

AORTA

ALPHA OMEGA REVIEW OF TORONTO ALUMNI CHAPTER, PI CHAPTER | OCTOBER 2022 VOL. 64. NO.2
WEB SITE: WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG

FALL SEMINAR

ALPHA OMEGA TORONTO CHAPTER PRESENTS

2022 FALL SEMINAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 2022 - 8:00 A.M - 3:30 P.M

Presenter

Dr. Ernert Lam
DMD, MSC, PHD, FRCD(C)

6 CORE 1 POINTS

LECTURE 1

8:00am - 12:00pm
Variants of Normal
Radiologic Anatomy That
may Simulate Disease on
Panoramic Images

LECTURE 2

1:00pm - 3:30pm
10 Radiologic Findings
Every Dentist Should Know



AO FALL SOCIAL PAINT NIGHT

Thursday November 17th, 2022 - *PINOT'S PALETTE*

HELLO AGAIN FELLOW FRATERS! • ...1000 WORDS • MAYHEM AT HARVARD

MCA Dental: A boutique partner organization with a passion for dentistry at our core



The man with the vision to create a different kind of DSO

Meet Dr. Mark McCullough, practicing dentist for over 20 years and Chief Dental Officer of MCA Dental Group. Mark currently practices in Ottawa, Ontario

What inspired you to become a dentist?

I always knew that I wanted to be a dentist. I was 12 years old when I decided that was my calling. I really didn't know where a career in dentistry could take me. I spent a lot of time back then catching turtles, crayfish, frogs, and minnows. My parents tried to suggest that maybe I should think about a career in Marine Biology as it was very difficult to get into Dental School. That fueled my fire even more and there was no changing my mind.

In high school, I was in the co-op program, and I asked if they could find me a dentist to shadow. I wanted to ensure that I would be truly interested in the field of dentistry. After a placement in both a dental office and a dental lab, I was convinced that this in fact was the career path for me. After I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Western Ontario, I was accepted into Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto. Upon graduation, I went back to my hometown of Peterborough, as an associate. Dr. Don Foster, was my first mentor and it was here that I gained insight into what the dental profession could actually be. Not only was he available for me to shadow, allowed me time to take continuing education, bailed me out if I got in over my head in a procedure, but he was revered by his team, his patients, and the community, all while running an amazing clinic, the largest in the area. I quickly knew that I wanted to be just like him.

What aspects of dentistry make you excited to go to work?

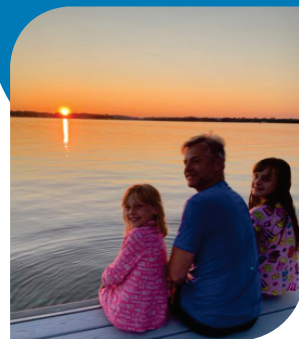
I love the people. The team, the patients, the associates that I have working with me. It is certainly a strong driving force for me enjoying dentistry as both a career and a hobby. You must love what you do! You spend a significant amount of your life in your chosen career.

From a clinical standpoint I have become proficient in most aspects of dentistry. Currently most of my clinical time is spent on the surgical side. Wisdom teeth, implants and surgery, all-on-4, sedation. I also spend time mentoring as well. I was fortunate to have found a mentor early, and it is important to me to provide the same.

Why did you start MCA Dental Group?

Well, at the time I owned a several practices with a close friend of mine. Our growth had slowed down and I was looking for a way to stimulate that. I initiated some conversations with another good friend, Ken Craig, who is a brilliant entrepreneur. After a few conversations and some initial strategy sessions, we decided to start our own support organization for dentists. This would give me the opportunity to build the kind of organization that dentists would enjoy being a part of and involved with. We have built an incredible team that truly cares about each other and the patient experience. I am so proud of how far we have come and the amazing partners we have built relationships with along the way.

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Outside the office, Mark enjoys spending time with his two daughters, snowmobiling, and giving back to the community through various oral health initiatives.

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HELLO AGAIN FELLOW FRATERS!



