



**Arl Van Moore Jr., MD, FACR
Gold Medal Acceptance Speech 2011**

88th Annual Meeting and Chapter Leadership Conference

Thank you Dr. Thrall.

New fellows, honorary fellows, fellow medalists, chancellors, councilors, members, honored guests —

It is an incredible honor to be receiving the College's Gold Medal. Over the last two plus decades while serving in the Council, the Council Steering Committee and subsequently the Board of Chancellors, I have had the opportunity to listen to the thoughts and thank yous and to reflect on the achievements of a large number of previous recipients of the ACR Gold Medal. Each individual has had a distinguished career and each has made substantial contributions to medicine and radiology in numerous ways. To join this parade of individuals recognized by our College is most humbling. As I reflect on my path and the paths of others, the accomplishments and achievements that many of us have made are in no small part related to the collective efforts of numerous individuals and groups who were focused and dedicated to a task and the goal of making our society and our profession better. To play on the Army's catch phrase, we were working "to be the best we can be." We were simply asked to be in positions of leadership from which we coordinated the efforts of many others in making things happen, setting a vision for our future. Our visions led to activities that were to provide better care for our patients, and actions that, on balance, made our profession and our specialty better. The credit to making these activities and actions happen and become reality goes to many of you for seeing the vision and for taking the initiative to help translate vision into reality. Please accept my thanks to all of you here and to your colleagues for your efforts that have made the collective us better.

To the new fellows here, older fellows, councilors, members and others who are in the early, mid and, yes, even the late phases of your careers, you can begin or continue to make a difference and help demonstrate positive change by increasing your leadership efforts and activities. In this ever-changing medical landscape and challenging practice environment, the College and many other facets of medicine are going to increasingly depend on strong and talented physician leaders at all levels. I view this as a critical need for the present and the future. While our profession trains great physicians, it needs to do a far better job in training our physician leaders. In many respects we are left to discover what leadership involves and deduce the principles of good leadership by trial and error. For those of you interested in leadership and the skills that leadership requires, I encourage you to discover and acquire additional knowledge and skills to make yourselves better leaders. For those of you who are on the fence on taking up the test of leadership or who do not have an interest at this time because of any number of valid reasons, I also encourage you to learn more about good leadership skills so that you can do a better job helping shape and implement the visions for the future that are presented as challenges we must all face and overcome. We as a profession must strive to be better. Providing better leadership and building a strong bench of leaders for the future will be key in those efforts. I urge you to adopt this as a collective goal.

I owe a debt of thanks to many. I owe a debt of thanks to you, members of the College for providing me the opportunity to lead and for embracing the vision that we, working together, put forth for our future. I hope that you agree with me that together, we moved the needle for the College and our profession. I owe a debt of thanks to my colleagues in Charlotte Radiology for supporting me during my time in ACR leadership. I owe a debt of thanks to my colleagues in North Carolina. Early on they provided me with a challenge to lead in our state chapter and introduced me to the College on a national level and all of the opportunities that exist here.

There are so many in the current and past leadership in the College to whom I owe a great deal. I have learned much and have benefited greatly from the wisdom and council from those relationships along my journey. There are a great many who have helped and in mentioning some, important others may well be left out. The best way to honor all and thank them is to pay it forward by helping others who are assuming leadership challenges as they rise through the ranks so that they become successful in their endeavors.

There are some special individuals in my life. My wife Marie, my daughter Kimberly and son Andrew are here. My brother Mac is also here.

Mac, your lifelong support as a brother has been very important over the years. I regret that Mom and Dad are not here to see the things that we have done collectively. I believe that they would be proud.

To Andrew and Kimberly, though you may not realize it, your contributions behind the scenes have been very important. Without your love and patience, my being here would not have been possible. Thank you for your understanding. I want you to know that I am very proud of you both and what each of you has accomplished in your lives.

And, in saving the most important thanks for last, I thank my lifelong companion, colleague and wife Marie for her support over these many years. She has provided additional dimensions to my efforts, and working with me, she has been a true part of these efforts, not only in the College but with my group in Charlotte and in other endeavors as well. Little did she know when she and I discussed getting involved with the North Carolina ACR Chapter that it would lead to this. After all, I indicated to her that it did not sound like it would take much time and that there wouldn't be much added work involved. I am grateful for her patience, support and understanding. As you might have guessed, there was a bit more work than we anticipated early on.

Marie ... What can I say ... you are the best ... thanks!

It has been fun. It has been challenging. I and my family have made great friends and have learned much.

In all, it has been a terrific journey so far and the memories we have we will treasure forever.

Thank you.