



american  
academy  
of  
gold foil  
operators

# Gold Leaf

JANUARY 1985

## PRESIDENT

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7018 Stewart Court  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46256

## PAST PRESIDENT

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## PRESIDENT ELECT

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## SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. Ralph Boelsche  
Box 57  
Industry, TX 78944

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1985—Dr. Allan Osborn  
1986—Dr. Richard V. Tucker  
1987—Dr. William H. Harris



## The Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting American Academy of Gold Foil Operators



### BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators met at 1:00 p.m. in the President Suite of the Lanier Plaza Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, on October 17, 1984.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Wm. J. Roberts. Members present were: Dr. Ronald K. Harris, Dr. Nelson W. Rupp, Dr. Julian J. Thomas, Dr. Allan Osborn, Dr. Richard V. Tucker, Dr. Norman Ferguson, Dr. James P. Verneti, Mr. Vic Williams and Dr. Ralph A. Boelsche.

Beautiful handmade gifts of wood, made by the president, were presented by Dr. Roberts to each board member. Dr. Roberts also showed the board the new gavel which he made. It was then delivered to the council for use by all future presidents.

The minutes of the February Board meeting were adopted by acclamation as published in the Gold Leaf. The financial statement was approved as read.

Correspondence from Dr. Harold Schnepfer and Dr. Chester Gibson was read.

Announcements were made concerning the Hospitality Room, the tours and the buses going to the Emory Dental College.

Dr. Ronald K. Harris reported on the plans for the banquet entertainment.

Dr. Nelson W. Rupp reported that 21 clinicians would be operating on Thursday. He also expressed to the board his appreciation for the efforts of the Emory University School of Dentistry for their hospitality in hosting the clinic. Special thanks were expressed for the efforts of Dean Michael F. Fritz, Dr. Steve Reese, Dr. J. Douglas Strain, and Dr. Robert Going.

The following committee reports were read and approved: *Membership* — Dr. Richard Hoard, Chairman; *Public Relations* — Dr. Richard McCoy, Chairman; *Education* — Dr. Robert Allen, Chairman; *Inter Academy Liaison* — Dr. Norman Ferguson, Chairman; *Nominating* — Dr. Chester J. Gibson, Chairman; *Necrology & Special Clinicians* — Dr. James P. Verneti, Chairman; *Distinguished Member Committee* — Dr. Melvin Lund, Chairman.

The board recommended that the Public Relations and Education Committees work more closely together to create more interest in the use of and direct gold in dental colleges throughout the country. There was a discussion on a place to house the article abstracts prepared by the research group. This decision was tabled for a later date. It was announced that the Journal editor was preparing a presentation on the purchase of a computer for use in that office. The board approved a motion that the president be informed of the decision of the Distinguished Member Committee in order for the president to contact the recipient of this honor award. A follow up letter to be sent to the award winner by the secretary. A vote of appreciation and confidence was given to Dr. James P. Verneti for his continued effort in leading the Special Clinician Committee.

### Old Business

It was announced that the 1985 meeting will be held October 30, 31 and November 1 in San Francisco, California. The Meridian Hotel will be the headquarters and the University of California San Francisco Dental College will be the host school. The board approved the motion to accept the invitation from the University of Puerto Rico Dental School for the 1986 meeting.

It was announced that the 1987 meeting of the Academy will be in Denver.

The motion passed to leave the Stebner Instruments in the Graduate Dental School at Indiana University until February 1985. They will then be moved to Northwestern University under the direction of Dr. Julian J. Thomas.

### New Business:

Dr. Calvin J. Gaver was issued special life status by the board.

The motion was made and carried to underwrite the special Gold Foil Study Course, to be offered at Northwestern University, in the amount of \$1,500.00 annually. This is a joint effort of the Academies and professional commercial groups.

The board previewed the film on Gold Foil prepared by Williams Gold and selected Academy members. This was well received and the board approved a motion to promote this film.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph A. Boelsche  
Secretary-Treasurer

Following the Board Meeting, the Board members were entertained by Dean Fritz, of the Emory School of Dentistry, at the Faculty Club close to the University. The Club is situated in a fine, restored, old building close to the site of the school and has its own resident staff to handle faculty requirements and overnight guests.

During the course of the evening, former President Jimmy Carter was introduced to each member of the board by Dean Fritz during his visit to the club.