I can't believe that I am already writing my second article for the AORTA and that we are finally getting into the swing of the incredible year of programming and social events that lie ahead. Unfortunately, I am writing my article before any actual events have taken place, so in my next article, I look forward to debriefing everyone on these events. In the interim, I want to tell you all about the things you can look forward to and should pencil into your calendars. We are currently in full swing of making sure all the details are covered for our annual Fraternity Night dinner which will have taken place on September 20, 2022! We are so excited to have welcomed International President, Dr. Gail Schupak, and her husband Lloyd who will have joined us for an incredible evening of celebration and fraternalism. While their visit will have been a quick one, they will have had the opportunity to visit the dental school, attend a dinner in their honour, and spend some time with friends in Toronto.

Some of the highlights for Fraternity Night will have been honouring Dr. Avi Wurman as he was presented his Achievement Award and Dr. Marvin Obar Z"L as his family was presented with his Certificate of Merit Award. These are two very deserving men who exemplify and embody what Alpha Omega is all about. We are also excited to have welcomed Interim Dean, Dr. Laura Tam, and both the CDA and ODA presidents, Dr. Lynn Tomkins and Dr. Lisa Bently respectively. We

were thrilled to have had them as part of our celebrations.

Many people ask what Alpha Omega is all about.....while it may represent different things to each frater, to me, it represents solidarity. It represents a family. It represents higher learning. It represents dedication and the drive to be something more than just yourself. It represents charity and a way to help make the world a better place. It represents helping your fellow fraters and friends. Dr. Mort Silverberg's recent passing was a true loss for many of us, but being on the line allowed me an insider's view of what it means to be a part of Alpha Omega and it is something I felt was important to share with all of you. I watched fraters step up to assist in any way they could – their assistance spanned many different arenas, but all involved people stepping outside their own busy lives to make time for a fellow frater they cared about – people made phone calls and visited with Mort, people took food to Mort, and people even got involved to help with the logistics of closing his practice. Some key people that I feel deserve mentioning are Drs. Lorne Chapnick, Allan Katchky, Iris Kivity-Chandler, Andrea Heckler, and Jeffrey Erlick. While I hope I didn't miss anyone, what I want to say to anyone who stepped up you all make us very proud to be Alpha Omegans!

We have a packed few months ahead of us with our first executive meeting being held on Wednesday October 19, 2022 and Dr. Gillian Lansberg will be kicking off our first official CE night discussing endodontics on Wednesday October 26, 2022 at Adath Israel. We then turn our attention to our delectable annual cooking classes taking place on Wednesday November 9th and Thursday November 10, 2022. Remember to sign up as soon as possible as registration is open and this event always sells out!! On Thursday November 17, 2022 the Fall Social committee has an exciting night of painting planned and it will be night that no one wants to miss! We are excited to welcome Dr. Ernest Lam to our Core 1 Course line up this year. On Friday November 25, 2022, he will be presenting two essential topics that are sure to be packed with helpful information we need in our

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AORTA



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of Alpha Omega**

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Next Executive Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

Next AORTA Deadline (January)

Monday, December 5, 2002

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

Associate Placement

Fraters who are interested in having an associate join their practice or who are interested in associating with another dentist (full or part-time) contact Philip Novack

Office: (416) 224-2114

Fax: (416) 224-1282

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.

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

Email Jackie at info@atoronto.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



I believe it is safe to say that life is finally getting back to some semblance of normal. Although Covid, as of this writing, is still listed as a pandemic, most things have gone back to a pre-covid norm. I hope this trend continues and the designation is soon changed from pandemic to endemic. Speaking of life returning to normal, Alpha Omega programming is also returning to very close to normal as you can see by the content of this issue.

Since we are just coming out of the summer months where there is not much programming, we don't have any articles about past events. However, you can find information about a number of upcoming events, including the Fall Seminar, the annual Cooking Demonstration Evenings, and the Fall Social Paint Night.

You will also find some of our regular contributors: Barry Korzen's ...1000 Words, Stan Kogon's newest article, and a surprise humor contribution from Steven Brown. If there are any readers out there who wish to contribute to future editions, please feel free to contact me and send your thoughts to barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca. I hope you all enjoy this latest edition.

