the Foot and Ankle," Locked Plating Symposium including a presentation by Larry Bone entitled, "What's the Emergency" An Evidence-Based Practical Guide to the Timing of Fracture and Dislocations, and Debates (Distal 1/3 Humerus Fractures: Operative vs Non-Operative Care, Proximal Tibia Fractures: Plate vs Nail, and Open Fractures: Primary Closure vs Repeat Debridements).

After a super year for the OTA under the strong leadership of President Paul Tornetta, III, MD, the baton was passed to Michael Bosse, MD, who became the 22nd President of the OTA.

Please have a look inside for the abbreviated minutes from the Members and the Board of Directors meetings, pictures from OTA Specialty Day, a survey on J-1 visa waivers, the 2006 Resident Research Grant Awards, an article on a future combined OTA/AAOS public service announcements on all-terrain vehicles, some important announcement, and much, much more.

Please keep those e-mails coming. Stay cool.



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The Editor's Pen



Changing of the guard at the OTA: Michael Bosse, MD became the 22nd President of the OTA. Past President Paul Tornetta, III, MD, finished his presidential term.



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ORTHOPAEDIC TRAUMA ASSOCIATION

2006 Awarded Resident Grants

Title & Investigator

Title: The Effects of Methylprednisolone on Neurotrophic Cytokines in an Acute Spinal Cord Injury Model.

Principal Investigator: Del Gaizo Daniel

Co-Principal Investigator: Douglas Dirschl

Title: Predictors of Outcome in Floating Elbow and Floating Elbow Variant Type Injuries

Principal Investigator: Robert Golden

Co-Principal Investigator: Jesse Jupiter

Title: Loss of Wire Tension with Cyclical Loading in Ilizarov and Taylor Spatial Frame (TSF) Rings

Principal Investigator: Elliott Vann

Co-Principal Investigator: Roman Hayda

Title: Immunosuppression in Traumatic Open Fracture

Principal Investigator: Brock Lindsey

Co-Principal Investigator: David Hubbard

Title: A Cadaveric Injection Study of the Distal Femur Using a Soft-Tissue Sparing Lateral Approach

Principal Investigator: Corey Van Hoff

Co-Principal Investigator: Laura Phieffer

Title: Comparative Performance of Locked and Conventional Plating Constructs in Composite Bone

Principal Investigator: Benjamin Burkett

Co-Principal Investigator: David Seligson



One of the lead off presentations from OTA specialty day was on the use of reduction clamps by Robert Probe, MD. He shared tips and tricks on the intraoperative use of bone-holding clamps for fracture reduction and deformity correction.

Title: Ulnar Nerve Transposition During ORIF of Distal Humerus Fractures: Comparison of functional outcomes between patients who were treated with ulnar nerve transposition and those who were not.

Principal Investigator: Oscar Vazquez

Co-Principal Investigator: Kenneth Egol

Title: Osteoblast Responses to Fracture: A novel approach using gene expression microarray and proteomics.

Principal Investigator: Andrew Evans

Co-Principal Investigator: Robert Simpson

Title: Accuracy of Radiographic Interpretation of Pelvic Ring Displacement

Principal Investigator: Hobie Summers

Co-Principal Investigator: Michael Stover

Title: The Impact of Antegrade Intramedullary Reaming on Bacterial Persistence in Open Femur Fractures

Principal Investigator: James Romanowski

Co-Principal Investigator: Michael Archdeacon

Orthopaedic Trauma Association

Abbreviated Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting March 22, 2006 - Chicago, Illinois By Robert Probe, M.D.

President's Report: Paul Tornetta

The OTA leadership has been in communication with those in the AAST promoting the concept of an Acute Care Surgery subspecialty. Fortunately, it appears as though the initial interest of general surgeons becoming involved in fracture treatment has waned. The concept is moving forward but the orthopaedic training will be limited to the cleansing of contaminated open wounds, placement of traction pins and reduction of dislocations. This position is endorsed by the COT of the ACS. The AAST has expressed interest in maintaining dialogue with the OTA.

Report of the CFO: Alan Jones

- Operating Fund:
 - As of December 31st, the operating fund was 722K.
 - The annual meeting proved to provide a large proportion of operating capital.
 - The 330K generated from the annual meeting parallels vendors contributions.
- As of December 31st, the research fund was over 3 million dollars.
 - Current investments are distributed 45% in fixed income accounts with the remaining 55% in equities.
 - Dr. Jones felt as though the fund managers would recommend a reallocation toward an increased equity presence.