The Academy would like to extend a special vote of thanks to Dr. Douglas Strain, Dr. Steve Reese and Dr. Robert Going, who were responsible for the arrangements within the clinic, for the patients, and for the student assistants. The layout in which small groups of operators were placed in well separated areas allowed for particularly good traffic flow and an enhanced ability on the part of those viewing the operations to obtain access to those areas they desired. Clinic facilities were particularly good and the student body highly enthused by everything they saw. The clinical side of the meeting demonstrated a particularly fine standard of gold foil procedure and the academy can be justifiably proud of the performance of its members.





Back row (left to right): Dr. William H. Harris, Dr. Richard Tucker, Dr. Julian Thomas, Dr. Allan Osborn, Dr. Nelson Rupp.

Front row (left to right): Dr. William J. Roberts, Dr. Ronald K. Harris, Dr. Ralph Boelsche.

## American Academy of Gold Foil Operators ANNUAL MEETING Thursday, October 18, 1984

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. William J. Roberts.

Announcements were made. The names of the new associate members were presented and approved as read.

The following slate of officers were presented and approved by acclamation:

President:	Dr. Ronald K. Harris
President Elect:	Dr. Nelson W. Rupp
Vice President:	Dr. Julian J. Thomas
Executive Council:	Dr. Allan Osborn
	Dr. Richard V. Tucker
	Dr. William H. Harris

The meeting was adjourned for the clinic at Emory University School of Dentistry.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1984

The meeting was called to order by the newly installed president, Dr. Ronald K. Harris.

Dr. Richard V. Tucker and Dr. Melvin Lund gave the critique of the clinic.

All eligible members were urged to apply for active status in the Academy.

There being no further business, the meeting proceeded with the essays and concluded with the newly prepared promotional film.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph A. Boelsche  
Secretary-Treasurer

## NEW INDUCTEES TO MEMBERSHIP — 1984

### Associate Membership

Dr. William W. Brackett  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Dr. Sofia G. Espinosa  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Dr. Richard Irving Hart  
Morgantown, West Virginia  
Dr. Simon Gomer  
Los Angeles, California  
Dr. Warren K. Johnson  
Denver, Colorado  
Dr. H. Richard Marshall  
Charleston, West Virginia

Dr. James Keith Muller  
Spokane, Washington  
Dr. Edward A. Reetz  
Miami, Florida  
Dr. Joel M. Wagoner  
Beckley, West Virginia

### Active Membership

Dr. Glen N. Birkitt  
Dr. Donald Toogood  
Dr. Bruce Mates

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There weren't many dozing in Atlanta, thanks to Buckwheat and Corky. What a winning combination! Those of you who couldn't make it missed a good meeting. The facilities were good, the clinical show and assistance from Emory were great, the essays were excellent, the food was fine, and the weather was beautiful.

We have a challenge for the year ahead. Our membership has dipped, more schools are dropping the effective teaching of direct golds, and pressures are being put on state Boards to drop foil, even as an option. Let's talk to our schools! Most of us contribute regularly to alumni funds — why not enclose a note with our feelings about direct gold. Let's not deprive students of an option that has proven to work so well.

Although we aren't trying to set records in membership, we could use some new blood. Like the slogan used by the Marines: "We are looking for a few good men (and women)." If each member would try to get one new member, we could enhance our situation.

There are several projects in the mill for the coming year: a course to train faculty members who aren't comfortable with gold foil; a plan to try to educate dental insurance people on the value of foil; and the film produced by Williams Gold, which could help create a demand for direct gold procedures.

It's an exciting time and I am really proud to be in this position in the Academy. Thanks to all who made it possible, and a special note of thanks and recognition to a real pro, our newest past president Bill Roberts. We'll try to make this a good year for the Academy. Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Ron

## BANQUET

A little of Scotland in Georgia invited everyone into the banquet hall as the social hour drew to a close. Three pipers in full regalia piped proudly, and as the strain of pipes floated from the banquet hall, down the hallways of the Lanier Plaza, everyone moved to their table for the evening festivities.

"Buckwheat," an energetic and attractive group of cloggers, went through a fast paced show of dance and music that has made them famous from television to the 'grand ole oprey'. The highlight of their show involved numerous 'volunteers' from the audience whose names 'may' have been picked from a hat.

The show was a great success and concluded with long and rousing applause.



## Corky Carnahan

Dr. Corky Carnahan, banquet speaker and humorist, entertained everyone to a rib-tickling journey through the hazards of Dentistry from the Dentist and the Dental Students' viewpoint.

