



MSOA Resource

Missouri State Orthopaedic Association

October 15, 2005

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MSOA at work for you and our profession

By the time this newsletter gets to you, our members, we will have already had our fall social meeting in Columbia...just another way we are trying to bring MSOA to you. We are meeting for the Mizzou Tigers vs. Texas, hopefully a great game and a great environment to share our concerns about medicine and Orthopedics.

Plans are in the works for our annual meeting in St. Louis June 9 and 10. The alternate weight bearing panel should be interesting and thought provoking. We continue to work closely with AAOS for CME, products and sponsorship of our various events.

Matt Blunt has signed a Proclamation for the

Bone and Joint Decade week, adding Missouri to the list of states that have already done so.

Our new software coupling Physicians with State Districts and Legislators is up and running. If you need to know your representative please contact us, we have it at our fingertips. Hopefully by matching physicians to legislators we can become more effective at building relationships with them.

Thanks to those of you that were able to afford relief to the Katrina victims. I am always amazed at the generosity and compassion we are capable of giving.

The membership drive will begin soon. Thank you for your past and



Steven Morton, D.O. is a board certified physician and is Fellowship trained in Orthopedic Trauma.

future support. I believe we can make a difference, and we are well on our way.

Our Executive Directors keep us up to date and are well known in Jefferson City. Please support us and most importantly support yourself as MSOA continues to make a difference.

Inaugural Mizzou Orthopaedic Review to be released

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Missouri-Columbia will publish in October its inaugural issue of Mizzou Orthopaedic Review, an annual compendium of news, research and clinical accomplishments featuring the department.

Jason Calhoun, MD, chairman of the department and MSOA president-elect, brought

the concept of a department orthopaedic journal to Missouri from his previous chairmanship at the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston. Other prominent academic department orthopaedic journals are published at the University of Iowa and the University of Pennsylvania.

The 100-page, full-color journal contains case reports, descriptions of

surgical techniques, reports of clinical studies, and results of basic science experiments and is extensively illustrated with tables and photographs. All MSOA members will receive a copy. If you would like to request one, please contact Maurice M. Manring at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, (573) 884-9596, or manringm@health.missouri.edu.

MSOA hosts Fall Football Social in Columbia

On October 1, MSOA held another successful regional meeting in Columbia, Missouri.

Prior to cheering on the MU Tigers (and some secretly the Texas Longhorns), MSOA members and guests met at the home of MSOA Executive Director Mary Phillips. There, MSOA

members caught up with friends and visited with colleagues from around the state. Dr. Garth and Jane Russell traveled from Florida to attend the event and were warmly welcomed as one of the original founders of MSOA. At the football game, MSOA hosted a hospitality tent with private

seating and a catered BBQ lunch. Despite the Tigers eventual loss to the second-ranked Texas Longhorns, the event was a great success and will be held again next year.

So, mark your calendars for another great MSOA event next year at the MU-Texas football game!



MSOA members Dr. Steve Morton, Dr. Garth Russell, and guests Dr. George Hubbell and Dr. Willard Avery enjoy the MU game at the MSOA hospitality tent.



MSOA Executive Director Mary Phillips, MSOA President Dr. Steve and Tammy Morton and Dr. Jason Calhoun enjoy pre-game festivities.



Dr. Michael Clark, Dr. Doug Kiburz and Dr. Garth Russell enjoy the pre-game.



Dr. Dirk Alander, AAOS BOC member with Drs. Steve Morton and Jason Calhoun.



Dr. Michael Clark and Dr. John Havey at the pre-game.

For more pictures from the Fall Football Social, go to:
www.msoa.org



Dr. Joel and Jerri Jeffries at the Mizzou-Texas game.



l.-r.: Emily Jeffries, Jerri Jeffries, Jane Russell, Connie Kiburz, and MSOA Executive Director Brian Treece.

Gov. Blunt proclaims Bone and Joint Decade week in Missouri

Gov. Matt Blunt has declared October 12-20, 2005, as Bone and Joint Decade National Awareness Week.

National Awareness Week is held every year on the same dates. The Governor issued a special proclamation to promote bone and joint health in Missouri.

The object of Gov. Blunt's recognition of National Awareness Week is to re-enforce and renew Missouri's support of Bone and Joint Decade and draw particular attention to highlighting patient education activities during National Awareness Week.

In the United States:

- Musculoskeletal conditions cost our society an estimated \$300 billion every year.



MSOA Legislative Chair Joel Jeffries, MD with Gov. Matt Blunt and MSOA Executive Directors Mary Phillips and Brian Treece.

- 1 out of 3 American adults reports arthritis or chronic joint symptoms.
- 36.9 million Americans incur a musculoskeletal injury every year.
- More than half of all injuries are to the musculoskeletal system.

MSOA hopes National Awareness Week will encourage local community awareness events promoting greater knowledge of musculoskeletal prevention activities and treatment options, as well as media coverage and interviews.

To find out more about the Bone and Joint Decade, visit the web site at www.usbjd.org.

Missouri Medical Liability Reform law takes effect

Considered one of the most comprehensive in the nation, Missouri's new medical liability law went into effect on August 28. The new reform limits venue in tort actions to the county where the plaintiff was first injured and caps total non-economic damages at \$350,000, with no annual inflator. Punitive damages are limited to the greater of \$500,000 or five times the amount of the judgment.

The Missouri law fixes the *Scott* decision which allowed multiple non-

economic damage caps and allows joint and several liability only if a defendant is 51% or greater at fault.

The new law also requires a court to dismiss any case for which the plaintiff cannot produce an affidavit of merit and requires the expert that claims the case has merit to be identified and to be of the same profession and substantially the same specialty as the defendant. In addition, benevolent gestures are now inadmissible in court.

Missouri's reform now only allows the discovery of amounts actually paid (in contrast to amounts *billed*) for a plaintiff's medical treatment and creates civil immunity for certain physicians who volunteer services at free health clinics.

With a grant from the Doctors for Medical Liability Reform (DMLR) fund, MSOA worked with bill handlers to educate freshman lawmakers about medical liability and Missouri's tort system.

**Missouri State
Orthopaedic
Association**

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BRIAN TREECE
MARY PHILLIPS
Executive Directors



**Winter Basketball Social
Planned For MSOA Members**

Following on the heels of MSOA's
successful Fall Football Social,

Dr. Greg Galakatos has agreed to chair MSOA's Host
Committee for a winter basketball game at the University of
Missouri's new Mizzou Arena.

Join your orthopaedic colleagues from across Missouri
at this first-ever event that is sure to be an annual tradition.
Please join us.

Watch your mailbox and fax machine for important
registration information. Game day and time are still being
determined pending MU's final schedule.

Call 573-556-MSOA today for more information.



**MISSOURI STATE
ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION**
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