President’s Letter…

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year everyone!

I am looking forward to a well-attended and successful convention, which will be held April 28-30, 2006. The current board has tried to fulfill the many suggestions that we received from members in the past. I think this convention schedule accomplishes these concerns. We have sold all but one vendor table already and our luncheon meeting on Saturday will include some fun elements!

Over the last years I have seen this organization expand in so many ways. Thanks to Jaeni Aarden, our Executive Director, for all the effort she puts forth on our behalf on a daily basis!

Chiropractic services were well utilized at the Roundhouse. Dr. Sherry Gaber rallied the DC’s and was able to cover all time slots 100%. That was a first! Thanks to Dr. Gaber for all the time and effort put forth in organizing this and a big thanks to all the DC’s who donated their time!!

I have been at the Roundhouse a few times this session. I sat in committee meetings to support our bills and have learned a lot about the workings of the legislature and how difficult it is to get bills passed. I look forward to the upcoming PAC (Political Action Committee) meetings. We have a lot of work to do to get prepared for the next 60-day session in 2007. It would be great if more PAC donations would come in. One of the things that I’ve learned is that it is very difficult to get things done in the legislature without a lobbyist, which requires money.

Seeing all the work done by Jaeni and many of our members, I’m puzzled because our membership numbers are lagging behind compared to last year at this time. I am at a loss to understand how so many doctors around this state can miss how critical the NMCA is to protecting chiropractic interests in this state. At the present, we have doctors in other professions attempting to circumscribe the chiropractic practice act, as well as using chiropractic methods in their practice; and because we don’t have enough members or money in our funds, we are having difficulty defending our practice act. IF we do not take the time to protect our profession now, we will find ourselves with other professions encroaching upon and possibly duplicating our scope of practice. It will prove to be extremely difficult to change this after the fact. I personally would like to see our practice act expanded. For this reason, it is imperative that we expand our membership base and increase the donations to our PAC fund. Please don’t underestimate the importance and impact of this message to your personal practice.

For those of you that are currently members, THANK YOU, and for those of you who aren’t, please seriously consider becoming an active member. We need you.

Susan M. Bright, D.C.
President, NMCA
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To contact any of the Board Members or Committee Chairmen, go to our website at www.nmchiroassoc.com or contact:
NMCA
P.O. Box 21100 • Albuquerque, NM 87154
Jaeni13@aol.com, 505-280-0689 or fax 505-828-1128

Editorial Policy
Dr. James Lehman has been appointed Scientific Editor of the NMCA Journal
and will review all pertinent submissions for publication
This Journal is the official publication of the New Mexico Chiropractic Association. The NMCA assumes no responsibility for material contained in articles, letters or advertisements published and publication does not necessarily constitute endorsement of them. The deadline for submission of articles and advertisements is three weeks prior to publication. Advertising rates can be obtained by contacting the NMCA at 505-280-0689.
Dear New Mexico Chiropractors:

This will be the last NMCA Quarterly Journal that will be going out to all the Doctors of Chiropractic in New Mexico. At the NMCA Board of Directors Meeting in December, it was decided that after this Winter 2006 Journal, we will be redoing the entire system and discontinuing a paper Journal, other than ~ possibly ~ once a year. The Journal will continue to be provided on our website for NMCA members and to anyone that would like to purchase a yearly subscription. In addition, it will be sent out over our list serve to members that have provided their e-mail addresses.

We will be activating the “Members Only” section of our website and each member will have a password that allows them entry. We will also be reformating the website to give supporting companies much more exposure with opening page advertisements/links to their websites and recognition throughout the site as appropriate.

The NMCA has decided to make these changes because it has become apparent that we are spending a lot of money that we don’t have educating and serving doctors of chiropractic that are not interested in supporting the association or their profession in New Mexico.

Our membership numbers are substantially less this year, at this time, than they were last year. After what I have seen at the Legislature and experienced in meetings with some other professions and state representatives over these last years, I am at a complete loss as to why New Mexico chiropractors do not see the value to their profession in supporting the association. Here is how it goes: NO MEMBERS, NO MONEY, NO SERVICES & REPRESENTATION, DIMINISHING SCOPE OF PRACTICE, NO CHIROPRACTORS!!! And, this will happen because the other professions that overlap with chiropractic have all of those things and put them to work for them where it counts and where they can gain power and enhance their scope of practice! It is simple logic and has already begun in good form!!

Some of the comments I have heard from other professionals and state employees have left me feeling that the respect for chiropractors in this state is at great risk. When compared to DOMs, PTs, and other professions, we are simply not considered powerful enough to worry about. We are irrelevant where it counts to protect the profession because DCs somehow don’t see the value ~ don’t work as a group or support those willing to work through their association ~ AND everyone in power knows that! That is a sad state of affairs!

Many of you think that the NMCA is about getting your CEUs each year. I suggest that you rethink that premise. The convention is only one small part of what the NMCA is about and, in the large picture, not a very important part at that. You can get your CEUs in many places but if you do not have a strong association with power and clout representing your profession in this state, you may not have a profession in 10 years BUT you will still be able to get lots of CEUs just about anywhere! Not that they will do you any good at that point!

I sat here last night wondering if the people that put on the seminar in the southern part of this state each year, which many attend instead of joining the NMCA rather than in addition to joining, spend any time working for chiropractic in this state. Or, do they simply take your money for their seminar, as is appropriate, and go home when they are done, which would be normal protocol? There is no judgment in what I am asking as I would expect them to do just that. The NMCA, however, doesn’t go home and forget about you when the convention is over. It works for you year around!!! The doctors involved put forth a great deal of effort because there are not enough involved to spread the work around. I get calls all the time from non-members wanting this or that, needing help (that I always give them), telling me what we need to do in Santa Fe, complaining about choice of convention speakers, and on and on. BUT, when it comes membership time, do they join?