CFO Alan Jones, MD, reported on the financial vitality of the OTA.

Call lists at their institutions including evidence of such participation as a qualification for membership and certification.

- After discussion, no motion for Bylaws amendment was made. It was felt that the percentage of trauma volume requirement was sufficient to assure participation of OTA members in the delivery of trauma care in their communities.
- The JBJS is planning on publishing the AOA approved document in the June journal.

Request from Joseph Ianotti

- The Hand Society is considering application to the ACGME and RRC to create an “upper extremity” fellowship track. This would be inclusive of all trauma and reconstruction.

Kathy Cramer Memorial Fund

- Roy Moed presented a proposal for allocation of existing and future funds of the Kathy Cramer Memorial. (see page 25 of the supporting documents).
- Briefly, the proposal was to provide an award to the best resident paper presented at the annual meeting.
- While all felt the desire to memorialize Kathy, the discussion focused on the difficulties anticipated as other contributors pass away.
- Discussion affirmed the value of a resident’s award.
- The concept of creating a common fund that would allow for future donations of others was proposed and favorably discussed.
- Dr. Tornetta asked Bob Ostrum as chair of the Archives Committee to develop this concept and report back to the Board at the fall meeting.
- **ACTION:** Dr. Tornetta also plans on drafting a letter to Drs. Moed, Watson and Karges relaying these plans and informing them of the intention to give the first award in Kathy’s honor. The funds given in Dr. Cramer’s memory total \$5,000.

- The ASES is concerned with the volume of material and has suggested a two year minimum training period.
- They are asking the OTA if there is interest in forming a coalition to consider this issue and provide developmental guidance.
- After discussion, the Board did not feel that involvement in this issue supported the OTA mission.
- Dr. Tornetta will inform Dr. Iannotti of this current position.

Coordination of ICL at the AAOS Annual Meeting

- Ken Koval has been tasked to provide OTA coordination to the ICL application process.
- Rationale:
 - Ensure that appropriate topics are covered
 - Limit duplication
 - Broaden the pool of contributors
 - Opportunity for co-branding
- The intent is to select moderators based on their submission.
- Moderators will be free to select faculty
- OTA members, while encouraged to utilize this process, are free to submit proposals through the AAOS application process.
- Proposals should be forwarded to Ken Koval and Nancy Franzon.

OTA “On Call” Position Statement

- The following section of the position statement raised the issue of specifying call requirements for active membership.
 - *The Orthopaedic Trauma Association calls on the AAOS, the ABOS, the AOA, and all specialty societies to work toward mechanisms to assure the sufficient participation of their membership on*

Request for sponsorship of the AAOS 2007 research symposium

“Fracture Repair: Challenges and Opportunities.”

- Request for \$10,000 sponsorship of this research symposium was made from the AAOS organizing committee to the OTA.
- After brief discussion, the concept of the OTA as a not-for-profit supporting another not-for-profit’s initiatives was cited as rationale to decline this opportunity.
- Dr. Tornetta will convey this to the organizers.

Touch Briefings Proposal

- This for-profit organization has made a proposal to partner with the OTA.
- The OTA involvement would be to contribute intellectual property and review for their publication which is updated every six weeks.
- The benefit to the OTA would be through media and public exposure.
- As the principal users of this publication are investors, this did not appear to offer contribution to our mission.
- The Board decided to decline this opportunity.
- Dr. Tornetta will convey this decision to Touch Briefings.

Comments made regarding the consent agenda:

- Bob Ostrum reported on Orthopaedic overseas and potential OTA support. A notice of mission and opportunity will be placed in the OTA newsletter.
- Ross Leighton reported that plans for the Phoenix Annual Meeting are progressing well.
 - Marvin Tile will deliver the John Border address
 - Abstract submissions are on par with previous years
- A brochure created by the Public Relations Committee highlighting the skill of an Orthopaedic Traumatologist has been developed and is available through the OTA office.
- FOT Resident Research Grants
 - In the inaugural year of FOT resident research grants, 31 applications were made for the five available grants.
 - Ted Miclau reported that the quality of many of these were worthy of funding.
 - Discussion from the Board felt that this was worthy allocation of additional funds.
 - **A motion was made to authorize the research committee to award up to ten, \$10,000, one-year grants assuming the quality was good.**
 - **This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**
 - OREF had authorized 2 positions for OTA members to attend the OREF/ORS Spring grant writing seminar. There continues to be more interest than available positions. Steve Olson and Bruce Ziran will participate in the May 20-21 workshop.

