

AP Newsletter

A Publication of the Academy of Prosthodontics

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Fall 2001

83rd Annual Session in Santa Fe New Mexico

by Sree Koka

Let's remind ourselves what we were anticipating about Santa Fe. Well, first of all, May should be the perfect time of year to visit. Second, as much Southwestern cuisine as we could hope for (good Southwestern cuisine, mind you). Third, artwork par excellence (definitely not what's on show at the Farmer's market in Lincoln, Nebraska every Saturday morning!). And last but not least, the meeting at which Howard and Lynne Landesman would host us as President and First Lady of the Academy of Prosthodontics.

So we gathered at the Welcome Dinner to renew friendships and acquaintances



Officers and Executive Council for 2001,2

and to make some new ones. We began the process of describing the events of the past year, and at the end of the meal, we sat back and enjoyed the re-institution of the Slide Show (courtesy of Baldwin Marchack and Gerry Barack). That night we slept with the sounds and visions of a wonderfully lively dance show and musical display.

Friday morning brought the meeting to its scientific opening in grand style. The 50th anniversary of the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry was celebrated with a distinguished panel of speakers introduced by Brien Lang and Carol Lefebvre. Drs. Bob Kelly, Avishai Sadan, Jane Brewer, John Wataha, Fred Rueggeberg and George Zarb offered thought-provoking testimony to describe the advances made in aspects of our profession that have relied on our ability to think critically. Perhaps of greater im-

portance, we were challenged to confront how our lack of critical thinking, at times, impeded attainment of even greater progress. May we learn from such mistakes in the years ahead. Simultaneously, many of the spouses were attending the Santa Fe cooking school. I, for one, have already benefited from this particular outing (grilled Salmon with cilantro, ginger, butter,

along with salsa fresca and mixed vegetables...see what I mean?)

Saturday morning's session began with an extremely interesting presentation by Dr. John Ivanhoe from the Medical College of Georgia. Having sat through many lectures in the past, I can see why he has developed this particular presentation on snoring. A topic to definitely keep one awake, PAIN, specifically that associated with whiplash, was eloquently presented by Thuan Dao. Following on, Dr. Kent Knoernschild described how restorative materials that we used in fixed prostheses may predispose to gingival pathology via surface properties that attract the periodontitis virulence factor, lipopolysaccharide; certainly an area of biological significance to the intellectual clinical practitioner. Glen Wolfinger and Steve Sadowsky then presented on implant-related topics, specifi-

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Perspectives from the Editor

by Steve Eckert

Good Hope

Normally this column is devoted to a lighthearted commentary on dentally related items of interest. Sadly, as I sit down to write, my heart is not light and my mind finds little preoccupation with dental concerns. Today's date is September 14, 2001. It is a day that U. S. President Bush has proclaimed as a "National Day of Prayer and Remembrance" for the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. It is a day that none of us ever wanted to experience.

The perpetrators of this event are described as radical members of a religious group. This description however is an affront to all religions. Please, let us accept that no religion condones this sort of activity. The individuals who masterminded and conducted this terrorist attack may seek to claim divine guidance but their guidance comes from a much lower source.

We hear it all the time. Excuses for irrational activities. Attempts at justification for acts that can never be justified. People making claim to external sources for their pathologic behavior. When it extends to government or leaders it takes different names. We hear of ethnic cleansing, empowerment of the super race and now, the punishment of the "Great Satan." By any name, this sort of rationalization carries no weight in a thinking society.

Journalism 101 teaches us to search for the answers to the questions of who, what, when, where, how, and why. Most of these answers have come quickly, although the final total of people lost in this tragedy is unlikely to be determined for months or years. The most perplexing question however, the one that may never be answered, is "why." Why could a group of individuals be driven to do such a heinous act?

About 150 years ago Tolstoy asked if Napoleon gained power through sheer will and individual effort or if he ascended to power because the society of the time was looking for a leader with his attributes. If he did not exist, would someone else have performed the same feats to fulfill the needs of the society of the time? What would Tolstoy have said about some of the leaders in the last cen-

tury and a half? Would he wonder about the societies that brought men like Hitler, Amin, Stalin, Pol Pot and Bin Laden to power? Is it possible that any society could find itself seeking a total sociopath as a leader? Perhaps we take solace in the fact that many of these individuals took control through forceful means rather than by the will of democratic societies. We cling to the notion that free society will prevent this from happening and yet history does repeat itself and we must work to prevent this repetition.