I recognize that many of you feel that chiropractic has been through it all and that it will survive. I would like to suggest that times change and professions change. There are a lot more professionals out there now that would like to see you out of the picture and they are working really hard to enhance their own professions. It is NOT outside the realm of possibility that they will succeed because ~ AND ONLY BECAUSE ~ you let them!! Why are you doing that??? Is it possible that most of you really don’t care or understand what is happening? I just can’t believe that but, after the last three years, have no other explanation that makes any sense.

I have had things like “You are just not one of us” or “You are just a filter” or “Why do you care” said to me so many times that even I begin to wonder if what I do is of any value to anyone. BUT, then there are the times when someone will say something really wonderful and everything else melts away ~ I’m easy that way!!! I care about your profession and I don’t want to see it melt away into oblivion from lack of attention. Do you?

To all of those that have read and appreciated the Journals coming through the mail each quarter, thank you for your attention and time! I hope you will subscribe or join the association and continue to receive the information that we provide. I don’t know if anything I have presented here will make any difference to you but I hope it does help you to see the situation more clearly!

With warm regard,
Jaeni Aarden
Executive Director, NMCA
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Dr. Daniel M. Skirimovsky, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania
Legislative Roundup and ACA Report

Bill Doggett, DC, FICC

Well, the session’s over and what measure of success did we have this year. We did some wordsmithing of the Chiropractic Practice Act that allows the Board to grant and issue licenses to DC’s licensed in other states without them having to travel to New Mexico for testing if they have passed the National Board exams and have no “black marks” found in a background check by an outside service. The balance of the changes was simple cleanup and gender-neutral language modifications.

H-82, the omnibus tax package that contains an exemption from payment of gross receipts taxes on Medicare revenue, did not pass in the very last minutes of the Legislative Session. There is still hope that it will be presented in a planned Special Legislative Session. We will continue to monitor this and hope it will make it through if the Special Session is called.

At the federal level, we continue to enjoy the benefits of the Medicare Demonstration project. This has resulted in increased revenue to participating DC’s in New Mexico that averages $10,000. If you are not participating, you don’t know what you’re missing. As with any federal program, the rules, boundaries and guidelines are somewhat difficult to learn and fully understand, but once you get the hang of billing correctly and documenting the necessity and outcomes of your treatment it becomes routine and fewer mistakes mean fewer returns to correct and resubmit.

The VA program has been going at Kirtland for almost a year and now the DOD hospital at Kirtland is scheduled to begin chiropractic services soon. For those that are ACA members, you can go to the ACA web site (www.acatoday.gov) and in the members only area is a site to download the application for VA and DOD employment. Speaking of employment, you ACA members should go to the site and in the government affairs area is a connection to NHSC, national health service corp, sites in New Mexico that are approved to hire chiropractors. While most are outside of the large population centers the available facilities include some in Los Lunas, Belen, Las Cruces, Grants, Santa Fe, TA, Gallup and across the various reservations and pueblos, just another benefit of ACA membership. I’ll have e-mailed this to the NM-ACA list that I have. So, if you’re an ACA member and haven’t heard from me this year it likely means that I do not have your correct e-mail. I can fix that problem if you e-mail me (rodeodc@aol.com). My time in DC this year will be spent lobbying the legislators to include chiropractic availability into Tricare, the VA retirement, dependant and spousal medical benefit. This has a good chance of passage and would add thousands of additional possible patients to most chiropractic offices in the state. Oh, and the revenue would be exempt from GRT payments too!

What’s up for the future? Well, I’ve begun one project for next year. I would like to see an office of Complementary and Alternative Medicine open up at the state level under the Dept. of Health. So, I’ve already presented the idea to Secretary Griffin and Secretary Homan (because it ties in with the Governor’s desire to create a health care tourism industry) and both have expressed interest. I hope to get the Governor’s ear either at the photo op for the bill signing session or during the next campaign. I’ll pitch the idea to the Federal legislators in hopes that they can free up some funding for the state. Any time we can secure federal dollars it takes the burden off of the state general fund.

Speaking of taking the burden off... When are you going to make your next donation to the ACA-PAC, the NMCA-PAC and join the ACA. We have done more for the DCs in New Mexico in the past four years than any other group or individual in the last 20 years. Now there is no more “I’ll join when you do something to put money in my pocket.” We have put many more dollars into your pocket than the combined cost of ACA, NMCA memberships and $250 donations to each PAC. So, now is the time to put up. I’ve fulfilled my promise to do something that benefits you each financially and now I do expect the same in return. I’d like to see 100 new ACA members and 150 new NMCA members. There are big plans coming and a reintroduction of the Medicaid bill, but if there’s no interest in joining and contributing then there will be little or no effort given to acquire additional benefits or income for the DC’s of New Mexico. Frankly, if you don’t consider what has been done on your behalf and for your immediate financial benefit worthy of joining the organizations that made it happen then I don’t know why anyone should care what you want, wish for or desire. There is strength in numbers but everyone must assume a role. Be a doer, be a planner, be a participant or be a FUNDER. More FUNDS mean more ACTION. Show us that you don’t care by not joining and not donating so that we know that all the work was meaningless and that you would prefer that the profession dry up and blow away. NOW THE BALL’S IN YOUR COURT!!

I’ll just keep getting more crotchety as time goes by.
2006 Legislative Session Update
Dr. Stephen Perlstein, Co-Chairman, NMCA Legislative Committee and PAC Chairman

The 2006 New Mexico State Legislative Session was a 30-day session, which means that bills introduced have to be fiscal in nature and with the Governor’s permission.

