



# AORTA

ALPHA OMEGA REVIEW OF TORONTO ALUMNI CHAPTER, PI CHAPTER | AUGUST 2023 VOL. 65. NO.1  
WEB SITE: WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG

## 2023 ALPHA OMEGA

# SOCIETY NIGHT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 - 6:30 PM

Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue



**Dr. Ilana Kraus**  
*Incoming Chapter  
President*



**Dr. Eddie Glick**  
*Certificate  
of Merit*



**Dr. Carole Gruson**  
*The Sheila Rodney  
Humanitarian Award*



**Dr. Marvin Sonne**  
*International  
President*

Fall Seminar  
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Friday, November 24th, 2023



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Raquel Benzacar Savatti  
Chief Executive Officer



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# LANI'S LETTERS



To all my fellow members of Alpha Omega Toronto,

I hope this first letter of mine finds you all in good health and high spirits, having enjoyed a fun and exceptionally hot summer season. It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the newly appointed Chapter President of Alpha Omega Toronto. I am honoured to be following in line behind the leadership of both Laurel Linetsky-Fleisher and Tammy Herzog who have demonstrated the highest degree of dedication, love and passion for AO. I have learned so much from these remarkable women and am eternally grateful for their support, guidance and friendship. I would also like to thank our current Line Officers, President-Elect Andrea Heckler Aboodi, Treasurer Jim Posluns and Secretary Jordan Klmitz for their support and commitment to our chapter. It has been the greatest pleasure getting to know all of you on a more personal level and I am so grateful for the lifelong friendships that have blossomed among us over the last few years. It is an honour to introduce Steven Millman as my Advisor to the Line. Having served as both Chapter President and Canadian Director on the AO International Board, in addition to being Chair of the Purchase Program, Steven's wealth of knowledge and experience will be an incredible asset to us all. The Line is so fortunate to be supported by our new Executive Secretary Velarie Mabounsou who certainly had very large shoes to fill since Jackie's retirement. Velarie

is a highly skilled addition to our team whose creativity, passion and enthusiastic energy is palpable. I strongly encourage all our members to become acquainted with her.

I have been an active member of Alpha Omega since my first year as a dental student at UofT in 2006. An extrovert by nature, I was immediately drawn to the social networking that membership enabled and took advantage of every opportunity there was to travel and meet fellow Alpha Omegans from around the world. I attended numerous student leadership conferences and International Conventions, served on the AO International Board as International Student Representative (ISR) and volunteered at the Trudi Berger Dental Clinic with DVI in Jerusalem shortly after graduating. Becoming Chapter President just a few weeks before Toronto hosted the AO International Convention was incredibly meaningful for me. I could not have envisioned a more perfect way to embark upon my Presidential term than with a reunion of my extended AO family. Thank you to our Convention Marshall Brian Chapnick and the entire Convention Committee who successfully organized a seamless and fun-filled weekend of events for hundreds of AO members at the end of June. From the Welcome Reception to the Foundation Night, the excursion to Niagara and the formal Honors Night- the Convention was a blast and everyone in attendance admired our uniquely large chapter and beautiful city! I cannot wait to attend Convention next year in Jerusalem!

I would like to share with all of you some more personal details about myself, my family and the experiences that have shaped me into the person you are meeting today. The middle of three sisters, I was born and raised in Toronto where I attended Hebrew Day School until the sixth grade. My family then embarked upon an adventure in which we moved to Costa Rica together, learning to speak Spanish and igniting my love of travel and culture. Upon my return to Toronto, I graduated from York Mills Collegiate and completed 3 years of study at the University of Western Ontario before being accepted into dental school at UofT. With no physicians

*continued on page 5*

# AORTA



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of Alpha Omega**

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## **Next Executive Meeting**

Monday, December 4, 2023

## **Next AORTA Deadline (October)**

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

## **Notable Achievements**

Please inform the AORTA of fraters or members of their families who have achieved success, honours or milestones.

## **Benevolence**

Please call Lorne Chapnick regarding illnesses or deaths of fraters.  
Email: [lorne.chapnick@utoronto.ca](mailto:lorne.chapnick@utoronto.ca)  
Home: (416) 782-1521

*The opinions as expressed by the editors and columnists of the AORTA do not necessarily reflect the views of Toronto Alumni Chapter and/or its executive. All correspondence should be sent to the editor at [barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca)*

## DENTAL VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL

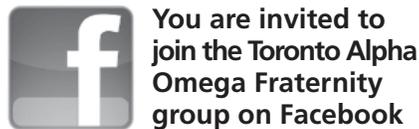
Dentists needed... to treat disadvantaged children in Jerusalem who cannot help themselves.

For information, contact **Les Train** at [drtrain@rogers.com](mailto:drtrain@rogers.com), or check our website at [canadianfriendsofdvi.org](http://canadianfriendsofdvi.org).

## RCDSO PET EXAMS

Are you writing the RCDSO Pet exams? Do you want to join others who are writing for a study group?

Email **Velarie** at [info@aotoronto.org](mailto:info@aotoronto.org) and we will put you together.



Do you have a story to tell that other Fraters would love to hear?



Contact the AORTA editor **Barry Reinblatt** at [barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca) with your suggestions!

## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

If any Alpha Omega member knows of individuals or corporations who may be interested in sponsoring our programs please let me know. This will ensure the quality of our programs and events.

Please email this information to [stephenkay@sympatico.ca](mailto:stephenkay@sympatico.ca). To all committee chairmen, please forward a list of your corporate sponsors. Also please list the contacts and email addresses.

Thank you.  
**Stephen Kay**

# FROM THE EDITOR



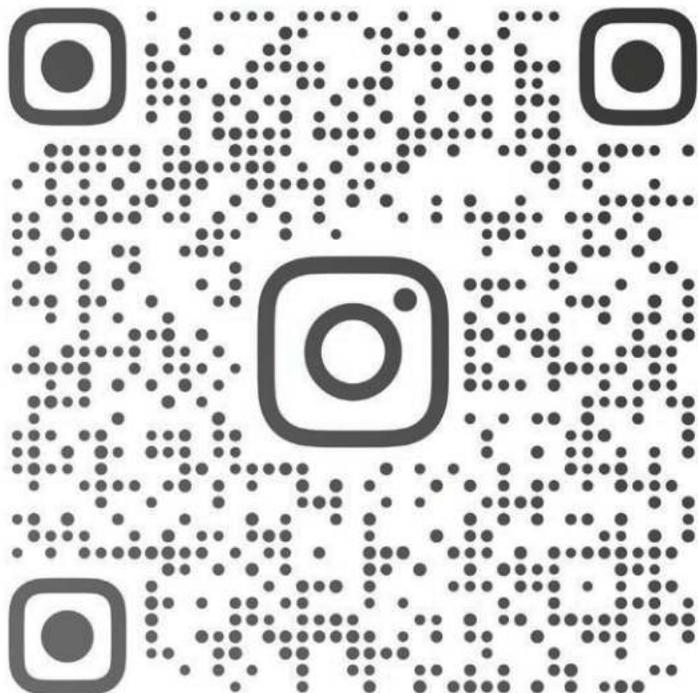
Summer has come and is now almost over. I hope you all have had a great summer, perhaps a nice vacation or time at the cottage. Personally, we had a great European vacation in mid June. It's so nice to be able to travel again without restrictions. However, it is now time to look forward to the fall and the return to a more normal lifestyle. Alpha Omega Toronto has also looked to the fall and has a full slate of programs ready to go.

We start the year, of course, with what was formerly known as Fraternity Night Dinner but is now officially called Society Night Dinner. Different name, same great dinner and schmooze. Other upcoming events you will find information about in this issue include the Evening Continuing Education Seminars, Fall Social, Cooking Demonstrations, Fall Seminar, and the always sold out European and Western Ski Seminars.

You will also find reports in this issue from the UJA Walk for Israel, the Picnic, and, of course, the very successful AO Toronto International Convention. As well, there is humour from Steven Brown, an interesting reflection from Stan Kogon, a tribute to frater Sid Golden, a new picture from Barry Korzen, and an update from DVI in Israel. We have a lot for you to peruse in this issue. Please enjoy and don't hesitate to send feedback on this or any issue to myself at [barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca).

