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Ex-Officio

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Executive Director :
Becca Dietrich

Membership Director:
David Abts

Executive Advisor:
Chris Murphy

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www.theccws.org



Richard Simman,
MD, CWS, FACCWS

Message from our Chair:

Dear Colleagues,

This is an exhilarating time for the American College of Certified Wound Specialists. We continue to increase membership through our Regional Directors meetings and invitations to all new Certified Wound Specialists and Certified Wound Care Associates. We are especially proud to announce the birth of our Journal.

As you enjoy reading our historic first issue of the Journal of the American College of Certified Wound Specialists in January 2009, I would like to acknowledge the efforts our Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Steve Abraham, and Assistant Editor, Kari Madison Berchet, MPT. Without their dedication, this project would not have been possible. Also, I would like to thank the Editorial Board for their help in reviewing the submitted manuscripts. Of course, many thanks go to the authors who have contributed to this premier issue. I encourage all of you to send your basic and clinical science papers related to wound care and wound healing to be reviewed for potential publication in our journal.

We thank our publishing company, Elsevier, for their support throughout this long process. This journal will be considered for indexing at the end of 2009. The papers that were previously published will be indexed in retrospect. We are determined to make this Journal, your Journal, the leading voice on wound care. Our goal is to present the latest advances in wound care to the providers who will ultimately improve patient care and outcomes.

As previously mentioned, our Regional Directors continue to offer meetings to provide education to the wound care community and increase our membership. Other educational courses on wound care are being offered nationwide. CMEs and CEUs are offered during these events.

Please refer to the college website for more information on dates and locations of future events.

Our third Annual Membership Meeting held in conjunction with the Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care held in Las Vegas, NV was a complete success. It is our goal that in the near future, we will be able to independently hold our Annual Membership Meetings.

Another important note is that the American Academy of Wound Management is developing a Board Certification Examination on wound care for physicians. The examination will be offered at nationwide locations for the first time during 2009. The goal is to make board certification in wound care a requirement, as it is in all other specialties, with the goal of improving patient care, outcome, and safety. I will keep you updated on the progress of this process.

I would like to congratulate and welcome to our family the five recently elected Directors, Barry Creighton, DPT, CWS, FACCWS; Rose Hamm, DPT, CWS, FACCWS; Loren Hayes, RN, CWS, FACCWS; Kari Madison, BA, CWS, FACCWS; and Jayesh Shay, MD, CWS, FACCWS.

And finally, I would like to thank you for your support to the College. The ACCWS is the only membership organization that represents a multidisciplinary group of certified wound specialists.

Regards,

Richard Simman, MD, CWS,
FACCWS

Effective January 1st, 2009: Fellowship Dues Increase

The ACCWS Board of Directors has determined that in order for the ACCWS to continue to support its programs, membership dues will need to be increased. Effective January 1, 2009, membership dues will be increased to \$175.00 per year.

Your ACCWS annual dues sustain advanced patient care, education, research and knowledge in the interdisciplinary field of wound management. Moreover, it promotes the elevation of the standards for the prevention, management, and treatment of acute and chronic wounds, thereby improving the public health. These benefits also include subscription to the JACCWS, a wide range of continuing education programs including the ACCWS Back to Basics Course, and opportunities for networking with local peers during one of the quarterly Regional Directors Meetings.

We understand that the economy is proving to be a challenge but we hope that you will continue to find value in your continued membership in the ACCWS.

Notice: Beginning January 2009, ACCWS dues invoices will be sent electronically to your email address of record. To update your record or to request a paper invoice, please contact David Abts at dabts@theccws.org.



Please visit Page 3 to find out about becoming active in your College!

ACCWS Industry
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ACCWS NEWS



by Donald E. Mrdjenovich, DPM, CWS, FACCWS.
Chair of the Marketing Exhibit, and Industry Committee
Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Directors

Membership Meeting Report:

“The word is certainly spreading and the buzz is that the American College of Certified Wound Specialists is a “REAL” entity that is going to be around for a long time.”

ACCWS Welcomes New Directors For 2009

- ◆ Kari A. Bechert, MPT, CWS, FACCWS
- ◆ Barry Creighton, DPT, CWS, FACCWS
- ◆ Rose L. Hamm, DPT, CWS, FACCWS
- ◆ Loren C. Hayes, ARNP-BC, MSN, RN, CWS, FACCWS
- ◆ Jayesh B. Shah, MD, CWS, FACCWS

Membership Meeting Photos:

Bottom Left (from l to r):
ACCWS 2008 & 2009 Directors:
Rose Hamm, DPT, CWS, FACCWS;
Barry Creighton, DPT, CWS, FACCWS;
Staci Roberts, MPT, CWS, FACCWS;
Don Mrdjenovich, DPM, CWS, FACCWS;
Chet Evans DPM, CWS, FACCWS;
Richard Simman, MD, CWS, FACCWS;
Pamela Scarborough, PT, CWS, FACCWS;
Luther Kloth, PT, CWS, FACCWS;
and Aimee Garcia, MD, CWS, FACCWS.

Top Right: The view of the Las Vegas skyline from top of the hotel.

Middle and Bottom Right: Fellows, staff, and guests enjoying socializing at the reception following the meeting.

What happens in Vegas, the ACCWS hopes, will NOT stay in Vegas! The excitement and energy that was created by the members of the College at the recent Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care in Las Vegas was enormous. The exhibit booth had many visitors and inquiring wound specialists. This afforded the ACCWS an excellent opportunity to spread the message - “there is strength in numbers”- as we encouraged the joining and participation in The College by those possessing the CWS and CWCA credentials. Our membership meeting and the reception that followed also provided a great deal of interest and enthusiasm from current Fellows and prospective members. Many of the past, current and new Board of Directors were present. Led by the Chair of the Board, Dr. Richard Simman, our accomplishments, future goals were highlighted, and members were encouraged to join committees and spread the word regarding our organi-

zation. Several of our industry partners were present and related their perception of the College as an impressive organization that has awesome potential to influence the wound healing community. Additionally, the ACCWS name certainly had a presence during this conference. It was prominent on signs outside the ACCWS endorsed pre-conference review course, on the announcement marquis for our Board of Directors, Membership Meetings and Reception, as well as within the Exhibit Hall. The word is certainly spreading and the buzz is that the American College of Certified Wound Specialists is a “REAL” entity that is going to be around for a long time. The energy and excitement fades after a few weeks away from this type of environment, however, we need to stay the course to build the College. We plan to continue to network with those who already possess the CWS and CWCA credential and to share our common goals and pride in possessing a hard earned credential. It cannot be emphasized enough that one’s investment in the College via talent, time or monetary

means is the only way we will achieve our long term goals. Invest in your future-- promote your credibility! Together, this will only make stronger our goal to enhance the knowledge and advancement of wound care for our patients, colleagues and the public.



ACCWS NEWS



Chairman's Vision Award recipient Donald E. Mrdjenovich, DPM, CWS, FACCWS.

ACCWS 2008 Chairman's Vision Award Recognizes Donald E. Mrdjenovich

Chairman Richard Simman MD, CWS, FACCWS, presented the Chairman Vision Award at the October 2008 Membership Meeting to Dr. Mrdjenovich, DPM, CWS, FACCWS. This award was bestowed on him to honor his meritorious service to the ACCWS as a Director from 2005 to 2008. Dr. Mrdjenovich's leadership and outstanding work ethic greatly improved the morale and attitude of all who worked with him. He consistently performed his demanding duties with the utmost professionalism. His dedication reflects great credit upon himself, the wound care profession and the ACCWS.

This Is Your College

As the activities of the College increase, we are looking to all the ACCWS members to volunteer time to the committees of the College. This is your College and we need you to help us to continue to grow and succeed. If you are interested in any of the following Committees, please contact David Abts at dabts@theccws.org.

