



american
academy
of
gold foil
operators

Gold Leaf

January 1998

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1998 Dr. Richard D. Tucker
1999 Dr. Robert C. Keene
2000 Dr. Warren K. Johnson

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF GOLD FOIL OPERATORS

Annual Board Meeting

September 10, 1997

WESTIN BAYSHORE HOTEL - VANCOUVER, B.C.

Meeting was called to order at 2:20 PM by President Ted Ramage. Members present were Drs. Evans, Ramage, Eichmiller, Bridgeman, Carlson, Harris, Johnson, R.D. Tucker, Hoard, Barrett, and Schnepfer.

The agenda for the meeting and interim financial report were distributed to all present. Minutes of the February Board Meeting were approved as published in the Gold Leaf. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that money was taken from checking to bring one of the current CD's up to an even \$20,000. Membership has shown an increase as of this meeting for the first time in years. It was agreed that the senior Board member should perform a type of audit of account in February.

Treasurer's Report:

Assets — September 1, 1997

CD	\$20,000.00	Matures 8/12/98	@5.50%
CD	25,000.00	Matures 11/13/97	@4.8%
Checking	45,118.40		

\$90,118.40

(Interest is compounding on CD's vs. receiving monthly payment.)

Receipts — 1997*	\$35,318.43
Expenditures — 1997	17,824.57
	+\$17,493.86

*\$3,090 to be collected at meeting in addition.
(Also \$500 from Dental Health Institute.)

Assets — January 1, 1997

CD	14,727.93
CD	25,000.00
Checking	23,981.09

\$63,709.02

Difference in Assets 1997 +26,409.38

Dues + Journal Subscriptions*	14,030.00
Journal Subscriptions Paid	6,845.00
Dues Received — 1997	7,185.00

*Note: A large portion of dues payments was received in late 1996, as will occur in 1997.

Total members 305 (8 to be dropped and there are 14 new applicants, bringing total to 310).

Dues paying members 200 (plus the 14 new members for next year).

Life Members = 88 Honorary = 4

Financial report was accepted.

Correspondence:

Note from Craig Charters. Relocated to Littleton, CO, will be attending the meeting, and has budgeted \$500 donation to our meeting.

Letter from Dr. E.H. Hermann of Victoria, Australia looking for assistance in disposing of a small quantity of gold cylinders and mat gold foil. He also has a very old type gold foil spring-loaded mallet. Anyone interested in purchasing these items should contact the Secretary soon.

Note from George Perlotto planning to register and pay the exhibitor's fee.

Journal Report:

Report from Editor Dick McCoy was mailed to the Secretary. Manuscripts continue to be received at a steady rate, and waiting time for publication is now about 14 months. Subscriptions and income are down by about 25 from 1996. Reprint requests continue to be strong. The Home Page for the Internet is receiving a fair amount of play.

Response to editorials has been very gratifying.

Operative Dentistry is now being mailed to 51 countries outside the United States, with Canada having the largest number of subscribers, and Italy being second.

Color articles have received positive feedback, so this may continue if funds are there.

Dan Sneed will be chairman of the Supplement #6 committee.

"Operative Pearls" section was tried, but has received no feedback as yet.

Operative Dentistry has not yet actively supported the European section of the A.O.D.

Note: A letter addressed to the President of the Academies has alerted all to planning for a replacement Editor and Managing Editor in 2000. In order to have adequate turnover time, it will be necessary to hold a meeting in February 1998 in Chicago to implement a search for possible successors.

Annual Meeting Report:

Fred stated that presentations were in good order. Speakers will receive an honorarium of \$400 for non-Academy members and \$300 for members. Ted noted that his study club had prepared a video of a Class III foil. The Academy agreed to pay for the A-V equipment.

Craig said that the clinical session should be in good shape with 22 operators. Lesions have been secured from local study clubs and the facilities look good.

Attendance is higher than last year for this meeting. Ron described details of events.

Future meetings:

1998 — Minneapolis, MN Oct. 7-10. Hotel will be the Radisson, right across the street from the school. There will be two clinical sessions in order to do several cast gold procedures.

1999 — Meharry University in Nashville, TN, November 3-6.

2000 — We will attempt to make plans to meet in Hawaii. Nothing definite yet.

Committee Reports:

Literature and Research — Fred Eichmiller presented his report. Model of Dave Shooshan foils will be offered to the Harris Museum at University of Maryland. Bibliography has been updated and Tim Carlson has the changes. Fred will provide copies if requested.

Nominating Committee — Warren Johnson will be the new Board member.

Inter-Academy Liaison — no report.

Public Relations — Scott Barrett has contacted the Canadian Dental Journal and the Univ. of B.C. regarding this meeting. Invitation has been extended to Craig Charters.

Education and Study Clubs — Warren Johnson reported on a five day Gold Foil course in New Jersey in July. Another foil course was held in Vancouver in June and taught by Dave Thorburn and Richard D. Tucker.

Necrology — There have been 3 decedents since last year's report: Drs. Wallace Lamphere, Howard C. Peterson, Sr., and George Brass. Members are asked to keep the Secretary alerted on the death of any members.

Outstanding Clinician — The committee has selected Ron Zokol as this year's recipient, and Ric Hoard will make the presentation.

Distinguished Member — The awardee this year is Ludlow "Beam" Beamish and Norm Ferguson will make the presentation at the banquet.

Constitution and Bylaws — There has been no current activity during the year. Question on the description of activities of the Public Relations Committee. Warren Johnson, Barry Evans and Scott Barrett will look into this to see if a Bylaw change is warranted, or committees might be combined.

Gold Leaf:

Allan Osborn was not present, and there is a need for input from members, particularly from study clubs. There seem to be no problems at present. If there is no objection, there will continue to be two issues per year.

Foreign Meetings:

Dr. Mai from Vienna has been receptive to having us visit them, but we are probably looking at the year 2001 because of commitments on that end. Instead, in the spring of 1999, we may plan to try a session in Griesfeld, Germany where Dr. Georg Meyer is Chairman of Restorative Dentistry. The Executive Board will support the pursuit of this plan, as long as it doesn't interfere with the first week in November dates of the Academy meeting.

Unfinished Business:

A handout regarding the duties of officers was distributed. Chairmen are urged to keep good records in order to pass things on to successors. Craig has already begun this.

New Business:

Warren suggested that a pocket calendar with a "month-at-a-glance" format be looked into, perhaps covering two years at a time. This will be looked into.

The Minnesota meeting will coincide with the centennial of the G.V. Black study club. Mark Modjean has been most helpful with preplanning of the meeting and will host a "casting party" at his home next year.

Tim Carlson would like to have names of those interested in operating in 1998.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald K. Harris D.D.S., M.S.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

From the Desk of the Secretary

(not quite as cluttered as it was last month)

It was another great meeting in Vancouver, with attendance somewhat higher than it has been in the recent past. The clinical operations were outstanding, as were the essay presentations. Each meeting attempts to improve upon those previous to it, and as this trend continues the future should be highly inspirational. The social functions were well attended and thoroughly enjoyable, the Banquet was spectacular. Next year promises to be a great meeting in Minneapolis in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the G.V. Black Study Club. Mark Modjean and his wife have already completed a fair amount of the groundwork, and the bulk of the meeting is in place at this time. Dates of the meeting are October 10-14, 1998.

In 1999 we are planning to gather in Nashville, Tennessee at Meharry University in early November, though details remain to be worked out. If all goes according to plan, we might meet in Honolulu in the year 2000.

I have been contacted by a widow who seems to have some gold foil from her late husband's practice, is someone is interested in purchasing it. You can contact her directly: Mrs. Annetta Conant, 3400 S. Ironwood Dr., Space 63, Apache Junction, AZ 85220.

By the way, our membership has increased this year with the acceptance of 14 new members, and the loss of 7. We will probably be putting out a new roster in 1998, so be sure to update any address changes, spouses' names, phone numbers, etc.

One last item – one of our members in India is trying to organize a direct gold course at her school and is in need of help – instruments, materials, and whatever. If any of the members might like to contribute any of the above, you could send it to me and I will see about getting things to her. Check the drawers! Thanks.

Ron

Banquet Gathering



Head table, from left to right: Craig Bridgeman, Mrs. Harris, Ludlow Beamish, Doreen Ramage, Ted Ramage, Betty Beamish, Ron Harris and Fred Eichmiller.



Dr. Richard Hoard introduces the new President and Board.



President Eichmiller presents Presidential Plaque to outgoing President Ted Ramage.



The New Board, from left to right: Dr. Frederick Eichmiller (President), Dr. Craig Bridgeman (President-Elect), Dr. Timothy Carlson (Vice-President), Dr. Richard Tucker, Dr. Robert Keene, Dr. Warren Johnson and Dr. Ronald Harris (Secretary-Treasurer).

Harbour Cruise





Mark collects the sauce



Clinic Sessions



1997 DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD

DR. LUDLOW BEAMISH

Dr. Ferguson's Presentation Speech

It is my pleasure today to represent the officers and members of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators in honoring one of our oldest and most distinguished members.

For Ludlow William Beamish, "Beam", as he is usually known, has served this organization since its inception, and has served the profession of dentistry since his graduation in 1944, and as we shall see, is still serving in several capacities.

Beam was born in Boston, Massachusetts, March 25, 1914, into a prominent Anglo-Irish family. He was raised and educated in British Columbia, obtaining a degree in Arts and Education from the University of British Columbia in 1938. He then taught high school English and History until he decided to change to a dental career, enrolling in North Pacific College of Oregon, the precursor to the Oregon Health Sciences University in 1941. He graduated from the Accelerated Wartime Program in June 1944, leading his class.

He enlisted in the Canadian Dental Corps, Canadian Army, followed in July 1944, and was attached to the Royal Canadian Air Force until discharged in 1946.

Beam's teenage experience as a King's Scout and his service as a Reserve Officer while at U.B.C. stood him in good stead in the services and he attained the rank of a Captain in 1945.

Ludlow married a Portland girl in 1946, and over the years their union produced three children, and subsequently grandchildren in a very close-knit family.

In 1946 Beam began a solo practice in New Westminster, B.C., from which he retired at the age of 76 in 1990. During his years of practice he served almost all the dental organiza-



Dr. Ferguson presents Dr. Beamish with the plaque.

tions in his area, including the Vancouver and District Dental Society, the B.C. Dental Association; both organizations over which he served as president. He also served on the council of the College of Dental Surgeons of B.C., our governing body.

In between Beam found time to be an officer of his church, a member of the Burnaby School Trustees, and several charitable and fraternal organizations. He also acted as a dental historian and presented many papers on this subject, on "Excellence in Dentistry", as well as some

twenty-five clinics on a world-wide basis.

Beam also found time to teach part-time at U.B.C. and to present remedial courses for the College of Dental Surgeons.

But probably "Beam's" chief claim to honour is his constant civility to everyone, and his obvious sincerity and integrity. These qualities have led many to request his help as an arbitrator of conflicts with the college and with fellow professionals.

In all cases, his obvious honesty and good will have resolved the conflict, usually to the agreement of all concerned.

Beam, it is in recognition of your technical skills, often demonstrated, your depth of knowledge, and more importantly your innate humanity, that we honour ourselves by honouring you.

On behalf of the officers and members of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators I present you with this plaque naming you as distinguished member 1997.

Please rise with me!!!



Two old friends enjoying the moment.

Dr. Ludlow Beamish Acceptance Speech

As a student at North Pacific College in Portland I learned to be fascinated with gold foil. It intrigued me. I placed gold foil in every possible situation, used every possible excuse to use this remarkable material. But who was behind this mystery of modern gold foil technique? I can remember as early as 1942 Dr. Miller, our Dean, announcing that a very special person would be visiting our college in the near future. The name Ferrier was whispered as the visitor's name.

The day arrived and the name Ferrier took on a new meaning. There in flesh and blood was the man who had designed a complete new set of hand instruments, and had brought about remarkable refinements in cavity design. I can remember now as clearly as though it were yesterday watching this remarkable man strolling through the clinic with a retinue of the professorial staff following at a respectful distance. Today we find it difficult to appreciate the adulation, the almost reverential respect that dentists gave to Ferrier 50 years ago. Somehow he established a mystique about himself.

On a few occasions I had the honour to chat briefly with Dr. Ferrier. In his presence one quickly became aware that here indeed was a man with unusual gifts, and that you were in the presence of someone with an inventive and innovative mind.