We were able to get our Practice Act bill in this year, which essentially addressed issues related to licensure, examinations, and civil and criminal liability issues. As of the writing of this article, it is on its way to the Governor’s desk for signing.

We attempted to get our bill funding Medicaid for chiropractic, but were unable to get it introduced. We did support the House and Senate versions of a bill that would have funded us for Medicaid with a simple word change amendment, but that amendment didn’t have the support necessary and the bill continued on without it.

We were included in HB 424, which was the bill that exempted us and many other health professions from Medicare gross receipts tax as a matter of parity with the MD’s that are exempt. HB 424 was tabled and then included in the Omnibus Tax Bill, HB 82, which did not pass during the last minutes of the Session! If a Special Session is called, this Bill will be one that is submitted and possibly passed at that time. We will keep you informed!!

The Legislative Committee, in conjunction with the PAC Committee, met in November and began formulating plans for the future of legislative action in New Mexico. Our plans are still in the discussion phase and we are meeting on March 4 to continue the process. Naturally, we welcome your input.

Many thanks as always to those fearless souls who ventured forth to the Roundhouse to do battle with our adversaries. The efforts of those DC’s that treated legislators and staff and those that spent countless hours negotiating for a piece of the legislative pie are to be commended and congratulated for their enormous support.

Will you need...

Disability Insurance and/or Long Term Care Insurance?

We offer a 5% Multi-Life discount on Long Term Care Insurance underwritten by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife) to members of the NMCA as well as members’ spouses, parents and parents-in-law, grandparents and grandparents-in-law. A 10% discount on Standard’s Protector Plus Disability Insurance is also available!

Long-term care can help protect you and your family from the high costs associated with prolonged nursing home stays, extended home care services and other forms of daily care.

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For a no obligation quote on Long Term Care Insurance and/or Disability Income Insurance, please contact:

Louise Campbell – (505) 848-8000
2006 - Our Volunteering Doctors at the Roundhouse ~ A Great Success!

Dr. Sherry Gaber, Co-Chairman, NMCA Legislative Committee

Another year and another great legislative session! Thanks to our contributing doctors it was an exciting success in being partners in the health clinic of the Roundhouse. As we know, this was a short and intense 30-day session for our Legislators. Besides me, there were a few other NMCA dedicated members that attended some of the committee sessions supporting our four bills. Just attending these meetings one gets the feeling of all sorts of emotions while waiting and listening, sometimes for hours, supporting and defending our bills. In these hours, one gets just a slice of the experience that our legislators have on a daily basis. It is pretty amazing!!

During all these committee hearings, early and late night sessions, our 17 volunteering doctors had 220 visits from our Senators, Representatives, their staff and Roundhouse folks! As I was counting the forms, I saw one Legislator check off more than half of all the sign and symptom boxes!!! As you can see, we are needed; and, as a profession, our answer is ~~ “We’ll be there again in 2007!”

As for our experience, participating for almost 15 years, Dr. Steve Hazen said to me, “It was great to see some of the familiar faces again.”

So, I thank all those that volunteered their time and services and all those that have contributed over the years. I look forward to seeing you next year for another wonderful, successful and fun time at the Roundhouse.

I would like to personally thank the volunteering doctors: Dr. Kevin Atchley, Dr. Susan Bright, Dr. Robert Byrd, Dr. Chris Cecil, Dr. Chris Connerly, Dr. Bob Dubin, Dr. Seth Friedman, Dr. Steve Hazen, Dr. Michael Nunnally, Dr. Patrick O’Keefe, Dr. Sue Pisano, Dr. David Peer, Dr. Michael Pendelton, Dr. Chaz Schatzle, Dr. Nancy Savoia, Dr. Nikki Schwartz, and Dr. Harold Steinberg. Thank you for your wonderful gift and for representing Doctors of Chiropractic and the chiropractic profession at the Roundhouse!!!
Dr. Joel B. Brock, DC, CCN, CCRD, DACNB

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, April 28-30, 2006
NMCA Annual Convention

Dr. Brock is a 1998 graduate from Parker College of Chiropractic. Since his graduation, he has received diplomate status from the American Chiropractic Neurology Board. He is also a certified clinical nutritionist. For the last two years, he has been an Instructor at the Carrick Institute for Graduate Studies and has lectured over 2000 hours in the field of neuroscience in the United States and Europe. He is currently writing his master thesis in neuroscience and will be starting his PhD in academic psychology. He is an expert in the treatment and diagnosis of vertiginous and balance disorders, as well as an expert in the field of electrodiagnostics. His practice includes the treatment and diagnosis of everything from learning disorders in children to patients suffering from stroke and coma. He practices in Dallas Texas and is the owner and operator of North Texas Rehabilitation and Pain Centers and North Texas Neurodiagnostics.

Dr. Brock will be discussing and lecturing on the topic of falls in the human population. It is estimated that there are approximately 6 million Americans that are receiving medical help for falls each year and falls are one of the major causes of incidental death in the United States. There are an estimated 90 million Americans, or >40% of the population, that have experienced some form of dizziness once in their lifetime. The issue is so great that the federal government is now taking action and chiropractic involvement is going to be a major force when dealing with issues of balance and falls. Dr. Brock will discuss the issues of the aforementioned topic and discuss aspects of diagnosis and treatment for people that suffer from vestibular disorders. He will also discuss and demonstrate new technology that is being used to treat these disorders and discuss outcomes as a result of new forms of advanced therapy. The lecture that is to be offered will be very informative about the far reaching effects of chiropractic care and various therapies on the brain and the central nervous system and how it benefits patients with disorders of the vestibular system.

D. Henry Leavitt, ChiroCode Institute

NMCA Annual Convention
April 30, 2006 at 9 a.m.