Barry Reinblatt

Alpha Omega is now on Instagram!  
Please follow our members only page



# ALPHAOMEGATORONTO

# LANI'S LETTERS (Continued)

or dentists in my family, I took a leap of faith in the hopes that a career in healthcare with an artistic twist would be the perfect way to combine my academic strengths with my strong sense of compassion, my love of socializing, and my creative skillsets. I feel very fortunate that dentistry has proven to be the ideal career path for me. I have practiced as a full-time associate general dentist in downtown Toronto since completing my AEGD residency at the University of North Carolina in 2011 and I absolutely love going into work every day!

As a child, I adored the stage and took dance, singing and piano lessons to support my participation in numerous musical theatre performances and my dream of being a star! While I never made it to Broadway, I will always be a performer at heart and my entertainment skills continue to enhance my daily interactions with my patients. With less than 4 years between all of us, my sisters - Samara and Sasha-are my dearest friends and they have made me the proudest Auntie to my beautiful nieces Sloane and Ilyse (Samara & Riley) and nephew Dylan (Sasha & Ethan). I am certain that my brother-in-law and fellow AO member Riley Lewis is no stranger to you all and I am so fortunate to be able to share the wonderful experience of Alpha Omega

with him. I have been blessed with the most fun-loving and supportive parents, Art & Shelley, who have encouraged me to follow my dreams and to always remain true to my values and faith.

Being the grandchild of Holocaust survivors has had a significant impact on my life, shaping my perspective on the world and inspiring me to be deeply connected to my heritage and identity. My grandparents' stories of resilience, courage and survival have instilled in me a profound sense of responsibility to honour their legacy and ensure that the atrocities of the past are never forgotten. By supporting various Jewish organizations and initiatives, I feel a profound sense of purpose in preserving our culture and traditions for future generations. Antisemitism is sadly on the rise worldwide and our AO Advocacy Committee has taken a powerful stance against intolerance and injustice not only in our local dental schools but also across the global dental community. There is indeed strength in numbers, and I am so proud to be affiliated with an organization that has proven to affect change with respect to interfaith understanding and tolerance.

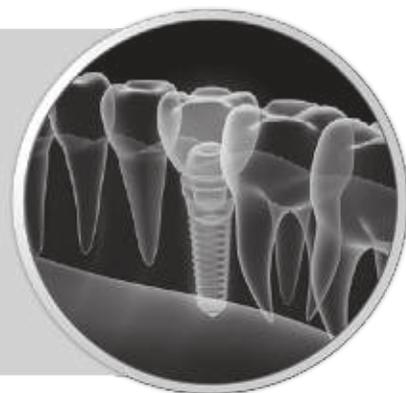
As a member of Alpha Omega for the last 17 years, I have witnessed firsthand the incredible impact that AO has had on our

community, both professionally and socially. As Chapter President, I promise to continue to foster the spirit of unity and collaboration that is unique to our organization to achieve our collective goals and uphold the values that define Alpha Omega- integrity, compassion & inclusion, and generosity. We have a wonderful line up of social programs and educational speakers in store for our members and I am so excited to kick off the year on Monday, September 11th with our annual AO Society Night Dinner.

I look forward to working closely with all of you, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment, and continuing to witness the positive impact we can create as a united chapter. Let us embark on this journey together, with passion and dedication, as we continue to build on the legacy of the Alpha Omega Dental Society.

With sincere thanks for your trust and support,

Lani Kraus



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# FAMILY PICNIC AT THE TORONTO ZOO

The Alpha Omega Family Picnic was held this year on Sunday June 4th at the Toronto Zoo!! With record-breaking AO Picnic attendance (125 adults and 110 kids) – the day was a great success!

Our AO registration table welcomed our fraters and families right at the front entrance to the zoo. We handed out entrance tickets and Zoomobile tickets, and an exciting ZOO scavenger hunt. Our kids searched around the zoo for the answers with their colour changing zoo pencil prizes. At lunch time, we all gathered at our private Wildlife Marquee for Tov Li pizza and freezies – and most importantly, schmoozing as our big AO family! We also had a private visit from the zookeepers who taught us about a few of their most friendly animals. It was a gorgeous, sunny June day and we all had fun exploring the zoo with our families. My favorite part after we all ate lunch together was walking around the zoo and bumping in to all the other AO fraters and families exploring the zoo. I can't wait for next year!

Andrea Heckler Aboodi



# UJA WALK WITH ISRAEL

The UJA's, "Walk With Israel", this year reflected the pride and importance of Israel's three-quarter century celebration. The 75th birthday of Israel gave Alpha Omega's participation in this event extra significance and emotion for us all.

Alpha Omega provides many volunteers to assist in the running of this event. Tammy Herzog, our Alpha Omega Toronto Chapter President, along with executive administrator, Valerie Mabounsou, rallied dentists, their families and friends to participate and also run the first rest stop at Yeshiva Bnei Akiva or Chaim. Earl and Judy Magder, Gary Gutmann, Steven and Michelle Millman, I along with students Jacob Van Bergh, Sophie Fein and Einatan Kelman formed the unbeatable team running Rest Stop 1. Rest Stop 1 provided greetings, encouragement, treats and more for the walkers who walked past us ending their journey at the Sherman Campus where they enjoyed a BBQ lunch, carnival rides with music and entertainment.

Please share in some of the fun and good

fellowship by viewing the photographs accompanying this article.

A big thank you to, "Walk With Israel," co-chairs David and Madison Issacson along with Dan and Yael Kanter and Stacy Chisvin who organized and provided security for the many volunteers who made the event possible.

On a personal note, this day provided me with an opportunity to share our blessings of family and community with the company of many colleagues and friends like Tracey Hendler, Johnathan Madras and many more.

Finally, one of the important goals of this years, "Walk With Israel," was to help the needy in Israel and was very much on our minds and in our hearts. In a world, so divided, it was a very satisfying experience to participate in a day focussed on uniting us in the celebration of Israel.

Fraternally yours,  
Charles Weingarten  
Past President, Alpha Omega Fraternity  
Toronto Alumni Chapter



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AO DENTAL SOCIETY NIGHT

(formerly Fraternity Night)

Monday, Sept. 11, 2023

6:30pm.

Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue  
470 Glencairn Avenue

### AO FALL SOCIAL

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Details TBA

### EVENING CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Details TBA

### AO REVIVAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 &

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Details TBA

### FALL SEMINAR

Friday, November 24, 2023

Details TBA

## Just A Reminder...

The Roster is for the exclusive use of the membership of Alpha Omega Fraternity. Anyone found using this directory for solicitation purposes will be prohibited from advertising to Alpha Omega and may be the subject of legal action.

# ...1000 WORDS

## BETWEEN SIENA & THE VINEYARDS OF CHIANTI

Colle val d'Elsa is a quaint hilltop town in the province of Siena adjacent to the renowned Chianti territory. Due to its position – close

to both Florence and Siena – Colle Val d'Elsa has always been the object of ancient rivalry. However today tourism seems to have bypassed the town allowing it to retain the tranquility that this area of Italy has been known for.



## A WORD FROM BARRY

Since moving to Israel 15 years ago I have had the good fortune to be able to travel and visit places near and far and thanks to Aorta editor Barry Reinblatt I have been able to share some of my images with you that tell a story of the beautiful world we are privileged to inhabit.

But unfortunately, not all of us are able to enjoy our surroundings in the ways most of us take for granted.

**Shalva**, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities is a world-famous organization dedicated to providing transformative care for individuals with disabilities, empowering their families and promoting social inclusion. It was founded by Kalman (who was born in Vancouver) and Malki Samuels in 1990 when their son Yossi was injured during infancy and became blind, deaf and acutely hyperactive. If you are not familiar with the wonderful work that Shalva does please check out their website at [www.shalva.org](http://www.shalva.org).

Over the years I have been posting many of my photos on my websites and I have had requests from people who would like to use my images either as a screen saver, to have printed or to use on their website.

Would you like a copy of one of my photographs that are posted on [www.1000words.me](http://www.1000words.me)?

Make a donation, of any amount, directly to Shalva (designated by Canada Revenue Agency as a registered charity) and I will send you a high-resolution file of the photo of your choice. Just e-mail a copy of your receipt from Shalva, with the amount of the donation masked out, along with the name of the photograph you would like to [b.korzen@me.com](mailto:b.korzen@me.com).

*'A picture is worth ... a thousand words'*

but a donation to Shalva inspires hope and changes lives.

*Barry Korzen*



# 2023 ALPHA OMEGA SOCIETY NIGHT



**DR. ILANA KRAUS**  
INCOMING CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT



**DR. EDDIE GLICK**  
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT



**DR. CAROLE GRUSON**  
THE SHEILA RODNEY  
HUMANITARIAN AWARD



**DR. MARVIN SONNE**  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM  
SYNAGOGUE  
470 GLENCAIRN AVE  
TORONTO

**MON. SEP  
11, 2023  
6:30PM**

**Please join us for the Alpha Omega Toronto Alumni  
Chapter Society night on Monday, September 11th, 2023.**

*INSTALLATION OF TORONTO CHAPTER PRESIDENT  
2023 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD  
SHEILA RODNEY HUMANITARIAN AWARD  
REPORT FROM AO INTERNATIONAL  
TORONTO AO ALUMNI HONOURS  
TORONTO AO WELCOMES*

*DR. ILANA KRAUS  
DR. EDDIE GLICK  
DR. CAROLE GRUSON  
DR. MARVIN SONNE  
50 YEAR MEMBERS  
NEW MEMBERS*

# As PREVIOUSLY STATED

---

By Steven Brown

As I've stated many times before - if any of these are repeats, too bad. Some of them are so good, they need to be repeated. O.K. For the 44th time, in no specific order. (Other than random, which I guess, is an order.)

1. My wife (who shall hence forth be known as Paula), and I went to a movie, and it was a Tuesday, when the prices are lower. So when the 14 year old girl sold me the tickets, and the bill showed up, (me being me), I yelled "SWEET"! She then said - "I've never heard anyone that old say that word!" Let's just say, those were the last 2 tickets she sold. Nah. Just kidding.

2. Paula - that's my wife if you've forgotten from #1, taught me a husband's duty. When your wife goes into labour. After your wife has dilated from 1/2, to 1 centimetre, it is the husbands duty to run through the halls yelling - "EPIDURAL! EPIDURAL!"

3. And after 40 years of marriage to you know who, I have a new nickname for her. I call her "Old Yeller." No way. Not true. But you can use it, if it fits your situation. Male or female. Gotta protect the author here. And let me tell you. The first 40 years are the toughest. The last 8 months have been a breeze.

4. Still, after 40 years of driving with her in the passenger seat, she still thinks there's a brake pedal on her side of the car.

5. When it comes to bread; If Pasteur had been married to my wife, he would have discovered penicillin 20 years earlier! (Was it Pasteur?) I don't care.

6. And lastly, spousally speaking. We just got back from a trip to Panama. All inclusive. I don't want to say the food was bad, but it went from an 'All Inclusiva' to an 'All Explosiva!'

7. Let's move on in my family. My youngest daughter taught skiing to 5 year olds when she was 15, at a park near our house, but too far to walk with equipment. So my wife drove her to the hill. When the kids saw her and Paula, (my wife), they asked if that was her mummy. She said yes. So they asked how old she was, and Emma said, "Guess". After a few seconds, they looked at her and said "90?" Emma said "OMG. How old do you think I am?" They said - "45?" Math anyone?

8. And when she turned 16, she asked me to take her for her G1 drivers exam. On the way, she asked if she could drive home, if she passed. I said sure. She blurted out. "Great! Which one's the gas pedal?" I said - "Emma. You don't even know which one's the gas pedal?" She yelled back - "A lot of my friends don't know which one the gas pedal is!" WOW!

9. That's just one example. So when the kids were 10, 7 and 3, and when inevitably, at dinner time the yelling, screaming, and arguing could be heard around the corner; I loved to wait, and just at the right time, yell "Welcome to another episode of - 'The Dysfunctionals!'"

10. And mothers. My mother had a language unto herself. Aside from Library, February, and Ambiance, I'll never forget the day she phoned me at the office to tell me my father had just been told he had 'prostrate cancer.' I said - "So the doctor told him this, when he was lying down?"

11. I messed up. Let's make this 6A). Paula and I were on a bike and barge trip in Europe, and as usual the first evening after dinner, I started jumping around with cramps in my legs. A lady came up to me and said, "Take 2 of these." I did, and the cramps stopped within a short time. I said "Who the hell are you?" She said "I'm a gynaecologist from Indianapolis. I give these to all my pregnant patients when they get leg cramps." So at the end of the trip I had to ask her. I said, "Those pills were great, but you live in Indianapolis, and I live in Toronto. Can you give me a referral for a good gynaecologist in Toronto?"

12. Now as usual let's go random. Now that I've given up private practice, I'm thinking of becoming a realtor. That's selling houses, just in case. And if I do, my motto will be "Making Your Dreams a Reality!" There was no 'I' in that. Read it again. Get it? OYE!

13. I recently spent too long in the sauna at the JCC, and fainted after showering. When the story got around. (It took about 12 minutes). I learned the jewish word for fainting. The jewish word for fainting is "COLLAPSED!" I like fainting better. Collapsed sounds so final.

14. I have an uncle at an old age home, and during Passover recently, he had to do the 4 Questions. He's 86! Get it?!?! And there's an old age home called Amigone. Shouldn't there

be a question mark at the end?

15. Speaking of years. In 24 B.C., how did they know it? And what year was it?

16. Years again. This actually does sort of flow. If I'm in the Autumn of my life; What the hell is the Winter going to look like?

17. You all know by now, I don't have a cell phone. No, that's not a song, that's a statement. Anyway, I figure if Einstein, or Edison had a cell phone, they'd have been playing Wordle or Candy Crush all day, and we'd never know about the theory of relativity, or have the light bulb. Just saying.

18. Something to think about - Every room, is room temperature.

19. And when I'm driving, I like racing with cars that don't know I'm racing against them. Because I always win!

20. And tell me why. If they can make watermelons without any pits, why can't they do that with lemons?

21. Over the last 6 years or so, I've come to the conclusion that U.S.A. does not stand for the United States of America, but for the 'Unsatisfactory State of Affairs'.

22. I recently went to Home Depot, because I ran out of leaf bags. When I couldn't find any, I asked at Customer Service, and they said they were 'Out of Order'. I didn't even realize they had moving parts.

23. When I played baseball as a kid, I was never scouted. But if I had been, my scouting report would have said - "Speed deceptive. Slower than he looks!"

24. This is an old one of mine, but it's worth repeating. An early girl friend of mine in High School, entered a Math Contest. She wasn't very smart, so it wasn't a surprise when she came last. But she was still crowned - "Miss Calculate!" (I love that one!)

25. I broke my glasses the other day, and I haven't had a chance to replace them yet, so I'm drinking out of my hands.

26. Sorry. 6)B. Paula always likes to disagree with me. Because she always likes being wrong!

27. I've just tried to patent a new invention. It's called "Half The Calories". It's a sharp knife, that lets you cut any food in half. Therefore half the calories. But I guess you knew that.

28. Again. After retiring from active practice, I've decided to start a tree service. You got it. I'm branching out.

29. Passover again. And this one's mine! We; the jews were in bondage for over 400 years, and they couldn't wait 15 minutes for the bread to rise?!?!

30. When we were in our late teens, we used to go to a Buffalo Bills game once a year. So there we were. The four of us at the border, in Brad's mother's 4 seat Mercedes, and the agent said "Where are you from?" And Brad said "Canada. We're all from Canada." The agent said "You can't speak for the whole car". So Brad said "I have to speak for the whole car. The car's from Germany. It doesn't speak English!" We missed the first quarter.

