

AORTA

ALPHA OMEGA REVIEW OF TORONTO ALUMNI CHAPTER, PI CHAPTER | NOVEMBER 2025 VOL. 67. NO.2
WEB SITE: WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG

ALPHA OMEGA TORONTO CHAPTER

AO REVIVAL PRESENTS:

A FUN-FILLED & DELICIOUS

COOKING CLASS

WITH PROFESSIONAL CHEF:

JUSTIN FRIEDLICH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 7:00 PM

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CHANUKAH PARTY

Sunday, November 30th, 2025



WALK WITH ISRAEL • DOC BROWN'S HUMOUR • WHO WAS ROSALIND FRANKLIN?

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DR. JORDAN KLIMITZ



Revitalizing Tradition: The Role of Alpha Omega in Today's Dental Landscape

Shana Tova to all! I hope that you had a meaningful and peaceful High Holiday season with your families and communities. This time of year provides an opportunity for reflection, and I found myself contemplating the evolving role of Alpha Omega in today's world.

Alpha Omega holds different meanings for different members. For many, it offers access to high-quality continuing education, professional camaraderie, and social engagement with or without family involvement. While each of these elements is vital, for me, Alpha Omega serves as the enduring voice of Jewish professionals in the field of dentistry.

Over the past two decades, we have witnessed a notable decline in the number of Jewish students entering dental schools. This demographic shift has raised concerns about the long-term sustainability of our organization. Nonetheless, I remain optimistic. I see a vibrant and passionate new generation of dentists and specialists who are ready to carry Alpha Omega forward.

However, the current economic climate presents real challenges. We must find ways to sustain the high-quality programming that defines Alpha Omega while addressing rising costs and declining membership. The leadership is actively considering all options to ensure financial stability, including the presentation of balanced budgets and a thorough review of our operations.

Despite these challenges, the strength of our organization continues to lie in its outstanding programming. We began our new year with a memorable evening on September 15th at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. I was deeply honoured to be installed as President of the Toronto Chapter in front of my family and fellow members. We were privileged to welcome **Dr. Anil Kishin**, Dean of the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry, and to celebrate the accomplishments of our award recipients:

- **Dr. Alan Katchky**, recipient of the Certificate of Merit
- **Dr. David Cowan**, recipient of the Teaching Award
- We were also fortunate to hear remarks from our International President-Elect, **Sharon Perlmutter**, who brought greetings on behalf of our International President, **Dr. Eldad Helft**. Although Dr. Helft was unable to attend, we look forward to seeing many of you, representing AO Toronto at the upcoming Alpha Omega International Convention this December in Naples, Florida.

Upcoming Events and Continuing Education

- We have a robust schedule of continuing education (CE) and community activities planned for the year ahead:
- **October 9:** Dr. Galit Talmor – "Navigating Adhesive Dentistry: Indications, Limitations, and Clinical Decision-Making for Direct and Indirect Restorations"
- **October 23:** Dr. James Posluns – "Mid-Treatment Orthodontics"
- **November 7:** Fall Full-Day Core 1 CE Seminar with Dr. Aviv Ouanounou

AORTA



**Toronto Alumni Chapter
of Alpha Omega**

Adath Israel Synagogue

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Canada Post Publications Agreement
43081520

Next Executive Meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Next AORTA Deadline (February)

Monday, January 5, 2026

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

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

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, or check our website at 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 and we will put you together.



You are invited to join the Toronto Alpha Omega Fraternity group on Facebook

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



Contact the AORTA editor **Barry Reinblatt** at 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. 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



Winter is almost here and it means different things to different people. To some, it is a chance to go skiing and enjoy the great outdoors. For me personally, it means I need to get my winter tires on my car and arrange a vacation to somewhere warm. Whatever it means to you, I hope that you include some of the activities that the Alpha Omega Toronto executive has planned for you.

In this issue, you can read about AO involvement in the hugely successful Walk for Israel. You will also find information about a number of upcoming events, including the Western and European Ski Seminars, the AO Revival Cooking Class, and the Chanukah Party.

We also have Barry Korzen's ...1000 Words, humour from Steven Brown, a very interesting article from Stan Kogon, and an update from the Canadian Friends of the Dental Volunteers for Israel. Please stay warm and enjoy this issue of the AORTA.

Barry Reinblatt



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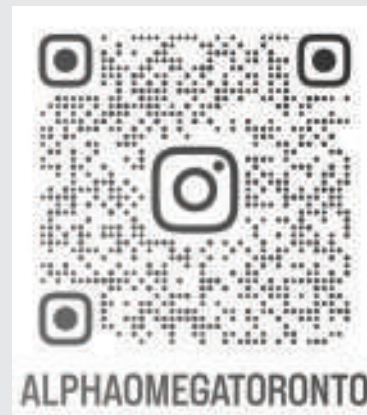
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Reminder that we will be at the ODA ASM 2023 in May. Visit our booth and meet us in person!

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is now on
Instagram!
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members only page



DR. JORDAN KLIMITZ *(Continued)*

- Morning: "Top 10 Most Prescribed Drugs: What You Need to Know"
- Afternoon: "Pain Management and Analgesic Use in the Dental Office: An Overview"
- **November 20:** Core 3 Seminar in collaboration with the Jewish Medical Association – "AI and Jewish Law: Ethical Perspectives from a Physician, Dentist, and Rabbi"
- **November 26:** Dr. Dani Meyerson – "Endodontic Advances That Improve Patient Outcomes"
- We are also proud to support **Tel Aviv University** through our upcoming **Pickleball Tournament** on **November 2**, an inclusive event open to both dentists and non-dentists. Please help us spread the word about this exciting initiative. In addition, please **save the date** for our annual **Chanukah Party** on **November 30**.

A Call to Action

I encourage each of you to reach out to a colleague who is not currently an AO member and invite them to join. Attendance and engagement at our events are critical, not just for personal development, but for the strength of our community. We must also take a strategic approach to understanding why many Jewish dentists are not currently members and address those concerns. Alpha Omega should be the professional home where Jewish dentists feel supported in achieving their goals.

Our most recent executive meeting took place on **October 21**. I look forward to working with you throughout the year and to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.

Warm regards,

Dr. Jordan Klinitz
President, Alpha Omega Toronto Chapter

UPCOMING EVENTS

AI AND JEWISH LAW

Thursday, November 20, 2025
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Oakdale Golf Club
2388 Jane Street

CHANUKAH PARTY

Sunday, November 30, 2025
10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Beth Emeth Synagogue
100 Elder Street

EUROPEAN SKI SEMINAR

Friday, January 30, 2026 -
Saturday, February 7, 2026
Kitzbuhel, Austria

WESTERN SKI SEMINAR

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 -
Monday, February 16, 2026
Panorama, Alberta

PLEASE JOIN THE GLOBAL AO GROUP

When you join, please identify yourself to the group and indicate that you are from the Toronto Chapter. Join the group and communicate with AO members worldwide!



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

BY BARRY KORZEN

Skateboarding at Glasgow's Riverside Museum

The Riverside Museum is Glasgow's award-winning transport and technology museum with over 3,000 objects on display. But in the outdoor seating area Glasgow's youth have added an additional form of transportation.





Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity



Is pleased to announce

European Ski Seminar 2026

Friday January 30th to Saturday February 7th

Kitzbühel, Austria

All Inclusive

From \$5600 CDN/Person*

(\$5100 + \$500 registration - see below for details)

Price goes up \$100 June 30th, 2025

Inclusions:

- Round-trip flight from Toronto to Munich with Air Canada
- 7 nights' accommodation at the Q! Hotel Maria Theresia****
- 7 breakfasts buffets
- 7 gourmet dinners with a 4-course menu
- Free access to the Wellness center
- Short walk to lifts and town
- 6 days of skiing
- Private airport/hotel round trip bus transfers
- Luggage fees with the airline (1 piece of luggage included)
- Local hotel taxes and service charges
- Free WIFI

....and Much, Much, More

Registration Fee: \$500.00 for all AO members and non dentists

\$600.00 for Dentists who are not members of AO

*****Everyone Must Register*****

Direct inquiries to...

Rick Horenfeldt: rhorenfeldt@rogers.com

or

Mark Librach: dr.marklibrach@gmail.com

****All applications must be received by September 1st, 2025.****

*****WE CAN ACCOMMODATE ONLY 30 PEOPLE ON THIS TRIP*****

Complete Information and Additional registration forms on the web site “aotoronto.org”

*Based on double occupancy. Single occupancy add \$1300

Flights

Fri 30 Jan 2026 Departing 19:45 YYZ – MUC 08h 05m Non-stop AC 836 arriving 09:50⁺¹ MUC

Sat 07 Feb 2026 Departing 11:50 MUC – YYZ 09h 05m Non-stop AC 837 arriving 14:55 YYZ

Deduct \$1400 if you book your own flights!

WALK WITH ISRAEL

This year's Walk surpassed the participation rate and amount of money raised in 2024. 56,000 participants raised 1.4 million dollars. With Jews and our allies, we showed the world how committed, strong, and resilient our community is when it comes to Israel. The money, time, and commitment we invest in the "Walk with Israel" event are going to have a major impact in providing aid for the survivors of terror attacks and their families. It will provide urgent financial assistance for their immediate needs and ongoing care on their road to recovery.

The history of the "Walk with Israel" began in May of 1970. It was known then as "Walk for Jewish Survival." It was 35 km long, and the funds went to the UJA Special Fund. The walk has grown in participation, and the amount of money has steadily increased, giving Canadians a productive way to connect with Israel's survival and growth.

Alpha Omega's contribution to the walk, outside of participating and encouraging participation from all of our community, has been and still is to organize the rest stops, a significant part of the walk's success. The rest stops distribute water, treats, and a spot

to reenergize and receive encouragement to carry on each year.

Establishing effective rest stops requires much planning and organization prior to the walk, and folks to manage the stops during the walk itself.

This year, Iris Kivity- Chandler, Lorne Weingarten, and I carried the load for Alpha Omega. Due to the massive crowd, we really could have used more volunteers from Alpha Omega along with other Jewish

organizations. The future will probably see the same or greater attendance, and more support from Alpha Omega is essential. Our participation in all aspects of the walk is an important expression of the meaning of Alpha Omega's structural triangle with the base, being Judaism. Hopefully, the next Walk on June 7, 2026, will have an even larger attendance of walkers and many more volunteers to help organize and run the very important Walk.

Charles Weingarten.





Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity
Is pleased to announce



Western Ski Seminar 2026

Wednesday February 11 – Monday February 16

Panorama, B.C.

from \$2345 CDN/adult

Special pricing for children

(Early Bird: Price increases after August 1st, 2025, by \$100)

- Round trip air Toronto to Calgary via Air Canada
- Round trip ground transportation
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- All Taxes
- And as always Much, Much More
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- Non-Skier deduct \$300
- \$500 Registration fee included

(non Alpha Omega Dentists add \$300.00)

*****Everyone Must Register*****

Direct inquires to...

Rick Horenfeldt: rhorenfeldt@rogers.com

or

Mark Librach: dr.marklibrach@gmail.com

****All applications must be received by Tuesday September 5th, 2025.****

*****WE CAN ACCOMMODATE ONLY 40 PEOPLE ON THIS TRIP*****

Complete Information and Additional registration forms is now posted on the web site

“aotoronto.org”

Flight Information: opt out and save \$550/person

February 11 AC137 Departure: Toronto 10:00 AM Arrival: Calgary 12:23 PM

February 16 AC144 Departure: Calgary 1:30 PM Arrival: Toronto 7:27 PM

WHO WAS ROSALIND FRANKLIN?



Many years ago, I was chatting with one of our research faculty who was in the midst of writing a biography of William Bragg, the world class crystallographer who shared a Nobel prize with his son.* During our talk, he asked if I ever heard of Rosalind Franklin. I said "no" and he replied, "too bad." We went on to discuss other matters. A year ago, I came across a reference to the same Rosalind Franklin in an IDEAS.TED.COM article which focussed on overlooked women of science. The short TED article, claimed that Franklin was instrumental in the preeminent scientific discovery of the 1950's and perhaps the century - the double helical structure of DNA.

If you asked anyone who has taken at least a high-school biology class, read an article about evolution, immunology, epidemiology, genetics, or a host of other disciplines, they would know that the DNA double helix is the molecular structure responsible for our genetic continuity and the diversity of life on this planet. If you also asked, 'Who discovered the structure of DNA?' The answer would undoubtedly be – 'Crick and Watson.'

The IDEAS.TED article acknowledged that Crick and Watson came to their conclusion about the structure of DNA at about the same time, (or perhaps a little later), than Rosalind Franklin. In fact, both Crick and Watson and Franklin published their conclusions in the same issue of the same Journal (Nature, Vol. 171, 1953).

Editors of high-quality journals are instrumental in the acceptance or rejection of submitted papers. For those that pass this initial hurdle, the editor then determines the nature of the peer review. For subject matter that is esoteric or unique, the submitting author can make an intelligent guess as to the identity of the reviewers and vice versa. In these cases, there is little secrecy about what colleagues are doing. After the review process and suggested edits are completed, the editor plays a significant role in the placement of the article in a particular issue. When I think about the role that Franklin had in elucidating the structure of the DNA molecule, the placement of her paper, after Crick and Watson's seems deliberate, or at the very least, done knowingly.

Rosalind Franklin was born on July 25, 1920, in London UK. Her family would have been considered upper-class and socially well-connected. Her father was an investment banker and her mother was the daughter of a prominent lawyer. The Franklin family was Jewish; a point glossed over in some biographies. Her father volunteered his time to teach science in a school for the less privileged and her mother donated time to help both the elderly and unmarried mothers. As the war in Europe was on the horizon, her family took in two young children fleeing the oncoming horror. When Rosalind won a scholarship, she donated the funds to help a poor student. This was a family which actively participated in Tikun Olam.

First a caveat. I know blessed little about crystallography and even less about using this difficult technique to tease out the atomic structure of molecules. Application of the technique requires a well-equipped lab, skilled technicians, and cooperative colleagues. It is not the type of scientific enquiry that can be done in a basement with little to no assistance. This essay will take a peek at Rosalind's relationships and interactions with colleagues rather than a critical assessment of her scientific contributions.

Rosalind was not one of those late bloomers. She was an inquisitive child who

excelled at school from the start. In 1931, when she was 11 years old, she entered a private high school for girls and excelled in science and math. A story is told that when she was fourteen, she won a prize of a book of her choice. She selected Eddington's, *New Pathways in Science* with themes that included quantum theory and subatomic energy. Although she tended to be rather shy and reserved, most biographers note that she could be difficult with teachers and was a fierce debater.

At eighteen years of age, with a war in Europe imminent, Rosalind left high school and was admitted to the University of Cambridge to study Natural Sciences. She fully participated in university life and joined a number of science clubs and the Jewish Society. By her second year, Europe was ensnared in war. Her family was distraught and was torn between Rosalind continuing her studies or withdrawing to aid in the war effort. Fortunately, she continued her studies. In her second year, true to form, she complained about the quality of the chemistry lectures which caused a bit of a stir. She was right and by the next year changes were made. After three years she sat her exams and graduated with 2nd class honors, a result which was quite disappointing to her. The result, however, did not surprise her supervisor. Being a perfectionist with poor time management, she spent far too much time answering the first few questions, leaving insufficient time for the later ones. In spite of her disappointing exam results, she was awarded a research fellowship in physical chemistry. She began a study measuring the rate of polymerization reactions, in the lab of Dr. Norrish, who later received a Nobel Prize. Rosalind left after a year. She did not have a good relationship with her colleagues, did not like the work, and did not like Norrish. In 1942, with the war raging, she began a study of the porosity of coal, the essential source of energy used to fuel the war effort, let alone domestic light and heat. She was able to relate the porosity and size of the holes to the amount of energy produced when the coal was burned. She also observed that the size of the pores could allow coal to be used as a molecular sieve. Today, coal derived

sieves are used to extract oxygen from air. The work on coal was the basis for her Ph.D. awarded by Cambridge in 1945.

In 1947, Rosalind moved to Paris and joined Jacques Mering in the French Government's Central Laboratory. Lawrence Bragg, some 35 years earlier had used x-ray diffraction to study the location of atoms in crystals and derive the structure of molecules. Mering was attempting to use the technique on amorphous solids. Rosalind was intrigued by the process and started to apply the technique to coal.

It was not long before she became a world expert in this field of study. Rosalind was able to suggest the type of coal which could be transformed into crystalline graphite which was gaining importance in the effort to produce efficient nuclear energy.

Although Rosalind enjoyed Paris, in 1951 she returned to King's College, University of London to complete a biophysics post-doctoral fellowship. She anticipated working on the 3D structure of protein but there was a change in plan as Maurice Wilkins, the senior scientist, suggested that she look specifically at the structure of DNA. Just before she arrived, Wilkins doctoral student Raymond Gosling found that under specific circumstances the microfibers of DNA were crystalline. Although not fully accepted yet, there was a hint that these crystals might have a helical pattern. An x-ray study of the of these crystals could be used to define the structure of DNA. This was right up Franklin's alley.

Franklin, Wilkins, and Gosling began work on the problem sharing the same laboratory. It did not take long before Wilkins and Franklin's relationship began to deteriorate. Apart from the fact that Wilkins and Franklin had polar opposite personalities, their boss John Randall appeared to be an incompetent administrator and left both Franklin and Wilkins to sort out lab responsibility and seniority. This never happened. Rosalind's confrontational attitude discouraged any rapprochement with the reserved Wilkins and their relations remained frigid.

With her Paris experience, Franklin was soon making excellent x-ray diffraction studies of molecular DNA and within eight months she discovered that DNA was present in an A and a B form. The B form was the predominant type seen in human living cells. She presented this significant advancement at a colloquium a month later. Attending the meeting was James Watson from Cambridge. Watson and fellow Cambridge scientist, Francis Crick were also engaged in trying to understand the structure of the DNA molecule and they preferred to develop their ideas using physical models. After hearing Franklin's presentation, they sensed that their current model was wrong and invited the King's College team to join them in a meeting to discuss the problem. Franklin, who did not favour the physical model approach, and in her usual blunt style, soundly rejected their attempt. It was apparent that collaboration between Cambridge and King's would be unlikely.

