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Academy e-letter

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From the Desk of

J. R. Brandt DC, FACO

President, Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists

Good Morning Doctor,

As the year 2003 comes to an end, the Academy Board is thankful for many things that it has had the opportunity to promote and participate in to strengthen the orthopedic specialty.

This year has forged a solid and mutually beneficial relationship with our sister organizations, Council of Chiropractic Orthopedists (CCO) and the American College of Chiropractic Orthopedists (ACCO). This coalition has been concerned about the decline of the orthopedic specialty and lack of post graduate classes by our teaching institutions. This translates into fewer candidates for the specialty examination. The Coalition has concluded that a paradigm change is needed to invigorate our specialty. With the leadership of the CCO, ACCO and the Academy this has been going on now for just under 6 months. I want to outline our progress, accomplishments and goals. It is understood that each group has its specific functions to its membership, but there is close cooperation on specialty wide concerns. The Coalition is working to involve as many of its members as possible in this process.

The Coalition has supported the new orthopedic syllabus process. Members have contributed time and energy to this process. The organizations have also contributed financially to move the preliminary syllabus to the colleges for input. It is now at this stage. Thanks to the CCO and ACCO as the driving force behind this effort.

The Coalition now has nearly completed the psychometric process on Test A and Test B Diplomate examinations. Test C is in the beginning of development. I want to thank all of the members of the three organizations who participated in this endeavor. It is one of the goals of the Coalition to involve as many of each of the organization members as possible in the process. Test A will be given in Toronto April 18, 2004. We have been told that this will be the first specialty examination of its kind held in Canada. This examination is for the Toronto class only. Test B is going to be held on Thursday May 27, 2004 at the ACCO symposium in Orlando, Florida. Review classes will be set up by the Post Graduate Department of Northwestern Health Sciences University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This will include 2 sessions. Check the Academy website (www.dorthoacademy.com) or Northwestern's at (www.nwhealth.edu) for cost, dates and times. This is not sponsored by the Coalition but is an independent endeavor of NHSU. The review classes will be presented by Dr. John Black and Dr. Tim Mick. Dr. Mick will be providing the radiographic portion of the class.

Please note the new cases on the Academy website and link for "Information for Authors." We would encourage you to contribute to your specialty with a case from your office. It can be specified for the website or to use in the OSCE portion of the Diplomate examination. The Academy will give up to 6 credit hours for its voluntary re-credentialing if the case is accepted.

By the first quarter of next year, the Academy will have a MAJOR partner to help sponsor our web site. Hint; don't buy any bedding products yet until you see this! I anticipate this to be announced in the January e-letter. We are working to obtain additional suppliers and businesses to assist in the costs and to offer our members specials and discounts for products. Currently CPA is assisting us in office supplies. If you have not used this service, give it a try. It's nice not to have to go and get them yourself, or to send someone else to get these supplies. Most are delivered with in a day or so. Give CPA a call at 1-800-501-6191 and ask to sign up with the Academy.

Part of the Academy mission is to support research. It must be directed to NMS research only. This past year we partnered with FCER and gave \$1000 to NHSU and \$1000 to New York College. The Academy contributed \$500 to the Maynard Lipe scholarship provided by the ACCO.

We are waiting for word on the trademark for the Academy. Everything has been completed; we are just waiting for the Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. to give the OK.

Looking back this year there are so many people to thank for the success of the Academy. This includes our Coalition partners, Board members, Fellows, FCER staff that takes care of our website, day-to-day clerical duties, printing and support. Thank you DeAnna, Ed, Cheryl and staff at FCER. Thank you to the journals, news letters and groups that announced the Diplomate examination. Look for more of this information in 2004. Most of all the Board wants to thank you for your membership. We will continue to strive to make your membership worthwhile we take nothing for granted.

May your Christmas and Hanukkah gatherings be joyous!