Barry Reinblatt



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HELLO AGAIN FELLOW FRATERS! (Continued)

arsenals – **Variants of Normal Radiologic Anatomy that may Simulate Disease on Panoramic Images and 10 Radiographic Findings that Every Dentist Should Know.** After some incredible and informative education, we then get to look forward to our epic Chanukah party on Sunday December 4, 2022 and we will close out the 2022 year with another continuing education course at Adath Israel on Monday December 5, 2022.

As you can see, we have lots of amazing things to look forward to in the coming months and we hope to see great turnouts at all of these events!!

While it is with a bit of a heavy heart that we will be saying good-bye to Jackie as our executive secretary at the end of 2022, we look forward to her mentoring someone new. The job search committee is well underway looking for Jackie's replacement and should you know of anyone that you think might be a great fit for this position, please don't hesitate to reach out to Bonnie Chandler at aotorontojob22@gmail.com .

Although you will be reading this article after Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur have passed, I do want to take this time to remind people that tomorrow is always a new day and with each new day, we have the opportunity to be

more of who we wish to be. Always strive to be the best version of yourself. Take the time to be present in whatever you are doing. Never take your family and loved ones for granted because tomorrow is never promised. Take the time for self-care and self-love. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday with your families and that everyone is inscribed into the book of life. May you all only know health and good things in the year to come.

Until next AORTA.....

Fraternally yours,

Tammy Herzog



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AO Fall Social **PAINT NIGHT**

**A CREATIVE AND FUN WAY TO HANG OUT
WITH YOUR FELLOW FRATERS**

DATE: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17TH, 2022

TIME: 7:30PM

TICKET PRICE: \$60.00

LOCATION: PINOT'S PALETTE,
2866 DUNDAS STREET WEST, THE JUNCTION
FOOD INCLUDED

ALCOHOL CAN BE PURCHASED ON -SITE
AO MEMBERS AND SPOUSES ONLY

**Limited Spaces! Please email your
name, number of participants,
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to info@aotoronto.org by Nov 10th to
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...1000 Words

NUMA FALLS - Kootenay National Park - Alberta

For my first overseas trip since the onset of Covid I decided to take my camera to Banff Alberta. To say that the Banff National Park and its adjacent neighbour the Kootenay National Park are a photographer's dream would be an understatement



UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENING CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR

Wednesday, October 26, 2022
Adath Israel Synagogue
37 Southbourne Avenue

AO REVIVAL COOKING CLASS

Wednesday November 9, 2022 (Meat
Night), 7pm
Thursday, November 10, 2022 (Dairy
Night), 7pm
506 Woburn Avenue

FALL SOCIAL

Thursday, November 17, 2022,
7:30pm
Paint Night
Pinot's Palette
2866 Dundas Street West

FALL SEMINAR

Friday, November 25, 2022, 8:30-3:30
Dr. Ernest Lam
Radiology
Beth Emeth Synagogue
100 Elder Street

CHANUKAH PARTY

Sunday, December 4, 2022
Beth Emeth Synagogue
100 Elder Street

Mazel Tov

To...

Eryn and Lisa Sone on the recent Bar
Mitzvah of their son Jayson. Proud
grandparents are Warren and Rhonda
Sone.

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.



Registration is
NOW OPEN



AO REVIVAL PRESENTS

A SPUNFUL OF SHAUNA COOKING CLASSES



WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 9
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THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 10
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PLEASE INCLUDE THE
FOLLOWING IN YOUR
RESERVATION

Names & total number of people attending

Night(s) to be attended | Wednesday
and/or Thursday

Credit card number, expiry & CVV number

TO RSVP EMAIL
info@aotoronto.org

Do I Look Like JOHN LENNON?

No? - IMAGINE!



All the following are true. Except for some. Glad to be back, for one last stand. So here we go for the 42nd time.