Strategic appeals are the ultimate solution for the plagues of Claim Denials, Audits and Refund Demands. Successful practices in 2006 have new challenges. Realities: Insurance companies continue to squeeze expanses (claim payments) for increased profits. Medicare freezes fees, P. I. payers have new computer games, healthcare cost shifting accelerates to patients and practitioners, etc.

Intelligence (applied knowledge) is the only solution. All successful appeals have a foundation in appropriate clinical records. As needed, implement new and excellent documentation habits. Burn obsolete “Travel Cards,” before they burn you. Bottom line: play the insurance reimbursement games by its own POMR documentation and appeals rules . . . or get out of the game!

Mr. Leavitt is the President and CEO of the ChiroCode Institute. He has been providing critical coding and reimbursement solutions to chiropractic offices since 1993 with the nationally acclaimed annual ChiroCode DeskBook and the monthly ChiroCode HotTopics Newsletter, timely ChiroCode Seminars, and speaking at state and national associations.

Before founding the ChiroCode Institute, he spent over 30 years helping healthcare professionals and doctors become more successful. He is a leading advocate for doctors getting paid their “fair share.” His tenacious efforts to improve coding and reimbursement standards continue to draw national attention.
Cover Your Assets:
Total Asset and Lawsuit Protection

G. K. Mangelson, CFP
Senior Legal Advisor

Saturday, April 29th, 2006
3:00-6:00 p.m.

The National Medical Foundation for Asset Protection provides doctors with the training they need to ensure protection against lawsuits, no matter how large or unique the suit. Many are fighting the current system with tort reform, insurance reform, walkouts, etc. However, these solutions will still leave a doctor with lawsuits, judgments, and other seizing of assets. Proper asset protection has proven to reduce, minimize, and even prevent lawsuits from being filed.

G.K. Mangelson is an expert in the areas of malpractice protection and prevention and has authored several publications and training manuals on the subject. He is a contributing author to the best selling book, “Cover Your Assets: Lawsuit Protection.” Mr. Mangelson is a nationally recognized speaker and has shared the stage with Lady Margaret Thatcher, Colin Powell, and former U.S. Presidents Reagan, Ford and Bush. He is one of the nation’s top asset protection advisors and has been helping doctors properly structure their practices for lawsuit protection and tax reduction for over 25 years.

Mr. Mangelson will present:
- How to protect professional and personal assets with court proven legal tools.
- How to avoid the pitfalls of joint ownership or putting assets in a spouse’s name.
- Why being a sole proprietor can lead to financial ruin.
- How to save thousands in income and estate taxes.

Chiropractic Assistants’ Class

NMCA Annual Convention • April 29, 2006

Mary Leu Anderson, CC/PA

Chiropractic Assistants ~ Let your doctors know that we will have special classes on Saturday, April 29, morning and afternoon, at the NMCA Annual Convention. Last year we had great attendance with only an afternoon class and we look forward to having more of you come this year! Everyone enjoyed sharing and learning what is expected of us in the office. New CAs, as well as established, communicated with a lot of information.

I am Mary Leu Anderson, CC/PA (Certified Chiropractic/Physician Assistant). I have 29 years experience starting as a CA, X-ray Tech, teaching many of those years with the Florida Chiropractic Association, Adult Education in Pinellas and Hillsborough County of Florida. I was a Team teacher of the George Chiropractic Association. I am also involved as an assistant teacher for the Dale Carnegie Courses.

We bring a lot of Human Relations into the office while working with the patients. There will be a lot of handouts and open discussion so that everyone will be able to participate. Terminology will be a big thing ~ learn the meaning of the doctor’s language. Some cheers and maybe a pop quiz or two ~ just for fun!!

I look forward to seeing many of you on the 29th of April!!

Make your RESERVATIONS at the Sandia Resort & Casino before MARCH 28 or you will not be able to get the spectacular discount they have provided!!! It ends on that date and will not be available from that point on!!

505-798-3972 or 1-800-526-9399
Come and Experience Some of NMCA’s Finest Doctors
Presenting on Various Topics & Techniques

NMCA ANNUAL CONVENTION
April 28, 2006, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
CEUs Provided!!

Convention Vendors
We have a great group of Vendors joining us for this year’s Convention!! We want to THANK them in advance and let you know who they are and where you can find them during our Convention!
Here they are ~ listed by Table #!!

#1 Heel USA
#2/3 Medical & Rehab Solutions
#4 Doctors Greens
#5 Nutri-West 4 Life
#6 Erchonia
#7 HESSCO
#8 Life West Chiropractic
#10 Chiropractors’ Buying Group
#11 Metagenics
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#13 Medical Specialists
#14 Golden Tiger
#15 Core Products
#16 Heartland Products
#18 Somba USA
#19 Champion Agency
#20 Standard Process
#21 Texas Chiropractic
#22/23 AquaMed
#24 QuickNotes
#25 Focus Ad
#26/27 Interactive Health
#28 Biofreeze
#29 National Orthopedic & X-Ray

YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS OUR
CONVENTION LUNCHEON
ON SATURDAY, April 29th!!
WHY???

We have Kevin LePine, a world-renowned hypnotist-illusionist who entertains while teaching you how to bring about personal success through reprogramming your mind! Learn how to gain better access to your mind and experience the endless possibilities of your mind’s potential. See an actual hypnosis show, change your pattern to one of great success, and leave the Convention feeling energized and ready to embrace the future!!

This presentation is made possible by the Chiropractors Buying Group ~ Thank you!!
NUTRI-WEST PRESENTS:

Total Green Protein

A powerful combination of high (18%) glycomacropeptide whey protein, antioxidants, greens, certified organic sprouts, and healthy nutrition. Supports energy, protein balance, detox, inflammation, weight, cholesterol levels, a strong immune system, intestinal homeostasis/bowel function, cell repair, and overall good health!

