



**american  
academy  
of  
gold foil  
operators**

# Gold Leaf

**DECEMBER 1983**

**PRESIDENT**

Dr. William J. Roberts  
1217 Hermann Professional Bldg.  
Houston, TX 77030  
(713) 797-0840

**PAST-PRESIDENT**

Dr. Norman Ferguson  
624-6th St. Suite 303  
New Westminster,  
B.C. V3L 3C4

**PRESIDENT ELECT**

Dr. Ron K. Harris  
7018 Stewart Court  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46256

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Dr. Nelson W. Rupp  
9125 Levelle Dr.  
Chevy Chase, MD 20015  
(301) 921-3512

**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Dr. Ralph Boelsche  
Box 57  
Industry, TX 78944

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1984—Dr. Julian J. Thomas  
1985—Dr. Roy A. Fetterman  
1986—Dr. Richard V. Tucker

## *Message from the President*

As your president for the coming year I feel highly honored and inspired to have attained this station in our academy! I am at your service.

Over the years the many great responsibilities that fall on the young men in our profession are becoming greater. The high cost of education, the huge expense of office installation and equipment has escalated to alarming proportions. It is, therefore, the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators' responsibility to meet the challenge of helping to promote and keep the highest standards in the healing arts. We must help our young dentists remember the fine detailing and the goals of perfection that this field of operative dentistry affords. Our academy must continue to set the finest example to the oncoming generation of professionals. It is our duty to encourage the schools of dentistry and the students to maintain the highest Level of service. It shall be my purpose to give of myself and lend support to each of you, in seeking to see that each person we might influence will utilize his talents to the fullest.

To all of you whom I have asked to serve in the various assignments of our academy, I am sure that you will accept and do your best.

As the coming holiday season approaches I wish to extend to all of you my greetings!  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Wm. J. Roberts, D.D.S.

## *Message from the Past President*

In the first issue under a new president and executive, let me turn back to thank once more last year's executive, committee members and all others who contributed so much to my year in office.

It was a pleasure to serve, and thanks to all the help, it was never a burden.

For the coming year I wish Bill Roberts, his executive, and committees all the best. May you all achieve your goals in material things, in service to your community and above all, on personal satisfaction of a race well run.

N. C. Ferguson

## **THE THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING AMERICAN ACADEMY OF GOLD FOIL OPERATORS**

The Board of Directors of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators met at 1:00 p.m. in the Red Room of the Bel-Air-Brentwood Holiday Inn, Los Angeles on September 28, 1983.

The members in attendance were: Dr. Norman Ferguson, Dr. William Roberts, Dr. Ronald K. Harris, Dr. Roy Fetterman, Dr. Richard V. Tucker, Dr. Allan Osborn, Dr. James P. Verneti, Dr. Harold Schnepfer, Dr. Richard McCoy and Dr. Ralph A. Boelsche.

The minutes of the February Board Meeting were adopted by acclamation as published in the Gold Leaf. The financial report was read. Dr. J. Thomas moved and Dr. Fetterman seconded that the report be accepted. The motion passed. Dr. Verneti moved and Dr. Rupp seconded that the Council go on record as giving a vote of appreciation to Dr. Ralph Boelsche and his staff for untiring effort in the office of Secretary-Treasurer.

Dr. Ferguson expressed his feeling of gratitude to each of the Board Members for their work and support during 1983. Each was presented with a gift of a Gold Foil Academy pocket crest especially designed and made for Dr. Ferguson.

The following committee reports were presented and approved: Special Clinician, Dr. James P. Verneti; Journal, Dr. A. Ian Hamilton; Public Relations, Dr. Richard B. McCoy; and Gold Leaf, Dr.

Allan Osborn. The President read reports from Education, Membership, Research and Nominating Committees.

Old Business: Dr. Ron Harris moved and Dr. J. Thomas seconded the motion requesting Section 2 and 3 of the By-Laws be amended to provide for an interim and student memberships. This motion was adopted with four members voting for and two against.

New Business: Dr. Ron Harris moved and Dr. William Roberts seconded that Mr. Vic Williams be given an honorary membership. Motion carried.

