1991 – Douglas W. Jackson, MD

In April Douglas W. Jackson, MD took over as President. A financial crisis was evident requiring drastic action. Members were assessed $500 to seed the funding of the OLC and $500 was added to the initiation fee. A major fund raising campaign with professional direction was approved by the Board. Several procedures to establish financial security were developed: 1) A surety bond for the staff; 2) Annual audit; 3) Person who signs checks will be a different individual from the one who reconciles the bank account; 4) Supporting evidence will be required for all expenditures.

An AAOS/AANA task force was created to explore partnership in a learning center. Don Reid was appointed Executive Director. A Committee on Committees was established under the chairmanship of the 1st VP. The Journal was increased to six editions per year. Because of a perceived lack of interest, the Video Journal Supplement was discontinued. Because of contract disputes with Raven press RFP’s were requested from additional publishers.

1992 – J. Whit Ewing, MD

In April J. Whit Ewing, MD was elected President. The Academy had purchased a seven-story building in Rosemont with ample space for offices of the orthopaedic specialty societies. AANA approached the Academy to rent space. Guidelines for the use of cadavers in skills courses were obtained from the Center of Disease Control. Course planning for the Orthopaedic Learning Center was initiated. The Board of Directors of the OLC was established at six members with 50% representation from AANA and 50% from AAOS. By the time of the Annual meeting held in Boston, MA, the development of the Orthopaedic Learning Center (OLC) as a co-venture with AAOS was far enough along that the AANA BOD members who had signed personal loan guarantees for the building of this center had their letters of guarantee returned to them. Such was the passion of these members to see this venue created. In April of 1992, an AANA/AAOS Task Force met and began the negotiations that would lead to the establishment of the governance of the future psychomotor skills laboratory that would eventually be named the Orthopaedic Learning Center.

The distribution of “Pearls” conceived originally by Terry Whipple, MD was gaining in popularity. The BOD of AANA to requested from Dr. Whipple an outline format that would guarantee a continuation of “Pearls” should Dr. Whipple ever tire of producing this popular offering.
Mr. Donald Reid, the acting Executive Director of AANA developed a recognition program for the major donors to the fund that enabled AANA to participate in the creation of the Orthopaedic Learning Center. This recognition wall can be seen as one enters the Learning Center. The individuals and corporations who made these contributions recognized the passion of AANA and shared the vision that psycho-motor skills training was necessary to advance the capabilities of not only physicians in training but practicing physicians as well.

When asked to discuss his plans for the upcoming year, J. Whit Ewing, MD stated that his goal was to land the ship, in other words, assist in completing the task of developing the Orthopaedic Learning Center. The major work had been carried out, but many details had yet to be established. One of the major accomplishments was the formation of a Board of Directors consisting of six members. There were and continue to be three members from AANA and three members from AAOS on this board. The board acts independently and is responsible for the operation of the center. Dr. Ewing mentioned that the responsibility of appointing new committee members as well as appointing new committee chair persons was more than one person should be expected to do. At this time, the membership role had grown to nearly 1000 members. He therefore suggested the formation of the Committee on Committees, which the Board of Directors promptly carried out.

In 1992, the *Arthroscopy Journal* had increased to six issues yearly. The *Arthroscopy Video Journal* did not achieve the numbers of subscriptions needed to continue and was discontinued. Many members, who were offered a refund on their subscriptions to the *Arthroscopy Video Journal*, opted to contribute that refund to the education funds of AANA. For the first time in several years, requests for proposal from several scientific journal publishers were sought. Raven Press was the original publisher of the journal, which began in 1985. As a result of this action, Saunders publishers were contracted and began their publication of *Arthroscopy* with the February 1995 Vol. 11, No. 1 issue.

With increasing pressures on the practice of medicine from outside influences, the Socioeconomic Committee was replaced by the Committee on Health Policy and Practice. This newly formed committee aids the membership with timely information on changing coding issues and numerous regulations that affect the practice of medicine.

1992 was an Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) review year. This is the body that ensures that educational institutions and associations such as AANA maintain the highest standards of educational programming. The CME credits offered for educational activities cannot be offered unless the association adheres to the exacting standards established by ACCME. AANA was awarded another 4 years of accreditation for continuing education.

During 1992, Mr. Donald Reid was contracted to become the full time Executive director of AANA. Mr. Reid served in this capacity until 1995 when he and his wife Pat entered their much-deserved retirement to Carmel, CA. Mr. Edward Goss was employed in December 1991 as the Chief Financial officer. Ms. Holly Albert marked her 10th year as an employee of ANNA having been a founding employee as it were.
The annual Fall Course was held in Monterey, CA at the Doubletree. It was oversubscribed and offered a popular greatly appreciated course. This effort was in large part made successful through the efforts of the Committee on Education chaired by Stephen Snyder, MD.

1993 – Dilworth W. Cannon, MD

The Annual Meeting was held in Palm Springs, CA on March 31-April1. Dilworth W. Cannon, MD accepted the gavel as President of AANA at this meeting. He stated that his goal was to oversee the opening of the new Orthopaedic Learning Center (OLC). Much work regarding the OLC remained such as scheduling and a multitude of finishing touches. A decision was made to hire a full time Director of the OLC. AAOS and AANA would continue to support the OLC with matching funds for as long as it took for the OLC to become revenue neutral.

A crisis plan for AANA was developed in 1993. The Board of Directors was schooled in the plan and recognized the need for this action. Member number 1000 joined AANA in 1993 marking a milestone that the founders never imagined when the association was began.

Two new staff were added to the office. Donna K. Nikkel and Tiffiny Defano were employed to manage committee operations and take care of technology needs such as computer database development and assorted information technology matters respectively. The new office space in the AAOS building on North River Road in Rosemont was refurnished with reconditioned furniture. A lease option was signed which added 900 square feet to the cramped office reflecting the growth of AANA. A contract renewal with MCJ was signed to provide the materials for the 1994 Fall Course. Ms. Michelle Johnson had begun her services for AANA courses in 1982.

A number of guidelines and policy statements were created in 1993. These included guidelines for the practice of arthroscopic surgery, a policy statement on assistants for arthroscopic surgery and a policy statement on inpatient arthroscopy. These statements were reproduced for use by AANA membership.

Dr. Cannon negotiated a settlement with Raven Press of the contractual elements of the AANA decision to switch publishers to Saunders. The negotiations were amicable and beneficial to AANA. AANA was delayed for one year in transferring to Saunders, but Dr. Cannon was successful in negotiating reasonable compensation from Raven during the transition year.

An arrangement was made in 1993 with a group called Alternative Funerals in Chicago that provided cadavers for skills courses at the OLC at a reasonable cost. This arrangement represented a major accomplishment since the anticipated OLC would eventually require multiple specimens.
A decision was made by the Board of Directors to add the Mexican Orthopaedic Surgery Board (Consejo Mexicano de Orthopedia) to the list of qualifying associations acceptable for membership in AANA. Mexico was added to Region six (6) for Membership Committee purposes.

**1994 – Jerome E. Jennings, MD**

Jerome E. Jennings, MD began his year as AANA President at this Annual Meeting. Dr. Cannon presided over the Annual meeting Board of Director’s meeting. In his opening remarks, Dr. Cannon reminded the BOD members that AANA had received record attendance at the last few meetings. He also indicated that Mr. Donald Reid and President elect Jerome E. Jennings, MD would be attending the upcoming Mexican Orthopaedic Congress for public relations purposes.

The Orthopaedic Learning Center (OLC) opened the doors to its first students in January 1994. There was a knee course and a shoulder course. Howard J. Sweeney, MD, the Chairperson of the Learning Center Committee, indicated that these courses were trial runs and that no tuition had been charged. The courses were conducted in order to test the curricula as well as to test the physical plant. Eight students attended each course. Minor problems were experienced mainly with the plumbing and air conditioning but had been corrected. He pronounced the OLC as ready for action. In terms of governance of the OLC, the OLC Board of Directors has been meeting and has written a mission statement for the OLC. J. Whit Ewing, MD was named as the first Chairman of the OLC Board of Directors.

Brian Day, MD, the Chairman of the Membership Committee, introduced suggested changes to the membership which were welcomed. These changes included the removal of a requirement that an AANA member had to visit the candidate to observe the surgical skill of the candidate.

The 1994 Annual Meeting marked the final JBOT meeting presided over by John B. McGinty, MD as Chairman of that committee. Dr. McGinty was appreciated for his great capacity to inspire others in the field of arthroscopy as well as his teaching skills and his organizational capabilities.

Harold Eikelar, MD, President of the International Arthroscopy Association (IAA), was a guest at the BOD meeting. He indicated that changes were taking place and that IAA may well be merging with the International Society of the Knee (ISK). Assuming that took place, the *Arthroscopy Journal* would most likely become the official journal of the newly formed society.
At the 1994 Fall Course BOD meeting a decision to retain professional counsel for management of invested funds was made. The Finance Committee was charged to research this and recommend a financial manager. A decision was made that all requests for capital expenditures at the OLC be submitted to the OLC Board of Directors in the future. Stephen S. Burkhart, MD, Chairman of the Education Committee, reported that the 1994 Fall Course had the largest pre-course enrolment since the beginning of the Fall Course.

1995 – Neal C. Small, MD

At the Annual meeting, Jerome E. Jennings, MD reported that he had enjoyed his year as President and that he realized that there are many complexities in the operation of AANA. He also informed the BOD that Mr. Don Reid was recovering nicely from recent surgery and that he would be leaving his post as of now. Dr. Jennings then introduced Jack B. McGinty, MD as the new Executive Director of AANA. Dr. McGinty was sought out by the Ad Hoc Search Committee and appointed by Jerome E. Jennings, MD and Incoming President Neal C. Small, MD.

The Learning Center Committee reported that as of the date of this BOD meeting, 641 surgeons from seventeen countries including the USA had taken learning center courses. The 1995 Annual Meeting drew 820 registrants. This was the highest number of registrants for this meeting in AANA history. Leslie S. Matthews, MD, the current Program Chair, reported that over 240 papers had been submitted for this 1995 Annual meeting. Seventy-three of these papers were presented.

Richard Caspari, MD, the Chairman of the JBOT, presented the JBOT report at this meeting. His report revealed the following. The Journal received over 200 submissions for the year. The Journal is received in 54 Countries. The Journal is positioned to become the official journal for the newly formed ISAKOS. The Journal traveling fellowships ($10,000.00) offered annually to International Orthopaedists in training were reviewed.

Stephen S. Burkhart, MD informed the BOD that the 1995 Fall Course would offer simultaneous English to Spanish translation for the participants. Bilingual brochures were printed for marketing purposes for this upcoming course.

Incoming President Neal C. Small, MD outlined his goals of developing a closer relationship with AAOS. His special emphasis was on managed care, health policy and economic issues. He was hopeful that AANA might be able to assume a leadership role at the state level on some of these issues. A project was outlined in 1995 to create an Arthroscopy Journal web site. This was initiated by Gary C. Poehling, MD, Editor of the Journal.
Display cases for the purpose of displaying historic artifacts pertaining to arthroscopy were obtained in 1995. Space was allocated to AANA by AAOS for the placement of these display cases. Robert W. Jackson, MD, the Chair of the Archives Committee, planned to obtain various items of historic interest to create this collection. Mr. Don Greene was introduced to the BOD in 1995. Howard J. Sweeney, MD, Chair of the Learning Center Committee, explained that Mr. Greene would work to establish a dependable source of cadaver material for use in the OLC. Mr. Greene was the Director of the All Chicago Mortuary Services. This project would require an alliance of AANA, Chicago Mortuary Services, and Alternative Funeral Services to be called the Anatomical Parts Program. This project would allow AANA to procure cadaver parts through a cadaver donor program, use the parts as necessary and dispose of the unused parts. This service would prove to be invaluable as the years went by. The Learning Center Committee reported that there was a diminished interest in basic knee courses offered at the OLC by AANA. The number of knee courses planned for 1996 was limited to two basic and two advanced knee courses. Ms. Patricia Cichlar, RN was contracted to the position of manager of the OLC. The BOD of the OLC carried out this contractual arrangement.

At the Executive Committee meeting in August 1995, James M. Fox, MD discussed the importance of an Internet presence apart from the Journal website proposed by Dr. Poehling earlier in the year. He moved that AANA seek a request for a proposal to establish an AANA website. This motion passed unanimously.

At the December 1995 BOD meeting, Dr. Small introduced Mr. Michael Romansky to the Board. Mr. Romansky was a member the firm of McDermott, Will & Emery based in Washington, D.C. Mr. Romansky stated that he worked with smaller medical sub-specialty groups on reimbursement issues. His firm represented membership services. He was of the opinion that he could aid AANA in establishing a presence in Washington with specific targeted issues. The BOD moved to retain Mr. Romansky at a fee not to exceed $75,000.00 annually.