

Highlands Foot & Ankle Institute Ski Scientific Meeting  
**Manor Vail - 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**  
February 5 – February 7, 2026  
**(TOTAL 14 CECH)**

Thursday February 5, 2026 (4 CECH)

**7:00-7:30 AM Breakfast**

7:30-8:00 Greg Berlet  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Surgeon as the Innovator

8:00–8:30 John Evans  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Peripheral arterial disease 2026 update

**8:30 Break**

8:45-9:15 Steven Cooperman  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) AI and Foot and Ankle Surgery

9:15-9:45 Laura Adler  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) OrthoBiologics

**9:45 Break for AM: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

**3:30 PM Après Ski**

4:30-5:00 Rich Derner  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) What would you do? What would I do?

5:00-5:30 Brian Derner  
-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Tarsometatarsal Fusion

**5:30 – 5:45 Break: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

5:45-6:45 PM PANEL: Rebecca Stack, Jordan Cameron, Jake McLeod. Moderator: Ross Girvan  
-TOPIC (1.0 CECH) MIS Procedures (Excluding Bunions)

**6:45 PM Break for Evening**

## Friday February 6, 2026 (4.5 CECH)

### **7:00-7:30 AM Breakfast**

7:30-8:00 Glenn Weinraub

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Complications Management Series: Surgery Misadventures

8:00--8:30 Kira Cramer

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) GLP-1 Inhibitors in Foot and Ankle Surgery

### **8:30 Break**

8:45-9:15 Brett Sachs

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Surgical Case Review: Complications

9:15-9:45 Scott Carrington

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Gradual Correction in Foot and Ankle Surgery

### **9:45 Break for AM: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

### **2:30 PM Après Ski**

3:00-3:30 Kevin Blue and Lauren Molchan

-(0.5 CECH) Essential Strides Global Health Care

3:30-4:30 PM PANEL: Brett Sachs, Tim Mineo, Scott Carrington, Greg Berlet. Moderator: Alan Ng

-TOPIC (1.0 CECH) TAR: Complications Management

### **4:30 – 4:45 PM Break: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

4:45-5:45 PM PANEL: Michael Gentile, Phil Savage, Kristine Hoffman, Ross Girvan. Moderator: Paul Stone

-TOPIC (1.0 CECH) Options for 1st MPJ Joint Salvage

### **5:45 PM Break for Evening**

### **6:00-9:00 PM 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception: Mount Powell Room**

## Saturday February 7, 2026 (5.5 CECH)

### **7:00-7:30 AM Breakfast**

7:30-8:00 Tommy Yates

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Deltoid Repair

8:00--8:30 Greg Berlet

-TOPIC (0.5 CECH) Bone quality considerations for the foot and ankle surgeon

## **8:30 Break**

8:45-9:45 PANEL: Kevin Blue, Cade Christensen, Mark Birmingham. Moderator: Dustin Kruse  
-TOPIC (1.0 CECH) Early Weight Bearing: Bunions, TAR, Trauma

## **9:45 Break for AM: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

## **3:30 PM Après Ski**

3:00-4:00 Dustin Kruse  
-TOPIC (1.0 CECH) PICA Malpractice

## RESIDENT LECTURE SERIES

4:00-4:30 Morgan Shano  
- (0.5 CECH) Early Results of Custom 3D Printed Midfoot Cage for Segmental Bone Loss  
4:30-5:00 John Savage  
- (0.5 CECH) Peru Mission Trip: Fall 2025  
5:00-5:30 Joey Zrucky  
- (0.5 CECH) A Novel Posterior Approach to a Supermalleolar Osteotomy

## **5:30 – 5:45 Break: visit with vendors in Exhibit Area**

5:45-6:15 PM Tyler Gray  
- (0.5 CECH) Arthroscopic assisted TTC Fusion After Failed Ankle ORIF  
6:15-6:45 PM Seth Warren  
- (0.5 CECH) To Pin or Not to Pin: Intraoperative Medial Malleolar Fracture Risk in Total Ankle Arthroplasty

## **6:45 PM Break for Meeting**

## **About**

Activity Website: [www.highlandsfootandankleinstitute.org/conference](http://www.highlandsfootandankleinstitute.org/conference)

Costs to the Learner:  
\$600 per attending  
\$500 per resident

Learner Refund and Cancellation Policy:  
>30 days from the event date a full refund will be granted  
4-30 days from the start of the event the registration fee minus \$100 administration fee will be refunded  
3 days prior to the start of the event no refunds will be granted

Learner Privacy: How to Opt-Out of Information Sharing with Commercial Interest  
We are committed to protecting our learners' privacy. While we may share limited information with trusted commercial partners to enhance the learning experience or offer relevant services, learners may choose to opt out of this information sharing. To exercise this right, simply send an email to

[Dustin.Kruse@gmail.com](mailto:Dustin.Kruse@gmail.com) with the subject line "Opt-Out Request." with your name and a statement requesting exclusion from commercial interest data sharing. We will confirm your request within 10 business days and ensure your preferences are honored.