So let's get my wife out of the way first. O.K. So I didn't mean it like that, but whatever. So..... when my wife doesn't help me with the leaves in the fall, I have to do them by myself. So in essence, I do the leaves, but I'm literally left holding the bag. Also, when it comes to leaves and banks, branches can really mess you up. I had to get that one out of the way quickly, so you wouldn't remember it. And it's good my wife's name isn't Ella. Because we have salmon twice a week, and then I'd have to say - "Not Salmon Ella again!" And when Paula gives me a lift to the bar, I tell her she's literally driving me to drink. She also taught me with our first born, that when you arrive at the hospital when your wife is about to give birth, the husband's job, first and foremost, is to go yelling through the halls screaming - "Epidural, Epidural!!!" Also, every weekend when I bring her coffee in bed, I always say - "I wish I had a husband like me." And I'm not a big dog person, but if I ever get one, I'm going to name it Tequila. So when I yell 'Tequila', I'll be training both the dog, and my wife. (Call Barry. He let me put that in.) And I watch CNN way too much. And as anyone can tell you, every other commercial has to do with medication. So there I was, minding my own business, watching a testosterone commercial, but Paula was in the kitchen, so

I yelled - "Hey Paula, should I get some of this testosterone stuff? And she yelled back - "NOOO!!!!!" And finally. We were in the car together, and there were random people running up Yonge Street. She said they were just exercising, but I said they should have just left earlier. (I'll give you a minute on that one.) Moving on.

I only need to know 2 things about a person when it comes to long term friendships. Do they throw their garbage on the street, or do they wait and throw it in a garbage can; and do they take their carts back at Costco! That's it! Next. I just passed a sign that read - "Psychic - \$30 special. Past, present, and future." How 'bout \$10, just for the future. I know the past, and I'm living the present. And now airplanes. You never want to hear the pilot say just before takeoff - "We'll be a few more minutes folks. We're just having some trouble with the flappers." I may have said this before, but you've forgotten. I had a bunch of girlfriends when I was younger, but my first girlfriend became a dermatologist. So whenever I run into her, I tell her she was one of many, but she was really the specialist. And I just got an invitation in the mail, and at the bottom it said, 'Bring backbacon.' But I brought a sign that said 'Bring Back Bacon', because I thought it was a protest. And remember Rodney Dangerfield. (Google it.) He said - My school was so tough, when the teacher asked us what came at the end of a sentence, we yelled - "We appeal!" But my school was so tough, (Saranac Blvd. Public School), when the teacher taught the famous nursery rhyme, it went like this. "Sticks and stones, will break your bones." And that was it!. And when someone says 'Rules are rules'. It just means those rules don't make sense. And by now, you must realize, telling a joke is like Skip The Dishes, and Doordash. It's all about the delivery.

New paragraph. Why not? Do you know why people with the last name Ali, don't name their kids Norm? I do. And just a question. When it stops raining, but the road's still wet on the highway, do you drive really close to the car in front of you so your windshield gets wet, so you can save wiper washer fluid. Yup. We're both idiots. Someone just mentioned Crossfit stores. I heard it. Don't deny it. Well,

one just closed in my neighbourhood. I knew they should have branched out into other religions.

Most of you know I don't have a cell phone. So when we're on the highway, if I think of something I want to remember, I write it on a Post it note while going 100 kilometres an hour. And then Paula yells at me. But I say there's no ticket, or 3 points, for Post it noting when driving. Phones again. We were on holiday, and we were sitting next to 3 lovely young ladies and their boyfriends, when on the second day, one of the girls came up to me and said - "Can I have picture with you?" I said - "Oh my God! YES! WHY!?" She said she always wanted a picture with Larry David. I told her that was really funny, because I don't look like Larry David, but my daughter says 'I am Larry David'. Anyway, after the picture, I asked her if she could email it to me. She said she'd message it. I said, "Is that that stuff with the cell phone, cuz I don't have one." One of the boyfriends said - "You don't have a cell phone?" I said No. The next boyfriend said - "Flip phone?" I said No. The third boyfriend said - "LAND LINE?!" I said Yup. The first one said - "When I grow up, I want to be like him!" And speaking of not remembering. (Refer to post it notes previously please). A great password you'd never forget is 'Forgot password.'

