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Trip Report
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At a special meeting of the Philippine Orthopaedic Association Meeting/Southern Mindanao Chapter, I lectured on Revisions of Proximal Femur Failures. We enjoyed an evening of great food, great company, and great educational exchanges. In the operating room, besides other cases, we did six SIGN Nails in two days. All in people who could otherwise never have afforded it. I've been blessed with the surgical skills to do many very complicated cases, however, the residents were much more skilled in surface anatomy and reduction of femur fractures with a finger hole than I could ever hope to be. I would need a c-arm, joy sticks, F-tool, intramedullary finger, fracture table, femoral distractor... and still struggle to reduce the fracture. This is also in a setting where the patients and the hospital have no money. These patients would otherwise be treated in traction until healing.

I will fondly look back on this trip. The Philippine people treated me like a rock star. The patients were very excited to have the American operate on them. All of the staff made me feel appreciated and one resident asked me why I came? In pondering this question I responded, "This makes me a better doctor, and a better person."