Contact Information for Highland's Foot and Ankle Institute:  
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Highlands: Dustin Kruse, DPM; [dustin.kruse@gmail.com](mailto:dustin.kruse@gmail.com)  
Colorado Foot & Ankle Society (CPME): Ashley House, Executive Director; [colofas@gmail.com](mailto:colofas@gmail.com)

Financial support: No commercial interest provided financial support for this continuing education activity.  
Vendors have paid a registration fee; vendor list provided upon attendance.

Speaker Disclosures will be provided upon attendance.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the standards and requirements for approval of providers of continuing education in podiatric medicine through a joint provider agreement between Colorado Foot and Ankle Society and Highland's Foot and Ankle Institute. Colorado Foot and Ankle Society is approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education as a provider of continuing education in podiatric medicine. Colorado Foot and Ankle Association has approved this activity for a maximum of 16.25 continuing education contact hours.

The intended audience for this conference is podiatrists who have completed residency and are in practice; Podiatrists currently in residency; Podiatric medical school students; College students interested in the field of podiatry. There are no pre-requisites for attending this conference.

## Objectives:

- Identify strategies for fostering innovation in foot and ankle surgery while maintaining patient safety and ethical standards.
- Describe pathways for translating surgical ideas into clinically viable techniques, devices, or practice improvements.
- Review the mechanisms, indications, and perioperative considerations of GLP-1 inhibitors relevant to foot and ankle surgical patients.
- Evaluate potential impacts of GLP-1 therapy on surgical risk, wound healing, and postoperative outcomes.
- Describe indications, surgical techniques, and fixation options for deltoid ligament repair.
- Assess postoperative protocols and potential complications associated with deltoid repair procedures.
- Review current orthobiologic options used in foot and ankle surgery and their proposed mechanisms of action.
- Evaluate evidence-based indications and limitations for orthobiologic use in surgical and non-surgical treatment.

- Analyze complex or controversial foot and ankle cases with attention to differing surgical decision-making approaches.
- Compare outcomes associated with alternative treatment strategies in challenging clinical scenarios.
- Identify indications, surgical approaches, and fixation techniques for tarsometatarsal joint fusion.
- Recognize common complications and strategies to optimize fusion rates and patient outcomes.
- Discuss current minimally invasive surgical techniques in foot and ankle surgery and appropriate patient selection.
- Compare benefits, limitations, and complication profiles of MIS versus open procedures.
- Identify common intraoperative and postoperative complications in foot and ankle surgery.
- Develop systematic approaches to managing and mitigating complications when they occur.
- Recognize clinical signs and diagnostic methods for peripheral arterial disease in foot and ankle patients.
- Integrate PAD management principles into surgical planning and limb preservation strategies.
- Evaluate real-world surgical complications to identify contributing factors and decision points.
- Apply lessons learned from case review to improve future surgical outcomes.
- Describe principles and indications for gradual deformity correction using external fixation or other methods.
- Compare gradual correction techniques with acute correction in terms of outcomes and complication risks.
- Examine challenges and ethical considerations in delivering foot and ankle surgical care in global health settings.
- Identify sustainable strategies for improving surgical access and outcomes in resource-limited environments.
- Identify common complications associated with total ankle arthroplasty and strategies for prevention.
- Discuss evidence-based approaches to managing TAR complications through case-based panel discussion.
- Review joint-preserving surgical options for management of 1st metatarsophalangeal joint pathology.
- Compare indications, outcomes, and limitations of various 1st MPJ salvage techniques.
- Describe current and emerging applications of artificial intelligence in foot and ankle surgery.
- Evaluate potential benefits, limitations, and ethical considerations of AI integration into clinical practice.
- Identify common medicolegal risks in foot and ankle surgical practice.
- Develop strategies for risk mitigation, documentation, and malpractice management.
- Review current evidence regarding early weight-bearing protocols following bunion, TAR, and trauma surgery.
- Discuss patient selection and risk factors when implementing early weight-bearing strategies.
- Describe the design rationale and surgical technique for use of custom 3D-printed midfoot cages.
- Evaluate early clinical outcomes and potential complications associated with this reconstructive approach.
- Identify indications and failure modes leading to total ankle arthroplasty revision.
- Discuss surgical planning considerations and case-based decision-making in TAR revision surgery.
- Describe surgical anatomy and technique associated with a posterior approach to supramalleolar osteotomy.
- Assess potential advantages, limitations, and complications compared with traditional approaches.

