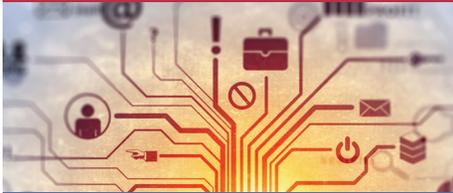


Volume 2 issue ten 2017



What's Inside

- By The Numbers – 2017
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Key Dates

November 9,10 | Kristallnacht
1938 (Germany)

November 23 | Thanksgiving Day
(USA)

November 28 | #Giving Tuesday

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter including items for submission (stories and/or photos) please contact Bernice Edelstein at bedelstein@ao.org.



Bernice Edelstein
Program Manager

Shalom!

With Thanksgiving almost upon us, I am incredibly grateful for the generosity, compassion, kindness and care provided by our dentists and their staffs toward the Holocaust survivors. Special thanks goes to all of our participating dentists, lab partners, social service agency cohorts, philanthropic partners and program partner Henry Schein Cares and Team Schein for their commitment and participation in this vitally important program.

The focus of the newsletter this month is on the Greater Washington, D.C. area and the wonderful efforts that this area has undertaken to treat those in need. This area started a dental program for Holocaust survivors in 2011. In 2016, the program was integrated into the national program, the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program. The results have been remarkable. Many of the patients are seen on a continuing care basis, returning to see the dentist every six months. Be certain to read the Anecdotes from D.C. on page 10. They are heartfelt expressions of gratitude.

#Giving Tuesday, a movement to create an international day of giving at the beginning of the holiday season, is designated as the Tuesday after Thanksgiving in the United States. This year it falls on November 28th. Consider donating to the Holocaust survivor dental program. No matter the size of the gift, the amount donated will go a long way in aiding this aging population.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

Kind regards,
Bernice Edelstein
Program Manager

By the Numbers (Jan. 2017- October 2017)

City	Ambassador	In Treatment	Completed
Atlanta	Michael Friedman	3	2
Boston	David Dano & Murray Miller	4	9
Chicago	Laurie Gordon-Shaw	7	34
Columbus	Shaun Rotenberg	3	6
Cincinnati	Dr. Glen Meyer	5	11
Dallas	Gary Solomon	0	1
Detroit	Jamie Feldman, Marv Sonne, Mark Luria	3	13
Los Angeles	Paul Selski	3	6
Milwaukee	Stan Teplin	0	4
New York	Rada Sumareva	9	9
Phila./South Jersey	Bruce Silver	7	6
Phoenix	Irwin Feinberg	1	4
ASDOH	Irwin Feinberg	0	1
San Francisco	Jay Cohen	0	-
Seattle	Kal Klass	3	11
Washington, DC	Ben Williamowsky, Alan Singer	7	40
West Hartford		1	3
Calgary	Brian Sacks	0	4
Montreal	Jeff Tenser	9	17
Toronto	Gerald Pearson	6	7
Winnipeg	Gary Hyman	6	9
Temple/KleinLife		0	45
TOTALS		77	242

WELCOME TO THE CHICAGO PROGRAM!

Dr. Scott B. Kalniz, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Dental Officer at Elite Dental Partners

Dr. Kalniz has over 20 years of dental industry experience. He started his career with a single location practice and purchased several other dental practices and eventually sold his large dental group to a dental service organization. He joined the dental service organization as Director of Development, sourcing a number of dental practice affiliations, helping build the dental service organization to over 50 locations. Dr. Kalniz holds a DDS and a BS in Business Administration, Economics, from The Ohio State University. While in dental school, Dr. Kalniz was an AO member and now looks forward to rejoining!

In the Chicago area, Dr. Sophia Tekle has begun treating patients! Thank you Dr. Tekle for your expert care and kind, compassionate treatment.

Spotlight on Washington, D.C.



The Ambassadors for the D.C. area program are Dr. Ben Williamowsky and Dr. Alan Singer. There are close to 80 dentists participating in the program. If you are interested in joining the program please contact, Dr. Ben Williamowsky, bawilly@verizon.net; Dr. Alan Singer, docextract@aol.com; or Bernice Edelstein, bedelstein@ao.org. If you are not able to volunteer, consider making a donation to the Program.

