

AORTA



ALPHA OMEGA REVIEW OF TORONTO ALUMNI CHAPTER, PI CHAPTER
WEB SITE: WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG

JUNE 2009 VOL. 50, NO.6

Sailing and Tennis Day

Visit the New Island Yacht Club

Island Yacht Club Dock Location: Take IYC Ferry to Muggs Island from Mapleleaf Quay • Ferry and parking just east of Spadina (South of Skydome) • Club Tender Service

Tennis games start at 9:00 a.m.

Sailing starts at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Lunch 12:30 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Dinner only – Call Dave Cowan (416) 483-6092

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Note: Registration Deadline – Friday July 10, 2009



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INSIDE

Pi Chapter Graduates

In Memory of Tillie Leslie

Doctors Against Racism and Anti-Semitism

Brush-a-Mania

Revival Committee
Boxing Night

Solutions That Fit.



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Charles' Corner

CHARLES WEINGARTEN

Thoughts of the Past and the Future

"Nothing endures but change."

(HERACLITUS 540BC)

These words came into clear focus this year. Change is the currency of any organization and is exchanged and reflected in the diversity of opinions one receives when having to make decisions. It is this diversity and the resulting coming together to listen, question, compromise or stand firm that makes the changes positive and effective. Always it is the good will of people working together, disagreeing at times but always listening and sharing that makes for the best decisions. This is but one of the wonderful insights I gained from this year as your President.

"Change your thoughts and you change your world."

(NORMAN VINCENT PEALE 1898-1993)

This year there were a number of people whose vision has brought positive change and new directions for AO. They showed me that passion and enthusiasm are invaluable to any organization. Pi Chapter, under the energetic and skilful direction of **Tracey Hendler**, launched the traditional Pi Chapter formal which attracted a large number of dental students, initiated thirty new members and brought **Dr. Lorne Chapnick** as guest of honour to the gathering. Pi Chapter drew on the student branch of Alpha Omega Toronto Alumni Chapter to invigorate the entire organization. **Laurel Linetsky** and the AO Revival furthered the march of our youth by encouraging them to participate by joining or rejoining our chapter. The AO Revival offered new incentives to become an Alpha Omegan. Events such as the Riva Supper Club followed by a boxing workout class, and a murder mystery night (no connection between the two that I know of) were some of the irresistible offerings created to attract new blood to



Reinblatt. Thanks to these two gentlemen, our magazine can proudly be called a professional work and one of interest to all our members. Initiative is the lifeblood of any organization and this year there was an abundance.

AO Toronto is vital. A number of new initiatives about to become realities are on the horizon. Our Big Sibling program is expanding in order to offer more opportunities for the students to visit more dental specialty offices. **Brian Laski** is dedicated totally to this program and is willing to carry on over the next several years to ensure its success. He always has an eye to ensuring dental students upon graduation remain AO members thus ensuring the viability of AO Toronto well into the future. **Dan Hagi** wants recent graduates, dental students and seasoned dentists to become a seamless support network for each other.

There is still much for members to look forward to. Discover a powerful and sexually liberating Women's Issue Seminar, Golf Day, Family Picnic at Adventure Valley, Sailing and Tennis Day, and yes you are hearing me right, visit the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Inspiration is always welcome. **Stan Markin** encouraged and inspired me to investigate and then reply to Anti-Semitism in Canada. AO Toronto made a statement of principle with the publication of the letter to **Paul Moist**. It sent a strong and undeniably clear message to those

the organization. A long standing tradition of our chapter, The AORTA, so skilfully enhanced over the past few years by **Matthew Orzech**, was further enhanced by **Barry**

AORTA



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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 c/o Alpha Omega, Toronto.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Monday, June 1, 2009

NEXT AORTA DEADLINE (AUGUST)

Monday, July 6, 2009

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

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

BENEVOLENCE

Please call Samuel Newman regarding illnesses or deaths of fraters.

Office: 416-922-3632

Home: 416-782-9850

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

Continued on page 4

From the Editor

Summertime... and the living is easy. Now that I have most of you singing (and hopefully relaxing), I can tell you about what the early summer issue of the AORTA has in store for you. President **Charles** writes his last column as our leader and reflects on what his year in office has taught him about AO.



Being the beginning of summer, we have information on three great outdoor programs taking place, Golf Day, the Picnic, and our Annual Sailing and Tennis Day at the Island Yacht Club.

However, we also have reports on the final few programs of the spring of 2009. These include the Annual Business Meeting and the Boxing Night event. There is also an important report from the Reserve Fund Board of Trustees outlining the important philanthropic work of Alpha Omega and which charities received donations this year.

Tillie Leslie was an important figure in the history of Alpha Omega and she is remembered by her daughters in a moving

tribute. As well, fraters **Weingarten** and **Lewinger** inform us about a new group formed to combat racism and anti-Semitism in an open letter to our organization.

Maureen Shade gives us a useful primer about a topic no one likes to think about, life insurance, and Canadian Director **Avi Wurman** forces us to think about the governance of our organization in his Director's Report where he proposes a new concept on how our fraternity is run.

