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Chronology of Richard C. Schafer, B.S., D.C.

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Color Code:
 Green: for emphasis
 Red: questionable or uncertain information

Year/Volume Index to the *Journal of the National Chiropractic Association* (1949-1963), formerly *National Chiropractic Journal* (1939-1948), formerly *The Chiropractic Journal* (1933-1938), formerly *Journal of the International Chiropractic Congress* (1931-1932) and *Journal of the National Chiropractic Association* (1931-1932):

Year	Vol.	Year	Vol.	Year	Vol.	Year	Vol.
		1941	10	1951	21	1961	31
		1942	11	1952	22	1962	32
1933	1	1943	12	1953	23	1963	33
1934	3	1944	14	1954	24		
1935	4	1945	15	1955	25		
1936	5	1946	16	1956	26		
1937	6	1947	17	1957	27		
1938	7	1948	18	1958	28		
1939	8	1949	19	1959	29		
1940	9	1950	20	1960	30		



Richard Schafer, D.C., 1952

1930 (Feb 19): Richard C. Schafer (RCS) born in Superior, Wisconsin to John F. Schafer (Dzaman et al., 1980, pp. 214-5); his father and older brother will become DCs

1938: RCS' father graduates from Palmer School of Chiropractic (PSC) (Schafer, 2001b):

...My dad graduated from Palmer in 1938, blind, 3rd in his class. Dave Palmer was sleeping through classes at the time. He had no interest in chiropractic at the time, only the radio station. My dad's guide at PCC was a Quaker from England who was raised in India. He made clay models of all organs for dad and read the texts for him. His name was Ronald Rice. He served as editor of the *British Chiropractic Journal* for many years. My dad only practiced 8 years but drew patients from Belgium and South Africa. One of the Mayo Brothers spent a weekend with us.

Mable Palmer told my mother that she and BJ hadn't sleep together for many years because of his syphilis. It is believed by many that BJ died of tabs. . .

1952: RCS graduates from Lincoln Chiropractic College (Dzaman et al., 1980, pp. 214-5)

PHOTOGRAPH

1952-60: RCS practices in Kenmore NY (Dzaman et al., 1980)

1953-58: RCS serves as managing editor for the *NYSCA Journal* (Dzaman et al., 1980)

1964: RCS earns B.S. from St. Mary's University in San Antonio TX (Dzaman et al., 1980, pp. 214-5)

1970-73: RCS associated with Behavior Research Foundation in Denver (Dzaman et al., 1980)

1973 (Sept): **ACA Journal** [10(9)] includes:
 -"ACA staff appointments" notes Schafer, living in Denver, has been appointed ACA director of public affairs (p. 21)

1973-79: RCS serves as director of public affairs for ACA (Dzaman et al., 1980)

1974 (June): **ACA Journal** [11(6)] includes:
 -RCS authors "Never in anger" (pp. 60-3)

1980? (Oct 18): "Minutes, Founding Meeting of the Association for the History of Chiropractic; Spears Hospital - Denver, Colo. - October 18, 1981?":

The meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a society to encourage and advance study in chiropractic history. It was called to order at 10 a.m. Chairman was Dr. W. Rehm. (List of attendees attached)

Initial discussion focused on the need for such an organization and the possible scope of its activities. Also considered was the desirability of affiliation with similar organizations so as not to duplicate efforts of mutual interest.

Upon the MOTION of Dr. A.E. Homewood, the Constitution & Bylaws of the Chiropractic Hall of Honor and Museum Corporation were examined.

This motion was not adopted in that most of the delegates agreed that the Chiropractic Hall of Honor and Museum was unique and that its purpose could not be duplicated.

The following general objectives of the proposed new organization were agreed to:

1. Publish a comprehensive and objective literature on chiropractic history;
2. Identify and catalog existing historical resources;
3. Provide means of preserving archival materials;
4. Conduct seminars and workshops to advance research in chiropractic history;
5. Design a standard curriculum or syllabus for teaching chiropractic history in the professional schools;
6. Cooperate with all recognized organizations and institutions that are interested in chiropractic history.

It was duly MOVED and seconded that the name of the organization be "The International Chiropractic Historical Society." An amendment was proposed and seconded that the name be "The Association for the History of Chiropractic."

When the amendment was put to a vote, it was passed.

It was MOVED and seconded that W. Rehm be designate president pro-tem of the Association, to serve in this capacity until the first regular meeting. The motion was carried.

The structure of the Association was then discussed. It was MOVED, seconded and approved that the organization be nonprofit.

After a proper MOTION for each, chairman appointed the following interim committees and chairpersons; Constitution & Bylaws (V. Gielow); Publications (R. Gibbons); Public Relations (E. Busch); Membership (F. Dzaman); 1981 Convention (W. Rehm).

The chairman was authorized to act as an ex-officio member of all interim committees. Chairman advised that each of the named chairpersons would also be designated as an interim Steering Committee.

It was suggested that a study group be named to report at a later date on the practicality and design of a syllabus for teaching chiropractic history. Inasmuch as such a syllabus would have to be substantially referenced, this would be a long-term objective of the Association. (J. Maynard was later named.)

Discussion concerning the initial funding of the Association resulted in a MOTION that each Founding Member contribute \$50 to the president pro-tem for expenses, that this be considered a loan to be repaid from membership dues.

The above motion was carried and the sum of \$650.00 was collected.

A MOTION was proposed and seconded that the Founding Members shall consider and adopt the Constitution & Bylaws; said Founding Members being those persons advancing the organizational funds at the conclave of Oct. 18, 1980. An amendment to the motion stipulated that a copy of the proposed Constitution & Bylaws be mailed to each Founding Member prior to the 1981 meeting. The motion was carried.

The chairman announced that preliminary discussions had been held with officials of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., as the possible site for the 1981 Conference. An

announcement of the spring conference would be made to the profession early in 1981.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes were recorded by H.K. Lee, rewritten by W. Rehm.
 FOUNDING MEETING OF THE
 ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF CHIROPRACTIC
 OCTOBER 18, 1981?

List of Attendees

- *Cheri D. Alexander, DC – California Chiropractic Association
- *Eleonore B. Busch
- *William E. Cameron, DC – International Chiropractors Association
- *Fern L. Dzaman – Spears Chiropractic Hospital, Who's Who in Chiropractic
- *Leonard E. Fay, DC – National College of Chiropractic
- *Russell W. Gibbons
- *Vern Gielow – Palmer College of Chiropractic
- *A. Earl Homewood, DC – Western States Chiropractic College
- *Herbert K. Lee, DC – Canadian Chiropractic Association, Canadian College
- Joseph E. Maynard, DC – Life Chiropractic College
- *Ernest G. Napolitano, DC – New York College, Council on Chiro. Education
- *Arthur L. Nickson, DC – Logan College of Chiropractic
- Vivian M. Nickson, DC
- *James F. Ransom, DC – American Chiropractic Association
- William S. Rehm, DC
- James M. Russell, DC – Texas Chiropractic College, Texas Chiro. Foundation
- *Richard C. Schafer, DC – Associated Chiropractic Academic Press
- * Contributor of \$50 advance

PHOTOGRAPH



Founders of the AHC, 1980; from the first issue of *Chiropractic History*, 1981

2001 (Jan 31a): e-mail from Richard Schafer DC (7RCSX@email.msn.com) to JCK:

The idea for a chiropractic historical society was solely Bill Rehm's. He first discussed his idea with Gibbons and then proceeded to set up the founders meeting. Representatives from all chiro colleges were invited plus several notables such as Lee. I was called early, but only god knows why. Had many telephone conversations with Bill in the early years --became good friends.

Fern Dzamen was the public relations director for Spears. She was working on the first "Who's Who in Chiropractic" at the time of the founders meeting.

R. C. Schafer, DC acapress.com

2001 (Jan 31b): e-mail from Richard Schafer DC (7RCSX@email.msn.com) to JCK:

>And how are you doing these days, amigo?<

Weak, but blessed having no pain. Lost 73 lbs last year.

>Please feed me as much more as you can.<

If I had the strength to do that, I'd develop another book. Perhaps, however, I can answer some questions about 1940--1970s chiropractic if you have any blanks. My dad graduated from Palmer in 1938, blind, 3rd in his class. Dave Palmer was sleeping through classes at the time. He had no interest in chiropractic at the time, only the radio station. My dad's guide at PCC was a Quaker from England who was raised in India. He made clay models of all organs for dad and read the texts for him. His name was Ronald Rice. He served as editor of the *British Chiropractic Journal* for many years. My dad only practiced 8 years but drew patients from Belgium and South Africa. One of the Mayo Brothers spent a weekend with us.

Mable Palmer told my mother that she and BJ hadn't sleep together for many years because of his syphilis. It is believed by many that BJ died of tabes.

According to the above, I'm getting senile dementia.

Have you read my last monograph? It has lots of history.

Best regards to you and yours,

2001 (Feb 21, Wednesday): Richard C. Schafer DC dies at home in Cedar Lake OK

2001 (Feb 22) e-mail forward from Stephen Perle DC at UBCC (perle@bridgeport.edu):

"Dr. Thomas V. Giordano" wrote:

Dear Colleagues,

It is with a profound displeasure and a melancholy heart that I inform you all of the passing away of Dr. Richard C. Schafer early on Wednesday, the 21st, at his home in Cedar Lake, Oklahoma. He was 71 years old.

Dick was a second generation chiropractor, following his father, Dr. John Schafer, into practice.

He remains a colleague to emulate, in his dedication and in his adherence to science and the administration of our profession. His contributions shall not be forgotten and should stand as an example to us all.

I would urge you to take a moment and send a telegram to the funeral home where the services are to be held to show solidarity with his grieving family and acknowledgment of our collective loss.

He left our profession better than he found it.

Dr. Schafer is survived by four children, Scott Edward, Clark Kirby, Jill Darcy, and Lynn Carol Miller, and 2 granddaughters.

Services will be held at 2pm Saturday, at Merritt Funeral Home. I respectfully would ask someone near to OK City or in the area to provide us with the address of the parlor, as this was not forwarded to me.

Thank you,

Tom Giordano; LECCE, Italia

2001 (Apr 9): *Dynamic Chiropractic* [19(8)] includes:

-Frank M. Painter DC [7 South Waiola, La Grange IL 60525; 708-482-0155; Frankp@chiro.org] authors "In memoriam -- Richard C. Schafer, DC, PhD, FICC" (pp. 1, 6):

The chiropractic profession lost one of its most prolific authors on February 21, when Richard C. Schafer, DC, PhD, FICC, aged 71, died at his Oklahoma cottage, following a long bout with cancer. A 1952 graduate of Lincoln Chiropractic College of Indiana, Dr. Schafer was the first DC to be published by a major medical publishing company (Williams and Wilkins), and was the author of 31 non-self-published books. His first entry was a best seller on the management of sports and recreational injuries. The success of this book opened that market to chiropractic authors thereafter.

Following his graduation, he practiced in Kenmore, New York for seven years. During that period he served the profession as a director of the New York State Federation of Chiropractic, and as managing editor of the *New York Journal of Chiropractic*.

In 1960, he entered the publishing business, and was the owner of a publishing house in Texas. His publications and ventures into the management/consulting field and in leadership development drew the attention of the American Chiropractic Association. Dr. Schafer assumed the post of director of public affairs for the ACA in 1973.

During his stay at ACA, he developed the first editions of the association booklets *Chiropractic State of the Art* and the *ACA Policies on Public Health and Related Matters*. As director of public affairs from 1973 to 1979, he also helped to enhance public awareness of chiropractic with 20 new works, explaining chiropractic principles and ACA resolutions.

Between 1973 and 1993, most of his books were published by the ACA. He also published books for the Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research, NCMIC and the Motion Palpation Institute. He was a consultant for the *World Book Encyclopedia*, *Who's Who in Chiropractic*, and the National Textbook Company. By 1993, the last year ACA reported sales to Dr. Schafer, he had generated an astounding \$2,809,879 in gross profits for those publishers!

In 1974, the ACA Board of Directors honored him with the "Outstanding Service Recognition" award. He was also inducted as a Fellow of the International College of Chiropractors (FICC). He was a founding member of the Association for the History of Chiropractic. In the 1980s, he also penned a series of articles for *Dynamic Chiropractic*, receiving the "Certificate of Journalistic Appreciation" from them in 1988, and being honored by *DC* again 1989 with the "Special Journalist" award. He received the "Presidential" award from the ACA for outstanding contributions to the profession in 1992.

Dick was a second-generation chiropractor, following his father, Dr. John Schafer. He like to share stories of having seen B.J. Palmer while on campus. B.J. was quite taken by Dick's father, because John was a blind chiropractic student!

Dr. Schafer is survived by four children (Scott Edward, Clark Kirby, Jill Darcy and Lynn Carol Miller) and two granddaughters. His mentorship and educational contributions to this profession will be long remembered.

I first met Dr. Schafer via e-mail in 1997, after requesting his permission to link his rehabilitation monographs for the LINKS section at the Chiropractic Resource Organization's website (www.chiro.org/places). He graciously gave me copies of those chapters to post on our site. In mid-1998, he asked me if I would be interested in maintaining his ACA Press website (www.acapress.com), then bequeathed me the copyrights to all his published works. During those years, we exchanged many posts. I admit I have never met a more humble or dedicated professional.

To honor his memory, I am forming the nonprofit Richard Schafer Memorial Fund. All contributions, as well as proceeds from the sale of his previous books and his books on disk, will be donated to FCER to fund chiropractic research. If you would like to support this concept, I welcome further contact.

Dick's last request was that I publish this in his honor:

Epitaph of R.C. Schafer

And some stood proudly erect, on a level some higher than their previous station, now where the viewpoint was different and said,

“Oh captain, my captain.” And he said softly,

“Thank you,” and took his leave.

Paraphrased from “The Dead Poets Society.”

References:

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- Schafer RC. E-mail to JCK, 31 January 2001b