

**SOURCES & NOTES:**

8/1/92

American Osteopathic Association, letter from William K. O'Connell, Associate Executive Director (April 5, 1991):

- Hiss was born in 1891, died 2/19/72
- graduated from the ASO in 1914
- held licenses in medicine in Ohio, Michigan, Colorado, Texas and California
- Hiss credited with invention of "Foot Last"

Norman R. Anstead, DPM; 12125 Vanowen St, North Hollywood CA 91605 (818-765-3330); loaned copy of Hiss' **Foot Health Digest**

Thomas F. Bergmann, DC, Editor of **Journal of Chiropractic Technique**, 735 Keokuk Lane, Mendota Heights MN 55120

- will send bibliography of DC and PT literature on manipulation of the foot

James W. Brantingham, DC; 1489-C E. Thousand Oaks Blvd, Thousand Oaks CA 91362 (H: 805-495-6890; W:805-495-1101; W:805-497-9926; FAX: 805-496-6910)

Richard A. Brown, DPM, Palmer College of Chiropractic/West, 1095 Dunford Way, Sunnyvale CA 94087; (408) 983-4000

Donald Caviness, DPM; 1046 Mangrove Ave, Chico CA 95926

**Interview with Wendy Toomey MA, 3/29/91**

- Dr. Caviness graduated from California College of Chiropractic in 1953
- Caviness interned in Hiss' clinic at 740 South Flower St, Los Angeles in 1958-59
- during WWII patients stood in line "around the block" to get into Hiss' clinic
- Caviness learned Hiss' technique for adjusting the cuboid, and this is the only manipulative method he still uses in his practice

**Interview with Wendy Toomey MA, 4/14/91**

- Caviness graduated with Rue Tikker from CCPM in 1953 at age 26-27; Caviness worked his way thru chiropody school as x-ray technician in area hospitals
- Hiss asked Tikker to run the Hiss Clinic in Pasadena; Tikker worked at the Hiss Clinic in Beverly Hills
- 1958-59 Caviness studied at Hiss' LA clinic,(on Flower St); commuted by plane between LA and Chico to keep his Chico practice alive; worked at Hiss clinic part-time doing general podiatry while studying Hiss' cuboid manipulation and "tendon balance" surgery for bunions; Caviness considered it "a year well spent"
- Hiss was famous, busy, "a man of many talents," very abrupt, "never had any question where you stood with Hiss", he was "a many of very strong opinions," "he was a tremendous artist," Hiss decorated his clinics with his many paintings
- Hiss was "violently opposed to any type of orthotic"; Hiss would discard patients' arch supports: "he thought they were a crutch"; it was like casting the foot: muscles would atrophy rather than strengthen
- Caviness did not like Hiss' liberal prescription of the cuboid stabilizer: "seemed like everybody had a cuboid lesion - I'm sure that's a bit of an exaggeration"

-Caviness did not like Hiss' marketing methods, but found Hiss "a very colorful character" who held his TV and radio audiences' attention

- Manipulation was a dirty word in podiatry at that time; Hiss was sole promoter of foot manipulation
- Caviness estimates that 5% of his current caseload involves foot manipulation

Kathy Davisson, Special Collections Librarian, AT Still Memorial Library, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville MO 64468 (816-626-2345)

**Letter of 4/16/91:**

- JM Hiss, originally from Columbus OH, graduated from ASO on June 8, 1914
- played varsity basketball at ASO for 2 years; served on the 1914 **Osteoblast** staff (yearbook)
- practiced in Columbus OH from 1914-1929, when he moved to LA
- graduated from Ohio University Medical Department, June 13, 1922
- died 2/19/72

Robert W. Dishman, MA, DC (DO?); 31225 La Baya, West Lake Village CA 91362 (near Malibu) (W: 818-889-5572; H:805-496-4304)

-former dean of the Hollywood College of Chiropractic (during the 1950s)

-writes in **Dynamic Chiropractic** on foot care

**Telephone interview** with J. Keating on 3/9/91

- graduated from Southern California College of Chiropractic Physicians & Surgeons
- knew TF Ratledge very well
- trained with Homer York; was alarmed with straight chiropractors willingness to treat serious respiratory infections with spinal adjustments only

**Audio-taped interview** with J. Keating on Saturday, 5/11/91 in Whittier CA

- attended Southern California College of Chiropractic (SCCC), which emphasized "physician-surgeon possibility" for DCs; school was aligned with NDs and DOs, wished to increase scope of practice to include "at least minor surgery and the use of certain medicines"
- interdisciplinary faculty at SCCC: DCs, MDs, NDs, DOs, DSCs and athletic trainers

-"strapped the foot, various pads and tapes to take care of all kinds of ordinary chiropody ailments...."

