



GEORGIA ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY, INC.

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Family Reunion

Snehal C. Dalal, M.D.



Dear Colleagues,
One year ago, we talked of getting off the canvas and taking on obstacles that our generation has never faced. These obstacles threatened our core as social animals: the inability to meet

and interact with our loved ones, friends, and colleagues for an indefinite amount of time. Our children have experienced a “new normal” as families spent more time in the confines of their homes. This lent to opportunities that were otherwise not realized in the midst of our fast-paced lives. Some of us found the beauty that surrounds us rather than quenching our wanderlust to travel abroad and experience different scenes. Families once became more nuclear as extended families were only just glimpses across the screen. Nevertheless, we all maintain the importance of old traditions – interacting with those outside of our boundaries to gain perspectives that exist beyond.

With the vaccination of our population underway, we see a glimpse of days where we can once again reunite with old friends, families, and colleagues. Once again, the days of meeting with old friends, extended family and professional families will become a reality.

The Georgia Orthopedic Society is our orthopedic family within our state that share some common ideals: the commitment to strengthen our relationships amongst each other and within our families; the goal of advocating for our patients, the drive toward educating our colleagues by sharing our practices to help push us toward innovation and improved quality and creating a legacy that will benefit the next generation. Lastly, I feel our Society encourages us to create a work-life balance.

Through the efforts of our Executive Director Liz Neary and our Program Director, Brad Bushnell, MD, we have a great balanced program for our Annual Meeting. We have had an unprecedented number of abstract submissions for our program. You will be able to claim up to 10 hours of CME and still have ample time to enjoy your family amongst the beautiful surroundings of the Cloister. The Cloister has made many accommodations to make sure our meeting is one of the most successful and safest meetings to date. Our speakers will share their candid experiences and allow thoughtful discussions on topics that are germane to all practicing orthopedists, regardless of their subspecialty. You will get to know more about the experiences of our Presidential Guest Speaker, Dr. Jim Ninomiya, as he spent time as a U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeon. Our longtime friend, colleague and mentor Dr. Waldo Floyd will also present as the GSSH Guest Speaker and

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during the GOS scientific meeting. The GSSH Annual meeting will be held Thursday morning of the meeting.

The number of registrations are strong, indicating that our members are eager to once again meet, share practice ideas, and create family memories. Our 75th anniversary meeting will not disappoint. The GOS Annual Meeting is undeniably a high point for many orthopedists in Georgia, just ask anyone who has attended in the past. The financial and time investment you put in now to attend this meeting will only pay multiples in dividends as it will create strong friendships that will only propel and protect your practice and develop long lasting family memories and

traditions that your children will remember for years to come. Please take the time to reunite your families with ours by visiting www.georgiaorthosociety.com. Register for the annual meeting and book your room before it is sold out today! As the new normal blends into old traditions, I look forward to seeing all of your familiar (masked or unmasked) faces this Fall!



Snehal C. Dalal, MD, FAAOS
President, Georgia Orthopedic Society

MAG Doctor of the Day Program at the State Capitol.

Christopher J. Walsh, M.D., GOS Legislative Chair, pictured with Representative Josh Bonner.



Snehal C. Dalal, M.D., GOS President, pictured with Representative Timothy Barr and Senator Nikki Merritt.

REPORT FROM THE GOS AAOS BOARD OF COUNCILORS

Since last reporting, the major focus of your AAOS BOC has been **ADVOCACY**. In the past year, the AAOS Office of Government Relations (OGR) has worked to secure \$300 million in COVID-19 relief from the CARES Act, increased payments for telehealth visits, minimized Medicare payment cuts, fought for a physician-friendly compromise in the form of independent dispute resolution (IDR) on the issue of surprise billing, and leveled the playing field between physicians and insurers by advocating for the repeal of the McCarran-Ferguson Act (anti-trust). We truly have seen some incredible wins in the past year, in large part due to the fact that our Orthopaedic PAC gave us a seat at the table to make our voice heard during these legislative showdowns.

We have just completed AAOS Advocacy Week, during which your 3 BOC Representatives wrote many of you encouraging donations to the Orthopaedic PAC. On May 27th we had virtual visits with many of our Representatives and our 2 Senators on Capitol Hill. This project was the brainchild of our AAOS president Dr. Danny Guy from Lagrange who served as GOS president in 2009. We asked them to cosponsor legislation to improve the prior authorization process, the Telehealth Modernization Act which seeks to continue telemedicine funding

after Covid, and to support physician mental health by co-sponsoring The Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Act. This legislation will help reduce and prevent mental and behavioral health conditions, suicide, and burnout among health care professionals.

