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PA ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY OFFERS
FREE OSTEOPOROSIS SCREENINGS

HARRISBURG (May 26, 2005) – In recognition of May as Osteoporosis Awareness Month, the Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society (POS) will offer free osteoporosis screenings at the 6th Annual Dauphin County Senior Expo Tuesday, May 31.

POS President Paul Christopher Metzger, M.D. encourages seniors and others who might be at risk for osteoporosis to visit the Expo at the Hershey Lodge Convention Center in Hershey between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. and take advantage of this free, painless test. The Expo is free and open to the public.

“Osteoporosis is the most common bone disease afflicting about 10 million Americans over age 50 with another 34 million having low bone mass putting them at risk for osteoporosis,” Metzger said. “Orthopaedic surgeons all too often see the fractures resulting from osteoporosis.” Each year, roughly 1.5 million people suffer a bone fracture related to osteoporosis, according to the 2004 Bone Health and Osteoporosis Report by the U.S. Surgeon General’s Office.

The screenings will be performed using an ultrasound-based Lunar Achilles Insight heel scanner provided by GE Healthcare. The scanner, which measures low bone density can aid in early detection of osteoporosis. Once bone density is measured,

participants will be encouraged to learn more about what they can do to maintain strong bones and prevent osteoporosis or consult with their physicians about treatment options for osteoporosis.

About 5,000 attendees are expected at the Senior Expo, which is sponsored by Senior News On-Line Publishers and the Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging. For more information about the Expo go to www.onlinepub.com or call 610-524-8756 (Chester County), 717-770-0140 (Dauphin County) or 717-299-7000 (Lancaster County).

To learn more about osteoporosis visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health website at www.health.state.pa.us and enter “osteoporosis” in the search box.

POS is a professional medical specialty organization representing more than 900 orthopaedic surgeons across Pennsylvania. For more information visit the POS website at www.paorthosociety.org.

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