- Identify indications for arthroscopic-assisted tibiotalocalcaneal fusion following failed ankle ORIF.
- Describe technical considerations and postoperative outcomes associated with this minimally invasive approach.
- Identify risk factors for intraoperative medial malleolar fracture during total ankle arthroplasty.
- Evaluate fixation strategies and decision-making related to prophylactic pinning.

## Speakers:

- **Gregory C. Berlet, MD, FRCS(C)** is an orthopedic surgeon specializing in foot and ankle surgery and sports medicine. He retired as a partner at The Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Center (OFAC) in Columbus, Ohio, in August 2025. Dr. Berlet is the former Chief of the Division of Foot and Ankle Surgery at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and Public Health and served as a consulting physician for the Columbus Blue Jackets NHL franchise for 27 years. He has been recognized as a Top Doc in Orthopedics for 11 consecutive years. A nationally recognized leader in orthopedic education, Dr. Berlet is a past Chairman of the Education Committee for the American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society (AOFAS) and a past board member of the AAOS Council on Education. He is an orthopedic innovator who has led and participated in implant design teams focused on foot and ankle surgery. He has authored more than 150 scientific publications and is the founding editor of *Foot & Ankle Specialist*, Foot and Ankle Editor for *Orthopedics Today* (Healio.com), and a partner in Foot Innovate. Dr. Berlet completed fellowship training in both foot and ankle surgery and sports medicine. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Western Ontario and his medical degree from the University of Calgary. He completed a foot and ankle surgery fellowship at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, and a sports medicine and arthroscopy fellowship at the University of Toronto. He is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada and is an emeritus member of the COA, AOA, AAOS, and AOFAS.
- **John Evans, DPM, DABFAS, FACFAS:** Dr. Evans received his DPM from the Temple University College of Podiatric Medicine and has a BS in Pharmacy from the University of Connecticut. He is board-certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (Foot and Ankle) and is Chief of Podiatry at Corewell Health (Beaumont) Medical Center in Dearborn, Michigan. He has served as Chair of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) Health Policy and Practice Committee and as a Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee (CAC) representative for over 20 years and was the 2018 recipient of the APMA Award of Excellence. He was the Podiatric representative to the 2024 PAD Guidelines Writing Committee of the American Heart Assn. and American College of Cardiology and serves as the Podiatric representative of APMA to the AHA PVD Leadership Council. He is active with the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, having served on multiple committees including their Board of Directors for eight years, and is a Past-Chair of their Communications Committee. He is active with the American Limb Preservation Society on the Health Equity and Advocacy Committee as Co-Chair of the Research and Data Analysis Sub-Committee, the CLI Global Society, and as faculty for the New Cardiovascular Horizons organization, AMP, Desert Foot, SAWC, PRESENT, Highlands Institute, and the Goldfarb Foundation. Dr. Evans is a nationally recognized speaker on a variety of topics including Peripheral Arterial Disease, the Diabetic Foot, Limb Salvage and Preservation, Physician Burnout, Dealing with the Difficult Patient, and Mindfulness in Medicine, and is a consultant to multiple vascular and legal organizations. He resides in Michigan.
- **Steven Cooperman:** Steven Cooperman is a fellowship-trained foot and ankle surgeon. He completed his residency with Highlands/PSL in Denver, and his fellowship at the Orthopedic Foot

and Ankle Center in Columbus, Ohio. He now practices in Castle Rock, CO at Rock Canyon Foot and Ankle Center.