Time for a new paragraph. I just walked past a Vape Store with a sign out front that said "No smoking within 10 metres". Life is strange. And did I tell you about the beautiful girl in the Math Contest that came last. She still was crowned "Miss Calculate!" But the reason I like escalators more than elevators, is you never have to yell - "Hold that escalator!" And I was just at a business seminar where the speaker suggested to get involved in something that will take you -Up, up, up. So I bought one. That was terrible. I know. (Filler). And I have a friend who's been married 4 times. So I told him his next wedding song should be 'Another One Bites The Dust.' On another note, I was just thinking. We've got enough trees. We've got too many people. True? True! So, that's a segue to death and dying. How come all the pictures of people in the obituaries in newspapers show them smiling? They're dead, and probably not

happy. One more. I have a friend who skydived without a parachute.....Once! (I think I stole that.) O.K. One more. I was cutting my grass yesterday, and I found I have a lot of dead patches. But I have a grass company that I pay to fertilize, etc. So I called them, and they said not to worry. With all the hot weather and no rain, the grass wasn't dead. It was just resting. My dead Uncle Leo still might have a chance. I'll be waiting for him when it rains next time. Maybe he's just resting.

And I think I just offended my friend. His parents moved to King City to a farm. Then they moved back to Toronto because they couldn't handle the slow pace. Unfortunately, they then died within weeks of each other. I saw him a few months later, and it just popped out of my mouth, when I said - "Hey Lorn. Remember when your parents bought the farm?" And have you ever realized that TTC busses that go straight are, 'Not In Swervice'. And bus stops. When standing at a bus stop waiting for the next bus, it doesn't make the bus come any faster by stepping out onto the road, to look down the street, to see if it's coming. O.K. Maybe it did.... Once. And I played golf yesterday. It reminded me how much I love golf.....on T.V.!

As usual, now the dental. We've been wearing masks for so long, when I see someone on the street I think I know, I have to ask them to put their mask on, so I can tell who they are. And ever since I sold my practice 2 years ago, I no longer worry about it during the day. Only at night when I'm dreaming. Did I ever tell you, I had an Auntie Cariogenic. You guessed it. She died of tooth decay. (Daaaaad!) Many years ago, my dental chair was stuck at the top, and wouldn't respond to the buttons. So I called the dealer, who said I'd have to call Alabama, where they make the dental chairs. I called, and put the tech on speaker phone. He said, "I want you to get down on the floor, at the front of the chair. See the metal plate with the 2 screws? I want you to remove the plate." I did as he asked. He then said "See the motherboard with the 26 wires. Half are blue and half are red. I want you to cut..." I stopped him and said "Give me a second, while I screw that metal plate back on." But kids are the best. A mom called after her 3 year

old's appointment to tell me she asked why Dr. Brown was white. And I asked a 5 year old "What's cookin'?" And he looked at me like I was nuts. Probably true. And after freezing an 8 year old, and shooting the breeze while he was freezing, I guess he got tired of the small talk and said "O.K. Dr. Brown, let's get down to business." And I love sit down dentistry, which started in 1959. Since I graduated in the 80's, I don't stand for anything. Some might agree.

And when I got my first fax machine installed on a Friday, way back when, when I came in Monday morning I had a fax. No one had the fax number yet, so I looked at it, and it was from a physician asking me to do a vasectomy. (True!) So I phoned the Doc, and told her I got it by mistake, but I was a dentist, and if she walked me through it, I thought I could do it with my drill. She didn't laugh, and just said "Send me the fax." End of call. Also, last week my assistant Sarah was on holiday. So I introduced the fill in assistant to the patient at each appointment, and said - "My normal assistant is on holiday, and this is my abnormal assistant, who will be helping us today."

An instructor and myself were teaching 12 second year students hands on local anesthetic delivery. In the middle of showing his technique, I said "Dan, when you take an alginate impression, do you have an automatic mixer?" He said no. I said "I do. Her name is Sarah." 11 students laughed. The 12th laughed 10 seconds later and said "I just got it." There's one in every crowd.

Some closing thoughts. I try to tell any student lacking confidence, which I hope they have by 4th year, my favourite Jackie Gleason line of the 1960's. "If you think you got it, you got it! If you think you ain't got it; even if you got it; you ain't got it." Excuse my paraphrasing, but it's true. And I've tried to teach my kids the 2 most important letters of the alphabet, and not to care what other people think of you. The 2 most important letters. B,U. Also, if you're worshipping the ground someone walks on, make sure they don't walk all over you.

