Dear ABPOPPM Diplomates:

First, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each of the candidates that passed the June, 2011 administration of the ABPOPPM Board Qualification and Certification Examinations and welcome them to the ABPOPPM.

I bid all of our members a hearty greeting from the Directors, the Executive Director and your Board’s Administrative Staff. Once again I would like to say that it is indeed an honor and privilege to serve as President of the American Board of Podiatric Orthopedics and Primary Podiatric Medicine (ABPOPPM). As we move into the second year of my term of office, I would like to reflect a little on what the Board has accomplished over the past year:

• The turn-out for the in-training examination for residents in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies (PMS-36) has greatly increased over the past year concurrent with the quality of the examination.

The In-Training Examination Committee chaired by Edwin Wolf, DPM has brought this examination process to the level expected of trainees in preparation for qualification and diplomate status.

• The Board conducted a survey of diplomates to determine their interest in a name change that reflects what the majority of diplomates believe best characterizes their practices.

• For the first time in recent history the Board of Directors engaged in a Strategic Planning Process at its recent annual meeting. This process was designed to set the course and priorities for the Board for the next five years.

• The ABPOPPM launched its Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program. This program has been recognized by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) as qualifying participants for reimbursement incentives for meeting certain benchmarks. The MOC program is a major step towards parity with our Allopathic and Osteopathic colleagues and will serve an important function in attesting to the continuing competence of our diplomates.

Last year I wrote about several things. One of these was that, aside from being happily married for over 41 years to a wonderful lady and having two great children that have brought me more pride and joy than I deserve, being a member of the great profession of podiatric medicine and surgery had been the most rewarding experience in my life. I can now proudly state that I have found yet another reason to find joy in life: Grandchildren!

Last year I wrote that The Board was continuing to make progress on several projects for the upcoming year. That year is nearly behind us and I’m pleased to provide you with updates:

1. The Bylaws Committee has identified several areas in our Bylaws that are either internally inconsistent or that could be clarified. Other areas relating to the role and duties of certain committees have been refined to promote smoother functioning. These and modifications necessary to facilitate any change in the Board’s name will be coming to you for vote in the near future.

2. There has been continued refinement of the In-Training Examination under the leadership of our current Chairman and the number of examinees this year has exceeded all projections;
3. The MOC process has been rolled out as promised. The Board has also secured the added benefit of increased CMS reimbursement for members as discussed above.

4. The ABPOPPM has, as promised, continued our active participation in the Collaborative Residency Evaluator Committee (CREC).

5. Also as promised, the Board has continued support of the APMA's APMA Project 2015.

6. The ABPOPPM has continued to be represented at the APMA HOD and BOT Meetings.

7. The ABPOPPM has continued to publicize its mission through exhibits at the New York State Podiatric Medical Society Meeting in New York, the Midwest Podiatry Conference in Chicago and the Western Podiatric Medical Congress in Anaheim, California.

The BOD believes that continued visibility of the ABPOPPM at the national level which is achieved through activities such as those listed above serves to keep the Board vibrant and engaged in the decision and policy making that keeps us at the forefront of the profession. The Board of Directors have each given generously of their time and energy to promote recognition of excellence in our area of specialization and to assure that our Diplomates are valued for their ability to improve the quality of health care for those they serve in their respective communities. Several initiatives including public recognition of ABPOPPM diplomates for their achievements will help achieve this visibility.

I thank each Board member for their continued dedication and service to our Diplomates. Additionally, my gratitude goes to our Executive Director and Administrative Staff for the fine job that is done in making sure that the needs of our Diplomates are continuously addressed in a timely and professional fashion. As one example, our Headquarters Staff was charged with navigating the gauntlet of requirements to secure the status of our MOC program before the window of opportunity to qualify for the CME reimbursement initiative for our diplomats closed for the current year. Though this was a daunting task, that had to be completed within a narrow time frame, the challenge was met. I am certain that all who enter this process will appreciate the effort.

In closing, I wish each of you a healthy and happy holiday season.

Fraternally,

Lester J. Jones, DPM, MS Ed
A WORD OF THANKS
Marc A. Benard, DPM, Executive Director

An organization such as ours cannot exist without generous donations of time and talent by a great many individuals. More than a few of them serve, or have served, in more than one capacity over the years. As many of the committee functions require several face-to-face meetings that necessitate considerable time away from home, and also conference calls, e-mails, etc., the time commitment is significant. Although the ABPOPPM is primarily a certifying organization within our specialty, the activities of the ABPOPPM are many and diverse. Carrying out these activities would not be possible were it not for the various committees and liaison positions.

I have known and worked with many of these individuals for quite some time and am clearly the better for the interaction. We all owe them a debt of gratitude.

BUDGET
Steven Goldman, DPM (NY), Chair
David George, DPM (NJ)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)

BYLAWS
Samuel Spadone, DPM (PA), Chair
Gilbert Hice, DPM (OR)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)

CASE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE FOR CERTIFICATION
Steven Goldman, DPM (NY), Chair
Debra Levinthal, DPM (IL)
Barbara Aung, DPM (AZ)
Paul Richter, DPM (FL)
Jeffrey Schwalb, DPM (MI)

CASE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE FOR RE-CERTIFICATION
Stephanie Baldwin, (FL), Chair

RE-CERTIFICATION SUB-COMMITTEE
Barbara Aung, DPM (AZ)
Steven Goldman, DPM (NY)
Gerald Kuwada, DPM (WA)
Debra Levinthal, DPM (IL)
Jeffrey Schwalb, DPM (MI)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)
Michael Zapf, DPM (CA)
Paul Richter, DPM (FL)

CASE DEFENSE SUB-COMMITTEE
William Chagares, DPM (IL)
Sanford Chesler, DPM (AZ)
Beth Jarrett, DPM (IL)
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)
Paul Richter, DPM (FL)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)
John Torregrosa, DPM (FL)

CREDENTIALS
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA), Chair
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)
Samuel Spadone, DPM (PA)

NEWSLETTER
Samuel Spadone, DPM (PA), Editor
Marc Benard, DPM (CA)

NOMINATIONS
David George, DPM (NJ), Chair
Joseph Hogan, DPM (NY)
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Lester Jones, DPM (CA), President
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA), Vice-President
Samuel Spadone, DPM (PA), Secretary
Steven Goldman, DPM (NY), Treasurer
David George, DPM (NJ), Past President

MOC (MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION)
Stephanie Baldwin, DPM (FL), Chair

EXAMINATION CONTINUATION SUBCOMMITTEE
James Stavosky, DPM (CA), Chair
Daniel Evans, DPM (IL), Co-Chair
Stephen Albert, DPM (CO)
Michael DellaCorte, DPM (NY)
Steven Goldman, DPM (NY)

IN-TRAINING (ASSESSMENT)
Edwin Wolf, DPM (NY), Chair
Cherri Choate, DPM (CA)
Stephen Geller, DPM (AZ)
John Grady, DPM (IL)
Lee Rogers, DPM (CA)
Coleen Napolitano, DPM (IL)
Myron Bodman, DPM (OH)

PODIATRY RESIDENCY RESOURCE
Gerard Saponara, DPM (NY)
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)
Marc Benard, DPM (CA), Administrative Liaison
FIELD TEST PARTICIPANTS AND ORAL EXAMINERS:
Robert Baron, DPM (IL)
Bill Chagares, DPM (IL)
Timothy Chan, DPM (FL)
Sanford Chesler, DPM (AZ)
Michael DellaCorte, DPM (NY)
Daniel Evans, DPM (IL)
Steve Goldman, DPM (NY)
Jarrett Hamilton, DPM (AZ)
Beth Jarrett, DPM (IL)
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)
Nicole Kaiser, DPM (PA)
Zarko Kajgana, DPM (WA)
Kristin Kelley, DPM (FL)
Jody Long, DPM (OH)
Coleen Napolitano, DPM (IL)
Alberto Oroso, DPM (VA)
Gina Painter, DPM (MN)
Paul Richter, DPM (FL)
Gina Ruesch, DPM (MN)
Lisa Schoene, DPM (IL)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)
James Stavsky, DPM (CA)
John Torregrosa, DPM (FL)
Ellen Wenzel, DPM (WA)

LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
AMERICAN PODIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)
David George, DPM (NJ)
Mitchell Shikoff, DPM (PA)

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE ORTHOPEDICS AND MEDICINE LIAISON
David George, DPM (NJ)

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN PODIATRISTS (AAWP)
Stephanie Baldwin, DPM (FL)

COUNCIL OF TEACHING HOSPITALS (COTH)
Lester Jones, DPM (CA)

COLLABORATIVE RESIDENCY EVALUATOR COMMITTEE (CREC)
Gregg Young, DPM (UT)
William Chagares, DPM (IL)
Kathleen Satterfield, DPM (CA)

COMMITTEE ON THE RECOGNITION OF SPECIALTY BOARDS (JCRSB)
Michael Robinson, DPM (MA)

RESIDENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE (RRC)
Elliott Michael, DPM (OR)
Steve Geller, DPM (AZ)

ABPOPPM PRESENTS
2011 APMA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Dr. Lester Jones, President of ABPOPPM’s Board of Directors, has been awarded the 2011 American Podiatric Medical Association’s (APMA) Award of Excellence for members.

The award recognizes those who have demonstrated outstanding national accomplishments in scientific, professional or civic endeavors over a lifetime.

"It's a humbling experience," Dr. Jones said. "You work an entire career trying to achieve excellence, and I don't really think you grasp the achievements that are occurring right before your eyes. What you think you are doing is your job. I don't get the notion of receiving something in return for it except the satisfaction of doing a job well done and seeing others advance in scope."

Dr. Jones has helped pediatric medicine reach educational parity with allopathic and osteopathic medicine through his many leadership roles with the Council on Podiatric Medical Education and now as Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the College of Podiatric Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences.

Dr. Jones has trained literally thousands of students, residents and fellows, most of whom are well-respected practitioners throughout the nation, some of whom are faculty members and or administrators at colleges and residency training programs.
The American Board of Podiatric Orthopedics and Primary Podiatric Medicine (ABPOPPM) announced its Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program to the APMA Board of Trustees in July. The MOC process is accepted as the standard by which physicians of all specialties demonstrate maintenance of competency in their areas of specialization. Information outlining the MOC Program including information on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) incentive for those exceeding minimum MOC requirements was mailed to all active Diplomates. Beginning in 2011 physicians who enroll in an MOC program and meet specified requirements may, under CMS guidelines, have their reimbursements on Medicare and Medicaid patients increased by 0.5 percent. Subsequent to the aforementioned mailing, the ABPOPPM’s MOC program has been advanced from “Conditionally Qualified” to “Fully Qualified” status by the CMS.

At present, the ABPOPPM is the only Podiatric certifying Board to have been CMS-qualified, and is one of only nine certifying boards that have achieved this status to date. The other eight certifying boards are:

- American Board of Allergy and Immunology
- American Board of Dermatology
- American Board of Emergency Medicine
- American Board of Neurological Surgery
- American Board of Nuclear Medicine
- American Board of Optometry
- American Board of Plastic Surgery
- American Board of Radiology

Diplomates who wish to enroll in the MOC program and be eligible for the 2011 CMS incentive are reminded that they must have an application on file, with appropriate documentation, as specified therein, by December 5, 2011.

For further information, contact ABPOPPM Headquarters, or visit the ABPOPPM website at www.abpoppm.org.
ABPOPPM ON THE GO...

APMA National in Boston

Drs. Baldwin, Torregrosa and DellaCorte

Drs. Goldman, Khan, Roberts, Farahani and DellaCorte with Student, Oendrella Kamal from NYCPM

Students Dele Olupona, Mohamed Eltahir, Ryan Vazales and Liz Barnica

Drs. Jones, Wan, Chan, Goldman, George, Stone, Garoufalis, Shikoff, Satterfield, Caporusso and Student Brett Waverly

Students Travis Martin, Ryan Vazales and Tim Graeser with Dr. Shikoff
Periodically the ABPOPPM headquarters receives inquiries regarding both membership in the American College of Foot and Ankle Orthopedics & Medicine (ACFAOM) and educational presentations by that organization. ACFAOM is the professional society dedicated to the delivery of educational content in orthopedics and medicine of the lower extremities. It is the specialty college recognized by the APMA for these subject areas.

Please be advised that ACFAOM is a separate entity and independent of the ABPOPPM. ABPOPPM members who are interested in ACFAOM membership and/or information about their clinical conferences and other educational activities may contact them directly at: www.acfaom.org or (800) 265-8263.