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Once More With Feeling: The History of Neuro Emotional Technique.

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ABSTRACT

Neuro Emotional Technique (N.E.T.) was developed by Drs. Scott and Deborah Walker. This paper records the histories of these two individuals, focusing on what events and influences in their lives led them to create this chiropractic technique. It also documents the history of the genesis of the technique and the seminars that have been presented to teach it to practitioners.

The rural heartland of America was the birthplace and original home of chiropractic and of many of its pioneers and contributors to its development. These included chiropractic technique system developers such as Drs. Hugh B Logan, Clarence Gonstead, Clay Thompson, I.N. Toftness, George Goodheart, Warren Lee and Arlan Fuhr.^{1,2} In more recent times these have been joined by Dr. Scott Walker who, with his wife Dr. Deborah Walker, created Neuro Emotional Technique (N.E.T.).

Based on written and oral history interviews, this paper presents the histories of the Walkers and their development of this technique. In the latter part of the paper Dr. Scott Walker will be referred to as “Dr. Scott” and Dr. Deborah Walker as “Dr. Deb” to avoid confusion. They are often addressed in this less formal way by N.E.T. practitioners.

Scott Walker

George “Scott” Walker was born on 17 April 1944, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and lived his earliest years in its suburb Aspinwall, on the Allegheny River. He was followed by two sisters, Susan and Karen, and a brother Bruce. While frequently playing in nearby woods he developed what turned into a life-long love and appreciation of nature.

When he was ten years old his family moved to the sleepy small country town of Shippingport, on the Ohio River in Beaver County, western Pennsylvania. With its then population of about 500, it was the building site of the world’s first commercial nuclear power plant devoted entirely to peaceful purposes. When completed, it provided employment for both his parents. Walker enjoyed the change from the suburban to a slower rural environment, where everyone knew everyone else in the small unpretentious community.

(G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

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Figure 1. Bruce, Susan, Karen and Scott Walker (Left to Right)

His father, Franklin Pierce Walker, was a methodical mechanic who worked on cars and heavy construction equipment. Walker remembers that his father would often cover the kitchen table with newspapers after supper and dismantle carburetors. The young boy found “wonderful” how his father knew how things worked mechanically, why things happened, and could reason out how one particular cause led to a certain effect and explain it. If Walker announced something he had discovered, his sometimes taciturn father would occasionally say, “Don’t be too sure.” This indicated to the son that his father thought the boy was in error, and was suggesting that he go back and re-examine his premises and thinking. The son would then usually find an error in his assumptions or reasoning. From this the boy learned the importance of the deductive and inductive reasoning, the critical thinking and the rechecking of premises and assumptions that he was to later use in the development of N.E.T.. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

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Figure 2. Scott Walker with His Father, ca.1975.

Walker’s mother, Hazel Ruth Diehl, was of German descent, and worked as an industrial nurse in the nuclear power plant. With the nearest medical doctor two miles away, she also made her kitchen open to all who needed minor medical help. He remembers her as being very compassionate and practical, and that she never charged for her services to the local farmers, miners and their families. The family refrigerator usually contained a sizeable

supply of various drugs, and as Walker would observe his mother ministering to the often pallid, sunken and troubled-looking humans in her kitchen clinic, he would look out the window at the apparently robust and hearty black Angus cattle and wonder why the humans looked so frail and the animals so healthy. He would later devote his life to seeking answers to this question.

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Figure 3. Scott Walker, Aged One, With His Mother.

The young Scott Walker began his schooling in the local two-roomed schoolhouse. He was fascinated to learn the structure of the grammar of the English language and this knowledge later became the basis on which he later developed the exacting use of semantics in N.E.T.. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

His childhood friend Norman Cain had much knowledge of the local flora and fauna, and from him Walker learned of the forest and how to track, trap and skin raccoon and muskrat. The boys earned pocket money by mounting the skins on boards for drying and shaping before shipping them to Sears and Roebuck for use in lining gloves and hats. To successfully trap, Walker had to have special “trapping clothes” that he hung in the outside shed so no odours from the human household would contaminate the traps, which were handled by gloved hands. He marvelled at the sensitivity of the animal sense of smell. To trap animals, he had to learn how to “think” as they did. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

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Figure 4. Scott Walker (L) and Norman Cain (R) with a Snapping Turtle They Had Hunted.