At present we are still in a state of shock, we are reflecting individually. The scripture says: "Blessed are those who mourn

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Academy of
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academyprosthodontics.org

From what we know, this Academy has lost no members in these horrific crimes against humanity. We also know that all of our lives have been touched by these events. Many of us have lost friends, colleagues and loved ones. Our physical health may be intact but our emotional well being has been dramatically effected. The normal love of life has been temporarily replaced by heartache and tears. We expect that this will be followed by a need to see things put right but this act will never be corrected, at best it will be accepted.

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Secretary-Treasurer Notes

By Jon Wiens

Santa Fe is a surely place of *magic*. The social events in Santa Fe kept everyone busy with fishing, golfing, flamenco dancing, painting, sculpting, cooking, shopping, hiking and cliff climbing. The educational program in Santa Fe was well planned by Scientific Program Chair Rogoff. The Jubilee Celebration of the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry added greatly to the program. We thank the Editorial Council of the JPD for their continuous and generous contribution in support of the all day program and the wonderful luncheon provided. It is also important to note that other entities supported our educational efforts including the AP Foundation, CV Mosby, Inc., Strauman, Nobel Biocare and the International Circuit Courses making the meeting a success. During the Annual Meeting President Landesman presided with cogent foresight and challenged everyone's thinking to envision the future of Prosthodontics and the role of the Academy. While he now becomes our Immediate Past-President, he will surely become one of the most sought after mentors.

Incoming President Grisius has taken the helm, set goals, made charges and has appointed the various committee chairs and members. The committee assignments are included with the Newsletter. Efforts are underway to finalize the plans for next years meeting in Portland, Oregon at the Portland Marriott Downtown May 2-6, 2002. The President and Secretary's recent site visit to Portland was deterred by the tragedies unfolding in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington and we offer our prayers and condolences. Local Arrangement Chairs, John and Vangie Sorensen have organized exciting and interesting events for our enjoyment. More information about the Portland meeting will be published in

the next AP Newsletter. Be sure to visit our website at: www.academyprosthodontics.org that is now under the development by Roman Cibirka for the latest news about the Academy.

The membership had voted at the Annual Business Meeting in Santa Fe to defer Cleveland, Ohio as a meeting site for 2004. The Secretary is investigating two other sites, which are Ottawa and Niagara Lake/Falls, Canada. Recently, several fellows have expressed interest in Alaska as another potential meeting site. Each venue is being reviewed relative to their accessibility, accommodations, meeting space and potential social events. The Executive Council will meet on Sunday, October 14, 2001 in Chicago to address the needs of the Academy and to organize the activities for the upcoming year. Your suggestions or questions are always encouraged for the good of the Academy and the fellowship.

Lastly, we will be mailing requests for any changes in membership information and dues statements in November. It is important that you inform us of address or e-mail changes as soon as possible. Fellowship Nomination forms are available from the Secretary-Treasurer. The deadline for submission is November. Please call me if you are not receiving your JPD subscription or if your subscription has lapsed. Keep in mind that if you are a dues-paying member in more than one sponsoring organization you are entitled to a refund directly from CV Mosby, Inc. of the additional subscription amount.

Please note the sidebar with the methods in which you may contact the Secretary. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

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Contributions and Memorials should be made to the Academy of Prosthodontics Foundation and sent to:

**Dr. Donald C. Kramer
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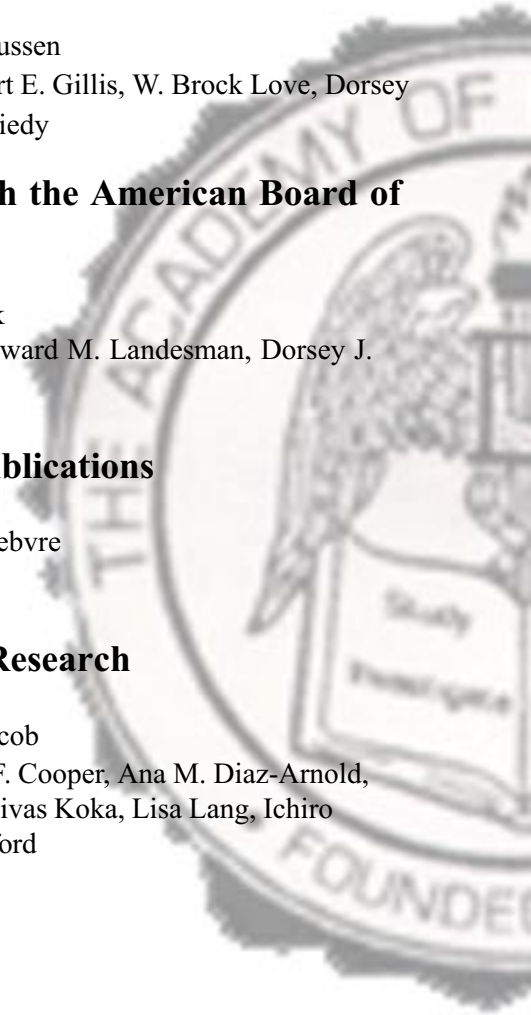
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Good Hope

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for they shall be comforted.” Medicine is beginning recognize the efficacy of “distant healing” in the form of prayer. The United States and its allies will need our “distant support” in the time ahead. Please stand ready to lend it.

Now we await the compensation that the terrorists have earned. The United States is steadfast in its resolve to eliminate the global threat of terrorism. Once the energy of this country is harnessed towards a task, it will be achieved. Today we are asked to support this effort. The support will occur in emotional, physical, financial and spiritual ways. Let us all join in this effort.

Where do we go next? Will life take a quick return to normal? A friend and advisor gave me a few clues to help make it happen. Number one he said, do good for someone. It might be on a large scale, it might be on a small scale but the goal is simply to do some good and do it as soon as possible. This is an affliction that we can all stand to catch. The second point is a little harder. It is to hope. Keep hope alive and actively hope for a better day.

No one can turn back the hands of time but we can all do these two things. We can all be good to others and do good for them and we can all hope for a bright tomorrow. We've heard it a lot recently but it still is a hope for us all: God Bless America!

AP in Santa Fe

Annual Session

Continued from page 1

cally, “immediate loading” and overdentures respectively, and Larry Brecht mesmerized us with his special blend of compassion and clinical expertise treating patients with Craniofacial defects.



Pouring of Bronze Casting

With perfect timing, the skies cleared Saturday evening for our outing to the Allan Houser Compound. We learned about this young Native American Apache with a flair for drawing, painting and sculpture. The bronze casting was spellbinding as we watched the glow of molten metal (something other than Type III alloy, that is) as it was poured from crucible to mold. And since the rain had stopped before we arrived, the tent/dining room perched on a hillside thankfully did not turn into a mudslide.

Sunday morning continued the new tradition of evidence-based dentistry workshops. Survey responses had requested that the session focus on measurement and statistical analysis. Accordingly, Rhonda Jacob invited Dr. Dennis Johnson to present on “Calibration”, and she gave Clark Stanford the enviable task of speaking to us about “Statistics”. I admit that I have forgotten how to cal-

culate standard deviation, but I still remember why train tracks are 4 feet 8 inches apart (equine anatomy?). Breakout sessions progressed smoothly and quickly, hopefully a testament to both the intellect of our membership and guests and the success of previous years’ sessions.

The installation banquet once again gave us the chance to show just how stylish we can look and proved that, if given a year to prepare, we can accomplish almost anything. Dick and Sylvia Grisius graciously accepted the Presidency of our prestigious organization. And Baldwin’s efficiency was on display again with a slide show of snapshots from this very meeting.

