



CHIROPRACTIC NEWS & VIEWS

Presented by:
Hawaii State Chiropractic Association, Inc.

Volume XVI, September 2019



THE HSCA HAS BEEN CHALLENGED WITH MILES OF OCEAN BETWEEN OUR MEMBERS IN OUR ISLAND STATE. MANY YEARS AGO, WE BEGAN HOLDING OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALLS BASED IN OUR ISLAND DIRECTORS' OFFICE LOCATIONS AND A CENTRAL LOCATION ON OAHU.

NOW, WITH NEWER TECHNOLOGY, WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO ADD LIVE VIDEO TO THE MEETING EXPERIENCE. THANKS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF DRs. JESSIE BRODERSON AND ALICE OGAWA, DR. SAITO HAS INITIATED "ZOOM" VIDEO CONFERENCING FOR HSCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & BOARD MEETINGS. THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY EVENING, **SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, AT 7:30 PM.**

THE MEETING WILL ORIGINATE FROM THE OAHU MEETING SITE, THE EWA OFFICE OF DR. DEAN SHIVVERS (TURING POINT CHIROPRACTIC):

91-902 FORT WEAVER RD., SUITE 105, EWA BEACH, HI.

THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST ATTEMPT TO CONNECT BY VIDEO ALL THE MEETING SITES. AS USUAL, THE NEIGHBOR ISLAND MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THEIR ISLAND DIRECTOR. MAUI DOCTORS WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA EMAIL OF THEIR SITE LOCATION.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO "SEEING YOU" AT THIS HISTORIC MEETING. *ALOHA!*

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**OFFICERS
&
ISLAND DIRECTORS**

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Dr. Gary K. Saito, DC

VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Dean J. Shivvers, DC

TREASURER

Dr. Ryoichi Ogawa, DC

SECRETARY

To be appointed

OAHU ISLAND DIRECTORS

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EAST HAWAII ISLAND DIRECTOR

Dr. Robert E. Klein, DC

WEST HAWAII ISLAND DIRECTOR

Dr. Alfred R. Valenzuela, DC

MAUI, MOLOKAI & LANAI ISLAND

DIRECTOR

To be appointed

KAUAI ISLAND DIRECTOR

Dr. Alice Holm Ogawa, DC

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dr. Joseph G. Morelli, Jr., DC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: HSCA MOVING FORWARD

By: Dr. Gary K. Saito, D.C., Pres., Hawaii State Chiropractic Association

Every June, the HSCA elects its Executive and Board members to lead the association. The HSCA is the only officially recognized representative of the chiropractic profession in Hawaii. We are known by all insurance, health plan, and government entities on all islands.

This year, we will have a mix of the old and the new, always a winning combination. The following were elected to serve for the 2019-2020 term.

President: Dr. Gary K. Saito, D.C.

Vice President: Dr. Dean Shivvers, D.C.

Treasurer: Dr. Ryoichi Ogawa, D.C.

Oahu Island Director: Dr. Tanner Underdahl, D.C.

Kauai Island Director: D. Alice Holm Ogawa, D.C.

East Hawaii Island Director: Dr. Robert Klein, D.C.

West Hawaii Island Director: Dr. Alfred Valenzuela, D.C.

Immediate Past President: Dr. Joseph G. Morelli, Jr. D.C.

You undoubtedly noticed that there are two vacancies: Secretary and Maui Island Director. These represent opportunities for any doctor to become part of the association leadership who is a dues-current member of the HSCA. Please call Dr. Saito at **593-9992** or Dr. Morelli at **671-2685** to express your interest in filling one of these positions.

The HSCA has a busy agenda for the coming year. We will let everyone know by newsletter what activities and projects the HSCA will be engaged in. You need not be a Board member to participate. Any doctor can be part of a committee and help the association accomplish its goals. The Board is now discussing its priorities.

We need people who can contribute ideas and who have skill sets to facilitate planning and implementation of our projects. We especially need people with technology skills as we try to navigate through the digital landscape and bring our association to current standards of communication and media presence. If you have such knowledge, you could be more valuable to the HSCA than you know.

We welcome the newly elected Board members and we look forward to a productive year with more doctors willing to volunteer to help the profession.

Vice President's Message:

SOMETHING NEW, REALLY NEW

By: Dr. Dean Shivvers, D.C., HSCA Vice President

There's a new initiative coming to the HSCA. We're looking for doctors who have not been active in the organization to help design the HSCA they want to see in the future. Starting right now. The planning is about to begin.