Walker was astounded when Cain once pointed out that a dog was smiling, leading Walker to begin to notice that some animals did indeed exhibit emotions and to later read Charles Darwin's *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*. These experiences would serve him later in his studies of the brain's limbic system, which humans share with other mammals, and which is so closely related to olfactory function.

During his summer jobs on farms Walker learned more of nature and its cycles in ways that would inform his later practice of chiropractic. He kept a garden and, while cross grafting species of fruit trees, noted how two different things could be melded into something new. He saw animals breeding and being slaughtered for food and, by observing how rich green grass would grow where cow droppings had landed and fertilised the soil, he began to understand the concepts of nutrition. These practical observations were complemented by his frequent reading of *The Book of Knowledge*. Modelled on the British *The Children's Encyclopaedia*, it covered a wide range of subjects in an easily understandable way. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

Walker feels that these experiences introduced him to an understanding of life and health, and today he finds this understanding expressed in the words of Paracelsus, "The art of healing comes from nature, not from the physician. Therefore the physician must start from nature, with an open mind."

<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/p/philipusau138349.html>

Also included in his readings were his mother's medical textbooks, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's works on the fictional detective Sherlock Holmes. The boy delighted in the detective's observation and deductive reasoning skills, and learned that the Holmes character had been modeled on the medical doctor Doyle's former university professor Joseph Bell, who had been renowned for his forensic knowledge. These skills reminded Walker of his father's, and he later recommended that students of N.E.T. study Doyle's works to experience these deductive methods. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

During his senior schooling at the South Side Area High School in Beaver County, PA, Walker was interested in science, particularly physics, chemistry and biology, and also geometry. He found these to be orderly and reasoned, and that they could be applied to the real world to make sense of it. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

Even then he was fascinated by human nature and behaviour. He attended revivals presented by travelling evangelists and learned two lessons. Firstly, that preachers would at times take verses from different parts of the bible and relate them to produce a new idea. This reminded him of how he had melded different species of fruit trees into new ones, and that such melding could produce good or poor results. Secondly, and more importantly, he observed how mere words could change the affect of many in the congregation to states of high emotionality, including sobbing. He was later to build on this when he noticed how semantic-laden phrases and sentences could change a patient's physiological functions, including that of striated muscle. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

Introduction to Chiropractic

As a result of his forceps birth delivery, Walker had suffered headaches, sinus and food allergy problems all his young life, requiring him to take a pocketful of aspirin to school most days. Active in basketball, wrestling and football, he wrenched his back playing football when he was fifteen years old. His coach sent him to the nearest chiropractor, 20 miles away in East Liverpool, OH. After adjusting the teenager's low back, the chiropractor told him that he also had "nerve pressure in his neck" and asked if he could adjust the cervical spine too. After obtaining assurance that there would be no extra cost for this, Walker gave permission and the cervical adjustment was performed. He was impressed and intrigued when this headache went away immediately and decided then and there that he wanted to become a chiropractor. He soon noticed that his sinus and allergy problems had also disappeared as a result of that single visit. He assumed that this "one visit cure" was standard for chiropractic patients, but was disappointed much later in life to find that this was not true. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

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Figure 5. Scott Walker High School Graduation Photo, 1962.