Monday morning arrived with presentations by Donna Hecker on deformation at the implant-abutment interface, Tom Barco’s description of the lack of success with onplants, and Jeffrey Rubinstein’s discussion regarding challenges in providing maxillofacial prosthetic treatment. The scientific session came to a close with presentations by Fellows or Life Fellows of the Academy. Dr. Charles Goodacre presented carefully selected and clinically pertinent data from a study of complications associated with fixed prosthodontic restorations. Life Fellow Dave Wands then asked each one of us to consider what membership in the Academy has brought to our lives. He stressed that one way to give back to the Academy is to help the financial health of the Academy and he challenged us to fol-

low his lead as he announced his latest donation to the Academy’s foundation. The last scientific presentations of the Santa Fe meeting were tag-teamed by Gary Goldstein and Dave Felton. Gary presented data outlining the worrying status of the “low quality and quantity” applicant pool to prosthodontic residency programs before presenting the results of an American College of Prosthodontists survey of senior dental students addressing reasons why these students are not choosing prosthodontics as a specialty. It would appear from the survey results that since a myriad of behavior traits exhibited by faculty are driving students away from prosthodontics, that we must either change our behavior or we must redefine our specialty based upon what can be achieved by those that do apply. Neither of these options will be pleasant, the first will be harder to attain but it may maintain a certain level of excellence; the second will be easier to carry out, but excellence will have given way to convenience.

With these stimulating comments in mind, the 83rd annual session of the Academy of Prosthodontics adjourned. We now look forward to meeting next year in beautiful Portland, Oregon.



President Grisius promises to “take no bull” during the next year

Outreach

by Jim Chandler

Outreach begins Ninth Year

The Academy of Prosthodontics has included an interest in patient care and education since its inception. In 1993 an Academy team treated patients of the Chickasaw Nation at the Ada, Oklahoma Indian Health Center. At that time there was a backlog of two thousand completely edentulous patients, some waiting up to three years for treatment. Since this first outreach project, Academy teams have gone to Native American sites in Alaska, Montana, Arizona, South Dakota, and Utah and to inner city Chicago.

The value of these projects is tremendous. Projects this year in Alaska and Utah reflect the difficulties Native Americans have in receiving prosthodontic care. First, there are 1.5 million Native Americans served by only 400 Indian Health Service dentists. To quote Dr. Roger Wayman, Chief of Dental Services in Browning, Montana, "removable

prosthodontic care for these people just does not happen." Some of the Indians in remote areas do not speak English. The Navajo tribe has a high incidence of diabetes and associated periodontal disease. In all of the tribal groups, some of the patients live in such remote areas they have no access to care due to lack of transportation. In Alaska, for instance, the Tlingit Indians live in fishing villages on islands off the coast. Far from Juneau, they have to travel by boat or ferry to town for care. Because of this, they generally do not receive routine prosthodontic care. With the accelerated treatment provided by outreach groups, they can come to town once, spending the days needed for care with relatives or friends and then leave with completed prosthodontic restorations.

In August 2001, Eric Rasmussen and Tom Taylor are leading groups to Montezuma Creek, Utah serving the Navajo Nation and Juneau, Alaska serving the Tlingit Nation. The Browning Montana trip cannot be done this year because clinic construction is not complete.

Frequent Flyer Miles Sought

Over the years, the Academy Outreach Program has become increasingly

self-sufficient. Dental suppliers such as Patterson and Dentsply International have provided materials. The clinics value the outreach assistance so much that they have budgeted to pay the living expenses of the teams. Dental laboratories have donated personnel and prosthodontic graduate students also provide laboratory support. The only remaining significant expense is airfare for the participants. Eric Rasmussen suggested that Academy members donate frequent flyer miles to the outreach program to offset this expense. This can be done easily by designating your miles toward the purchase of a ticket. If this last expense could be covered, the Academy Outreach Program would be virtually self-sufficient!