Hopefully, we will have in-person meetings on Capitol Hill at the September National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC)/ AAOS Fall Meeting. These two meetings will be combined for the first time.

As always, we not only bring news back to you, but we are your conduit back to the AAOS when you have concerns. Please allow us to help you.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Wendell Duncan, MD, FAAOS
wendellduncan32280@gmail.com

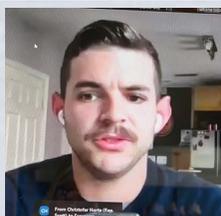
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leemccluskey@aol.com

Jim Barber, MD, FAAOS
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AAOS Virtual Fly-In



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Rep. Drew Ferguson



Rep. Carolyn Bourdeaux



Lattisha Bilbrew, MD
GOS Member



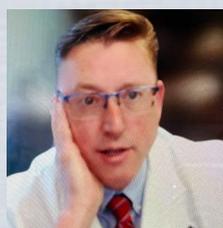
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Danny Guy, MD
AAOS President and
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Leland McCluskey, MD
GOS Past President

GOS LOBBYIST REPORT

2021 Legislative Session



The 2021 Legislative session wrapped up in the early morning hours of April 1st. Overall the Session was a success for physicians. Doctors are making an impact at the General Assembly with our unified voice as well as strong representation in the Legislature. We now have four doctors in the General Assembly – three in the Senate and one in the House. Dr. Ben Watson remains as the Chairman of the Health Committee in the senate and Dr. Dean Burke was very effective in his first year as the Chairman of the Insurance Committee.

Below are some of the highlights for the medical community.

COVID liability protections:

HB 112 – (Representative Trey Kelley) Physicians were protected from COVID liability in the 2020 legislative session. This year we were able to extend these protections for one year until July 14, 2022. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

Insurance Reform:

HB 234 – (Representative Lee Hawkins) In 2020, the legislature passed the Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act to protect patients from surprise bills and to protect physicians from payment denial. This bill allows self-funded plans to opt into this Act. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

HB 454 – (Representative Mark Newton) This bill deals with the continuity of care issue that has long been an issue with multiple insurance plans. The bill provides that a plan must provide coverage for 180 days if a patient's provider becomes out-of-network during a plan year. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

SB 80 – (Senator Kay Kirkpatrick) This bill deals with the burdensome prior authorization process. The bill does a number of things to assist – (1) Requires insurers and PBMs to be transparent with providers and patients about changes in their prior authorization process. (2) Allows for a physician in the same specialty to negotiate in the process. (3) Requires insurers to respond to requests within 15 calendar days until January 1, 2023: within 7 days after January 1, 2023, and within 72 hours for urgent care. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

Telemedicine services update

SB 307 – (Representative Sharon Cooper) This bill cements into law Governor Kemp's executive order stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill authorizes healthcare providers to provide telemedicine services from home as well as authorizes patients to receive these services from their home, workplace or

school. The bill allows for audio-only care when under certain circumstances. Additionally, it prohibits insurers from requiring an in-person consultation before receiving telemedicine services. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

Scope of Practice

Oftentimes wins are not found in bills passed but in bills not passed. This is the case with HB 369. The bill would have allowed for APRN and PA prescribing of Schedule II drugs under a protocol agreement or a job description. The bill would also allow APRNs and PAs under a protocol agreement to sign an affidavit for parking permits for people with disabilities. Further the bill removed some of the oversight of the Composite Medical Board when dealing with scope under protocol agreements by physicians. This bill failed to receive a vote in the Senate. We fully expect this bill to return. Representative Burt Reeves and Representative Alan Powell were the main legislators pushing the bill. Representative Reeves will not be returning to his seat in 2022 but we fully expect Representative Powell to push this concept.

Tort reform

After the attempt to pass an omnibus tort reform package in 2020, this year's efforts took a more targeted approach. Two main issues came before legislators – phantom damages and trial bifurcation. Both provisions were attached to bills late in the session. While both bills passed the Senate Health Committee, neither ultimately passed the legislature. Language dealing with phantom damages was removed in the Senate Rules Committee due to the controversial nature and a desire to easily pass the underlying bill. Trial bifurcation failed on the Senate floor. With lots of new faces in the legislature and many others coming, the off-season will be spent educating legislators and building support for this issue.