Are people getting 5 a day? Unfortunately not, and children get the least of all. It is estimated that children are not even getting 1-2 servings of vegetables per day, and this is considering that food surveys even count potatoes (hence french fries) as a vegetable. Green beans, the most widely consumed “vegetable”, is high in vitamin C and fiber, but it is a bean (legume) and does not possess the protective nutrients of the cruciferous vegetables or fruits.

Total Green Protein: Available in a 16 ounce container with scoop: Contains per servicing: Whey Protein (Glycomacropeptide content (18%) 5460 mg; Certified Organic sprouts: Wheat Grass sprouts 63mg, Cauliflower sprouts 63mg, Broccoli 63mg, Asparagus 63mg, Parsley 84mg, Carrot 63mg, Caprylic Acid med chain triglyceride 63mg, Cloves 8.4mg, Papaya 42 mg, Xylitol 42mg, Acidophilus and Bulgaricus 37,000 units each, Spirulina 126 mg, Chlorella 21 mg, Kelp 21 mg, Chia Seed 21 mg, Beta Sitosterol 42mg, Apple Pectin 168 mg, Rosemary 42 mg, Protease veg 42 mg, Luo Han Guo 42mg Lecithin 126 mg, Rice Bran 840 mg, Rose Hips 252 mg, Calcium citrate 84 mg, Magnesium citrate 84mg, Yellow Dock 63mg, Milk Thistle 63mg, Cellulase 186 mg, Contraindications: Should not be used with blood thinning drugs

GREAT TASTE: Mix in milk, juice, water, or sprinkle on cereal, applesauce etc.

Whey protein also has high anti-inflammatory potential and has been utilized to help reduce the inflammation in critically ill trauma patients receiving enteral nutritional support; C-reactive protein concentrations (marker of inflammation) and total inflammatory index dramatically fell in one study (Vehe KL et al. 1991).

Nutri-West 4-Life
237-9680 or 1-800-443-3333
FAX: 237-0113
ANY QUESTIONS? E MAIL benmark@mindspring.com
On-going Issues With Managed Care Organizations ~~
A MUST READ!!

On February 16, 2006, there was a conference call with the ACA regarding their efforts in dealing with Managed Care Organizations. There were probably upwards of 35 people on the call ~~ a lot of interest and concern displayed from all over the country.

The ACA is in process of collecting data with the idea that it may lead to a National Class Action Suit against insurance companies. They have hired several class action law firms to advise them and may join a multi-district litigation in Miami. This is a consolidated action and any filed in the country are transferred to that court. There are hearings next month that deal with class certification to be decided by the courts before any filing can be done.

In the meantime, YOUR HELP IS NEEDED as it always boils down to the experience of the patients and doctors involved in the day-to-day delivery of care. A Proposed Methodology for Patient Benefit Survey and a Patient Benefit Survey that you are being asked to present to as many patients that are being affected by this situation, as possible, can be downloaded from our website at www.nmchiroassoc.com. There is a link near the top and center of the Home Page that will take you to these forms.

Please make copies of this Patient Benefit Survey and give it to every one of your patients involved. Have them fill out the information and get the completed forms to the ACA by April 30, 2006. THIS IS IMPORTANT AND YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!!!!

Also included on the website are the following documents: Advocacy for Patients Through ERISA Pre-Service Letters, Template Letter Regarding Pre-Service Claim for Benefits, and an ERISA Authorization Form. The ACA feels that appealing Pre-Service Denials is a good way to deal with the problem of patients not getting the care they need and are entitled to receive ~~ and, it can be done by the doctor on the patient's behalf. If benefits are not being delivered appropriately, this will raise the awareness of the employer and protect the rights of the patient at the pre-service level. This is a new initiative for ACA because it approaches pre-service and that hasn't been done to date.

Following is the EBSA address and contact information for New Mexico: Dallas Regional Office, 525 South Griffin Street, Room 900, Dallas, TX 75202-5025, Roger Hilburn – Director, Tel 214.767.6831 and Fax 214.767.1055.

As you well know, the voice of the patient is a MUST as it carries the weight. The ACA hopes to see hundreds of these letters going out from all over the country, as that will make a huge difference and a huge statement. So, please, do your part to help in this matter.

The Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards and various Boards around the country are sending letters to ACN expressing their concern regarding appropriate patient care. They are copying the ACA, ICA, state associations, state attorney generals, and state insurance commissioners. I have spoken to Dr. Les Schmidt, Chairman of the NMBCE, about this and he wants to follow through for New Mexico. He needs to know of any complaints that you have regarding MCOs in New Mexico. What he needs to know is if there is discrimination, if you can't treat until you get authorization, if the coverage is cut, and what type of treatment and guidelines are you being given. PLEASE CONTACT DR. SCHMIDT BY TELEPHONE OR FAX (same #) at 505-884-1240. THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT SO PLEASE HELP OUT HERE!!!!

Again, this package of information is on our website at www.nmchiroassoc.com with a link on the Home Page to make it easy!!

Please remember that your participation in these efforts will make a big difference in protecting chiropractic within the world of insurance. For those that want to continue working in that arena, your input is essential! AND, thanks for doing it for your profession!!
NMCA District Information

CENTRAL DISTRICT:

Dr. George Simmons has agreed to serve as the Third Central District Director, as Dr. Norm Dawson has stepped down from that position to concentrate on his supplement business.

Thank you, George!

Working at the Roundhouse is just as much a pleasure as it was last year, and the legislators and their staff and the ancillary personnel who we serve there are as grateful as ever that we go there and help them out.

