



# To The Point

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lewis@olympus.net

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## Memorial Day Tribute

By Daphne Kilburn

Memorial Day, originally Decorations Day, is the day to remember those who have died in the service to our country. It's the day when the graves of such heroes are decorated with flags and flowers, to remember, reflect, and realize that freedom does not come without sacrifice.

Not all the heroes died in battle. Some lived out lengthy and productive lives after the various wars and made huge contributions to the successes of our country. Many WWII soldiers live still, perhaps retired among us even here in Kala Point. Some of their children may be your neighbors as well. Vietnam veterans surely reside among us. But while Memorial Day tributes have perhaps historically been quite solemn, it does the heart good to recall the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. at the end of an address delivered for Memorial Day 120 years ago: "Our dead brothers still live for us, and bid us think of life, not death—of life to which in their youth they lent the passion and joy of the spring. As I listen , the great chorus

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## It's Not Just A Shrimp

by Ann M. Bassador

I love the last weekend in May because I get to fire up my old jalopy and shoot down the highway to the small town of Brinnon for a festival that draws some 6,000 visitors. It's Shrimp Fest !! And it's delicious !

For the 8th year the Friends of Brinnon Committee will again be hosting the Arts, Crafts, Food Fair, and music entertainment May 29th and 30th. That Saturday will mark the start of the second weekend of the SHRIMP SEASON on Hood Canal, which will bring shrimpers to Brinnon from all over Washington and Oregon. And these folks are serious about shrimp delicacies. They also take advantage of the low tides to grab up some clams and oysters along their public beach.

The festival's festivities are free (wow, that was hard to say with dentures), and geared toward family fun. The proceeds from the festival this year will be combined with last year's to provide the community a "Welcome to Brinnon" sign. That's a good thing, because if you blink you might miss the town. To get there for the festival, follow Highway 101 south beyond Quilcene. There will be signs for festival parking.

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## Swiftly Speaking

### Goals and Wishes

By Judie Lewis, Editor

We are a couple months from our annual KPOA meeting and the election of three new board members. It has been suggested that this time of year is ideal time for all of us to evaluate exactly what we would like to see happen in Kala Point. What kind of board members would you like to see elected. We would like to get your responses for printing in the next issues of To The Point.

As for myself, I would like to see more board members like Tony Costa, a current member, who cares enough about Kala Point and the KPOA members to visit with them and ask what their wishes and goals would be for our community. Tony seems to understand how unity is built.

“Unity” is a very interesting word. It isn’t the same as unilateral, (actions resulting from effort and ideas from only one side); or universal, (everyone being exactly the same). Unity is the state of being one by combining all the parts . Note, unity does not eliminate parts, but works with them to cooperatively develop a whole.

Even if you are not a believer, it is always good to keep your mind open to good advice. The Apostle Paul writes to the church at Ephesus about

unity within the church community. In chapter 4, verse 2, it says, “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.” That is the NIV translation. The King James version, says “meekness” for humble and gentle. Can you imagine how much better KP could be if we dealt with each other with meekness and love. It’s worth a try.

Editor’s Response to Richter letter: Bruno, I see some problems with your response letter to Mr. Garthwaite. You say, “Whether approval should have been necessary is another matter.” No, it is not another matter. It is the whole point! Only an overtly controlling person would try to hold people to rules so inane as getting permission to remove a couple limbs that represent a fire hazard.

Also, you seem to have created another set of “rules.” You use the word “practice/s” 6 different times. We are governed by CC&Rs and Rules and Regulations. At some point APPs evolved to aid with the process. Then they got enlarged to be far more restrictive than the original documents allow. Are we to now assume that another group of regs are about to arise based on “practices?”

Additionally, you said the Rules and Regulation regarding vegetation control are under consideration. No, the APPs are up for change.

Last, you have coined a new word. I have never heard the term “Treenazis” before. And, it was not used in Mr. Garthwaite’s letters.

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## Small Homes Issue Being Considered

Many years after the original Kala community was designed, the minimum square footage requirement for a house was increased to 1500 sq ft. Numerous original homes in Kala Point fall below that minimum. The Architectural Committee (along with the Board) is examining an issue relating to this: how to amend the CC&Rs to clearly address the *rebuilding requirement for smaller homes if such a smaller home should suffer a catastrophic loss of the structure*. This issue covers about two dozen homes, and the amendment would require a vote of the entire membership of KPOA, stating something along the lines of "the homeowner of an existing smaller home shall rebuild to the original footprint of the home they lose," as the only exception to the (new) minimum size. It clarifies the rebuilding of a lost home versus the size requirement of building a new home here.

