

**The George Arvidson Award  
for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic  
80<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress  
Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards**

May 6, 2006 Portland, Oregon

The George Arvidson Award for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic was created by the Federation in 1992

**Overview:**

This award is the Federation's highest individual honor.

Named for FCLB Past President Dr. George Arvidson of Minnesota, it recognizes integrity, service, sacrifice, vision, and commitment in the arena of chiropractic licensure.

The selection of the recipient is made thoughtfully and with joy as we continue to keep alive the dreams of George Arvidson, the gentle man with the great heart, the radiant smile, and the deep love for chiropractic.

Each year, a right choice clearly emerges to uphold the honor represented by this prestigious award.

Our 1993 Award began the tradition with journalist Don Petersen.

Other honorees have included Drs. Rex Wright of Kansas, Brent Owens of Florida, and co-winners, Paul Tullio of Illinois and Frank Hideg of Kentucky.

In 1997 the Award went to Dr. Daniel Saint Germain, and from there to Dr. Peter Ferguson. In 1999 the Arvidson Award went around the world to Australia to Dr. Ed Devereaux.

The new millennium in 2000 recognized Dr. Ken Padgett, followed by Horace Elliott, Dr. Joe Brimhall, Dr. Larry Spicer, Dr. Louis Sportelli, and most recently, Dr. Richard E. Vincent.

This year we have the opportunity to highlight the hard work and dedication of an individual who has served in public protection for more than 20 years.

Though not a chiropractor, this person is thoroughly devoted to chiropractic and public protection.

This year's honoree began work in licensing and ensuring the competency of practitioners in 1983 at the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

From there, this individual moved to the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards where began a revolution of vision and civic duty.

Because of this year's winner, with the FCLB has expanded the Federation's accessibility and services to member boards.

During her tenure with the Federation, she has helped spearhead the substantial redirection of this annual conference, compiled a directory of licensure and practice requirements, and worked tirelessly to develop the online database of chiropractic credentialing information.

Most recently, she has been acting as one of the driving forces behind the FCLB's newest member service, the centralized continuing education approval program, PACE.

Her personal mission for the FCLB, as she has expressed it, has always been to "comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable."

For the past 16 years with the FCLB, she has done this. Her kindness and personal touch have reassured board members and administrators, grounding us when our roles as protectors pull us in too many directions.

At the same time, her gentle nudges have jostled us from complacency when we've strayed too close to accepting "what has always been."

A Phi Beta Kappa scholar and graduate of the Colorado College, she has turned her creativity towards encouraging greater accountability and patient protection in regulation.

She practices what she preaches, striving each day to better herself, to become stronger, wise, and more forgiving.

She teaches by example—setbacks are an opportunity to learn, take responsibility, and make it right.

Through her we discover that, while a good leader is at the front of the charge, she returns to the back of the parade, making sure no one is left behind.

She has never forgotten that the roots of chiropractic are in patient care, and she never lets us forget, either.

She never sacrifices diligence for expediency or morality for politics.

She nurtures leaders and acts as an ethical compass for the profession.

She is a leader, a mentor, and a friend.

Please join me in honoring our 2006 winner of the George Arvidson Award for Meritorious Service...

Ms. Donna Liewer.

