

O & P Update

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○ Volume II

○ 2006

A Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers Publication

Edwin Niehaus, L.P., C.P.O.

Joins Manuel Garcia Prosthetic and Orthotic Centers



We are proud to announce Edwin Niehaus, C.P.O., L.P. has joined our clinical team. With over 10 year's experience, Ed is dedicated to the art, science and humanity involved in O&P. He received his Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and General Science from Hiram College and his Master's degree in Physical Education and

Recreation from Miami University. He received his certificate in prosthetics from Northwestern University. And he is currently licensed in prosthetics and certified in orthotics.

Ed began his career as a Director of Recreation in the university system; after which he headed to Saudi Arabia and worked for 3 years with hospital staffers to help create a Physical Education program for

women, children, and men. Returning state side he joined the seminary and was a Minister for 9 years. During this time he met his wife and they welcomed two sons into their lives.

Edwin is involved in the Boy Scouts of America as an Assistant Scout Master and Chaplin and has traveled the world in 42 days; scuba dived in the Red Sea, Indonesia, and Bali, and backpacked throughout the northeastern mountains of the United States.

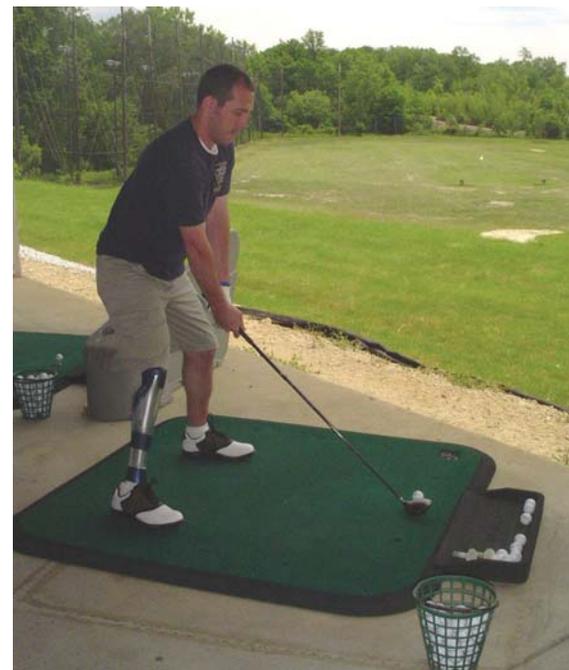
Edwin's interest in O&P is to help people restore their lives and ability to as close to their previous level of activity as possible. The excitement of problem solving, science, new state-of-the-art technologies used here at MGPOC is what keeps him growing in this field today. A well rounded man with an infectious laugh and song for any time is a true humanitarian. He loves working with people of all ages and abilities.



"Hole In One"

This years golf clinic at Stonebrook Academy Driving Range was our most successful yet! We would like to thank everyone again for participating and getting involved in Fitness for all ages and abilities. It was a great day of instruction, golf, food, fun and laughs. Special thanks to our instructors Dan Cox, 2 time National Amputee

Golf Champion, Gary Hooks, also a 2 time National Amputee Golf Champion and Lori Hoke, D.P.T. We are already practicing our swing for next year, are you? More information for next years fun Instructional Golf Clinic will be available after April 2007 on our web site www.mgpoc.com.



Middleburg Heights Police Officer Ryan Nagy taking a few drives at the range

TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Amputees Enjoy Custom Interface Comfort

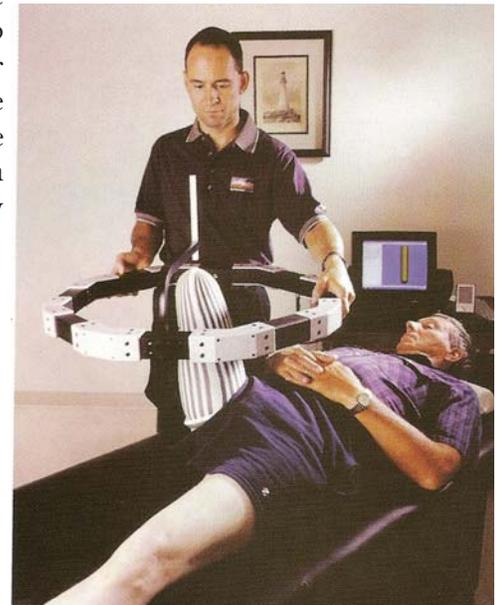
For over 33 years MGPOC has strived to be on the cutting edge of prosthetic and orthotic technology. In 1991 we began using the Computer aided socket design CAD/CAM. In 2005 we integrated the OMEGA™ Tracer® system. This program allows our prosthetic team to design custom Alpha® DESIGN™ Interface Liners for transtibial and transfemoral amputees. This software gives our practitioners the ability to design interface gel liners to the exact needs of our transtibial, transfemoral and knee disarticulation patients.

Alpha DESIGN™ interface gel liners are made of the same skin-friendly, elastomer gel as the full line of Alpha pre-fabricated liners. The key difference from pre-fabricated liners is that the gel is customized on the *inside* of the liner so that it molds to the residual limb's shape and protects it from impacts and sheer forces. The DESIGN™ liners are ideal for patients who are unable to wear pre-fabricated liners or other customized liners especially in cases where the residual limb is invaginated, uneven in shape, or bony.

The software tools within the OMEGA Tracer 8.0

allow the practitioner to control the gel thickness and placement within the interface gel liners and to create custom liners for use by amputees.

Once scanned the computer model is modified by the practitioner to the specific requirements of the patient. With the use of the internet it allows MGPOC to send the file to OWW for fabrication. Within 3 business days the interface liner arrives at our facility. "Prior to the OMEGA™ system if a patient's limb needed a custom gel interface we would have to wait 10 to 14 days to receive the interface" says chief prosthetist Manuel R. Garcia L.P.O, "and that slowed down the fitting process". We feel this new software will enable us to deliver a better fit and a more comfortable prosthesis in a more timely fashion.



The TRES foot; an old philosophy with a new style

College Park Industries is pleased to announce the introduction of the fifth foot to their product line, the Tres. This foot merges the function philosophy of the Trustep foot but provides a no upkeep option with an attractive natural-like appearance for moderate impact individuals of all ages. Incorporating a full-length toe lever and soft components to articulate inversion

and eversion. This dynamic response foot restores function and allows amputees to traverse uneven terrain, with out excessive ground reaction forces while maintaining a dynamic toe lever. College Park Industries supplies the Tres Foot gait matched and assembled. For more information, please call us at 440.243.1085.

The Green Dream



John Campo enjoyed many recreational activities outside of his career as a product salesman. Two of his favorite past times included golf and riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle. Little did John know how much impact these activities would have on his life, in drastically different ways.

On a bright and breezy September afternoon John was on his way to meet his wife for an early lunch, enjoying his Harley ride, unaware of a vehicle about to turn left into him. Before he knew it he was on the ground with a tourniquet around his left leg to stop the bleeding. His leg had almost been severed from the knee to his ankle. The person responsible for the tourniquet was the Fire Chief of North Olmsted who luckily had been traveling behind John on his own motorcycle.

John's injuries were severe and the Metro Life Flight was called to the scene of the accident, however all flights were servicing other emergencies. Therefore, John rode by ambulance to MetroHealth Hospital from North Olmsted. He subsequently underwent a transfemoral (above the knee) amputation of his crushed left leg and two other surgeries in 30 days. He recalls the day he awoke in the hospital bed to find his leg amputated and states that he "felt this is going to be one of the most challenging obstacles in my life".

Six weeks after his release from the hospital Mr. Campo was medically cleared to begin his prosthetic rehabilitation. The Metro Amputee Clinic team headed by Clay Kelly, M.D., introduced Mr. Campo to his soon to be therapist Joyce Accord, L.P.T. and his prosthetist Manuel Garcia L.P.O. John remembers

feeling "much more comfortable" as the team spoke with him about his expected prosthetic rehabilitation. The process for his preparatory prosthesis designed by Manuel began. He was fit with this preparatory prosthesis and he began gait therapy with Joyce Accord L.P.T..

As winter melted into spring John's gait training continued to improve and he began to think of the days of playing golf, he had been playing since age 15, and wondered if he would ever play again. He decided to go to the driving range to see if he could swing. He did, but not as well as before his accident. So during his next appointment with Manuel, he spoke to him about the possibility of designing his definitive prosthesis with his golf game in mind.

In the summer of 1998, John received his Otto Bock Stance-Flex Knee and transverse rotator state-of-the-art prosthesis. Spending the rest of his summer, fall and winter preparing for the following golf season, John set a goal of ten strokes of his pre-accident score. Although he did very well the following season, it was not until John joined the Golfer with Disability program offered at the North Olmsted golf course, that his game excelled to the next level. It was as if his "golf game improved overnight" and in 2003 John won the Michigan Amputee Golf Tournament in his flight and his stroke improved by a score 13!

Although he loves the links, it is spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren, and the people he has met along the way that has helped him accomplish his goals on and off the course.



A Couple of Thoughts

Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.

Philosopher
Plato(c.427-347b.c.)

One never knows what each day is going to bring. The important thing is to be open and ready for it.

Sculptor
Henry Moore
(1898-1986)

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Dedicated to promoting quality of life for ALL ages and abilities!