-"we covered arch-supports, particularly the kinds chiropodists would make in their own offices...pads were glued into the shoe..."

-"we also did a lot of taping of the foot...."

-all foot manip instruction from DCs; DSCs didn't teach foot manipulation

-overall, not a great deal of instruction in footcare; most students were not interested; however, a few DCs were quite interested, especially those involved in dealing with sports injuries (circa 1940), who did a lot of taping

1943: Dr. D in navy at amputation/rehab center of naval hospital in Vallejo CA, where he was in charge of the PT department; when Lt Commander (MD) arrived to take over department, Dishman (not commissioned) was required to get MD's prescription to adjust patients

-"in about two months I was fully occupied giving adjustments"

-Ted Shrader DC worked in brace shop at same naval hospital, made foot orthotics

## A Brief History of Manipulative Footcare in America

Keating

- Dishman's offices smelled like fiberglass factory because of materials used to make foot appliances
- 1947: Dishman teaches his first footcare seminar to 25-30 doctors at Royal Palms Hotel; not college-sponsored because LACC had no post-graduate program; Dishman had already published several papers on chiro footcare
- 1947: speaks with Lee Norcross at LACC re grad school offerings in orthopedics and footcare
- 1948: Dishman moves to Pomona, starts foot orthotics lab in Pomona; "got away from LACC, and the next thing I knew Dr. Lipe had started the orthopedic class about 1948. I came back...."; continues to operate Pomona lab
- Dishman taught LACC grad seminars at various CA cities
- Dr Webb (**LACC? SCCC?**) regularly treated feet by manipulation (DC?, **maybe DO?**)
- Dr. **Hoard?** (DO) was an "excellent manipulator of the foot"
- faculty at College of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons did foot manip; occasionally gave foot technique seminars at SCCC; "it was quite specific"
- Delbert J Metzinger DC "he was an excellent foot manipulator....he manipulated every joint in the body... one of his students was Elmer Bones" who later served on faculty at Hollywood College of Chiropractic
- "Metzinger lineage" included Elmer Bones, Al? Logan (no relation to Vinton; wrote book on manipulation), Franklin Miner
- Metzinger and Hiss Clinics were "leading" providers of foot manipulation
- Dishman also learned foot manip informally from Mel Wheadon DC
- Metzinger and Bones strove for audibles, sometimes hurt patients; Metzinger, Ratledge and Homer York were exclusively "articular thrusters"
- Dishman prefers osteopathic techniques ("relieving fibrosis by mobilization rather than thrusting") & soft-tissue methods & stretching because more gentle, painless
- Hiss Clinic: surprised Dishman; elevated chair for seated manip, some standing manipulations; no table; Hiss had a "volume practice, but not as much as Locke"; Hiss Clinic emphasized "high velocity thrusting"
- "Locke was a legend....probably an exaggeration....all different types of people.....ballet and other dancers were disabled....", got quick relief from Locke
- Locke's methods: Dishman had heard that "he delivered a high velocity kind of thrust, and he did it very quickly. All the Locke maneuvers that we've been taught were high velocity thrusting...."
- had not previously met JM Hiss Jr., MD
- recalled Stierwalt and Faye's books as primary written sources on footcare

**Letter from Robt W Dishman, MA, DC** to J. Keating, 7/29/91:

Dear Joe,

I enclose a photo of myself as you requested. In reviewing the diploma records of LACC I note Ralph Martin graduated in the class of 1938-1939 from SCCC and who became pres. of LACC in 1949. I have his last address back in 1986 located in Arcadia (near Pasadena).

EP Webb was clinic director and my first mentor for foot manipulation. Ralph Martin was on the teaching faculty the same year. Ralph Hoard DO also taught foot manipulation. Delbert Metzinger of LACC Faculty was a major contributor to my foot manipulation. In 1946-1947 B. Franklin Miner trained by Metzinger also was a major contributor to foot

manipulation. Both Miner and Metzinger trained Elmer Bones DC who was on my faculty teaching manipulation head to toe. Dr. Miner I believe if my memory serves me was a member of the Board of Regents as was Paul **Malipara** DC. The latter has been a State Board member, but he remembers little or nothing of Hollywood College.