Graduation from high school in 1962 was followed by enrollment at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA, in October of that year and residence in the on-campus young bachelors' dormitory. He experienced another cultural change, as life in the birthplace of chiropractic was very different from that in his small hometown. He was "thrilled, excited,

overwhelmed” by the size of the city, which he considered to be “big and very metropolitan”, by “the buzz” he perceived as always present on campus, and by his excitement at the whole idea of studying something new, different and non-medical. His natural interest in other individuals was heightened when he met students from all over the world. The \$150 per quarter tuition fees were met by help from his parents and his jobs, first as a janitor and then as a machinist at the International Harvester manufacturing plant across the Mississippi River in Moline, IL. He later earned money selling pots and pans, in what he calls “the great tradition of chiropractic pots and pans salesmen”, and remembers that other prominent chiropractors such as Drs. Dick Versendall and Sid Williams also paid for their chiropractic educations selling these wares. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

While in Davenport, he met and married Virginia McAtee, an auto parts store employee, when he was twenty-one and she was eighteen years old. As part of his desire to learn of human behavior, they would together stage dramatizations to observe others’ responses to unusual situations. For example, they once staged a parting scene in a bus station, with the vignette so real that she had to break out of her “character” to defend him against two men who were threatening to punch him to punish him for his apparent caddish behavior towards her. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. January 16, 2011)

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Figure 6. Palmer College Rugby Player Scott Walker, 1965.

California Dreaming

Following his graduation from Palmer on 16 December 1965, Walker returned home for Christmas. He then traveled to the University of Pennsylvania Extension Campus in Erie,

PA, to attempt to get a deferment from military service. The computer card containing his record was damaged in processing and he found himself stuck in that city in the middle of winter, again selling pots and pans. By chance he heard the Mommas and Poppas song “California Dreaming” and was inspired to immediately leave with his young wife to drive to California in his Volkswagen bug. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

After sitting his California Board of Chiropractic Examiners licensing examinations in June 1966, Walker heard via word of mouth from colleagues that a black Los Angeles chiropractor named Bushellion had died. He contacted the Bushellion family, who gave him the deceased’s practice on Figueroa Street in Watts, a very run down Los Angeles suburb which had recently been devastated during race riots. But, with the “fire and fervor” he had learned at Palmer, Walker set to work to “solve the race problem” by getting the local people healthy via chiropractic care. He enjoyed socializing with and getting to know the locals and black inner city culture. This crusade lasted six months until his office equipment was stolen. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

This disappointment, combined with the difficulties of divorce proceedings he was involved in, led to his moving to Seal Beach, CA, for a break. Broke and disheartened, he returned to selling pots and pans. Between 1967 and 1971 he practised part-time in Seal Beach, and in 1969 he entered a second marriage, to Claudette Lewis, with whom he had two children, Scotty Blue Walker (born 17 January 1970) and Oliver Scott Walker (born 16 December 1972). This marriage ended in 1973. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

During those years Walker experienced a newly awakened spiritual quest and became

interested in exploring his own mind more deeply. He became aware of the Self Realization Fellowship meditation group in Encinitas, CA, and in 1971 decided to move there to learn and practice advanced meditation and to more fully grasp and experience his Christian heritage. On arrival, he contacted former Palmer classmate Dr. Berj Nerguizian, who practised in nearby Carlsbad. Nerguizian told Walker to get back into practice immediately or he would be destroyed by his unused talent as a chiropractor. Walker explained his procrastination to Nerguizian by claiming that he could not find office space to rent locally. Nerguizian visited Encinitas and pointed out the large “For Rent” sign that Walker had not noticed on the building directly across the street from where he was living. Thus Walker learned the concept of selective attention. In 1971, with only forty dollars to his name, Walker rented office space at 965 2nd Street, Encinitas, agreeing with the landlord to pay the rent when he had earned some money. The office was furnished with an old adjusting table he already owned and some rugs he found discarded in a nearby alleyway. (G.S. Walker, personal communications. November 5, 2009 and December 16, 2010)

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Figure 7. Dr. Scott Walker Outside of His 965 2nd St Encinitas Office