Finally, we turn our attention to our students, the future of our group. Pi Chapter member **Stacey Kirshenblatt** writes about a number of students getting involved in this year's Brush-a-Mania event, and we honour the graduating class of Pi Chapter with pictures and short bios of a number of the graduating students.

Please enjoy this issue as well as your summer. Remember to send your thoughts on the AORTA for our Letters to the Editor section, as well as pictures of where you read this issue to the editor at barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca



Charles' Corner

Continued from page 3

who would play politics with an issue as significant to the world as the Middle East that bridges, not labels, is the only way to lasting peace. A logical step for AO Toronto to take as it reaches beyond its boundaries for the greater good is the introduction of Doctors Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (DARA) to the membership. Through DARA we join the world community of health care professionals in the fight against racism and anti-Semitism.

It was an honour and a privilege to serve as the President of the Alpha Omega Toronto Alumni Chapter. My thoughts and best wishes are with **Sheryl Lipton** as she takes up the responsibilities of this office.

In this, my last article for the AORTA, I would like to share two of my dreams for the future of this chapter. I envision an organization where young and veteran dentists come together wherein the veterans find the spirit and enthusiasm of youth and the youth partake comfortably and readily in the wisdom of the veterans. Finally I envision Alpha Omega as a fulfillment to the Hebrew Proverb, "These are the three marks of a Jew: a tender heart, self-respect and charity."

Investing in Your Universal Life Policy

We recently met with a dentist who was saving \$250,000 a year towards retirement in a Universal Life policy. The dentist had been contributing since 2004 so that the total contribution to this plan was \$1,062,500. Unfortunately, the current value of the account was only \$745,674 which represented a very significant loss of \$316,826.

The Morningstar Canadian Balanced Mutual Fund Benchmark (an average balanced portfolio) over the same period provided a positive return of 14.7%. So why was our client down \$316,826? The insurance advisor had recommended that 88% of the investments in the policy be in equities. Since the dentist is planning on retiring in three years, this created much more risk than was necessary and was clearly not in line with the dentist's financial strategy and goals.

While the structure of your Universal Life policy is certainly critically important, one should not underestimate the importance of the funds invested within it. The determination of what to invest in within the Universal Life policy is like any other investment decision. You should create an overall asset allocation model which integrates these assets with the rest of your retirement portfolio in order to focus all your resources on your most important objective – meeting your retirement income needs.

WHAT IS UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE?

Universal Life has two elements: an insurance component and an investment component. These policies are often used as a strategy for saving money beyond RRSPs because the income in these plans grows tax free. Unfortunately, in the case mentioned above, too much attention was paid to the insurance aspect of the plan and not enough to the benefits of the investments as part of the income solution for retirement.

Sadly, we are seeing this scenario all too often. With the current explosion of Universal Life policies as a planning tool for retirement savings, here are two questions we feel should be addressed: What should an investment strategy look like in a Universal Life policy?

If you have already lost a significant amount of money in your Universal Life policy, what should you do now?

WHAT SHOULD AN INVESTMENT STRATEGY LOOK LIKE IN A UNIVERSAL LIFE POLICY?

First and foremost, the portfolio should reflect your overall investment strategy and risk tolerance. It should simply be considered a part of your total portfolio that is taking advantage of the fact that the investments contained therein grow in a tax sheltered environment. Whatever your asset allocation model may be, it should be mirrored in your Universal Life policy investments.

Another factor to take into account is the management expense ratio on the investments. In our dentist's case, when we reviewed the funds he was invested in the average MER was over three percent. Almost every time either of us has used this strategy, an income portfolio turns out to be the better option due to the high management fees on equities.

Finally, annual review and restructuring is just as essential for the investments in your insurance policy as it is for your other investments.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY LOST A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY IN YOUR UNIVERSAL LIFE POLICY, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NOW?

We have found that most people are unaware of where their money is invested within their insurance policies, let alone the specific funds to which the money is allocated. In general, the decision to hold, sell or buy your investments at this time will be dependent on this information and subsequently will be different for everyone.

Just as for your outside investments, there is no reason to hold underperforming managers. Most Universal Life policies have numerous options for the various types of funds. The fund's performance should be measured versus those of its peers. If your manager underperformed consider moving to a fund or manager that has shown their worth.

Treating your Universal Life policy investments in isolation will most often leave you exposed to less than optimal results. It's just as important to focus on meeting your retirement income needs when you are investing in a Universal Life policy as when you are making investment decisions for the rest of your portfolio.

We encourage you to Take Action!

Maureen L. Shade B.A., B.Ed., M.Sc., D.D.S., L.L.Q.P. is a dentist, frater and insurance advisor who specializes in dentists and all of their insurance and estate planning needs. Maureen can be reached at, 416-787-7023, 416-458-1111 or mshade@ombrage.ca.