HOW TO DONATE

AO US FOUNDATION:

www.aofus.org
ellen.taranto@aofus.org
301-738-6400

AO CANADIAN FOUNDATION:

Marlene Tenenbaum Memorial Fund
www.aofoundation.ca or info@aofoundation.ca
416-250-7417

Washington, DC

Meet the Dentists

Dr. Ben Williamowsky *Ambassador, Washington, D.C.*

Dr. Ben Williamowsky, son of Rabbi Chaim Williamowsky, was born in Lithuania and immigrated to the United States in 1927. He has lived in the D.C. area since 1939. A graduate of the University of Maryland Dental School in 1948, Dr. Williamowsky received the Alumnus of the Year award in 1998. He holds many titles including: Fellow of the American Academy of



Dentistry, Past International President of the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity, Past Chairman of the Alpha Omega U.S. Foundation and was the recipient of its Certificate of Merit and its Meritorious Service Award. He holds an honorary fellowship from Tel Aviv University and is a member of the TAU Board of Governors. He is a founder of TAU as well as the Hadassah School of Dental Medicine at Hebrew University. The establishment of the Rothstein/Williamowsky Postgraduate Clinic at TAU Dental School is in memory of Ralph Rothstein and in honor of Ben Williamowsky. Honored by Hadassah with the Myrtle Wreath Award, Man of the Year Award for the Israel Bonds Committee, Humanitarian of the Year from the District Dental Society and the Maimonides Society Schulman Award for Community Service. If any others were admitted, Ben says, “Only his late mother would have been upset!”

Why did you decide to choose dentistry as a career?

At the age of 13, I visited the 1939 World’s Fair in New York City. I was taken by my favorite cousin, Sam Davidson, a dental student at NYU, to the school’s dental laboratory where Sam fashioned an acrylic ring with a tooth medallion. That did it! From that point on, I wanted to be a dentist.

Alpha Omega is near and dear to your heart. Why would you tell others to join?

I have often told others who ask, “Why at your age are you doing this?” My answer, “If you were doing it, you would know why!” I continue to do things which help others through the Alpha Omega Foundation, through the Holocaust Survivors program, and through other organizations that I belong to just to help others. I have three heroes concerning this subject: 1. Ralph Waldo Emerson, who said, “All are needed by each one. Nothing is fair or good alone.” 2. Rabbi Hillel, who describing why Judaic principals are so important to him, presented the following, “A person should be remembered by mitzvot (good deeds), tzedakah (charity), and tikkun olam (repairing the world). 3. Jim Valdano, the storied Hall of Fame Basketball Coach who founded the Jimmy V. Cancer Society. His quote, “Be involved, you may not save your life, but you may save a life of others... family, children, and others.

The Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program is modeled on the program that you started back in 2011. Please give us some background on the history of the program.

I was called by Ellen Blalock, Holocaust Survivor Program and Volunteer Coordinator, Senior Services at the Jewish Social Service Agency, (JSSA). She asked if I would be interested in starting a pro bono panel of dentists to do free comprehensive care in the Washington area for survivors living under poverty conditions as vetted by JSSA. In retrospect (just joking) I should have said, “I don’t know why you are calling, but I will give you \$100 to hang up.” Well, I said to myself, how many could there be 75, 80? This is what has happened. We now have 77+ participating dentists and to date we have treated 305 patients, with others waiting to be treated and we will! We have been fortunate to have attracted participants from the Maimonides Society, a local non-sectarian study club with the bulk of the volunteers coming from our own Washington, D.C. AO Chapter. Then, in 2015 a most important and wonderful event happened. Henry Schein Inc. arguably, the world’s foremost supplier of medical and dental supplies and programs, embraced the survivor program. In their inevitable style of reaching out to the world’s “Global Oral Health Initiative,” they helped to establish the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program. There are now 20 North American cities which are now part of the program that Washington has been fortunate enough to join in 2016!

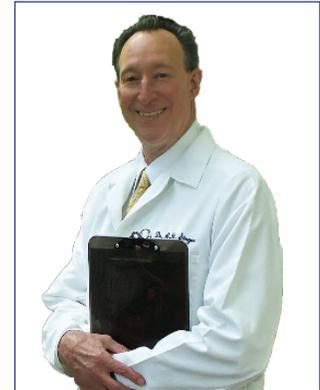
Anything else you would like to add?

Nothing pleases me more than to see other Alpha Omegans, young and old, whom I have known, become involved in this program. “Do you want to be involved in that?” Here is how: join Alpha Omega and remain a member even beyond your retirement; as Jimmy V said it may not help you, but it may help others, some of whom you may know.

Alan H. Singer

Ambassador, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Alan H. Singer is a certified Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon, specializing in reconstruction of the face and mouth. He has been extensively trained in maxillofacial pathology, facial reconstruction, orthognathic (jaw) surgery, & TMJ treatment. Dr. Singer has special interest in dental alveolar surgery, including wisdom teeth removal, extractions, bone grafting, and dental implant surgery.