To assist his young colleague in developing the new practice, Nerguizian encouraged Walker to attend seminars of the Parker School of Professional Success. When Walker replied that he could not do so as he did not have decent clothes to wear there, his mentor purchased a sports coat for him on the condition that Walker do the same to help another young chiropractor when the occasion arose. Wearing his new jacket, Walker attended his first Parker seminar in 1972 and in 1974 bought a coat for new graduate Dr. John Harrison,

who has continued the tradition. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

In his new practice, Walker used Diversified and Gonstead techniques and initially ran it on the “God-Patient-Chiropractor” method. No set payment was required but the patient placed in a box installed on the wall whatever he or she wanted to pay for the visit. This method was found wanting and Walker soon found that charging a set fee was much more profitable and enabled him to purchase a used dental x-ray unit so he could use Gonstead x-ray analysis.^{1(pp 252-3)}

He was also excited as the increased profits allowed him to follow his passion for learning new chiropractic techniques. Since entering practice, he had informally learned additional techniques from other chiropractors he met, but he began to seek more and more skills by attending formal technique seminars, trying to be able to consistently replicate the “one visit cure” standard of his own first chiropractic visit. The main influences in his learning process were Major Bertrand Dejarnette, D.C., (the developer of Sacro Occipital Technique), George Goodheart, D.C., (Applied Kinesiology), Robert Ridler, D.C., (developments based on Applied Kinesiology), and Victor Frank, D.C., (developments based on Ridler’s work, which Frank evolved into Total Body Modification technique).^{1(pp 250-1)} (<http://www.tbmireland.ie/>) Of these, Walker considered Goodheart the master, as from him he learned not only techniques, but, more importantly, nuances of observation and how to think from them. This dovetailed with what Walker had learned from his father, and he came to think of Goodheart as his “professional father”. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 16, 2010)

In addition, Walker attended seminars on acupuncture and meridian therapy presented by Arizona chiropractor Dr. John Amaro, who had studied these subjects extensively in Asia. (http://www.emi4.com/bio_dramaro.php) Understanding of the importance of whole foods in nutrition was gained via Walker's studies of the work of Wisconsin dentist and food supplement manufacturer Dr. Royal Lee.

(<http://www.standardprocess.com/display/pourheritage.spi>) Practice growth as a result of these greater skills required a 1978 move to larger office premises at 500 2nd St., Encinitas.

In 1985 Walker had entered into a third marriage, to Karen Buckhouse. During that very busy time of his career Walker often attended seminars three weekends a month. In 1981 he was shocked and deeply disturbed when his third wife announced that she was leaving their marriage. "Awestruck" as he experienced firsthand how powerful this emotional distress was and how his physiological function changed as a result of it, he began to study psychology.

By chance, a month before these events he had given a hair sample to a salesman who was attempting to get Walker to use hair analysis in his practice. The result was one of the "most normal" the hair analysis company had seen. Then, a month after the marriage breakup, Walker attended a seminar at which the same company was offering free hair analyses to the attending doctors. He again gave a sample and the result came back badly skewed from normal, leading him to wonder whether the test was unreliable or if his recent emotional stress and associated health changes had resulted in disturbed physiology accurately recorded in the hair analysis. He became more convinced than ever about the powerful effects of emotions on health, but had difficulty finding techniques or seminars

addressing that. He realized that he was on his own if he wanted to effectively deal with this in his practice. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. December 28, 2010)

During these early years of practice, Walker attracted patients with a wide range of health problems and seemed to get good results even with what he described as “sloppy adjustments”. However, as he gained experience into his middle years of practice, it seemed to him that it became more difficult to obtain good results. He suspected that emotional stress resulting from higher paced lifestyles, less nutritious foods from large scale petrochemical-based farming, and polluted environments were making it more difficult for patients to respond to chiropractic. He concluded that a multifactorial approach was therefore needed to better assist them. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. November 5, 2009)

Eventually, the knowledge of health and healing that Scott Walker accumulated in the above ways was the basis on which, with the assistance of his fourth wife, Dr. Deborah Walker, he developed N.E.T..

Deborah Walker

Deborah Dee Dossett was born on 31 July 1950, at Stockton, California. Her father, David Dossett, was a newspaper display advertising salesman and her main caregiver. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009) She remembers him as “very nurturing”, and that she developed her love of cooking and its nurturing symbolism while watching him prepare family meals. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

She does not remember much about her birth mother, Naomi Dossett (nee McNeil), whom she describes as “not totally there”. When she was in her early twenties, Deborah was diagnosed as having severe hypoglycemia, and believes that her mother may have had the

same problem, as she was often depressed, withdrawn and lived in her own world until she committed suicide when Deborah was six. Deborah took on this introversion but was encouraged to be more outgoing by her stepmother, Roberta (“Bobbe”) whom her father married a year after her birth mother’s death. Bobbe was only 21 years old at the time, and encouraged and showed her step-daughter how to get on with people, how to “come out of hiding, to get out there”. Bobbe brought into the Dossett family Philip, her son from a previous marriage, and several years later a sister, Rian Frachele, was born. As the oldest child, Deborah took on a lot of family responsibilities, as both her parents worked. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

As her family moved frequently, she changed schools often and had to learn to challenge her shyness and to adapt and fit into new situations. After attending four different high schools, she finally graduated from high school in Lodi, California, in 1968. She had excelled in science and mathematics and so, after first completing an Associate of Arts degree at Delta College in Stockton, CA, in 1970, she graduated from California State University Stanislaus near San Francisco in 1972 with a bachelors degree in mathematics. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

In 1970 she had married John Michael Beard and in 1973 he enrolled at Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. Working then as a computer programmer, she went to the College Clinic for a check up and to help her understand chiropractic. She felt “incredibly blessed” when an intern there quickly identified that she suffered from severe hypoglycemia and helped her with it. Suddenly her whole world changed – by a “miracle” she no longer suffered daily headaches, dizziness, depression, anxiety and general aches and pains. She was “suddenly a stronger and more confident person”, learned about natural health care

and nutrition and felt that it was her “mission and message to the world”. She soon realized that she wanted to become a chiropractor and, as the dynamics of her marriage had changed, she enrolled at LACC on her own in 1975. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

Deborah was able to pay her way through her chiropractic education as she had a waitressing job at a restaurant named “The Great Scot”. Using the people skills she had developed over the years, she was able to earn well above the average wage via tips and graduated debt-free in late 1978, the same year in which her marriage to Beard ended in divorce. A second marriage in 1980 to Steven Reynolds also ended in 1983. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

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Figure 8. Dr. Deborah Walker at Her Graduation from LACC, 1978.

After passing her California license examinations in 1979, Dr. Deb attended a Parker School of Professional Success seminar in Las Vegas and noticed an “associate required” advertisement that had been posted by a Scott Walker, D.C. She responded and he invited her for an interview because he liked the style of her handwriting in her signature. She began practice in his Encinitas office in January 1980, and regards this opportunity as one of the greatest gifts she ever received. He shared with her his understanding of the philosophy and art of chiropractic and her practice grew quickly. She joined Dr. Scott in attending A.K., T.B.M., acupuncture and Landis practice management seminars. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

Looking back on those times, she describes working with him as follows, “He was great. He was also crazy. He would do wild things. He’s not traditional. It opened me up to let the healer out in me too. He loves to teach. He loves to share what he is about. We hit it off. We were naturally good team mates.” (D.D. Walker, interview by author, June 25, 2009) They hit it off so well that they married on 1 July 1983. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

Their approaches to practice and to developing new procedures varied. She describes her approach as “intuitive”, not requiring a clear understanding of “why”. In contrast, she believes that his training from his father showed as, “He’s always asking, why? He’s always looking at what relates to what.” She also notes that he is a “voracious” reader and has accumulated much knowledge as a result. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

The Genesis of N.E.T.