Mark McNulty is co-author of The Canadian Small Business Owner's Guide to Financial Independence (currently available in bookstores). Mark is an Associate Portfolio Manager with Raymond James Ltd., Independent Financial Services. Securities-related products and services are offered through Raymond James Ltd., member

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Director's Report

AVI WURMAN

Alpha Omega is a wonderful organization, with a rich history, made up of members committed to the principles of fraternalism, professionalism and Judaism. We help each other professionally, and help our community with our generosity and philanthropy. We are the envy of many other professions. Our success is due to the volunteers who chair programs and committees, but most of all, it is our leadership that is

responsible for Alpha Omega's achievements. With that in mind, I must congratulate our present line officers for their hard work, dedication and commitment. **Ian, Charles, Sheryl, Mel, and Elliott**, should be very proud of their accomplishments.

Most of us realize that our fraternity is facing a serious problem with respect to numbers. Our members are getting older and fewer new dental graduates are

joining. The class size in dental schools has been getting smaller, and there are fewer Jewish dental students. This is not anybody's fault; it is just a reality that we must accept. While our numbers may decrease, our relevance, and our values don't have to. We can still run continuing education programs, family and social programs, and partner with other organizations such as Jewish Family and Child Services to enrich our lives and the lives of others. We do, however, still require strong leadership. We have wonderful, skilled, fraters that organize and run successful events, but they need to take the extra step into a leadership position. It is apparent to me, and probably to others, that we need to change the way we govern the fraternity. Perhaps asking for a five year commitment as a line officer is no longer realistic. Presently, a line officer attends roughly 10 line officer meetings a year, and an additional 8 Executive Council meetings a year. Furthermore, our Executive Council meetings are not very efficient, as attendance is inconsistent, and often a quorum is not present to approve important motions.

I would like to propose a different structure for our governance and leadership. The model that I propose is not new to Alpha Omega, it is similar to the structure of our International body. Instead of having an Executive Council, we can form a Board of Directors made up of the President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and other chairs of committees such as the editor, purchase program chair, etc. There would be approximately 15 directors, elected by the membership, and/or appointed by the President, for a 3-year term. There would be about 7 or 8 board meetings annually, and it would be imperative that every board member attend each meeting. After



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...serving a full term, a director may run again for another term, or can be elected to be the treasurer or secretary, or president-elect. With this model, the line would be eliminated, and a board member can be elected president-elect without serving as secretary or treasurer. Conversely, a secretary or treasurer does not have to become president. There are many details with this model that need to be carefully considered.

We have constitutional experts in our fraternity (I am not one of them), and I invite them to consider these changes. We all want Alpha Omega to continue to be an important part of organized dentistry and a proud, active participant in our community. We owe that to our founders.

Sailing and Tennis Day

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009

Tennis games start at 9:00 a.m. • Sailing starts at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Lunch 12:30 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Dinner only – Call Dave Cowan (416) 483-6092

VISIT THE NEW ISLAND YACHT CLUB

Island Yacht Club Dock Location:

Take IYC Ferry to Muggs Island from Mapleleaf Quay

Ferry and parking just east of Spadina (South of Skydome) Club Tender Service

8:45 a.m. Tennis or Sailing

12:15 p.m. Lunch and Afternoon Sailing

6:15 p.m. Dinner

Note: Registration Deadline – Friday July 10, 2009

- Plan A – All day – Tennis or Sailing, Lunch, Sailing and Dinner \$99.00
- Plan B – Half day – Lunch, Sailing and Dinner \$89.00

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 - Sailing A.M.
 - Dinner: Meat
 - Sailing P.M.
 - Fish

Return to: ALPHA OMEGA SAILING DAY

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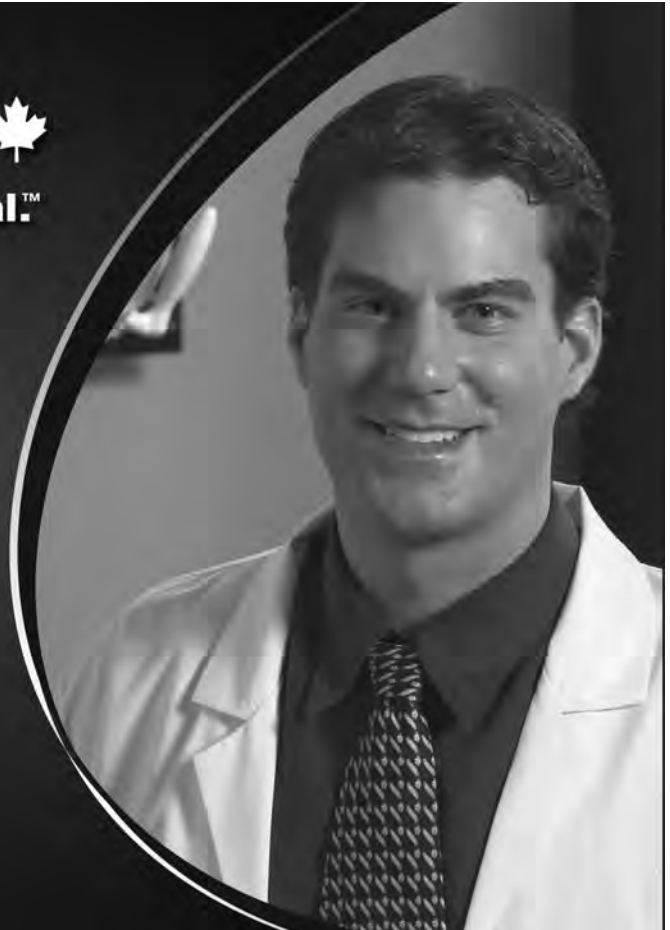
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A Slice of Pi