Another resource for Hollywood College is Lavere H Latta BS, DC, who lives in Ventura or Santa Barbara. He is living and well. By the way, 1942 SCCC faculty is Clyde (not Claude) **Martin** who was a DO-physician & surgeon ENT specialist. Sorry - his last name is Gillette. There was a Clyde Martin in the era which has nothing to do with the subject.

I will attempt to contact Ralph Martin by writing a letter. No phone is listed.

Keep in touch,

Bob

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Donald P. Webb, DO on faculty of College of Chiropractic Physicians & Surgeons (CCP&S) beginning in 1933, faculty of SCCC 1936-37 (see LACC Graduation Records)

EP Webb DC, ND, Chairman, Board of Directors, CCP& S 1934-35 (see LACC Graduation Records)

EP Webb ND, DC **Director of Clinics**, SCCC 1941 (see LACC Graduation Records)

Delbert J Metzinger DC on faculty of LACC from, at minimum, 1940-47; (see LACC Graduation Records)

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John Martin Hiss, Jr, MD (internist), 5131 Amalfi Way, Oxnard CA 93035 (805-985-8031)

**Interview with J. Brantingham, DC** on 3/16/91 (tape in PCCW Archives):

-father, JM Hiss, DO, MD born in Columbus OH, 5/9/1892; Hiss Jr.'s grandfather was a blacksmith, he thinks; Hiss Sr's parents died when he was young

-early injury: a horse rolled-over on his foot while in National Guard, never completely well.

-Hiss, DO's sister encouraged him to study osteopathy at the ASO, no prior college education was required at the time, started at ASO around **1918?** (Still died in 1917)

-Hiss Sr, DO practiced in Columbus as DO; practiced surgery with a Dr. Carl Hoy, who encouraged him to study medicine (MD)

-attended U of Chicago one summer while in medicine at Ohio State

-1922: Hiss Jr born

-1922: Hiss DO graduated as MD from Ohio State University School of Medicine; practiced in Columbus; also licensed, lectured and did surgery in Texas

-Hiss Sr brought family to LA several winters during 1929-30 due to son's streptococcal infections

-moved to LA permanently in 1931 or 1932

-began practice at 740 South Flower St, LA in rented rooms; as practice grew, patients placed up on risers; 30-40 patients/day would wait their turn for the five chairs on the platform; saw 80-100 patients/day

-1942-43: Hiss DO received honorary Sc.D. from Kirksville College

-Hiss Sr's "B.S., M.S." of unknown origin

-Hiss DO was not in favor of arch supports

-Hiss DO whittled first mold for cuboid stabilizers (then built of rubber and plastic); set up a factory behind the Los Angeles clinic to manufacture the stabilizers

-developed a shank with the Dickerson Shoe Co.; patented the lateral weight bearing shank