Dr. Scott combined and experimented in practice with many concepts and techniques, often grafting sections from different ones to meld them together, as he had done with fruit trees as a teenager. From A.K. he had learned of the relationships between the physical and the emotional, and how to check for these via muscle testing. (D.D. Walker, interview by author, June 25, 2009) Korzybski’s work on general semantics gave him better understanding of the interrelationships between language, meaning, the mind and physiology.³ Recalling how the words of the preachers of his childhood could move the emotions of their congregations, he observed how semantic-laden phrases and sentences could change a patient’s physiological function, including that of striated muscle. The correlation of the emotions to the acupuncture meridians was borrowed from Chinese medicine.⁴ Ridler had

determined correlations between various organs and adjustments at specific vertebral segmental levels. N.E.T. was developed in this dynamic and intense intellectual environment of learning and practice, which was always focused on expanding technical knowledge to get better results for patients and understanding why that happened.

Spreading the Word

By 1985 the Walkers' practice had earned a reputation for obtaining extraordinary results in chronic and difficult cases. Other practitioners were not only referring such patients but were attending for care themselves. After repeated requests from other practitioners, local chiropractor Dr. Robert Curry arranged for Dr. Scott to present a private seminar at the Sanderling Hotel in Encinitas on 7 May 1988. Curry was involved in the Standard Process nutrition supplement business and invited other colleagues involved in eclectic practices to attend as he knew they would be interested in the Walkers' mind-body approach. Seventeen practitioners attended that first N.E.T. seminar. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

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Figure 9. Dr. Scott Walker Demonstrates on Dr. Robert Curry at the First N.E.T. Seminar in 1988.

Before the seminar, Dr. Scott had no name for the technique and knew he needed one. Curry suggested the name "Neuro Emotional Technique" but a greater problem remained. Dr. Scott shared with Curry that, while he intuitively knew what he was doing with this work, he lacked a conceptual model of understanding of N.E.T. and its "mechanics". He told Curry

that he knew that he was “fixing” something, but had no idea what. He knew could not be fixing emotions, as emotions were naturally and normally possessed by humans.

Curry seemed to be just the person to clarify this matter. An experienced chiropractor with a background similar to Dr. Scott’s in A.K., T.B.M., linguistics and psychology, Curry also had over a decade of university study in philosophical psychology, a part of philosophy of mind. Part of the task of philosophy is to express in language that which exists, and to accurately identify and describe reality in order to make it understandable. In a week Curry came up with the concept and name of the neuro emotional complex (N.E.C.). He posited that N.E.T. was not “fixing emotions” as such, but the N.E.C., a dysfunctional condition of the mind/body resulting from an emotion in a fixated state.

Curry pointed out that most psychological models attempt to work on emotions such as fear or anger themselves. But emotions are healthy and essential to the normal functioning of the healthy organism. It is only when they are amalgamated within the N.E.C. that emotions fail to properly function, fail to resolve and become troublesome. The term N.E.C. describes the situation “where the mind and body come together and something gets stuck”, and they concluded that this is what N.E.T. practitioners attempt to find and resolve via the N.E.T. procedures and adjustments. (G.S. Walker, personal communication. January 31, 2010)

Dr. Scott still marvels at the serendipitous way in which his and Curry’s particular backgrounds of knowledge and experience came together in time and space to be melded into this conceptual understanding which forms the foundational point of N.E.T..

Dr. Deb recalls that Dr. Scott had at that time felt that something was missing from his life, and she believes that teaching at this seminar “completed him”. She felt that he was “naturally right” the moment he began speaking on that stage. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

In response to demand from local chiropractors, a second N.E.T. seminar was held in the same venue on 1 October 1988. Dr. Scott then felt that there was no need for further seminars. However, Dr. Deb told him of her seven year-old male patient who had suffered from bowel incontinence. This was very disturbing to the boy and his family and he had been taken to many different medical doctors, chiropractors, acupuncturists and psychologists. He had not been helped and after many months the embarrassment of his condition had resulted in his withdrawing from school and social activities. Dr. Deb examined him using N.E.T. and found an N.E.C. associated with the emotion of fear in his lumbar spine. She asked him what the fear could be and he replied that his father had left and the young boy felt that he then had to be the father of the family. She adjusted his spine via N.E.T. procedures and was later informed that the boy’s problem had disappeared after that one visit and that his life had returned to normal. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. December 24, 2010)