This is a sensible step that the Board is moving toward. To defeat such an "exception" clause would devastate the smaller homes' property values, present a major legal dilemma for the association if ever challenged, and change the look and feel of the community. A further point is that insurance companies typically only offer one and a half times the per-foot value of rebuilding; thus, in most cases, the insurance coverage would not adequately cover the cost of rebuilding to the larger *new* minimum square footage requirement.

The county's position is that *if a home is destroyed but the foundation remains*, which is often the case after a fire or even an earthquake, *the homeowner is to rebuild to the existing foundation*. The legal argument is that the CC&Rs and the association is not covered on this issue, so the CC&Rs need this amendment (via a vote of members) written in such a way that it agrees with the county building codes. Reportedly, Hugh Murphy and Jack Dersham are working on the wording of the amendment to bring it to a vote.

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## Vegetation Control & Other Issues

A month ago, a letter was received by KIN from Bruno Richter (current board member). It was a copy of a letter he was sending to Jay Garthwaite in response to three letters he had sent to the board as a whole. Because this letter by Bruno could not be presented within a vacuum, if it was going to be understood, we requested copies of Mr. Garthwaite's letters. To present this in whole would take more than our few pages, so editing or a recap will be presented as needed.

February 17, '04 letter from Jay Garthwaite to the KPOA Board r.e. trimming of two branches above the chimney on his roof.: Board Members,

On February 6th began a troubling and frankly bizarre sequence of events with Brian Belmont and Ray Kemery arising from my need to trim a few limbs from a single tree on my property, which, according to the technician who repaired the chimney liner, could easily ignite and transfer fire to my cedar shake roof. My telephone call to a local "tree surgeon" service to estimate the work, resulted in that business immediately contacting Brian Belmont, followed within an hour by Brian Belmont e-mailing me a set of KPOA demands entirely unsupported by our governing documents.

Subsequently Ray Kemery (no doubt spurred **Continue "Letters" on page 7**

## “Memorial” continued from page 1

of life and joy begins again, and amid the awful orchestra of seen and unseen powers and destinies of good and evil our trumpets sound once more a note of daring, hope, and will.”

On April 3, 2004, the first American whose draft number was drawn by Franklin D. Roosevelt for the draft for WWII passed away. The young man dropped out of a university to enlist in the Coast Guard and patrol New York’s harbor to prevent possible infiltration by German submarines. He was my uncle, and my hero. This reminder to remember Memorial Day is in tribute to him and made in heartfelt gratitude toward all among us who have served our country and made various sacrifices for the rest of us.

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## Kala Kwips

Submitted by the original shy neighbor et al.

### 10 Questions

1. How many months have 28 days
2. How many species of each animal did Moses take aboard the Ark?
3. If a plane crashes on the border of the US and Canada, where should the survivors be buried?
4. How far can a bear walk into the woods?
5. What is the value of a coin dated 24 B.C.
6. How many grooves does a 45 rpm record have?
7. A camper leaves her camp, hikes 1 mile south, then 1 mile east where she sees a bear. Then she hikes 1 mile north to arrive at her camp. What color is the bear?
8. If a rooster lays an egg on the peak of a roof, which side will the egg roll down?
9. If a south bound electric train is traveling at a rate of 66 mph and the wind is blowing to the north at 35 mph, which way will the smoke blow?
10. Which side of a chicken has more feathers?

**Answers:** 1. All of them. 2. Moses didn't have an ark, Noah did. 3. You don't bury survivors. 4. Half way, then he is walking out. 5. Nothing. A coin could not be dated BC. 6. One (spiraling) on each side. 7. The camp must be at the north pole, therefore the bear is white. 8. Roosters don't lay eggs. 9. Electric trains do not have smoke. 10. The outside.

### Reality Check On Time

- To realize the value of ten years ask a newly divorced couple.
  - To realize value for four years ask a graduate.
  - To realize the value of one year ask a student who has failed a final exam.
  - To realize value for one month, ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.
  - To realize the value of one week, ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.
  - To realize the value of one hour ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.
  - To realize the value of one minute ask a person who has missed the train, bus or plane.
  - To realize the value of one second ask the person who has survived an accident.
  - To realize the value of one millisecond ask the person who won a silver medal in the Olympics.
- Time is one of our greatest gifts.