Mega Issue I

The Role of the OTA in Developing Quality Metrics In Orthopaedic Trauma

- Steve Olson provided a brief review of the mission of the National Quality Foundation and their desire to develop validated metrics to improve care. There is an active Quality Metrics discussion site on the members only section of OTA website.
- Given the substantial cost of metric development, it is not fiscally practical for the OTA to develop these metrics in isolation.
- Charles Turkelson presented the inchoate plans of the AAOS in achieving these goals.
 - Evidence-Based Medicine will be the cornerstone by which metrics are developed.
 - The AAOS is planning for six metrics to be released each year.
 - The AAOS plans on working synergistically with each of the members of the BOS.
 - The work includes:
 - § Topic selection
 - § Literature search for previous guidelines, systematic reviews and meta-analyses
 - § Evidence table construction
 - The AAOS will establish a Guidelines Oversight Committee chaired by Dr Robert Haralson. It is expected that OTA will have representation on this committee.
 - The Guidelines Oversight Committee will create working groups of 4-6 members for each selected guideline.
 - There is an active discussion site on the AAOS web site.
- With the substantial work being done by the AAOS it was felt by the Board that no specific action of the OTA was necessary at this juncture. The OTA looks forward to partnering with the AAOS as both organizations strive to improve the quality of patient care.

Mega Issue II:

Redefining the role of the OTA in Resident Education

- Nancy Franzon, Paul Tornetta and Mike Baumgaertner have met collectively and individually with all major implant manufacturers to explore their feelings on the method in which Resident Orthopaedic Trauma Education is conducted. A meeting with AONA has not occurred.
- A question posed during these meetings was the

willingness of each of the companies to move away from individual sponsorship of educational events and have this coordinated through the OTA.

- The corporate interest in delivering this education was reviewed.
 - Product knowledge
 - Developing customer loyalty
 - The effect of ADVAMED guidelines on these practices
- The performance of existing OTA resident offerings was discussed.
 - Annual Meeting Comprehensive Course
 - OTA Residents Advanced Trauma Course
- The challenges with transition from corporate to foundation sponsorship were outlined:
 - Large amount of marketing dollars that are used to sponsor these courses
 - High degree of expertise that some groups have developed
 - § Adult education
 - § Audiovisual support
 - There would be little motivation for some groups to reduce their present offerings and competition between OTA and industry would likely not serve our interest.
- Several potential courses of action were discussed:
 - Do nothing
 - OTA expand their current offerings alone
 - OTA partner with the AAOS
 - OTA partner with industry
 - OTA explore options with AO
- After discussion, several **action items** were endorsed by the Board:
 - Charge the Education Committee to continue to study the existing structure and consider opportunities that would ensure unbiased trauma education to residents.
 - Carry out discussions with representatives from AONA to continue to explore opportunity.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Dr. Tornetta also plans on drafting a letter to Drs. Moed, Watson and Karges relaying these plans and informing them of the intention to give the first award in Kathy's honor.
2. Dr. Tornetta will inform Dr. Iannotti from ASES of this current board position.
3. Dr. Tornetta will convey to the organizers of the AAOS Research Symposium that the Board could not monetarily support the planned symposium.
 - After brief discussion, the concept of the OTA as a not-for-profit supporting another not-for-profit's initiatives was cited as rationale to decline this opportunity. The

OTA will add this to a list of Policies.

4. Touch Briefings will be notified that OTA will not participate in their 2006 publication. (Tornetta and Franzone)
5. Contact the Education Committee regarding results of discussion

Abbreviated Minutes of the Semiannual OTA Business Meeting McCormick Place Convention Center; Chicago, Illinois By Robert Probe, M.D. 3/25/2006

Prior to opening the meeting, Jeff Smith recognized those OTA members who participated in the Chicago playground build. He also mentioned the patient brochure which has been developed to inform the public of the importance of the Orthopaedic Traumatologist. OTA members interested in obtaining these should contact the OTA office.