31. 6)C. Paula and I went to a restaurant, (not of my choosing), and when we arrived the Matre D said "Did you have any reservations?" So I said "Yes, I did, but I decided to come anyway." Get it? Read it again. I ain't explaining that one.

32. I just saw 2 signs, way too close together. Curb Side Service, and Laser Hair Removal. Nish Fer Mere.

33. We ordered a new doggie. A cross between a bulldog, and a shitzu. But I cancelled, when I figured out what it was called.

34. I used to think LA Fitness was a French workout place. Annnnnnd. Dental.

35. I teach with an instructor Named Dr. So. Sooooo, I asked if her husband was a dentist too. Cuz then I could call them, Drs. So and So. Nah.

36. OHL team. I was the dentist. A defence man smacked head first into the boards. So the trainer, and the sports doc, and me, took him into the dressing room. There's a concussion protocol. The trainer gave him 3 words, and asked him to repeat them back. He did. Then he asked him to count backwards by 7's from 100. So I turned to Tim the doc and said, "Timmy, this kid might go to the NHL. If he gets to 93, he's O.K."

37. We know dentists don't automatically get out of Jury Duty. But I figured out a sure fire way. They always want to know if you'll be biased during the trial. So when they sit you down, and ask you to state your name, stand up and yell "GUILTY!"

38. On Wednesdays, I work with 4 instructors in their 80's, and when I walked into one operatory, the patient looked up at me and said "Oh good. A young one!"

39. 105 years ago, when I opened my office, I had a fax machine installed on a Friday. When I walked in on Monday I already had a fax, but no one knew my fax number. It was from a physician, with all the pertinent, and private information on Alex S., asking me to do a vasectomy. So I phoned the number of the doc, and said I was a dentist, but if she walked me through it, I could probably do it with my drill. She didn't laugh.

40. And once again. Vera, and Violetta. I treated both for many, many years. Vioioletta said "Dr. Brown, you cannot retire until I die." So I said "Violetta, I promise. But one day I may have to kill you." SHE laughed!

And Vera, a lovely Eastern European lady. (Important). She had terminal liver cancer, and at the end of her appointment I said "So I'll see you in 6 months Vera." She said "Oh Dr. Brown, I will not be here in 6 months." So I said "Oh come on Vera. You're a real trooper. I'll see you in 6 months." I walked her out to the waiting room thank goodness, because she said to her daughter "Dr. Brown called me a real Storm Trooper." I think she thought that was a good thing.

41. And I remember when a mom called me after I saw her 2 year old daughter, to tell me that her daughter asked why Dr. Brown was white?

And I'll leave you with these sayings to remember. (Or not).

1. You can help them 1/2 way up the mountain. But you have to let them do the rest. 2. You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing. (Remember that one!!) 3. And I've read a lot of quotes in my life, but that Anonymous guy has to be the smartest. 4. And let's not judge each other on our pasts, using today's rules.

And finally,..... a line from one of my favourite songs, from my favourite singer, and composer, - Paul Simon. 'Kodachrome'. Sing it. No really. SING IT!!! "When I think back, on all the crap, I learned in High School;... It's a wonder, I can think, at all." He should have added Organic Chemistry!

O.K. So that's it. 73 post it notes go in the garbage. Sorry 'recycling'. And yes; if you've read all my previous stuff, that may be the best double entendre of all time. Get it? Whatever.

And I remain,  
SHB.



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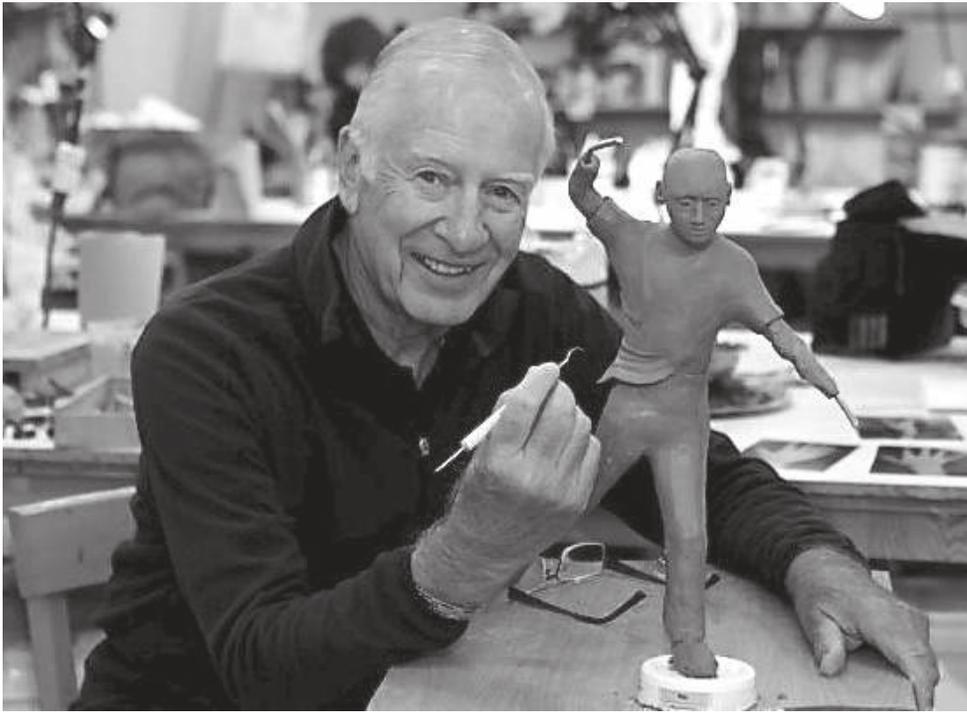
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# SIDNEY GOLDEN



Sid was the first-born child to immigrant parents. It was expected that he would achieve. And achieve he did. He was accepted into pre-dents in the Faculty of Dentistry at U of T when he was 17, and graduated with his D.D.S. in the class of 5T6. After 4 years as a general dentist, Sid decided to pursue a specialty and attended Tufts and Harvard Universities where he earned his Diploma in Periodontics in 1962. Immediately upon graduating, Sid was asked to go to Israel to the Hebrew University Faculty of Dentistry for a year as a guest lecturer to teach oral medicine and help modernize and build the Faculty's nascent Perio Department. Upon his return to Toronto in 1963, he established his private practice in Periodontics, which he continued until his retirement in 2008.

In 1964, Sid started at the Faculty of Dentistry at U of T as an Associate where, over the years, he taught hundreds of undergrads and grad students. He was a strong advocate of using surgery to treat periodontal disease. He was so loved by his students and respected by his colleagues that in 1989, he was honoured with the A.B. Hord Master Teacher Award.

In 1984, Sid was chairman of the Completion Campaign for the Faculty of Dentistry and raised over \$1,200,00 for which he was

designated by the Faculty as the Alumnus of the Year.

In 1967 Sid passed the FRCD (C). In 1986 he received his F.I.C.D. and in 1991 the F.A.C.D. (C). In 1969, Sid became President of the Canadian Academy of Periodontology and from 1970-72 was Chairman of the Examination Committee for the FRCD. In 1989 he was the Chairman of the Professional and Public Relations Committee of The Canadian Academy of Periodontology.

In 1990 Sid became an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Dentistry and in 1997 was President of the American College of Dentists (Ontario Section). He was the Scientific Chairman for the American Academy Periodontology Convention in 1981, and editor of the section on Periodontics for a text book "Current Treatment in Dental Practice" 1986. For all of his contributions, Sid was awarded the Alumnus of Distinction Award from the Faculty in 1998.

Sid was also President of Alpha Omega Fraternity Toronto Alumni Chapter in 1972, and remained active in the organization throughout his professional career. This included being Chairman of the Retraining Program for Russian Immigrant Dentists,

who were preparing for the academic portion of the N.D.E.B. from 1976-79. In 1989, Sid was a Member of the International Advisory Committee for the Israel Journal of Dental Sciences and the Canadian National Chairman of the fundraising project "Bridge The Gap" for the Faculty of Dentistry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For all of these efforts, he received the Achievement Award from Alpha Omega in 1998.

Sid had always been very creative. While a dental student, he wrote lyrics for Dentantics and in 1975, was the chief writer (lyrics and script) for the Dental Faculty's Centennial Celebration Show. In 2000, he was the director of Dentantics (Y "Tooth" K) performed by the Alumni.

Sid's other hobbies included golf, archery, motorcycle riding, poetry writing (including a children's poetry book called "Did you Ever Wonder"). He particularly enjoyed sailing and sailboat racing. In fact, it was only last Fall when he parted with his sailboat.

Sid's retirement passion became sculpting. He was quickly accepted as an artist at Toronto's Al Green Sculpture Studio & School. A number of his special pieces are on display in the permanent collections at the Royal Conservatory of Music, Baycrest Hospital, The Sherman Campus of the JCC, and the office of Beit Halochem Canada. Since his retirement, Sid had also been an avid photographer and enjoyed being the official photographer for Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel) Canada for several years.

Sid was happily married to Nancy for almost 55 years and has 3 children, and 4 grandchildren.

He truly was a renaissance man and recognized by all as a "mensch".

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# TFD 315



While waiting to get a haircut, I rifled through a dog-eared photographic magazine that highlighted the City of Toronto. The section titled 'Sights to See' had dozens of pictures of buildings. These spanned the entire range of building categories from commercial, entertainment, churches, museums, and art galleries. Although I left Toronto in 1966, over the years I have returned hundreds of times to attend family, social, and entertainment events, as well as numerous professional, academic, and College meetings. All the pictures of downtown buildings were familiar. I immediately recognized the CN Tower, old and new City Halls, the Flatiron Building, Union Station, the St. Lawrence Market, Casa Loma, Scotiabank Arena, Roger's Centre, The Royal York Hotel and many more. There were many newish buildings such as Ryerson University, the Roy Thompson Hall, Allen Lambert Galleria, Scotia Plaza, and the L Tower with which I had some familiarity, but they were not an everyday part of my Toronto experience. Another section of the magazine, with the heading 'Old but Still in Style' showed pictures of Hart House, University College, St. James Cathedral, the Hockey Hall of Fame, the ROM, and many other buildings which were also familiar -but wait! - my focus returned to a small picture on the lower corner of a page. It showed a red brick building with a clock-tower. The legend read 'The TFD Station 315 and clock-tower at the west corner of College St. and Bellevue Ave'.

Over the past thirty years, I have been to the Spadina-Bathurst St. stretch of College St. a few times, but I had never bothered to take full notice of the building. However, pausing to look at the picture in the magazine brought back vivid memories. While getting clipped, I made a mental note to explore the history of the building.

For a good part of my adolescence, I lived around the corner from the Bellevue Fire Station. I passed it often, on my way to the Brunswick Talmud Torah, Shabbat services, attending movies at the Bellevue Theatre, and visiting cousins who lived in the neighbourhood. The Fire Hall, with its iconic clock-tower was just another building. For a young kid, it deserved no more attention than King Edward Public School or the Borden Buildings on Spadina Crescent (home of the world's best milkshakes)-it was just there. The fact that TFD 315 had any special significance or even a unique history was never a conscious consideration. In the summer, if there was a firetruck on the Firehall driveway, young boys would collect and gawk at the equipment. Occasionally, a firefighter would allow us to hop on the running board, polish the bumper, or even investigate the firehouse with its slide pole from the second floor. But I am getting ahead of myself.

In the 1860's Toronto was growing at a prodigious rate. Industry was booming and immigrants were flooding into the city. Most new families were crammed into semi-attached brick clad homes on either side of Spadina Ave. in the area called St. Patrick's Ward. In the periphery of the downtown, tracts of land such as the 100 acres held by British Loyalist, Captain George Denison, with his mansion, Belle Vue, were parcelled off and subdivided for new housing. Street names such as Kensington, Baldwin and Oxford were derived from British peerage. Although most new construction was residential, by the turn of the century, the Kiever Synagogue, one of the largest buildings in the area, was constructed. The Schul, built in 1912, is still in active use and today is designated as an Ontario Historical Site. This prominent building, built in the Byzantine style, stands at the north-east corner of Bellevue and Denison Square. The Square itself, is a remnant of George Denison's wooded parkland.

In the 1800's, most residential and commercial buildings were heated with coal or wood and candles were still in use. Fire was a major hazard and in the Nineteenth Century, it is unlikely that any city escaped having at least one major fire. Toronto had two. One in 1839 and another in 1904. In the 1800's fire-fighting was, by today's standard, primitive at best. Volunteers pulled hand-drawn pumpers, later replaced by horse-drawn carts. These were slow to respond and had limited water carrying capacity. In 1839, the entire city between King, Adelaide, Church,

and Jarvis was destroyed, including St. James Cathedral. It was reported that the glow from the blaze was seen across Lake Ontario from St. Catharines. It was apparent that the city had to establish a full-time professional fire service with strategically placed fire stations.

The Bellevue No. 8 Hose Station was constructed in 1878 with space for one horse-drawn fire carriage. In 1899, the clock-tower was added. It quickly became the architectural symbol of the neighbourhood. The tower had a practical purpose. Given the state of communications at that time, the firehall put a full-time lookout at the top of the tower to spy smoke and respond to a fire as quickly as possible. After a fire, the wet cloth hoses could be hung to dry from the height of the tower. The clock, with its hourly toll, was a familiar face for both those living in the neighbourhood and to travellers along College St. In 1911, No. 8 Hose Station received the first motorized fire wagon in the city.

The city began modernizing its fire stations in the 1960's and the Bellevue Station was slated for demolition and then to be rebuilt. However, the community gathered around its old friend and saved the building. A fire in 1972, started by an arsonist, gutted the building and once more, the City of Toronto decided to rebuild it as a modern fire hall. Again, the Kensington and College St. communities came to the No 8 Hose Station's rescue and pressured the city to rebuild the exterior as it was before the fire. The City of Toronto relented and enlarged the station to three bays and the clock-tower was rebuilt. At the same time, No. 8 Hose Station was renamed TFD 315. Although there were some cosmetic changes made to the tower, as seen in the pictures below, it stands proudly just where it has been for 123 years.

TFD 315



Circa 1950



Circa 2020

Although the clock-tower was constructed for pragmatic reasons, I believe it has been serving another purpose. For more than 120 years, the community around the Bellevue Firehall was a preferred area for settling waves of immigrants. The cost of housing was low and the houses accommodated multiple families and also provided rental opportunities. Public transportation by streetcar was convenient and the Kensington Market had a familiar feel. Although the ethnicity of the residents has changed over the decades, the inhabitants were generally, industrious, law-abiding, maintained their properties, and moved out of the zone as their economic status improved. It is noteworthy that the area never was transformed into a slum. To all the immigrants who made that part of Toronto their home, the clock-tower has been a constant presence and has survived the pressures to yield to modernization. No one can predict what will happen to the stretch of College St, from Spadina Ave. to Bathurst St., but it is my hope that the TFD 315 and its clock-tower will remain a proud symbol of Toronto's unique cultural history.

It is easy to overlook the charm in one's backyard.

Stan Kogon

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# DVI's NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESIDENTS PROGRAM

## DVI's National Pediatric Residents Program – Now Providing Urgent Care to Ukrainian Refugees

By Michelle Levine

DVI is Israel's only recognized dental pediatric residency placement facility outside of its dental schools. Pediatric Residents have to do a certain number of hours treating special needs', abused and traumatized young patients, and under the supervision of a pediatric dentist who also is an instructor at one of the dental schools in Israel. Executive Director Dr Roy Petel, a board certified specialist in Pediatric Dentistry and Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at Hadassah School of Dental Medicine, worked to expand DVI's Residents' Program in recent years. In 2019, Dr. Petel recruited Tel Aviv University's School of Dental Medicine. In early 2021 he came to an agreement with the Galilee Medical Center, and in August 2021, when Sheba (Tel HaShomer) Medical Center opened its new program of Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Petel immediately came to an agreement with them, and they began sending their residents to DVI. Hebrew University's School of Dental Medicine (at Hadassah) also increased their rotations at DVI to twice a week during the pandemic. In July 2023, DVI came to an agreement to begin receiving residents from Barzilai Medical Center, which means that every hospital or university in Israel with a pediatric residents program is now sending their residents to DVI for part of their training! As a result, DVI now permanently has residents of Pediatric Dentistry in the clinic every day of operation. Through DVI, the young Israeli dentists are also learning patient management and dental techniques, standards and best practices from volunteer dentists from North America and around the world. These residents normally treat the most disadvantaged, abused and special needs youth in the greater Jerusalem area, but in early March 2022, they began having a greater global impact.