When she told Dr. Scott of this case, he realized that he had to take N.E.T. “on the road” so that not only local practitioners would be able to help patients who needed it. In April 1989 he taught a N.E.T. Basic seminar and the first NET SUCCESS seminar in Hawaii. These were followed in the same year by NET Basic seminars in the Californian cities of Encinitas, San Diego, Costa Mesa, Sacramento and Los Angeles, plus one in Indianapolis, IN. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. December 24, 2010)

Dr. Scott continued to search for reasons why certain spinal corrections would not “hold”. He experimented for three years with nutrition and herbal approaches until discovering specific homeopathic remedies that helped to address this problem and, beginning in 1994, these products were made available to N.E.T. practitioners. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

This hunt for new and more effective understandings and procedures led to the expansion of the amount and content of material available to be taught. Accordingly, new seminars offering this new material were developed. These included the N.E.T. Advanced seminar (including a deeper understanding of the N.E.C.), the “Neuro Emotional Xtra Technique” (“NEXT”) seminar (covering patients with more complex problems), the “Gathering of the Eagles” (a forum for the exchange of new techniques developed by practitioners), the “NET SUCCESS” seminar (offering practitioners the opportunity to have extensive work on their own issues and future goals) and the NET Certification seminar (at which written and practical examinations are offered, leading to certification in N.E.T.). (<http://www.netmindbody.com/seminars.html>)

Australian chiropractor Dr. Arthur Newman had been impressed when he had heard Dr. Scott present a small sample of N.E.T. at a T.B.M. seminar and he convinced the Walkers to travel to and present in Australia. Dr. Scott presented the first international N.E.T. seminar, completely organized by Newman, in Australia on 23-24 February 1991 at Surfers Paradise, Queensland, and that was followed by the second in Melbourne, Victoria, on 2-3 March 1991. N.E.T. seminars have been held annually in Australia since. Newman also organized and maintained the importing and distribution of the N.E.T. homeopathic remedies in Australia until in 2000 when he handed over all these responsibilities to Dr. Stephen Osborn

and his wife Liz, of Toowoomba, Queensland. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 23, 2009)

Other international seminars followed, with the first N.E.T. seminar in Canada taking place in Toronto in 1999, the first in Europe in Paris, France, in 2003, and the first in the United Kingdom in 2007. NET Basic seminars were presented on campus in January 1993 to the students at Parker College of Chiropractic in Dallas, TX, and in May of the same year at a Parker School of Professional Success seminar in Chicago, IL. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. December 17, 2010)

The continued development and expansion of the technique and associated seminars were facilitated as Dr. Deb fitted into a role based on her natural abilities of support and organization. She describes the allocation of her initial duties as, “He thinks of it and I do it.”. While Dr. Scott worked on developing the technique, she kept their private practice active while overseeing the running of the seminar and associated business activities, and she also travelled to the seminars on the weekends to assist the attendees in the workshops. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

As the number of seminars presented increased there arose a need for additional lecturers and, because of her knowledge of the technique and seminar procedures, she seemed an obvious choice. However, her shyness made her resist taking on this role. While Dr. Scott does not like being tied to details when lecturing, preferring a “big picture” approach, Dr. Deb, with her background in mathematics and computer programming, has a very methodical, step-by-step method to the technique and eventually she became involved in presenting a summary of the N.E.T. procedure just before the beginning of seminar practical

sessions. The clarity that this offered attendees led to requests for her to at first present more during basic level seminars and then in 1999 becoming a regular speaker at the various other N.E.T. seminars. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