Plans were announced for upcoming meetings: 1984, Atlanta, Georgia; 1985, San Francisco, California; 1986, Florida (place to be announced); and 1987 not yet scheduled. The Board decided that a note should be sent to the Membership with the dues notice asking each member to vote their preference of the three invitations extended — University of Manitoba at Winnipeg, University of Colorado, and University of Nebraska.

Dr. Rupp asked that the meeting be adjourned by the Board standing in a vote of appreciation to the President, Dr. Norman C. Ferguson.

Respectfully submitted.  
Ralph A. Boelsche  
Secretary-Treasurer



# BUSINESS MEETING OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AMERICAN ACADEMY OF GOLD FOIL OPERATORS Los Angeles, California

The General Business Meeting of the Academy was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on September 29, 1983, by the President, Dr. Norman C. Ferguson.

Following a few announcements, the report of the Nominating Committee was read. The report was accepted by acclamation. The following officers were elected to be installed at the banquet:

President:	Dr. William J. Roberts
President Elect:	Dr. Ronald K. Harris
Vice President:	Dr. Nelson W. Rupp
Secretary-Treasurer:	Dr. Ralph A. Boelsche
Executive Council:	Dr. Julian J. Thomas
	Dr. Roy Fetterman
	Dr. Richard V. Tucker

The meeting was adjourned to UCLA for the Clinical portion of the program.

The second session of business was held on Friday, September 30, 1983. All Committee Reports were read and approved. The By-Laws change approved by the Board was proposed and discussed. The motion carried. There was brief discussion on 1987 meeting places.

Dr. Ralph Werner critiqued the clinics. Announcements were made and the meeting was adjourned for Lecture portion of the program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph A. Boelsche,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD—1983

*Presented by Dr. Gerald D. Stibbs*



*Distinguished Member 1983. Dr. Bruce B. Smith  
co-founder of AAGFO.*

Dr. Bruce B. Smith, recipient of the 1983 award, has made many remarkable contributions to both the art and the science of dentistry.

We have particular cause to be grateful to Bruce as co-founder of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators and as our first president (1952, 1953 and 1954).

His fine influence has been felt throughout the field of both operative and restorative dentistry, being President of the American Operative Academy in 1974, and President of the American Academy of Restorative Dentistry in 1978.

In the meantime he has found time to lecture in various cities throughout the world, to write publications on Gold Foil and ceramics, and to Mentor courses on Gold Foil and Porcelain Inlays (rapid fired).

The movie on Rubber Dam application made with Dr. Stibbs in 1972, remains a classic, and is widely used throughout North America in teaching the principals of isolation.

A member of the original faculty at the University of Washington, Bruce is now a guest lecturer.

Of the many honours awarded to Bruce, Fellowships in the American College of Dentists and also in the International College of Dentists stand out along with membership in the C.A.I.C. Seminar.

In earlier days, climbing took his interest, and he acted as a summit guide on Mt. Rainier.

During one spell the sport of archery was conquered, and a canoe was won in competition. (His competitors thought he had heat seeking arrows, but the significance of a burning barbecue coal at bullseye

was never established.) Later on Bruce turned to fencing and was awarded a saber at a Seattle event. Current hobbies include a little sailboat racing and firing a somewhat large canon on Mercers Island in Seattle. The neighbours are either well sandbagged or have learned to take up residence in their foxholes at sundown, with the exception of one Marine Colonel who sometimes fires back.

We thank you Bruce for the many wonderful meetings this Academy has sponsored, for all the fellowships established within its preceptory, and for the encouragement to excellence and inspiration that it has provided.

Again, thank you for your contribution, and congratulations on this well deserved honour.

## VOTE OF THANKS

The Academy would like to thank Dr. Richard J. Hoard and Ms. Stephanie Hokama for all their hard work behind the scenes for local arrangements. The efforts of the Local Arrangements Committee are critical to the success of the meeting and are deeply appreciated by all those who attend.

Dr. Ralph Boelsche and Mrs. Nel Fawcett have already visited Atlanta to ensure another successful meeting.