The media outreach project is underway, and we will be forming a group to host cable television talk shows and radio talk shows, as well as send another letter to the editors of all the newspapers in NM informing the public about who we are and what we can do for them, and, at the same time, encouraging them to utilize only NMCA member Doctors when they seek out a DC.

Controversy abounds regarding our scope of practice, and I believe we need to support the Board of Examiners in their efforts to protect the gains we have made.

Dr. Bob Dubin, NMCA Central District Director

To contact a District Director in your area, visit the NMCA website at www.nmchiroassoc.com or call the NMCA office at 595-280-0689. A listing of those District Directors appears on Page 3 of this Journal.

Classifieds

NEED HELP IN YOUR OFFICE, taking a vacation or time off? I have been licensed in New Mexico for 18 years. Had a full time practice for 12 years. Use Gonstead, Diversified, Activator or whatever is needed for the individual patient. Well versified in whiplash and all extremities. Please call Dr. Leonard Anderson at 505-452-2225 or 505-321-0581. E-mail to lenlue@msn.com.

AVAILABLE FOR SUBSTITION WORK in Albuquerque/Santa Fe area. Dr. Bob is well versed in many techniques, including cranial-sacral, diversified, low force, extremities, and much more. Reasonable rates and caring gentle service for your patients. Call Dr. Bob Dubin at 505-771-9833.

ASSIST RESEARCH ORIENTED PRACTITIONER ~ NY State chiropractor (licensed in 1967) residing in Albuquerque seeks part-time assist with research oriented practitioner. I am well versed as an adjuster, and in nutrition and psycho-dynamics, and no one has ever accused me of not being personable. Contact Dr. Nathanson, P. O. Box 4776, Albuquerque, NM 87196.

COMPUTER LITERACY TRAINING ~ Are you comfortable at the keyboard? Can you find anything you want online? Can you manage files and e-mails? Dr. Bob Dubin, newly arrived in New Mexico, can help you. Groups or individuals, reasonable rates, will travel. References on request. 505-771-9833 or e-mail dr.dubin@aol.com.

PRACTICE FOR SALE ~ 25 year old practice in Aztec, New Mexico! Owner will help with smooth transition. Please contact Dr. Frank Ninos at 505-334-8942 or e-mail to fandp1@earthlink.net.

OFFICE AVAILABLE FOR SUBLEASE ~ 1000 sq. ft. in NE Heights between Montgomery and Spain on Juan Tabo. Available ASAP. Call Dr. Mark Schwartz at 505-332-1006.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE ~ Anatomotor IST table with all the traction accessories available ($1200) and 3 HVG units ($800 each). Contact Dr. Bill Doggett at 505-884-6771 or e-mail to rodeodc@aol.com.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE ~ Footlevelers PostureCheck ~ an in-office or promotional device to evaluate posture. New for $1,000, this unit has files and e-mails? Dr. Bob Dubin, newly arrived in New Mexico, can help you. Groups or individuals, reasonable rates, will travel. References on request. 505-771-9833 or e-mail dr.dubin@aol.com.

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE ~ Anatomotor IST table with all the traction accessories available ($1200) and 3 HVG units ($800 each). Contact Dr. Bill Doggett at 505-884-6771 or e-mail to rodeodc@aol.com.

NEED HELP IN YOUR OFFICE ~ Looking for part-time work on a permanent basis, for vacation coverage, or for whatever needs you might have in NE Albuquerque. I am a real “people” person and have extensive experience in personnel, credit counseling, telephone communication, and much more. For additional details, please contact Helen B. Casey at dhcasiat250@netzero.net or by phone at 505-856-0857.

ASSOCIATE NEEDED ~ Dr. Wayne Goforth is looking for a full-time Associate to work with him in Gallup, NM. Please contact Dr. Goforth directly at 505-722-9002 for more detailed information.

EXPERIENCED CHIROPRACTOR NEEDED ~ Busy, progressive, multi-disciplinary clinic needs an experienced Chiropractor to build their practice and share overhead. Fax resume to Dr. Louis Hubbard, Center for Holistic Health, at 505-883-0629.

CHILES SOULAMENTE is the perfect gift for those who can’t get it hot enough. This excellent blend of chile peppers will wake up anything you cook it with or shake it on. Go to www.soulofthechile.com or call 505-771-9833 for more information.

Classified ads are free to NMCA members and can be called in to (505) 280-0689. Non-members please send ad and $35 to NMCA, P. O. Box 21100, Albuquerque, NM 87154. Please contact Jaenii13@aol.com with questions.
2006 Calendar of Events

March
- NMBCE Regular Meeting, March 10, 2006, 9 a.m. in Santa Fe.
- NMBCE New DC Examination, March 11, 2006, 9 a.m. in Santa Fe

April
- NMCA Annual Convention, April 28-30, 2006, Sandia Resort & Casino, Albuquerque, NM
- NMCA General Assembly Meeting of Members, April 29, 2006, 12 Noon, Sandia Resort & Casino, Albuquerque, NM
- NMCA Board of Directors Meeting, April 30, 2006, 12 Noon, Sandia Resort & Casino, Albuquerque, NM

May
- NMCA Journal Deadline for Article & Ad Submission, May 19, 2006

October
- Fall Seminar with Dan Murphy, October 21 & 22, 2006, Albuquerque, NM. Details will be provided closer to the date of the seminar.

Vision Statement

of the
NEW MEXICO CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION

The Vision of the New Mexico Chiropractic Association is to have every Chiropractor in the State of New Mexico as a member, working together to expand and protect the rights of the chiropractic profession.

The NMCA needs every chiropractor in the state involved and united in order to combat any loss of chiropractic rights as they now stand, to stop any infringement by other professions into areas that are traditionally chiropractic in nature, to provide pathways for chiropractors to expand their areas of expertise in order to service their patient population to the fullest, to educate the public as to the value and benefit of chiropractic care, and to provide easy access to chiropractors within the health care industry.

The NMCA is the only organization in the state that can accomplish the above work for chiropractors. This work cannot, however, be accomplished without the required funds and without the necessary people to follow through. Therefore, the NMCA needs a large and actively involved membership. No matter what part of the state you call home, if the Practice Act for Chiropractors changes, you will be affected--for better or for worse, depending on whose changes are adopted. Join us in making the changes that occur, changes that you want to see occur, changes that will enhance your profession.

In addition, the NMCA vision encompasses the idea of a chiropractic family of doctors that are there for each other to give encouragement when needed, support when required, help in the good times and the more trying times, business advice, technical advice, and support toward bringing abundance into the practices and lives of all doctors of chiropractic in our association.

In summary, the NMCA Vision is to have the total participation and backing of the entire chiropractic community in New Mexico toward the enhancement of the chiropractic profession while protecting the rights of chiropractors to treat patients within the expertise of their training and licensure and while sharing the voluminous amount of expertise, knowledge, and care that exists among the doctors of chiropractic in our state. Help us make this Vision a reality!!

Adopted at the NMCA Board of Directors Meeting, October 23, 2004

Very important!!!!
Be sure to check our website

www.nmchiroassoc.com

on a regular basis for the most up-to-date information from many different sources!!!
NATIONAL ORTHOPEDIC & X-RAY SUPPLY, LLC
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Fast Friendly Service  ■ We will meet all advertised prices  ■ No handling charges
No hidden charges on anything  ■ If it’s not in stock we’ll get it!
The most qualified and experienced X-Ray Service Engineer in the State of NM.

AGFA  CHATTANOOGA  FITBALL  TINGLE X-RAY
ALPHATEK  CHIROFLOW  FRANK STUBBS  AND MANY MORE......
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ARCTIC ICE  CORE PRODUCTS  LLOYD TABLE CO.
AROMAWERKS  DYNATRONICS  METTLER
BIRD & CRONIN  EXCEL  SOMBRA

505-323-6020 888-323-6020
IN ALBUQUERQUE FOR 2006!!!!

NMCA ANNUAL CONVENTION

April 28-30, 2006
Sandia Resort Hotel & Casino, Albuquerque, NM

NMCA is Proud to Announce its Speakers for 2006

I. J. B. Brock, DC, CCN, CCRD, DACNB

Dr. Brock, Board Certified Chiropractic Neurologist and Instructor at the Carrick Institute for graduate studies, will be discussing and lecturing on the topic of falls in the human population. The information will cover the far-reaching effects of chiropractic care and various therapies on the brain and the central nervous system and how it benefits patients with disorders of the vestibular system.

II. D. Henry Leavitt, ChiroCode Institute

Mr. Leavitt will present up-to-date information to help doctors improve their coding and reimbursement standards ~ a huge and important issue affecting the financial success of your practice ~ the bottom line!

III. G. K. Mangelson, CFP, Senior Legal Advisor, National Medical Foundation for Asset Protection

Mr. Mangelson will present "Cover Your Assets: Total Asset and Lawsuit Protection." You will learn how to maintain the focus of your practice on improved patient care rather than lawsuit defense, protect your professional and personal assets from lawsuits, reduce your taxes by 20-40%, and reduce liability insurance costs.

IV. Throughout the Convention and for CEU credit, NMCA doctors will present various chiropractic techniques.

V. Mary Lue Anderson, CC/PA, will join us again to present an all-day workshop for Chiropractic Assistants.

We believe that our 2006 Convention will provide NM Chiropractors with a great deal of valuable information and education ~ something for everyone ~ and hope you will join us!!

SANDIA HOTEL & CASINO RESORT

I-25 and Tramway Blvd.
Albuquerque, NM
505-798-3972 or 1-800-526-9366
www.sandiacasino.com

Visit the Sandia Resort website and see what they have to offer. This is a full service resort with everything you could possibly imagine! THE HOTEL IS BRAND NEW, OPENING IN THE FALL, AND EXTREMELY IMPRESSIVE!! In addition, the price is reasonable!! You won't want to miss the experience!!

Vendors will be in the area directly outside of the meeting rooms. There will be enough room for approximately 35 vendors with easy access for every spot!! Vendor booths will be assigned on a first-come/first-serve basis. Contact NMCA for additional details!!
NEW MEXICO CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION
2006 ANNUAL CONVENTION, April 28-30, 2006
Sandia Resort & Casino, Albuquerque, NM

***** CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM *****

NAME: ____________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: _________________________________________________________
Telephone: __________ Fax: __________ E-Mail: _______________________

NMCA Member: ( ) YES ( ) NO $500.00 dues

( ) NMCA Out-of-State Members (in addition to $150 dues) $300.00
( ) Honorary NMCA Members (no dues required) $150.00
( ) NMCA members in first year of licensing FREE
( ) Non NMCA Member $550.00
( ) Chiropractic Assistants $ 50.00
( ) $40.00 per credit hour ~ _____ credits x $40.00 $_____
   (over 12 credits, pay full registration price)
( ) $20.00 for Lunch on Saturday for those who are NOT paying the full
   Convention and/or Membership fee. Tickets will be provided. $ 20.00
( ) Golf Tournament ~ Everyone is welcome to participate! $ TBA

( ) SINCE THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MEMBERS TO ATTEND
   THE NMCA CONVENTION, WE ARE SUGGESTING A $50.00 DONATION
   TO HELP US COVER EXPENSES AND BRING YOU THE BEST
   CONVENTION EVER. $ 50.00

Total Amount Enclosed: $_____

We look forward to seeing you in April!!!! If you have any questions, contact Jaeni Aarden
at 505-280-0689 or Jaeni13@aol.com. Make your reservations by March 28 to get a room!!

