

President's Message



Joe Agostinelli, DPM
Colonel, USAF Retired
AAPSM President

“ When You Come To The Fork In The Road – Take It “-
Baseball Hall of Famer, Yogi Berra.)

First off greetings from “Paradise” in the Northwest Florida Panhandle! Hope all is well, safe, and healthy for you and your families, as we navigate these challenging times. I want to first thank the past presidents who recently served before me during my tenure on the AAPSM Executive Board: Dr.s Maggie Fournier, Howard Osterman, and Jimmy Radcliff. They along with our storied history of past presidents are the shoulders I stand on!

As my year begins, my personal priorities for the AAPSM will always be centered around the question -“What is best for our fellow/associate/resident/student members”. We as an Executive Board are here for you! I encourage you to please become involved in your Academy by contributing to our newsletter, committees, sponsored CME meetings ,etc. Contact your Executive Director Rita Yates at ritayates2@aol.com/301-370-2397 at any time to offer your services or inquire on how to become involved. Too many times members in medical associations like ours feel that they cannot become involved, or that the board members do all the work. That is not healthy for our Academy. The lifeblood of our Academy requires large amounts of input from membership . I promise you that should you want to become active in the Academy ,we will find a committee or project for you!

A second priority for me is to ensure your Fellow status is recognized and useful to you. We need our associate members to seek Fellow status and be aware of the benefits! I realize the challenges you all have endured this past year personally,professionally,and financially. The Executive Board approved and made available to the membership the ELearning Platform to receive online CME units in lieu of an in-person meeting. We also are working with members on payments of their annual membership dues so as not to overburden you financially. Our director, Rita Yates, “the best “ executive director of

any podiatric medical/surgical organization I know works tirelessly with our membership on a daily basis. I have known and worked with Rita since my Fellow examination in 1989 while she was the assistant executive director. I can assure you any membership issues will be solved to your satisfaction as long as Rita is involved.

You all have professional and personal decisions to make about core values that should govern our Academy -- those being “integrity--commitment to excellence—and service above self”. I need you all to have that moral (integrity) compass to do the right thing as far as personal and professional activities with our Academy. You being a member of this Academy alone has illustrated your professional commitment (to excellence) . By becoming involved with your Academy we can utilize your talents (service above self) and we are all better off.

Sometimes we may reach a decision crossroads, like a “fork in the road “which we take to serve ourselves, families, and patients every day. I ask that should you have any comments, concerns, or just want to reach out to me – you do so by contacting me through the officer’s link on our website (aapsm.org).

Stay well and safe as we start this new year . Stay tuned for updates including the direction of our sponsored CME opportunities along with ways to make your fellow status more important to you and those seeking your professional talents. Remember that we are the sports medicine affiliate for the American Podiatric Medical Association and should serve as their “go to source “ for anything related to podiatric sports medicine!