

NASS Honors Christopher Reeve's Commitment to Spinal Cord Research

Research Advancements Presented at 19th Annual Meeting

Actor, spokesperson and spinal cord injury research advocate, Christopher Reeve, died as a result of a coma inducing cardiac arrest at age 52. In the week before his death, Reeve developed a serious systemic infection from a bed sore which was the catalyst for his hospital stay.

Being confined to a wheelchair and living with paralysis for nearly 10 years as a result of a 1995 horse-riding accident, Christopher Reeve truly was a Superman in his efforts to advocate for spinal cord injury and stem cell research. Reeve became the spokesperson for medical research and the voice of all those affected by diseases of the brain and central nervous system.

Reeve joined the Board of Directors of the American Paralysis Association (APA) in late 1995, and in May of the following year he became its Chairman. In January 1996, Reeve and his wife Dana started the Christopher Reeve Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting paralysis caused by spinal cord injuries.

Dr. John McDonald treated Reeve as director of the Spinal Cord Injury Program at Washington University in St. Louis. McDonald said, "If you had a spinal cord injury like his there was not much that could be done, but he's changed all that. He's demonstrated that there is hope and

that there are things that can be done."

Approximately 250,000 – 400,000 individuals in the United States have spinal cord injuries. Every year, approximately 11,000 people sustain new spinal cord injuries – that's thirty new injuries every day. Most of these people are injured in auto and sports accidents, falls, and industrial mishaps. An estimated 60 percent of these individuals are 30 years old or younger, and the majority of them are men.

The North American Spine Society (NASS) will continue to support spinal cord injury research. NASS Research Council Director, Robert J. Gatchel, PhD, ABPP remembers Reeves; "His work ethic and contribution to the field of spinal cord research remind us of the Beverly Sills quote: 'There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.'"

During NASS' 19th Annual Meeting held in Chicago in October, several papers, symposia and special interest

group discussions covered the topic of spinal cord injury and advancements in the field made possible through research.

Discussions were held about military spinal cord and column injury management as well as a looking at emerging spinal technologies. New research findings were presented about anemia after acute spinal cord injury and bladder and bowel control after severe spinal cord injury.

Detailed information on research presented at the meeting is included in the printed Proceedings of the 19th Annual Meeting which was distributed to all attendees on site. The digital version of the proceedings

was mailed to all meeting attendees after the meeting. To order additional copies of the print or CD-ROM proceedings, please visit www.spine.org or call NASS headquarters at 1-800-SpineDr ([800] 774-6337).

More information about the American Paralysis Association, is available at: www.apacure.com. For more information about the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, please visit: www.crfp.org.



NASS Earns "Accreditation with Commendation" from ACCME

NASS successfully completed the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education's (ACCME) reaccreditation process and has been awarded the status of Accreditation with Commendation.

Accreditation with Commendation is the highest status any organization providing continuing medical education (CME) can achieve. A scant 7% of CME provid-

ers achieved Commendation status in 2003, the last year for which status records are available.

ACCME Chief Executive Murray Kopelow, MD, MSC, FRCPC, notified NASS of the commendation in November 2004. In his letter of congratulations, he indicated that NASS' success was "based on the review of your written materials, the evidence provided to demonstrate compli-

ance with ACCME's Essential Areas, Elements and Policies, and the interview that was conducted with our surveyors."

With this commendation, NASS is approved as an accredited provider of CME for an extended term (six years rather than the normal four) until November 2010.



NASS Forms New Multidisciplinary Patient Care Committee

Goal is to Enhance Collaboration Between Nonoperative and Surgical Care Providers

Acknowledging the importance of the multidisciplinary approach to spine care and the blurring roles of nonoperative and surgical care providers, NASS is pleased to announce the merger of the Surgical Care and Nonoperative Care Committees into the Multidisciplinary Patient Care Committee. The new committee is co-chaired by Isador Lieberman, MD, former chair of the Surgical Care Committee, and Jerome Schofferman, MD, former chair of the Nonoperative Care Committee. Members of the new committee will continue their efforts to recruit nonoperative care provid-

ers; educate members and the public about issues related to nonoperative and surgical care issues; and in conjunction with the Guidelines Committee and Operative Coding Committee, will play an instrumental role in assessing new and emerging technology for NASS. The Multidisciplinary Patient Care Committee welcomes all input and participation from any NASS members. Please feel free to contact Belinda Duszynski, NASS Research Manager and staff liaison to the committee, at duszynski@spine.org with any suggestions related to patient care issues.

