



# Academy Leader

## Executive Brief

### Ohio Chapter '04 Meeting Year a Success

This year, the Ohio Chapter has sustained its record of success of high quality, informative meetings for Ohio and surrounding states' professional practitioners. For the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row, the year's net revenues have exceeded \$25,000 and attendance has exceeded 350.

2004 has seen some major changes in Chapter meetings. Most noticeable is the change in the Spring Meeting venue from all general sessions to general session *plus* breakouts. The attendees have evaluated this change positively, as it allows attendees more creative ways to shape their own educational

experience. Although it is more expensive to hold breakout meetings in this way, the additional cost is offset by attendee satisfaction.

#### *Evaluations*

"Good solid meeting!"... "These meetings are always a pleasure."... "Great OH. Chapter meeting — very relative to today's O&P Services".... "Well done."... "Great turn out in manufacturers. Very well put together meeting....".

These are among the many comments on evaluations from



meetings. The Spring '04 meeting, being the second (but first fully developed) meeting with breakout sections also received many favorable comments about the new venue.

### Ohio Chapter Board of Directors

#### President

Jonathan M. Naft, C.Ped, BOC-O, CP  
Geauga Rehabilitation Engineering, Inc.  
Chardon, Ohio

#### President Elect

Carrie Melton, C.Ped, BOC-P, CP  
OrPro Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.  
Dayton, Ohio

#### Vice President

Frank J. Zingales, BOC-P, CP  
Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.  
Maple Heights, Ohio

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Randy Daniel, CPO  
OrPro Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.  
Springfield, Ohio

#### Immediate Past President

William C. Neu, III, LPO  
Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.  
Mansfield, Ohio



#### Ohio Chapter—AAOP Office

PO Box 3188  
Dublin, Ohio 43016-0088  
Phone: 614/659-0197  
Fax: 614/336-8596

## Prosthetic Parity Law— What Members Need to Know

In 2000, the Colorado State Legislature passed legislation that “mandated an appropriate level of insurance coverage for prosthetics and repair of prosthetic devices.” An outcome of that work was a Legislative Tool Kit published by the Amputee Coalition of America (available for all states to “assist amputee groups across the country to achieve the same success”).

A number of other states are also now looking at legislation as a means of stopping the decline of benefit levels.

#### *What is Going on in Ohio?*

This summer Ron Kidd and Matt Swiggum presented a case to the Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association that action is necessary to address this issue in Ohio. Among the suggestions was a request that the Ohio Chapter provide support in securing a lobbyist to produce an opinion document as to the feasibility of undertaking such work in Ohio and the possibility of success.

The Ohio Chapter Board voted to provide up to \$3,000 for this work. Dianne Farabi, Executive Director of the O.O.P.A. organization was assigned the task of contacting possible lobbyist/legislative working groups.

As a result of these discussions, representatives from Strategic Health Care, Kathy Dennison and Steve Wermuth, were invited to

the October 1st OOPA meeting to discuss some of the factors and challenges in moving forward with a parity legislative initiative. The session will also offer opportunity for members and interested parties to ask questions and discuss a possible plan of action. During the OOPA Fall Meeting it was decided that legislative action for parity should be consumer led rather than provider directed. Following that reasoning, a committee chaired by John Billock, LPO, will be contacting amputee groups in the respective areas of Ohio to organize a course of action. Other members of the committee are Dottie Billock, Ted Ryder, LO, Robert Leimkuehler, LPO and David Nelson, LPO

Up to this point, two companies have pledged funds for this effort as a show of support and to underscore their commitment to the initiative.

The group explored what was the best way to “educate” regarding this issue? It was suggested that the appropriate message might be that; 1) it is important to enable people to keep working, and; 2) to ensure that the tragedy of limb loss by a child doesn’t relegate the child to a wheelchair when better options are available. ■■

*Please forward your comments or suggestions to Dianne Farabi at OOPA by e-mail: [dfarabi@columbus.rr.com](mailto:dfarabi@columbus.rr.com) or call (614) 659-0197.*

# News From The State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics

*Dianne Farabi*

*Executive Director, Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association*

Recent news coming out of the State Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics Board includes several items which may be of interest to practitioners and O&P facilities across the State.

Election of officers was held during the recent September 22nd Board Meeting when Manuel R. Garcia was elected to the office of President. Manny is a certified and licensed prosthetist-orthotist from Strongsville (Manuel Garcia Prosthetic Lab., Inc.) and was appointed to the Board in April 2003 for a term ending December 2005. Jack Reser, CPed, LPed, was re-elected as Secretary. Other members of the Board include Douglas Van Atta, LPO; Mark Horwitz, LPO; Kathleen Simmons, LO; Steve LaForge, Attorney at Law, consumer member; and James Powers, MD.