- **Lauren Adler:** Dr. Laura Adler grew up in Miami, Florida, in a family with deep ties to the medical field. After earning her bachelor's degree from Florida State University, she graduated at the top of her class from Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Adler completed her 3-year surgical residency at Presbyterian St. Luke's in 2022, followed by a one-year reconstructive fellowship in Boca Raton, Florida. Since completing her fellowship, she has joined her father's private practice, Adler Foot and Ankle in North Miami Beach. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Adler serves as an adjunct professor at Barry University Podiatry School and mentors residents in two local residency programs.
- **RICHARD DENER:** **Richard Derner, DPM, FACFAS** is a past President of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and previously served as Program Director at Inova Fairfax Medical Campus. He is recognized for his leadership in foot and ankle surgery education and his long-standing contributions to residency training and professional development within the field.
- **BRAIN DERNER:** Dr. Brian Derner graduated from the Highlands/PSL residency in 2021 and completed the CORE Institute Foot and Ankle Fellowship in 2022. He currently practices in the Northern California Bay Area at Kaiser Permanente's Department of Orthopedics in San Leandro and serves as faculty for the Kaiser South Bay Podiatric Residency Program. Additionally, he is a lecturer for AO North America, Cofounder of the medical mission nonprofit Bones Pro Bono and a case reviewer for ABFAS.
- **REBECCA STACK:** Dr. Rebecca Stack completed her Highlands-PSL residency in 2020. She went on to achieve board certification through the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery in both Foot Surgery and Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle (RRA) Surgery—all while welcoming three children. She has been in private practice in the Chicago suburbs for over five years (although she definitely misses Colorado) and currently serves as the Assistant Director for the Northwest Illinois Foot and Ankle Fellowship. Outside of medicine, she is married and the proud mother of a 4-year-old son, a 2-year-old daughter, and a 5-month-old daughter.
- **JORDAN CAMERON:** Dr. Jordan Cameron, DPM, is a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon in Colorado Springs, Colorado, affiliated with the Foot and Ankle Institute of Colorado. He received his DPM from Barry University and completed his surgical residency at Florida Hospital East Orlando.
- **JAKE MCLEOD:** Dr. Macleod is a highly skilled Foot & Ankle Surgeon at Longview Orthopedic Associates in Longview, Washington, and an Attending Faculty member for the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Surgery Fellowship at Washington Orthopaedic Center Advanced. Dr. McLeod completed his Foot & Ankle Sports Medicine and Trauma Fellowship at Virginia Mason Medical Center and his Podiatric Medicine & Surgical Residency at Highlands Foot & Ankle Institute. He is board-certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. McLeod serves as Chair of the Podiatry Department at St. John Medical Center and is actively involved in podiatric education, previously holding leadership roles with the American Podiatric Medical Students Association and the Colorado Foot & Ankle Society. He is also a published author and has lectured on a range of topics in foot and ankle surgery.
- **ROSS GIRVAN:** Dr. Girvan is the founding partner of Fredericksburg Foot & Ankle Center in Fredericksburg, Virginia. A 1994 graduate of the Highland's Foot and Ankle Residency, Dr. Girvan was also a competitive pole vaulter, winning the Canadian Indoor Championships in 1985 and 1986 and competing in the 1984 and 1988 Olympic Trials. His practice specializes in treating high

school and college athletes, with a focus on sports medicine, pediatrics, and reconstructive foot and ankle surgery. Dr. Girvan is the past chair of the Division of Podiatry at Mary Washington Hospital and a member of the Medical Executive Committee of Surgi Center of Central Virginia. He is a Fellow of the American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons and Board Certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery.

