

# Academy Leader

## An Open Letter to Ohio O&P and Pedorthic Practitioners

*Kathy Dennisen, RN*

*Executive Director, Ohio Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics.*

*Kathy Dennisen, newly appointed Executive Director of the Ohio Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics was asked by the Academy Leader to let Ohio Chapter—AAOP members know a little more about her and the work she will be doing. Ms. Dennisen will be an important person to all professional practitioners and their patients in Ohio.*

On May 3, 2001, the Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics hired me as the Board Director. At this time I am the only employee for the Board. My responsibilities as the board director are to be directly responsible to the president of the board, conduct and care for all correspondence in the

name of the board, and keep records of the board's proceedings and accounts. Keeping a proper filing record of all applications for registration, certificates of registration, examinations, administrative hearings and revocations are also included but not limited to my responsibilities as Board Director.



*Kathy Dennisen, R.N.*

I came to this position with twenty years of hospital experience that includes a variety of job duties and responsibilities. Immediately prior to accepting this position, I worked as an operating room Registered Nurse specializing in Orthopedics

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### Ohio Chapter—AAOP Office

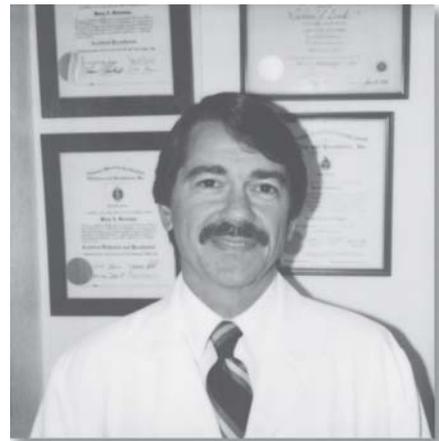
1161 Francisco Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43220  
Phone: 614/457-4312  
Fax: 614/538-1914

## Dear Colleagues;

By the time you read this, the deadline for “grandfathering” for licensure will have passed. The O&P and Pedorthic professional practices in Ohio will be a fully licensed activity. We can all take a great deal of pride in bringing our patients an assured level of basic care that is enforceable by law. That is good for everyone.

Many people have been involved for the past five-plus years in achieving this goal. There are more names than can be mentioned here, but key among the tireless volunteers in this work have been Ron Kidd, CPO, now President of the Board for Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics; Brad Rosenquist, CPO, who served as one of the founders of the movement and treasurer of POLA, the organization created to steer licensure through its many twists and turns; and Tracy Slemker, CPO first President of POLA. Other POLA Board members—Dave Nelson, CPO, Steven Reger (CP), Ted Ryder, CO, and Steve Todd, BOCO—are also to be commended for doing their fair share of the heavy lifting. Please pass your appreciation on to them for the effective (and unsung) work they have done on behalf of our patients and the professionalism of the industry in Ohio.

On other business, this issue of the Leader has a short article on this past Spring’s Technical Meeting.



Those who were there know what a terrific meeting this was and how exciting the location was in which it took place. Attendees enjoyed it so much that we’ve contracted again for the Columbus Hilton at the Easton Town Center for the Spring 2002 meeting.

You will also find the program for this Fall’s Scientific Meeting in this issue. This Fall’s Scientific Meeting will be held at the Columbus Marriott Northwest. This is a first-rate hotel in an area with a wide variety of off-site activities. The program—as always—will feature top-notch presenters on state-of-the-art O&P. I very much look forward to seeing you there.

Barry Steineman  
President

*Letter*, from page 1

I began working full-time as the Board Director in June because of my other work obligations. Since then my life has been in a whirlwind. I was very busy with the Board creating application forms for orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics. I then was responsible in sending out 1,200 press letters to practitioners in Ohio and the surrounding states educating them with the new law and the "grandfathering" provision. It was almost instantaneous that I began getting abundant responses to the letter. Applications were being faxed, e-mailed, and sent out in the mail from my very small temporary office. Because this is a new Board and our deadlines are so near there isn't time to "shop" for office space. My time is dedicated primarily to the Practitioners and the Board. My immediate goal is to make myself available for phone calls, e-mails, and processing applications as they arrive in the office. I really enjoy the fast, busy, and somewhat hectic environment that this new job has provided so far. I would have to say that talking to and answering questions for practitioners is what I have enjoyed the most.

Persons practicing Orthotics, Prosthetics, or Pedorthics in Ohio must be licensed pursuant to legislation enacted into law on October 27, 2000. The law, Chapter 4779 of the Revised Code, created the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics to administer licensing requirements.

The Board members were appointed by Governor Bob Taft and include: Ron Kidd, CPO (Grove City), President; Mike Marmer, BOC, C. Ped (Cincinnati) Vice President; Jack Reser, C. Ped. (Bellefontaine) Secretary; Mark Horwitz, CO (Dayton); Julie Bush, BOC (Grove City); Thomas Lee, M.D. (Worthington); and Steve LaForge, Esq. (Galloway).