2005 Research Grants and Fellowships Available

Application Deadline: May 6, 2005

The North American Spine Society (NASS) is the leading multidisciplinary organization representing caregivers and research scientists in the field of spine disorders. Part of the NASS mission is to encourage and support basic clinical science performed with integrity and a goal toward improving quality spine care for patients along with understanding underlying disorders.

Every year, NASS awards grants and fellowships to support spine-related research. (See a list of sample topics at www.spine.org) Funding is available for:

- **Research Grants** for investigative research on the spine.
- **Clinical Traveling Fellowships** for study of spine techniques in three to five different medical centers. (Minimum one-month study at each center.)

- **Research Traveling Fellowships** for study of spine techniques at one medical center other than the applicant's. (Minimum five-month study required.)

Applications must be received in the NASS office by May 6, 2005. To obtain an application, please contact the NASS office toll-free at 877 SPINEDR ([877] 774-6337), or visit the NASS Web site at: www.spine.org/Research/ResearchProgram.cfm.

Questions and completed applications may be addressed to:

Research Department
North American Spine Society
8320 St. Moritz Drive
Spring Grove, IL 60081
Ph: (815) 675-0021
Fax: (815) 675-3137
Email: hintz@spine.org

SCRUBBs Offers International Volunteer Opportunities

Dr. Tom Errico and Dr. Andrew Moulton would like to extend a warm THANK YOU to all who attended the special SCRUBBs informational session at the Annual Meet-

ing in Chicago! SCRUBBs (Spine Care Relief United Beyond Borders) will bring much-needed medical attention to

spine patients worldwide by sponsoring medical mission trips, organizing NASS volunteers to donate their time in surgery, coordinating donations of supplies and equipment, and granting funds to existing relief organizations.

Participants at the Chicago meeting shared stories of their own life-changing experiences on medical mission trips and exchanged ideas for future projects. Everyone present took a volunteer application, and completed applications are already starting to come in! We are very encouraged by the response thus far, as we have several neurosurgeons and orthopedic surgeons who are eager to lend their skills to a SCRUBBs mission! However, more volunteers are still needed: are you a Pain Management specialist? Anesthesiologist? Neurophysiologist? Scrub Nurse? These and other specialties are welcome and *needed* to make this effort a success!

If you missed out on the Chicago meeting, it's not too late! For more information on SCRUBBs and how you can become involved, please email Laura Scott Wade at: SCRUBBS@spine.org. We will add you to our email listserve so that you receive future information regarding SCRUBBs efforts, and we will send you a volunteer application as well.





Back Pain is a Big Issue for U.S. Adults

NASS Survey Results Show More than Half the Population Suffers

NASS commissioned a national survey late last summer to gauge the scope of back pain in America. Harris Interactive conducted the survey of over 1000 people in early September 2004. After compiling the surprising results, NASS issued the following news release in early November 2004 to help raise awareness of the prevalence of back pain and the importance of seeking treatment.

LaGrange, IL - Almost one in six U.S. adults (16%) suffered from back pain every single day during the past month, according to a recent national survey. The North American Spine Society commissioned Harris Interactive to learn more about Americans' struggle with back pain and how it affects their daily lives.

The survey of 1,014 U.S. adults revealed some vivid findings including the fact that people suffering from back pain are dealing with the issue an average of 14 days per month and often don't seek the advice of trained professionals to treat or improve their condition. A startling 80% of adults will suffer from back pain at some point during their lives.

"We were certainly not surprised by the number of people suffering from back pain – in fact, our member physicians are helping thousands of patients manage and alleviate back pain and spine conditions every day," said NASS President, Thomas Errico, MD.

