

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



### Fond Memories & New Beginnings

Duane G. Koehler, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

2018 - 2019 ACOFP President

Along with the ACOFP Board of Governors and Past Presidents, I would like to recognize the important work and years of dedication of our recently-retired Executive Director, Peter Schmelzer, MBA, CAE. Pete's accomplishments include winning the American Osteopathic Association's Bob E. Jones, CAE Executive Director Award and Association Forum's John C. Thiel Distinguished Service Award in the Association Professional Category.

Pete has made a positive, lasting impression on the College and will be missed by all. He holds a special place in the hearts and minds of ACOFP Past Presidents and Board members, who enjoyed Pete's unwavering support over the years. The group wanted to join in wishing Pete a happy and healthy retirement by sharing fond memories and kind words of appreciation.

*Pete has been the heart and soul of ACOFP for 18 years. His dedication and diligence kept our organization strong. He believed in our profession, our goals and our vision. Thanks Pete for all the help and dedication.*

~ Robert C. DeLuca, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*I have always found Mr. Peter Schmelzer to be a very dependable leader as well as a talented writer who put others before himself and promoted excellence within the ACOFP Membership, the Board and the ACOFP President.*

~ Paul A. Martin, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*Words cannot say 'thank you' enough! The support I received from Pete allowed me to serve the ACOFP to my best. Wishing Pete happiness and success in future adventures.*

~ Carol L. Henwood, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*We have more stories than anyone wants to hear. One encounter stands out when Pete amazed us by showing his love of Tasty Kakes!*

~ Kieran P. Knapp, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*I want to thank Peter for welcoming us into the ACOFP family. He is so nice and goes out of his way to put others at ease. He will be missed.*

~ Gautam J. Desai, DO, FACOFP

*Pete has always been a prepared and outstanding leader for our College. He has the answers to both big and small questions. No project has ever been too big or small for Pete!*

~ Ronna D. New, DO, FACOFP

*Pete is one of the most truly caring people I know, the best cat (board) herder in the business, and a trusted friend and advisor. Plus, I never had trouble finding Pete in a crowd.*

~ Kevin V. de Regnier, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*I had an excellent working relationship with Peter Schmelzer. Peter is a strategically focused and goal-oriented administrative leader.*

~ George T. Sawabini, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*Pete is loyal and supportive of his colleagues and co-workers. He has mentored and supported them through thick and thin. Pete is one of the best men I have had the pleasure to know. I appreciate him for who he is more than what he has done, and to say that I love him like a brother would not be an exaggeration.*

~ Ronnie B. Martin, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*As a friend, I valued Pete's wise counsel. He has wonderful ethics that we all appreciated and tried to emulate. He was a mentor who provided us with good judgment, positivity, stability and guidance.*

~ Steven F. Rubin, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*Working with Pete on the ACOFP Board was a blessing and a joy – his guidance, leadership and assistance with my concerns created many memorable moments.*

~ Jan D. Zieren, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*Pete was always there, even if in the background. His devotion to the ACOFP was always evident. He deserves special kudos for hosting our Chinese friends through working with the International Primary Care Educational Alliance. Pete never found a need that he could not meet.*

~ Royce K. Keilers, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

*Pete's known for his famous Indianapolis meeting once a year with the racing set and due to his height, such comments as, "how is the atmosphere up there?" and "do you shake with earthquakes?" All of which he has heard many times.*

~Martin J. Porcelli, DO, PhD, MHPE, FACOFP

*Pete always kept a level head, in public, and was always there for anyone who needed him.*

*~ Kenneth A. Heiles, DO, FACOFP dist.*

*Peter was respected and admired by his staff who were inspired to go that extra mile when needed. We all shined a little brighter in front of our membership and other organizations because of Peter's leadership. We are all proud to say we served with him at ACOFP. Thank you, Pete, for a great ride.*

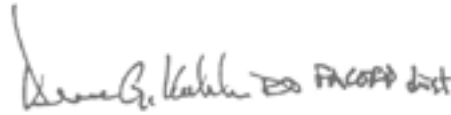
*~ Thomas N. Told, DO, FACOFP dist.*

*Pete has done an amazing job of guiding the actions of the Board, of offering counsel to Presidents and even shared his victory dance when the Cubs won the World Series. Thanks for securing the foundation of the ACOFP. Wishing the best for you in retirement.*

*~ Duane G. Koehler, DO, FACOFP dist.*

As we ring in the new year, we look forward to exciting things to come with our new Executive Director, Bob Moore, MA, CAE. Moore brings the outstanding experience and knowledge that can successfully guide ACOFP through a changing landscape while ensuring that it remains a leading voice for osteopathic family medicine nationwide.

Happy New Year to all!



Duane G. Koehler, DO, FACOFP dist.

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