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Founders Day Assembly



Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
January 22, 1988 11:00 a.m.
Rowland Hall

Founders Day Assembly

The annual observance of Founders Day honors a man who "put the cause of osteopathic medicine above personal considerations." That man was Oscar John Snyder, M.S., D.O., co-founder of the college and PCOM's first president.

Even after Dr. Snyder resigned the presidency in favor of a new administration, he remained with PCOM for 42 years as adviser and member of the board of trustees. He brought about the establishment of high standards of osteopathic education which was instrumental in obtaining the Commonwealth's legal recognition of the college and the osteopathic profession.

Program

Introductions

Joseph A. Dieterle, D.O.
Dean

Invocation

Kris M. Belland
President, Student Council

The Pledge of Allegiance

Albert F. D'Alonzo, D.O.
President, Alumni Association

Welcome, Board of Trustees

The Honorable J. Sydney Hoffman
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Introduction of the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal Recipient

J. Peter Tilley, D.O.
President

Address

Richard S. Koch, D.O., F.A.A.O., F.A.C.G.P.
Class of 1938

Benediction

Sherwood R. Mercer
Professor Emeritus

*The O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal will be presented to
Dr. Koch at the Founders Day/Alumni Dinner Dance
on January 23, 1988.*

Richard S. Koch, D.O.
F.A.A.O., F.A.C.G.P.
Class of 1938

Underneath a gentlemanly polish and calm exterior, Dick Koch is a fighter. He has wrestled alligators in Florida and captured an eight-foot octopus in the Pacific, and once in his boxing salad days he fought Jersey Joe Wolcott, who went on to become heavyweight champion of the world.

Richard S. Koch, D.O., went on to become heavyweight champion of osteopathic medicine in Olympia, Washington.

His alma mater, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, which has known Dr. Koch as a member of its board of trustees for 14 years, as a graduate for 50 years and as a friend for life, is proud this Founders Day to confer its highest award, the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal, upon this gifted, energetic and articulate osteopathic physician.

As a young man, Dick Koch became interested in medicine while a student at Cheltenham high school. After earning his pre-med degree from the University of Alabama, he returned to Philadelphia, choosing PCO in 1934 over a well-known traditional school of medicine because he had seen osteopathic treatment succeed where allopathic medicine had failed. In 1939 the newly graduated, newly interned Richard Koch, D.O., knowing that his life's work as a medical revolutionary lay ahead, set his course for Washington's state capital, Olympia, where he opened an office on 11th Avenue.

More than two millenia earlier Hippocrates wrote "Life is short, opportunity fleeting, judgment difficult, treatment easy; but treatment after thought is proper and profitable." Those words, quoted in the 1938 *Synopsis* that accompanied Dick Koch's graduation from PCO, could have been a model for his 49-year osteopathic medical practice in Olympia. As thousands of his patients in the Pacific Northwest will attest, Dr. Koch's "treatment after thought" has produced applications for the principles of osteopathic medicine that extend well beyond a record of individual cases and into the realm of clinical osteopathic research. Since the early Fifties, his office pa-

tients have stood for full postural x-rays of the spine, which, when considered over time, produce an extraordinary picture of relative musculoskeletal health and functional rehabilitation. Just as important, they are visual testimony to the success of Dr. Koch's osteopathic treatment.

It was his successful national politicking in the sixties, however, that produced a change in the way the profession identifies itself. *Osteopathy*, Dr. Koch believed, needed a new image which proclaimed the parity with M.D.s that had been gained as state after state approved D.O.s for practice. Now, with full licensure, it was time for *Osteopathic Medicine* to take its rightful place in society. PCOM agreed in 1968, changing its name, and helping to lead a profession-wide movement.

With Puget Sound at his doorstep and a love of swimming as his motivation, Dick Koch began an early romance with the sea that has had a number of medical side effects. His list of scientific and sports affiliations is weighted heavily in favor of organizations whose work takes them to the ocean floor. Understanding the physical and biomedical processes that take over as people plunge underwater has led Dr. Koch to develop treatment modalities that employ exercises and osteopathic technique for land-bound patients.

Dr. Koch's frequent lectures on rehabilitation medicine and another favorite treatment modality, sclerotherapy, his board memberships, including the board of trustees of PCOM, the PCOM Alumni board, the boards of the American Academy of Osteopathy, the American College of Osteopathic General Practitioners and many others, all have tempered a physician whose world view contributes extensively to furthering the vision of the profession.

