

Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers TECHNICAL UPDATE



C-LEG INSPIRES LOCAL MAN TO GET A "FAT BOY"

March of 2002, Melvin Martin received his new prosthesis – a C-Leg. Melvin had worn a stance control knee for 11 years. He had tried hydraulics and pneumatics with limited success. When the C-leg became available, Melvin was up for the challenge to change to this new computer prosthesis. Little did he know how it would impact his life for the better.

In the first month, he noticed his improvement in energy. "The security and stability this new knee offers is incredible", stated Melvin. Melvin owns and operates a game store in Brunswick on Center Road, specializing in video and card games. He found himself spending less time sitting and more time walking



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A Few Thoughts

Three things in human life are important:

The first is to be kind.
The second is to be kind.
And the third is to be kind.

Writer
Henry James
(1843-1916)

Nothing is easy to the Unwilling.

Poet
Nikki Giovanni

I have never seen a monument erected to a pessimist.

Radio Commentator
Paul Harvey

Education is when you read the fine print.
Experience is what you get if you don't.

Singer and Composer
Pete Seeger



Physical Therapist Laurie Hoke aiding Fern Hayes (bilateral transfemoral amputee) in swinging a golf club for the first time since the loss of her limbs.

Golf Clinic Attracts Both Therapists and Students

Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers received an enthusiastic turn out for the Free Instructional Golf Clinic for the Physically Challenged. This years session was held on August 9th at Stonebrook Golf Academy in Middleburg Heights.

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“The security and stability this new knee offers is incredible”, stated Melvin.

FAT BOY, from page 1

around, not asking his employees to retrieve things for him. “ This is the first prosthesis that I feel allows me to return to life fully,” stated Melvin. In May 1990, Melvin was involved in a motor vehicle accident and Life Flighted to Cleveland’s MetroHealth Medical Center. Melvin suffered third degree burns that covered over 80% of his body and causing the amputation of his right leg above the knee. Melvin also lost his brother Frank in the accident. Melvin spent 6 months after his accident in the hospital healing and relearning to walk.

With the support of his wife who was a nursing student at the time and his two-year-old son, Melvin learned to walk again. A year after the accident Melvin sold his motorcycle because he thought, “I am an amputee and I’ll never ride again”. Little did he know how much an adversity he would overcome; to walk, be self employed and ride a motorcycle again one day. In July of 2002, Melvin felt he had a prosthesis he could truly trust and it was time to ride again. Melvin ordered a 100th anniversary Harley Davidson “Fat Boy” motorcycle. In November 2002, he picked it up and spent the winter modifying the brak-

ing system for his amputated side and in the spring, he began to ride again. From May to September Melvin put over 7,000 miles on his bike and “That’s only the beginning! I take the bike wherever I go”, Mel stated. Melvin is also the chapter leader of the Metro Health burn unit support group; he was instrumental in bringing The International Burn Units’ conference to Cleveland this past September. The conference was a great success. “It’s amazing, in June of 1990 I thought life was over, today I realize it has just begun and its getting better by the day”.

CLINIC, from page 2

From 10 a.m. until noon, golf professionals trained in adaptive techniques instructed physical therapists in how to use golf as a means of exercise and healthy recreation. Experience has shown that swinging a golf club can increase flexibility and improve balance while giving participants a good work out and an emotional boost. Therapists, in turn, practiced their teaching skills on willing patients, including amputees and wheel chair users.

The Physical therapists were shown techniques to simulate how a lower and upper extremity amputee swings a golf club. Laurie Hoke, Physical Therapist

with C-H-C Physical Therapy Inc., stated, “I did this once before and it’s still tough. It is good to have a technical simulation of what the amputee’s golf swing feels like. Balance is the main issue for the amputee golfer. If you can assimilate what these are, you can help them get back to golfing more confidently and with less chance of injury to themselves.” After several hours on the course, guests and instructors were treated to lunch.



Dan watches as P.T. Joyce Acord hits a few balls



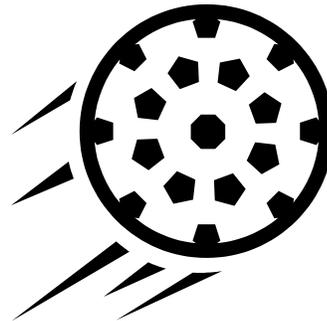
Dan Cox giving in-depth instruction to Physical Therapists



P.T. Brian Jenkins and Bill Stitt enjoying the Instruction.



Fern follows through with the instruction by Laurie



Bill Stitt littering the field with balls "Nice one Bill!!"



Gary Hooks simulating an upper extremity amputee golf swing.

Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers

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Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers to Sponsor the "Golfers with Disabilities Program"

Manuel Garcia Prosthetic & Orthotic Centers has joined Northern Ohio Golf Association and C-H-C Physical Therapy Inc. in the Golfers with Disabilities Program. Manuel Garcia Prosthetic & Orthotic Centers will be sponsoring the Monday Free Golf Lessons for the physically challenged. This program includes training from two Golf Pros from Columbia Hills Country Club and mobility assessment and training from Laurie Hoke, Physical Therapist from C-H-C Physical Therapy Inc. from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. All persons with disabilities are invited to attend the free session – year round.

Manuel Garcia Prosthetic & Orthotic



Amputee John Campo Enjoying the Free Golf Instruction

Centers are also sponsoring the Friday's free play from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. All persons with disabilities are invited to play 9 holes for free. Available are regular golf carts and adaptive carts for a \$4.00 fee. We at Manuel Garcia Prosthetic & Orthotic Centers are very proud to be sponsoring an enthusiastic and positive program. Marty Ginley, Executive

Director for NOGA Charities stated, "Helping people is not rocket science, I should know I was one. It's just plain rewarding". Marty is a retired Engineer from NASA. He spends his winter's writing proposals for grants from various organizations and his summers enjoying watching people of all ages and abilities enjoy his work throughout the summer.

The North Olmsted Golf Course is open to the public from April 1st to November 1st for play, and the instructional program is held every Monday rain or shine year round.

The North Olmsted Golf Course is located at:

5840 Canterbury Road
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
Phone# 440 . 777 . 0220