His presentation, which covered the gamut, from the hazards of hot compound impressions, in prosthetics, through the most radical, of 'anti-techniques' for gold foil, was delivered with all the panache of a Bill Cosby to the delight of the audience.





*Dr. and Mrs. George Ferguson with Dr. Julian Thomas following presentation of Distinguished Member Plaque.*

This year's Distinguished Member is Dr. George William Ferguson. Born in Lincoln, Nebraska, Bill went to University of Nebraska and received his Dental degree in 1934. After a period in practice and part time instructing at the University of Nebraska, Bill proceeded to join the US Navy in 1942, where he remained until 1966. During this time he was stationed in US, Germany, Korea, Japan and Hawaii. For 12½ years he was at the Naval Dental School in Bethesda, Maryland. Between 1946-49 he attended Georgetown University where he received his MSC degree; and during this time he was a guest research worker at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington DC. After leaving the Navy, Bill was appointed Professor and Restorative Division Chairman at Buffalo in New York, from which position he retired in 1978. He is now on Staff at Tufts Dental School.

He has written over 25 articles, lectured extensively throughout the United States, Europe and the Far East, and made many research and educational contributions, including teaching manuals and teaching films.

Many honours have come his way in his time, including an honorary DSC from the University of Nebraska in 1972 and a Hollenback Award from the Academy of Operative Dentistry, in 1980.

Bill is a member of the American Dental Association, Woodbury Study Club, American Academy of Restorative Dentistry, Academy of Operative Dentistry, Fellow of the American College of Dentistry, and a long time member of the Academy of Gold Foil Operators, serving as President of the Academy in the year 1971.

Bill has spent his life quietly inspiring and encouraging all those who have been privileged to know him. His career has been a fine example of professionalism at its very best.

During his time in the navy, and to the chagrin of his CO, Bill used to pad around in a pair of non-regulation sneaker sole shoes. Rumour has it that he persuaded the Senior Admiral in the Medical Core to follow his fine example and thus avert the threat of sleeping in the crows nest.

Congratulations from the whole Academy on this award. We look forward to many more years of fellowship and inspiration in knowing you.



*Dr. Leonard Portnoy, Dr. Bernstein, Dr. Leonard Kahane.*



*Dr. Mel Lund holds special gavel of office beautifully constructed by President Dr. William J. Roberts and presented to the Academy at this meeting.*

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Dr. Jim Verneti maintains his ambassadorial visits on behalf of the Academy taking the opportunity to visit the University of Mississippi on his way to Atlanta. The positive image projected on our behalf is a great help in ensuring our continued presence in quality dentistry.

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*Outgoing president Dr. Wm. J. Roberts presents a Gavel of Office to incoming president Dr. Ronald W. Harris.*



### HELPFUL HINTS

Placing a 212 retractor on an imbricated tooth, or one in labio-version, can present difficulties in seating the lingual jaw safely. By placing an anaesthetic cork upon the lingual jaw a safe outlet to the dilemma is readily available.

During the past three years Academy members have been treated to visits to three of the world's great galleries. Firstly the Huntington set in a palatial house in graceful gardens, last year the J. Paul Getty in its unique reconstruction of an ancient Roman Villa and this year the ultra modern Gallery in Atlanta. Each conception brilliant in its own right and displaying incomparable art and treasure.

In addition Academy members and their wives had the great pleasure to visit the Cycrolarama depicting the Battle for Atlanta during the final stages of the civil war. The immense mural background has been completely retouched and the foreground figures (diorama) refurbished.

A particular vote of thanks is extended to Williams Gold, Suter Instruments, American Dental, the Hygenic Manufacturing company, and Lewis Mirror Inc., for their help in sponsoring the meeting.

The next board meeting will take place on Friday, February 15, at the Westin Hotel Chicago. It will precede the evening meal. The time will be finalized when all flight times are confirmed.





*Dr. & Mrs. Robert Going and Mrs. Nell Fawcett.*



*Operators for the Annual Meeting.*

## **"Indiana is Still Plugging Direct Gold"**

Having made it known that the Operative Dentistry Faculty at Indiana University believes in the teaching and use of direct gold in dentistry, this group has received a number of offers to lecture and demonstrate at various military bases in the vicinity. For the fourth consecutive year, the group traveled to Chanute and Scott Air Force Bases for lecture and clinical demonstrations in a full day session at each place in June of this year. Several months ago, the same was done at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and a lecture on practical uses of foil was given at the Great Lakes Naval Dental Center.