THE 2009 PI CHAPTER GRADUATES

TRACEY HENDLER



JULIA KAPLAN

I would like to thank Alpha Omega for enriching my dental school experience. Over the past four years, I have always appreciated the warmth, support and camaraderie of our fraternity. It is this nurturance that has encouraged me to give back and become a part of Alpha Omega's committees, student executive, externship programs, leadership conferences and social events. Now that I am graduating and looking forward to working in private practice, I will certainly continue to support Alpha Omega.



DEBBIE LEVIN

Alpha Omega has been a valuable source of support, mentorship and social networking throughout dental school. Thank you to the AO Toronto alumni and my fellow Pi chapter members for making my experience with AO unforgettable!

I will be pursuing a GPR at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston for 2009/2010.



ANOUSHEH PERSADMEHR

I look forward to graduation so that I can begin life as a dentist which has always been my dream. I plan to work as an associate in the GTA area. Being a member of Alpha Omega was integral to my academic success in dental school. It allowed me to meet some great alumni and dedicated individuals within the AO community and I look forward to being an alumni. Best of luck Class of 2009 in all your future endeavours.



TRACEY HENDLER

After graduation I will be pursuing a residency in orthodontics at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Alpha Omega has been an important support system for me throughout my four years at the University of Toronto. AO has served as a platform for me to meet new people, participate in charitable events, and enhance my educational experience. I have made wonderful friends through Alpha Omega and I know that this bond will last a lifetime. All the best to my fellow grads of OT9!



GLEN FERNANDES

I shall be working next year as a dental officer in the Canadian Forces. It was a unique experience to be a part of the Alpha Omega Chapter while in dental school. It gave me the opportunity to be part of a great community and organization. Thank you to all the alumni and future colleagues of AO who were always very helpful and dedicated to making dental school a memorable experience. Good luck Class of 2009 and I wish you best of luck and success in everything that you do.



RONIT WEIZBLIT

I'm off to the big apple to continue my dental education with a GPR at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, NY.

The past four years have been difficult, to say the least. The friendship and kindness of the Alpha Omega colleagues will never be forgotten. I am grateful for your support during the biggest stresses and sharing with me the greatest laughs.



TALIA SHAINHOUSE

In addition to the support of family and friends, Alpha Omega has been the third pillar upon which I have relied for the past four years of my dental education at U of T. I have held the position of Alpha Omega social representative for the class of 2009 for four years. I am so grateful for the help and reinforcement that I have received from both Pi chapter student members as well as the AO alumni throughout the years. I will be continuing my dental education at New York University in the field of Periodontics.

Other graduating members of Pi not shown...

Shmuel Hahn, Sameh Guirguis seif Gad, Peter Bozavikov, Fehmida Zain Dosani, Yolanda Li, Bart Konarski, Rebecca Cohen, Tarunjot Kaur, Alice Wu, Sahra Kanji, Fariba Navab-Safavi.



LOREN ARENSON

Senior clinician for Alpha Omega. Accepted into a one year residency program at Mount Sinai Hospital for 2009-2010. If it wasn't for AO, I would still be in first year trying to pass that Biomaterials exam! Thanks to all the fantastic AO alumni/students that have helped us all get through dental school.



EDWARD YOON

I had a great time in my four years with AO. Some highlights were BBQs at the frat house, We Will Rock You outing, formals, and a wonderful time in Boston for an AO externship with Ronit Weizblit. Many thanks to Dr. Mark Luria, Dr. Lindi Ezekowitz, Dr. Bob Clark and his lovely wife Sue, Dr. Steven Perlman, Dr. Michael Koidin, Dr. Moishe Jesin and Dr. Michelle Bendayan for a fantastic experience in Boston. Next year, I shall be working as a dental resident at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto.



BRYAN WAXMAN

I would like to thank AO for not only enhancing my academic career in dental school, but also for all the extra-curricular events I have been lucky enough to be a part of these last 4 years.



ABID HIDAYAT

General practice associate

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Monday June 1, 2009 with the installation BBQ at the Frat House.

GOLF DAY

Friday, June 12, 2009
Bondhead golf club.

PICNIC

Sunday, June 14, 2009
Adventure Valley Day Camp.

SAILING AND TENNIS DAY

Thursday, July 16, 2009. Island Yacht Club

FRAT NIGHT DINNER

Monday September 14, 2009.

ALPHA OMEGA VISITS THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Sunday, October 18, 2009

FALL SEMINAR

Thursday, November 5, 2009.