And I leave you with this. I owned thoroughbred race horses for 15 years, back in the last century, so here it is - 'The Horse Players Lament'. "Please let me break even this year. I need the money!"

That's it. That's all.

Hoping you have the 'Best Day Ever!' - Every day!

SHB, DDS.

MAYHEM AT HARVARD



THE CAST OF CHARACTERS

George Parkman

Born in 1790, into a large wealthy Boston family, George Parkman was gifted with the proverbial silver spoon. He, along with his brothers, inherited a large portfolio of Boston real estate. By 1813, George had completed his medical training at Harvard Medical School and travelled to Europe to broaden his education. When he returned, he turned his attention to increasing his real estate holdings and lending money. He soon became one of the wealthiest men in New England and a major donor to the Harvard Medical School. In 1845, he transferred a tract of land to the University, which enabled the Medical School to move its campus from Cambridge to Boston. He was easily recognized by Bostonians as he was tall, angular, with a jutting jaw, and often seen walking the streets in his stove-pipe hat collecting rents and loans. He was last seen Nov. 23, 1849.

John Webster

Born in 1780, John benefited from the advantages of high social status. He received a fine medical education and obtained surgical training in England. He practiced medicine in the Azores and in 1818 returned to Boston. Lack of success as a physician led him to change professional focus and he became a lecturer in chemistry, minerology, and geology at Harvard Medical School where he was eventually promoted to Professor. He was elected to the prestigious American Academy of Science. In spite of his academic position, his lavish spending far surpassed his modest academic income and before long, he was

forced to sell his Cambridge mansion. Even this was not enough, and he had to resort to private loans to maintain his social standing. One of his creditors was Dr. George Parkman, who had supported Webster's application for a professorial position at Harvard Medical School. A number of loans from Parkman were secured by a valuable chest of minerals and crystals put up as collateral. Dr. Parkman, when informed that the cache of minerals was also used to secure a loan from another creditor, became enraged and arranged to meet Webster at his office at the Medical School on 1:30, Nov 23, 1849. Webster was acutely aware that Parkman could influence the Harvard Board to remove him if it became known that he was insolvent.

Ephraim Littlefield

When the new Harvard Medical School was opened in 1846, Ephraim Littlefield the janitor at the Cambridge site, continued his employment at the new school in Boston. In modern terms he would be called a facilities manager as his duties were more extensive than sweeping floors and may even have included supplying or assisting in finding cadavers for anatomic dissection. He and his wife, socially distant from the Boston elite, lived a modest life and shared a small suite in the basement of the school. In fact, their rooms were next door to John Webster's laboratory. Ephraim was well aware of the comings and goings of the faculty, especially Webster.

The Event

In the afternoon of Nov. 23, Littlefield heard water running in Dr. Webster's lab and tried the door and was surprised to find it was locked from the inside. Although it seemed out of the ordinary, he went on his way. Over the next few days, word that Parkman was missing spread and became local news. Webster asked Littlefield if he had happened to have seen Parkman. Littlefield replied that he had seen him enter the building on Nov. 23 but did not see him leave and had not seen him since. He said that Webster seemed upset by his response. Shortly after, Webster gave Littlefield a gift of a Thanksgiving turkey. Littlefield found that peculiar since Webster had never given him a gift before.

Within a week the media and the public were

in a frenzy about the whereabouts of one of their most prominent citizens. A reward of \$3000 was announced for finding Parkman alive or \$1000 for information that led to discovery of his body. By Nov. 28, Littlefield, his suspicions aroused, began spying on Webster. Under a door he saw Dr. Webster move back and forth from a fuel locker to the lab furnace. The furnace was working so fiercely that Littlefield claimed he could feel the heat through the wall. After Webster left his lab, Littlefield let himself in through a window, where he discovered that the fuel locker was empty and there were mysterious wet patches on the floor. Meanwhile the police, having determined that Parkman was last seen entering the Medical School, made an in-depth search of the building. It was not surprising that they found nothing unusual as there were numerous bodies waiting for, in the process of, or having completed, anatomic dissection.