Please make your check payable to NMCA and mail it with this form to P. O. Box 21100,
Albuquerque, NM 87154. If paying by credit card, please provide the following information:

Visa# ___________________________ MC# _____________________________
Discover# _______________________ Exp. Date _______________________

Signature ___________________________ Date _________________
NMCA EZPAY MEMBERSHIP DUES & CONTRIBUTION FORM

EZPay is a convenient and easy way to pay your annual membership dues and contributions to the NMCA. Simply fill out to dues schedule amount and frequency of payment (i.e. one time, monthly, quarterly, etc.) and select your method of payment and the NMCA will do the rest! You can also make a contribution to the NMCA President's Circle, PR Media Fund, and/or Scholarship Fund by selecting the appropriate box below.

| □ | I wish to pay my NMCA Annual Membership Dues via EZPay. |
| (Please see membership application for dues applicable to your personal membership category.) |

| EZPay Membership Dues Total $_____________ | EZPay Schedule: □ Monthly |
| Payment Type: □ Credit Card | □ Annually |
| □ Charge my Checking Account |

| □ | I wish to contribute to the President's Circle, a one-time payment, in the amount of $_____________ |

| □ | I wish to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, a one-time payment, in the amount of $_____________ |

| □ | I wish to contribute to the Public Relations Media Fund, monthly, in the amount of $_____________ |
| (Credit Card or Checking Account deductions only for PR monthly donations. If you choose to do so, a one-time check will be gratefully accepted.) |
| Payment Type: □ Credit Card | □ Charge my Checking Account | □ Personal Check Enclosed |

**Payment Information**

**Checking Account:**

Bank Name ____________________________________________ Account Number _______________________________

ABA Routing Number __________________________________

**Credit Card:**

□ Visa □ Master Card □ Discover Card Number__________________________

Exp. Date ____________________

Contributions or gifts to the NMCA are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.

**EZPay Applicant Information:** I hereby authorize the New Mexico Chiropractic Association to initiate, in accordance with the payment schedule indicated above, debit entries to my checking account as indicated above and on the attached voided check or my credit card account. I hereby authorize the depository institution named above to debit the same from my account. Said debits shall be for the amount indicated in the above-noted amount of dues and/or contribution. This agreement will remain in effect unless I notify the NMCA, in writing by mail or fax at 505-828-1128, to cancel it.

Signature _____________________________________________ Date _________ Printed Name ____________________________

Address (City, State & Zip Code) ________________________________

P.O. Box 21100 • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87154 • 505-280-0689
NEW MEXICO CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: _____RENEWAL _____NEW MEMBER

PLEASE PRINT

1. NAME ____________________________________ M/F __________________________
   Office Address ____________________________________________________________
   City ___________________________ State ______________ Zip ________________
   County ____________________________ Office Phone ( ) _______ Fax ( ) ________
   E-mail ______________________________

2. Date of Birth __________________________ Married ______ Single ________ Spouse's Name __________
   Home Address ____________________________________________________________
   City ___________________________ State ______________ Zip ________________
   County ____________________________ Home Phone ( ) _______ __________________

3. Political Party affiliation: Democrat ______ Republican ______ Other ______

4. Chiropractic College __________________________ Graduation Date __________________________

5. Other College(s) attended __________________________ Degree(s) Received __________________________

6. Board certified in these specialty areas __________________________

7. To what other Chiropractic Associations do you belong? __________________________

8. Do you have a valid NM Chiropractic License? Yes ________ No ________
   License Number __________________________

9. When did you begin practicing in New Mexico? ________ In what other states are you licensed to practice? __________________________

10. Techniques used in practice include: __________________________

Upon acceptance of this application, I further agree to abide by the bylaws of the state association, to strive to attend association conventions regularly and to take part in my district meetings to the best of my ability. I further understand that by providing my fax number and/or e-mail address, I agree to receive faxes and/or e-mails sent by or on behalf of the NMCA.

Date __________________________ Applicant's Signature __________________________

2006 MEMBERSHIP DUES: (All dues are calendar year.) TOTAL: $________

Regular Member: $500 annually, to be paid:
   ______monthly ______ annually $______
   $250 annually for Doctors working part time due to impairment or illness, confirmed by physician
   ______monthly ______ annually $______

New Licensee: $0.00 annually (within 1st 12 months), $100 annually (within 2nd 12 months), & $200 annually (within 3rd 12 months) $______

Out-of-State Doctor: $150 annually (licensed DC practicing outside NM) $______

Student: $25 annually $______

Professional Associates: $100 annually (non-DC business or individual) $______

Honorary Member: Exempt from dues (retired and age 60+ or disabled) $______

Early Renewal: If paying by December 31, 2005, deduct 10% $______

CONTRIBUTIONS:

PAC: Non-deductible political campaign contribution fund $______

President's Circle: Non-deductible legislative expense & lobbyist fund
   Member: $1,000 or more; Associate: $1-$999 $______

Scholarship Fund: Contribute to helping new Doctors of Chiropractic $______

PR Media Fund: Making Chiropractic visible throughout NM $______

I am applying as a __________________________ member. Enclosed is $______

I am paying by Visa # __________ MC# ____________

Discover # ____________ Expiration Date: ____________

PLEASE REFER A COLLEAGUE:

PLEASE MAKE OUT SEPARATE CHECKS FOR MEMBERSHIP, PAC AND PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE.

Please mail application with credit card information, check or money order to:
NMCA, P. O. Box 21100, Albuquerque, NM 87154