AO WEBCASTS

Check www.ao.org for future webcasts and other international info. Check www.aotoronto.org for local up-to-date information.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2009 European Conference

Baden Baden Germany, June 18-19.
Esthetic Dentistry: Ron Goldstein
Minimally Invasive Implant Therapy and Soft Tissue Management: Marius Steigmann, Ady Palti, Andre Saadoun.
Contact: ao-convention@spitta.de and ao_alsace@hotmail.com

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RESERVE FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The Reserve Fund Board of Trustees met at the Fraternity House, in the evening of January 19, 2009, to consider written requests from various organizations for the purpose of providing charitable donations. Present at this meeting were President, **Charles Weingarten**, Past Presidents, **Warren Sone** and **Richard Rodney**, Member-at-large **Jack Bengal**, and myself **Marvin Obar**, Past President. Treasurer, **Mel Kay** sent his regrets that he could not attend due to personal reasons.

The Board received numerous and varied forms of communication. These included newsletters, pamphlets, e-mails, photographs and formal letters of request. The Board was guided by Section 8 (Charities Committee) of the Standing Orders of Toronto Alumni Chapter, Alpha Omega Fraternity as Revised in 1999.

The Board after due diligence makes the

recommendation of the distribution of funds as described in the following motion:

That the Toronto Alumni Chapter of Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity donate to the following organizations the designated amount of money as listed below.

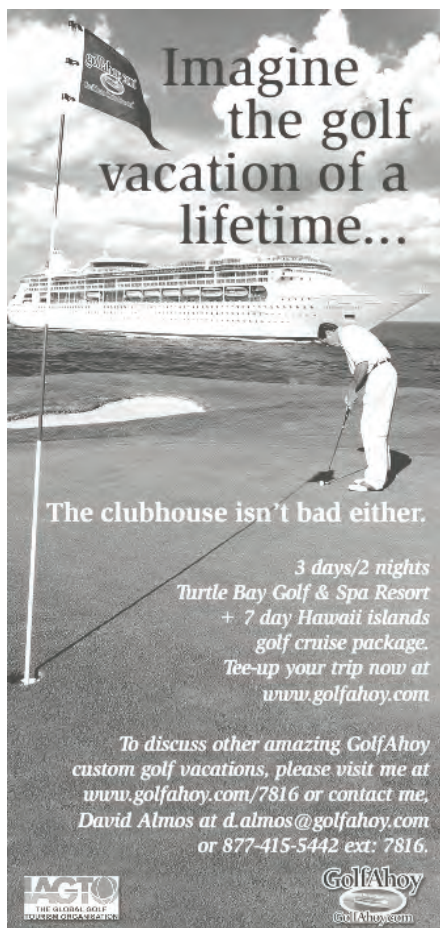
Dental Volunteers for Israel	\$11,000.00
Hebrew University – Dental School	5,000.00
Department of Dentistry, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Canada	500.00
Toronto Shout Dental Clinic	1,000.00
Loving Rose Mission, Dental Division	1,500.00
Lifeline for the Old (Yad Lakashish) Jerusalem, Israel	1,500.00
Society for Third World Dental Care	1,300.00
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION FOR 2008-2009	\$21,800.00

Based upon the information provided by the Executive Secretary of the Chapter to

the Board, the available current fund for distribution was estimated at \$20,600.00. This amount together with a \$1,200.00 donation by Henry Schein designated to go to the Hebrew University Dental School totals \$21,800.00.

This report together with the motion was passed at the Annual Business Meeting held on April 20, 2009 at Beth Shalom Synagogue.

I want to express my thanks to the members of the Reserve Fund Board of Trustees for their time and effort in what is an important part of what Alpha Omega Fraternity is known for. Tzedakah. Respectively submitted,
Marvin Obar, Chair, Reserve Fund Board of Trustees



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Annual Business Meeting Report

The Toronto Alumni Chapter Annual Business Meeting and Election was held on April 20, 2009 at Beth Sholom Synagogue. The line officers of the fraternity presented reports which outlined areas such as constitutional changes, the financial health of the fraternity and membership retention. The proposed budget for the coming operational year was presented and accepted by the members in attendance. The proposed electoral slate of officers and executive members of the fraternity was also presented and accepted. As well, **Marv Obar** presented a report on the past year's activities of the Alpha Omega Foundation, the charitable arm of the fraternity. **Steven Zamon**, president of the



Dr. Ira Marder and Dr. Charles Weingarten

House Association, presented the House Association report, detailing the present condition of the fraternity house and future options for the house.

Following the meeting, a dinner reception was held, at which **Ira Marder** was presented with the Toronto Alpha Omega Humanitarian Service Award, one of the highest honours awarded by the fraternity. Ira's family were in attendance as guests of the fraternity, and Ira was introduced by his longtime friend and colleague **Steven Millman**. The event was attended by 94 fraternity members, who enjoyed that wonderful combination of food and fraternalism.

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In Memory of Tillie Leslie

AUGUST 15 1913 – MARCH 09 2009

Tillie Leslie was the wife of the late **Harold E Leslie**, orthodontist and long time member of Alpha Omega Fraternity.

She had a wonderful life for 95 years and to her age was only a number. Tillie had a positive attitude, lived in the moment, loved to participate in conversation on any topic and always had a warm smile and caring attitude.