Other legislation of impact

While we passed key legislation that will enable physicians a better practice environment in Georgia there are other bills unrelated to medicine that made headlines this year.

Election reform was front and center from Day 1. The bill that ultimately passed was SB 202. You have probably heard many different opinions on this bill. For your reference, you can find the bill <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59827>. This will undoubtedly be a top issue as campaigns continue to heat up.

Governor Kemp signed HB 479 repealing Georgia's antiquated citizen's arrest law, which was authored in 1863. The bill

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significantly revises the grounds for arrest and detainment by a private citizen. The bill passed both chambers with bi-partisan support and a nearly unanimous vote. This was one of the Governor's priorities following the civil unrest from the summer of 2020.

Elections

Although this year will not be an election year, elections are heating up! We have seen a number of state legislators announce that they will be either retiring or seeking higher office. The list is below. Some of these retirements are helpful in removing champions of certain scope bills and roadblocks to tort reform.

House –

Erick Allen – Running for Lt. Governor
William Boddie – Running for Labor Commissioner
Derrick Jackson – Running for Lt. Governor
Greg Morris – Elected to GDOT board
Bee Nguyen – Running for Secretary of State
Bert Reeves – Taking a cabinet position at GA Tech
Matthew Wilson – Running for Commissioner of Insurance

Senate –

Lester Jackson – Running for Labor Commissioner
Jen Jordan – Running for Attorney General
Bruce Thompson – Running for Labor Commissioner

Your lobbying team will continue to be active in the coming months as fundraisers, study committees, legislative conferences and more begin. Thank you for your continued involvement in your political action committee (PAC). If you would like more information on the PAC or to donate, please click here <https://georgiaorthosociety.wildapricot.org/Advocacy>. With seats being won with razor thin margins our contributions are more important than ever!

Thank you for allowing us to represent you at the Georgia Capitol. Our contact information is below. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Don Bolia
 404-314-4844

Don.Bolia@peachgr.com

Janella Bova
 678-447-4934

Janella@peachgr.com

Laura Norton
 678-699-6426

Laura.Norton@peachgr.com



75th GEORGIA ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

October 7 - 10, 2021 | The Cloister on Sea Island, Georgia



MINIMUM OF 9 - 10 CME CREDITS AVAILABLE

Reserve your room today at this link! <https://book.passkey.com/e/50164740> no code is needed!
You can also call **855-421-0041** and mention you are attending the GOS annual meeting to receive the great low rate of \$407.00 per night.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

All subspecialties combined into two half-day sessions.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7th

6:00PM **Registration/Welcome Reception**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th

6:45AM **Breakfast with a Mentor (CME)**

7:30AM **Registration**

7:34AM-12:30PM **General Session**

8:30AM **Family Hospitality with Breakfast – Located at Beach Club.**

10:30AM **Coed Tennis Clinic**

12:30AM **Sports and Leisure (Golf, Skeet or Beach)**

2:00 – 4:00PM **Skeet Shooting**(Pay at time of event at Sea Island Shooting School)
Please email *Dr. Tom Bradbury* tom.bradbury@emory.edu if interested in Skeet.

7:00PM. **75th Anniversary Dinner Dance** (Children Welcome!) - Located in the Mizner Ballroom at the Cloister.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9th

7:30AM -12:30PM **General Session**

1:00PM **Afternoon of Leisure**

6:00PM **Cocktail Reception at the Beach Club**

The Winners of the 2021 Thomas E. Whitesides, M.D., Resident's Award are:

FIRST PLACE

Brian Burke, D.O.

Dwight D. Eisenhower
Army Medical Center
Abstract title:

**Low return to active duty after hip
arthroscopy.**

SECOND PLACE

Alex Webb, M.D.

Emory University
Department of Orthopaedics
Abstract title:

**Post-operative Glucocorticoid use in
Shoulder Arthroplasty: Early Results of
a Randomized-Control Trial.**

THIRD PLACE

Colton Webber, M.D.

Medical College of Georgia at
Augusta University
Abstract title:

**Is There Unconscious Bias in the
Orthopaedic Residency Interview
Selection Process?**

Congratulations to Brian, Alex, and Colton!

Each winner will present his paper at the GOS annual meeting, October 7-10, 2021, and will receive the \$1500 – First place, \$1000 – Second Place and \$500 - Third place awards.



GEORGIA
ORTHOPAEDIC
SOCIETY

2020 -2021 GOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE SOCIETY!

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Snehal C. Dalal, M.D.

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678-205-4261

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404-265-6991

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Emory Orthopaedics
and Spine Hospital
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OrthoAtlanta
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GOS Executive Director

Liz Neary

478-474-2754

GOS – Executive Director Assistant

Sarah E. Moran

706-716-1415

Georgia Orthopaedic Society 2021 Annual Meeting Registration Form
October 7-10, 2021 | The Cloister, Sea Island, Georgia

DEADLINES: Block of Rooms, September 6th, 2021; Meeting Pre-registration, September 17th, 2021

Please make check payable to the Georgia Orthopaedic Society and mail to:
Georgia Orthopaedic Society, 131 Holly Springs Drive, Peachtree City, Georgia 30269
 Phone: 478-474-2754 | Email: lnarygos@gmail.com | Online Registration www.georgiaorthosociety.com

Name: _____
 (Please list as you would prefer your name badge to read.)

Spouse/Guest Name _____

Practice Name: _____

Practice Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
 (Please **include email** in order to receive a meeting confirmation)

REGISTRATION CATEGORY (check only one): GOS Member Resident Member GOS Candidate for Membership
 Guest Resident Guest Allied Medical Professional (PA, NP, RN)

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Cloister Other

Reservations should be made directly with the Cloister at **800-732-4752**. Please ask for the GOS block of rooms at the rate of \$407.00. You can also go online and key in <https://book.passkey.com/go/gos2021> No code is needed!

****GOS member/non-members registration fee now includes ALL GOS sponsored meals for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.**
***Spouse/Guest/Resident and Allied Professional must register and pay additional fee to attend Friday night dinner.**

MEETING FEES	# Attending	Amount
EARLY BIRD RATE – Register by July 3rd and receive \$25.00 discount off the below rates!		
Registration Fee for GOS Members - \$425	_____	_____
Registration Fee for Non-Members - \$575	_____	_____
**NEW - YOUNG MEMBER RATE:		
Young Member Rate \$325.00 (Price includes dinner dance tickets for 2) (MUST be within 5 years of residency/fellowship)	_____	_____
Registration Fee for Allied Professionals - \$175	_____	_____
Registration Fee for Residents, and Spouses - No Charge	_____	_____
Late Fee - \$25 (For registrations rec'd after September 18 th)	_____	_____
Total Amount - Meeting Fees		\$ _____ ←

SOCIAL EVENTS REGISTRATION:	# Attending	Amount
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH - 6:00PM, Cocktail Reception	_____	N/C
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH		
8:30 - 10:00AM Family Hospitality with Breakfast (Located at the Beach Club/Ocean Room – Children welcome)	_____	N/C
7:00PM - 75th Anniversary Dinner Dance (Located in the Mizner Ballroom at the Cloister) – GOS Member/Non-Member (dinner included in Reg fee)		
*Spouse/Guest/Children 21 and up/Resident/Allied Professional - \$130pp	_____ x \$130pp = _____	
*Children ages 10-20 yrs. old - \$50 pp	_____ x \$ 50pp = _____	
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 6:00PM, Cocktail Party	_____	N/C
Total Amount - Social Events <input type="checkbox"/> I will not be attending the Social Events		\$ _____ ←
<i>Children are welcome to attend the Thursday and Saturday evening events complimentary but must pay if attending the Friday dinner dance.</i>		

SPORTS PRE-REGISTRATION:	Names of Participant(s)	Handicap/Avg Score	Amount
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH - 6:45AM, Walk/Run	_____	N/A	N/C
10:30AM, Coed Tennis Clinic (Sea Island Tennis Courts)	_____	N/A	N/C
1:15PM, GOS Classic Golf Tournament (Plantation Course) - \$240 per person. Price includes box lunch and beverages on cart	_____	_____	
Total Amount Due for Golf Tournament (\$240 x _____)			\$ _____ ←

2:00 - 4:00PM, Skeet Shooting. (\$200pp ++)
 Name _____
 (Pay at time of event at Sea Island Shooting School)
 Please email Dr. Tom Bradbury tom.bradbury@emory.edu if interested in Skeet.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Includes Meeting Fees, Social Events and Golf Tournament) \$ _____ ←

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Please register online at <http://www.georgiaorthosociety.com/event-4215725>. Log in to the website is required for membership rates, please email sarah@ngaconsultants.com if you need assistance logging in.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Refunds will not be granted for cancellations received after September 20th, 2021.