### Traveling With Family

A man was traveling in the Holy Land with his wife, children and mother-in-law. The mother-in-law passes away unexpectedly. The man is told he could bury her there in the Holy Land for \$1500. Otherwise, it would cost over \$5000 to send her back the US. He said he wanted to ship her home. When asked why, he said, "I heard that once you buried someone here and he returned three days later!"



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## **MONEY MATTER\$**

by Patsy Mathys

At March's KPOA Board meeting, the Board approved issuing liens against any lot/time share unit that hadn't paid its 2004 KPOA regular assessment. Several residents have asked why is KPOA issuing liens? Is this a new procedure?

First, this is nothing new. If you are interested in understanding KPOA assessment collection procedures, the most concise documentation is our APP VII-2, Assessment and Collection Policy. You can obtain a copy from the KPOA office or view our internet site ("governing documents").

The annual assessment is due January 15th. Past due notices are mailed out on January 15th. Tami also makes subsequent phone calls. February 15th and each month thereafter, a monthly billing statement is mailed to any lot/unit in arrears including delinquency charges. Monthly interest is charged at the lesser of 18% per annum or the maximum permitted by law. Monthly late fees are currently charged at 5% of the original unpaid assessment (per CC&R Article VII section 1 the late fee is not to exceed 10% monthly of the delinquent assessment).

At each March KPOA Board meeting the Chief Financial Officer officially requests filing liens (\$100 fee) and authorization to foreclose on any lot/unit with an unpaid assessment. During March 2004's meeting, liens and foreclosure authorizations were approved for 6 lots and 7 timeshare units. Total unpaid assessments (and associated fees) currently are \$11,600. To put a perspective on this, our 2004's budgeted assessments were \$353,800. Ultimately, the lot owner is responsible for late fees, interest, lien fees, attorney fees, court fees and other collection costs (CC&R VI & VII).

In addition to fees, "No Member shall have the right to use the Common Areas...The Association shall have the right to suspend a members voting rights" when assessments are in arrears (CC&R Article IV A section 7).

If a lot eventually goes into foreclosure or bank-

**Continue "Money" on page 10**

## **Rhody Fest May 8 - 15**

With the theme of "RHODY GRAS - Jazz it up in Port Townsend" the 69th Annual Rhododendron Festival begins in Port Townsend on May 8. Some highlights of the week long festival include the Royalty Trike Races, the Pet Parade, and the Bed Races. The biggest crowd is expected for the Rhody Festival Grand Parade at 1:00 pm on May 15th. The parade winds through Uptown and Downtown Port Townsend streets.

The festival season actually started in January, with candidates for the royal court being introduced. The coronation took place in March, and scholarships were awarded the three young ladies from Port Townsend.

## **PT Farmers Market Opens**

Port Townsend Farmers Market opens Saturday May 1, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, at their new Uptown location in front of the Community Center on Tyler Street. Find local organic produce, wild Alaska salmon, and fresh baked goods . This season the market added 13 new crafters, featuring hand-crafted products by local artisans. Market goers will also be treated to the farmers market's annual Mayday festival, with live music, food & espresso drinks, dancing, flower wreaths, and the maypole. Saturday market runs thru October, Visit [www.ptfarmersmarket.org](http://www.ptfarmersmarket.org) for more information or call 360-379-6957 x 119

## **Hello, Fellow Residents**

You may have seen the posters on the bulletin boards announcing a luncheon for our General Manager, Brian Belmont. It is May 15, 11:30 to 2:30, at the Fort Worden Commons. The price is \$16.53/ea for shrimp pasta or hibachi beef. The Board is honoring all his hard work and dedication with this special lunch for Brian and his wife, Patty.

Please call Marilynne Gates at 379-9044 if you wish to attend. Checks should be made out to Social Plus. Deadline for reservations is April 28.

## “Letters” continued from page 3

on by Brian) erroneously believing the tree trimming had actually occurred reportedly flew into a rage with the tree committee chairperson I had contacted to inquire about the demands. Then came an “inquisitors letter” to that resident volunteer chairing the tree committee. What an unbelievable drama over private property tree trimming.

The author(s?) of APP XII-2 (I am told it was Brian Belmont) has taken a set of requirements defined in the governing documents (CC&R’s and Rules and Regulations) for tree trimming on common lands and applied these stringent requirements to tree trimming on private property. There is no authority in the governing documents for this.

