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In this issue

Meeting of the Minds 1
Why Mahler? 1
Finding the Subluxation 2
New Diplomate Dr. Bobby Fano 4
Pediatric Chiropractic Text Book 4
It’s Been An Exciting Time 5
In Memoriam-Dr. Charles Nelson 5
Classified 7

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MoM VIII Was Certainly GREAT!
By Jeanne Taylor, DC

Not only was this seminar the best attended Meeting of the Minds to date, but it brought an intriguing tone of complexity, controversy and excitement. Once again, Dr. Charlie Martin orchestrated interesting and stimulating topics. It was absolutely wonderful to see faces I hadn’t seen in years and observe some of our oldest GCSS members, i.e. Drs. Sheldon Delman, and Ernst Anrig meet and mingle with our most recent diplomats, i.e., Drs. Chelsa Winheim and Bobby Fano.

Each MoM has featured a Gonstead chiropractor who has studied directly under Dr. G in some capacity. This year’s “Man of the Hour” was Dr. Sheldon Delman of New York. To reflect on his and others’ memories of Dr. G, a common chord always resonates: “He was kind, generous, hard-working [and] was always looking for a...

(Continued on page 2)

Why Mahler?
By Perry Chinn, DC

I love chiropractic. I love to read. And I love music.

I came across a wonderful book a few weeks ago entitled “Why Mahler? How One Man and Ten Symphonies Changed Our World”. I was delighted to find that this was another rare literary find that I could not put down. I finished the book the evening prior to attending a chiropractic seminar and student workshop at Southern California University of Health Sciences.

I was in L.A. to participate in a seminar entitled “Meeting of the Minds” a forum of: 1. established (dare I say ‘old’) Gonstead practitioners, 2. a research board meeting and 3. a student introductory workshop.

You are probably wondering what these two events have in common. Gustav Mahler was born a hundred years before myself in 1860. He learned to love music and became a very famous, and to some, infamous conductor and composer. Some say, including me, that he was far ahead of his time. His music explored new territory, set established views of music composition and expression, and literally turned the musical scene of his day on its proverbial ear. He was a driven, in some ways tortured...

(Continued on page 3)

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man. Brilliant, a genius largely unappreciated by his contemporaries. I have come to love the music of Mahler, singing tenor in the Seattle Symphony Chorale, we have recorded his 2nd and 8th symphonies.

Now the correlation to chiropractic. In the above book by Norman LeBrecht, he (Mahler) is quoted as expressing the following.... "If after my death something doesn’t sound right, then change it. You have not only the right but the duty to do so". (emphasis mine). This attitude and direction by the great composer has given hundreds of conductors and performers incredible freedom to express his artwork over the past hundred plus years.

I spent several days in southern California amidst the rain, cold and wind (I really thought I was home in Seattle), listening to a discussion of our identity as chiropractors...particularly how it relates to how we define the subluxation. We were privileged to have as our guest at this Gonstead forum, Dr. Leonard Faye, of motion palpation fame. His presentation was insightful, painfully direct at times...and poked a little (perhaps intentionally) at the established view of the Gonstead theory of disc subluxation.

My point is this....if something works, let’s keep it and build on it! If something doesn’t, perhaps it is wise to take a dispassionate view of our belief system and modify it a bit. To some, this is heresy.

We as humans have a tendency to instill a religious fervor into our belief systems. This tendency may serve us for a while, largely I believe in our intellectual infancy, however, there is a time to set the B.S. (belief system in this case) aside and take an objective view of where we stand and where we are headed.

I ‘believe’ in the subluxation. The disc theory of the subluxation also strongly resonates with me. However, I believe that there is so much we do not know or understand. As our critics turn up the heat, we can either retreat into stubborn dogma (e.g., Dr. Gonstead said it this way so it must always be this way!) or we can filter out the content of criticism that is valid and use this to our advantage, increasing our scope of knowledge. Now is the time to really move forward and get a better understanding of just what this belief system entails.

Dr. Gonstead was brilliant. He was a genius, and I am humbled and honored to pursue a work in his footsteps. I also believe that he gave us a credo to live by. Not only "...find it, accept it where you find it, fix it, leave it alone"...but also respect our duty to move forward in our understanding and then our ensuing application of our increased wisdom. I firmly believe that Dr. G shared in the intent and directive of Mahler. There comes a time to stop following in another’s steps...and break trail.

Now is the time....

IN-JOY and service,

Perry

This article appeared on Dr. Chinn’s blog and is reprinted with permission. You can read more from Dr. Chinn’s blog at http://chiroeco.com/chiro-blog/fearless-chiro/

Dr. Chinn is a 1986 Life graduate (Marietta), has been practicing in Seattle for 25 years and is a board member of the Gonstead Clinical Studies Society. He is the co-creator of the nutritional cardiovascular formula Acctrix (www.Acctrix.com), co-founder of Unisal Wellness Technologies and is the author of Symphony of Wellness and Soaring Beyond Fear (www.PerryChinn.com). His book Symphony of Wellness focuses on the science and benefits of L-arginine and nitric oxide for cardiovascular health. He can be reached at DrPCChinn@gmail.com, drchinn@acctrix.com or info@perrychinn.com

Meeting of the Minds-VIII

Drs. Lydia Dever, Chelsa Winheim, & David Libs

Drs. Sheldon Delman & Steven Rinald, Cindy & Dr. Tracy Gabbert

Drs. Ernst Anrig, Denny O’Hara & Stephanie Szabo

Drs. Jose Cortes, Patrick Ryan, Jeanne Taylor & Sheldon Delman