**Israeli Pediatric Residents Treating Ukrainians:** In 2022, with the sudden influx of Ukrainian refugees into Israel, DVI quickly built relationships formally and informally with the various individuals and groups (for example, Bridges for Peace, Keter and a dedicated social worker at Welfare Services) so that the clinic might assist them upon arrival and begin treating this population. Pediatric Residents worked the front lines, providing emergency dental care to Ukrainian refugees in pain. DVI adopted all the residents of the Chabad

Children's Home of Zhitomir, Ukraine (formerly at Nes Harim; now in Asheklon); this group continues to be treated at DVI after a donor paid for their transportation back to Jerusalem for care. In 2023, in addition to the DVI base (thousands of needy youth we already treat), Dental Volunteers for Israel is proud to be providing free dental care to a large number of Ukrainian Olim. In early 2023, DVI made inroads with the "Moked Klitah" (Absorption Center Hotline), the Municipality social worker in charge of Ukrainian Olim, and reached out to Rabbi David Abba, the equivalent at Chabad, who is based in Neve Ya'akov neighborhood of Jerusalem. Since many of these Ukrainian patients haven't seen a dentist before, the gentle approach of Pediatric Residents has been critical to their ability to participate and receive treatment.

On March 13th, 2022, Dental Volunteers for Israel received its first Ukrainian refugee patient, 4-year-old Feige, who would turn out to be the first of many in desperate need of emergency dental care. Feige has since been treated by multiple residents from several pediatric programs across the country, at DVI. Feige's family miraculously arrived in Israel from war torn Ukraine on March 9th. Living in Uman, the family was hoping to be able to ride out the storm, as Mrs. Goodrich was almost nine months pregnant. Once the Russians invaded and bombs hit just two hundred meters from their home, the Goodrich family felt they could not wait any longer. The rabbi of their community arranged transport for the Goodrich parents and their two children ages two and four, and the family took their place on the back of a truck. The driver made a sudden stop, sending the very pregnant Mrs. Goodrich flying. She refused to be taken to a hospital; got a few stitches on her forehead and continued the trek with her family. The Goodrichs managed to cross over to Hungary and arrived in Israel after a harrowing journey. Once the military incursion began, she suffered from so much oral pain, that the family managed to get her dental first aid. Unfortunately, this not only didn't alleviate the problem but created an additional trauma for the child. Upon landing in Israel, one of the first things this family searched for was dental care for Feige. This was critical since the child had been unable to eat any solid foods as a result of her situation. After being examined by Dr. Petel, the medical director who does all initial examinations, and a full set of X-rays, the extent of her dental needs became

apparent. In addition to multiple cavities, Feige needed a number of extractions, crowns, a root canal which was done at the first visit by pediatric resident Dr. Nuran Chalillah (pictured below) to alleviate the source of her pain and ultimately the application of sealants and an oral hygiene program. Mrs. Goodrich could not express her appreciation in words, and their escort was so impressed with the child-friendly approach and quality of care that she wished her own children could be treated here. **Dr. Eli Keinan, a Hadassah Resident** treated Feige and several other refugee children who struggled to cooperate: *"I feel it is a privilege to treat the recently arrived Ukrainian refugees, especially since I speak their language. Given their heightened anxiety, the fact that I can communicate with them directly, I am able to encourage and reassure them. My grandmother was a refugee from Ukraine during World War II. Treating these refugees today makes me feel like I am closing the cycle."*



**Dr. Nuran Chalilla, Tel Aviv Dental School Resident, treated Feige:**

*"Every time I see DVI on my schedule, it puts a smile on my face," said Dr. Chalillah. "It feels good to help children who are living through such difficult things." "Treating the Ukrainian children presents a unique communication problem. I rely on verbal communication to allay the fears of children, and with these patients I can only use hand motions and other*

---

approaches. This was particularly apparent when I treated a young boy who was both blind, deaf and Ukrainian. I felt so helpless in trying to explain to him and I could feel his anxiety as he tried to make sense of what was going on around him. It was a special learning experience and an especially good feeling when we successfully completed his treatment."

**Hadassah Resident Dr. Ofek Mishael** is pictured here treating Sergei, a patient who was bussed to DVI from the Chabad Children's Home in Ashkelon. "At DVI I encountered and treated populations and sectors which I would not otherwise have come in contact with. I felt a sense of 'mission' in that I was helping individuals who would not have had access to help otherwise, and with the assistance of an outstanding and dedicated team of staff members and the high quality dental supplies, I felt that I was able to provide the best care available today."

**Tel Aviv Resident Dr. Deia Altarescu** is pictured here treating Rotislav Donunko, a Ukrainian boy from a family who fled to Israel. They were referred to DVI by the Chabad Rabbi in Neve Ya'akov.\*

**Dr. Amar Taha, a Tel HaShomer Sheba Medical Center resident, photographed here with Noad, an Ethiopian patient:** When Sheba Medical Center's pediatric dental medicine specialty opened in the summer of 2021, Dr. Amar Taha was one of the four dentists accepted to this new program. As his first rotation, Dr. Taha requested to be placed at DVI because of all the wonderful things he heard from his colleague and friend Dr. Firhas Khalily, who volunteered at DVI regularly throughout the pandemic. Dr. Taha's first day at DVI was very busy and presented him with many challenges, especially the 'fear factor' of children who had bad experiences before coming to DVI. "I love to work with patients who start out being afraid, because it gives me a chance to show them that dental work doesn't have to be scary. At the end of the day, when these same patients tell me that it didn't hurt at all and they are all smiles, I feel like I did something worthwhile," said Dr. Taha. Thirty-one-year-old Dr. Amar Taha lives in Kfar Qassem. He got his dental degree in Italy, but after six years of study and work he returned to Israel to build his professional life in his own country. Amar believes in the supreme importance of being able to communicate with his patients. To this end, in addition to speaking

Hebrew, Arabic and English, he learned Italian and then Spanish when he was an exchange student in Grenada. Now back in Israel, he has learned enough Yiddish and Russian to be able to communicate on a basic level with his patients and he's hoping to improve those language skills as well so that he will be able to communicate with all his patients. Amar has always been active in building bridges and being a contributing member of society. At age sixteen he participated in the Peace Child of Israel program where he served as an Arab representative together with an Israeli counterpart in a delegation to the United States. Now fifteen years later he is still in touch with his friends from the US of all faiths. Even during his demanding years in dental school in Italy, Amar put together a small group of dentists who on their free time volunteered to treat those in need. Not surprising once you get to know him, at the end of Dr. Taha's first day as a pediatric dental resident at DVI, he offered to volunteer during his free time on another, since he was so impressed with the clinic's work. "When you can look back on the day and feel like you made a difference in someone's life, it was a successful day." In line with this attitude, Dr. Taha dreams of becoming a successful pediatric dentist, however in his own words, that means "contributing something good to the world."

**Dr. Milly Binyamin, a Hadassah Resident, photographed here with Tal Alafi:**

**Milly Binyamin** came to DVI as a first-year pediatric dental student assigned to DVI for her residency rotation. She worked at DVI weekly for one shift in March and April and returned to complete the rotation during the months of July and August. "As a student, we are exposed to a wide range of instructors each with their own perspectives. At DVI I am being supervised by one doctor, so I am getting a single clear message which is very helpful as a student still in the learning process."

"When working at Hadassah's dental clinic, we have access to many different types of sedations and anesthesia whereas at DVI we must rely on our own skills and knowledge of behavior management and the like. This has really pushed me to develop various tools of working with difficult children and I appreciate that a lot."