You could be part of the inaugural group whose voices will shape the profession so that it represents you and supports your needs as you build your practice for the next 5-10 years. We all want to be successful and sometimes that takes an organizational push to get the profession moving forward.

Contact me, Dr. Dean Shivvers (741-4950) and let me know that you want in. You can be one of the new voices we're

looking for. What else are we looking for? New ideas. New projects. New methods. New outlook.

We're all busy. But not too busy to care about our profession and our private practices. We all want thriving practices. We want to support ourselves and our families. We want the community to look at our profession as an important part of their health plan for their families. We want them to see chiropractors as providing critical and needed services in that health plan.

The future will happen anyway. Good planning usually results in a brighter and more secure future. A better future depends on who is doing the planning. It could be you. You're invited. Please join us at the September 27th General Membership Meeting.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

By: Dr. Joseph G. Morelli, Jr., DC., FICC, Immediate Past Pres., HSCA

First off, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the HSCA members past and present for giving me all the support necessary while I served as HSCA president for the last five years. Additionally, I want to thank our local leaders who stepped up to serve as my colleagues as Island Directors and Executive Board members.

Thankfully, the daily challenges that presented themselves to our association during my tenure were generally routine and manageable.

During this period, "ObamaCare" kicked in, and we were able to navigate fairly well considering the new opportunities that were made available to our profession via more access to our services.

More recently, through the hard work in Washington DC, the ACA was able to get Chiropractic coverage for our military Veterans in the VA system.

There may be even more opportunity for additional patient access through several initiatives now going through Congress.

First off is the legislation to update the Medicare system to include coverage of ALL the services we are licensed to provide in our state various states.

In fact, via the ACA, an open letter was sent from the profession to Congress. This request to Congress was signed by most state Chiropractic association presidents using the update and modernization of the Medicare statute regarding Chiropractic care.

I am proud to report that as your HSCA President, Dr. Gary Saito was one of the early signers of this letter to Congress.

The feedback from Congress has been very positive so far. This issue is not expected to be taken up right after the summer recess of Congress, but hopefully, before the end of the year holiday break.

Then, there is the bill to update the active duty military medical system "TriCare" to include Chiropractic coverage.

As you may know the active duty military and their dependents have their own prepaid medical insurer called TriCare. This program is quite comprehensive and provides the active duty military and their dependents access to medical care outside of the military medical clinics. Additionally, military personnel can purchase TriCare For Life, as their lifetime medical coverage. This is above and beyond any other programs such as the VA, Medicare, and private health plans.

Unfortunately, the TriCare plans have never included Chiropractic care.

The current bill winding its way through Congress adds Chiropractic as an essential benefit. Hopefully, if it is not watered down as it goes through various committee hearings, this can give us more access to the large military population and their dependents here in Hawaii, and across the country.

Both of these bills have strong support in Congress since they were introduced by the ACA.

HSCA LOOKING FOR ALL CHIROPRACTORS IN HAWAII

The Hawaii State Chiropractic Association will be attempting to contact all the Doctors of Chiropractic practicing in our state.

Over the years we have made an effort to keep all of our colleagues informed of the practice issues, clinical trends, and local, state and national pertinent information regarding our practice.

One of the methods to keep in touch is this newsletter. We make an effort to send the newsletter to all known Hawaii DC's via the US Mail, whether you are and HSCA member or not.

Now, with all the new technology, we are embarking on converting our newsletter into a digital format. We will post it on the HSCA website and send it to you directly via email in a digital format.

Unfortunately, we do not have a current email address on all the doctors on our list. We don't want anyone to miss out on the information and the connection to our colleagues.

So, this is where we need your help. In the near future, you will be getting a mailing from the HSCA via the US Post Office asking for you to fill in a form with your most updated contact information. Then you can send it back to us so we can update our files. Please know we will keep any information you send in to us "in-house". We will not sell or share any of this with any outside entity.

What we are looking for in this project is to make sure we have a way to be able to speak to you and for you to be able to talk to us personally.

Many years ago, we began to make the effort to be as inclusive as possible. We believe that what we do as a profession is so important that we want to make sure all have the same opportunities, and not be left out.

Another thing, if you know of a doctor who has recently come to practice in Hawaii, please pass on their contact information and we will follow up with them.

Within the next 30 days or so, if you do not get the mailer from us, please reach out to us via the HSCA telephone at: (808) 926-8883. Our Fax number is (808) 926-8884. Also you can reach out to your HSCA Island Director. If you like, you can send an email to Dr. JOE Morelli at: dcrunch@hawaiiantel.net.