Some other key findings from the recent *NASS Back Pain in America* survey included:

- Back pain negatively impacts American lives — nearly a third (31%) of U.S. adults have experienced back pain in the past month and had difficulty lying in bed. More than one in five adults (22%) find it uncomfortable to drive their cars. Another 18% have decreased sexual activity because of their back pain.
- More than one fourth of back pain suf-

ferers (26%) claim that they are no longer able to engage in vigorous physical exercise. Almost a third of U.S. adults (32%) say they are unable to lift heavy objects because of back pain.

- When asked what initially caused their back pain, more than one in four adults (26%) attributed aging or getting older as the main cause. According to NASS, degenerative conditions are the leading cause of back pain.

- Sixteen percent of U.S. adults began suffering with back pain after a workplace-related injury and another 14% injured their backs from a sports or exercise-related incident. Only nine percent of those surveyed blamed an automobile accident as the cause of their initial back pain.

- More women (64%) than men (50%) have experienced back pain in the past month. More than a third of women (34%) say that their back pain has not changed their lives, while 45% of men say the same. In addition, women are more likely than men to no longer be able to lift heavy objects (38% and 23% respectively) or engage in vigorous physical exercise (30% and 20% respectively) because of their back pain.

- More men (25%) than women (9%) identify a workplace injury as the cause of their initial back pain. Nearly one out of five U.S. adults with back pain (17%), say that they have missed work or can no longer work at all.

- When adults experience back pain, they most commonly use self-help methods like resting and lying down (55%), which actually can be counterproductive. Others try to alleviate pain by taking an over-the-counter medication (52%) or using a heating pad (38%). A much smaller number of back pain sufferers go

to a trained medical professional to get treated such as visiting their primary care doctor (23%), spine specialist (10%) or chiropractor (20%).

- Age plays a big role in how people handle their back pain. Seniors (age 65+) who suffer from back pain were more likely to visit a spine specialist when experiencing back pain (19%). Young adults (ages 18 to 24) are more likely than any other group who has experienced back pain in the past month to believe that there was no cause for their initial back pain (27%).

- Southerners are the least likely regional group in the country to suffer from back pain with nearly half (49%) experiencing no back pain in the past month. However, of those people in the South who have back pain, nearly a third (30%) will take a prescription pain medication – more than any other regional group.

"This survey unearthed some startling statistics on how people are suffering with back pain today," continued Dr. Errico. "With 76 million aging baby boomers living in the United States, back pain will continue to be a major health concern. It is our goal to continue educating back pain sufferers so they can recognize their symptoms and seek proper treatment and care."

Those interested in obtaining information for patients on improving their back pain can access basic instructions for home exercises on the "For Spine Patients" section of the NASS Web site at www.spine.org, or purchase one of the newly published patient education books titled *Know Your Spine* and *The Spine Owner's Manual*, available online at Amazon.com. For more information please contact 1-877-SPINE-DR.



NASS Signature Edition Collection Expands

NASS would like to thank and acknowledge contributors to the NASS Signature Collection, a special collection of spine-related books with messages and signatures by their authors. Books currently in the collection, as of September 30, 2004, are listed below. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Karen Hintz at hintz@spine.org.

The Adult Spine, Principles and Practice-Volumes 1 & 2, 2nd Edition. John W. Frymoyer, MD (Editor in Chief), 1997. *Donated by John W. Frymoyer, MD.*

Anterior Approaches to the Spine. Thomas A. Zdeblick, MD, (Editor), 1999. *Donated by Thomas A. Zdeblick, MD.*

AO ASIF Principles in Spine Surgery. M. Aebi, MD; J.S. Thalgott, MD; J.K. Webb, 1998.

Donated by M. Aebi, MD; J.S. Thalgott, MD.