Immediately before the meeting convened, the Board held a set of what are known as Goldman hearings, essentially to certify the Board's records concerning license applications that had been filed, but where no license was granted. In this proceeding, all of the applications considered had been filed under the so-called "grandfathering" provision of ORC 4779.16. The applicants had received a formal Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, advising that the Board had pro-

posed to deny the application because of non-compliance with the standards set forth in ORC 4779.16, but did not request a hearing. Nevertheless, case law (the Goldman case) requires an administrative agency such as the OPP Board to undertake a formal proceeding to establish a record of such action to serve as appropriate documentation that notice was given, evidence considered, and a decision by the appropriate authority was rendered. Indications are that more such proceedings will be scheduled in the near future, to clear a backlog of such matters.

All licensed practitioners should be advised to make sure they have completed sufficient CE for the upcoming renewal cycle, which is the first time most will need to report CE to the Board. The mailings were sent in October this year which was somewhat earlier than previously mailed. Renewals were sent to approximately 340 practitioners. Failure to report sufficient CE could result in license suspension.

The Board also took action to "raise the bar" on licensing standards. Based on earlier discussion and consensus by the Board to raise the cut-off to a level equal to the ABC standard, the following recommendation was approved:

- o Set passing score at 90% of ABC cut-off for exams

administered May and November 2005 and May 2006

- o Set passing score at 95% of ABC cut-off for exams administered November 2006 and May and November 2007
- o Set passing score at 100% of ABC cut-off for exams administered beginning year 2008

The regular meetings of the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, & Pedorthics are held in the Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio. Meetings usually begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Meeting dates are posted on the Board's website which is updated frequently. (<http://opp.ohio.gov>) ■

## **Board Position Opening**

*Nominations are currently being accepted for a Board seat on the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics. The seat, currently held by Mark Horwitz, CO, LO, will become vacant when his term expires in December, 2004.*

*The Board currently holds bi-monthly meetings on Wednesday evenings at the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus.*

*Persons who are interested in serving on the Board may contact the State O & P Office (614) 659-0198 or the Board at (614) 466-1157 for further information.*



# Spring 2004 Technical Meeting

The Spring '04 meeting hosted 300 O&P and C.Ped practitioners, other allied health professionals, facility owners and exhibitors. The Hilton Hotel at Easton Town Center once again provided an exciting location for the meeting, including week-end activities for attendees at the Easton Town Center across the street from the hotel.



Mindy Santilli of Aircast and meeting attendee take a moment from the exhibit for the camera.

Attendees viewed over 60 exhibit tables from over 50 company representatives.



A Gathering of Past Board Presidents (back row, l. to r.) Barry A. Steineman, CPO — President 2000-01; William C. Neu, III, L.P.O. — President 2003-04; Thomas L. Walsh, CPO — President 1998-99; Tracy C. Slemker, CPO — President 1995-96; Douglas B. Van Atta, CPO — President 2002-03; (seated, l. to r.) Kenneth M. Berman, C.Ped, BOC-O, CP — President 1990-91; President 1996-97; Cynthia A. Wertz, CO — President 2002-03; Jeffrey M. Skaban, CPO — President 1994-95; Ronald B. Robinson, CPO — President 1993-94.

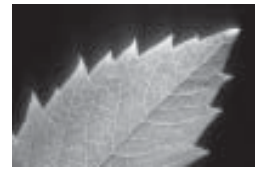
Jon P. Leimkuehler, CPO  
— President 1984-85.  
(Sorry Jon, we missed you for the group photo).



Past Board Presidents preparing for photo op.



# Fall 2004 Scientific Meeting



*On October 2, 2004 the Chapter offered an excellent program on the Harmony System, Pediatric Orthotics; CAD/CAM Spinal Technology; Clinical Experience with the Adaptive Knee ; Non-Compete Agreements — Those Things Aren't Enforceable, Are They? Attendees were particularly engaged in the Harmony Panel discussion.*



*Harmony Panel: (l. to r.) Bill Neu, President; Jeff Denune, LP, American Orthopedics, Inc., Columbus, Ohio; Randy Daniel, CPO, LPO, OrPro Prosthetics and Orthotics, Inc., Springfield, Ohio; Scott Tjaden, RTP, Otto Bock Healthcare, Plymouth, Minnesota.*

*Attendees' questions, comments, and discussion enhanced the session significantly.*



*Full house for sessions.*



*Frank Zingales and Presenter, Frank Erdeljac, CO.*

### *Annual Business Meeting*

A number of important items were covered during the Business Meeting. Among these were: Officers' Reports; Elections; and, New Business.

**Elections:** Randy Daniel, CPO of OrPro Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc. was elected to the post of Secretary/Treasurer. As has been the practice every year during elections, when the Immediate Past President's office is vacated, and the President moves into that vacated office, all other officers are rotated "up" to the next highest position on the Board. This creates an opening for the "entry" position to the Board, the Secretary/Treasurer. The wisdom of past Boards has created this system which ensures that by the time an individual reaches the presidency, he or she will have had four years' prior experience on the Board, making him or her ideally suited for leading the Chapter. Be sure to welcome Randy to the important Board position of Secretary/Treasurer when you see him.

**New Business: Project Quantum Leap.** Last year the membership voted approval of a \$2,500 donation to PQL to support national education efforts. The membership voted to approve a second \$2,500 donation for FY 2003-04. Please read the adjoining article, taken from the PQL web-page for specifics.

**New Business: Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association.** Last year, the Chapter membership approved a donation of \$10,000 to O.O.P.A. to help offset years' long expenses associated with obtaining licensure in Ohio. Many of the individuals and corporate members of O.O.P.A. stepped up to the plate with substantial contributions to make licensure happen. O.O.P.A, itself, contributed a great deal of its own resources, both monetary, as well as human (Dianne Farabi, Executive Director contributed a substantial number of hours to support these efforts). This year, to continue to help offset those expenses which were a significant burden to O.O.P.A., the membership approved a \$5,000 contribution.

**New Business: The Parity Law.** As part of its Summer Meeting Agenda, the Board was presented with information by Ron Kidd, CPO, President, American Orthopedics, Inc. and Matt Swiggum, Central U.S. Regional Sales Manager, Otto Bock Health Care, on the Parity Law as it is being addressed in other states and as published in a "State Organizer's Toolkit" by the Amputee Coalition of America (Contact Ohio Office if you would like a copy).

The decision by the Chapter Board was to fund up to \$3,000 to determine the feasibility for success of enacting such legislation for Ohio. Dianne Farabi, Executive Director of the Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association was asked to contact potential lobbyists/legislative workers for this. The end result was envisioned to be a report from

a selected lobbyist which would assess the probability of eventual passage of a bill, as well as costs involved.

### *2005 Meetings*

Jon Naft assumes the Chapter Presidency on December 1st from a very successful year from 2004 President Bill Neu.

Jon has already expressed a desire to continue to improve the quality of meetings for 2005 beyond what has already been accomplished. He plans to continue to develop the Spring Technical Meeting to include breakout sessions and offer educational options for O&P, Pedorthic and other allied health professionals.

Licensure continuing education credits will be an important component of planning for 2005 meetings, so look for a stronger connection between the meeting content, ABC and BOC and C.Ped credits and licensure requirements.

The Spring Technical Meeting will be held on May 7, 2005 at the Hilton Hotel Easton Town Center, and the Fall Scientific Meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel on October 8, 2005. Please mark your calendar today. ■■

*Member Renewals will be sent out just before the end of November, so plan on including in your budget \$90 for membership to take advantage of the lower member rates for the '05 Meetings.*

# Project Quantum Leap at a Glance

Julie Hayes

Director of Development & Communications  
American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists

The Academy has only scratched the surface of the potential of programs such as Project Quantum Leap (PQL). So much has been accomplished in just a year and the results are already having a positive impact on the profession.

PQL is a major initiative to raise the bar and define the future course of the profession according to Academy President David F. Moretto, CP, FAAOP. "Over the next 15 years, PQL will involve a consortium of experts from many disciplines, not just O&P, working in dozens of program areas to document and enhance the knowledge and skills of practitioners resulting in improved quality of patient care."

Current projects include:

- ♦ Promoting awareness of O&P as an attractive career option;
- ♦ Establishing the state of the science for a priority topic through a series of conferences;
- ♦ Setting a Master Agenda to prioritize topics, then develop a protocol for determining if clinical consensus exists and identifying research needs;

- ♦ Strategic planning to address obstructions to the development of advanced degrees in O&P;
- ♦ The development of pertinent online education courses;
- ♦ Assessing geographic distribution of O&P practitioners compared to patients needing



O&P care; and new in 2005:

- ♦ Evaluating entry-level education needs and identifying the most effective approaches for teaching core competencies.

## *Volunteer Opportunities Exist at Local Level*

O&P professionals are encouraged to serve as a contact for local high school students and individuals interested in learning more about O&P by posting their contact information to [www.opcareers.org](http://www.opcareers.org)

("Talk to an O&P Professional"). To do this, email your complete contact information to [careers@oandp.org](mailto:careers@oandp.org).

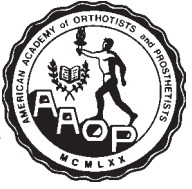
## *Continuing Education Offerings*

One outcome of Project Quantum Leap is the development of online continuing education courses based on the findings from State-of-the-Science conferences. Members will have 24-hr access to the course located in the Online Learning Center on the Academy's website ([www.oandp.org](http://www.oandp.org)). These courses, coupled with the findings published as a JPO supplement, are a valuable resource to practitioners that validate existing treatments and dispel myths about other protocols.

## *How to Support PQL*

Contributions from individuals and chapters provide the seed money for the Academy to seek grant money to fund the many activities within PQL. Please consider investing in the future of your profession by making tax-deductible contributions to PQL through the O&P Educational and Development Fund. Send donations to PQL, 526 King St., Ste. 201, Alexandria, VA 22314 or donate online at [www.oandp.org/pql/support](http://www.oandp.org/pql/support). ■■

*\* This article is re-printed by permission of PQL, (AAOP)*



Ohio Chapter  
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY  
OF ORTHOTISTS AND PROSTHETISTS, INC.

PO Box 3188, Dublin, Ohio 43016-0088

*Executive Brief Newsletter*  
*November 10, 2004*

# *Academy Leader*

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY  
OF ORTHOTISTS AND PROSTHETISTS, INC.

Ohio Chapter