The group consists of Drs. Mel Lund (chairman), Mike Cochran, Ron Harris, Tim Carlson and Bill Brackett. In addition, each year graduate students participate in the clinical demonstrations. This year it involved Drs. Barry LaCombe (Navy), Sylvio Monteiro (Brazil), Ignacio Sanchez and Sofio Espinosa (Mexico). Ms. Judy Young served as overall assistant, preparing instruments and materials.

Although many schools and state boards are now dropping foil, there are a lot of folks out there who are interested in using it. Let's not hide our candle under a bushel basket, but get out there and share our knowledge and interest with the rest of the world.





*Dr. Leonard Portnoy.*



*Dr. Bill Roberts, Dr. Paul Dawson.*



*Dr. Jim Verneti.*



*"Nacho" Sanchez preparing a Class V foil, assisted by Sylvio Monteiro.*



*Bill Brackett receiving a tip from Mel Lund on a Class V restoration.*



*Sofia Espinosa working with a general dentistry resident.*



*Ron Harris preparing a Class I occlusal, assisted by a resident.*



*Barry LeCombe preparing to use platinized foil on an endo access closure, assisted by a resident.*





### Dr. McCoy's Presentation

Dr. McCoy's lecture entitled "Standard Indications and Applications for the use of direct golds" approached the topic from a rather unique direction. His presentation began with a discussion, complete with clinical illustrations, of the limitations for the use of direct gold restorations. Limitation areas discussed included: (1) access, (2) enamel characteristics, (3) occlusion, (4) size, and (5) esthetics. This was followed by a brief discussion of problems most often encountered when performing Class III or V direct gold procedures, for example — initial condensation, cavity design, retention, etc. Finally, clinical slide documentation of common problems created by the clinician graphically illustrated how many times the dentist generates his/her own problems when performing direct gold procedures.



### Practical and Challenging Uses For Direct Gold

*Presented by Dr. Michael A. Cochran*

Direct gold was discussed as a practical restorative material with emphasis placed on the following points: available materials and their compatibility, improvement in overall restorative ability and attention to detail, financial rewards, unmatched longevity of direct gold restorations, and the fact that direct gold is the best restorative option in many areas (tissue response, casting repair, etc.). Specific practical indications included casting repair, Class I and VI, and rest seats and overdenture abutments.

Direct gold was presented as a challenging restorative material in terms of breaking the monotony of amalgam and resin with a technique that is challenging, provides immediate feedback, is professionally rewarding and stimulating, provides an excellent service to the patient, and satisfies all three aspects (business, profession, and hobby) of dental practice. Class II and Class IV restorations were presented as advanced indications.

### Advantages and Disadvantages

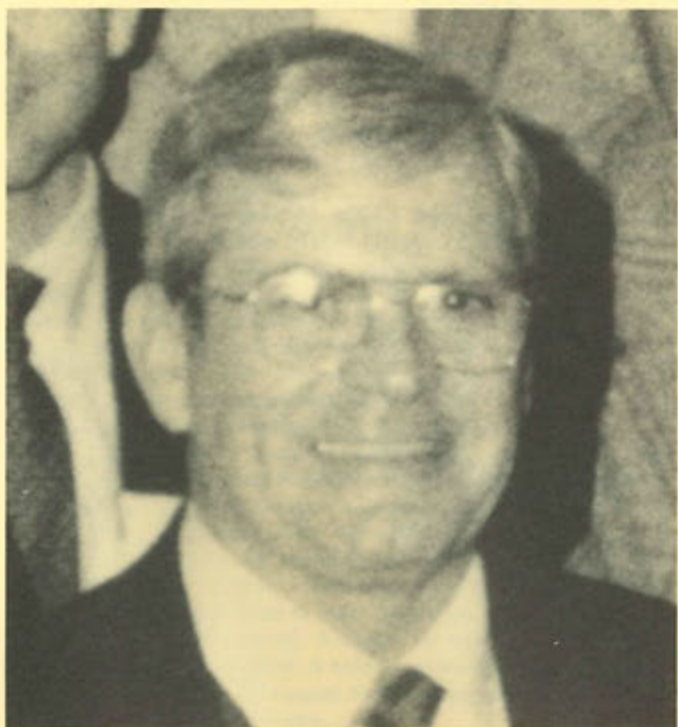
*by Dr. Larry Clark*

Speaking of advantages, Dr. Clark showed that direct gold can be handled by any student who wishes to perform a good service. It exposes the students to excellence, and fine tunes manual dexterity, also the powdered gold can be placed with hand pressure with little or no pulpal insult or patient discomfort; above all it allows the operator to attain the **self satisfaction** for which we all strive.