Atlas of Endoscopic Spine Surgery. John J. Regan, MD; Paul C. McAfee, MD; Michael J. Mack, 1995. *Donated by John J. Regan, MD.*

Atlas of Spinal Surgery. Donlin M. Long, MD; Paul C. McAfee, MD, 1992. *Donated by Donlin M. Long, MD.*

Atlas of Spine Surgery. Robert B. Winter, MD; John W. Lonstein, MD; Francis Denis, MD; Michael D. Smith, MD, 1995. *Donated by Robert B. Winter, MD; John W. Lonstein, MD; Francis Denis, MD; Michael D. Smith, MD.*

An Atlas of Surgery of the Spine. Howard S. An, MD; Lee H. Riley, III, MD, (Editors), 1998. *Donated by Howard S. An, MD.*

Backache-2nd Edition. Ian MacNab, MD, ChB; John McCulloch, MD, 1990. *Donated by John McCulloch, MD.*

Back Ache-Putting It Behind You. Mark R. Foster, PhD, MD, 2001. *Donated by Mark R. Foster, PhD, MD.*

Basic and Clinical Anatomy of the Spine, Spinal Cord, and Ans. Gregory D. Cramer, DC, PhD; Susan A. Darby, PhD, 1995. *Donated by Gregory D. Cramer, DC, PhD; Susan A. Darby, PhD; William E. Bachop, PhD; Barclay W. Bakkum, DC, PhD; Ron Mensching.*

The Cervical Spine-3rd Edition, The Cervical Spine Research Society. Charles R. Clark, MD (Editor), 1998. *Donated by Charles R. Clark, MD.*

The Child with a Spinal Cord Injury. Randal R. Betz, MD; M.J. Mulcahey, MS, OTR/L, 1996. *Donated by Randal R. Betz, MD.*

Clinical Anatomy of the Lumbar Spine and Sacrum-3rd Edition. Nikolai Bogduk, MD, 1997. *Donated by Nikolai Bogduk, MD.*

Clinical Biomechanics of Spinal Manipulation. Walter Herzog, PhD, 2000. *Donated by Walter Herzog, PhD.*

Clinical Biomechanics of the Spine-2nd Edition. Augustus A. White, III, MD; Manohar M. Panjabi, PhD, 1990. *Donated by Augustus A. White, III, MD; Manhar M. Panjabi, PhD.*

Complications in Spinal Surgery. Richard A. Balderston, MD; Howard S. An, MD, 1991. *Donated by Richard A. Balderston, MD; Howard S. An, MD.*

Comprehensive Management of Spine Trauma. Daniel A. Capen, MD; Willi Haye, RN, 1998. *Donated by Daniel A. Capen, MD; R.W. Nelson, MD; J.L.*

Computer Assisted Orthopedic Surgery (COAS). L.P. Nolte, PhD; R. Ganz (Editors), 1999. *Donated by L.P. Nolte, PhD; R. Ganz.*

Congenital Deformities of the Spine. Robert B. Winter, MD, 1983.

Donated by Robert B. Winter, MD.

Controversies in Spine Surgery, Surgical Techniques and Medical Treatment-Volume 1. Thomas A. Zdeblick, MD; Edward C. Benzel, MD; Paul A. Anderson, MD; Charles B. Stillerman (Editors), 1999. *Donated by Thomas A. Zdeblick, MD.*

Current Techniques in Spinal Stabilization. Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD; Regis W. Haid, MD, 1996. *Donated by Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD.*

Diagnosis and Treatment of Pain of Vertebral Origin, A Manual Medicine Approach. Robert Maigne, 1996. *Donated by Robert Maigne.*

Essentials of Spinal Microsurgery. John A. McCulloch, MD; Paul H. Young, MD, 1998. *Donated by John A. McCulloch, MD.*

Evaluation, Treatment and Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders-3rd Edition. H. Duane Saunders, MS, PT; Robin Saunders, MS, PT, 1993. *Donated by H. Duane Saunders, MS, PT; Robin Saunders, MS, PT.*

Exercise in Rehabilitation Medicine. Walter R. Frontera, (Editor in Chief), 1999. *Donated by Human Kinetics.*

First Interdisciplinary World Congress on Spinal Surgery and Related Disciplines. M. Brock, MD; W. Schwarz; C. Wille, 2000. *Donated by M. Brock, MD.*

Fractures of the Cervical, Thoracic and Lumbar Spine. Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD, 2003. *Donated by Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD.*

Fractures of the Thoracic and Lumbar Spine. Stanley D. Gertzbein, MD, 1992. *Donated by Stanley D. Gertzbein, MD.*

Instrumented Spinal Surgery. Jurgen Harms, MD; Giuseppe Tabasso, 1999. *Donated by Jurgen*

Harms, MD; Giuseppe Tabasso.