CFO Report: Alan Jones

- Registration for Specialty Day has been strong and should produce revenue. Final numbers are not yet available.
- The Ottawa Annual Meeting brought 350K of revenue. Primary source is exhibit revenue which was nearly 0.5 million. The importance of this in keeping dues low was emphasized. Dues have remained the same since 2001.
- Residents' Courses are being run with revenue neutrality. There was a positive return this year because of industry support.
- The Operations Fund was 200K revenue over expense through December 05 for fiscal 2005. With this trend it is anticipated that more will be able to be transferred to the Research Fund.
- The Endowed Research fund is now in excess of 3 million. A graph displaying the exponential growth of this fund was displayed.
- The approved guidelines for directed corporate donations, included matching general funds were presented. Members were advised of the RFP for use of BMP-2. Details are included on the OTA web site.

Research: Ted Miclau

- 2005 Grant submissions
 - 45 Proposals received
 - 21 invited
 - 13 received
 - 8 grants awarded for \$300,000

- The high-interest for the newly designated resident awards was reviewed and June, 2006, grant recipients were named.
- An additional residents pre-proposal grant deadline of August 1 is posted on the www.ota.org website for January 2007 awards.
- 2006 members' pre-proposal grants deadline has been extended to April 15th. Details are available on the web site.

New Business

- Acute Care Surgery
 - Membership was advised of the ongoing discussions of OTA leadership with the AAST regarding their desire to create curriculum for an Acute Care Surgery Fellowship.
 - It appears as though they are backing off of the initial plans to provide definitive fracture care.
 - Their current curriculum includes instruction in pelvic binder application, traction pins, irrigation of contaminated wounds and reduction of dislocations.
 - The Board Leadership will continue discussions and monitoring to assure that patients receive the highest quality fracture care.
- Quality Metrics – Evidence-Based Medicine
 - Membership was advised of the plans of the AAOS to pursue quality metrics that relate to the delivery of Orthopaedic care. Trauma care will be included in this initiative.
 - The OTA will have input to this process with a presence on the Oversight Committee.
 - Members with thoughts regarding appropriate metrics should direct these to the www.ota.org discussion page on the **members only** section. You need only e-mail the OTA office at ota@aaos.org for your member number to access this site http://www.ota.org/members_only/discussion_metrics_detail.cfm?message_no=22.

Nominations to the Nominating Committee

Membership submitted the following eight names as candidates for a position on the nominating committee:

Tim Bray
 Bill Creevy
 Brad Henley
 Mike McKee
 Mel Rosenwasser
 Mike Sirkin
 Susan Scherl
 Robert Winqvist

Paul Tornetta will chair the committee. Faxed ballots will be sent by the staff office to elect the 4 committee members; followed by a

committee listing on the website and in Fracture Lines, the OTA newsletter.

Bylaws Committee: Steve Olson

The proposed Bylaw change enlarging the Board of Directors to include the expanded Presidential line was presented and accepted at the October business meeting.

The following proposed bylaws changes were voted upon by the members.

Article V Membership

Section XI. Community Membership

A community member must meet all the criteria for active membership. Article V, Section II, items d and g shall not apply to North American applicants of this category of membership. Article V, Section XV except for items f, h, i, and j shall not apply to International applicants for this category of membership. He/she may apply for community membership by the same process as described for active members in Article V, Section III. Dues requirements for community members will be set by the Board of Directors. Community members are not statutory members of the Corporation under Section 5056 of the California Corporations Code and have none of the rights, privileges and responsibilities, including voting rights, granted to active, senior, and research members, but may be appointed to non-elected committee positions.

Section XII. Candidate Membership

Applicants for candidate membership can be participating in residency training emphasizing Orthopaedic Surgery or fellowship training in musculoskeletal trauma management. A candidate member resident applicant must be participating in an American or Canadian Board approved Orthopaedic Surgery residency program, or participating in an officially recognized training program in a country outside the U.S. or Canada at time of application. Trauma fellows may apply for membership as a candidate member. He or she will apply using the same application form as for active membership. No Publications are required for membership in this category. Only one sponsor letter is required, the program chairman or fellowship director, who will forward the letter of recommendation to the secretary. Candidate members will have a maximum five (5) years from completion of residency training to transition into another membership category (Active, Associate, International active, or Community membership). Dues will be set by the board of directors. Candidate members are not statutory members of the Corporation under Section 5056 of the California Corporations Code and have none of the rights, privileges and responsibilities, including voting rights, granted to active, senior, and research members, but may be appointed to non-elected committee positions.