Dick Koch's tireless support of this institution, his dedication to the practice of osteopathic principles, and his unbounded enthusiasm for osteopathic education and research amply justify his recognition as recipient of the 1988 O.J. Snyder Memorial Award.

Richard S. Koch, D.O. F.A.A.O., F.A.C.G.P.

Selected Curriculum Vitae

Professional Memberships, Activities and Affiliations

American Academy of Medical Preventives
American Academy of Osteopathy
American Association of Orthopedic Medicine
American Association of Osteopathic Specialists
American College of General Practice
American College of Physicians
American Council of Medical Staffs
American Geriatrics Association
American Gerontology Association
American Holistic Medical Association
American Osteopathic Academy of Sclerotherapy
American Osteopathic Association
American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel
American Prolotherapy Association
American Public Welfare Association
American Society of Contemporary Medicine & Surgery
International College of General Practitioners
International Rehabilitation Medicine Association
National Health Council
National and Washington State Councils on Aging
North American Academy of Manipulative Medicine
Phi Sigma Gamma Osteopathic Medical Fraternity
Southern Medical Association
Washington Osteopathic Medical Association
Undersea Medical Society

On Staff

Shorewood Memorial Hospital — Seattle
Black Hills Hospital and St. Peters Hospital — Olympia
College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (Faculty)

Scientific and Sports Affiliations

American Medical Scuba Diving Association — Board Member
International Society of Aquatic Medicine — Board Member
National Association of Underwater Instructors —
Certified Diving Instructor since 1961
Underwater Explorers Club and Professional
Association of Diving Physicians — Charter Member
Sea-Space Symposium
Centralia College and Olympia Technical Community College —
Lecturer in Underwater Physiology, Water Safety, Underwater
Archeology and Sports Diving

Special Recognitions

American College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation — Board Certified
American College of Osteopathic General Practitioners —
Charter & Board Member, Fellow, Board Certified
American Academy of Osteopathy — Board Member, Fellow
American Osteopathic College of Sclerotherapy — Board Member, Fellow
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine — Member, Board of Trustees
Alumni Association of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic
Medicine — Member, Board of Trustees, Former President
American Osteopathic Assn — Member, Board of Trustees;
House of Delegates; Bureau of Comprehensive Health
Planning; Chairman, Health Care of the Aging Committee;
Former AOA Vice President
Phi Sigma Gamma, National President
Washington Osteopathic Medical Association, President

Recipients of the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal

The O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal, presented in memory of the co-founder of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, is awarded in recognition of leadership and service to the osteopathic profession and to the college.

- *1953 David S. B. Pennock, M.D., D.O.
- 1954 Margaret H. Jones, D.O.
- *1955 Chester D. Swope, D.O.
- *1956 Russell C. McCaughan, D.O.
- *1958 Phil R. Russell, D.O.
- *1959 Ira W. Drew, D.O.
- *1960 C. Paul Snyder, D.O.
- *1961 James M. Eaton, D.O.
- *1962 J. Ernest Leuzinger, D.O.
- *1963 H. Walter Evans, D.O.
- 1964 Paul T. Lloyd, D.O.
- *1966 Angus G. Cathie, D.O.
- *1967 Carlton Street, D.O.
- 1968 Edwin H. Cressman, D.O.
- *1969 Edgar O. Holden, D.O.
- *1970 Frederic H. Barth, BS., LL.D. (hon.)
- *1971 Joseph F. Py, D.O.
- 1972 George W. Northup, D.O.
- *1973 William F. Daiber, D.O.
- 1974 Herman Kohn, D.O.
- *1975 William S. Spaeth, D.O.
- *1976 Mortimer J. Sullivan, D.O.
- 1977 A. Aline Swift, D.O.
- 1978 Foster C. True, D.O.
- 1979 Frank E. Gruber, D.O.
- *1980 Leo C. Wagner, D.O.
- 1981 R. MacFarlane Tilley, D.O.
- 1982 M. Carman Pettapiece, D.O.
- 1983 George H. Guest, D.O.
- *1984 Thomas M. Rowland, Jr., B.S., LL.D. (hon.), D.Sc. (hon.)
- 1985 Galen S. Young, Sr., D.O.
- 1986 David Heilig, D.O.
- 1987 W. Kenneth Riland, D.O.
- 1988 Richard S. Koch, D.O.

*Deceased

***Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine***

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