Dr. Singer grew up in Brooklyn, NY and graduated from Brooklyn College. He began his dental training in Washington, DC and graduated at the top of his class at Howard University College of Dentistry. He completed his Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Residency at Howard University College of Dentistry, the Washington, DC VA Medical Center, and DC General Hospital, where he also served as chief resident in his last year.

Dr. Singer is past president of the District of Columbia Dental Society, where he also served as a delegate to the American Dental Association for 14 years. He has taught at his alma mater Howard University College of Dentistry since 1981. He also served as the liaison to the Howard University College of Dentistry and the District of Columbia Elementary School, for “Give Kids a Smile” day for 12 years.

How did you choose dentistry as a career, specifically oral surgery?

My Father was a wonderful Father, but he was a tough guy. He told my brother he would be an accountant, and he became an accountant. He told me that I would be a dentist, and so I became a dentist. In dental school I fell in love with oral & maxillofacial surgery, and decided that I had to become an Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon.

What prompted you to decide to participate in the dental program; to provide pro bono care to Holocaust survivors?

How can a decent person not help them? Every Jew lost family members in the Holocaust. Helping Survivors, whether Jewish or not, is our obligation for the terrible things that were done to them. It is Tikkun Olam!!!!

What has been your experience working with Holocaust survivor patients? Any favorite stories?

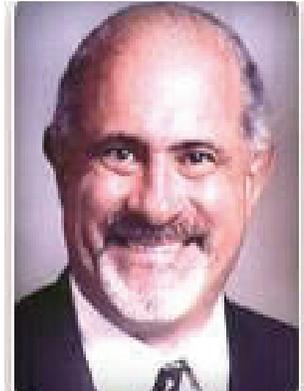
It has been a privilege. They are so appreciative!!!! I call all of my patients after surgery, and one female Survivor kept yelling on the phone “No Doctor ever called me”!!!! It’s wonderful to be in a position that enables me to help them.

What do you do to relax and unwind outside of work?

When my son was home, I coached baseball, basketball, and flag football. I also was in the World Series of Poker Main Event twice. Since my son is at college, my wife and I love trying new restaurants and going to shows.

Martin Abel

Dr. Martin Abel received his dental degree from the University of Maryland in 1975. Dr. Abel is an accredited member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, a Fellow in the Academy of General dentistry, and a Fellow in the International Academy of Dental and Facial Aesthetics.



Once you knew that you were interested in healthcare, why did you choose dental and not medical or veterinary medicine?

As a senior in college at University of Maryland, I had no career aspirations. On a train trip with my father to buy clothes in Baltimore, the conversation was directed towards my goals for the future. Dad asked, “What are you good at?” I said, “I’m good in science courses and good with my hands.” Dad said, “Why don’t you become a dentist?” I responded, “Great idea!” I selected microbiology as my major. I sent an application, and the rest is history.

What prompted you to volunteer for this dental program; to provide pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors?

I enjoy my profession. Those who went through the Holocaust and survived deserve care, and my reward for providing this care is to see their happiness in having better oral health and more radiant smiles.

What has been your experience working with your Holocaust survivor patients? Any favorite stories?

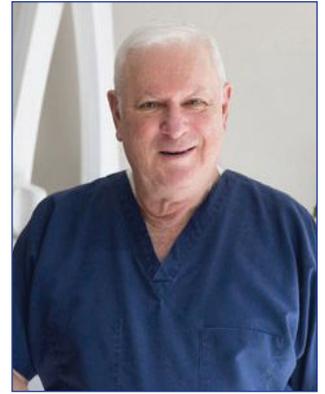
These patients are so grateful that I can help them is all I need to make my days totally satisfying.

What do you do to relax and unwind? Any favorite activities outside of work?

I like to go to the gym, fish and golf. I like to spend time with my family. I have two children, both dentists. My daughter, Shannon, has a general practice in New York; and my son, Jarred, is an oral surgeon in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

J. Steven Kahan

Dr. Kahan graduated from Howard University College of Dentistry in June 1970. He then served two years as a dental officer in the United States Air Force. He is a Life Member (50 years) of the American Dental Association; Fellow of the International College of Dentistry since 2001; and Fellow of the American College of Dentistry since 1999. He served as International President of Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity in 1997 and is a two-term past president of the AO Washington, D.C. Chapter.



How did you come to choose dentistry as a career?

For reasons I cannot even begin to remember, I was always fascinated with dentistry. I saw it as a profession that allowed me to help people, provide instant improvement to their lives, and develop a much closer personal relationship with my patients than any other branch of medicine.

