



Fullerton Orthopaedic

50 YEARS 1957-2007

Celebrating -FIFTY YEARS-

then most everyone was a generalist, but we both felt that having a specialty would ultimately serve our patients and the community better."

"There was no such thing as a fellowship back then, so if you had an area of interest you went out and developed it yourself." A fellowship is usually an additional year of training under the supervision of an experienced specialist, who takes a young doctor on as a fellow to teach him or her the skills learned from years of experience. Fullerton Orthopaedic requires that all its doctors have a fellowship in their area of interest.

Dr. Conaty's area of specialization became Pediatric Orthopaedics, while Dr. McFarland's interest in new techniques for minimally invasive surgeries led him to arthroscopic surgery. In fact, Dr. McFarland was the first person to perform an arthroscopic surgery at St. Jude.

Fullerton Orthopaedic grew as the needs of the

When Dr. Conaty, founder of Fullerton Orthopaedic Medical Group, was going through medical school back in the 1940s, it was common for aspiring doctors to take rotating internships. This allowed them to spend time in each area of medicine to determine which area they would focus on. "I chose orthopaedic surgery," says the now retired Dr. Conaty, "because I really liked the

fullerton orthopaedic surgery



complete
orthopaedic care
for Southern California

BOARD CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS IN:

- Spine
- Upper Extremities
 - Neck & Back
 - Shoulder
 - Elbow
 - Wrist
 - Hand
- Lower Extremities
 - Hip
 - Knees
 - Ankles
 - Feet

** Now offering
Pain Management*

Orthopaedic Specialists on Staff (From left to right)

- Dr. Michael P. Rubinstein MD
- Dr. Harry L. Gibson MD
- Dr. Gerald J. Alexander MD
- Dr. Stewart L. Shanfield MD
- Dr. Eugen D. Williams MD
- Dr. Michael A. Samuelson MD
- Dr. Kendall S. Wagner MD
- Dr. John F. Parker MD

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"Every time we needed a new surgeon ... we recruited them just like professional sports teams do"

people in Orthopaedic medicine. They were all very low key and sort of easygoing." For Dr. Conaty it was a natural choice.

Once in practice he heard about a growing community with a new hospital and a serious need for surgical talent. Fullerton and all of north Orange County was starting to become known back in the 1950s, so Dr. Conaty and his wife Joan set off to find their place in the emerging community.

It didn't take long for the quality minded Dr. Conaty to earn the respect of the local medical community, and within a year he needed a partner to work with him in his practice. Dr. McFarland, now deceased, was a likeminded surgeon with a precise nature, and he agreed with Dr. Conaty's belief that orthopaedic surgeons needed to specialize. "Back

community grew. "Every time we needed a new surgeon to fill an area of specialization, we went out and recruited them just like professional sports teams do. We knew who the best doctors were in the community, and we would recruit them to be part of the group."

This system for recruiting only the top talent that Drs. Conaty and McFarland set up over a half century ago is still in place. They hire only when necessary, and only the best are approached. Fullerton Orthopaedic today is still in the community, strong and growing, and in the last 50 years there has been almost no turnover. This type of success is virtually unheard of in the industry. It's possible that this long term approach to immediate needs just might be the secret of the practice's success.