Lovell and Winter's Pediatric Orthopaedics-Volumes 1 & 2, 3rd Edition. Raymond T. Morrissy, MD, 1990. *Donated by Raymond T. Morrissy, MD.*

The Low Back Pain Handbook. Andrew J. Cole, MD; Stanley A. Herring, MD, 1997. *Donated by Andrew J. Cole, MD; Stanley A. Herring, MD.*

Low Back Pain-A Scientific and Clinical Overview (Symposia Transcript/AAOS Symposium). James N. Weinstein, DO, MS; Stephen L. Gordon, PhD, 1996. *Donated by James N. Weinstein, DO, MS.*

Lumbar Fusion and Stabilization. Kazuo Yonenobu, MD; Keiro Ono, MD; Yoshiharu Takemitsu, MD, 1993. *Donated by Kazuo Yonenobu, MD; Keiro Ono, MD; Yoshiharu Takemitsu, MD.*

Lumbar Interbody Fusion Techniques. Regis W. Haid, Jr., MD; Mark R. McLaughlin, MD; Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD, 2003. *Donated by Regis W. Haid, Jr, MD.*

The Lumbar Spine-3rd Edition. Harry N. Herkowitz, MD; Margareta Nordin, Dr.Sci., PT, CIE; Jiri Dvorak, MD; Gordon R. Bell, MD; Dieter Grob, MD, 2004. *Donated by Harry N. Herkowitz, MD on behalf of the Editorial Board and the ISSLS Membership.*

Macnab's Backache-3rd Edition. John A. McCulloch, MD; Ensor E. Transfeldt, MD, 1997. *Donated by John A. McCulloch, MD.*

Management of Spinal Deformities. Richard T. Holt, MD, 1992. *Donated by Richard T. Holt, MD.*

Manual of Internal Fixation of the Spine. John S. Thalgott, MD; Max Aebi, MD, 1996. *Donated by John S. Thalgott, MD; Max Aebi, MD.*

Mastercases Spine Surgery.



Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD; Todd J. Albert, MD, 2001. *Donated by Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD; Todd J. Albert, MD.*

Moe's Textbook of Scoliosis and Other Spinal Deformities-3rd Edition. John E. Lonstein, MD; David S. Bradford, MD; Robert B. Winter, MD; James W. Ogilvie, MD, 1995. *Donated by David S. Bradford, MD.*

Musculoskeletal Disorders in the Workplace-Principles & Practice. Margareta Nordin, Med. Dr. Sci.; Gunnar B.J. Andersson, MD; Malcolm H. Pope, 1997. *Donated by Gunnar B.J. Andersson, MD.*

Neck Ache and Shoulder Pain.

Ian MacNab, MD; John McCulloch, MD, 1994. *Donated by John McCulloch, MD.*

Operative Spine Surgery. William C. Welch, MD; George B. Jacobs, MD; Roger P. Jackson, MD, 1999. *Donated by William C. Welch, MD.*

Orthodox and Complementary Medicine-An Alliance for a Changing World. W.H. Kirkaldy-Willis, MD; A.A. Swartz, MD, 2001. *Donated by A.A. Swartz, MD.*

Outpatient Spinal Surgery. Mick J. Perez-Cruet, MD, MSc; Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD, 2002. *Donated by Mick J. Perez-Cruet, MD, MSc; Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD.*

Practical Urology in Spinal Cord Injury. Keith F. Parsons; John M. Fitzpatrick, MCh, FRCSI, 1991. *Donated by John M. Fitzpatrick, MCh, FRCSI.*

Principles and Practice of Spine Surgery. Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD; Randal R. Betz, MD; Seth M. Zeidman, MD, 2003. *Donated by Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD.*

Principles of Manual Medicine-2nd Edition. Philip E. Greenman, DO, 1996. *Donated by Philip E. Greenman, DO.*

Principles of Microsurgery for

Lumbar Disc Disease. John A. McCulloch, MD, 1989. *Donated by John A. McCulloch, MD.*