What prompted you to participate in the Holocaust survivor's dental program; to provide pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors?

My parents always taught me that there was more to life than just taking; you also had to give back. We were very fortunate that none of our family members were lost in the Holocaust, but we were keenly aware of the tragedy of the entire period. I believed that providing care for these survivors honored my parents, honored the memory of those lost in the Holocaust, and allowed me to give back.

What has been your experience working with Holocaust survivor patients? Any favorite stories?

These people are amazingly grateful for the care we provide. Many bring gifts for our staff and for me. The number of hugs and kisses we receive cannot be counted. One patient, in particular, had no lower ridge for retention of her lower denture. We were able to get some implants donated from the manufacturer; have the oral surgeon place them; and convert her floating denture to an implant supported, stable appliance. Her family came to us to thank us for enabling their mother to eat comfortably again. It was a great feeling.

What advice would you give recent graduates?

Get involved in programs like the Alpha Omega/Henry Schein Program. Give Back! The benefits you will receive will far outweigh the effort you put forth.

Anything else you would like to add?

Only one thing – I cannot strongly enough encourage my colleagues, both younger and older, to be involved with Alpha Omega. In my half century of membership, I have made lifelong friends, established a world-wide network of referral sources, learned many invaluable things from my fraternity brothers and sisters, and received back much more than I ever put forth. And one final thing – AO was founded to fight discrimination against Jewish dental students. Fortunately, that type of discrimination is not as prevalent today. But should that discrimination return, and it could, there is no other dental organization that will fight for you like Alpha Omega. YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL.

David Schneider

Dr. David Schneider is a periodontist and has been in practice over 30 years. He graduated from the Boston University School of Dentistry in 1981 and completed his periodontal training in 1983. He practiced in Philadelphia and taught at the University of Pennsylvania's dental school for three years before moving to the Washington D.C. area. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity and is a Fellow of the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists.



What drew you to dentistry? Did you know that you always wanted to be a dentist?

I was initially interested in becoming a plastic surgeon. I chose Boston University because the medical and dental students trained together for the first two years, which allowed me to obtain my MD and my DMD. At that time the interns and residents were on strike due to their long hours, and it caused me to reconsider my career path. I decided that Periodontics was the perfect fit for me.

What prompted you to participate in the dental program; to provide pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors? Are any members of your family survivors?

My mother is a survivor, as are several of my relatives. My mother emigrated to the U.S. when she was 13 years old. Her father had been a prisoner in one of the concentration camps. He was fortunate to have been able to escape and flee Germany with my mother. I have always believed in giving back, and certainly this is an area that is near and dear to my heart. I have participated in other pro bono programs before the HSP program was started and was happy to sign on as soon as Ben (Williamowsky) contacted me.

Are Holocaust survivors/the elderly at increased risk for periodontal disease? What are the medical consequences if treatment is delayed?

Periodontal disease is a bacterial disease. There are factors that increase the risk/lower one's resistance to the disease such as: poor oral hygiene, poor nutrition, smoking, diabetes. Unfortunately, many survivors have suffered poor nutrition and lack of professional care. Many were smokers as well. With severe periodontal disease, the risk of a fatal heart attack or stroke increases several-fold. In addition, we know that while diabetes increases the risk of disease, when periodontal disease is present, it makes it harder to maintain good blood sugar levels.

What do you do to relax and unwind? What is your favorite activity outside of work?

I love spending time outdoors: walking or biking with my wife (and dog if we are walking) and gardening. I am also an avid science fiction reader.

Anything else you would like to add?

Since working with this organization and meeting so many survivors, one most touching moment was when a survivor whom I had treated returned to see me and gave me a gift: a pin which says in Hebrew: "Never Forget". The gratitude of the survivors whom I treat greatly enriches my life.

Anecdotes from D.C.:

Wonderful stories from our Heroes: the dentists who provide comprehensive pro bono oral health care. Please be aware that the names of the patients and of the dentists have been omitted. The providers completely understand that the most important thing that they do is to treat the survivors, restoring their oral health and self-esteem to become good members of their community.

Dentist #1:

A pleased patient came unannounced to the dentist's office with a gift for the dentist to thank him for his kind and excellent care. The gift was being given to the dentist in appreciation. Inside the gift envelope was the patient's food stamps. Naturally, the gift was returned to the patient.

Dentist #2:

A patient approached the receptionist who happened to be the dentist's wife. She worked part-time in the office. The 90-year-old man thanked the receptionist and told her that he was in love with her. He offered to help her in "her other job," teaching school. He asked to repay the dentist by speaking about his experiences in the Holocaust as well as his experience in the dentist's office. She agreed, and he was a big hit!