Education Committee:

Investigates and develops educational activities for Fellows, establishes frameworks for educational programs targeted to the wound care profession.

Marketing, Exhibiting & Industry Committee:

Establishes marketing and exhibiting avenues for the ACCWS to promote its mission to the wound care community and beyond.

Membership Committee:

Establishes new methods of reaching out to CWSs and CWCAs to join the ACCWS and work with Regional Directors in putting on events in their area.

PAC Committee:

Garners opportunities to advertise directly to a specific target market and to provide research in the political arena.

Provider Relations Committee:

Raises the awareness of the presence of an advanced level of wound care practice with the opportunity to provide awareness of "*Best Practice Care*" facilities.

ACCWS Gift Program

The ACCWS is once again offering the Gift Program this Holiday Season. This provides a great opportunity to give a gift in someone's honor or to a colleague, while at the same time promoting awareness of the ACCWS. A Gift Donation of \$25.00 or more will entitle the recipients name, credentials and company/clinic to be listed on the **ACCWS website Sponsor Page** as a "College Donor" for the entire year of 2009. In addition, those whom you honor with this donation, will receive an ACCWS Card with a personalized message from you. Please consider this program for your holiday or other giving. The Donation is Tax deductible.

Become A Friend of The College

We need people like you. People that are willing to make an significant contributions to the lives of their patients in ways that go beyond your natural call of duty as a Wound Care Professional. Any Contribution of your time and means; small or large to the ACCWS will make a significant impact on patients nationwide. **Donate today and make a difference!**

Please contact David Abts at dabts@theccws.org for more details on becoming a Friend or Donor of the ACCWS.

ACCWS NEWS



Staci Roberts, PT, CWS, FACCWS
Political Action Committee Co-Chair

PAC Report:

The Political Action Committee has been busy voicing the concerns of the members of The College. Since our last newsletter, we have addressed the following issues to CMS and the appropriate members of Congress: Physician's Fee Schedule, Hospital Outpatient PPS, Proposed NCD for Biological Therapies and Draft LCD for Wound Care GSURG 051 As a member of the Alliance of Wound Care Stakeholders, The College is constantly looking for issues that may affect our membership. Our goal for 2009 is to have a posting of current topics of concern on our website. We would like to have the ability to post form letters for our membership to utilize as templates to create messages regarding their concerns on specific wound care issues and then each member send these letters to their respective representatives. We will keep you updated on the progress of this project.

We continue to serve on the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP). The 11th National NPUAP Biennial Conference will be held in Arlington, VA on February 27-28, 2009. "Ushering in the NEW International Guidelines for Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment: Public Policy and Clinical Practice" is this year's theme. The new guidelines (replacing the "purple book") are a joint effort by the NPUAP and the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel. This meeting will be the official release and debut of the guidelines. The College will have a booth at this important meeting.

The Political Action and Public Relations Committees have

combined into one and are now the Political Action Committee. Dr. Aimee Garcia and I will be co-chairs of the Political Action Committee. Dr. Garcia is working on a project to get informational letters out to all of the different organizations with which our diverse membership is involved. For example, letters about The College are being mailed to the American Medical Association, the American Physical Therapy Association, and the American Medical Directors Association, etc. We would like to compile a complete list of these organizations. Please email any organizations that you would like us to include to dabts@theccws.org.

Our goal for 2009 is to increase the awareness of the College and its mission to organizations within and outside of the Wound Care arena. An additional goal for 2009 is to have a larger working committee. Several people expressed an interest in joining the PAC in Las Vegas. Please email me directly if you would like to join at staci-roberts@sbcglobal.net. We are going to start having a monthly to bimonthly conference call. We are also going to start working on a project list for 2009. If you have items that you feel the PAC should be focused on, please email these to me directly.

And lastly, but certainly not least, please join with me in congratulating Dr. Garcia on being appointed to the Board of Directors for the NPUAP. We know she will be an asset to the NPUAP Board as she is to The College Board.

Your comments and suggestions are much appreciated. Have a safe and Happy Holiday.