- Hiss visited Dr. Locke in Canada, was not impressed: believed Locke adjusted very generally, with no specificity; Hiss believed in "specific and selective bone setting"
  - Hiss clinics employed multi-disciplinary group: MDs, DOs, DCs, DSCs; among these: Joseph Thomas DO (Hiss DO's nephew; later moved to Hawaii); Brocklehurst DO, Powell DO (worked in Hiss' San Francisco branch), Frank Farmer, MD; Drs. Joseph Charles Hamilton, Charles Baker, and Anna Marie Spook (who did "back work"); Donald Clark, DSC; Rue Tikker, DSC; Dr. Claus (DSC at SF branch)
  - some DOs practiced "general osteopathy", not just footcare
  - minor surgeries done at Hiss Clinic, including neuroma surgeries
  - Hiss Clinic employed ultra-sound, x-ray limited to extremities (small shots)
  - LA clinic moved to 546 Wilshire Blvd, bought 9 floor building, clinic occupied 2nd floor; greatest hayday was during WWII
  - Hiss Sr had privileges at Wilshire Hospital (osteopathic), Hollywood Leeland Hospital, Hollywood West (now West Hollywood) Hospital
  - Hiss Sr. received royalty on "Dr. Hiss' Shoes," which were manufactured by various companies, most recently the Irving Drew Shoe Company of Lancaster OH; Hiss Jr. thinks they may still be manufacturing
  - Hiss advertised in newspapers for his shoe stores
  - Hiss DO became popular for his radio show on KHJ "mutual network," did 30 minute program live from his LA clinic; Hiss would interview a patient, who would offer a "tremendous testimonial"; among the radio announcers who worked with Hiss on the program were Dave Young and Stew Wilson
  - Hiss' advertising drew the ire of MDs; Hiss Sr didn't care about organized medicine's view of him...he was a "maverick"
  - Hiss Sr was "colorful, ego-centric" and independent; never joined LA medical society (might not have been welcome); Hiss Jr had no difficulty later joining LA medical society
  - radio show ran for several years; was not successful on TV (too expensive)
  - Wilshire Clinic (Hiss Towers) declined **WHEN?**; Mel Wheadon, DC carried on until it was closed. Hiss never sold it to Wheadon
  - Hiss DO treated famous people: (Sally Rand, 1930s barefoot fandancer), Rex Beach (famous writer who had visited and wrote about Dr. Locke; wrote for **Cosmopolitan**), Greta Garbo, Louie B. Mayer (of MGM/Mayer), Jim Thorpe, various other movie stars
  - Hiss DO written up in **Cosmopolitan** and **Saturday Evening Post** for "picking the perfect foot"; lots of publicity for Hiss' clinics
  - Hiss Sr was friends with Henley DO, dean of the LA osteopathic college
  - Hiss Sr sent copies of his (1949?) textbook to all osteopathic and chiropractic college libraries; sent perhaps 50 copies to Kirksville College
  - Hiss Sr conducted "postgraduate" courses: "informal training" involving "1 on 1" instruction; doctors from around the country would observe Hiss' manipulative and surgical techniques
  - Hiss Sr's hobbies: landscape paintings, studied with professionals in the 1930s
  - operated printshop/letterpress in basement; published clinic brochures
  - 1960s: Hiss Sr visited Europe
  - 1973: Hiss Sr died at age 80; fell in house, removed to convalescent hospital, went down-hill rapidly, died from pneumonia
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- Dana J. Lawrence, DC, Editor of **JMPT**, 200 E. Roosevelt Road, Lombard IL 60148  
**Telephone interview (3/9/91)**  
 -recommends review of A.L. Schultz' book on extremity adjusting  
 -recommends review of Mennell's (1963) work on **Foot Pain**
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- Herbert K. Lee, DC; 101 McRae Dr, Toronto, Ontario M4G 1S6 (H: 416-421-7442; W: 416-922-5300)  
**Telephone interview (3/9/91)**  
 -Lee, a 1941 graduate of National College says the manipulation he taught at CMCC (beginning in 1945) sought to improve autonomic influence on the foot; the technique was a derivative of "Reflexology"  
 -Lee says that BJ Wells, DO visited Dr. Locke, but felt that Locke's technique wasn't as good as what was being taught at CMCC  
 -Locke was quite a promoter; William Randolph Hearst sent a writer who published an article on Locke in **Cosmopolitan** magazine in the late 1930s  
 -Locke endorsed the "Dr. Locke" brand of shoes, received royalties from the shoe manufacturer  
 -Locke was an alcoholic
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- Paul Smallie, D.C., 2027 Grand Canal Boulevard, Stockton CA 95207; (209) 957-9601
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- Rue Tikker, (DSC) DPM, A.A.C.F.S., Contra Costa Foot Clinic, 1290 Monument Boulevard, Concord CA 94520; (415) 825-3636  
 -1953 graduate of the California College of Podiatry; studied under Hiss from 1954-1962
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- Herbert J. Vear, DC ; 631 Stonebridge Lane, Pickering, Ontario, CANADA L1W 3A6 (416-831-9221); 1850 Camino Cerro, Yuma AZ 85364 (602-783-6591)  
**Telephone interview (3/9/91)**  
 -Dr. Locke (MD) was a maverick who practiced in Walkerville, Ontario (near Detroit)  
 -patients would sit in a circle on chairs on his front lawn, have feet adjusted, put a dollar in a hat  
 -foot and other extremity adjusting taught at CMCC in 1945  
 -Dr. HK Lee taught the "Lake" technique: soft-tissue manipulation of everything  
 -Gillet, Logan and Gonstead were into foot adjusting
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- Mel Wheadon, DC's father is D. Wes Wheadon OD; 8955 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90069 (213?-273-7136)
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- MISCELLANEOUS:**
- Did DD' interest in the foot draw upon patient-confusion between chiropractic and chiropody?
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