Dentist #3:

An extremely pleased elderly female patient came to one of our providers only to tell him how tremendously pleased she was with his care and to tell him that her fervent wish when she passed away was to die in his arms!

Good Story #4:

While on a trip to my cardio-vascular rehab session, I reconnected with a young man who had become a patient of mine when he entered our country in the wave of Russian immigrants in the 1980s. At that time, Alpha Omega was involved in pro bono oral healthcare for those immigrants. I was asked to wait to once again see his spouse who would be coming to fetch him. It was a happy and somewhat tearful reunion. She again thanked Alpha Omega for having helped to make their lives healthy, pleasant and productive. When she told me that she had just retired as a Russian interpreter for the NSA, I immediately signed her up as a volunteer for the AO-HSC dental program.

Good Story #5:

One day at lunch a very successful and excellent dentist whom I knew stopped at my table to say hello. BINGO! A light went off! He was not a member of our Holocaust program nor had he retained his Alpha Omega membership. When I approached him to ask if he would become a volunteer for our program, he immediately told me of all the charitable endeavors mostly pro bono dental care in which he was involved. My answer to him was, "Would I be asking someone who did nothing to help others or ask someone such as you, who does a lot to help others?" P.S. He is now a wonderful contributor to our program and is a member of Alpha Omega.

Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA)



Left to right, Front Row: Nina Sznurman (care manager), Sophia Presman (care manager), Marina Kositsyna (care manager), Ellen Blalock (Holocaust Survivor Program Coordinator), Polina Vladimirsky (care manager). Back Row: Liza Uchitel (care manager), Anastasia Bui (care manager), Rachel Woods (care manager). Rock star status for everyone!!!

Ellen Blalock, Holocaust Survivor Program and Volunteer Coordinator, Senior Services was interviewed for this piece.

How long has the agency been working with Holocaust survivors and what is the geographic area that the agency covers?

JSSA's service to Holocaust survivors pre-dates by several years my coming to JSSA in 2010, so I am not sure when we first started receiving Claims Conference grants specifically earmarked for survivor care. I think if you say, "more than 20 years" that is a reasonably accurate answer. Our Holocaust Survivor Program service area is the metropolitan D.C. area: Washington, D.C.; Montgomery County, and part of Prince George's County, Maryland; and Northern Virginia.

Approximately how many survivors are in the metropolitan D.C. area?

To my knowledge, no census has ever been done that would give us that number. Some survivors identify themselves as "refugees" (i.e. those who left Germany before the war); though there are others with different histories. There is no accurate count that I know of re: Former Soviet Union

survivors; and I do not know who is tracking survivors who move here from other areas (to be closer to family) and how much and how fast the numbers are declining due to death. The Holocaust Museum Registry of "survivors" is through self-identification, so it does not accurately reflect every survivor living in this area. When I am asked this question, I can only give the numbers that JSSA serves, which does not represent all survivors in the D.C. area.

How many receive services from the agency and what types of services are provided? What are the greatest needs of the Holocaust survivors in your community?

We have approximately 440 survivors on our active caseload with another approximately 25 survivors on a waiting list for services. Services provided include home care; case management; financial assistance for food, transportation to medical appointments, minor home safety improvements, medical equipment (i.e. wheelchairs and walkers not covered by insurance); emergency needs; and

medications; socialization events to ameliorate the negative effect of isolation and loneliness; pro bono dental, hearing aid and eyeglass programs; restitution application assistance; and, when available, volunteer assistance. Greatest needs are home care (personal care and homemaking) to enable survivors to continue to live independently in safety and comfort; oral health treatment; and financial assistance for a variety of essential needs. Almost 90% of our elderly caseload are living near or below the Federal Poverty Level.

How has the Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program helped the survivors?

This program has helped to restore dental function and relieve pain for elderly individuals whose wartime persecution and lifelong deprivation make them particularly vulnerable to physical decline, including loss of nutrition through inability to eat due to poor dental health. Just as important, it has provided skilled, compassionate and courteous care, and restored dignity and a sense of value and pride to people who have endured profound cruelty, loss, fear, and pain during the war, and shadowed by it in the many years since then. When these people cried out to the world for help from Nazi persecution, the world turned away and was silent. Now, in their last difficult years, our amazingly generous, skilled, and kind dentists are welcoming them to their offices, changing their lives, and helping them to know that they do, indeed, matter. I can not imagine a greater mitzvah.

How did you come to meet Dr. Ben?