Principles and Techniques in Spine Surgery, Anterior Cervical Spine Surgery. Thomas S. Whitecloud, III, MD; Stewart B. Dunsker, MD, 1993. *Donated by Thomas S. Whitecloud, III, MD.*

Principles and Techniques of Spine Surgery. Howard S. An, MD, 1998. *Donated by Howard S. An, MD.*

The Radiology of Acute Cervical Spine Trauma-3rd Edition. John H. Harris, Jr., MD, DSc; Stuart E. Mirvis, MD, 1996. *Donated by John H. Harris, Jr., MD, DSc.*

Rothman-Simeone, The Spine-4th Edition. Harry N. Herkowitz, MD; Steven R. Garfin, MD; Richard A. Balderston, MD; Frank J. Eismont, MD; Gordon R. Bell, MD; Sam W. Wiesel, MD (Eds), 1999. *Donated by Harry N. Herkowitz, MD.*

Save Your Aching Back-A Patient's Guide. Stewart G. Eidelson, MD; Gregory Gilreath, PA-C; Michael Whitehurst, EdD, 1999. *Donated by Stewart G. Eidelson, MD.*

Sciatica and Chymopapain. John A. McCulloch, MD; Ian MacNab, MD, 1983. *Donated by John A. McCulloch, MD.*

Scoliosis, Ascending the Curve.

Brooke Lyons with Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, MD; John Podzius, PhD; Carla Podzius, CSW, 1999. *Donated by Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, MD.*

Spinal Disorders-Diagnosis and Treatment. Daniel Ruge, MD, PhD; Leon L. Wiltse, MD, 1977. *Donated by Leon L. Wiltse, MD.*

Spinal Fusion. J.M. Cotler, MD; H.B. Cotler, MD, 1990. *Donated by J.M. Cotler, MD.*

Spinal Instrumentation-2nd Edition. Howard S. An, MD; Jerome M. Cotler, MD (Eds), 1999. *Donated by Howard S. An, MD.*

Spinal Surgery Written Simply™

by a Spinal Surgeon. Kenneth L. Jarolem, MD, 2002. *Donated by Kenneth L. Jarolem, MD.*

Spine, Spinal Tumors, State of the Art Reviews. Behrooz A. Akbarnia, MD, 1996. *Donated by Behrooz A. Akbarnia, MD.*

The Spine-Master Techniques in Orthopaedic Surgery. David S. Bradford, MD (Ed), 1997. *Donated by David S. Bradford, MD.*

The Spine in Sports. Robert G. Watkins, MD; Lytton Williams, MD; Paul Lin, MD; Burton Elrod, MD; Neil Kahanovitz, MD, 1996. *Donated by Lytton Williams, MD.*

Spine Surgery-A Practical Atlas. F. Todd Wetzel, MD; Edward N. Hanley, Jr., MD, 2002. *Donated by F. Todd Wetzel, MD.*

Spine Surgery Techniques, Complications Avoidance, and Management-Volumes 1 & 2. Edward C. Benzel, MD, 1999. *Donated by Edward C. Benzel, MD.*

Spine Surgery Tricks of the Trade. Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD and Todd J. Albert, MD, 2003. *Donated by Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD and Todd J. Albert.*

Surgery of the Cervical Spine. Howard S. An, MD; J. Michael Simpson, MD, (Eds), 1994. *Donated by Howard S. An, MD.*

Surgery of the Cervical Spine. Sanford E. Emery, MD; Scott D. Boden, MD, 2003. *Donated by Sanford E. Emery, MD and Scott D. Boden, MD.*

Surgery of the Craniovertebral Junction. Curtis A. Dickman, MD; Robert F. Spetzler; Volker K. H. Sonntag, MD, 1998. *Donated by Curtis A. Dickman, MD; Robert F. Spetzler; Volker K. H. Sonntag, MD.*

Surgery of the Lumbar Spine. Sanford J. Larson, MD, PhD; Dennis J. Maiman, MD, PhD, 1999. *Donated by Sanford J. Larson, MD, PhD; Dennis J. Maiman, MD, PhD.*

Surgery of Spinal Trauma. Jerome M. Cotler, MD; J. Michael Simpson, MD; Howard S. An, MD; Christopher P. Silveri, MD (Eds), 2000. *Donated by J. Michael Simpson, MD; Jerome M. Cotler, MD.*

