The 66th Annual Piedmont Orthopedic Society meeting was held at the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, Florida, from May 9 to 13, 2018. Hosted by cochairmen Keith and Cindy Berend and Chris and Mandy Barnes, superb efforts provided an engaging scientific meeting with a variety of social events at this picturesque resort venue. With 80 members and their guests including children, there were a total of 177 in attendance.

The program represented all subspecialties, as well as updates on the effects of the practice of Orthopedics in the era of health-care reform and emerging technologies. Presentations were also given by current residents in attendance: Alex Lampley, Travis Dekker, Andrew Matson, Joseph Kavolus, recipients of the William T. Hardaker, Jr. Residents’ Fellowship; Nathan Grimm, recipient of the Ralph Coonrad Fellowship; and Andrew Federer and David Tainter, recipients of the Duke Orthopedic Piedmont Fellowship. The meeting concluded with the comedic and memorable presentation by Richard Goldner of this year’s Honored Guest, William E Garrett, who was also the recipient of the Master Orthopaedic Surgeon Award during this year’s J. Leonard Goldner day event. The highlight of the meeting was his informative and memorable lecture on “What Made the Piedmont Great? A Lost War; Bad Soil; An Addictive Carcinogen.”

The social program was full of activities for members and their families, including golfing, deep-sea fishing, tennis, swimming in the lagoons and pool, kayaking in the mangroves, relaxing poolside, and enjoying the beautiful scenery of the Ocean Reef Club. In the 9th Annual Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament, 4th year resident David Tainter put on a show for the ages and became the first resident winner of the tournament.

Evening gatherings included beachside dinners and cocktail hours with the gorgeous ocean backdrop, dockside wine tasting, and dancing through the night at the Saturday formal to the sensational group, “The Jam Band.” The recipients of the coveted scientific awards were: Diane Payne—Chairman’s Award; Greg Mencio—Piedmont Pitcher; Rocco Monto—Kelley Award.

On behalf of the residents in attendance, we would like to thank the Piedmont Orthopedic Society and the donors who made our participation in this year’s meeting possible. For the residents, it was our first time being immersed in the close-knit Piedmont family, partaking in the legacy and comradery that the Piedmont organization exemplifies, all while becoming friends with the legendary members we may not have met before. We know that future residents that attend will have a similarly amazing experience, and we look forward to returning as members in the future! Next year’s meeting will be held at Sea Island and will be hosted by Bob and Peggy Peroutka and David and Claudia Attarian, May 8 to 11, 2019.

Andrew Federer, MD
Duke Orthopaedic Resident