



Volume 12 • Issue 2S • Spring 2022

No Bones About it Friends-Colleagues-Guests



**Manuel Molina, MD,
President**

It's been a wonderful year. Despite the lingering effects of COVID-19, 2021-2022 has been an amazing transition to our return to the "new normal." Taking the lead from our previous administration's (Dr. Felix Cheung's) continued growth and incredible flexibility during the worst of the pandemic, we had a much easier time to return to our activities both professionally and personally. COVID-19 still haunts us with its variety of swings and penetrations into our communities, but we are moving onward. In general, the West Virginia Orthopaedic Society is in great standing. Our active membership has grown with renewed and increased interest amongst its

participating leadership. Our advocacy work on behalf of musculoskeletal care in the State of West Virginia has continued to expand. It has been with great benefit that the President of the West Virginia State Medical Society, Dr. Shafic Sraj, is one of our own. Dr. Joe Prud'homme continues to represent us with great effect with the Academy, most recently in Chicago at the annual AAOS meeting. Our financial status is excellent due to the efforts of many in this organization, but in particular, Diane Slaughter, our Executive Director. Having worked together as "friends, colleagues and guests," it's been extremely fruitful for our society. Mark Twain once wrote "it is the long history of mankind (and animal kind, too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed."

In brief, our board meeting in April basically concurs with the above. We also discussed the change of our fall meeting in association with State Medical at the Greenbrier to **Friends...** More on page 13

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WVOS Annual Meeting a Success

**We were
honored to have
Dr. Dan Guy
and his wife as
our guests for
this meeting.**

The 2022 Spring Break Meeting, chaired by Dr. John Taras, featured golf, education and fellowship for all attendees.

Friday's golf scramble at Stonewall Resort saw the group below win the honor of the "group that had the most fun," and featured Aaron Ferguson, Drs. Karim Boukhemis, Joe Prud'homme, Dan Guy and Manny Molina (plus the parrot).

Friday evening was highlighted by a "Bring Your Worst Case" evening for all attendees, exhibitors, sponsors and guests.

Saturday's conference was well-received, with overall conference speaker ratings of 4.73 on a 5.0 scale. Comments from attendees included: "Excellent. Very good meeting. Fantastic program. Really enjoyed case study format and valuable presentations. Great location, efficient flow. Enjoy seeing everyone."



This year's donations to OREF were made in the name of Dr. Tony Majestro, shown above center, with Drs. Manny Molina and Dan Guy.

Dr. Frank Shuler Memorial Resident Presentations saw top prizes go to Alec McCann of Marshall and Benjamin Giertych and Edwin Chaharbakhshi of WVU.

The 2023 dates are April 21 and 22, 2023.



2022 Healthcare Hall of Fame

From the football field to the operating room, Chad David Lavender, M.D., believes his drive—for the love of the game and dedication to his profession—is a huge part of his success as an orthopaedic surgeon and assistant professor at Marshall Sports Medicine Institute.

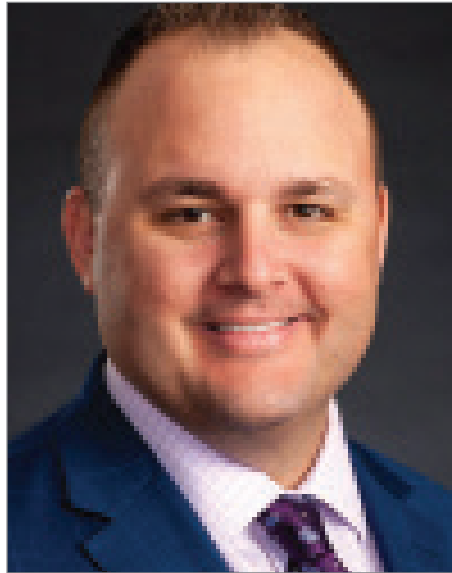
The specialty allows him to take care of athletes and patients of all ages.