For the next two days, Littlefield, whose rooms abutted Webster's lab, chiseled into a wall which formed the rear of a private privy in Webster's lab - a room the police had not searched. Once through, he adjusted to the dark and spied a human pelvis a thigh and a lower leg. Littlefield went straight to the police. Investigators returned and began an exhaustive search for the remains. Littlefield indicated that the furnace might hold evidence. There, the police found some personal effects, but the most significant findings were more than fifty bone fragments, identified by the coroner as a human finger bone, tibia, and a toe bone. Also found in the debris was a dental plate with two teeth attached, three single teeth, another piece of dental plate with five mineral teeth attached, and a portion of mandible. Later, a tea chest was emptied and a headless partially burned torso with a thigh stuffed into the body cavity was found. Webster was arrested, accused of murder, and went to trial.

The Dilemma

Lawyers for the prosecution made a strong case that Webster had opportunity and a clear motive. Webster couldn't pay his mounting debts and was in danger of losing his social standing. Lawyers for Webster set out an alternative case, which had the support of

the public and many Harvard professors. They suggested that Ephraim Littlefield also had opportunity and motive. He knew that the disappearance of Parkman would result in an offer of a reward, he had experience handling cadavers, and knew how and where to dispose of a body.

Before either of these accounts could be argued, the remains had to be identified. Mrs. Parkman had viewed the body and claimed that she recognized certain skin marks. Anthropologists and physicians associated with Harvard Medical School, after examining the remains, suggested a sex, height, and weight, each of which were consistent with George Parkman. Even by today's standards these would not be sufficient for a positive identification.

The critical testimony was given by Nathan Cooley Keep, Dr. Parkman's dentist.

The jaw parts, teeth, and prosthetic fragments, including bits of melted gold solder, were brought to Dr. Keep who claimed that he immediately recognized them as the partial denture he made for Dr. Parkman. He stated that he was satisfied

that that '....the right upper teeth,.....were Dr. Parkman's. There could be no mistake about them.' Dr. Keep produced working models used to construct the upper and lower partial dentures and the attached 'mineral' (porcelain) teeth. The working model of the mandibular denture, shown here, clearly is identified as Dr. Parkman's. It should be noted that in the mid 1800's complete dentures were relatively common. However, partial dentures with a metal base were complex prostheses and required a high degree of skill to fabricate. Parkman's partial dentures were not only uncommon they were unique. Cooley describes an upper and lower denture held in place with a gold wire spring mechanism. He demonstrated how the found denture fragments fit neatly into the plaster impressions of the prostheses. His confidence in identifying his workmanship was convincing. Although dental experts appearing on behalf of the accused, gave testimony that the dentures and the teeth were not extraordinary, they did not persuade the jury.

The Legacy

The case of the murder of Dr. Parkman, although quite sensational for its day, left a judicial legacy. The court was obliged to take notice of the opinion of experts and draw conclusions based on forensic science. Although there were many historic cases of dentists claiming to identify their handiwork, this was the first recorded case which was tested in an adversarial judicial forum, thus establishing forensic dentistry as a legitimate forensic discipline.

Epilogue

The Parkman townhouse was given to the city of Boston and is now a private residence. Some say it is haunted by the ghost of Dr. Parkman. It stands at 8 Walnut St.

John Webster was convicted of the murder of George Parkman. He attempted suicide and failed. He later confessed to the murder and was executed.

Ephraim Littlefield received a reward of \$3000, he retired a comfortable man.

Nathan Cooley Keep (1800-1875) was a

distinguished physician and dentist. He was a proponent of dentists having dual training in medicine and dentistry. Among other innovations, he was instrumental in developing porcelain as a dental material. He became the founding dean of Harvard School of Dentistry, the first university based dental school in the world.

An expert witness for the defense was William T. Morton the first person to demonstrate the use of inhaled ether as a general anesthetic.

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Stan Kogon



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Two Lectures to Sign up For
Lunch | 12:00pm - 1:00pm

PRESENTER



Dr. Ernest Lam
DMD, MSC,
PHD, FRCD(C)

SIX CORE ONE POINTS

LECTURE 1 8:00am - 12:00pm

Variants of Normal
Radiologic Anatomy
That may Simulate
Disease on Panoramic
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LECTURE 2 1:00pm - 3:30pm

10 Radiologic
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