In addition, APP XII-3 (Vegetation Control Request) adds an entire layer of legal indemnification and hold harmless requirements that, ostensibly, owners must agree to in order to trim, prune, limb or otherwise manage trees on their own property. There is absolutely no authority for these requirements in either the Rules and Regulations, or the CC&R’s. KPOA, therefore, has no authority to make or enforce these demands.

The Rules and Regulations and the CC&R’s (ARTICLE IV PROPERTY RIGHTS B. UNIFORM GENERAL REQUIREMENTS Sections 7, 8 & 15) are very clear that (on private lots) only clear-cutting and removal of defined trees (as determined by size) requires KPOA approval. Only on common areas are pruning, trimming, limbing, etc. (actions short of clear-cutting and tree removal) are regulated by KPOA. There is no such regulation authorized in governing documents on private lots.

KPOA has no authority or right to interfere with me (or any resident) trimming, pruning, limbing or otherwise managing trees on private lots, short of the regulated acts of clear-cutting and removal as defined. Further, all Kala Point lot owners AND KPOA have an affirmative duty “to control the growth and spread of alder trees” (no size limitations) on their property. [CC&R’s ARTICLE IV PROPERTY RIGHTS B. UNIFORM GENERAL REQUIREMENTS Section 7]

KPOA cannot enforce APP’s that overreach the

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Rules and Regulations, and cannot enforce Rules and Regulations that overreach the CC&R’s. State law prohibits it, and our own governing documents resolve any conflicts in accord with hierarchy. KPOA cannot lawfully impinge on individual property rights to any extent greater than that granted in the governing documents.

This association has just experienced sobering costs and ongoing financial exposure (increased insurance deductibles) through the courts. These costs arose when violations of prescribed association process and procedure were committed by (ostensibly board-empowered) zealots taking it upon themselves to inappropriately interpret and enforce governing documents. You can put whatever “PR spin” you want in the newsletter on how the Vogt case ended -- claiming there were no winners -- but the facts are indisputable.

At the end of the day the members of this community paid off Vogt and Evans in a settlement. Payment was made by our insurance carrier on our behalf for the errors and omissions, of committee members and management. Through increased insurance premiums and sharply higher

**Continue “Letters” on page 8**

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### “Letters” continued from page 7

deductibles, we will all continue to fund that E&O (Errors and Omissions) behavior for years to come. By failing to act in accord with governing documents we ended up in court, and lost. This is likely to continue if committee and management zealots are not contained by board oversight.

I ask you to again listen, and take immediate steps to reverse KPOA trampling on property rights through blatant overreaching beyond what the governing documents support. Failing to rein in this infringement is very likely to land KPOA back in court. Hopefully; Jay Garthwaite. (Edited)

**The February 21 letter** was a single page respectful request by Jay Garthwaite to discuss in open session with the KPOA Board the issues discussed in the February 17 letter regarding the APPs predilection for overstepping authority as granted in the Rules and Regulation and CC&Rs.

**The February 22-**from Mr. Garthwaite to the Board r.e. public notification of rule changes.

Dear KPOA Board, During the board meeting of February 20 it became apparent that this board seems entirely uninformed about it's specific and mandatory duties under the master declaration to formally notify members as the rules and regulations of this association are modified by board action. It is sad that the only reason the board even considered mailing out for member comment the new highly restrictive proposed rules on “veg-

etation control” (trimming your own trees) was a community member suggested it. Hats off to board member Tony Costa for making the motion.

This association's master declaration is quite instructive on the subject of board rule-making and member notices. One should remember that this master declaration is the final say under the hierarchical rules. While the board clearly does have the authority to regularly rewrite, modify and adopt new rules and regulations, the CC&R's clearly tell you that such rule-making has no force and effect **UNLESS AND UNTIL** you notify **ALL** members **IN THE MANNER SET FORTH FOR NOTICES IN THE MASTER DECLARATION**.

This board is not well served by leaving the reading and interpretation of governing documents to association management in concert with selected members or officers. With the amount of money members are paying for the advice of Attorney Shattuck it seems incredible that governing-documents-mandated-notice of rules changes was overlooked. Notice is fundamental under law.

Board members have a statutory duty to make reasonable inquiry. Reasonable inquiry, includes a personal reading of governing documents.

RCW 24.03.127 Duties of a director.

“A director shall perform the duties of a director, including the duties as a member of any committee of the board upon which the director may serve, in good faith, in a manner such director believes to be in the best interests of the corporation, and with such care, including reasonable inquiry, as an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances.”

The manner of making these required notices is also clearly articulated in the highest governing document, The CC&R's. Notice is required to be given in person or by mail. There is no authority to substitute personal delivery or mailing with posting at the gate, on the website, or any other means. Absent that notice as required by the master declaration, in the manner prescribed by the master declaration, your rules and regulations changes have no force and effect.

Simply calling rules and regulations “APP's” instead of “rules and regulations” does not clev-



erly relieve you of your notice responsibilities. The master declaration makes no mention of anything called "APP's". Writing and enforcing so-called "APP's" is writing and enforcing rules and regulations as defined in governing documents.

Under the master declaration only rules and regulations have enforcement affect, and then only when properly noticed to the affected membership, and then only as specifically envisioned by the CC&R's. Conflicts between the master declaration (CC&R's) and any subordinate document are settle in favor of the master declaration. PROPER notice is fundamental to the process.

I call on the board to follow both the self-espoused "spirit of improved communications" with members, as well as to follow the "letter of the law" of the governing documents by providing both a DISTRIBUTION FOR COMMENT MAILING on all substantive rules changes (with an ample comment reply period of at least 4-weeks), and the (REQUIRED) FORMAL NOTICE OF RULES CHANGE for ALL rule changes adopted.

The board needs to get at least half as serious about following the governing documents itself, as it has become about enforcing rules against members. The result will be diminished Regulatory FUD (Fear, Uncertainty & Doubt) among owners and reduced litigation arising from lack of effective board oversight. (Edited)

Bruno Richter's letter of response to Jay Garthwaite's three letters, (not edited).

This is in reference to your letters of February 17, 21 and 22 addressed to the board members of the Kala Point Owners Association. As a member of the board, but more so as an individual Kala Point resident, I feel compelled to respond to your various communications. This letter will probably not reach you prior to the next board meeting but the issues go deeper than that.

Your letters of February 17 and 21 deal with the Administrative Policies and Procedures or Rules and Regulations, primarily about vegetation control, while that of February 22 talks about duties of a director, possible conflicts between CC&Rs and Rules and Regulations and the re-



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quired notification to the membership when such rules are changed.

When Brian Belmont, upon hearing that you wanted to limb some trees on your property, sent you an e-mail with a request form for Tree Committee approval he only followed established practices that have been followed by KPOA members for many years. He had no intention to single you out. In communities such as Kala Point, practices tend to develop over time, not only because project documents leave room for interpretation but because they represent a framework or, if you wish, compromise which has allowed members to live and function together without much friction. Looking at every aspect of what we do at Kala Point in purely legalistic terms would greatly detract from the ease and congeniality with which the members at Kala Point have governed themselves in the past 25 years.

There should be no question that your request for limbing a tree would have been approved. Whether approval should have been necessary in the first place is another matter. Members have lived with this practice for some time without much controversy and asking you to fill out a request form was only consistent with that practice. Whether this practice is inconsistent with the CC&Rs is not for me to comment on at this point.

You have pointed out in great detail that the practice of seeking permission for certain forms  
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## “Letters” continued from page 9

of vegetation control is in contravention of the governing documents. You also know that the Rules and Regulation covering vegetation control are currently under review and no definitive decisions have been made. It is the role of the Tree Committee and the board to look at all aspects of this issue and your letter will, no doubt, be given full consideration.

Given the sensitivity of the vegetation control issue and in fairness to the majority of the membership which has followed the established practices, the membership should not only be fully appraised of any proposed rule changes but I personally believe that it would make sense to give it the opportunity to express its wishes at the annual member meeting.

You expressed the wish to address the board on this issue at the next board meeting. Your letter fully expresses your personal feelings on this issue and it would serve little purpose to take so much of the board's and the membership's time over an issue that is still under consideration.

Frankly, harangues about the duties of directors and insinuations that the board members are ignorant and take their duties lightly are not helpful. Remarks such a “Kalaban” and “Treenazis” are not only inflammatory and demeaning, but they are outright insulting and only serve to polarize matters further.

