



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

SOUTH TEXAS BONE & JOINT: A LEADER IN PATIENT CARE SINCE 1972

By: [SARAH TINDALL]
Photography: [DUSTIN ASHCRAFT]

Since 1972, the orthopaedic doctors at South Texas Bone & Joint have offered communities throughout the Coastal Bend multispecialty, musculoskeletal health care services with a patient-first focus. In the past 40 years, the group has grown from the original two founding physicians, Drs. Charles Kennedy Jr. and David Parker (who have since retired), to include eight doctors, five physician assistants and a total of 74 staff members.

From its start in a small office on Reid Drive, the center has grown to 20,000 square feet of space, inhabiting an entire floor in the Corpus Christi Medical Center Charles Clark Building at 601 Texan Trail. The center offers diagnostic X-ray, musculoskeletal ultrasound, casting and durable medical equipment, complimentary Wi-Fi Internet access, three patient lobbies, 26 examination rooms and a priority care clinic for same-day, musculoskeletal-specific urgent care needs that allows patients to forego long waits in an emergency room.

A primary goal of the priority care clinic is to help patients with non-emergent orthopaedic injuries avoid the expense and wait times associated with the traditional ER visit. The group also opened the Corpus Christi MRI Center in 2003, which enables patients to have MRI appointments directly after office appointments – a true convenience, especially for out-of-town visitors. Physicians then are able to see the MRI images immediately and receive a report in approximately an hour. The imaging center also accepts external referrals for the convenience of referring physicians and businesses throughout South Texas.

The substantial improvements and growth of the organization have not detracted the group from their mission to strive for orthopaedic excellence in the treatment of musculoskeletal injury,

arthritis and disease. The founding physicians' vision of establishing a team of orthopaedic doctors, each with a different subspecialty so that patients receive the pinnacle of care for their particular needs, has set South Texas Bone & Joint apart as a leader in patient care.

The group is also highly focused on technological innovation, remaining at the forefront of research and treatment options in their fields. Medical records are electronic and orthopaedic specific, and the medical equipment utilized incorporates the most advanced technology available. The doctors are leaders in their subspecialties who travel the country to educate others in the medical community on advances in orthopaedic medicine.

For the patients (who range from those in need of joint replacement surgery or arthritis treatment to adults with workplace injuries and athletes with sports-related injuries), a focus on individuals receiving the best care possible is paramount. The group maintains memberships in the Nueces County Medical Society, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the Texas Medical Association, the Better Business Bureau, the Corpus Christi Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce.

South Texas Bone & Joint also supports the American Cancer Society through their annual golf tournament, Making Strides 5K and the Cattle Baron's Ball, as well as the Rise School and the Women's Shelter. Additionally, the physicians and

physician assistants volunteer at Moody, Miller, King and other surrounding schools performing physicals, as well as serving as team physicians and providers.

MEET THE DOCS

The doctors of South Texas Bone & Joint are all experts in their fields who serve the Coastal Bend community in various capacities on charitable boards and foundations.

▶ DR. BERNARD M. SEGER

Dr. Bernard M. Seger graduated from his parents' alma mater at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where his mother was the first Hispanic woman to graduate with a degree in medicine. Seger went on to complete his orthopaedic residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, finishing in 1984 with fellowship training in arthroscopic surgery.

He served on the clinical staff at Baylor College of Medicine, as well as Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital, for three years before relocating to Corpus Christi with his wife, Kim, and now three children. He was board certified by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery in 1986. He specializes in arthroscopy of the knee and shoulder.

Seger has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since January 1986, and his major areas of interest include cartilage abnormalities, ligament reconstructions and realignment procedures. He performs the majority of unicompartmental knee arthroplasties in the Corpus Christi area.

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Seger is on the board of Doctors Regional Hospital and the University of Texas McDonald Observatory Board of Visitors. His wife, Kimberley Hall Seger, is an immigration attorney with Catholic Charities of Corpus Christi who serves on the boards of Catholic Charities, the Mother Teresa Shelter, the Diocesan Telecommunications Corporation and the John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation.