This program has provided several hundred thousand dollars in prosthodontic care to those among us who have the least. Please support your Academy in this effort. If you wish to donate frequent flyer miles please call Eric Rasmussen, Outreach Chair. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



Alaska Scenery



Navajo Women

One on One

by Roman Cibirka

...With Charlie Swoope

Imagine a magical place described as the perfect climate where azure waters of the Pacific intersect the Sea of Cortez, radiant sun gleams and desert join to create “Marlin Alley”, the undisputed billfish capital of the world. A place at the tip of the magnificent Baja peninsula where countless quiet coves and beaches without footprints border energetic resorts supporting sport fisherman angling for sailfish, dorado, wahoo and, of course, marlin. As you peer to the sea beyond the famous arch at Land’s End you will find Academy Life Fellow Dr. Charles Swoope enjoying a yearly November pilgrimage to land billfish.

His zeal for fishing may have spawned at age five following daily fishing trips with his grandmother on an extended Florida vacation. Whether deep-sea fishing in Zuihuatenejo (near Cabo San Lucas) or Christmas Island south of the equator, Dr. Swoope enjoys the camaraderie surrounding the challenge of the sport. The personal challenge for Dr. Swoope is salt-water fishing for the largest fish that can be caught with the lightest tackle. A memorable trophy was a 110 lb. sailfish landed on a flyrod after a 3.5-hour battle. His many fishing excursions have included colleagues and Academy Fellows Dale Smith, Tom Curtis, Jim Lord and Dave Wands.

The idyllic blend of tranquility and exhilaration Dr. Swoope enjoys every fall is nearly polar opposite, and 2,500 miles away from, his 1934 birthplace in Jersey City, NJ and childhood home of Union, N.J. The state of Florida provided his pre-dental education at the University of Florida and, more importantly, introduction to his wife Lynne. The University of Maryland School of Dentistry graduated Dr. Swoope summa cum laude in 1959. Dental School was followed by an internship with the U.S. Public Health Service in Seattle, Washington. The same Health Service triangulated his venues by stationing him in Mobile, Alabama and subsequently Boston, Mass. He returned to the



Seattle USPHS Hospital for his prosthodontic residency completed in 1964. The now prosthodontist Dr. Swoope was poised to depart the Northwest for a private practice career on the Gold Coast of Florida when overnight his career path transformed. The University of Washington lured him to complete the MSD that directed duality to his career.

New Orleans next benefited from Dr. Swoope’s presence as he divided his time between the USPHS Hospital and the former Loyola University (now LSU), however, the roots cultivated in Seattle lured him back to the Northwest in 1967. At the University of Washington, he became Director of Graduate Prosthodontics through 1980 when he retired as a Professor and launched a full time practice limited to removable prosthodontics. He retired from practice in 1998, undoubtedly much to the dismay of his patients. During his entire career he has maintained a strong presence in organized dentistry serving as President of the Washington State Society of Prosthodontists, Pacific Coast Society of Prosthodontists, American Prosthodontic Society, American Academy

of Maxillofacial Prosthetics and the Academy of Prosthodontics in 1994. When queried on the pinnacle of his career he replied, “Being the President of all three founding organizations to the Journal.” This truly unique stature is limited and may be his alone. A former member of the Editorial Council, he maintains an integral association with The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry serving as a Special Consultant to the Editorial Council.

Dr. Swoope has contributed 55 publications to the literature with his interests in interim removable prostheses, nutritional and psychological aspects of patient care. More notable than the significant literature contributions, he gleams when describing the immense personal gratification he amassed from the years of nurturing and educating graduate prosthodontic students.

Gratification and humanitarianism continues to fuel Dr. Swoope while actively participating in the “Habitat for Humanity” mission building houses for the underprivileged. This mission has sixteen houses currently under construction with a goal of fifty houses in the next two years. This benevolent undertaking confirms the persona of Dr. Swoope, a guise I am certain mimics the care provided for his patients. Dr. Swoope quickly acknowledged his support of Lynne in her endeavors following his retirement, akin to her support for him over the years, notably with the Friends of the Library and as Docent of the Art Museum. Clearly, retirement has not waned his compassionate and productive approach to life.

Congenial, charitable and scholarly attributes exemplify the demeanor of Dr. Swoope. From the tang of lumber and din of construction equipment while homebuilding to the swell of salt-filled sea air landing and obligatorily releasing Mother Ocean’s aquatic challenge, his industriousness, empathy and professionalism herald the distinctive character of Academy Life Fellow, Dr. Charles Swoope.