"I chose sports medicine because of my background as a football player and the understanding of what it meant for teammates to get back out on the field as soon as possible. I know what it means for athletes to get back on the field to earn scholarships," says Lavender.

Growing up in Chesapeake, WV, Lavender credits his parents as his greatest mentors and for giving him the chance to attend medical school.

"When I decided to practice medicine, I asked my parents for \$1,000 for a medical school review course, and I told them if they could pay for that course, I wouldn't let them down," he says. "They didn't blink, and I hope I lived up to my end of the bargain."

Lavender attended West Virginia University School of Medicine and Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. He completed his sports medicine fellowship at Orthopaedic Research of Virginia. His duties as an orthopaedic surgeon



include seeing patients and performing surgeries several days a week. Lavender specializes in knee and shoulder arthroscopy.

"I have a desire to improve minimally invasive arthroscopy, which is evident in the techniques we have published in our book titled, 'Biologic and Nanoarthroscopic Approaches in Sports Medicine,'" says Lavender. "My favorite aspects of my position are the patient interactions on a daily basis and the research I do to advance the field. There is no question that the biggest obstacle is the stigma we face being from West Virginia and coming from a less populated area. I have used this fact as motivation to work harder and push obstacles away to achieve our agenda and get our results out to the rest of the country."

He has also helped provide sports medicine coverage for many sporting events at

Hall of Fame More on page 11

**"I know what it
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Dr. Lavender**

WVAOE Elects New Officers

Eight applications were submitted for the Josh Tuck Memorial Scholarship, with the unanimous winner coming from Pendleton County High School.

The West Virginia Association of Orthopaedic Executives (WVAOE) met at Stonewall Resort on April 30 and awarded the \$1,500 2022 Josh Tuck Memorial Scholarship and elected new officers.

Eight scholarship applications were received from Kanawha, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, Pendleton, Putnam, Raleigh, Wetzel and Pendleton Counties. The committee unanimously selected the student from Pendleton County High School, Kinzley Hartman, who will be attending Marshall University. The student essays begin on page 5 in county order.

Application requirements included:

- Being a West Virginia high school senior;
- Majoring in healthcare management or administration or similar field at Bluefield State College, Fairmont State University, Marshall University or WVU Tech; and
- School counselor must sign the application.

In addition, students were asked to "describe your community's issues with opioids and explain how you would reduce the problem." Some of the solutions are quite interesting. This issue will be shared with our Congressional delegation during a visit later this year. This information provides a unique perspective from the state's youth.

If you are interested in



donating to this scholarship fund, please contact the WVAOE office at wvaeo@frontier.com.

During the meeting, new officers were elected for the WVAOE. The new officers are:

- President Chad Fisher, Esq. (shown above), Marshall Orthopaedics;
- Vice President LeAnne Call, CMOM, MS, CAMC Ambulatory;
- Secretary Clint Welch, JD, First Settlement Orthopaedics;
- Treasurer Sandy Brown, Orthopedic Healthcare Associates;
- Immediate Past President Antoinette Summers, WVU Orthopaedics; and
- Director Juanita Dempsey, Scott Orthopedic Center.

Founding President David Proctor and Secretary Connie Link were thanked for their years of service to WVAOE.

Nathan Was Special in Every Way

I think when you're young, it is natural to idolize your older cousins, well, in my family it is. I had an older cousin that was easy to idolize. They were smart, athletic, popular and everything I thought I wanted to be when I grew up, especially as a high school kid. There was a special cousin that I had idolized most, we will call him Nathan. Nathan was special in every way. He was academically gifted and could speak and write as well as anyone could. He took an ACT test once on a whim and scored a 27. He could pick up any ball and play, skateboard, snowboard and perform that task with ease. His future was bright and even had a lot of colleges looking at him to continue his football career. Fifteen years later, people still talk about him and say that he was the best quarterback to ever come through my school. What I didn't know, and what I wouldn't know for many years, is that when Nathan was a senior in high school, he started taking Lortabs for football games to make him less nervous. Being a quarterback comes with a lot of pressure and

nobody knew he was dealing with anxiety. His football season came and went. He won All-State and All-County awards and participated in our state's North-South game. He attended college at Marshall in the fall but didn't make it through a single semester. By that time, to everyone's surprise, Nathan was in full-blown opioid addiction. He bounced from job to job, borrowed and stole money from everyone we knew, including our grandparents. He pawned our family's belongings, got arrested and even OD's in front of his younger brothers and sisters. Nathan is now in his 30s and clean, but still every day an addict in recovery. He was your all-American kid, with an all-American family and addiction hit him hard. I've watched the same thing happen to many of my friends, parents and loved ones. And I even have classmates who have lost even both their parents that overdose. What opioids have done to our region is catastrophic. And although it has not gone away completely, I do find that our current generation has learned how catastrophic that drugs can be.

**"And I even
have classmates
who have lost
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overdose."**

There May Be Ways to Reduce It

"The opioid problem in this community must change."

In my community, I have noticed for a while that opioids are a huge problem. There have been many times that I have seen on the news something about a person having an overdose. There have been other times when I have seen it on the news about addiction in general. In my life, I have also known people that have had problems with opioids or drugs in general. Nowadays, I feel like it is normal to see people on drugs or hear about someone overdosing. It should not be this way. There have also been times where I have seen pills on the street or sidewalk. The opioid problem in this community must change.

Considering opioids being an issue for the person addicted, it is important to mention that it highly affects the family and people around that person. From personal experience, I have seen it and it is hard on the family and causes unneeded stress and problems. In this way, it is multiple being affected. With that being said, I know that it is a huge issue in my community. It is amazingly easy for addicts to have access to these opioids. Many addicts do not start out that way. Prescription pain meds are probably one of the leading causes of opioid addiction. Parents who have an injury and are in need of pain medication can very easily get addicted. Even though opioid usage

is a major problem in this community, there may be some ways to stop it.

First of all, addiction can run in genetics. I feel as though when a patient is in need of any sort of prescription opioid, they should look at the family history first. If addiction is detected in a family member, or multiple, another alternative should be found for that patient. Secondly, I feel like state-monitored opioid use would be preventable. The states need to look at databases and see how many opioids are being prescribed, and how often they are being prescribed. The doctor needs to pay close attention to this as well. Insurance companies can also play a role in opioid abuse prevention. It would be smart for insurance companies to limit the number of prescriptions and number of times a prescription can be refilled. If this is highly monitored, they can catch if a person is getting too much of a drug.

Next, areas where crime and drug usage are being reported, or even areas where there is not much action taking place should be monitored every so often to see if they can bust drug deals, or addicts in general. Lastly, getting help should also be made easy for those struggling. Getting help can slowly decrease opioid abuse numbers. There are many factors as to why opioids are a problem in my community, and it needs to change.

It's a Problem Across the Country

Opioid abuse has become a problem everywhere in the country. Overdosing has sadly become more common than it ever has. In West Virginia, opioids abuse has become one of the very highest in the country. In my community alone, the problem exists everywhere, no matter who you are or where you live. It is not unusual nowadays, to see people walking the streets after dark, obviously out of control and obviously on drugs. You hear of people breaking into other's homes, garages, and buildings weekly in order to steal their belongings to sell them for drugs. It has become overwhelming and is getting worse.

Prescribed opioids are given to patients to help with pain. A doctor prescribes them usually after a surgery or after a patient has experienced a trauma. These drugs are known for giving the patient a relaxed state of being, but are also warned to be extremely addictive. Many times people are prescribe them necessarily, but end up using them for a prolonged amount of time, which then leads to taking more than the prescribed dosage. This is how addiction begins. Once someone is addicted to these drugs, it is extremely difficult to stop using them. Addicts will do anything to get their fix with these opioids, and later leads to overdoses. Our paramedics and ER staff spend hours every day trying to save

the lives of opioid overdoses. The frustration of these health care workers is that they know it is highly possible that if they save a life, that that same person will be back within days needing saved again. A friend of mine that works at a local hospital says that they see at least 1-8 overdoses every day in their ER. He says that many of these patients are repeat offenders and have been in the ER more than once for the same treatment. Because someone who has overdosed can die within minutes, usually the healthcare workers have to drop everything to tend to the overdose in order to save them.

West Virginia has one of the very highest opioid problems in the entire country. It saddens me to see the number of people addicted and lose their lives in our state and community. One solution to this problem is to go back to the source. I think that physicians need to have stronger and stricter drug monitoring programs. Doctors need to check the history of their patients before prescribing opioids. They need to check for any history of addiction to begin with. Doctors also need to make sure that the prescribed dosage and the amount of pills that are prescribed are necessary. When patients need these drugs for pain, I feel that some type of therapy or check in should be mandatory in order for the patient to continue to

Problem

More on page 11

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Change the Minds of Teens

"The opioid epidemic has taken over the state of West Virginia."

The opioid epidemic has taken over the state of West Virginia. The mountain state, which was once commonly known for its rolling hills and running streams, is now recognized as the state with the highest number of deaths related to opioids. Statistics should that there are roughly 42 opioid overdose deaths for every 100,000 people. Just like every other state struggling with the opioid epidemic, some areas struggle more than others. My community, which is the town of New Martinsville, has been struck extremely hard by the effects of these drugs. The opioid crisis affects everyone in the area. For example, people that abuse opioids tend to have rocky relationships with close family and friends. This makes it difficult for both the abuser and the families.

The police department in New Martinsville is constantly dealing with cases involving drugs, particularly opioids. This is due to the fact that opioids are readily available in pharmacies everywhere. In order to get these medication drugs, a person only needs a prescription from a doctor. When these highly addictive drugs get in the hands of the wrong people, they are spread across towns to people that have wrong intentions of using them. In my community, opioids often affect the teenage generation. Teenagers fall to the misuse of

these drugs because of peer pressure, curiosity, and mental struggles. The minds of teens are easily influenced, making high schoolers an easy target for people wanting to make a market off of distributing opioids. This is a huge deal that negatively impacts my generation. Most of the teens using these drugs end up getting in serious trouble or getting hurt.

Recently, New Martinsville has been attempting to lower the number of cases involving opioids. The community opened a new recovery clinic to try to get addicts the help that they need to stay clean. This clinic acts as a rehabilitation center to try and reverse the mind's addiction to the drug. As an individual that is part of New Martinsville's community, I believe it would be exceedingly beneficial to have more events that spread awareness of the harmful effects of opioids. By spreading awareness, more people will not attempt to have connections with opioids in the first place. To stop the crisis, I would also establish new and improved prescription drug monitoring programs. The problem with these drugs belongs to the concept that they are easily accessible. To stop the spread of them, communities need to get better at tracking whose hands opioids land in. If we stop the first initial distribution from a dealer to a customer, then it will dwindle down the number of people that would be affected.

Almost Heaven or Just Closer To It

When people use to think of West Virginia they would think of how beautiful the mountains are, and a catchy song you couldn't help but sing along to. Now the only thought in everyone's mind is how our state has been plagued by opioids. The people of West Virginia have been betrayed by Big Pharma and have been enable for fellow statement who have sat back and allowed the slow suicides of friends and family members. Children are selling drugs in school and getting sent to juvie. The West Virginia overdose rate from 2019 to 2020 increased by 45% due to the pandemic and the mental toll it took on people who could not see their loved ones or lost their jobs due to not being essential personnnel, and doctors are prescribing highly addictive medications to patients who could have gone without it.

2020 was a horrible year for the world with so many dying from covid-19. What many people didn't hear about in the news was the 1,275 West Virginia residents who died from confirmed overdoses. 2020 saw an 878 increase from 2019 and was the highest recorded total of overdose deaths ever recorded in West Virginia. With more and more people sick and going to the doctors, more prescriptions have been given out to people who really didn't need them.

Many of the people who use drugs in West Virginia

have children who grow up thinking that doing drugs is the normal thing to do. With so many parents on drugs this has left the majority of West Virginia youth with no support and supervision. There have been kids as young as 11 selling drugs they stole from their parent's medicine cabinet in school. Most of the kids in juvenile detention centers are in for drug related charges. The detention center is the place many kids in West Virginia find structure for the first time due to their parents never giving them structure because they were too focused on drugs.

Prescription medication is one of the major problems here in West Virginia. Doctors have recently been in trouble for prescribing highly addictive medication to people who didn't need such a high dose of medication. After taking the medication for a specific amount of time people become reliant on the drugs to get through their daily lives. When they can no longer get the pain medications, they then turn to other types of drugs to fill their needs.

West Virginia has been labeled almost heaven; some people are just a lot closer to it than others here. Opioids have personally touched my family due to my uncle passing away due to an overdose. I believe that people who want to do drugs will find a way

Heaven Continued on page 11

**"The people of
West Virginia
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better."**

Pervasive Problem, Limited Cures

"The drug epidemic in our state has no boundaries..."

West Virginia has one of the highest rates in the country of non-medical use of prescription pain relievers in 19-25-year-olds. The drug epidemic in our state has no boundaries and continues to affect West Virginians daily. One of the biggest effects that I can see in Pendleton County is children living with grandparents or other relatives due to their parents' substance abuse. Another issue I have witnessed is parents allowing their children to try drugs and becoming addicted. Drugs have caused many issues in my community and has affected many lives. You would think that because of the opioid epidemic our community would want to have a safe haven or rehab facility for drug addicts, but the closest facility is an hour away from Pendleton County.

I personally have not been negatively affected by the opioid epidemic within my family, but I have been able to witness the negative outcomes that this issue produces from the point of view of my best friend. When she was 10 years old her sister began to abuse pain pills that quickly escalated to methamphetamines, and later heroin and Fentanyl. I watched her drug use tear their family apart. Her car was destroyed, her engagement and her career. They spent thousands of dollars on

treatment and trying to help her get her life straight. She later ended up serving over a year in federal prison for crimes she committed during the time she was using drugs. She also gave birth to her first child during the time she was incarcerated who now lives with grandparents. Addiction is not just something that is harmful to the individual using them, such insignificant amounts of these substances break trust and bonds in families for years. Since serving her sentence she is now continuing her life remaining clean from drugs. She has reinstated her cosmetology license and is currently working in a salon. She has also given birth to a second baby which remains in her custody and is happy and healthy.

Once I have finished my schooling and have become a nurse, I would like to return to Pendleton County to serve my community. I could help my community by creating a pop-up clinic that would provide access to clean needles, counseling and testing for bloodborne pathogens. This would allow people who are struggling with addiction to have access to a safer place to combat the addiction. Even though this is not a direct approach to the epidemic it would still help with the drug problems here in Pendleton County.

Problem More from page 7
get the prescription. After a certain amount of time, the physician needs to revisit the prescription and the patient

Heaven More from page 9
to do will find a way to do drugs, but I feel like a solution to this problem would be for doctors to stop freely handing out prescription medications that last them for weeks at a time. I think it would also be

Hall of Fame More from page 3
Marshall University, Virginia Tech, University of Charleston and Capital and South Charleston high schools as well as for the Washington Football Team.

Over the years, Lavender has received many awards for his work in sports medicine. He says being part of the 2022 West Virginia Executive Health Care Hall of Fame means the most to him as both a surgeon and a West Virginian.

"This award is from West Virginia, which is the state I have lived in all of my life, and it is a broader award for all of my research and activities. To me, this gives it more meaning than other milestones I have achieved," says Lavender. "I am from Chesapeake, WV, and growing up here, I felt so attached to the people in the community. I still have many patients who I have known for a good portion of my life. It was an obvious choice for me to stay here and help serve our area, and my goal has always been to come here and provide

and determine if there is a substitute medication that can then be given or if the prescription is still necessary.

beneficial if biweekly check ups were done on patients who are on specific medications to see how they are handling them. The people of West Virginia deserve better from the people who are supposed to help us and make us better.

world-class care and cutting-edge technology to our state and also do research the state can be proud of. I would have never dreamed of the success we have had and the national recognition we have received, but I hope we are just seeing the beginning of something special."

Lavender is the father of two children, Chance and Louren, and husband to his wife, Michelle. His family is part of his greatest personal successes in life.

"When I was in residency, my wife never questioned why I had to work long hours and always understood the long-term goal to change patients' lives. To this day, she understands my passion to change how arthroscopy is performed and my goal to change outcomes. Without them, I wouldn't be able to spend the time it takes to balance my job," he says.

As he continues to advance his career, Lavender

Hall of Fame More on page 12

**Lavender's
family is part of
his greatest
personal
successes in
life.**

**“Even being in
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Dr. Lavender**

Hall of Fame More from page 12
is still working on making the Mountain State a national referral site for high-level athletes.

“That is my long-term goal—to provide the level of care here in West Virginia that patients routinely travel not just from regional areas but across the world for our care. We have

made great gains in this area, but I would like it to be more consistent,” he says. “A very important aspect for any job is that you should continue to learn each day. Overall, what I have learned since being at Marshall is even being in such a small area, we can make differences on a national and international level.”

The Lavender Fertilized ACL Method

One of Dr. Chad David Lavender’s greatest successes in his career has been the publication of his book, “Biologic and Nanoarthroscopic Approaches in Sports Medicine.” Lavender acknowledges that not everyone is able to complete a book and have it published at such an early point in their career. He believes the techniques he worked hard to develop make the book stand out among others.

“It was certainly a long process, but it was well worth it to see the finished product. Seeing it start at number one on the Amazon sports medicine book list was a defining day for my career,” he says.

That is not all Lavender has accomplished in his medical career. He is also the creator of a new technique regarding anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) surgeries.

It is called the Lavender Fertilized ACL Method—where harvested stem cells from a patient’s tibia are combined

with the patient’s bone. The combination forms a composite graft, which is injected around the ACL graft into the bone. Lavender and his team also use an internal brace during the procedure. The technique can improve faster healing and early outcomes after ACL surgery.

“I sat down several years ago and created this technique by using the latest and greatest technology we have available to us in the operating room. Currently, I travel and train surgeons on the technique around the country and enjoy hearing outstanding feedback on how it is helping athletes everywhere,” he says.

Lavender says he is in a transitional period after the initial trial on the technique and will start a multi-center trial with larger institutions around the country.

“These are great things to bring to our state, and they provide us with great recognition,” he says.

Friends... More from page 1
November this year instead of August. The specialty day will be Sunday, November 13, for members wanting to attend and provide input. Although not the most optimal time, it was done for the benefit of the State Medical Association and will be in partnership with the state Hospital Association meeting.

Dr. Ret Topping has also been appointed to the Healthcare Policy Committee. He will represent the West Virginia Orthopaedic Society in consolidating legislative agenda reviews and coordinating efforts by medical specialty societies in West Virginia to preemptively engage in the actions of the state legislature that affect us all.

There was no change in the officer roles involving the leadership at the West Virginia Orthopaedic Society, as I will remain as President, Dr. Shafic Sraj will remain as Vice president, Dr. Ryan Murphy will continue to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and Dr. Felix Cheung will continue to serve as our Preeminent Immediate Past President. At-large members in the board will continue to be Drs. Karim Boukhemis, Paul Legg, Dana Lycans, Ereny Bishara and Shari Cui. Our Advocacy chairman will be Dr. Ret Topping, membership chairman will be Dr. Vivek Neginhal, and Program and CME chair will be Dr. John Taras. We continue to emphasize the presence and participation of our university resident members.

The West Virginia Orthopaedic Society has successfully hosted a signature

event once again this year at Stonewall Resort. We took the lead from last year's meeting and expanded it by changing the emphasis from topic to case studies. The purpose was to continue to create a variety of different issues for discussion amongst our membership. Dr. John Taras put together an excellent program featuring many of our state leaders discussing subjects ranging from technology advancement (robotics), procedural innovations involving shoulder, hip, knee, ankle and pediatric fractures. We had panel discussions on the future of Orthopaedics post-COVID-19 with reference to university, state and national effects on our practice. Once again, an excellent competition occurred for the Dr Frank Schuler Memorial Resident Award. West Virginia University and Marshall University's residency programs were both well represented.

We placed great emphasis this year during our meeting on thanking our exhibitors and sponsors for their participation. With the number of vendors and co-sponsors, we were able to put on a first-rate conference. We truly enjoyed their participation, not only at the exhibitor areas, but also during our discussions and roundtable talks, lunches and receptions. We may have to revise our policy for our golf tournament awards secondary to the fact that most of the prizes (longest drive, closest to the pin, overall winners) were won by our exhibitor players instead of our physician players. Speaking of golf, we must give

Friends... More on page 14

**The WVOS
successfully
hosted a
signature CME
event at
Stonewall
Resort.**

We were able to honor Dr. Tony Majestro for his years of service to the WVOS by sending the annual OREF contribution in his name.

Friends... More from page 13 credit to our "Golf Tzar," Dr. Karim Boukhemis, for putting on an excellent tournament. The scramble format was fun for all. The awards were great, but overall it was the camaraderie that made the day special. I believe the format that put together balanced teams of golfers was fun for all. We also tried to create teams that combined physicians with PAs, residents and vendors to mix it up, and expand exposure to our participants and perhaps to members they had not met before. Heck, even the weather cooperated. It turned out to be an incredibly beautiful day.

We were able to present a lifetime achievement award, in the form of our annual OREF contribution in his name, to one of our members during the lunchtime recess. Dr. Tony Majestro, a practicing orthopaedic surgeon in the state of West Virginia for 49 years after a two-year military requirement as an orthopaedic surgeon during the Vietnam war (total 51 years), was given recognition for his activities as a founding member of the West Virginia Orthopaedic Society, and for his longtime service to the Charleston community as a professional in the care of musculoskeletal disorders ranging from arthritis reconstruction and spine surgery in adults to the care of Spina Bifida and club foot disorders in children. I don't expect we will see any more like him in the future. Really, he still gives his patients the Flu vaccination in our office!

Lastly, we were honored by the participation of Dr. Daniel Guy, the immediate past president of the AAOS who not only volunteered to be a presenter, but spent the entire weekend with our community at Stonewall Resort. He arrived on Thursday, played golf with us on Friday morning, and still found time to give a virtual talk to the Oklahoma State Orthopedic Society. He briefly attended the board meeting Friday afternoon and the reception Friday evening with his very gracious wife Jill by his side. Dr. Guy then attended the Saturday meeting with all our membership, participating in the panel discussion alongside Dr. Ali Oliashirazi and Dr. Shafic Sraji on the future of orthopedics post-Covid. He also gave a presentation on the Academy's importance to our state societies and vice versa. His greatest contribution was the access he gave to all our members for discussion on anything from politics to sports outside of the scheduled program. It was truly entertaining to listen to Dr. Joe Prud'homme discuss all manner of topics with Dr. Guy and his wife Jill while sharing a gifted bottle of Redbreast Single Pot Still Irish Whiskey. He shared a lifetime of lessons learned, as well as expected change in the future direction of Orthopedics.

After all of that, we in the leadership of the WVOS look forward to doing this all over again, building on what we've done in the past, and making things better. See you soon.

**In this important
mid-term election year, it's
more important than ever to
consider contributing to
[Ortho PAC](#)
to help make your voice
heard on issues of
importance to
orthopaedic medicine and
your patients!**

**The Connecticut
Orthopaedic Society got
100% participation
from its members...
WVOS can do that, too!**

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