On May 1952 Gosling took a diffraction picture of DNA B (#51), which was perfect and later became rather famous. It revealed a great deal about the structure of the double helix and the location of the molecular groups which held the helical components together. Franklin, always the perfectionist, delayed announcing the find because she wanted to understand why pictures of the A variety of DNA always appeared fuzzy.

Numerous reviews, biographies, and texts weigh-in to describe what occurred from this point in time until the publication of the 1953 articles in *Nature*. Each step along the way seems clouded by ego, competition, and jealousy. Meanwhile it became clear that the person(s) to first publish and inform both the scientific community and the public, would take a primary place in the history of science.

In my opinion the culture within the scientific world of the mid 1950's, may have contributed to Rosalind's treatment. Rosalind was an attractive young female in what was still in the 40's and 50's a predominantly male world of science. Yes, there were increasing numbers of females in physical and biological sciences but the

numbers were small and even fewer in senior positions. Rosalind was confident of her scientific skills and cared little if her bosses disagreed with her. She vigorously, and some may say, too forcefully defended her position, often inducing ire. She seemed to run afoul of the political and academic niceties and put her scientific research ahead of placating the feelings of colleagues. In addition, Rosalind was a Jew. In her early years she shared her family's tradition of religious practice but after she entered Cambridge University, she led a secular lifestyle. She continued to acknowledge Jewish culture and did not hide her Jewishness. I saw little evidence that anti-Jewish sentiment played a role in her scientific journey. However, I think I would be criticized if I suggested that it did not. Some might say that Rosalind was her own worst enemy. Her need for complete understanding and fulsome answer to every problem, while others were satisfied with gaining knowledge in an incremental manner, played a significant role in winning the race to the finish line.

Rosalind had chosen the technically difficult modality of x-ray diffraction to disclose the location of atoms in the molecular chain. Picture #51 produced by her and Gosling was the core piece of evidence used to satisfactorily answer the question of the molecular structure of DNA and demonstrate its double helical form.¹ The picture, although factually comprehensive to scientists was visually impenetrable to the lay observer. However, the models used by Watson and Crick were visually appealing. Anyone who has followed the history of the developing understanding of the structure of DNA, remembers the entertaining photographs of Crick and Watson hovering over their colourful double helix model made with children's construction sticks and connectors.

The 1953 *Nature* article by Crick and Watson was written during the period when the sensitivities between King's College and Cambridge were still somewhat frayed. Crick and Watson mentioned the contributions of other investigators but did so using cool and less than fulsome language. "We were

WHO WAS ROSALIND FRANKLIN? (Continued)

stimulated by a knowledge of the general nature...of unpublished results and ideas of ...Wilkins, Franklin..and co-workers at King's College." But, in a 1961 communication from Crick to the French Biologist, Jacques Monod he states "However, the data which really helped us to obtain the structure was mainly obtained by Rosalind Franklin...". In 1962 Crick, Watson and Wilkins were awarded the Nobel prize in Physiology or Medicine. At that time, the rules did not allow posthumous awards and Franklin who had died in 1958 was overlooked. As the years past and the significant contributions that Franklin made to chemistry, the structure of DNA and viruses became known, she received numerous posthumous awards and notes of recognition. An article in Wikipedia² lists most of her awards given in the last 30 years. In 1998, the National Portrait Gallery in London, added her portrait, next to portraits of Francis Crick, James Watson, and Maurice Wilkins. In 2022, as recognition of her significant contribution to virology and her discovery of the 3D structure of the tobacco mosaic virus, a new bacteria genus was named Franklinella. Just recently, I was surprised when I asked a third-year dental student 'Who discovered the DNA double helix?' She said without hesitation 'Crick, Watson and Franklin.'

It was a cruel act of fate that in 1957 Rosalind was diagnosed with inoperable ovarian cancer. The two risks factors at work were her Ashkenazi genetics and likely excessive workplace radiation exposure. Her radiation detection badge often showed that she was excessively exposed, but no one was courageous enough to forcibly get her to use barrier protection. After a heroic fight she died on April 16, 1958, at 37 years of age and was interred in the United Jewish Cemetery in Willesden, London

References

1. Scientific American, Collector's Edition/ INNOVATORS, The Unsung Collaborators, Rosalind Franklin, Sept/Oct. pp 21, 2015
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosalind_Franklin

*Graeme K. Hunter, *Light is a Messenger: The Life and Science of William Lawrence Bragg*. Oxford University Press, 2004 TED then makes the claim that, by serendipity, Franklin's paper was placed two pages later in the journal after the Crick and Watson paper '.... leading people to assume that her work supported their research.' I took the statement at face value and was tempted to simply consider the event as an example of old-fashioned dumb luck. But was it?