- **GLENN WEINRAUB:** A Los Angeles native, Dr. Glenn Weinraub is a Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Surgeon. He completed his podiatric surgical residency program at Inova Hospital/Georgetown University Hospital in Northern Virginia. This included a six-month training program in reconstructive lower extremity plastic surgery. Once in practice he became involved with research and education, eventually becoming President of the American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons. Today, he is on the academic staff at two podiatric medical colleges and is the CEO of Bones Pro Bono. Dr. Weinraub specializes in Ankle Joint Replacement, Trauma, Arthroscopy, and adult ankle & foot deformities.
- **KIRA CRAMER:** Kira Cramer, DPM, graduated from the PSL residency program in 2021. Following residency, she joined a private practice-based podiatry office in Castle Rock, Colorado, where she works alongside two fellow PSL alumni. Dr. Cramer provides comprehensive foot and ankle care with a focus on surgical and sports-related pathology. Since completing residency, she has remained actively involved in resident education and currently serves on the PSL residency committee, continuing her commitment to mentorship and training within the profession.
- **BRETT SACHS:** Dr. Sachs is a leading foot and ankle surgeon based in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Sachs serves as the Program Director of the Highlands Presbyterian/St. Luke's Podiatric Surgical Residency Program and specializes in reconstructive foot and ankle surgery, arthroscopy, trauma, total ankle replacement, and sports medicine. He is a nationally recognized lecturer and surgical skills instructor and currently serves as a Section Editor for the *Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery*. Dr. Sachs has held numerous academic roles with both the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery. In addition to his clinical and academic work, Dr. Sachs serves on the Colorado State Podiatry Board and is the Vice President of the Highlands Foot and Ankle Institute. He is also a past president of the Colorado Foot & Ankle Society.
- **SCOTT CARRINGTON:** Dr. Carrington is an attending physician at Gundersen Health in La Crosse, WI. He earned his degree from Des Moines University and underwent residency training at the Highlands/PSL program in Denver, CO. Following this, he pursued a fellowship in advanced foot and ankle reconstruction at Coordinated Health in Bethlehem, PA. Dr. Carrington is dedicated to research and resident education, serving as a surgical skills committee member for the American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons. Additionally, he contributes as a case reviewer and exam item writer for the American Board of Foot & Ankle Surgery.
- **KEVIN BLUE:** Dr. Blue is a double-board certified, sports medicine fellowship-trained surgical podiatrist and a leader in the field of foot and ankle care. He currently serves as President of the Colorado Foot and Ankle Society and is the Co-founder of *Essential Strides*, a nonprofit providing surgical care in underserved global communities. Dr. Blue also plays an integral role in training future surgeons as the Associate Clinical and Externship Director for the Highland/Presbyterian St. Luke's residency program. He practices at Orthopedic Centers of Colorado and brings both expertise and passion to everything he does.
- **Lauren Molchan, DPM, FACFAS:** Dr. Molchan is a current Director of Journal Club Presbyterian St. Luke's Residency Program, Denver, CO. Vice President and Founder of Essential Strides Global Nonprofit Organization. Colorado Foot and Ankle Surgery Board Member (2023-current).

- **TIM MINEO:** Dr. Timothy Mineo a distinguished Foot and Ankle Surgeon originally from Texas. Dr. Mineo completed his undergraduate education at the University of Colorado Boulder, where he was a student-athlete. After some time in Lake Tahoe working as a ski bum and boot fitter, he went on to pursue his medical studies at Rosalind Franklin University. Dr. Mineo completed his residency at Legacy/Kaiser in Portland, Oregon, where he honed his skills in trauma and deformity correction. He then joined Advantage Orthopedic before founding Pearl Foot and Ankle, where he now specializes in sports medicine, arthroscopy, complex revisional surgery, and total ankle replacement. Dr. Mineo is certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS).
- **ALAN NG: Alan Ng, DPM, FACFAS** is a foot and ankle surgeon with Orthopedic Centers of Colorado. He currently serves as President of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS) and is the Fellowship Director of the Rocky Mountain Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Fellowship. Dr. Ng is a Past President of the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS) and President of the Greater Texas Education Foundation, the overseeing body for Houston-area residency programs.
- **MICHAEL GENTILE: Michael A. Gentile, DPM, D.ABFAS, FACFAS** is a foot and ankle surgeon with a comprehensive practice spanning the full spectrum of surgical care. He completed his DPM at the California College of Podiatric Medicine and a reconstructive foot and ankle surgical residency at HealthOne/Presbyterian St. Luke's in Denver. Dr. Gentile's clinical interests include trauma, deformity correction, sports medicine, non-union, osteomyelitis, and clinical research. He serves as San Francisco Site Director for the Kaiser Bay Area Foot and Ankle Residency, Chair of the ACFAS Surgical Skills Committee, AO North America faculty, and is a reviewer and former trauma section editor for the *Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery*.
- **PHIL SAVAGE:** Phil Savage, DPM is a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon based in Aurora, Colorado. Dr. Savage earned his undergraduate degree in integrative physiology from The University of Colorado Boulder and his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine from Temple University in Philadelphia. He then completed his surgical residency at Highlands Presbyterian/St. Luke's Podiatric Surgical Residency Program in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Savage is a member of the Highlands Residency Committee and is actively involved in training residents in surgery.
- **KRISTINE HOFFMAN:** Dr. Hoffman is Chief of Podiatry in the Department of Orthopedics at Denver Health Medical Center and Director of the Denver Health Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residency Program. She also serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of Orthopedics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Hoffman is actively involved in research, particularly focused on sensory feedback and gait adaptations—work that has been featured in *Runner's World Magazine* and *The New York Times*. She serves on both the Colorado State Podiatry Board and the editorial board of *Podiatry Today*. Her clinical expertise includes sports medicine, minimally invasive ankle arthroscopy, and complex foot and ankle reconstruction.
- **PAUL STONE:** Dr. Stone earned his DPM from ICPM in 1982 and completed his residency at Highlands Center Hospital in 1984. He has over 30 years of experience in private practice and specialized roles, including at Advanced Orthopedic and Sports Medicine (OCC) (2000-2016) and Castle Rock Foot and Ankle (2016-2020). He is board-certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery (1986), American Board of Podiatric Orthopedics (1991), and a member of the American Academy of Pain Management (1991). Dr. [Name] served as Director of Residency Training at the HCA HealthOne Presbyterian St. Luke's Denver Podiatric Surgical Residency Program from 2010 to 2020. His greatest accomplishments include mentoring younger podiatric