Section XVIII Active Military Duty Dues Waiver

Orthopaedic Trauma Association Members of any category may apply for a waiver of dues while on active military duty. The member must submit written documentation from their commanding officer indicating the member was on active military duty for during a portion of the calendar year for which the waiver is requested. The letter along with

a request for waiver of membership dues for the calendar year should be forwarded to the Membership Chairman. The Membership Chairman will present this request to the Board of Directors for approval

Acceptance of these Bylaw amendments as written by the Bylaws Committee were moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Coding and Classification: Tom DeCoster for Larry Marsh

- The original JOT publication of the OTA classification system is now ten years old.
- Plans are to republish this and the CCC is working with Roy Sanders and the JOT to accomplish this within the year.
- Volunteers are being sought to review, reconcile and suggest improvements prior to this publication.
- Another opportunity for volunteerism is to participate in a partnership of the AO and OTA to expand the system to include the hand, foot, spine and fractures in osteopenic bone.
- Members will be contacted via email regarding these opportunities.
- Brad Henley and Bill Creevy are soliciting suggestions for new codes as another RUC process is beginning.

Membership: John Gorzyca

- Dave Karges to assume the chairmanship of this committee
- Current Membership:
 - 651 total
 - 352 active members
 - 76 new inductees at this meeting
- The decision to waive annual fees for active duty military has already brought 80 applications for '07 membership with the deadline of July 1 certain to bring in additional applicants in all categories.
- The name change of "resident" to "candidate" member, as passed in the bylaws today, was reviewed. The rationale was to accommodate fellows until such time that they are Board Certified and eligible for Active Membership.
- The limited response of only 10 applicants to the Allied Health category was presented. Members were encouraged to promote this membership to individuals within their institutions who provide support to trauma programs. The annual fees for this group are nominal at \$135 dollars.

Education: David Teague for Michael Baumgaertner

- (Scholarships are available for the **Residents Advanced Trauma Techniques Course (RATTC)** to be held in May

Atlanta Course.) This is being chaired by Stover and Ricci. Contact the OTA office for scholarship information and promote this course among your residents.

- The Combined AAOS/OTA Trauma Course is filling well for April 28th. This should be a revenue source for the OTA.
- The Residents Basic Fracture Course held at the October annual meeting will now be known as the **Residents Comprehensive Fracture Course (RCFC)** and will add Steve Morgan to join Kevin Pugh as co-chair.
- The Resident's Power-Point Lecture Series is about 1/3 updated with another 1/3 in process. There is an opportunity for volunteers to contribute to the remaining 1/3. Contact David Teague and spread your expertise.
- OKO will be requesting permission to post Residents Course Lectures on their site.

Education: AAOS Instructional Course Initiative: Ken Koval

- Ken Koval was asked by Paul Tornetta to coordinate submissions for ICLs in trauma thru the OTA.
 - Eight trauma courses are rotating off of the program this year.
 - Benefits to working through the Education Committee:
 - Avoid duplication
 - Get a broader base involved
 - Assure that contemporary topics are being addressed.
 - The education committee has selected six topics and moderators.
 - Opportunity for co-branding with OTA logo and increasing chances for acceptance.

Education Miscellaneous Items

- Steve Kottmeier working on upgrading educational home page.
- Mike Stover encouraged all members educating residents to promote the May Atlanta course. He pointed out that this would be appropriate for junior and senior level residents
- The charge to the Education Committee to explore alternative delivery mechanisms to unbiased resident education was mentioned.
- Winquist Cup – awarded to David Stephen for his superior work with the calcaneus lab in Ottawa.
- Ross Leighton reported 473 abstracts have been submitted for the 2007 Annual Meeting.

AAOS Washington Office: Bob Jasak

- Mr. Jasak is a member of the AAOS Washington office

assigned to represent the interest of orthopaedic specialty societies.

- He plans on working closely with the AAOS Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) and the Board of the OTA.
- Interested OTA members may sign up for delivery of the “Washington Page,” on the AAOS website.
- The Orthopaedic PAC has just eclipsed Anesthesiology as the Medical Subspecialty Political Organization with the largest annual contribution.
- Mr. Jasak plans to provide effective communication to appropriate legislative issues regarding trauma related issues.
- OTA members should feel free to contact him through the Academy for issues in which Federal involvement is appropriate. injuryjasak@aaos.org

Fellowship: Lisa Cannada for Tracy Watson

- Universal Fellowship application form will be available on the OTA website next month.
- Requested deadline for application completion will be by Sept. 1 of the candidates PGY4 year.
- The committee is in the planning stages of a fellowship survey to be sent to all fellows for the last three years. The committee is seeking information on ways in which the organization can assist fellows. Plans are to report back to the OTA once this information is available.