Tillie was born in Ottawa, Ontario in 1913 the youngest of 4 children. She met Harry while he was visiting in Ottawa and after some prodding from her Mom, they married in 1939. Shortly thereafter they moved to Toronto where Harry set up his dental/orthodontic practice.

Alpha Omega was an important part of their lives and they loved to travel to the conventions every year. Tillie was one of the 3 women who founded the Alpha Omega Auxiliary while on the train to Detroit to a convention one year. The rest is history and Tillie was very active in the Auxiliary for a great many years. She was the Women's Convention Chairman of one of the early conventions held in Toronto. There were many activities in which she participated including the annual fashion show and she even modeled in one of the shows. Tillie enjoyed the camaraderie of the auxiliary members and as she progressed in years, she loved being with the younger members. Everyone knew her and she was given many accolades and honours over the years.

Tillie and Harry had 3 children, **Ellen** and her husband **Allen**, **Raisyl** and her husband **Fred** and her son **David**. Five grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren considered Tillie a very special Baba.

Tillie's external beauty was a reflection of her inner strength which she could draw on when things were difficult. She was

constantly trying new things and adjusting to new styles and looking at changes with a very open mind. Tillie loved the theatre, restaurants, going to parties and golfing and was still taking interest courses at George Brown College.

Tillie belonged to a generation of women who deserve high praise for inspiring us to be the best that we can. They paved the way for us by instilling in us the confidence we need to make our dreams attainable because a sweet life is as far as you want to reach for it. There aren't many of these special ladies with us anymore, but the generation taught us to always be ladies and we would be remembered and respected for that.

Whether you knew her as Mom, Baba, Tillie or Mrs. Leslie, we all have our own special memories of her. She was an amazing and special lady and we are all lucky to have had her in our lives.

Ellen Eisen and Raisyl Wagman

Chailites

Dr. Gerald Baker Head, Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Mount Sinai Hospital (Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Health Complex), and Dr. George Sandor, University of Toronto Professor and Head, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Marshall Freilich (9T1) as Staff Surgeon in the Graduate/Residency Training Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital (Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Health Complex).



Marshall received his residency training and Master of Science Degree at Dalhousie University followed by a Fellowship year in Paediatric and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto affiliated teaching hospitals. He is past-president of the Ontario Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and lectures and publishes on ambulatory peri-implant maxillofacial bone grafting.

Dr. Freilich will be seeing patients with the surgical residents at Mount Sinai Hospital on Fridays. He will be continuing his teaching practices in Paediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at The Hospital for Sick Children and Bloorview Kids Rehab, as well as maintaining his private practice in North Toronto.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It is sad that people are not rejoining AO. Perhaps Jewish dentists or dental students don't feel that we 'need' AO anymore because we are living in a 21st Century, post-Holocaust era, where anti-Semitism is more or less a marginalized way of thought. However, a quick scan of world news (e.g. Venezuela, Israel, Iran and Ahmadinejad's threats) should quickly disabuse people of that perception. We are no safer now as Jews than we were in the 1930's. Indeed, AO is going to be playing an increasingly critical role as a Jewish Fraternity in facing down the ever increasing tide of anti-Semitism that's spreading pandemically.

We must be prepared to stand with our colleagues in Israel and with Jews around the world and we cannot do that if people abandon organizations such as ours! Don't bury your heads in the sand regarding our 'safe' position in the world. Unfortunately, as regards anti-Semitism and the attendant risks to Jews worldwide, the dangers we are facing now are unfortunately not unprecedented and therefore are not unthinkable.

Regards and Fraternally,

Howard Tenenbaum

Professor, Periodontology
Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto

IN MEMORY OF JOHN ACKERMAN

Dear Editor,

As one of the young dentists who associated with "Doctor John" right after my graduation in 1955, I read the touching tribute to him by his children with a special sense of having the privilege of knowing this extraordinary gentle man. Most of the new grads who worked with John did so for a few months – I remained for over a year until I entered graduate school and what a learning experience it was! He not only conveyed his professional expertise for which he was so well respected but just as

importantly, shared his philosophical approach on how to understand and respond to the patient's wishes and concerns.

I sincerely believe that through his knowledge and *menschlichkeit*, he helped shape my entire career.

Frater **Al Reinstein**

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Please send all comments on any topic related to Alpha Omega or the AORTA, that you would like considered for publication, to the editor at: barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca.

SHEP NACHAS

Mazel Tov to Mark and Sharon Gwartzman on the recent Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Tara.

Mazel Tov to Harvey and Maura Cooperberg on their son's recent marriage.

Mazel Tov to Mitch Rose and his wife Natalie on the recent birth of their son Jack. Proud grandparents are Irwin and Clara Rose and Jeffrey and Lynda Pancer.

Mazel Tov to Lorne and Sharon Chapnick on the recent birth of twin grand-daughters.

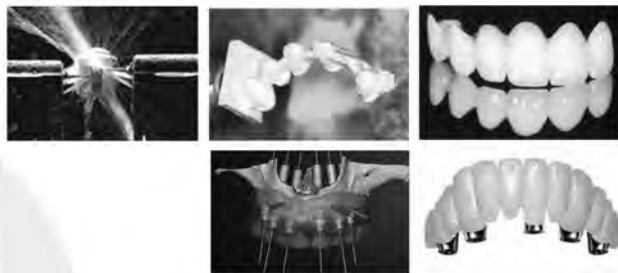
Mazel Tov to Ted and Terri Schipper on the birth of their grandson.

*Tell us about your new baby or grandchild; your anniversary, birthday, new office, etc. etc...
And, don't forget to send your pictures along with the announcement...*

Email the editor, Barry Reinblatt, at barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca

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Alpha Omega Continuing Education



Dr. Roel Wyman presented the fourth seminar for the 2008-2009 Alpha Omega Continuing Education Season. The seminar took place on March 16, 2006 at Adath Israel Synagogue.

Dr. Wyman's presentation on "Solving problems with direct Composite resin restorations"

provided an insight into his vast clinical experience using bonded resin-composite restorations. These included advances in adhesive systems and resin-composite materials.

One hundred fraters attended the interesting seminar; 78 out of 103 registered fraters, plus 22 non-registered attendees. This was the seminar with the highest attendance during the last two CE seasons.



Roel Wyman, Charles Weingarten, and Yoav Finer.

BRUSH-A-MANIA

STACEY KIRSCHENBLATT

Brush-a-mania is a program which runs every April across Canada to promote oral health to elementary school students. Now in its ninth consecutive year, Brush-a-mania reaches 170 schools and over 60,000 students from junior kindergarten to grade eight. Sponsored by the Ontario Dental Association, Toronto Academy of Dentistry, and the Rotary Club of Don Mills, the program's goal is to motivate young children to follow proper oral hygiene early in life.

April was proclaimed Oral Health Month. On Friday, April 3, 2009, Oral Health Day, students across Toronto, in participating schools, held a "Brush-off" in which students were encouraged to simultaneously brush their teeth for three minutes at 10:00 AM. The event was organized as a kickoff for the Brush-a-mania campaign.

This year was the first year in which dental students at the University of Toronto helped with Brush-a-mania. AO members including myself, **Jaelyn Glick**, **Sari Hershenfield**, **Lisa Paige**, **Jessie McAllister**, and **Geoffrey Sas**, as well as other second year students, **Claire Hong**, **Laura Minea**, **Huy Nguyen**, and **Fotini Papapanagiotou**, helped with the event. We went to Odgen Junior Public School and Winchester Junior and Senior Public School in downtown Toronto to teach over 300 students oral hygiene. With the help of a puppet named Charlie, we showed the kids how to brush properly, when to brush, and why. We stressed the importance of a healthy mouth for the maintenance of a healthy body. Disclosing tablets were the highlight of the presentation as kids loved having their teeth turn pink! Each student left the assemblies with a new toothbrush, a sticker, and

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Doctors Against Racism and Anti-Semitism

Dear Fraters,

In the last several weeks articles have appeared in various medical journals that purport to present scientific data on the adverse effect on health care of Palestinians in Gaza as a consequence of IDF action and Israeli government policy. These articles have appeared in multiple issues of British medical journals including the Lancet. The articles on close scrutiny prove to be more anti-Israeli propaganda than scientific in their nature and certainly do not meet the standards of verifiability required of data presented in recognized medical literature. Two weeks ago an article of the same type appeared in the CMAJ (Canadian Medical Association Journal). This prompted several actions by the medical community and the CMAJ has essentially promised to be more judicial, critical and less political in terms of what it publishes.

As a result of a momentum of such occurrences a group of concerned doctors got together and formed DARA - Doctors Against Racism and anti-Semitism. The

inaugural meeting was held March 26, 2009 and already, DARA has approximately 200 members from all different religions and faiths (and rapidly growing). Our executive includes high profile doctors, dentists and other health care professionals including **Dr. Frank Sommers**, president of Physicians against Nuclear War, whose organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize as well as many members of the medical and dental academic community. **Mr. Leo Adler**, former National Affairs Director for Simon Wiesenthal Canada is also a member of the Executive.

Our goals are to address:

- Issues relating to objectivity in medical literature, especially where it comes to reporting on the Middle East Conflict;
- Campus activities as related to anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic actions which may interfere with the environment where Jewish students are targeted for harassment and intimidation, as well as encroachment of anti-Semitism in the medical workplace.

- Instances of racism and discrimination as they apply to health care provision, not just in the Middle East.

An organization of doctors in Britain have approached us to join in this cause. Jointly, we intend to organize academic conferences that deal with issues such as management of injuries (physical and psychological) induced by terror, etc.

If you would like to join DARA (Doctors Against Racism and Anti-Semitism), please e-mail the founding members of the organization, **Dr. Rob Zadik** (dr.rzadik@gmail.com) or **Dr. Michael Bloom** (michael.bloom@utoronto.ca). Membership is free. Please provide them with your specialty and any hospital affiliation you may have.

