The Palmer Foundation for Chiropractic History

The Palmer Foundation for Chiropractic History was created in 1997 to be dedicated to preserving the history of the chiropractic profession and, in particular, Palmer's role in that history.

The Museum

We began with no designated space for a chiropractic museum, but with three campuses and a lot of empty wall space. We've been able to bring the museum to the audience by utilizing available spaces throughout the three campuses for exhibits. Pictured is one of the doors from D.D. Palmer's office in the Ryan Building. The door is on display on the Port Orange, Fla., campus.

On the Davenport campus, a number of exhibits are located in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall, making that the focal point of the extended museum. Brochures are available to guide visitors to all the exhibits throughout the building and campus. The building is open during normal business hours and during most Palmer events. It can be opened other times by prior arrangement. There is no admission charge.
The Palmer Family and Chiropractic Museum is in the planning stages. Also to be located in Vickie Anne Palmer hall, it will become the kickoff point for touring the historic Davenport campus.

The Palmer Family Residence

The largest and best known of the exhibits is the Palmer Family Residence. With its eclectic collections and outstanding architecture, the Residence attracts many non-chiropractic visitors each year, as well as members of the profession. Residence Coordinator Julie Knaak works with the Campus Guides to meet requests for tours. An amazing number of people suddenly find themselves in Davenport and desirous of seeing the Palmers' home; we do our best to accommodate our visitors' schedules, but do require at least 24 hours' notice for a tour. We charge a small fee for Residence tours; all monies go back into preservation efforts.

The Collections

As with most museums, much of the collection is not on display. We collect and preserve artifacts both for display and for study purposes. We have everything from 120 unique adjusting tables to the osteological collection begun by D.D. Palmer. Shown are some of the tables during a table roundup and cleaning in 2010.

We accept donations of equipment, tables, memorabilia, and other items that will help tell the story of chiropractic. Storage space limitations make us selective in our
acceptances but we're always looking for items not represented in the collection. Today's new equipment is tomorrow's artifact.

**The Questions**

We work closely with staff in the David D. Palmer Health Sciences Library Special Services Department to answer reference questions of a historical nature. We're prohibited by federal law from placing dollar values on items that are potential donations.