



*Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.*  
Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919)

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December 5, 2006

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Dear Friends,

The third annual SIGN benefit was held on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We presented the expanding role of SIGN around the world. 1,700 SIGN surgeons around the world have done over 24,000 surgeries since 1999. SIGN programs expand because local SIGN surgeons continue to train surgeons from other hospitals who want to start SIGN in their hospital. We are successfully building orthopaedic capability in more than 45 developing countries.

SIGN has become a first responder to disasters as shown by our response to the tsunami in Banda Aceh, Indonesia and the earthquakes in Pakistan and Central Java, Indonesia. We must prepare ourselves for the next disaster by having instruments and implants ready to ship at a moment's notice.

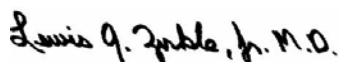
The role of education in SIGN is expanding. The annual SIGN conference increased in number of attendees and scientific basis for papers. Our goal is to contribute to orthopaedic knowledge around the world by providing data from the SIGN surgical database to surgeons for their research. Many SIGN surgeons have used this data to write research papers for their dissertations.

Jeanne Dillner, SIGN's executive director, reported on expansion of SIGN headquarters to accommodate the increasing demand of our growing R&D program. SIGN's goal is to expand treatment to a broader range of fractures. To assist SIGN's R&D program, Randy Huebner, founder of Acumed, led a course for the SIGN engineers on effective design techniques. This will allow our engineers to bring ideas for new instruments and implants into the field much sooner so that more people can receive treatment.

Jeff Peterson, also from Acumed, announced that Acumed's shareholders and employees will match dollar for dollar donations or pledges to SIGN received between now and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006. If you have not already donated, please consider completing the enclosed donation card and sending to us before the end of the year.

Thank you for being a part of SIGN's expanding role in orthopaedics worldwide.

In gratitude,



Lewis G. Zirkle Jr., MD  
President and Founder



Jeanne Dillner  
Executive Director