I realize that many of you still are unsure about some issues of the law or have heard many rumors regarding the board. I encourage you to please take the time to call me or e-mail me with your questions or concerns. I have made a list of the most frequently asked questions and have answered them for you as well. I hope this information is useful for you.

**Q.** *Do I send in \$125.00 for each application completed?*

**A.** No, there is a \$125.00 application fee per applicant.

**Q.** *Do I have to get a passport photo; they are so expensive?*

**A.** No, please do not go to a great expense for your photo. I have received computer shots of individuals (shoulders and up), individuals cut out of group photos and driver's license photos.

**Q.** *Can anyone go to your Board Meetings?*

**A.** Yes, the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics is subject to the requirements of the Open Meetings Act pursuant to Chapter 119. To find out more information on when meetings are scheduled you may visit our website at [www.ohio.gov/bopp](http://www.ohio.gov/bopp) or contact the board office.

**Q.** *How soon will I hear from someone once I've sent in my application?*

**A.** Once your application form has been received, I briefly look it over and will contact applicants if I see anything missing. Applications are then given to the review committee of the Board. A letter will then be sent out to all applicants regarding their licensure status. Letters are planned to be sent in early August, and will continue as new applications are received.

**Q.** *I work with a group of people who will be sending in their application forms, can we send them all together, and with one check?*

**A.** Yes, the Board's intent is to try and make this transition as easy and convenient for you as possible, therefore it would

## Ohio Chapter — AAOP Spring Meeting: A Resounding Success

The Ohio Chapter—AAOP held its annual Spring Conference, *2001 A Brace (and limb) Odyssey*, on March 31<sup>st</sup>. As has been the case in each of the past six years, the Ohio Chapter once again enjoyed its largest meeting ever. Over 230 O&P professionals, technicians, C.Peds and BOC's from seven states (as well as one attendee from Canada) enjoyed this top-notch professional program in an exciting location.

Presenters included very popular return presenters, James Campbell, Ph.D., CO, Kevin Carroll, M.S., CP, FAAOP and Deanna Fish, M.S., CPO, FAAOP. Campbell, Carroll and Fish always provide exciting and informative presentations. First time presenters, Mike Schuch, CPO, FAAOP of Duke University Medical Center, and Mike Thompkins, President of Animated Prosthetics, Inc., brought a treasure trove of 21<sup>st</sup> century information on myoelectric systems from their research and development work. Schuch's and Tompkin's work has been featured on a number of recent television shows, including the Discovery Channel and the Discovery Health Channel.

Jim Walker, CO, of NOPCO—another first-timer—presented a well-received program on hybrid orthoses for neuromuscular scoliosis. Frank Friddle, Jr., CPO of Friddle's Orthopedic Appliances,

another newcomer, presented a fascinating session on the use of color and plastics in orthotics.

A panel of great professionals from Ohio rounded out this Spring's array of presenters: Ron Kidd, CPO, Mark Bondurant, CPO, Randy Daniel, CP, Manuel Garcia, CP and Glen Schober, CP. Licensure, of course, has been an important topic at every Ohio meeting for the past five years. Ron Kidd—one of the key individuals steering this issue through its many twists and turns—had the honor of announcing to attendees the official passage of Ohio's licensure bill.

The Spring meeting hosts the largest number of exhibitors outside of the national meeting. Fifty-seven companies displayed their services and products. This represents the sixth year of an average annual increase of 10% in number of exhibitors. Most exhibitors are delighted to come to the Ohio meeting and find their time well spent. Attendee evaluations show that the feeling is mutual.

While the Ohio Chapter's meetings are one-day intensive sessions, the site of this year's Spring Conference was very friendly for those who came from a distance. Held in Columbus' brand new Easton Town Center, there was plenty for attendees (and their families) to do for the entire weekend. Easton Town Center is a

village concept developed by Les Wexner of Columbus (*Victoria's Secret, The Limited, The Gap*) and the actor, Arnold Swartzenegger. A short walk across the street from the Hilton, the Easton is set against a casual village backdrop consisting of indoor and outdoor entertainment, dining and shopping venues.

The Spring Meeting also was one of the first to book with the brand new state-of-the-art three-star Hilton Hotel adjacent to the Easton. Like the Easton, the Hilton did not disappoint.

### *Fall Meeting, 2001*

The 2001 Annual Fall Scientific Meeting will be held on September 22, 2001 at the Marriott Columbus Northwest, at the Tuttle Mall Area of Columbus.

The Program will be an exciting one (see program in this issue), and the setting has a variety of interesting dining, entertainment and shopping activities for off-site interests.

