

News for you

American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons

President's Message

Douglas A. Dennis, MD

It has been a privilege to preside over an exciting and eventful period for the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons. This Spring, the Executive Board voted to hire Priscilla Majewski as Executive Director. Priscilla brings a high level of experience and competence to facilitate management of our organization.

The Executive Board has convened multiple times recently via conference call to review ongoing activities and discuss future planning. The Membership Committee continues to work on plans to increase AAHKS membership while maintaining the high standards expected of our professional association. A policy for dealing with delinquent dues payments has been developed which will reduce our collection efforts and ensure that the AAHKS can continue to support its membership initiatives. An Ad Hoc "Committee on Committees" has been created to evaluate the goals, progress and value of each AAHKS Committee.

Dr. James Rand will spearhead this effort.

Our Government & Insurance Affairs Committee, under the guidance of **Dr. Carlos Lavernia**, continues to work closely with David Lovett, Director of the AAOS Washington, DC office, to monitor legislative activities, particularly those involving Medicare reimbursement and tort reform. We have pursued an ongoing dialogue with the AAOS Evidence-Based Medicine Committee to play a role in the development of quality care measures to be utilized by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Our goal is to participate in assessing the value of their proposed Medicare Partnership for Quality Total Joint Replacement Services Demonstration Project.

Dr. David Ayers and his Education Committee have been working tirelessly to create an exciting Fall program for our twelfth Annual Meeting, to be held Nov. 1-3, 2002. Highlights include a presentation by Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, a Practice Management mini-course, and various symposia focused on key current clinical and socioeconomic issues.

I am also excited to announce that we have reached an agreement with the *Journal of Arthroplasty* to prepare a supplemental annual issue containing papers presented at our Annual Meeting, beginning with the 2002 meeting. Papers will be selected following the traditional peer-review process. **Dr. Mary O'Connor** has agreed to serve as Editor of the JOA Annual Meeting supplement.

It is truly an honor to serve as your President and I promise my best efforts to ensure the growth and success of our Association. The Executive Board and I welcome your concerns and suggestions to enhance the strength of the AAHKS.

I wish you a wonderful Summer and look forward to seeing you in November in Dallas.

Secretary's Report

James Stiehl, MD

AAHKS has now completed over 10 years as an important subspecialty organization regarding total joint arthroplasty. Our ranks of membership has risen to 778. We are embarking on efforts to increase this membership through the proposal of a new Candidate category for Fellows who do not have all the criteria for Active membership.

The organization is fiscally sound with over \$1,000,000 in cash reserves, which will enable our committees to enhance services provided by the organization. The Board is embarking on several efforts which will provide benefits for members such as an improved website, increased research support, and enhanced governmental affairs initiatives which may help the socioeconomic status of our membership.

The board of directors has mandated a 100% contribution of all board members at the \$1000 level to the Orthopaedic PAC. We hope this will set the standard for our membership to increase contributions to this vital agenda.

This has been a transition year with Priscilla Majewski returning as our managing executive director and moving away from the offices of the AAOS. While we expect to save some money with this move, we are especially pleased with the level of expertise that Priscilla brings and her dedication to our organization. The next ten years may be trying for all of us with the winds of change in medicine but with focused attention to our needs, AAHKS will play a strong role in our success as physicians and our contribution to our society.

Annual Meeting 2002 Update

By David Ayers, MD – Program Chair

The Education Committee has finalized an exciting and educational program for our annual meeting that will present information regarding the latest techniques and controversies in joint replacement surgery, as well as timely socioeconomic and legal issues of interest to our membership. We urge you to plan now to be in Dallas from November 1-3, 2002 to attend the 12th Annual Meeting.

The Presidential Guest Speaker is Newt Gingrich, who will discuss The Future of Medicare and Issues regarding Tort Reform and Professional Liability. Ample time has been allocated for questions from the audience immediately following Mr. Gingrich's remarks. David Lovett will provide an update from the AAOS Washington office, and Paul Collins will present "What an Orthopaedic Political Action Committee Can Do For You."

Two separate symposia will present the latest techniques and controversies regarding "Minimally Invasive Hip Replacement Surgery" and "Minimally Invasive Unicompartmental and Total Knee Replacement Surgery". A third symposium will discuss "Socioeconomic Issues In Joint Replacement Surgery."

Eleven sessions of paper presentations will cover; the In-Vivo Results of Highly Cross-Linked Polyethylene, Polyethylene Wear and Osteolysis, Revision Total Knee Replacement, Revision Total Hip Replacement, Long-Term Results of Hip and Knee Replacements, and the prevention and treatment of complications related to joint replacement surgery. Over forty poster presentations will be exhibited throughout the annual meeting in the Exhibit Hall.

NEW this year!

Practice Management mini-sessions

Friday Nov. 1, 1-5 PM (Sign up on the Registration form)

By Karen Zupko of KarenZupko and Assoc.

- Practice Check-Up! Is your Practice Running Optimally?
- Check your Vital Business Signs!
- Contracting Strategies that Can Make a Difference
- 10 Ways to Boost your Fiscal Fitness

Friday evening the popular Hip and Knee Problem Case Sessions from 6:00 – 7:30 pm will precede the Welcome Reception from 7:30 – 9:00 pm in the Exhibition Hall. Please be sure to bring your most perplexing cases to discuss in an open forum with the experts!

I urge you to mark your calendars now and make your reservation to attend the 2002 Annual Meeting at the DFW Hilton Lakes Conference Center in Dallas, Texas.

The AAHKS Preliminary Program and registration form can also be downloaded from the AAHKS website at www.aahks.org. The deadline for registration is October 1, 2002.



Meet Karen Zupko: **Practice Management Pro**

Karen Zupko is a seasoned, senior advisor who has been helping physicians navigate the waters of America's healthcare system since 1974. Her perspective stems from more than 25 years of consulting, coaching, and training experience with physicians and those who manage them.

Karen has a longstanding commitment to physicians and their practice health. Over the years, she has seen PPMs come and go, weathered the changes of managed care, RBRVS, and Stark, and watched as capitation become only a twinkle in the eyes of surgeons and medical specialists. This depth of experience has made her a sought-after advisor by physician practices, pharmaceutical manufacturers, health systems, and other healthcare companies.

One of Karen's primary interests is helping physicians create a group culture that supports collegiality, patient satisfaction, and organizational effectiveness. She believes physicians should be satisfied with not only the care they provide patients, but the role they play in their practice organization, and their relationships with partners and staff. Through strategic planning assessments and practice retreats, she works with physicians to achieve these goals.

Karen has built her firm from a "solo practice" to a team of 17. Consultants and advisors at KarenZupko & Associates, Inc. www.karenzupko.com have specific skills in management, reimbursement, marketing, Internet services, financial management, and contracting.

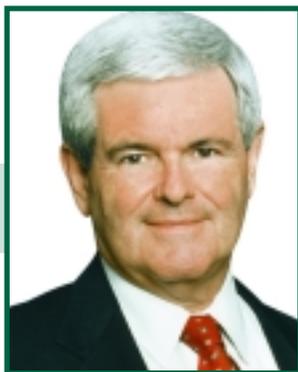
Karen is on the board of editorial consultants of *Medical Economics* magazine, and is a member of the American Marketing Association and the Health Care Strategy Forum. She is a member of the American Marketing Association and Women in Communications, and has served on the board of trustees of Chicago's Grant Hospital.

Karen is a graduate of the University of Kansas and a Chicago native.

Keynote Speaker:

Newt Gingrich

Topics: The Future of Medicare and Tort Reform



A ample audience Q&A is scheduled to discuss his focus on health issues in the private sector and his political analysis of the Washington scene.

Background: Widely recognized for his commitment to a better system of health for all Americans, Newt Gingrich is a public policy strategist and leading advocate of increasing Federal funding for basic science research. As former Speaker of the US House of Representatives and long-term Congressman, Mr. Gingrich's leadership ushered in reforms that cut government waste and helped save Medicare from bankruptcy.

As Speaker, he disrupted the status quo by moving power out of Washington and returning it to the American people. He ushered in reforms that dramatically cut government waste, reined in IRS abuse of citizens, and ended Congress' ability to exempt itself from laws governing the rest of America. Through new technology and systems, he gave ordinary citizens direct access to Congress, re-establishing the House of Representatives as "The People's House."

A strong advocate of volunteerism, Gingrich has long championed the positive impact every individual can have on society. He has raised millions of dollars for charity, donating both time and money to a wide array of causes, including Habitat for Humanity, United Cerebral Palsy, the American Cancer Society, ZooAtlanta, and the Earning By Learning literacy program (which he founded). A former environmental studies professor, he is widely recognized for his commitment to the environment and to the advancement of a new, common sense environmentalism.

Before his election to Congress, he taught History and Environmental Studies at West Georgia College for eight years. He is recognized worldwide as an expert on world history, military issues and international affairs. He is a member of the Senior Advisory Board of the United States Commission on National Security/21st Century that produced a series of reports that document our national security challenges as far out as 2025. Newt Gingrich is credited with the idea of a Homeland Security agency.

Newt Gingrich is a leading advocate of increasing Federal funding for basic science research. In 2001, he was the recipient of the Science Coalition's first Science Pioneer award given to him for his outstanding contributions to educating the public about science and its benefits to society.

Gingrich is the author of five books including the bestsellers, *Contract with America* and *To Renew America*. Newt resides in McLean, Virginia with his wife, Callista. He has two daughters, a granddaughter and a grandson.

Washington Update

David A. Lovett, JD, Director of the AAOS Washington Office, returns to the AAHKS Meeting with his unique perspective of the current legislative and regulatory activities affecting the orthopaedic community.

2002 Annual Meeting Education Committee:

David A. Ayers, MD – Program Chair

Thomas Parker Vail, MD

Mary I. O'Connor, MD

Arlen D. Hanssen, MD

Richard E. White, Jr., MD, Past Chair

Visit our Exhibitors!

The following companies will be represented at the Annual Meeting to showcase new products and services. Meeting attendees who visit all the booths will be eligible to receive a fully-loaded handheld PDA –look for details in Dallas!

Aesculap

American Red Cross

Biomet Inc.

Brain Lab Inc.

Corin USA

DePuy, J&J

Elsevier Publisher

Encore Medical Corp.

Exactech

FluorSCAN Imaging Systems

Howmedica Osteonics

Innomed

Lippincott Publishing

MD Logic Inc.

Millbrook Corp.

Omni-Tract Surgical

Organon Sanofi-Synthlabo LLC

Pharmacia Corp.

Plus Orthopaedics

Precision ATR Products Co.

Pyron Technologies

Sanofi-Synthlabo

Smith & Nephew Inc.

Sulzer Orthopaedics

TissueLink Medical

Wright Medical Technology

Zimmer

A special thank you to **Pharmacia Corporation** for providing an unrestricted educational grant to support the Annual Meeting.

PHARMACIA

You're invited to the 12th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons

**Nov. 1-3, 2002
at The Hilton DFW
Lakes Executive
Conference Center**



New this year!

Reserve your hotel room on-line at the special AAHKS rate by clicking on the DFW Hilton Private Online Group page at

http://hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private_groups/aahks_12th-annual/index.jhtml

See the attached Preliminary Program for registration details.

Deadline for registration: October 1, 2002.

Medical Liability Crisis Calls for Major Reform

AAHKS members are urged to personally contact their legislators and voice strong support for President Bush's recent proposals for medical liability reform. Let your voice be heard on this important issue, specifically in the House of Representatives, which soon may consider, H.R. 4600, the Health Efficient, Accessible, Low Cost, Timely Healthcare Act. (HEALTH Act). A House floor vote is expected before November. Also, now is the time to contribute to the Orthopaedic PAC. Your collective voices must be heard if there is going to be any meaningful changes to the current medical liability crisis.

Contact the US House of Representatives at <http://www.house.gov/> and the US Senate at <http://www.senate.gov/>

Have a question about the PAC or about AAOS legislative initiatives? Call the Washington Office at 1-877-389-AAOS or email PAC@aaos.org

Membership Update

David Dalury, MD- Chairman

The membership committee has focused on recruiting new members to our organization. We are in the process of creating a new membership category known as "Candidate Member". This category is expressly designed for the younger orthopaedic surgeon, someone either in final training (such as a fellow) or early in their new location. The idea is to allow a reduction of the stiffer requirements for Active Members (such as case volumes, being a member of the AAOS) so as to encourage this group of surgeons to belong at an earlier date. These members would have a reduced membership fee and their status would be in place for two years, after which they would have to apply under the Active member guidelines. The Committee felt this would encourage an earlier involvement in our organization amongst the youngest surgeons.

Additionally, in an attempt to encourage membership in AAHKS of non-surgeons, the Membership Committee recommends that the Associate membership category be expanded to allow non surgeons to join. This would allow those people who are intimately involved in hip and knee surgeons (such as engineers) to be able to join the AAHKS. People admitted to this category would share all the same privileges and responsibilities of all Associate members.

The Board of Directors will vote on the proposed changes and the general membership will be given an opportunity to discuss these category revisions at the Dallas Business Meeting.

The Membership Committee also reviewed 35 applications for membership and have forwarded on a slate for Board approval at the annual meeting.

An additional activity of the Committee has been to formalize a process for dealing with delinquent dues payors. An algorithm has been proposed to help encourage more timely payment of annual dues.

Meet the AAHKS Staff

As of April 1, 2002, the AAHKS moved its headquarters and management from the AAOS Building in Rosemont to new offices in Park Ridge, IL. The new administrative staff includes Executive Director Priscilla Majewski and Meetings Coordinator Elizabeth Frale.

Priscilla was the original AAHKS Manager from its inception until 1999, when she was lured by the Internet to become Program Director for Medscape Orthopaedics. She was ecstatic to return to the realm of non-profit association management last year when the Knee Society offered her old job back. The AAHKS soon followed suit.

Priscilla began her orthopaedic career in 1990, when her friend and neighbor, Colette Hohimer, introduced her to Carole Murphy at the AAOS. Priscilla was hired by the Specialty Society Department to help salvage the International Arthroscopy Association/International Society of the Knee (now ISAKOS) Biennial Congress in Toronto. She later became Meetings Coordinator for the IAA, ISK and the Ruth Jackson Orthopaedic Society (RJOS), then Manager of the Knee Society and AAHKS.

Priscilla is a former newspaper journalist and investigative reporter and co-managed a business forms company with her Dad for many years. She has two daughters—Jamie, age 22, and Tracy, 20, and a 6-year-old son, Charlie. She is married to Terry, a former biochemical researcher who now teaches science and is head coach of a USS competitive swim team.

Part-time Meetings Coordinator Elizabeth Frale is Priscilla's sister and also works with their Dad as administrator of the family business. Liz has two children—Becky, age 11, and JJ, age 7. Her husband Jim is a detective with the Chicago Police Department.

Liz has efficiently organized the AAHKS files and is quickly learning the day-to-day administration of the Association. She is happy to help you with any Membership questions, and she will be working on the Annual Meeting registration.

The new AAHKS office in Park Ridge is a stone's throw from the AAOS headquarters in Rosemont—if you are visiting the Academy or are in the Chicago area, feel free to call—Priscilla and Liz would be pleased to meet you in person!

Research Survey Update

J. Wesley Mesko, MD – Chairman

More than 200 Active Members responded to the recent faxed survey on Surgical Management of Medial Compartment OA of the Knee. Although we did not reach our goal of 100% membership response, the Research Committee is grateful to all the Members who sent in their surveys on time. The results will be compiled and presented at the Nov. 1-3, 2002 Annual Meeting in Dallas.

Research Committee Update

J. Wesley Mesko, M.D. – Chairman

The AAHKS board and the research committee thanks the members of the AAHKS who have contributed more than \$500 to the OREF in a calendar year, and then designated donations over and above the \$500 to be directed to the AAHKS research fund.

Where did that money go, you ask? In 1999, AAHKS members **Richard Iorio, MD** and **William Healy, MD** were funded for a two-year pilot study comparing cemented vs cementless femoral components in revision THA. **Dr. Carlos Lavernia** received AAHKS funds in 2000 for a two-year project exploring race and ethnicity, and gender in total joint replacement. **Dr. David Ayers** received AAHKS support in 2001 for a two-year pilot study of psychological assessment and support in total joint replacement patients.

In 2002, we have approved funding for a resident project being directed in part by **Dr. Michael Ries** involving three-dimensional morphological and kinematic MRI analysis of the knee. We will post the progress of these studies on the AAHKS web site as they become available.

We can continue to support such joint replacement research as each AAHKS member contributes above \$500 to the OREF. If you wish to apply for AAHKS OREF dollars, members must submit an application to the OREF. Details can be found at www.oref.org

The OREF grant review panel will study the proposal, and rank it. The AAHKS research committee receives the list of research proposals by year's end for consideration. Criteria for selection are as follows: 1) Is the applicant or co-investigator an AAHKS member. 2) How well did the OREF review panel rank the application. 3) Preference is given in review for proposals that are directed toward a clinical issue over a basic science issue. 4) Further preference is given to younger researchers in an effort to encourage a lifelong desire to pursue research that can benefit the clinical orthopedic community. 5) Seed money projects are looked upon favorably.

The decision to fund a study is dependant on the number of research applications submitted, and the amount of designated money available for distribution. If you have questions about the pathways, contact me at wmesko@juno.com, or call Priscilla at the AAHKS office at 847-698-1200.

Update on TJR Documentary Project

Clifford Colwell, MD – Coordinator

The AAHKS hired a consultant to initiate discussions with the film industry and provide a feasibility study to produce a film documentary promoting the socio-economic value of hip and knee replacement. A film producer has indicated that there may be some interest from the major networks and PBS.

The Documentary Task Force is now reviewing the two top proposals and should have the scaled down version finalized by November. The proposal will include an outline of the documentary message, a plan for outside funding and possible distribution methods.

AMA Report

Norman Dunitz, MD – AAHKS Delegate

At the June AMA meeting, there were no items that were brought up that I felt would be detrimental to AAHKS or to the rest of the ortho. community.

Although the AMA has spent over two million dollars on the project called PRN, it needs more money to see it thru some court filings. This has to do with organizing physicians to negotiate with insurance cos., employers, etc. It only affects employed drs. at present and has relatively few participants, but if it makes it thru appeals court (in Tenn.) it would be a big step forward in this endeavor. The Board had planned to stop supporting this for fiscal reasons, but the House of Delegates insisted it be continued at least thru the appeals.

After a number of years of study, the AMA has developed plans to reorganize itself both as to membership and as to how and which items should receive most of our attention and resources. If it should develop as planned it would significantly strengthen our ability to deal with Congress and the various bureaus. The idea is in its infancy stage but our House of Delegates was strongly in favor. It will really boil down to how everything is funded. It will take a lot of input from the specialty groups as well as planning and giving up some of the autonomy of all. However, after a lot of experience in fighting the political battle and bureaucratic battles, I at least think it would be worth while.

OREF Seeks Input on DVT Prophylaxis

The Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF) is seeking input from orthopaedic surgeons about usage of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis in their total hip and total knee arthroplasty patients. OREF encourages orthopaedists to take a few minutes to respond to the on-line survey, posted on OREF's Web site at <http://www.orthoworld.com/knowledge/dvt.htm>

The results of this survey should be of significant interest and benefit to the orthopaedic community, as DVT continues to be an important patient safety issue confronting the orthopaedists in their practice. Please take a few minutes to visit the OREF web site, and respond to this important survey. Deadline for responding is September 13, 2002. For more information, please contact Judy Sherr at sherr@oref.org

Improving Musculoskeletal Care in America (IMCA)

OA Hip Validation Team Volunteers Needed

The AAOS Evidence-Based Practice Committee is seeking volunteers to serve as validation reviewers for the Osteoarthritis of the Hip IMCA project. The goal of the IMCA project is increasing awareness of musculoskeletal conditions in the US. For each selected condition, a series of informational sheets is developed to provide members, patients and policy makers with information on the following: general condition overview, burden and cost of the condition, evidence-based practice resources, treatment options, target research agenda areas, AAOS resources

Improving Musculoskeletal Care in America (continued)

available, and joint replacement (for appropriate conditions). The validation process for the OA Hip sheets is anticipated to begin late September/early October. Reviewers can expect to spend from 15-20 hours reviewing the materials and completing the validation forms.

To volunteer as an IMCA OA Hip Validation Reviewer, please go to the AAOS website at www.aaos.org, click on member services, scroll to and click on volunteer vacancy announcement, and scroll to and click on Improving Musculoskeletal Care in America OA Validation Reviewers. Submit your application online by Friday, August 30, 2002. Questions? Contact Belinda Duszynski via email at duszynski@aaos.org

Apply for AAOS Leadership Fellows Program

Applications for fellows and mentors in the Leadership Fellows Program (LFP), Class of 2003/2004, are now available on the AAOS Web site at <http://www3.aaos.org/lfp/lfpappl.cfm>

Established in December 2001, the LFP identifies future leaders from younger members of AAOS who have little previous volunteer or leadership experience and prepares them to assume roles of responsibility within AAOS. The LFP combines leadership training with an ongoing mentoring program that matches each Fellow with an established leader within the orthopaedic community. The mentor is viewed as integral to the LFP. As advisor and confidant to the LFP Fellow, the mentor will foster a professional, personal and long-term relationship with the Fellow. The deadline for submission of applications and reference letters is October 1, 2002. For inquiries, contact Jeffrey A. Kramer, 6300 North River Road, Rosemont, Ill. 60018-4262. Telephone (847) 384-4344, or e-mail to kramer@aaos.org

In Memoriam:

Francisco Mendoza, MD-Laredo TX (June 2001)

Hugh Tullos, MD-Houston, TX (November 2001)

Steven A. Bohmer, MD-Orlando, FL (date unknown)

Classifieds:

Members! Looking for a new job? Have a position to fill? Email your 1-paragraph description (including location, start/end date, contact name/phone) to helpdesk@aahks.org for posting on the NEW Job Openings section. Listings will be updated monthly.

LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery anticipates an opening for an academic Orthopaedic Surgeon with special expertise and training in Hip and Knee Reconstruction and Joint Preservation. Applicants should be Board Certified/Eligible and will have completed a one-year fellowship in this specialty. Responsibilities of the position include: patient care; teaching of residents and medical students; research; and administration. A well-established practice with wide patient base is available. Salary and academic rank will be commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Submit curriculum vitae to: Barry L. Riemer, M.D., Chairman, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, LSU Health Sciences Center, 2025 Gravier Street, Suite 400, New Orleans, LA 70112 or email: Briemer@lsuhsc.edu

The Louisiana State University is an EOE/AA Employer (posted 07/02).

What's on the Web:

AAOS Current Washington Legislative Scene
<http://www.aaos.org/wordhtml/washing.htm>

Antithrombotic Therapy: Quick Guide for Clinicians
(These Guidelines are the most comprehensive available; an updated version will be published in early 2003.)

<http://www.chestnet.org/health.science.policy/quick.reference.guides/antithrombotic/>

For your patients who want to communicate on-line with other joint replacement recipients:

"TOTALLY HIP" support group for hip & joint patients

<http://totallyhip1.tripod.com/>

surfacehippy · Surface Hip Replacement Patients and Friends

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/surfacehippy/>

Robin's Total Knee Replacement website-patient forum

<http://www.hieran.com/knee/>

knee1.com Knee Replacement (Arthroplasty) on-line Patient forum

<http://www.knee1.com/community/forums20.cfm/24>

Also For Your Patients:

National Network of Libraries of Medicine can provide helpful medical information resources.

Call toll-free 1-800-338-7657 or visit <http://nnlm.gov/>

MEDLINEplus is a self-serve website for general medical information.

<http://medlineplus.gov/>

Orthopaedic Web Links (OWL) is a search engine devoted to orthopaedic topics.

<http://www.orthopaedicweblinks.com>

ConsumerLab.com Product Review: GLUCOSAMINE and CHONDROITIN

<http://www.consumerlab.com/results/gluco.asp>

AAHKS Profile

The American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons (AAHKS) is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit national association of orthopaedic surgeons specializing in hip and knee surgery. Since its founding in 1992, AAHKS remains the only organization of its kind promoting the educational and professional advancement of adult reconstruction specialists. To date, the Society has nearly 700 Active members.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the AAHKS is to provide current educational, research and communication opportunities for the membership and their patients to allow continued quality management of arthritic disorders of the hip and knee.

VISION STATEMENT

The AAHKS will serve as a forum for physician interaction on patient care and socioeconomic issues related to arthritis of the hip and knee.



Administrative Office:
704 Florence Drive
Park Ridge, IL 60068
Phone: 847-698-1200
Fax: 847-825-9294
Email: helpdesk@aahks.org
Web: www.aahks.org

AAHKS staff:

Priscilla Majewski, Executive Director
Elizabeth Frale, Meetings Coordinator

Membership Benefits

Membership in AAHKS gives the orthopaedic surgeon the practical resources and expertise necessary to establish a strategic advantage in today's competitive health care market. The primary reasons an orthopaedic surgeon joins AAHKS are:

Education. Members stay on top of crucial industry changes by establishing and building professional contacts through membership in AAHKS. The Association's newsletter keeps members up-to-date on orthopaedic trends.

The AAHKS website (www.aahks.org) provides networking opportunities through a searchable peer consulting directory, program information, Journal links and other pertinent data.

Professional Development. Each year, the continuing medical education activities at the annual meeting offer a variety of scientific presentations, topical symposia, keynote speakers, and technical exhibits—all intended to help keep members up-to-date on issues affecting their practices.

Peer Recognition. AAHKS members work closely with the AAOS and other related specialty organizations to identify and address key orthopaedic issues. In addition, AAHKS members regularly contribute to major orthopaedic publications and courses and serve on local, state and national Boards and Committees of prominent orthopaedic organizations.