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PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR THE AO ANNUAL

Chanukah Party

NOVEMBER



10:30 - 1:00

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025
10:30AM - 1:00 PM
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

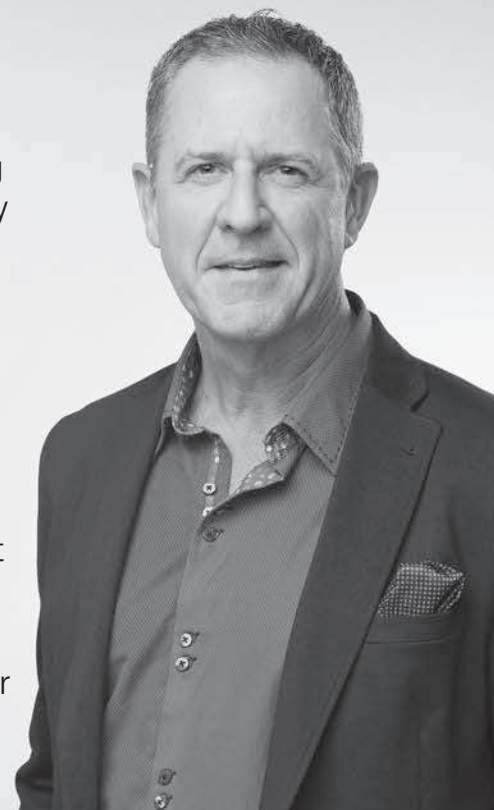


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Dr. Luke Austin,
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AO REVIVAL PRESENTS
A fun-filled & delicious
COOKING CLASS
with Professional Chef:
JUSTIN FRIEDLICH

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH
7PM**

**82 LAWRIE ROAD,
THORNHILL L4J 3N7**

\$140.00 PER PERSON

AO MEMBERS & IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY

Join us for this special one night event with
Chef Justin Freidlich. Learn to create a
delicious meal that we will enjoy together
with some great wine.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE.
This event always sells out so RSVP
now to avoid dissapointment!

EVENT IS SUBSIDIZED BY AO TORONTO CHAPTER.



THE CANADIAN FRIENDS OF THE DENTAL VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL

As most of you know, the dental clinic in Jerusalem serves the very poorest in the city – regardless of race, religion or colour. The clinic provides restorative dentistry, prosthodontics with an in-house lab and endodontics all at no charge to the patients. Holocaust survivors, the elderly, pediatric patients – all are taken care of.

The clinic is powered by a robust volunteer program, through which dentists from around the world – many from Toronto AO - donate their time and expertise each year for stints of a week or so, typically 4 days a week.

In an email from the director of Development and International Relations, Michele Manspeizer, I learned that the 40+ year old clinic is now facing an extreme financial crisis. The Dental Volunteers for Israel lacks over \$200,000 USD in its budget! As a point of information, staff costs alone (hygienists, assistants, reception and administrative staff) total close to \$360,000 CD a year!

The reasons aren't hard to understand.

With Israel fighting wars on multiple fronts for 2 years, philanthropic attention has shifted toward immediate humanitarian

relief and security needs in Israel – think of the evacuees from the northern border fleeing Hizbollah, and the evacuees fleeing settlements near the Gazan border.

Moreover, these events have redirected local philanthropic giving in Israel toward urgent wartime and social welfare responses, making it more challenging for organizations like DVI to secure domestic support.

Internationally, war and instability in Israel can raise donor concerns, delay funding decisions, and affect operational planning for volunteers and partners abroad.

Additionally, the rise of antisemitism here and in Europe has forced many foundations to pivot funds that were usually spent in Israel to address domestic security, community resilience and humanitarian needs.

With that, DVI is still providing much needed services and treatments.

As dental professionals in the world's fourth largest Jewish country we can't sit idly by and watch the Dental Volunteer Clinic suffer calamity!

We need to take steps to raise much-needed funds and the Canadian Friends for the DVI are looking forward to engaging as many Toronto AO members to make that happen.

To this end we are excited to announce that we are in talks with the Toronto Magic Company to provide entertainment for a gala event being planned for the spring of 2026. the principals of the entertainment company, my son Ben Train and his partner Jonah Babbins, have appeared twice on Penn and Teller's Fool Us and have done many corporate and private events internationally, as well as shows at Yuk-Yuks, the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Allied Music Centre at Massey Hall here in Toronto.

We look forward to getting as much support as possible for this upcoming event, and if you are interested in helping out in any capacity please contact me – Les Train at drtrain@rogers.com

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you!



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DOC BROWN'S HUMOUR

SOME OF THESE, (SORRY), MOST OF THESE, (SORRY), ALL OF THESE ARE STOLEN.....WHATEVER. YOU FIGURE IT OUT!

By Steven Brown

Let's mix it up this time, and start with the students at school. A student came up to me, and said the patient was positive for V.D. - O...M...G. What? She said "She's got a positive vertical dimension." I'm not sure I agree with either. And while we're on Colleges of Dentistry. Does Colgate have a dental school, and if so, what toothpaste do they recommend? In that I teach Prosthodontics, (Warning. You do not have to be a prosthodontist to teach undergrad prosthodontics.) Two things. When a student says "This precision attachment is off a bit. That's got to be an oxymoron. No? And another lovely 4th year student, when discussing a ball and socket attachment, called it a ball and chain attachment. Maybe for a prisoner? And now about two instructors I work with. The first is named Mini, and she's 5 feet tall, in heels.... maybe. So I always ask her what Mini is short for. That might be a triple entendre. And Cesar is Polish, and when he went to his ophthalmologist, his doctor said "Can you read the first line?" - which was CYJDAVLITYZYKY, and Cesar said "Read it? I KNOW HIM!" And whenever a student tells me, I lived through the golden age of dentistry, I always tell them not to worry, because they'll always have a job. Because they'll always need a real dentist to sit by the patient, as the robot does the work.

I don't really need a new paragraph, but that was getting long. I'll take one more from the dental category, Alex.

Dentally speaking, 100 years ago when I got my interview for acceptance into the first year class; when it was down to 300 applicants, from the 1450 that applied, the first thing the panel said was "So Steven. Tell us a little about yourself." And I said "I'd really rather not. I'd really like to get in."

I learnt in Psych 101, that people remember the first stuff, and the last stuff, and not much of the middle. So let's do the Paula

stuff now, in the middle. I told Paula, when I die, if she gets a plaque on a bench, or a tree with my name on it, I'll kill her. (You may have to read that again.) Next. We were in Copenhagen recently, and Paula turned to me at about 4 in the afternoon, and asked "What time do you think it gets dark here?" So I said "Probably at night, like everywhere else." She hit me. And a lot of women say their husband never listens to them. I'm proud to say, I've never heard that.

And now what you've all been waiting for. The end. Here we go. Today I had 8 pars, a birdie, and 8 bogeys, and 1 double bogey. Best ever. But actually mini golf still sucks. And on my way home, I stopped at the Beer Store. But I didn't actually buy anything. I'm waiting for a 'TWOFOUR' one sale. Double entendre? And did you ever think about the fact that before Richard Pryor, there was no Prior Richard. OYE!

Also, as I walked to the subway yesterday, I saw 5 guys pounding out one of those bike delivery guys, on the other side of the street. So I phoned the cops. When they came, they thanked me for calling, but asked me why I didn't help. I told them I thought 5 guys were enough. And I've got a new idea for a restaurant. I want to combine basketball, with a Chinese restaurant, so I can go in and order a pick-and-roll.

New paragraph, needed or not. Nobody cares. Not even Barry. With the recent heat wave, I put a big fan on the porch beside our chairs. And I call the wind 'Machaya'. And being as old as I am, I can remember when I could go to the corner store and get 3 chocolate bars, 2 cans of pop, and some other stuff for a dollar. Now, they have cameras everywhere. Also, in that I let an ENT specialist 'correct' my deviated septum, by moving it from the right side of my nose to the left; now I use Breathe Right nasal strips every night. The guy who invented those should get a Nose-El Prize. You can call Barry now. Anyone ever tell you that Adam and Eve were the first 'Apple Jews.' My grand daughter liked that one. But wait, there's more. If you keep reading for the next 10 minutes, I'll send you..... ahhh forget it. But I'm not finished. This is

no joke; and why I can't respect the media. None of them think, before posting things. CP24 just reported that it's 28 degrees, but it feels like 29. Oh no! I guess I should take my sweater off. It's getting hot! And just by spending 4 or 5 minutes a day watching CNN commercials, I learned, "You shouldn't take this medication, if you're allergic to it." Who knew? And I'm in the midst of writing a book all about beer. I'm on my 4th draft.