**See Swiftly Speaking” on page 3**

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## “Money” continued from page 6

ruptcy, it becomes more complicated. There is a priority as to who is paid off first. Thus there is a possibility that KPOA would not receive the total past due amount. If you love to read foreclosure or bankruptcy legalese, you can research Washington RCW 61.24 and our CC&R Article XIX.

These fees, lien and foreclosure/bankruptcy procedures pertain to any KPOA assessment: regular, special, reconstruction, capital improvement or emergency assessment. For example, if a lot is out of compliance with the architectural standards, the owner could be fined a special assessment, as well as the above fees and liens. They could also be subject to foreclosure.

Bottom line, it is important for us to pay each of our assessment when due. Otherwise additional fees can accumulate rapidly to make a personal financial situation even worse. If anyone has suggestions on how to minimize this late fee spiral, please forward them to the KPOA Board or Finance Committee.

We look forward to answering any of your KPOA budget, assessment, expenses, reserve or tax questions. Please send your questions to mathyspa@hotmail.com or mail to P.O. Box 816, Port Hadlock 98339. Please include your name and phone number in case we need to clarify your question. Names will be published if requested.

## **MONEY MATTER\$ CLARIFICATION**

April's Money Matters\$ article concerning health care benefits requires a slight clarification. The article stated that spouses of full time employees are not covered under our Regency Blue Shield medical insurance. Actually our employees can elect for coverage for their spouse. Thus the spouse is covered. However, the employee, not KPOA, fully pays for the spouse's coverage.

## **To The Point Staff**

Judie Lewis, Editor; Richard Canaan & Barbara Martel, Ad Sales; Lois Healy & Nancy Leeds, Distribution; John Childs, Bookkeeper; Pat Tobias, Proofing.

## Ask The Doctor Surgical Treatment of Arthritis

By Richard Canaan, MD, Diplomate of American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Surgical treatment of arthritis includes joint debridement, joint stabilization, joint alignment, joint fusion, joint drainage, and joint replacement. The greatest number of reconstructive surgical procedures are performed in patients with osteo and traumatic arthritis.

Joint debridement basically is cleaning out a joint. Arthritic spurs, "loose bodies," arthritic debris, damaged cartilage structures and cartilaginous covering of the bone may be removed, shaped, abraded or trimmed. These procedures are usually done arthroscopically. The knee and shoulder are by far the commonest sites.

Joint debridement of the knee usually only gives temporary relief, (up to three years). It may be repeated once with less success. Joint replacement is then usually recommended.

Similar shoulder surgery often gives lasting relief. The probable reason for the difference is success is the knee is a weight bearing joint, while the shoulder is primarily a joint of motion.

Joint realignment almost always refers to the knee. A person who is severely "bowlegged" or "knock kneed" has a fairly good chance of developing arthritis because of a mal-aligned knee joint. Surgery can be performed on either the femur of the tibia to restore normal alignment. The best results are obtained if the surgery is done early. However, at an early stage, arthritis pain is minimal. It is hard to strongly recommend a major surgery without a guarantee in such a patient.

Joint fusion in the knee, hip or shoulder is done much less frequently since the introduction of total joint replacement. Joint fusion is still performed for painful arthritis of the spine. Fusion of thumb, wrist and certain finger and toe joints is sometimes indicated. Results usually are satisfactory.

At least 80% of total joint replacements are

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done in the above classification of patients. Knee and hip replacements give about 95% excellent results. Other joints, shoulder ankle, wrist and elbow replacement have varying results.

In rheumatoid arthritis surgery is often performed. As has been previously discussed, soft tissue is also involved in this disease. Removal of the diseased synovium (soft tissue in and around the joint) may be helpful. In the feet surgical realignment of the forefoot bones is sometimes indicated. In the hands realignment of the joints by soft tissue procedures including tendon transfers and joint spacers may be warranted. In addition joint replacement and joint fusion are used. In fact in rheumatoid arthritis the whole orthopaedic armamentarium may be mobilized. Surgery usually is quite beneficial, but success of surgery for rheumatoid arthritis is influenced by the progression and medical control of the underlying disease.

Infectious arthritis is treated by incision and drainage of the joint, antibiotics and sometimes continued suction and perfusion of the joint. Open packing of the joint is a treatment that has been essentially abandoned.

An infected joint is still a dreaded condition. In addition to the surgery, there may be a prolonged hospital stay and a long course of antibiotics. There may be permanent joint damage, and the possibility of chronic bone infection.

This article should complete this limited discussion of arthritis.

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