In 2011, it became clear to me how costly it was to JSSA's Holocaust Survivor Program to provide financial assistance for dental care to our very in-need survivor clients. The need far exceeded the available grant and donated funds we had available for this service, I started inquiring about community resources to whom I could turn for help. Every single person to whom I spoke: JSSA staff, Jewish community sources, dental contacts said "Call Dr. Ben Williamowsky." I soon learned that "Dr. Ben" was legendary in our community for his generosity, dedication to *"tikkun*

olam" and ability to organize a collective response when help was needed for a worthy cause. From our very first conversation, his devotion, personal engagement, and always-positive "can-do" approach of "What do you need?" and "We can make this happen." were the first amazingly effective steps that have led not only to our AO DC Chapter/Maimonides/JSSA program in Washington, but ultimately, to the current Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares dental program for Holocaust survivors of which we are all so proud.

Do you have any favorite stories about working with Holocaust survivors? Working with Dr. Ben?

There are too many to relate. Individual dentist work, his/her generous and skilled magic, and an individual survivor whose life was changed and whose hope in humanity was restored/renewed. Our survivors are (very accomplished people who take great pride in the lives they have worked so hard to rebuild and renew) are so exceedingly grateful for this fantastic opportunity to have their "teeth fixed" (which of course also helps to maintain oral and over-all health) - but also to be treated with respect, dignity, and courtesy (particularly appreciated due to their painful Holocaust persecution; for some, years of post-war anti-Semitic abuse; and the daily indignities that very low-income individuals experience). Our JSSA team is moved by the powerful connections that our clients have with "their dentists" and their effusive words of praise and thanks for the tremendous gift that this program has given them.

As for "Dr. Ben," I have an enduring, loving, laughing, ongoing "crush" on this man. He represents everything I hope my life can be: deeply caring about humanity; filled with integrity and a commitment to righteousness; profound generosity and kindness; never-ending curiosity about life and people and the world; best sense of humor and best story-teller ever; and radiating a light, soul, and purpose that resonates in every person he meets. I don't know anyone else who is so universally admired, respected, and loved. Every encounter is a memorable experience; every conversation is a new treasure. May it always be so.

Shils Award



Mr. Steve Lampert, Town & Country Dental Studios; Dr. Marc Rothman, Mr. Steven Kess, Dr. Michael Stern, Mrs. Wendy Marsh, Dr. Steven Marsh, Dr. Ben Williamowsky, Ms. Bernice Edelstein, Ms. Heidi Weber, Dr. Bruce Silver, Mr. Peter Klein, President, The Claire Friedlander Foundation; Dr. Rada Sumareva.



DR. EDWARD B. SHILS
ENTREPRENEURIAL FUND, Inc.

On Tuesday, October 10, 2017 AO received the Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund Award for tremendous efforts in advocacy for Holocaust Survivors through the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral

Health Program. Dr. Allen Finkelstein presented the Award and Dr. Steven Marsh, President-Elect accepted on behalf of AO. Other recipients: Dr. Alejandro Roisentul, Dr. Kathryn Kell, Henry Schein Cares, and Town & Country Dental Studios. Steve Kess received the inaugural Cohen-Volpe Award for his leadership and commitment to providing access to care for underserved populations.



Dr. Bernard Rothman and Dr. Steven Marsh with dental students.



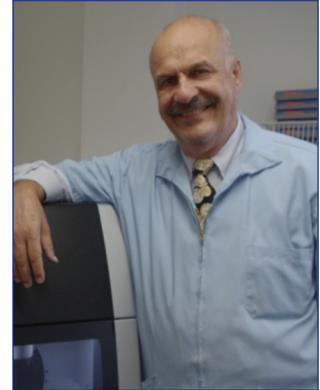
Dr. Allen Finkelstein, Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Mr. Stanley M. Bergman, Mr. Steven Kess, Dr. D. Walter Cohen, and Dr. Anthony Volpe.

Microdent Dental Laboratories Inc.

Mr. Al Lichaa, President responded to the questions.

Who is Al Lichaa?

After my immigration from Egypt to the US in 1964, my first job after serving in the U.S. Army was an Apprentice in Rosthien Dental Laboratory. My passion drove me to join the Dental Lab Technology school in Maryland, which encouraged me to open my first dental lab having the vision of establishing a thriving business within the dental lab technology industry.



Al Lichaa

Tell us a little bit about the history of Microdent Dental Laboratories Inc.