Another of her talents, her love for cooking, was also expressed when Dr. Scott asked her to bake for him and the attendees some healthy cookies to sustain them as he lectured during the first 1988 N.E.T. seminar. Then in 1989 she published “Dr. Deb’s Delicious Desserts”, a cookbook of healthy desserts for her patients, including the seminar cookies. For several years thereafter she and her assistants made thousands of cookies and shipped them to seminars. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

The need for additional lecturing staff was also addressed when, at a March 1993 NET Basic seminar, the Walkers noticed in the audience a six foot six inch tall young man who asked many intelligent questions. While a senior medical student, Daniel Monti had been introduced to N.E.T. by his chiropractor and was intrigued by how the body reacted to emotional stimuli via the muscle test. The following year, while a senior medical student, he attended all available N.E.T. courses. After forming a strong professional and personal relationship with the Walkers he began teaching at N.E.T. seminars in 2001. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. December 17, 2010)

While observing Dr. Scott at work, Dr. Monti noticed him using semantic techniques that were not presented in seminars and asked why. After being informed that these methods were too complicated to teach and that Dr. Scott was too busy to do so anyway, Monti volunteered to work with him and Dr. Deb to synthesize the material into a course which

eventually became the NET Advanced seminar, taught exclusively in the U.S.A. by Monti since. (D. Monti, personal communication. February 15, 2011)

Monti is now Executive and Medical Director at the Jefferson-Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA, where he is also an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Emergency Medicine.

(<http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/departments-and-services/myrna-brind-center-integrative-medicine.aspx>) His deep knowledge of the human being and the mind has been invaluable in the development of N.E.T. and related research.

The N.E.T. teaching team was also joined in 2006 by Vicky Cruz, D.C., of Pacifica, California, and Robert Wilborn, D.C., an associate professor in the Department of Chiropractic Philosophy and Techniques at Parker College of Chiropractic. In 2009 Kevin Determan, D.C., and Cathy Goldstein, A.P., both of Ponte Vedra, FL, were added and in 2010 Graham Dobson, D.C., who is on staff at the New Zealand College of Chiropractic, and Alison Griffiths, DC, who is on staff at Macquarie University in Sydney, joined the team. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. December 17, 2010)

(http://www.netmindbody.com/seminars_staff.html)

N.E.T. Research

It became clear to Dr. Scott that there was a need to examine by the ways of science the work he had developed. As he was aware that would be expensive he was concerned about how it could be funded and mentioned this during the 1993 NET SUCCESS seminar on Maui, HI. Seminar participant Khelly Webb, D.C., immediately said, “We’ll help!” and other attendees began handing in money. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

The \$5,000 collected then and there was enough to fund the 1993 establishment of the Our Net Effect (“ONE”) Foundation as a 503 (c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization that funds scientific research, particularly related to N.E.T., and endeavors to bring N.E.T. to the world, with Monti as its first Director of Research. Donations have been received from supporters around the world. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

On the suggestion of Australian N.E.T. practitioner Peter Babilis, D.C., Henry Pollard, D.C., Ph.D., then of Sydney’s Macquarie University, was later contracted to follow Monti as the Director of Research for the Foundation. (D.D. Walker, interview by author, June 25, 2009) The results of these efforts can be seen in the publication of scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals. (http://www.onefoundation.org/article_synopsis.html)

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Figure 10. Drs. Scott and Deb Walker, 2008.

The Future

The Walkers have now semi-retired from traditional practice, and still do some specialized intensive practice sessions on individual patients. While they continue to work on the development, research and teaching of the technique, their most important current goal is to ensure that N.E.T. survives and thrives when they are no longer able to shoulder the responsibility for that. They believe that the key to that lies in having the teaching of N.E.T. incorporated into the curricula of chiropractic and other educational institutions, and so they currently strive to achieve that. This direction into the future met with initial success when

N.E.T. was first offered as a 'selective' course at Parker University in Dallas, TX. (D.D. Walker, personal communication. June 25, 2009)

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Notes

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