



I am an orthopedic surgeon in Casper. I went to the Air force Academy and Harvard Medical School on an Air Force sponsored scholarship. I served nine years in the Air Force as an orthopedic surgeon. I did hazardous duty/combat tours in both Haiti and Iraq. I think the commitment and dedication that I witnessed on these tours was the best part of military service. I was fortunate to have the Air Force support my education and received my MBA while on active duty.

I have served on the national board of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons for six years. I was president of the board for Summit Medical Center in Casper for two years. In both these capacities, I learned to appreciate the economic and political environment that influence medical practices.

I have also been president of the Natrona County Medical Society. The acquisition of Wyoming Medical Center by Banner has had mixed reviews. The Natrona County Medical Society opposed this at the county commissioner level but we were overruled by the commissioners. I learned that "grass roots" physician engagement with legislators is essential to try and influence legislation.

I am currently serving as president of the Jerry Behrens Foundation, which I was instrumental in starting eight years ago. The foundation provides financial support to injured military service members, law enforcement and fire/rescue personnel. It has always been a passion of mine to support first responders. I am also a member of the Lander Pipe Band and play the bagpipes across Wyoming to support veterans and first responders. I was honored to be asked to play in Normandy, France for the 80th D-Day commemoration this summer. My great uncle flew gliders into Normandy on June 6, 1944.

I am currently on the executive committee of the Wyoming Medical Society. I believe that insurance and hospital consolidation will continue to challenge medical practices. I believe in supporting physician independence whether in private practice or employed positions.

I was in an employed position when I was in the Air Force and I am currently in private practice. I think I have gained a perspective from both. We are seeing changes in the practice of medicine in Wyoming

with the entry of large outside corporations. I think we have a unique environment in Wyoming. I would be honored to serve in the position of treasurer and eventually move on to president of the Wyoming Medical Society. I strongly believe in the importance of the county medical societies. I would work to empower those societies and create “grass roots” connections with our legislators.