"One patient was extremely difficult at his

initial visit. He had a lot of work, and I was privileged to treat him over an extended period of time. By his last visit, he was completely calm, cooperative, and unfazed by anything I needed to do. This was a very satisfying experience – seeing the relationship and trust build with the patient and his growth in managing treatment. It was also a very gratifying experience for me to see how the techniques I had learned and practiced worked so well."

"The staff is amazing! The outside of the clinic is so misleading – an old building conceals a most advanced clinic. The dental materials used are of the highest quality and the equipment is cutting edge. What a great place to learn!"

"In my work, I feel I am ultimately helping my patients maximize their potential as a result of the high quality dental care they receive here."

**Dr. Firhas Khalaly, a Tel HaShomer Resident, photographed here with Yifat Ezra:**

Firhas describes his experience at DVI "as extraordinarily rewarding," explaining "that with the supervision and new techniques he has learned here, he is often able to treat a child who would otherwise be put under general anesthesia," something he believes should not be done when there are other options.

**Dr. Rotem Dadon, a Hadassah resident, photographed here, treating Feige.**

**Dr. Maria Ahmad, a Hadassah resident,** is pictured here, treating Angelica. Coming from a divorced family, Angelica, her twin sister Dalia and ten-year-old sister were all residents of the Children's Home in Zhitomir, since her mother was unable to provide for them. One morning when she was outside, "I heard a plane overhead and then the booms started. I was so scared and ran inside, not sure where my sisters were. I ran downstairs, as far below ground level as possible." As the situation worsened, bus transport was arranged for all of the children and they made it safely to Israel, leaving behind everyone dear to them. "I speak to my mother. She said the 'booming' usually begins in the evening where she lives, and then she runs to a cellar behind her building. My father is fighting in the war." Despite her smile, her anxiety is evident. Angelica and her sisters are among the first to have come to DVI from Nes Harim orphanage for treatment because of the oral pain they were experiencing. It is quite

# DVI's NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESIDENTS PROGRAM *(Continued)*

clear that these girls had not seen a dentist for years. The initial checkup and X-Rays showed that extensive dental work was needed. Some teeth needed to be extracted; others needed a root canal. Of course, there were cavities to be filled and sealants to be applied. The girls will get some serious oral hygiene education together with oral hygiene treatments. DVI is doing everything to save as many of their teeth as possible. These youngsters have so much pain in their lives, at least DVI can alleviate their oral pain and enable them to enjoy the simple pleasures of food once again. Dr. Maria Ahmad is pictured here with NJ dentist Dr. Dena Lieblich Angelica, and her sister Dalia. Dr. Ahmad was touched to have the chance to treat Ukrainian Refugee children: *"Treating the refugee children from the Ukraine was a very special experience, and an added value of doing a resident rotation at DVI,"* said Dr. Maria Ahmad. *"All the children I treated were terrified when they first came in. Apparently, in addition to the recent trauma of war and fleeing, these children had also been traumatized by the dental treatment they received in the Ukraine. I was amazed to hear how in some cases they were physically restrained, no anesthetics were used, and overall, they felt that the dentists there didn't listen to them when they needed a break during the treatment because of pain."* Maria explained how she had never had such an emotional treatment experience before. *"It was essential to engage these children in the treatment process. I therefore explained every step of the process in great detail to their counselor who in turn patiently relayed the information to the children. Once they understood what would happen and they saw that I would listen to them, they cooperated very nicely, and I was able to treat them."* Dr. Ahmad said, *"I will never forget having had the privilege of treating traumatized children who were in such desperate need of emergency dental care."*

After volunteering with DVI throughout the entire pandemic through DVI's Arab Advancement Program, Maria received a recommendation from DVI directors, and on May 30th, 2021, on a day she was in the clinic volunteering at DVI, Dr. Ahmad was accepted to the pediatric specialty program at Hebrew University's Hadassah School of Dental Medicine!

Pediatric Residents really helped keep DVI open throughout the pandemic. You might think DVI patient numbers would have

fallen drastically during the pandemic, but no - despite lockdowns in Israel, in 2020 DVI dentists treated 1,946 youth and 138 elderly, **and in 2022, DVI treated 2,307 youth and 114 elderly.** The main source of new volunteer dentists from March 2020 through January 2022 (when non-citizens could not freely enter Israel) was through the heavily expanded Residents' Training Program at DVI. These residents feel very good about being able to do tzedaka while doing their residency rotation. As **Shiri Lapidus Levy**, from the Tel Aviv University's School of Dental Medicine, states: *"As a pediatric dental resident, I was privileged to be able to take part in a meaningful and significant project - to contribute and help children, who without DVI, would not receive dental care. All of this was done within a supportive, teaching, professional and all-encompassing professional framework without compromising the quality of care. This is an important opportunity for every dentist as part of their professional life."*

Thus the Residents' Program is truly a win-win for DVI and for dentistry in Israel. According to Dr. Petel, "Growing DVI's Pediatric Residents' Training Program raises awareness of DVI among Israeli dentists, which is important for local volunteer recruitment. It also elevates DVI's prestige among the Israeli dental community, while giving back to the community by properly training new pediatric dentists to be able to perform restorative dentistry on special needs and at-risk children and youth without sedation or general anesthesia."

**The Dunonka family** fled their home in Zaporizhzhia as soon as the war broke out. They asked the paternal grandmothers who are still alive if they would join them, however, these two women felt they were too old to begin anew in another country, and so they remained in the Ukraine. Being responsible for their family of five children, the Donunko parents felt they had to do everything possible to protect their children, so they got into their car and drove to Chernobyl immediately. Even though driving was dangerous, the road was packed with vehicles. They decided to take an alternate roundabout route hoping to make it to safety and upon reaching their destination they boarded a bus which transported them to Bucharest, Romania. There the Jewish Agency arranged for their travel to Israel. They arrived in Israel in March of 2002 - it was quite an ordeal.



They are in the process of getting citizenship, however since Mrs. Donunko was adopted, a fact she only learned about in 2021. This situation is complicating their Aliyah as she needs to prove her Jewishness. The good news is that her birth mother is Jewish and immigrated to Israel twenty years ago.

The Donunkos have five children ranging in age from seven to eighteen. The two oldest children are completing their schooling via zoom with classes from the Ukraine, and the three younger ones are in school in Israel. Mrs. Donunko was delighted to bring her children in for checkups, as they haven't seen a dentist since they left the Ukraine in early 2022. They were referred to DVI by one of the many community agencies working with new Olim from the Ukraine.

After initial checkups and x-rays, the children will receive the full gamut of treatments - each one with their own personalized treatment plan. Justin who is ten will have a cavity filled and an oral hygiene treatment; Stephanie who is eight needs a number of crowns, has a few cavities, will have sealants and of course an oral hygiene and instruction workshop; Rostislav who is seven needs a number of crowns, has a few cavities, need an extraction and of course he will also have an oral hygiene and instruction workshop. Mrs. Donunko is extremely appreciative of all the professional services and kindness shown to her family at DVI, and she is amazed that her children were all able to participate properly in treatment, but this was possible because of the gentle approach of DVI's pediatric residents.



Dr Eli Keinan - pediatric resident from Hadassah with Ukrainian refugee Feige Goodrich



Dr. Petel instructing Dr. Binyamin



Feige and Dr. Rotem Zechariyah Dadon



Professor Gideon Holan teaching Hadassah Resident Dr. Milly Binyamin



Resident Dr. Michelle Ofek with Sergei Kanayev



Rostislav Donunko being treated by Dr. Diah



Tel HaShomer, Sheba Resident Dr. Taha learning from Dr. Luria



Tel Aviv Resident Dr. Shiri Lapidus Levy with patient Elli

# FINAL CONVENTION REPORT



Convention 2023 is now in the history books and what a Convention it was. Planning began 3 years ago with the selection and contract negotiations at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. Thanks to Avi Wurman, Michael Tenenbaum and Heidi Weber for securing this venue which turned out to be a perfect location for our home base.