VA TO REQUIRE NEW TRAINING FOR ALL PROVIDERS

Starting September 4, 2019, all TriWest network providers will be required to take a VA-developed and mandated training course on military and Veteran culture. Additionally,

prescribers of opioid-based medications will have to take a second course on opioid prescriptions.

Existing providers will have 180 days from September 4, 2019, to complete these trainings, or they will be removed from the TriWest network. New providers who join the TriWest network after September 4, 2019, will have 180 days from the effective date of their signed and executed contract to complete the trainings. Providers who have adequate training and/or experience in these areas must attest to meeting opt-out criteria, and opt-out of the trainings within the 180-day time limit. Providers will be offered Continuing Education credit for completing the training. More information will be published and distributed once the trainings are live and available.

The HSCA will make this information available as soon as we get the details on course times, availability, etc.

MEDICARE SEQUESTRATION EXTENDED

Over the last several years, Congress has passed some measures to try to slow down the eventual exhaustion of the Medicare and Social Security "safety net" funds. One of the measures was called Sequestration. This was a temporary measure that reduced all federal payouts for services, i.e. Medicare, etc., by 2%. This program was to expire October 2019.

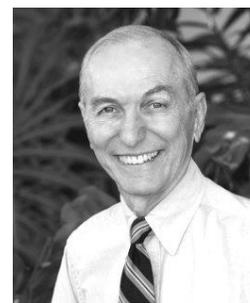
Because Congress did not want to cut any of its pet projects, and to avoid a veto by The White House, the Senate & House passed the 2.7 Trillion dollar budget authorization bill that also extended the Sequestration.

This law signed by the president covers many of the wish list items of both parties and the president.

To help pay for the deficit spending this authorizes, the Medicare Sequestration that was to end is now extended for 2 more years.

So, you are required to bill the Medicare Fees as posted, but will continue to be paid 2% less than mandated for all Medicare related costs.

Please note that here in Hawaii we are required to use the Medicare Fee Schedule as the basis of our State Fee Schedule for Workers' Compensation claims and Personal Injury claims. The 2% Sequestration does not apply to these type of claims. The 2% hold back is for Medicare payments only.



A NOTABLE PASSING

Dr. Michael J. Masters, D.C., was a "boy from Iowa" who loved Hawaii. Intellectual curiosity led him first to B.A. degrees in Religion and Psychology, then carried him into a life of chiropractic. Dr. Masters was a graduate of Palmer College, summa cum laude, in 1974. Three generations of his family were Palmer Davenport graduates. So close were the family ties, there is even a photograph of little Mike sitting on B.J. Palmer's lap. And the 1936 diploma of Mike's father, the late Dr. Ronald Ommen Masters, Sr., is signed by both B.J. and Mabel Palmer.

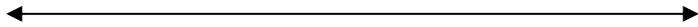
Dr. Masters practiced 12 years in Iowa with his father and brothers before returning to Honolulu in 1986 with his wife and two daughters. There he knocked on 5,000 doors that led to a

mailing list of 1,000 potential patients, a number of whom stayed with him throughout his 33-year practice in Hawaii. He often talked about chiropractic at the dinner table with his family, always with passion and excitement.

Dr. Masters was well aware of the difficulties of being a chiropractor, having watched his father and brothers battle with insurance companies and lobby legislators for better recognition of chiropractic. But he was undaunted. He believed in hard work, in learning through reading and research, and in doing everything he could for his patients. His goal was to leave this world a better place.

He would leave post-it notes on patients' files with the single word: "DIG!" It meant that he should discover more about his patients and do more research, so that he could do a better job in helping them. Dr. Masters believed that "relationships are everything." His motto was: Give, give, give. It applied to his family, friends, work associates, patients and the community. He had unbridled love for his wife and daughters.

In 2016, he was diagnosed with Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia, a rare cancer he termed "a disease old white guys get." He had periods of illness and periods of seeming remissions. But it got the best of him on July 13, 2019. Those who knew him personally will miss his broad smile, his dedication to his profession, his sense of humor even in distress, and his magnanimous spirit. He left this world a Chiropractor's Chiropractor.



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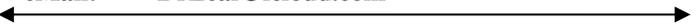
Oahu – Maui – Kauai – Big Island

Doctor: Zeal Okogeri, D.C.

Hawaii licensed Chiropractor with his own liability insurance and great references will provide temporary support for your clinic whether you are overbooked or taking time off. Contact Dr. Okogeri in Honolulu for his availability and fee schedule.

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