



UNIFIED CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma's Democratic "Majority Voice" for Chiropractic

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May 30, 2008

Dear Previous Unified Member:

The Unified Board of Directors sincerely appreciates those who have shown their support as a dues-paying member and/or PAC contributor in the past. Obviously, you are one of those D.C.'s who has seen the wisdom of the former competitors, JCA & OSCA, working harmoniously together since 2000 as one body (Unified Chiropractic Association) for the purpose of making effective democratic decisions. Unified legislation in 2004 increased seats on the Board of Examiners to include representatives from each of the eight districts, as is the case with the Unified Board; irrespective of past membership in the JCA or OSCA.

Even though this union has been viewed by legislators as a show of strength, greater membership numbers in the Unified must be achieved to demonstrate a "force to be respected and reckoned with" at the Capitol. The following are several incentives to renew your membership for 2008:

- To afford us the ability to continue employing a credible lobbyist/attorney to work for you, our patients and Chiropractic at the Capitol. During a special pre-summer legislative session in 2007, UCA Lobbyist Michelle Sutton, Esq. obtained the long awaited Oklahoma sales tax exemption on durable goods and vitamins. One of the next UCA legislative goals is to procure "parity of co-pay and co-insurance.
- To have the wants and needs of the majority of the field doctors represented at the Board of Examiners meetings with input on proposed new rules and rule changes that could affect you and your every day business.
- To bring you up-to-date information on legislation and Board of Examiner's rule changes that may negatively or positively affect your license, practice and patient care.
- To give added motivation to the Unified Board members, as a result of the accumulation of numbers and emotional support. It gives them the extra push to continue working hard to achieve positive results for the profession.
- To have one of the Board of Directors (see left side of page) buy you lunch and bring you up to speed on legislation, future agendas, and take your questions, opinions and ideas and discover what you want legislatively and the UCA to do for you.
- To receive MGT America's Worker's Compensation Research Report (88 pages compiled for UCA, and funded by D.C.'s donations).

- To receive a “FREE” 2006 Oklahoma D.C. Directory, if not received in previous years.
- To receive an Oklahoma Chiropractic Scope of Practice manual (320 pages of Board of Examiner’s rules and statutes, researched and referenced by UCA attorney).
- **AND MORE (SEE ENCLOSED MEMBER LEVELS)**

Last year’s legislative session was challenging at the least. The Oklahoma Medical Association in conjunction with the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association filed legislation to limit the definition of physician in the Oklahoma statutes to include only the Medical or Osteopathic doctors. In addition, these two organizations have created "PatientsFIRST", which is a coalition of the allopathic physicians attempting to block the expansion of any other type of doctors' scope of practice. Lobbyist, Michelle Sutton helped to kill that legislation until the allopaths can resurrect it in another bill in the future. This endeavor will be introduced in the legislative again, having to be reckoned with for years to come.

Another one of the Unified’s legislative agendas is to gain influence for Chiropractic to again be included in the Worker’s Compensation system. And let's not forget about the annual fight to block P.T. Portal of entry and/or physician status.

In addition to needing as many seminar tuitions as possible to afford professional salaries for continued efforts at the capitol, we need far more funding if we are going to follow through with our proposed “Public Relations” Campaign. We would already be realizing the benefits of a PR endeavor if it were not for the \$275,000 (+) that never made it to the Unified's coffers due to D.C.'s attending the ACEO splinter group’s (13) seminars since their first in January 2001. More recently, what would have netted over \$180,000 has been lost due to OSCIPA's entry into the License Renewal arena in November of 2004. Starting with their February seminar OSCIPA is now granting free tuition to attract even more of their members away from the UCA seminars. Could they be striving to break the UCA so they can take over the Lobbying to perpetuate their agenda?

So it's up to all of you to be a part, both as a member and attendee of the Unified's seminars. Let’s turn it around! Sign up, chip in, and spread the news that the Unified will continue to work legislatively for the majority, not just the few. Please! We need your financial help to fill the airways with the Chiropractic story and **inform the public about their right to seek care in or out of the network** book. We need to enforce the insurance laws and go to the Capitol with the force of a large democratically represented majority voice.

The Unified wants to thank you in advance for your vote of confidence with your tax deductible membership renewal. **Regardless of what level of membership you choose, please do not overlook the importance of contributing to the PAC** (Political Action Campaign). Those funds are much needed and utilized to support the campaigns of legislators who are Chiropractic friendly.

If all the D.C.'s in the state would contribute \$15.00/month to the PAC, the UCA would be able to contribute \$100,000/yr to this effort. Your efforts would be greatly appreciated in soliciting colleagues to renew or become first time members if they are interested in the UCA's work to benefit all Oklahoma D.C.'s. Please do not let another year pass by and do nothing to help protect your rights as Chiropractic Physician.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Harold Culver, D.C.
Unified Chairman

Thomas A. Derstine, D.C.,
Unified Executive/Administrative Director

P.S. Both the membership form and PAC contributor's statement are included for your submission.

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