

Tuesday,
March 2, 2010

Leaving Behind a Lasting Legacy

LOCATION:

Shilo Inn
50 Comstock
Richland, Washington

5:30 p.m. - Check in/Networking
and no-host cocktail service
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:00 p.m. - Presentation

DINNER BUFFETT MENU:

The Chef and crew at O'Callahan's Restaurant always provide a fine and varied buffet dinner for us at the Shilo Inn. The buffet usually includes two entree choices, plus accompanying vegetable, a number of tasty salads, and a vegetable and/or fruit tray.

Your choice of coffee, tea or decaf is included with dinner. And don't forget to save room for dessert!

Cost:

\$17 ASQ members
\$20 non members
\$5 presentation only

Reservations are requested by February 25. E-mail panda_2@charter.net with your name, phone number, company affiliation, and type of reservation, or call Alvin at 371-2221.

Note: All no shows will be billed unless cancelled 48 hours in advance.

For more information about our local section and other upcoming events, please check our website at www.asq614.org/

Jeanne Dillner, CEO

Surgical Implant Generation Network

Our speaker, Jeanne Dillner, responded in January with SIGN to the disaster in Haiti. In addition to the presentation originally planned for last month's meeting, she will now also provide an update on how SIGN helped people injured in the earthquake and a first-hand report of the conditions there.

SIGN recognizes the impact of trauma on the people living in developing countries. Road traffic accidents, conflicts, falls, and natural disaster often cause injuries such as severe fractures. SIGN supports those surgeons who treat the victims of trauma. In addition to coordinating the training of surgeons in poor countries, SIGN designs and manufactures FDA-cleared surgical implants and instruments and donates them to under-resourced hospitals in developing countries. The equipment has been designed specifically for use in hospitals where real-time imaging and power equipment are unavailable.

SIGN is different from other medical humanitarian organizations because there is a commitment to provide surgeons in developing nations with training and instrumentation so that the local surgeon has the tools he needs to treat his patients. This is different from other organizations that swoop in, perform miracles and leave.

SIGN's mission is to successfully build local orthopaedic surgical capability while improving the quality of fracture care for the injured poor. SIGN designs and manufactures orthopaedic implants and instruments at SIGN headquarters in Richland, Washington, and donates these products to surgeons abroad. This donation only occurs once surgeons have been trained in the SIGN surgical technique. SIGN commits to providing both ongoing training and equipment so that surgeons can continue to treat the poor within hours of their injury.

Once trained, many SIGN surgeons take on the responsibility of teaching the SIGN technique to other surgeons within their department, in other hospitals within their country and in hospitals in neighboring countries. SIGN surgeons regularly present their results of SIGN surgeries at regional orthopaedic conferences and are encouraged to attend the international SIGN conference held at the headquarters in Richland, Washington, each year.

About the Speaker:

Jeanne Dillner has been with SIGN since its inception and has held the position of CEO since 2001. She regularly travels with Dr. Zirkle to assist with training and building relationships with the local orthopaedic surgeons. Previous to SIGN, Ms. Dillner was President of J. Dillner Consulting. She held lead finance positions at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria and at Pacific Northwest National Laboratories in Richland, Washington.



Above: The pre- and post-op x-rays of a patient with a fractured femur. The post-op x-ray shows a SIGN nail that has been implanted.



Left: The patient standing on the leg that had been broken.