Microdent Dental Laboratories Inc. was founded by me in 2001 and moved to my current lab location in Gaithersburg, Maryland in 2007. We here in Gaithersburg think that the world rotates around us. We are surrounded by cities and major states, such as Virginia, D.C., Pennsylvania and New York. This foundation came from the belief that both dentists and patients should get the best service and the best product that will be part of a human body for long time. We believe in our technicians and the evolving technology; so we make sure we adopt every new technology that serves the lab and makes us able to provide efficient results to our clients and the community.

How did the lab become involved with providing services for the program?

We were invited by Dr. Ben Williamowsky to join the program and personally felt excited about it since this is exactly what we need for the community and the industry. We have started to offer our lab services to the program members such as PRO BONO. “Chapeau bas!” to the program leaders indeed.

What has been your experience serving Holocaust survivors?

We work closely with our clients, and we usually get notified if the patients are Holocaust survivors. If so, we give special attention to the case in order for us to serve better the community and give them what they really deserve.

What is your lab's proudest moments?

We are proud of our products that satisfy both our clients and their patients. It really makes us proud when we bring back those smiles to people who miss that. Not only this, but we restore the functionality of the patients' mouths since we consider every case as personal, and we feel what people feel.

Anything else you would like to share?

We here in Microdent Dental Laboratories Inc. believe that we are part of Maryland and the Nation. We take initiatives to be there when needed, such as our latest participation in the Maryland Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped.

Irma Poretsky-Angel in Residence

By Dr. Ben Williamowsky

Over my lifetime, I have listened to and absorbed the words of many speakers and even some excellent orators. One I remember quite vividly is taken from the inaugural address of President John F. Kennedy when he shared these words: “Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.” Irma Poretsky, a friend to Minna, z”l and me for over half a century, is the perfect example of a true philanthropist. You may ask, how does that equate to and connect with the Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program of Greater Washington, D.C?

Here is how: As you have read elsewhere in this publication, you are aware of the wonderful program here in the Washington community, introduced to our local dental fraternity, Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity, by ‘our’ Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) who banded together with Alpha Omega, the local Maimonides Society, and Henry Schein, Inc. to expand to dozens of programs across all North America. Here in our area our pro-bono panel provides comprehensive oral health care for Holocaust survivors living under the poverty level, as vetted by JSSA. {Elsewhere in this publication, you will find that our record speaks for itself}!

Two years ago, our panel thanked our “heroes,” the dentists, at a reception at a local country club. Irma, consistent with her persona, heard about the plans and asked how she could help to make it a more outstanding annual function. She offered (unsolicited) to sponsor a similar and more expansive function at the Woodmont Country Club. She further suggested that the event be a 5-star brunch to which the spouses of the dental panel members would be invited along with any number of dignitaries and auxiliary supporters whom we wished to invite. It was difficult, but she reluctantly agreed to be called to the podium to address the attendees. The function was a “knock-out!”



Dr. Ben and Mrs. Irma Poretsky

With a bit of “arm-twisting,” Irma has agreed to list a number of “special” organizations to which she is a life-board member and a major contributor: Jewish Community Center, Jewish Council for the Aging, Foundation Group Homes, UJA Federation, JSSA and its Holocaust survivor program, Make A Wish Foundation, N Street Village, Save A Child’s Heart Foundation, Special Olympics, Children’s Inn at NIH, Habitat for Humanity, Hadassah, Hillel, U.S. Holocaust Museum, Yachad and AICF (American Israel Cultural Foundation). That is only a small percentage of the entire list that includes many charities of which you perhaps have never heard.

That is only a small part of what makes Irma so special. There are servers, car-parkers, homeless people, people-without partners, lonely friends, and just people. Her explanation: “if I can’t help them, who will!” She has never forgotten her friends and her late husbands, Stanley Cherner and Lester Poretsky, and their families as well. Irma Poretsky, local angel, epitomizes the words of Hillel, who, in describing a person whose best contributions to the world in the name of our faith listed the following: *mitzvot* (good deeds); *tzedakah* (charity); and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world)!

NEWS NOTES



The Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program has been selected as the winner of a 2018 William J. Gies Award for Vision, Innovation and Achievement. Dr. R. Bruce Donoff, Dean of Harvard School of Dental Medicine nominated the program for this very special award.

The Gies Awards honor individuals and organizations that exemplify the highest standards in oral health and dental education, research and leadership. The awards reception will be held March 19, 2018. More information on this will follow.