Surgical Approaches to the Spine. Todd J. Albert, MD; Richard A. Balderston, MD; Bruce E. Northrup, MD, 1997. *Donated by Todd J. Albert, MD.*

Surgical Exposure of the Spine: An Extensile Approach. Edward C. Benzel, MD, 1995. *Donated by Edward C. Benzel, MD.*

Textbook of Spinal Disorders. Stephen Esses, MD, 1995. *Donated by Stephen Esses, MD.*

The Textbook of Spinal Surgery, Volumes 1 & 2-2nd Edition. Keith H. Bridwell, MD; Ronald L. DeWald, MD (Editors in Chief), 1997. *Donated by Keith H. Bridwell, MD; Ronald L. DeWald, MD.*

The Thoracic Spine. Edward C. Benzel, MD; Charles B. Stillerman, 1999. *Donated by Edward C. Benzel, MD; Charles B. Stillerman.*

Thoracolumbar Spine Fractures Without Neurologic Deficit. Shannon Stauffer, MD, 1993. *Donated by Shannon Stauffer, MD.*

Thoracoscopic Spine Surgery. Curtis A. Dickman, MD; Daniel J. Rosenthal, MD; Noel I. Perin, 1999. *Donated by Curtis A. Dickman, MD.*

YMCA Healthy Back Book. YMCA of the USA with Patricia Sammann, 1994. *Donated by Human Kinetics.*

Your Aching Back-A Doctor's Guide to Relief. Augustus A. White, III, MD, 1990. *Donated by Augustus A. White, III, MD.*



Florida Law Enforcement Agency Seeks Assistance

The Collier County Sheriff's Office in Naples, Florida, is seeking assistance in identifying a victim of a homicide who previously underwent spinal surgery.

The victim's badly decomposed body was discovered in April 1990 in the Everglades. A forensic anthropologist estimated the victim was a white female between the ages of 45-65, approximately 64 inches tall. Two spinal plates were attached to her fourth and fifth lumbar vertebrae with pedicle screws (see photo at right). The plates were engraved with the numbers "803-005 Lot 14484" and "803-005 # 15024." The maker of the plates, then known as Sofamor Danek Group, confirmed in 1996 that the plates were made after December 1988 but was unable to track them to a particular patient or identify where the devices may have been shipped.

Any spine specialist in the Naples, Florida and surrounding area who may have treated a patient matching this description between December 1988 and April 3, 1990 is urged to contact Sgt. Ken Becker, Collier County Sheriff's Office, (239) 793-9169 or (239) 253-3618.



Get Your 2005 Dues in by January 31

Dues invoices were sent out in November - thank you to all who have already sent in payment! If you have not yet, please do so before the due date of January 31 to keep your benefits coming. You can also pay your dues online at

www.spine.org; log on to the "Members Only" section using your username and password. (If you do not remember what they are, call Brian Jones at 708/588-8068 or e-mail jones@spine.org).

Erratum

NASS recently published its 2005 calendar. The name and photo of Arthur White, MD, who was president of NASS in 1993, was inadvertently omitted. Dr White, shown at right, was indeed a key figure in the foundation of modern spinal medicine and this Society. He participated in the organizational meetings of the society and has been a valued contributor for many years.



NASS Calendar

For further details about these NASS meetings and/or to download a registration form, please visit www.spine.org or call NASS toll-free at: (877) SpineDr

January 2005	
21-22 Cervical Fixation, Rosemont, IL	28-29 Coding Update, Olympic Valley, CA
February 2005	
18-19 Lumbar Spinal Injections, Rosemont, IL	
March 2005	
4-5 Minimally Invasive Approaches & Techniques to the Lumbar Spine, Rosemont, IL	
April 2005	
1-2 Coding Course New Orleans, LA	6-9 Spring Break 2005, Bal Harbour, FL
June 2005	
10-11 Managing Complications in Spine Surgery, Boulder, CO	24-25 Lumbar Spinal Injections, Memphis, TN
September 2005	
27-Oct. 1 20th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA	