

# AP Newsletter

A publication of the Academy of Prosthodontics

Volume 4 , Number 3

Fall 1994

## The Academy of Prosthodontics 76th Annual Meeting Orlando in Review

by Stephen J. Riedy  
Assistant Editor

The officers of the Academy and their spouses welcomed us to Orlando's vacationland with great hospitality. The Executive Council and Committees worked diligently to meet their expected goals under the direction of an experienced President Charles Swoope. The fellowship thanks Charlie Swoope for his continued diligence and guidance throughout this year.

Program Chair Ron Desjardins and his committee prepared an excellent program. We were stimulated from the opening speakers on: the power of listening, successful aging, and the Health Care System in the United Kingdom — to the high-tech applications of electronic technology in Prosthodontics. Significant information was provided concerning dental ceramics, implant framework fit, single stage endosseous implants, and single and multiple tooth implant supported prostheses for the partially edentulous.

Ed Riley, Bob Gillis, and Roy Yanase should be recognized for managing the audiovisual equipment, which is a substantially important function to our meeting.

Local Arrangement Co-Chairpersons, Nana and Dave Henderson, Ginny and Hart Long and committee are to be congratulated for planning the exciting social activities. We started the week with a wonderful welcome dinner, where Fellows, spouses and friends could renew old acquaintances. The President's Reception, which was held at poolside, was a splendid function in the warm Orlando evening.

The spouses had an enjoyable day long outing with the Winter Park Tour. One of the highlights of our Orlando meeting was the Cypress Garden Tour which provided strolls along beautiful flower garden pathways with unique flowering bushes and trees; the ever famous water-skiing show and a wonderful wine and cheese gathering in the garden followed by a splendid dinner to top this exciting day. The weather was wonderful and very accommodating.

The realization of our Academy's rich heritage was further recognized during the Annual Installation Banquet, as recalled by Past-President Howard Payne, held in the Great Hall. In closing, the week's activities were captured on film and beautifully choreographed by Baldwin Marchack, Gerald Barrack and company to make our 76th Annual meeting very memorable. ❖



President Swoope and President-Elect Smutko

### Past-President Notes

The meeting in Orlando was outstanding. Local arrangements with Davis and Nana Henderson and Hart and Ginny Long insured that all of the events took place with precision. It was nice to meet in a family setting and we all enjoyed the many children in attendance. The efforts of Program Chairman Desjardins were evident in the excellent Scientific Program. The meeting was an unusual opportunity for fellowship, family outings, and learning together.

An effort was made to reduce some lengthy ceremonial activities, while preserving our important heritage and traditions. Head tables were eliminated to increase enjoyment of the occasion by your officers and presentation of certificates and mementos were done privately. This allowed more time for dancing and fellowship at the major social occasions.

Lynne and I enjoyed working with all of you this year. Your many expressions of confidence and support were appreciated. The gifts from the Fellowship were perfect. I will put the fishing reel to good use in Alaska in September. Dale Smith has promised me a King Salmon. Lynne has already enjoyed the quilt over her knees on a rainy day at our cabin, in front of the fire with a good book.

I join with all of you in confidence that the Academy will continue to grow and prosper under the leadership of President George Smutko. ❖

In this Issue	Page
Academy Outreach.....	3
Officer's Meeting.....	4
Remarks by Chet Perry.....	4

# Perspectives from the Editor

## Prosthodontics 21: "Page 3"

Enclosed in this issue of the AP Newsletter is a copy of George Zarb's editorial "Prosthodontics 21: A new beginning." There is a very important message that compels us to present it with the Newsletter.

The message contained within the editorial is apparent — like a loud crisp bell ringing. Perhaps the sound is inaudible for some who are not prepared to recognize the paradigm shift. Change is in the air — not to discard the proven time-tested techniques, but rather the commitment to a scientific basis for education, research and clinical practice — a process of confirmation. This is not to imply that we have not been scientific in our past efforts.

We must no longer categorize our patients by the treatment rendered. It is time to improve upon the diagnosis and accompa-

nying parameters of care which include: indications for treatment, therapeutic goals, risk factors to the patient and physician, standards of care, and the recognition of variable outcomes. Some will remark that this process is too nebulous and that it defies measurement or scientific scrutiny. Others may recognize that "if we don't do it, someone will do it for us", and they may not appreciate our interests or concerns.

This may readily be seen in the area of health systems reform. The Health Care Financing Administration has established Relative Values (RBRVS) for physician work. There are eleven prosthodontic codes in the Current Physician's Terminology-4th Edition manual. These prosthodontic codes are subject to the RBRVS process. While treatment methods and approaches may vary widely, they are eminently quantifiable. One may quickly visualize the potential impact upon the procedures that we perform.

Fortunately (or unfortunately), this will necessitate that we approach treatment based upon a documentable scientific precept.

*The timing of the Prosthodontic Research Symposium could not be better!*

The original conception and fostering of the Federation of Prosthodontic Organizations (FPO) and Prosthodontics '21 were an incredible accomplishment. Academy members have been instrumental in the evolution of both. However, the demise of the FPO has created a partial vacuum. We must not allow this opportunity to falter through the natural currents of apathy. The Academy was well represented at the founding Prosthodontic Research Symposium at McMasters University. This speaks well of our organization and serves as an excellent beginning — but we must not rest upon our past accomplishments.

*Prosthodontics 21 continued on page 4*

## Secretary-Treasurer Notes

The Annual Meeting was a huge success as always. As the saying goes "the worst was fabulous." All of those responsible for the planning, implementation and follow-up deserve all of our thanks and praise.

Several events have taken place since we were in Orlando. Trainloads of Academy belongings and records have arrived in Philomont. The transfer from Rochester was successful thanks to the continued efforts of Jerry Graser.

The Associate Fellows elected in Orlando have all accepted the invitation to become part of the Academy. We welcome Drs. Barzilay, Lefebvre, Malament and Tanaka.

To date four nominations for Associate Fellowship have been received. Those nominated are Drs. Robert Cronin, Donna Dixon, H.P. Weber and Rhonda Jacob. Remember that the deadline for nominations is **November 1**.

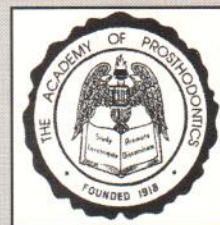
We received a note from Chet Perry. He sends his best wishes to the Fellows of the Academy and wanted each to know how much he missed everyone this May. We all missed Chet and Caroline, too.

Jim Lepley had a medical setback after we left Orlando, but is receiving fine care and was able to join the Academy delegation in Ada, Oklahoma. Always the teacher, he even provided the Secretary with some definitions of "surprise."

Negotiations are underway with two hotels in Colorado Springs. Negotiations are also being carried out with two "site selection" firms. They can get a better rate on hotel rooms than the Academy can by itself. We will keep the Fellowship informed of the progress.

*Secretary Treasurer Notes continued top page 3*

The Academy of Prosthodontics Newsletter© is published triannually by:



The Academy of Prosthodontics

Send address changes to: Dr. Ed Plekavich  
Next Submission Date: December 1, 1994

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# Academy Outreach

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 25, 1994

I wish to commend the Academy Fellows who have volunteered their services to the outreach program of the Academy of Prosthodontics.

Our country's greatest strength is the community spirit of its people. Throughout our history, Americans have been eager to serve the common good. Your involvement and dedication to caring for others are vital in sustaining this enduring legacy. By taking more responsibility for ourselves, our families, and our communities, we can ensure a brighter tomorrow for generations to come.

I commend you for your deep concern about our future and for your exemplary commitment to improving our world.



## Secretary Treasurer Notes, *continued*

Adjacent to this article is a copy of the letter sent to the Academy of Prosthodontics by President Bill Clinton in recognition of those Academy Fellows who volunteered services to the Oklahoma Outreach Program. The letter was being circulated during the Banquet in Orlando and not everyone had an opportunity to see it.

The meeting in Tucson is shaping up. The preliminary program developed by Program Chair Graser and his committee is excellent. Local arrangements under the guidances of Howard and Ann Payne promise to be outstanding. Committees are receiving their charges from President Smutko and will have to be busy to accomplish all that is expected.

The ballot to officially end the FPO has been taken. It is expected that the delegate vote will be 100% to end.

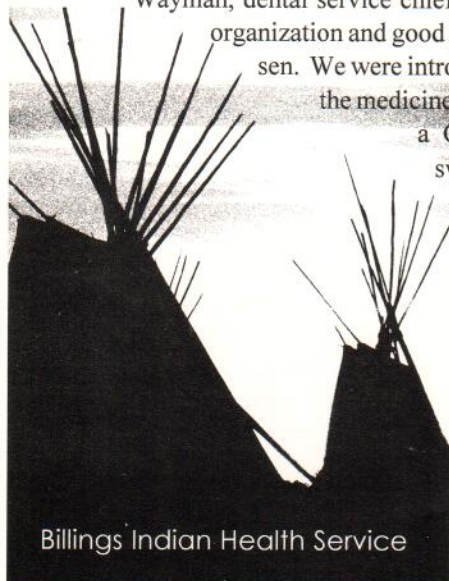
Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Academy.

Secretary-Treasurer Plekavich ❖

## Academy Fellows Outreach in Montana

Four Academy members volunteered their time in Browning, Montana August 8-15, 1994. Participants in the project include: the director, Eric Rasmussen from Madison, Wisconsin; Carl Andres from Indiana University; William Kotowicz from the University of Michigan; and Dorsey Moore from the University of Missouri. They were accompanied by a dental assistant, Lonni Roth, and a dental technician, Deb Peterson. The dental facilities were limited and the site was remote. Dentsply and Patterson Dental Supply donated teeth and other materials for this project.

Seventeen medically compromised patients were successfully treated. Dr. Roger Wayman, dental service chief, welcomed us and made us feel at home. His organization and good will set the tone for the week, noted Dr. Rasmussen. We were introduced to Blackfeet traditions and ceremonies by the medicine man, Buster Yellow Kidney, and were invited to a Great Plains sundance. Also, we attended a sweatlodge ceremony which is a purifying and renewal ritual that has healing powers for the participants. Our side trips included "The Road To The Sun" at nearby Glacier Park where we saw herds of elk and ate fresh whitefish from Lake St. Mary. In addition to providing dental care to edentulous patients from the Blackfeet Tribe, they also shared their skills and experience with the Indian Health Service staff. We all felt that we received more than we gave and are anxious to return next year.



Billings Indian Health Service

Approximately \$5,000 for this public service was donated by the AP Foundation. ❖



Montana Outreach (l-r): Deb Peterson, lab technician; Dr. Dorsey Moore; John Yellow Kidney, Blackfeet tribal member; Lonnie Roth, dental assistant; Dr. Carl Andres; Dr. William Kotowicz; and, Dr. Eric Rasmussen.

### 1995 OUTREACH PROJECT

We invite and encourage fellows to join us for one week in 1995 to continue this worthwhile outreach project.

Please contact either co-coordinator.

Dr. Eric Rasmussen, (608) 222-6606

FAX (608) 222-2532

Dr. Robert Gillis, Jr. (916) 452-4535

FAX(916) 452-0567

## Officers Committee Meets August 4-6, 1994

The Officers Committee gathered in Buffalo, New York, to plan committee activities for the coming year. The officers arrived a day early because President Smutko had graciously arranged for Immediate Past President Swoope to give us all a lesson in fishing on the Niagara River. Most of us were slow learners in spite of Charlie Swoope demonstrating time after time how to hook and reel in many different kinds of fish. Charlie caught the limit ... for everyone. It was very kind of Charlie to bring in so many fish; otherwise dinner may have been bologna sandwiches.

The meeting was very productive thanks to the preparation of President Smutko. His draft of Committee makeup and charges was very detailed and thorough. Every Committee activity from previous years was reviewed and charges formulated to facilitate their activities.

Much time was spent discussing the meeting in Orlando. The consensus was that the format for discussions of scientific presentations worked well and should be continued. The meeting ended after consideration was given to proposals of a "forum" and "coalition" of organizations.



Officers meet in Buffalo (l-r): Ron Desjardins, George Smutko (President), Charlie Swoope, Gerald Graser, Ed Plekavich



Who is eating the Cypress Garden Salad?  
Photograph by Aaron Fenton

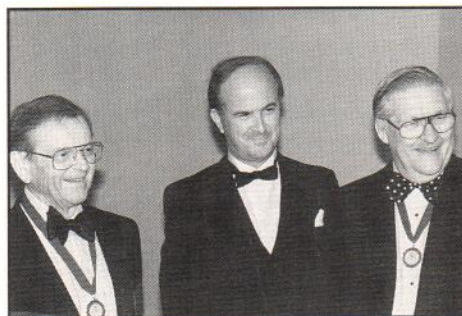
### Prosthodontics 21: *continued*

One of the potential outcomes of this Research Symposium may be the unification of prosthodontics. The "return to science" will have a coalescing affect upon Prosthodontics.

Most importantly, the information and methodology acquired will benefit research, education, and patient treatment. The scientific confirmation of successful prosthodontic treatment outcomes will become vitally necessary in this era of health systems reform. The Prosthodontic Research Symposium provides a means to achieve this result.

This represents a commitment to the future of Prosthodontics.

Jonathan P. Wiens, Editor ❖



Dale Smith, George Zarb, and Brien Lang had a great time in Orlando ...



but, not as much as Louis Blatterfein and Melinda Jacobson. Photographs by Gerald Barrack

## News of the Fellowship

The San Diego AGD awarded **Dr. Terry Tanaka** the "Dr. James Verneti - Dentist of the Year Perpetual Award" on April 29, 1994.

**Dr. Charles Goodacre** has accepted the position of Dean of the Dental School at Loma Linda University in California.

**Dr. James Lord** was elected to the 1995 ADA House Delegates.

**Dr. Stephen J. Riedy** has been appointed as Assistant Editor to the Academy of Prosthodontics Newsletter.

### Remarks by Chester K. Perry Historian Emeritus

I had planned to be at the Orlando meeting but difficulties with transfusions caused a late cancellation. I missed being with everyone: their smiles; their handshakes; and their association. What a glorious group. The Academy is in top-flight condition.

The Academy and the officers are stalwarts in our field, throughout the world. I feel so good about the talents and enthusiasm of our younger Fellows. I think the Academy is in excellent hands. It has the longest continuous history of any group and the forward growth will be perpetual. The Presidential Citation is lovely and deserving. The Academy can add another item to the logo, that of *service*.

I am proud to be a Fellow and to have friends like our Fellows. May God bless you and your work.

(Excerpts from recent letters to Doug Wendt, Charlie Swoope, and Ed Plekavich.) ❖