

Academy Leader

Urgent Memo to Ohio Practitioners

Paul Lee and
Theresa Stir, J.D., R.N.

Ed. Note: At the Academy Fall Scientific Meeting in September, Paul Lee, legislative consultant to P.O.L.A. (Prosthetic/Orthotic Licensure Advocates) presented a program on the status of licensure at that point in time. A number of questions were raised that were unable to be covered in the one-half hour time allotted for the session. Lee provided the following article as a continuation of one of the areas receiving greatest interest, grandfathering procedures under the new licensing law. See other late-breaking news on licensing in this issue of A/L.

There has been an issue raised by many members as to what the requirements are for grandfathering a practitioner of orthotics, prosthetics, or pedorthics in the new law.

SB 238, effective October 27, 2000, has detailed requirements for those who wish to obtain a license

without taking the examination.

The only time to obtain a license, through the grandfathering provisions of the Act, is only within 180 days after October 27, 2000 (see "Breaking News", p.3 on extension).

One of the first actions to be

taken by the new board will be to develop an application and application process. The application will be sent to every known Ohio practitioner and provided to state and national publications as well. Requiring applications to be sent to a designated board address, post-marked by the deadline date, will be in compliance with the Act's timeframes.

Eligibility Requirements

If a Practitioner in Orthotics or Prosthetics is practicing on Oct. 27,

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Season's Greetings!

This seems to be a good time to reflect upon the past year, and hopefully you've all had many positive experiences. It's also a time to look ahead.

As I begin this year as President of the Ohio Academy, I realize that this portends to be a very important and unique time in our careers. Licensure in Ohio is a reality. Although it is not yet fully implemented at this writing, the board has only recently been appointed, and all is not clear about what impact this new law will have on the status quo of the Academy, I pledge to make myself available as liaison to coordinate disbursement of information to the membership as it becomes available.

In the year 2000, we experienced excellent attendance at our professional meetings, and your feedback has been most encouraging and helpful. I appreciate hearing your comments on our evaluation forms. Planning has already begun for our annual Spring Technical Meeting on March 31, 2001, and if recent trends continue, it should be the most informative and best attended meeting yet. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I would also hope that as members of our Academy take advantage of the educational opportunities offered through our meetings and newsletters, that a number of you might wish to offer your time by participating more actively through board membership. It is a most rewarding experience.

Best wishes to all for success in the coming year.

Barry Steineman, CPO
President



Governor Appoints Board Members

It was announced on December 7 that the Governor's Office has made appointments for the O & P Licensure Board. Those named (with term expiration dates given) are: **Dr. Tom Lee**, Columbus, (Dec. 6, 2003); **Ronald Kidd, CPO**, Columbus (Dec. 6, 2002); **Mark Horwitz, CO**, Dayton Dec. 6, 2004); **Jack Reser, CPed**, Bellefontaine (Dec. 6, 2003); **Roger Marzano, BOC, CPO, CPed**, Akron (Dec. 6, 2002); **Steve Brill, BOC, CO**, Cincinnati (Dec. 6, 2003). Still to be appointed by the Governor is a consumer member.

Although successive terms will be three-year terms, members of the initial board have staggered

lengths of terms. Board members may not serve more than two consecutive terms and must maintain qualifications and licensure required under the law for appointment.

Appointments were made from recommendations submitted by various groups, including the Ohio Orthotics and Prosthetics Association, The Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists, Prosthetic Orthotic Licensure Advocates and the National Association of Manufacturers.

Members of the licensure board receive no compensation for their time and service.

Grandfathering Date Extended

An amendment to SB 238 was passed by the Ohio Senate on December 6, 2000 to increase the 180-day initial application period allowed for grandfathering by an additional 90 days. Senator White supported the amendment, allowing practitioners a more generous time allotment for applying for licensure without examination under the grandfathering provisions to the law.

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2000 and holds a bachelor's degree, has completed a certificate program in the respective practice of orthotics or prosthetics, and has completed a residency program **OR** has a minimum of 3 years of documented, full time experience in orthotics or prosthetics and has passed the ABC or BOC certification exam, then the practitioner may be issued an Ohio license within the 180-day time frame.

If a Practitioner in Orthotics and Prosthetics is practicing on Oct. 27, 2000 and holds a minimum of a bachelor's degree, has completed a certificate program in orthotics and prosthetics, has completed a residency program, and is certified by a national organization recognized by the Board **OR** the applicant has a minimum of 6 years of documented, full time experience in orthotics and prosthetics, and has passed the ABC or BOC orthotics and prosthetics certification exam.

Regarding Pedorthics, the applicant must be actively practicing and certified in pedorthics by the Board for certification in pedorthics.

The actual language from the bill regarding the grandfathering provision is on the following two pages for your review. For the full text of the bill, SB 238 may be seen at: www.state.oh.us/ohio/legislat. Click on Ohio General Assembly Laws, Acts, and Legislation. Please call us if you have any questions.

Text of SB 238 Covering “Grandfathering” for Licensing of Practitioners

Sec. 4779.16. THE STATE BOARD OF ORTHOTICS, PROSTHETICS, AND PEDORTHICS SHALL ISSUE A LICENSE UNDER SECTION 4779.09 OF THE REVISED CODE TO PRACTICE ORTHOTICS, PROSTHETICS, OR PEDORTHICS WITHOUT EXAMINATION TO AN APPLICANT WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF DIVISIONS (A) AND (B) OF THIS SECTION:

(A) NOT LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, APPLIES TO THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4779.09 OF THE REVISED CODE;

(B)(1) IN THE CASE OF AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE ORTHOTICS, IS ACTIVELY PRACTICING OR TEACHING ORTHOTICS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND COMPLIES WITH DIVISION (B)(2)(a) OR (b) OF THIS SECTION:

(a) THE APPLICANT MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HOLDS A BACHELOR’S DEGREE OR HIGHER FROM A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES;

(ii) HAS COMPLETED A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN ORTHOTICS APPROVED BY THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 4779.26 OF THE REVISED CODE;

(iii) IS CERTIFIED IN ORTHOTICS BY THE AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD;

(iv) HAS COMPLETED A RESIDENCY PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 4779.27 OF THE REVISED CODE.

(b) THE INDIVIDUAL MEETS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HAS A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS OF DOCUMENTED, FULL-TIME EXPERIENCE PRACTICING OR TEACHING ORTHOTICS;

(ii) HAS PASSED THE CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION IN ORTHOTICS DEVELOPED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND

PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD.

(2) IN THE CASE OF AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE PROSTHETICS, IS ACTIVELY PRACTICING OR TEACHING PROSTHETICS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND COMPLIES WITH DIVISION (B)(2)(a) OR (b) OF THIS SECTION:

(a) THE APPLICANT MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HOLDS A BACHELOR’S DEGREE OR HIGHER FROM A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES;

(ii) HAS COMPLETED A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN PROSTHETICS APPROVED BY THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 4779.26 OF THE REVISED CODE;

(iii) IS CERTIFIED IN PROSTHETICS BY THE AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD;

(iv) HAS COMPLETED A RESIDENCY PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 4779.27 OF THE REVISED CODE.

(b) THE APPLICANT MEETS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HAS A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS OF DOCUMENTED, FULL-TIME EXPERIENCE PRACTICING OR TEACHING PROSTHETICS;

(ii) HAS PASSED THE CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION IN PROSTHETICS OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD.

(3) IN THE CASE OF AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE APPLICANT COMPLIES WITH DIVISION (B)(3)(a) OR (b) OF THIS SECTION:

(a) THE APPLICANT MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HOLDS A BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER FROM AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES;

(ii) HAS COMPLETED A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS APPROVED BY THE BOARD UNDER SECTION 4779.26 OF THE REVISED CODE;

(iii) HAS COMPLETED A RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS AP-

PROVED UNDER SECTION 4779.27 OF THE REVISED CODE;

(iv) IS CERTIFIED IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS BY THE AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD;

(b) THE APPLICANT MEETS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(i) HAS A MINIMUM OF SIX YEARS OF DOCUMENTED, FULL-TIME EXPERIENCE PRACTICING OR TEACHING ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS;

(ii) HAS PASSED THE ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICAN BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS, THE BOARD OF ORTHOTIST/PROSTHETIST CERTIFICATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD.

(4) IN THE CASE OF AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE PEDORTHICS, IS ACTIVELY PRACTICING OR TEACHING PEDORTHICS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND IS CERTIFIED IN PEDORTHICS BY THE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN PEDORTHICS.

Senator White Recognized for Championing O&P Licensure

State Senator Doug White (R-14th Ohio Senate District) was recognized during the Fall OOPA meeting on behalf of the O&P practitioners of Ohio for his role in carrying the licensure bill through the Ohio Legislature.

Senator White represents the 14th Ohio Senate District in Southwestern Ohio.

If you would like to convey your personal thanks to Senator White you may contact him at:

Senate Building
Room #041, Ground Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614/466-8082

Member Renewals Mailed

Chapter members should have received their renewals by the mailing of this issue of *A/L*. There are significant savings for members in meeting registration fees. Non-members (who are otherwise eligible for Chapter membership) pay \$195 for each of the two annual Chapter meetings, whereas members pay \$125 each... a savings of \$140/year.

Please renew today, and if you know a practitioner who is eligible, please have him/her contact the Ohio office for information

Ohio Chapter's Spring Technical Meeting 2001 Shaping up as Best Ever



Easton Town Center

On January 5th, 2001, the Ohio Chapter Board will gather for a final review of proposals and presenters for the Chapter's Annual Spring Technical Meeting. The 2001 meeting promises to be yet another exceptional event in a string of great meetings over the past several years.

The 2001 meeting will be special for several reasons. First, based on the proposals received so far, the program will be an exciting one. The board will have a difficult time deciding which of the excellent programs submitted, or presenters identified, best meet the ideas of themes for the meeting.

Second, while each year has seen an increase in the number and quality of exhibitors, the 2001 meeting is shaping up as another record-breaker. Last year's meeting saw approximately 50 exhibitors and this year will likely see nearly 60.

The site of the meeting is another bonus for this spring. One of the newest hotels in Ohio, the Hilton Hotel Columbus at Easton Town Center will host O&P attendees from a dozen states for our meeting. Having just opened in October 2000, the Hilton is easily one of the most elegant additions to

the Columbus scene. Attendees will find the Ohio Chapter's room block rate one of the better bargains for meetings anywhere.

There is yet another great reason for attendees to come for the Spring Technical meeting—the Easton Town Center. This village-style concept contains a giant indoor complex of shops, restaurants and entertainment as well as six blocks of outdoor village lined with shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues. This is definitely a great place for a family to spend a weekend.

Mark your calendar for March 31, 2001 and plan to attend the Chapter's Spring Technical Meeting. You will be receiving your registration form in the mail by late January 2001.



Easton Town Center Photos
Courtesy of Easton Town
Center/Hinson, Ltd.

Bill Neu — Ohio Chapter's Newest Board Member

The Ohio Chapter's new Vice President for Finance for 2000-01 is William C. Neu, III of Hanger O&P (Mansfield). Bill has been an energetic and active advocate for O&P for Ohio and the country. Bill served on the ABC 1993 Task Force for Certification Levels and as an Examiner (since 1992) for ABC Prosthetics.

Bill obtained his CP certification in 1992, having completed his P&O program at Cerritos College in California in 1980.

Prior to becoming manager of the Hanger office in Mansfield, Bill also worked for American Limb and Orthopedics in Champaign-Urbana, IL ('86-'91), Hanger (Cincinnati, '83-'86), Metropolitan Prosthetic & Orthotic (Berkeley, Michigan, '82-'83) and Johnson Orthotics (Anaheim, CA '80-'82).

Bill has been married to Camille for 9 years and is the proud father of two young children, Dominic (4) and Camille (16 months).

"Bill will serve as Vice President for Finance for the Ohio Chapter as well as one-year service in each of the offices up to, and including, the presidency."

S.O.A.R.

by Wend Beattie, C.P.O.

Special Opportunities for Amputee Rehabilitation was founded in 1990. SOAR is a non-profit foundation designed to help provide athletic and recreational activities for amputees of all ages. SOAR is completely run by volunteers, allowing all funds to go directly to the amputees and the programs we run. In the past, we have purchased adaptive equipment for: skiers, bikers, hockey players. We have sponsored individuals with amputations to compete in both able bodied events and disabled ones. We have had numerous clinics for running and skiing. Two years ago, we held a free program to train physical therapists in advanced

training of persons with amputations. This past spring, we held a mini triathlon, which we hope will become an annual event. Every spring, there is a golf outing which serves as a fund raiser and to showcase the athletes and individuals we sponsor.



