

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

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## **OPAF is now the Orthotic & Prosthetic Activities Foundation**

December 16, 2011 – Waterloo, Iowa – OPAF has completed all of the legal requirements necessary to change its name to the Orthotic & Prosthetic Activities Foundation. The final paperwork was filed with the state of Delaware on December 6, 2011 to make the change official.

OPAF was founded in 1995 as the Orthotic and Prosthetic Athletic Activities Foundation and was designated at that time as The Official Philanthropy of the U.S. Orthotic and Prosthetic Community by the O&P National Office. The organization has proudly carried this designation for the past 16 years and looks forward to continue to serve in this capacity moving forward. After the games in Atlanta were completed the word Athletic was dropped from the official name while a new mission was pursued. OPAF has since earned a reputation for hosting world class clinics to help those served by the orthotic and prosthetic community to become more active, at no charge to participants. The OPAF board determined that the name change was necessary to ensure that the mission of the organization was identified with the name. Since the OPAF designation is so well known it was also determined that any name change should also allow the OPAF letters to remain intact. A new look for the organization, along with a brand new website, will be revealed during the Academy Annual Meeting in Atlanta!

“We are delighted that the name change to Orthotic and Prosthetic Activities Foundation reflects the type of services offered by OPAF. The First Clinics have continued to grow and each offers introductory adaptive instruction by the most qualified instructors available. OPAF remains committed to our mission and we look forward to introducing even more firsts during 2012”, said OPAF President, Michael Burton. The OPAF Board approved the name change at their recent meeting in Las Vegas during the AOPA National Assembly. New officers for OPAF for 2012 include Michael Burton as president, Scott Williamson, CAE, as vice president, Lisa Arbogast as treasurer, and Don Hardin as immediate past president. New board members include Justina Shipley, Tami Jones, and Bruce Jaster. Justina is a Certified Orthotist, Fellow of the Academy, and director of orthotics and prosthetics for Shriners Hospital for Children in Shreveport. Tami Jones is the president of OpalStar Strategies, and Bruce is the president of The Jaster Companies. OPAF is honored that each of these new directors has agreed to share their time and talents with the organization.

OPAF currently offers eight First Clinics to meet the needs of those with physical challenges seeking adaptive recreation. Current clinics include First Volley (tennis), First Swing (golf), First Swim, First Dive (SCUBA), McKeever’s First Ride (therapeutic horsemanship), First Paddle (kayaking), First Climb (rock climbing) and First Dance (social partner dance). We are seeking to introduce four more Firsts in 2012 which would include Fish, Sail, Walk/Run and Kick.

To see a listing of scheduled First Clinics, please visit the OPAF website at [www.opfund.org](http://www.opfund.org)

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