## Helpful Hints

If you feel this would be of interest to the other Doctors this is it:  
Methyl Alcohol Andydrous (absolute)  
(Methanol-acetone free)  
CH<sub>3</sub> OH Reagent Grade

AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CHEMICAL  
802 N. Columbia Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon 97217

After talking to the man in charge of mail orders he said they would be glad to supply dentists with this material.  
Thank you.

Very sincerely, Barbara A. Bodeen



# The Banquet

## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



*Dr. Norman Ferguson, Past-President Mr. Vic Williams with Honorary Membership.*

Mr. Vic Williams was made the ninth person to receive Honorary Membership in the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators. With a great commitment to quality and professional excellence, Vic Williams influences and enhances the quality of life for very large numbers of people.



*Dr. Ralph Boelsche, Dr. Bruce Smith with daughters Joy and Nikki.*



*President Bill Roberts gives Past-President Norman Ferguson a plaque in recognition of service.*

## GUEST SPEAKER



*Dr. David Jackson, Dept. of Geophysics and Space Physics V.C.L.A.*

Guest Speaker, **Dr. David Jackson**, spoke about the continuing efforts by scientists in his field to predict seismographically whether California would soon disappear. His conclusion that, whilst we could anticipate earthquakes, there would not be the violent contortion alluded to in novels and the more dramatic of the daily press.

He was able, in a short and erudite presentation, to trace the movement of the continents and the tectonic plates, and give reasons for earthquakes and the inevitable aftershocks, mentioning briefly the effects of quakes in the deeper reaches of the oceans.



*Mr. Vic Williams, Dr. Roy Fetterman and Dr. Julian Thomas.*



*Dr. Nelson Ropp, Dr. Bill Roberts, Dr. Ron Harris, Dr. Dick Tucker and Dr. Roy Fetterman.*



# *U.C.L.A. Dental Clinic*



*Dr. Lloyd Vaum, Dr. Gregory Smith and Dr. Ralph Werner.*



*Dr. Jerry Stibbs.*



*Suter Instruments.*



*Dr. Jack Seymour.*



*Dr. Craig Bridgeman and Dr. Jose Medina.*



*Dr. Perry Dungey and Dr. Robert Cannon (Australia).*







*Dr. and Mrs. Dick Tucker Jr.*



## AMERICAN ACADEMY OF GOLD FOIL OPERATORS Necrology Report — September 29, 1983

To my knowledge we have four departed members whose deaths have not been acknowledged.

1. Dr. Vernon R. Swan — retired — graduate USC, Class of 1923 — practiced general dentistry, Pasadena, California — age 84 (read letter).
2. Dr. Horace V. Whitcomb — G.P. (retired) — graduate North Pacific College of Oregon, School of Dentistry, Class of 1937 — age 68 — died in an auto accident. Practiced in Portland, Oregon.
3. Dr. Carl J. Monacelli — G.P. — graduate Tufts College Dental School, Class of 1947 — practiced Brookline, Mass. — died of cancer. President of American Academy of Gold Foil Operators in 1973.
4. Dr. Charles E. Carara — Veterans Administration — graduate of Creighton Dental School, Class of 1945 — lived in Burlingame, California — age 63 — died of a heart attack.

Respectfully submitted,  
James P. Vernetti, D.D.S.  
Chairman, Necrology Committee



# GOLD FOIL IN THE TREATMENT OF EROSION

## PAPERS

**Dr. Charlie Stebner — The Aetiology of Erosion** — defined erosion as opposed to abrasion, and demonstrated, from his very considerable background, slides showing acid erosions from different habits, be they related to fruits or candies. Crest and other toothpastes with a PH of 4 were singled out as potentially dubious assets.

**Dr. Lyle Ostlund — Diagnosis and Treatment Planning** — traced the wear patterns of the four modalities of treatment, gold, fused porcelain, amalgam and composite (previously silicates), and discussed the various factors leading to a decision to select one or other material. Of particular significance in treatment planning is the fact demonstrated by Dr. Miller previously, and now by Dr. Ostlund, that gold wears at the same rate as enamel, in contrast to other materials, and is thus the material of choice.

A series of graphics, tracing the outlines taken from stone models produced from hydrocolloid impressions, was the approach used to demonstrate the change in status. Gold foil was clearly the closest to an ideal material followed by porcelain inlay. Amalgam showed surprisingly great amounts of wear and as anticipated, plastic (or silicates) were least desirable.

**Dr. Allan Osborn — Treatment** — through a series of slides showed how basic designs could be used, or modified to maintain the aesthetic balance and also where these parameters were of less significance and could be ignored.

Material choice was discussed describing the use of porcelain inlays in some detail, and their use where total harmony of line could not be established.

The use of, and design for, amalgam was also discussed and the tissue response to each material demonstrated by graphs of Crevicular fluid readings (take over a number of years) showing that porcelain inlays and gold foil were the finest materials, with polished amalgam a good second choice. Plastics of all sorts remain irritating to tissues albeit the newer plastics have become finer in texture and less irritating.

A series of slides demonstrating the newer dentine bonding materials from 3M showed a material with great ease of handling, but was accompanied by a caveat that this does not mean that we can ignore fundamental design.

**Dr. Roy Fetterman — Problems, Subsequent Erosion and Retreatment** — speaking on the retreatment and the attendant problems we all face where recurrence of the erosive process makes retreatment necessary, pointed out that soft gold provides the greatest resistance to subsequent erosion and unexcelled gingival health. It was noted that G. V. Black listed 8 causes, and that subsequent authorities were equally non-committal. Mention was made of Dr. Helffrich's theory related to occlusal traumatism and erosion. Dr. Fetterman commented on the difficulties involved in deciding when success has been achieved.

It was stressed that success is dependent upon both dental skill and patient self care to control genetic background. A detailed discussion followed in regards to avoiding trauma in the use of retractors and a technique for the re-preparing and extending of Class V foils without removing the original except at the area of junction.

**Dr. Neryda P. Clark** presented an interesting paper on the Status of Gold Castings in North American Dental Schools which analyzed philosophy throughout the system.

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

The American Academy of Operative Dentistry Board examination has been designed strictly in accordance with the legal and philosophical framework of the A.D.A. as a demonstration of both knowledge and of clinical skills at a high level in the field of operative dentistry.

No intention has ever been professed, or otherwise intended, that this should be, either now or at some future date, a 'specialist' qualification.

This has been consistently and categorically stated from the date of its inception in communications to the ADA.

Recent misinterpretation by the Executive Secretary of the ADA Council on Education is not only a gross distortion of the truth, but a major disservice to both the high ideals of those attempting to upgrade skills in the service of the public, and a denigration of the principle that a Council on Education is propagated to ensure the highest possible standards.

Such a position is contrary to both public and professional interests and must be corrected.

Editor.

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## VALEDICTORIUM GEORGE A. ELLSPERMAN, D.D.S.

On October 27, 1983, the long book of life of George A. Ellsperman was closed quietly at his home in Bellingham, Washington. At the same hour, the study club in Seattle that has carried George's name since its inception 27 years ago, was conducting the critique of its gold foil restorations of the day, and the members were expressing concern for the health of their namesake.

Thus came to an end the life and career of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators' 1962 President, and one of dentistry's most colorful and superbly competent restorative dentists.

In retrospect, it seems that the phrase used most often through the years to describe "Big George" was, "What a great guy!" He was one of those rare individuals who combined personal charm, and enjoyment of people and the outdoors, with professional attributes of technical expertise and dedication to dentistry, and with unswerving patriotism and concern for the well-being of his government and country.

Dr. Ellsperman was born in Blaine, Washington, in 1895. He earned his dental degree at the University of Southern California in

1917. After serving in the Dental Corps of the United States Army during World War I, George established his life-long practice in Bellingham. He made his mark in dentistry as a fine restorative dentist and as a clinician and teacher on the local, state and national and international dental scenes. He was a long-time, noted member of the Seattle Dental Study Club that was mentored by the renowned Dr. W. I. Ferrier. He was the first mentor of the Vancouver (B.C.) Ferrier Study Club, from 1936-1967; instructor of the W. K. Sproule Study Club, 1965-1967; was in charge of the course in the formation of the George Ellsperman Gold Foil Seminar of Seattle, 1956.

