

### Why I became a chiropractor:

I became a chiropractor after experiencing a work related injury. I was injured on the job, couldn't stand upright and was in agony! Intuitively I called the closest chiropractor who on a Saturday afternoon waited for me. I crawled into his office and within two weeks was amazed at the speed of my recovery. All without drugs or surgery! It was after that experience that I began thinking about becoming a chiropractor.

### Why I joined PCA:

I was introduced to the PCA while at New York Chiropractic College. When NYCC had a function, there was the PCA supporting the school and its students. It became clear to me that the PCA was a pillar for chiropractors. Joining the PCA was one of the smartest things that I could have done for myself.

### What membership means to me:

Back then, and still today, the PCA has informed and educated its members on the obstacles and successes concerning our profession. As a DC I have a need to know what is going on around me for the sake of my patients, my practice, myself and my colleagues. To me the PCA is a vital source of relevant information and an archive for our past history. I am a member because the PCA is my advocate for all things chiropractic.

### Why you volunteer:

A few years ago our district meetings were on the verge of collapse. PCA's Executive Vice President, Ed Nielsen came to our district asking for help. Two of my colleagues and I stepped up and said yes we would help. It was just that important to us to preserve the valuable lines of communication between Harrisburg and Northeastern PA by continuing to have regular meetings in our district.

### Why you think others should too:

Just as my district was on the brink of extinction, without member participation our organization that is comprised of DC's and functions to support DC's and their patients would cease to exist. In an effort to preserve and to promote the organization it's extremely important that we have members who volunteer. Whether a DC aspires to become the association's president or can give an hour or two when needed.

Volunteering offers an insight not realized while sitting on the sidelines. There are many opportunities to meet with the PCA's Executive team, home office staff, lobbyist, attorney, committee chairs and fellow DC's. Volunteering allows an individual to see the operations up front and have a voice in the decision making. The learning experience alone will be worth the effort. Most importantly, you will meet some really wonderful and dedicated people!

If you have an interest in helping others and I know that you do because you are chiropractors, then consider lending a helping hand in whatever capacity that you can.

Best of luck in all that you do.

Karen J. Giles, DC

I live in Wilkes-Barre and practice in Hanover Township, PA