The couple also supports KLUX, KEDT, the Bishop's Guild, Timon's Ministries, the American Heart Association, Charity League, Odyssey After School, the Nueces County Livestock Show and Incarnate Word Academy.

The rewards come for Seger when he sees his patients able to return to the sports they love. "I am



truly passionate about orthopaedics,” he says. “We have made great strides in the care of shoulder and knee pathology, with many exciting breakthroughs yet to come. We have seen the majority of shoulder and knee surgeries previously performed open through large incisions now being performed primarily arthroscopically.

“Athletes with career-ending injuries can now hope to be back on the field, often the next season. I would have to say that the most exciting event in sports medicine is to see an athlete recover from his injuries and go on to compete at the college level.”

► **DR. JOHN P. MASCIALE**

Dr. John P. Masciale is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with a subspecialty focused in adult spinal surgery. He is a graduate of Cornell University, and he received his Doctor of Medicine from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in 1985.

After completing his orthopaedic residency at Downstate, Masciale completed a fellowship in spinal surgery at the Alamo Bone & Joint Clinic in San Antonio, Texas, from 1990 to 1991.

He has been in practice with South Texas Bone & Joint since August 1991, and he is the longest-practicing spinal surgeon in the city. He feels strongly about the work he does and giving back to the community in which he lives. “We have a responsibility to this city, to our patients, referring doctors and to ourselves that when we’re done, we leave something behind better than we found it,” he says. “We’re in a position to positively impact lives for many years, and we take that seriously.”

That tradition of excellence means patient care is never compromised, no matter how many patients walk through the door. “Our staff makes a huge difference to our product and our brand,” Masciale says. “We’re very good at figuring out what to do for our patients, striving to avoid surgery whenever possible – and having multiple specialists in the office means that we can consult each other frequently, which minimizes the likelihood that patients are getting unnecessary treatment.”

► **DR. CHARLES W. BRECKENRIDGE**

Dr. Charles W. Breckenridge is a graduate of UHS/The Chicago Medical School who received his Doctor of Medicine in June 1989, after which he did a residency in orthopaedic surgery at the University of California, San Francisco, a foot and ankle fellowship at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and a sports medicine fellowship at the Tahoe Fracture & Orthopaedic Clinic. He was board certified in 1997, he has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since August 1995 and he specializes in sports medicine, as well as arthroscopic, shoulder and knee surgery.

Breckenridge and his wife, Crista, support many local charities, including KLOVE, Catholic Charities, Foster Angels of South Texas, the Wounded Warrior Project, Save the Children and Triumph Over Kid Cancer.

He says he enjoys specializing in shoulder and knee surgery because “it’s concrete – you can see the results fairly quickly. You see and do, as opposed to think and decide. I like working with my



hands, and this is work that lets you use them to help people.” Breckenridge is passionate about caring for military families, seeing it as a moral duty to help them and ensure they are cared for.

► **DR. JOHN M. BORKOWSKI**

Dr. John M. Borkowski did his orthopaedic surgery residency at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, followed by a spine fellowship at the University of Washington. He was board certified in 2002, he has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since October 2001 and he specializes in adult reconstructive spine surgery. He graduated from the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada.

He and his wife, Dr. Catherine Bussieres, support Doctors Without Borders, the Corpus Christi Amateur Hockey Association and Triumph Over Kid Cancer. Borkowski also serves as an assistant coach for the Junior IceRays, provides medical assistance for the Youth and Men’s Hockey League and is the orthopaedic surgeon for the Corpus Christi IceRays.

He says he enjoys working in orthopaedics, especially as an athlete himself. “I can see meaningful and immediate results in patient care,” he says. “Furthermore, being a competitive hockey player [Borkowski plays in the men’s league of the Amateur Hockey Association], I enjoy treating sports-related injuries. Orthopaedics has been more than a job for me; it’s a life-fulfilling career.”