### *Spring 2002*

Because of the popularity of the Hilton and Easton Town Center site for this past Spring's meeting, the Chapter has contracted with the Hilton again for next year's meeting as well.

If you care to mark your calendar early, The date will be April 13, 2002. Given the past history of the Spring meetings, and the new activities of the Easton when Phase II is completed, we expect to enjoy another record-breaking year.



*Getting Ready for Day's Sessions*

restaurant and bar

*Intent on Presentation*

*Deanna Fish Talks with Attendees*

*Exhibitors Fill Exhibit Hall*

Frohnh Enterprises

The Ohio Chapter-AAOP

# Annual Fall Scientific Meeting

September 22, 2001  
Columbus Marriott Northwest

## Program

8:45 – 9:30..... **Comprehensive Patient Care**

*James Breakey, C.P., Ph.D. — Breakey Prosthetics, Inc., San Jose, California*

9:30 – 10:15..... **When and When Not to Brace CVA Patients**

*Truly Sweet, P.T. — The Rehab Center (Rehabilitation Services of North Central Ohio), Mansfield, Ohio*

10:15 – 10:30..... **Break**

10:30 – 11:30..... **Gait Alignment, Lower Limb Prosthetics**

*James Breakey, C.P., Ph.D. — Breakey Prosthetics, Inc., San Jose, California*

11:30 – 12:00..... **Where We are Now**

*Mark Bondurant, C.P.O. — OrPro-LaForsch, Dayton, Ohio*

12:00 – 1:30..... **Lunch/Business Meeting**

1:30 – 2:15..... **Microprocessors in Prosthetics**

*Alan Kercher — Endolite North America, Centerville, Ohio*

2:15 – 2:45..... **Etiology and Prevention of Tissue Breakdown**

*Wendy Beattie, C.P.O. — Becker Orthopedics, Waterford, Michigan*

2:45 – 3:00..... **Break**

3:00 – 4:00..... **Upper Extremity Advancements and Complex Fittings**

*Steve Mandacina, C.P. — Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics,  
Lee's Summit, Missouri*

4:00 – 4:30..... **Fore Hope Therapeutic Golf Program**

*Jennifer Monnin, C.T.R.S. — Fore Hope, Galloway, Ohio*

4:30 – 5:00..... **Ohio Licensure and the New Licensure Board**

*Kathy Dennisen, R.N. — Ohio State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics  
and Pedorthics, Columbus, Ohio*

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be perfectly fine to send all your applications together with a single check with the amount of each applicants application fee.

As a few points of personal information, I reside in the North end of Columbus in Powell with my husband, Mark, and two children Brittany and Sean. Brittany is looking forward to her senior year in high school while Sean is looking forward in tackling his sophomore year. My husband is self employed and we refer to him as the "trinket man" because he has his hands in so many different promotional items that he sells. My family certainly keeps me busy, but

nothing compares to the juggling I've been doing with my new job as Board Director.

I certainly hope the information I've provided will be beneficial for you. I encourage anyone with any further questions or concerns to feel free to call me. Business hours of the board are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

*Director Dennisen can be reached at:*

*State Board of Orthotics,  
Prosthetics, and Pedorthics  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614/466-1157  
Fax: 614/644-8112*

*Director Dennisen will be a presenter at the Ohio Chapter's Fall Scientific Meeting on September 22, 2001 at the Columbus Marriott Northwest.*

## Meeting Registration Form — Annual Fall Scientific Meeting 2001

(For additional names, please copy this form, or attach list)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Certifications (include cert. #): \_\_\_\_\_ ABC \_\_\_\_\_ C.Ped. \_\_\_\_\_ BOC \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration:	(Before 9/14/01)	(after 9/14/01 & at door)
Member, Ohio Chapter AAOP	= \$135.00 _____	\$160.00 _____
Non-member	= \$195.00 _____	\$220.00 _____
Non-member, (ABC cert.) Ineligible *	= 165.00 _____	\$190.00 _____
Technician, Assistant	= \$95.00 _____	\$110.00 _____
Full-time Student	= \$50.00 _____	\$75.00 _____
<b>Total Enclosed</b>	= \$ _____	\$ _____

\* This registration fee is for current ABC certified O&P practitioners only, who are **not** eligible for membership in the Ohio Chapter. This includes ABC certified practitioners who are from states **other than** Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and West Virginia.

**Cancellation Policy:** Full refunds, minus a 10% processing fee, will be provided up to 9/14/01. Sorry, no refunds after 9/14/01. **Cancellations must be in writing** to be eligible for refund.

Registration includes: Admittance to all sessions continental breakfast, lunch, breaks and Friday Reception.

Make check payable to: **Ohio Chapter, AAOP** and mail with registration form to:

*Ohio Chapter, AAOP  
1161 Francisco Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43220*

**6.25 ABC PCE's Applied for**