Dinner with AO Philadelphia dentists discussing the Holocaust survivors dental program



Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program

Program Guardian
The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation

Protocol For Obtaining Services From Town & Country Dental Studios

1. Every dental panel member should approach his/her lab for pro bono services **prior to** asking Town & Country for services. **Town & Country is our safety net** and should only be used if the dentist's own lab is not able to provide services. We are only requesting the dentist's regular lab for pro bono services for 1-2 patients per year. In return, AO will provide the dental lab exposure through various AO marketing channels. Each lab partner will receive an annual recognition certificate from the Program for the services donated.
2. In the event that the dentist's lab is not willing to provide the service, Town & Country is our Laboratory Program Partner who will donate the fabrication of crowns, complete and partial dentures and other appliances necessary for proper care of patients.
3. Dentists requesting laboratory services from Town & Country will notify and submit a treatment plan to Bernice Edelstein. Please be sure to indicate the patient's initials only on the treatment plan. The dentist should attest to the patient being referred by the social service agency. When the treatment including laboratory procedures is approved, an authorization to proceed and laboratory prescription will be sent to the dentist. Please complete the Town & Country laboratory prescription including the patient's name, the type of restoration, as well as the customary information on the treating dentist (name, address, phone and e-mail). Cases will then be shipped by the dentist using AO's Federal Express account to Town & Country.
4. Please send the cases secured in bubble wrap and in a cardboard box. Also, please send the original impression, if it is still intact.
5. Bernice Edelstein will notify Town & Country to let them know to expect a case with a prescription. A technician from Town & Country may contact the dentist to request more information about the case.
6. Town & Country will inspect the case to ensure that the materials sent are accurate for successful fabrication of the restoration.
7. When requesting a Porcelain fused to metal product, please request Non- Precious metal only. High Nobel Gold and semi -precious metal is not offered in this program
8. There will be no remakes of cases as this laboratory service is a one-time benefit per submitted fabrication.
9. Town & Country will ship the case back to the dentist using AO's Federal Express account.
10. This Protocol is in effect for the year 2017.



Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program

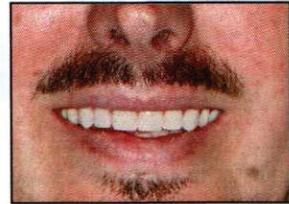
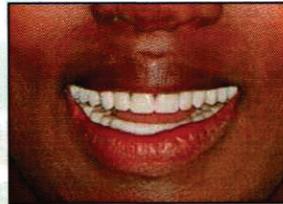
A graphic logo for the Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program, featuring two stylized hands cupping a central figure that resembles a person or a flame.

Program Guardian
The Claire Friedlander Family Foundation

Canadian Protocol For Obtaining Services From Orthodont Dental Laboratory

1. Every dental panel member should approach his/her lab for pro bono services **prior to** asking Orthodont Dental Laboratory for services. **Orthodont Dental Laboratory is our safety net** and should only be used if the dentist's own lab is not able to provide services. We are only requesting the dentist's regular lab for pro bono services for 1-2 patients per year. In return, AO will provide the dental lab exposure through various AO marketing channels. Each lab partner will receive an annual recognition certificate from the Program for the services donated.
2. In the event that the dentist's lab is not willing to provide the service, Orthodont Dental Laboratory is our Laboratory Program Partner who will donate the fabrication of crowns, complete and partial dentures and other appliances necessary for proper care of patients.
3. Dentists requesting laboratory services from Orthodont Dental Laboratory will notify and submit a treatment plan to Bernice Edelstein. Please be sure to indicate the patient's initials only on the treatment plan. The dentist should attest to the patient being referred by the social service agency. When the treatment including laboratory procedures is approved, an authorization to proceed and laboratory prescription will be sent to the dentist. Please complete the Orthodont Dental Laboratory prescription including the patient's name, the type of restoration, as well as the customary information on the treating dentist (name, address, phone and e-mail). Cases will then be shipped by the dentist to Orthodont Dental Laboratory.
4. Please send the cases secured in bubble wrap and in a cardboard box. Also, please send the original impression, if it is still intact.
5. Bernice Edelstein will notify Orthodont Dental Laboratory to let them know to expect a case with a prescription. A technician from Orthodont Dental Laboratory may contact the dentist to request more information about the case.
6. Orthodont Dental Laboratory will inspect the case to ensure that the materials sent are accurate for successful fabrication of the restoration.
7. There will be no remakes of cases as this laboratory service is a one-time benefit per submitted fabrication.
8. Orthodont Dental Laboratory will ship the case back to the dentist.
9. This Protocol is in effect for the year 2017.

Together, we restore smiles and change lives.



Actual Town & Country Cases. Dentistry by Drs. Debbie and Steve Glassman.



We have been dedicated to the dental industry for generations.

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Proud members of



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- The newest milling technologies on premises
- Fair, competitive pricing for excellent value to you and your patients

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