Regional Report:

Ohio Regional Meeting Report: Beavercreek, Ohio

The Ohio region of the American College of Certified Wound Specialist held their final meeting of 2008 in Beavercreek, Ohio on October 23, 2008. Continuing education credits were offered for physicians and nurses with the assistance of the Kettering Medical Center Continuing Education Department. The meeting was sponsored by Pegasus Biologics, Inc. There was a record breaking attendance of 42 people.

Dr. Gerit Mulder, DPM and Board Certified Podiatric Surgeon came to us from San Diego, CA. as the guest speaker. He presented an informative talk on the application of Xenograft in wound care. His presentation was highlighted with case presentations and photographs.

Erin Kelly, Regional Director, facilitated the meeting and reviewed the objectives and goals of The College. Dr. Richard Simman, Chair, provided the audience with highlights of The College's recent accomplishments including the first release of its professional journal.

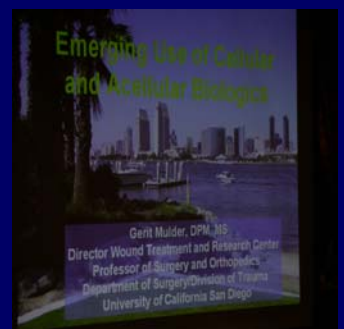
Planning is underway for the next meeting in 2009 to take place within the first quarter. Continuing education credits will be offered regularly at all future meetings.

The Regional Meeting Photos:

Top Left (from l to r): Richard Simman, MD; Gerit Mulder, DPM; and Erin Kelly RN.

Bottom Left and Top Right: Participants at the latest Ohio Regional meeting.

Bottom Right: The opening slide of Gerit Mulder, DPM 's presentation during the Regional Meeting.



ACCWS NEWS

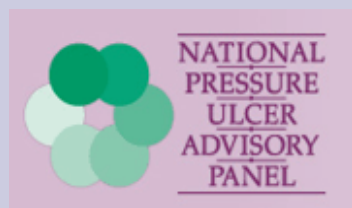


Welcome New ACCWS Fellows:

Patricia Affe, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Janet Barry, CWS, FACCWS
Stacy Barton, LVN, CWS, FACCWS
Lora Blair, CWS, FACCWS
Francesca Chavez-Giles, PT, CWS, FACCWS
David M. Feldbaum, MD, CWS, FACCWS
Elizabeth Fish, BSN, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Amanda Gross, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Melody E. Hankins, LPN, CWS, FACCWS
Ann Hoyt, CWS, FACCWS
D'Etta M. Jenkins, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Pamela M. Jensen-Stanley, CWS, FACCWS
Brian G. Loder, DPM, CWS, FACCWS
Gwen A. McComy, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Elroy Miller, CWS, FACCWS
Rita Miranda, CWS, FACCWS
Roy E. Monsour, MD, CWS, FACCWS
Terence Navin, MD, CWS, FACCWS
Stephen Palajec, BS, CWS, FACCWS
Pamela Paprone, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Kim Reis, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Shelia G. Roberts, CHRN, CWS, FACCWS
Sarah L. Rotast, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Judy M. Scott, CWS, FACCWS
Joanne M. Slawinski, BS, CWS, FACCWS
Jennifer Smith, BSPT, CWS, FACCWS
David Sullivan, DPM, CWS, FACCWS
Laurie Swezey, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Julie Tinnin, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Dot Weir, RN, CWS, FACCWS
Nanci V. Wilson, RPT, CWS, FACCWS

The JACCWS will premier this January 2009. A subscription to the quarterly Journal will be included in your Fellowship dues.

The ACCWS is a Proud Member of



**Visit our Website:
www.theccws.org**



Back to Basics: An Introduction to Wound Care:

This introductory course is designed to provide healthcare practitioners with an overview of current wound healing practices and technologies. Participants will gain knowledge of clinically useful information that can be applied in the management of patients with various wound types.

Visit www.theccws.org for upcoming dates and registration information.