But. (Can you start a paragraph with 'But'?) I can. This is my column. But you know you're getting old, when the only way you know what day it is, is because you have a 2 week pill dispenser, and you have to look at it each day. And you know time flies, because you feel like it was only 5 days ago that you just filled it up. And I don't think I told you. I'm opening a new factory. We're only going to produce ottomans. But I hope to build it into an Ottoman Empire! Also, I'm always forthright. Which means I'm always right the forth time. And speaking of restaurants, we went to one last night that had a sign in the window that said "Closed for Reservations. We'll open when we get some." And when I got out of private practice, to fill some time, I got a job at McDonalds. But I got fired the first day, because when the first customer came up, I said "Welcome to McDonalds. Can I take your McOrder? And would you like McFries with that?" The boss heard me, and told me not to put Mc in front of everything. So when the next customer came in I said "Welcome to Donalds." That was my last order. And we were just talking about getting older, which reminded me, I recently went to an antique auction, and 3 people bid on me. And after you retire watch out for this. I thought the appliance that was making all my clothes shrink was the Dryer. But actually it was the Refrigerator. And now a test. You've all heard of Murphy's Law. But have you ever heard of Coles Law. It's thinly sliced cabbage and mayonnaise. Still on old. Do you wake up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom. My answer is "Depends." Actually I never do. It's just a matter of 'Mind Over Bladder'.

Now if you thought that was random, just wait. Let me make this perfectly clear. I hate dogs, (and cats), but I love watching dogs

walk their owners. This way! No, this way! No stop! No start! No, listen to me! And that's not the owner saying that. It's the dog. But if you want to drive your dog crazy, name it 'Stay.' Then take it to the park, and keep yelling "Come Stay, Come Stay!" And I just saw gas for \$121.3 a litre, so I said to myself "Too bad I'm not out of gas." WHAT!?!? And I know a lot of people who are very pro-procrastination, but it takes them a long time to get that way. I don't even know what that means. Stream of consciousness I guess. Like James Joyce, but without the drugs. I don't know if you'll get this, but it's worth a try, cuz I laughed when I said it. I had an oesophageal thingy at Scarborough General today, and after 7 people asked me my name and birthday 14 times, to make sure I was still me, the final nurse, as she led me to the O.R. said "Now, why are we doing this today?" So I quickly asked "Is that a philosophical question?" I liked it.

And take it from me. If Warren Buffett can drive a 10 year old car, I can walk the extra blocks to get coffee at Tim Hortons. Instead of at Second Cup, where it's twice as expensive! And don't even get me started on Starbucks. Sorry. I forgot. One more student thing. Cut this out and put it up top. I told a student she could have 3 wishes, and she said "I want to be rich." I said "O.K. Rich. What's your second wish?" A few more 'Take it from mees'. I have a policy. I don't believe anything I read on the internet, and 90% of the time it works. Also there are 4 sides to every story. The front, the back, the left and the right, and I'm always right. And do you know what you call a guy that does hair transplants for a living, in Germany? No? - Heir Doctor! I just made that up. Pretty, Pretty, Good. Last two. As Simon and Garfunkel once said "I get all the news I need from the weather report."

SING IT! Go back, and sing it! And finally, in conclusion. Without a doubt, if you go back to the last issue to two, where I told you that, when they asked John Lennon, when he was a kid, what he wanted to be when he grew up, he answered "HAPPY." Well, when I was 9 years old, I wanted to grow up to be a dentist. So I just combined the two! And lived 'Happily Ever After!'

And that's all I got. Till next time. I'll be Back in the Future.

I'm still Doc Brown
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Marni Morrow on the loss of her father
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General Tribute Fund

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Dr. Mark Librach on the loss of his father
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Dr. Brian Chapnick

Dr. Avi Wurman and Family on the loss of his mother and grandmother Gloria
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Dr. Andrew Kay

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Dr. Mark Nusinoff on the loss of his sister
Marilyn Sandra Foster
Dr. Adam & Ariella Kaplan

Drs. Avi Wurman & Sharon Sussman on the loss of his mother Gloria
Dr. Adam & Ariella Kaplan

Dr. Mark Nusinoff on the loss of his sister
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Dr. Andrew Kay

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Dr. Michael & Noreen Shorser

Dr. Jordan Klimitz in honour of becoming
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Dr. Sheldon Weingarten in celebration of the birth of twin girls
Dr. Murray & Marilyn Wagman

Dr. Andrea Heckler in appreciation
Jackie Levitan

Dr. Bonnie Chandler & Oded Hubert in celebration of Ari's marriage
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Dr. Sam Librach
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Dental Volunteers for Israel (DVI)

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Dr. Lani Kraus

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Dr. Stephen & Gina Kay

SILVER CARDS

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Dr. Matthew Librach on the loss of his grandfather Dr. Samuel Librach

Dr. Mark Nusinoff on the loss of his sister Marilyn Sandra Foster

Dr. Stan Klinitz on the loss of his brother Sheldon

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