Transition

- President Tornetta thanked outgoing Board Members and Committee members for their service.
- Mike Bosse assumed the Presidency of the OTA.
- Paul Tornetta received a standing ovation for his tireless work over the past year.

Jeff Smith, MD, introduced the new OTA Brochure, “Who are the members of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association?” right before the OTA Member’s Business Meeting at OTA Specialty Day. This brochure, produced by the Public Relations and Branding committee, is available upon request from the OTA office for your waiting room.



J-1 VISA WAIVERS: ARE THEY COMING TO A HOSPITAL NEAR YOU TO PROVIDE ORTHOPAEDIC TRAUMA CALL COVERAGE?

Are you aware of the federal J-1 visa waiver program which places physicians in underserved areas of the USA?

Yes No

Has your state has been requesting/utilizing its annual limit (30 per state) of J-1 visa waivers?

Yes No Don’t know

Are J-1 visa waivers being used in your state to place physicians at hospitals to provide coverage for orthopaedic trauma call?

Yes No

Are you aware of J-1 visa waivers being used in any state to place physicians to provide orthopedic trauma call coverage?

Yes No

Do you support the use of J-1 visa waivers to place physicians to provide coverage for orthopaedic trauma call?

Yes No

Do you support dropping the language proficiency component of the ECFMG examination?

Yes No

References

“Preliminary Findings on the Use of J-1 Visa Waivers to Practice in Underserved Areas,” GAO, May 18, 2006. www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-773T

Bosse MJ, Henley MB, Bray T, Vrahas MS: Access to emergent musculoskeletal care: resuscitating orthopaedic emergency-department coverage. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2006; 88:1385-1394.

Announcements

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Jeffrey O. Anglen, MD
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- AO North America has graciously established a fund to provide an annual award of \$15,000 in honor of Dr. Kathryn Cramer (1960-2005). This memorial award will be granted to medical students, residents, trauma fellows, or junior trauma faculty who are interested in educational and/or research endeavors in orthopaedic traumatology. Contact AO North America for an application and further information. The deadline for applications is June 15, 2006.
- The elected nominating committee is: Paul Tornetta, Chair; Tim Bray; Brad Henley; Mike McKee; and Bob Winquist.
- All of the AAOS ICL's and symposia that are accepted for presentation at the annual meeting (AAOS) submitted by the "official" OTA process will now be co-branded with the OTA logo!
- Volunteers Needed
Orthopaedics Overseas, a division of Health Volunteers Overseas, is in need of volunteers at our various program sites throughout the developing world. While all of the sites are unique, each one can benefit immensely by volunteers generously donating their time and expertise. HVO's mission is to identify and train local health care personnel who can, in time, assume the role of training others in their locality. Volunteers take part in the teaching and training of the local healthcare personnel in their particular specialty area. There are currently opportunities for members of OTA to volunteer at several of our program sites in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. These include Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Moldova, Nicaragua, South Africa, St. Lucia, and Uganda.

For more information, please refer to HVO's website, www.hvousa.org, or contact the HVO office via telephone at (202)296-0928 or e-mail at info@hvousa.org.
- Hat's off to Jeff Anglen, MD who is working on the AAOS lawn mower media tour which focuses on lawn mower safety. He has done a series of local and national interviews including one with Clear Channel Radio Network.
- The 2007 OTA Specialty Day at the AAOS in San Diego will feature an OTA members reception on the Navy ship, The USS Midway. More details to follow. . . Save Saturday, February 17, 2007, for this extraordinary member and guest event!
- At the 2006 OTA Annual Meeting in Phoenix, October 5-7, 2006, Captain Dana Covey, MC, USN, will be featured as the Presidential Guest speaker and a symposium entitled "From Iraq-Back to Iraq" will be lead by military orthopaedic surgeons. The complete program is now available on the web site. Hotel rooms are in short supply. Please make your room reservations now. Last year's meeting brought 1,350 people to Ottawa.
- The OTA and AAOS are joining forces to co-create a public service announcement on all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). The project involves the OTA public relations and branding committee, working with Jeff Smith (who wears both his OTA hat and his AAOS Committee on Public Education and Media Relations hat), Sandy Gordon from the AAOS, and the entire AAOS Committee on Public Education and Media Relations Committee. There is an upcoming combined meeting on July 8, 2006 at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, D.C.. The Public Relations Committee needs your input. Please contact Jeff Smith (jsmith@ucsd.edu) or Craig Roberts (craig.roberts@louisville.edu).