physicians and retiring happily with his wife, Gail, and their two successful children and five grandchildren.

- **TOMMY YATES:** Dr. Yates is a 2024 graduate from the Highlands-P/SL residency program. He specializes in reconstructive surgery of the ankle and foot. He remains engaged remotely with resident academics from his hometown of Eugene, Oregon, where he currently practices. He is, however, planning on returning to the Denver area to be more involved with the residency program and the Essential Strides non-profit, so if you know of any opportunities he would love to speak with you while he is here in Vail.
- **CADE CHRISTENSEN:** Cade Christensen, DPM is a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon, proud to bring his expertise to the local community of Douglas County. A Diplomate of the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery and Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, Dr. Christensen is dedicated to providing exceptional care for foot and ankle conditions. He earned his undergraduate degrees in Biology and Spanish Literature from Brigham Young University, where he also developed fluency in Spanish. Dr. Christensen went on to earn his Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) from the California College of Podiatric Medicine in San Francisco, followed by a comprehensive 3-year surgical residency at the Highlands Podiatric Surgical Residency Program in Denver, CO. Active in the Denver community, Dr. Christensen generously contributes his time and expertise.
- **MARK BIRMINGHAM:** **Mark Birmingham, DPM** is a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon with over 15 years of experience managing a broad spectrum of complex foot and ankle pathology. He completed his podiatric medical education in Chicago and went on to complete an intensive reconstructive foot and ankle surgery residency at the Highlands/Presbyterian-St. Luke's Residency Program in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Birmingham remains actively engaged in continuing medical education and clinical research, with a focus on advancing surgical techniques and improving patient outcomes. He is committed to resident and peer education and frequently lectures at regional and national medical conferences.
- **DUSTIN KRUSE:** Dr. Kruse is a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon and Physician-Owner at Rocky Mountain Foot and Ankle Center. Dr. Kruse earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Case Western Reserve University, followed by his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine. He completed his surgical residency at Highlands/Presbyterian-St. Luke's in Denver, where he continues to mentor residents as a faculty member and committee leader. Dr. Kruse has held numerous leadership roles both regionally and nationally, including Past President of the Colorado Foot and Ankle Society and current president elect of the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery. He also leads as President and CEO of the Highlands Foot and Ankle Institute, where he promotes surgical education and resident training.
- **MORGAN SHANO:** Morgan Shano is a third year podiatry resident at the Highlands/Presbyterian St. Luke's residency program. She is originally from Gilbert, Arizona and went to undergraduate school at the University of Arizona. She attended Regis University in Denver, CO for a one year Masters program and worked as a medical assistant for an infectious disease group before attending the Arizona School of Podiatric Medicine. In her free time she enjoys being active and spending time with her five year old lab, Naira.
- **JOHN SAVAGE:** John is a 3rd year resident at the PSL podiatry residency program. He will join his brother and father in private practice upon graduation.

- **JOEY ZRUCKY:** Joey is a 2nd year resident at Highlands- Presbyterian/St Luke's. He attended Midwestern University in Arizona where he served as the student body president and graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors and is the recipient of the esteemed Steven M. Geller Award. In his free time he enjoys skiing, exercising outdoors, and performing music with his band. After graduation he is hoping to continue practicing in the wonderful state of Colorado.
- **TYLER GRAY:** Tyler Gray is a second year podiatric resident at Highland/ Presbyterian St. Lukes residency program. He graduated from Des Moines University College of Podiatric Medicine.
- **SETH WARREN:** Seth Warren is a second-year resident at Highlands/PSL. He is originally from the metro Detroit area and completed his undergraduate education at Michigan State University before earning his medical degree from Western University of Health Sciences. He currently serves on the Practice Management Committee for the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.