We kicked off with the Welcoming Dinner and table magician Mike D'Urzo hosted by our Toronto Chapter and Line officers, Lani Kraus, Andrea Heckler, Laurel Linetsky Fleisher and Tammy Herzog. For those with something left in their tank the party continued into the night in our Hospitality Suite organized by Sharon Perlmutter and sponsored by all of our Canadian Chapters until the hotel closed us down due to the high energy in the room. Following the next day we began with excellent presentations by Toronto's Aviv Ouanouno and David Chvartzaid, organized by Bonnie Chandler and Avi Wurman, a High Tea Spouses programme featuring speaker Nicole Anderson on Aging and Brain Health, organized by Hyla Okorofsky, a sold out afternoon of leisure, lunch and sailing at the Island Yacht Club organized by David Cowan and ending with a fabulous Harbour Dinner and Dance Shmooze Cruise sponsored by the Canadian Foundation and organized by Alan Vinegar and Miriam Rosenberg. Not to be out down, we continued on Friday with a keynote address by Steven Farber on antisemitism and how to address it, organized by Carole Gruson and Iris Kivity Chandler, the first of 2 business meetings, a sold out Shabbat Dinner at Beth Tzedec organized by Avi Wurman and

Gary Elman and another hospitality evening sponsored by the NY Chapter. Saturday, the weather continued to grace us with a fun afternoon for the undergrads and young Alumni at the Rose Picnic organized by Lani Kraus and Cory Wurman, a sold out day at Niagara Falls, an exciting boat ride at the base of the Falls, a stop at Niagara on the Lake and wine tour at the Niagara College Winery organized by Stephen Kay. Yes the day ended in the jammed Hospitality Suite hosted by the Detroit Chapter. Sunday continued with the Delegates Breakfast and the second Business Meeting, an afternoon of sold out baseball at the Jay's Game organized by Allan Katchky and of course the elegant Honours Night organized by Adam Kaplan when Dr George Zarb received the Alpha Omega Achievement Medal and presentations including the Trudy Berger Award to our own Charles Weingarten and Honour Life Membership to Sheila Rodney and installation of incoming International President Marvin Sonne. The Megan Boys kept the dance floor going to the final bell.

Convention concluded with farewells and more food all of which was carefully planned throughout Convention by Food and Beverage Marshal, Paul Okorofsky and Toronto Convention Treasurer, Gary Elman overseeing and managing the local Convention finances. Thank you Barry Reinblatt and Toronto Executive Administrator Velarie Mabounsou for allowing all the space in the Aorta for the past 3 years and giving us an opportunity to convey Convention information as it was happening.

Toronto can be proud again. This was a team effort. Without our talented and dedicated membership and our generous sponsors the success of this International event attended by members from Israel, Switzerland, Germany, France, England, the United States and of course across Canada would not have been possible. A big thank you to all of you. Professionalism, Fraternalism and Judaism is what Alpha Omega is all about and Convention had it all.

Next year in Jerusalem!

Brian Chapnick





# TRIBUTE

## General Tribute Fund

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

David Golden on the loss of his father Frater

Dr. Sidney Golden

Torkin Manes

Jeff & Mimi Kramer

Nancy Golden on the loss of her husband

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Pina & Tony Giordano

Dr. Rick Rodney

Sidney Troister & Claudia Blumberger

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Charles Goldberg & Carole Gruson

### GOLD CARDS

#### Congratulations

Dr. Stephen Rosenblat in celebration of his

birthday

Dr. Jeff & Debbie Levman

#### Condolences

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Eddie Glick

Dr. Melvin & Sandy Brown

Nancy Golden on the loss of her husband

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. David & Karen Mock

### SILVER CARDS

#### Condolences

Nancy Golden on the loss of her husband

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Arthur Tarshis

Dr. Joel Edelson

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Condolences

Nancy Golden on the loss of her husband

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Maria Lopresti

Dr. H David Burstein

Dr. Arnie Closner on the loss of his wife Joy

Dr. Bonnie Chandler

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Earl & Irene Haltrecht

Jonathan Golden on the loss of his father

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Shelley & Brian Cohen

## Dental Volunteers

### for Israel (DVI)

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Sharon Perlmutter

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Condolences

Nancy Golden on the loss of her husband

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Stanley & Sharon Jacobson

## Chai Club

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Deborah Gollum

## Alpha Omega/Henry Schein Holocaust

### Survivors Oral

### Health Program

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

Jonathan Golden on the loss of his father

Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

SickKids Hospital's departments of social work  
and psychology

### SILVER CARDS

#### Condolences

Carol Handelman on the loss of her father

Lionel Fisch

Dr. Avi Wurman & Sharon Sussman

## Terry Shapero Fund (Yad L'Kashish)

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Dr. Sheldon & Patti Rotman

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Congratulations

Tami Moscoe in honour of her award

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Marvin Roebuck in celebration of his birthday

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Harry & Libby Kraft in celebration of their  
anniversary

Dr. Sheldon & Marlene Cooper

#### Condolences

Harriette Brotman on the loss her husband

Steve

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Heather & Ron Hoffman on the loss of her  
brother Gerald Wilks

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Mel Petersiel on the loss of his wife Fran

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Eric Petersiel on the loss of his mother Fran

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Jerry Shear on the loss of his wife Eleanor

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

## CAMH Dental Clinic

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

Jonathan & Cathy Golden on the loss of his

father Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Nella Real & Family

## JF & CS Dental Fund

### SILVER CARDS

#### Condolences

David Golden on the loss of his father Frater

Dr. Sidney Golden

Lorne Wolfson & Lorie Shekter-Wolfson

## Alpha Omega Dental Centre at Baycrest

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

The family of the late Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

Catherine & Neil Belitsky

# TRIBUTE

## TRIBUTE FUND PRICES

1. Tribute Cards \$18.00 each
2. Silver Cards \$25.00 each
3. Gold Cards \$36.00 each
4. Platinum Cards \$50.00+ each
5. Bulk Tribute Cards (10 cards) \$150.00 each

### FOR TRIBUTE CARDS:

Donate [online](https://aofoundation.ca) at aofoundation.ca

For assistance, contact Harvey Cooperberg at (416) 223-4616, or by email at [tribute@aofoundation.ca](mailto:tribute@aofoundation.ca)

6. Toronto Alpha Omega Forest \$18.00 per tree.

A donation of Trees in the Toronto Alpha Omega Forest in Canada Park, Israel, may be ordered directly from J.N.F. When ordering please indicate the purchase through Alpha Omega Fraternity.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (416) 638-7200

ALPHA OMEGA OFFICES (416) 250-7417

or email [info@aotoronto.org](mailto:info@aotoronto.org)

or fax 416-250-8668

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Weekdays Only

## CONDOLENCES TO:

Nancy Golden and Family on the loss of her husband Past President Frater Dr. Sidney Golden

The family of Past President Frater Dr. Harry Weisfeld

Dr. Debbie Bachus on the loss of her husband Simom (Sunie)

Dr. Shawn Groyeski on the loss of his grandmother Judit Groyecki

### Anyone needing help or information with tribute cards, please contact:

Harvey Cooperberg at [tribute@aofoundation.ca](mailto:tribute@aofoundation.ca), or call Harvey at (416) 223-4616. As well, anyone who wishes to volunteer some time assisting with this very worthwhile cause, please contact Harvey as above.

## Honour a loved one and perform a mitzvah with Alpha Omega Tribute Cards

### WHERE DO THE TRIBUTE CARD FUNDS GO?

The Alpha Omega Foundation of Canada distributes funds from the sale of tribute cards to Dentally related agencies such as:

- Dental Volunteers for Israel
- Yad LaKashish (*Services to the Elderly*)
- Beit Issie Shapiro (*Services to Disabled Children*)
- CAMH Dental Clinic
- Dentistry for All (*Clinic in Guatemala*)
- ALEH C.A.R.E.S. Dental Clinic
- Princess Margaret Hospital Dental Clinic
- AO Dental Centre at Baycrest

***Support Dental Research in Israel and Canada***



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