Dr. Ellsperman served organized dentistry, not only as President of our State Dental Association, and member of its Executive Council for 7 years, but also as President of the Whatcom Dental Society, and as a member of the Washington State Board of Dental Examiners from 1919-1924. Honors included membership in the American Academy of Restorative Dentistry and of the C.A.I.C. Seminar, fellowship in the American College of Dentists (Chairman of the Washington-British Columbia Section in 1961) and in O.K.U. national



dental honorary fraternity.

Besides membership in his local, state and national dental associations, Dr. Ellsperman was a member and Past President of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators, and of the Associated Ferrier Study Clubs, and a member of Academy International of Dentistry. He was on the roster of Who's Who on the Pacific Coast, 1949, and Who's Who in American Dentistry, 1960.

Dr. Ellsperman produced a fine motion picture on the class III gold foil restoration, in his office in the Herald Building of Bellingham in 1942 that is a classic, and still one of the finest of its kind. He presented numerous essays, published several papers on restorative dentistry, and was a stimulating chair clinician. He served as a Special Lecturer in Operative Dentistry at the School of Dentistry of the University of Washington for over 20 years.

Outside of dental activities, George found time for boating, fishing, hunting, and trapshooting. A trophy carrying his name is awarded annually at the Trapshoot of the Associated Ferrier Study Clubs. He loved football and avidly followed the high school games in Bellingham as well as the college and professional schedules.

In civic life he was a member of the American Legion, Past Commodore of Bellingham Yacht Club, Past Chairman of Pacific International Yachting Association, Past Master of Kulishan Lodge AFM, Blaine, Washington, and Past Exalted Ruler of Elks Lodge, Bellingham.

George's wife, Midge, preceded him in death two years ago. George had been in poor health for the past year. Funeral services were held in Bellingham, with internment in Greenacres Memorial Park. George leaves to mourn his passing, but also to be grateful for having known him, two daughters — Marna Burkhalter of Miami, Florida, and Patricia Moore of Kailua, Hawaii, five grandchildren, a brother, Dr. Harold Ellsperman and wife, Alma, of Port Townsend, a sister-in-law, Lenora Lawyer of Florida, and a multitude of friends.

Dr. Ellsperman was one of a passing breed of dentists. Excellence and service, and loyalty to country were predominant facets of a life that brought smiles, admiration and inspiration to countless numbers in our profession. It was a privilege and pleasure to have known him.

## WILLIAMS GOLD REFINING CO.

INCORPORATED

2978 MAIN STREET, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14214, PHONE AREA CODE 716-837-1000

November 8, 1983

TO: The Membership of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators

Dear Doctor:

We have been receiving inquiries on the need for more platinized gold foil. Perhaps it is time to consider another production run.

Even if you are not entirely out of this foil at the moment, we would appreciate your considering whatever your requirements may be during the course of this coming year so that we can include it in our production. As you realize, it is not feasible to maintain a continuing inventory. Therefore, we need to anticipate your future requirements to avoid disappointing you by underproduction.

We would appreciate it if you would kindly fill out the enclosed form and return it to us by December 15th, at which point we will be starting the manufacturing process for the platinized gold foil. We will take a final count on January 2, 1984, and will be shipping your orders out to you as quickly as we can fit this specialized product into our plant schedule.

Thank you for your cooperation. It is always a pleasure to work with you.

Sincerely,

WILLIAMS GOLD REFINING CO., INC.

*Vic Williams*

R. V. Williams, Jr.  
Executive Vice President

RVH/kdk  
Enclosure

Cut Along Dotted Line.

Dear Vic:

In reply to your offer to make a manufacturing run of platinized gold foil for the Academy of Gold Foil Operators, please note the following:

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ 1/10 ounce(s) platinized foil. Also, I need the following additional direct filling gold materials:

\_\_\_\_\_ Charge my account.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to open a direct account with Williams Gold. I understand that Academy members will be offered a special discount not only on direct filling golds but on casting golds as well.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not currently on your mailing list for technical bulletins and other product information. Please add my name.

I am interested but not current on product information. Kindly send me:

\_\_\_\_\_ A Catalog

Brochure on:

\_\_\_\_\_ Ceramic Alloys

\_\_\_\_\_ Crown & Bridge Alloys

Other comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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