Regards,

Dr. Charles Weingarten
DARA Steering Committee &
AO Toronto Chapter President

Dr. Tal Lewinger
DARA Steering Committee &
former AO Pi Chapter President (2004)

BRUSH-A-MANIA

Continued from page 14

booklet to record their daily brushing for the month of April. We were impressed with the intelligent questions the children asked and their enthusiasm for the program. Both the children at the public schools and the U of T dental students had a great time participating in the program. It was a huge success for the U of T students and hopefully next year will encourage more volunteers to help out in additional schools across Toronto. Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped with Brush-a-mania and to **Dr. Raffy Chouljian** for organizing the event.

More information on the event can be found at www.brushamania.ca

*Left to Right:
Sari Hershenfeld,
Fotini Papapanagiotou,
Claire Hong,
Stacey Kirshenblatt,
Laura Minea, and
students from Odgen
Junior Public School*



*Left to Right:
Jaclyn Glick,
Jessie McAllister,
Stacey Kirshenblatt,
Lisa Paige, and Claire
Hong at Winchester
Junior and Senior
Public School*



AO Revival Committee Boxing Night

Our second AO Revival program of the year was another smash success!! On Thursday April 23rd we held a Boxing Class with **Wayne Bourque** from Centre Ring Boxing Studio. His studio is located at 1992 Yonge Street which is one light north of Davisville. There were 15 AO members and/or spouses that attended and we had a doozy of a workout!! We all met there for 7:15 p.m. to have our very valuable hands wrapped by Wayne and then were fitted for boxing gloves. We had a one hour and fifteen minute serious workout (although I was told that it was a beginners class from Wayne!).

Jordan Appel, who is a regular at the studio, did tell us that it was no beginner class and that it was 75% of what Wayne normally puts him through intensity wise. Special mention to **Steve Zamon** and **Larry Rottman** who were able or at least trying to keep up with the best of us!

It was interesting that I woke up Friday morning feeling perfectly fine. I erroneously thought that I was in better shape than I am but the pain kicked in strong on Saturday morning! It was honestly, pain aside, such a fabulous and fun workout class. We all had shmooze time after the class with fresh fruit and veggies and lots of drinks. We had brought dessert as well but it wasn't touched! Thank you to my wonderful committee of **Mark Ziedenberg, Michelle Appel, Andrea Heckler, Tammy Herzog, Tracey Hendler** and especially **Erica Zamon** and **Sara Werb** who were instrumental in putting this night together. I encourage anyone to try and get out to this program if we do it again next year. It was a keeper!

Thanks to everyone who participated!

Laurel Linetsky-Fleisher



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Dr. & Mrs. James Burstein on the loss of their daughter

Dr. David Burstein on the loss of his sister

Dr. Allen Feldman on the loss of his brother

Dr. Joey Friedlich on the loss of his grandmother

Dr. Marvin Richie on the loss of his wife Sandy

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The global credit crisis has morphed into a deep global economic downturn. Indeed, the world is suffering from its most severe recession in more than 60 years, and the global economy will take an extended period to recover from this financial crisis. Central banks are re-writing the playbook, pumping in massive amounts of liquidity and introducing extraordinary measures to kick-start bank lending and to restore investor confidence in the financial system.

The Bank of Canada and the U.S. Federal Reserve along with other central banks all over the world have aggressively slashed interest rates at an unprecedented pace and are taking non-traditional actions to increase credit availability. The Obama Administration has introduced a number of government programs and massive additional fiscal stimulus, pushing the U.S. budget shortfall to a record high. The Canadian government, as well, has introduced dramatic fiscal stimulus. These measures are needed as the economic outlook remains weak and as private sector deleveraging is underway. Real GDP is contracting and that is pulling down inflation quickly. Our central banks now warn of deflationary pressures.

Many investors, even the most conservative, have suffered considerable losses in their stock and corporate bond portfolios. The only real safe haven has been government bonds, where interest rates have fallen sharply, especially in the United States, but also in Canada.

Israel has not been immune to the deteriorating global economy. The Israeli Finance Ministry and central bank are also doing their part to help bolster growth and assure access to capital. Early this year, Standard & Poor's re-affirmed Israel's long-term foreign debt 'A' credit rating and its 'stable' outlook after announcing a series of downgrades for a number of other countries. Israel Bonds are in the coveted 'A' stable class. In its annual report on Israel released in March, Moody's Investors Service says the country's A2 ratings and stable outlook for foreign-currency debt, bank deposits, and for domestic bonds are based on robust market institutions, a proactive economic policy, and a highly educated and skilled work force. Other rating strengths include a strong civil society, active financial support from the Jewish Diaspora, and financial and military support from the United States.

This is an excellent time to refresh your financial plan, and restructure your portfolio to reflect the "new normal" environment. The introduction of the tax-free savings account (TFSA) in Canada is a wonderful opportunity to invest up to C\$5,000 per year, allowing it to grow tax free and not be subject to taxes owed upon withdrawal. Israel Bonds are 100% eligible for these accounts as well as for retirement accounts (RRSPs).

More than just a financial decision, there is the issue of heartfelt support; many of us would like to support the State of Israel. If you believe, as I do, that Israel will never default on its debt, then this is an investment vehicle worth considering.

Dr. Sherry Cooper
Executive Vice-President and Global Economic Strategist
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