► **DR. DAWN GROSSER**

Dr. Dawn Grosser is a subspecialty-trained orthopaedic surgeon who completed a fellowship in foot and ankle surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz. A native of Kansas City, Mo., Grosser obtained a B.A. in pre-med/religion from Baylor University in 1994. She graduated from Yale Medical School in 2000 and finished her orthopaedic residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital before completing her fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in 2006. She was board certified in 2008.

Grosser picked this field because she enjoys

helping patients. “At its essence, orthopaedics is human carpentry,” she says. “Many of the problems orthopaedists encounter can truly be ‘fixed,’ rather than managed, and I find this very rewarding. I gravitated towards the subspecialty, foot and ankle, because of the variety of pathology encountered in a complex area. I also enjoy the camaraderie and personality of the orthopaedists in this field.”

Grosser has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since September 2006, and she truly enjoys it. “At the end of the day, I am grateful for the experience I get with each patient, working side-by-side with them during the healing process,” she says. “There is a trust and unique relationship between physician and patient that enriches my life. The day-to-day nature of this field is changing and challenging, and never dull.”

► **DR. RYAN THOMAS**

Dr. Ryan Thomas is a subspecialty-trained orthopaedic surgeon who completed a fellowship in hand and upper-extremity surgery at the Hand Center of San Antonio. Thomas grew up in Corpus Christi and attended the University of Texas in Austin. He graduated with honors from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and completed his residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. He was board certified in 2010. He and his wife, Holly, are members of the Nueces County Medical Society and Alliance.

Thomas has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since August 2011, and he says he enjoys being an orthopaedist because he really likes taking care of patients. “This is one of the greatest professions,” he says. “We are able to take people with discomfort, pain and/or poor function and make them better. That’s the thing about orthopaedics: ninety-five percent of our patients get better from what we do to and for them.”

► **DR. JUSTIN KLIMISCH**

Dr. Justin Klimisch earned his medical degree



from the University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine. After finishing medical school, he remained at UT Medical Branch and completed his internship and residency in orthopaedic surgery. Later, he completed an accredited fellowship in adult reconstruction and joint replacement surgery at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

After completing his fellowship, Klimisch was in private practice at the Bone & Joint Center of Seattle and an assistant clinical professor at the University of Washington Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine. He was board certified in 2012.

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Klimisch has been with South Texas Bone & Joint since March 2013. He is trained in the latest evidence-based hip and knee surgery techniques, and he offers minimally invasive hip and knee replacement surgery utilizing computer navigation, which ensures more precise positioning of joint implants. He offers a wide range of solutions for the treatment of hip and knee disorders, ranging from hip and knee injections to arthroscopy, partial knee replacement, hip resurfacing and total joint replacement.

Klimisch is dedicated to improving the quality of life for patients with hip and knee disorders, with the goal of helping each individual attain their highest level of function. He also serves as a consultant for a development team working on a new type of knee replacement, which will pivot like a normal knee. He travels around the country teaching courses on knee replacement, and he is at the forefront of research on patient-specific implementation.

Klimisch enjoys orthopaedics because of its potential to so dramatically improve the quality of life for patients. “Part of orthopaedics is dealing with injuries, and you can have a direct and significant impact on patients’ lives,” he says. “Instead of chronically treating problems, you can fix them. You can take a patient who is prevented from doing what

they like to do and in a great deal of pain because of arthritis or an injury, and help them go back to doing what they like to do.”

► **DR. FRANK LUCKAY**

Dr. Frank Luckay specializes in general orthopaedics – most specifically in orthopedic impairment evaluations – at South Texas Bone & Joint. He graduated from Ohio State University, he has been in private practice in Corpus Christi since 1962 and he has been with the group since November 1993. “My favorite part of coming to work every day,” he says, “is interacting with the patients.”

For the doctors, physician assistants and staff at South Texas Bone & Joint, spending every day improving the lives of patients means time very well spent.

To learn more about South Texas Bone & Joint, please call 361-854-0811, visit www.southtexasboneandjoint.com or follow the group on Facebook and Twitter. And for more information about the Corpus Christi MRI Center, call 361-561-0635 or visit <http://corpuschristimricenter.com>.