Quoting Hollenback (1962) on the long term benefits of a conservative approach and Smith (1967) on the sterility of Gold Foil and its anti-bacterial action. Dr. Clark continued that financially Gold Foil is more rewarding than any other procedure; so **why do we not talk about how great it feels to do a gold foil restoration.** With aesthetics presenting no problem with lingual approach C1 3 Gold Foils and delicate balanced Class V's the main disadvantage of the gold foil restoration is 'ourselves'!

Over the years gold foil has been placed on a pedestal of excellence that only a few could reach. Materials teachers have stressed how technique sensitive it is, and in general staff have tended to put onerous stress on students doing gold foil. Perhaps current Academics who exhibit negative tendencies were unwittingly discouraged by ourselves.

We should re-evaluate whether we wish to be role models (Grainger 1974) or idols. Do we wish gold foil to be replaced by synthetic and less durable materials or do we wish to retain excellence in the future of dentistry.





# An Evaluation of the Future Potential of Direct Filling Golds

by Dr. David Bales

Dr. Bales commenced his paper with a historical perspective of Gold Foil as the first direct restorative material, introduced in cohesive form in 1854 by Dr. Robert Arthur. Ten years later, in 1864, Dr. Sanford D. Barnum introduced Rubber Dam, allowing for isolation and quality restorations for the first time. Crystalline gold (Mat) was developed shortly afterwards but not generally accepted until the late 1950. Powdered gold, developed in the 1930s did not become popular until placed in an envelope of gold foil (goldent). Electraloy, the newest form contains a trace of calcium to reduce slip planes, and is the most popular current form of Direct Gold.

With each succeeding generation of materials, those using gold foil have been chastised as being 'outmoded' and 'out of step with the times', yet direct gold foil continues, whether challenged by silicate, plastic or gold inlays.

On searching for validation we note that for 75 years gold foil has remained the mainstay of a select group of educators and serious professionals who wished the best for their patients. This, in spite of the challenge from non-users and non-clinicians.

With apparently less numbers of qualified practitioners with sufficient expertise to teach gold foil, we look to our survey of US and Canadian Dental Schools—

90.7% report teaching gold foil, and of this number the course was elective in 22.45%, an increase in electives since Miranda (1982) reported 10%. 58.3% of the responding schools had clinical requirements of 60% in 1980 and 63% in 1982. Those schools also, with one exception, had specific requirements.

Mean pre-clinical operative time is 229 hours (90 — 368 hours) with gold foil taking from 1-62 hours (mean 31.5 hours).

Dr. Bales stated that there is a universal shortage of qualified instructors in Operative Dentistry in general and in Direct Gold in par-

ticular, and much sniping at faculties that teach such archaic and outmoded procedures, for not understanding what Dentistry is all about.

'Comprehensive care' and 'social service' are the new watchwords, rather than to ensure minimal student proficiency. School clinics are expected to generate more and more revenue with the idea that the students will learn more readily about the 'real world'.

Curriculum committees are eager to reduce operative time, with the conquest of caries instead of addressing patient needs realistically, that we can 'take the time to ensure that all care is excellent'.

This contrasts with Dr. Chester Douglass' careful treatise on epidemiological trends in caries and Operative Dentistry.

The trend to consolidating fixed prosthodontics and operative dentistry is a serious dilemma. All operative faculty are familiar with the needs for extra-coronal restorations, as these are an integral part of operative dentistry, the reverse is not true, few prosthodontists know about, or have any appreciation for, the requirements of quality operative procedures.

Whilst operative comprises the bulk of patient treatment and has so many diverse procedures, it is relegated to an inferior position. We require a faculty competent to teach ALL areas to get out of this dilemma; and a change from the attitude that 'everyone can do it', and that 'it requires no great skill'.

On the positive side Dr. Bales noted that Williams gold have produced a truly excellent film about Gold Foil, and the Academies are sponsoring Gold Foil courses. Dr. Jim Verneti is continuing his rounds as a real apostle, as are others. With the continued strong efforts by the Academies, and an increased emphasis on conservation direct gold should have potential for increased usage. Without these efforts all will be lost.

Foil sales are running at approximately 70% of their 1975 rate. (Considering the recent 'deep depression' this is remarkable. ED.) We hope now to see an upward fluctuation in sales.



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