The visitation to N.P.C. on that special day in 1942 confirmed in my mind that somehow in the future I must become associated with the teachings and philosophy of W.I. Ferrier.

While in the Canadian Dental Corps I, Norm Ferguson, and a half dozen others fell under the influence of another man of vision, Dr. Lloyd Jacobson. Under his direction we attempted Ferrier type gold foils – usually “class Vs”. This activity was conducted in the evenings, and following the operations a discussion ensued. It always ended in “somehow after the War we must establish another gold foil club in the Vancouver area.”

In 1946–47 the die was cast. The necessary contacts were made with Dr. Ferrier and his select group of teaching mentors, and arrangements were concluded to have a two-week course conducted in the Shaughnessy Military Barracks. In the days when Ferrier dominated gold foil to become a member of one of his clubs was a distinct privilege and you were made very aware of this. Potential members were interviewed, questioned about their interest, and told specifically what commitments they must make. This new club was not to



Dr. Beamish thanks the Academy.

be a “chit-chat” club for social activities. Members were expected to operate, submit their work to the scrutiny of the club members, and must accept the criticism of their mentor with grace. Quite a new concept!

A half century ago new clubs and new members were received with some reservations. Today we welcome new members – providing they truly want to learn. This sharing of techniques and skills is beautifully exemplified in our American Academy of Gold Foil Operators and in the

Tucker Study Club organization. It is our wish that our professional confreres should advance – we want our operators to be better. It is our shared wish to advance the concept of excellence, and to foster decent human ethics.

Well, the instructors for our course were selected. One, George Ellspermann, a big 6 foot three man – kind, affable, and immensely gifted and possessing remarkable operative skills – the kind of American that served as a wonderful ambassador of good will for the U.S.A. He was a most competent operator, he knew it, and no greater pleasure could he have than that of showing a neophyte how to improve. He loved life, wanted to be put up in the best hotel – at that time it was 6 or 7 dollars a night – and he gave generously of himself. He had a few pet sayings he would repeat over and over again such as “don’t provide bargain dentistry – live the good life – provide the best service possible and charge a normal fee – never chippy on yourself”.

Dr. Walter K. Sproule of Vancouver was the other teacher. He was a distinct contrast to George. Less flamboyant, quiet, immensely dedicated, and extraordinarily gifted. If you sincerely wanted to learn he’d welcome you to come to his office so that you might watch how he performed. He became our permanent mentor and our trusted friend. These two men talked wonderful dentistry, they demonstrated wonderful dentistry and they both possessed a high professional ethical standard. “Treat your patients as you would wish them to treat you”.

Men like Ellspermann, Sproule, John Ryan, and of course our own singular and incomparable Dr. Gerry Stibbs. These men stood tall as leaders, and as an inspiration to us. As members of this great Academy it has been our privilege to rub shoulders with them and to benefit from our association with them.



Dr. Beamish with his proud family.

Continued on page 12.

Lecture Series



Dr. Richard Hoard.

Dr. Richard J. Hoard

An In-Depth Look at Dental Casting

Dr. Hoard spent some three months at the Paffenbarger Institute in Washington assessing the science of gold casting. During the course of his investigations he used some 6 lbs of gold which was graciously on loan from gold manufacturers.

The nature of the expansion within the flask was presented along with the setting reaction within the gold. The timing of the setting of the investment and temperature rise rates within the furnace were noted. Of particular interest were the observations in regards to the high level of success achieved by our forebears who had originally formulated the basis for the alloys that we use today. These original alloys required heat treatment to control grain size, this is achieved today by the incorporation of trace elements which help to create the metallurgical lattice work and fine grain size that allows for the great malleability of these alloys. His work represents an important addition to the knowledge and literature in relation to cast gold.

Dr. Warren Johnson

The Key Elements for the Conservative Cast Restoration

Following the in-depth science presented by Dr. Richard Hoard, Dr. Warren Johnson gave a succinct and detailed lecture upon the art and theory of clinical practice in cast gold.

Giving thanks to his own mentors Dr. Johnson demonstrated a step-by-step discipline which showed the approach to tooth preparation that has been so successful for conservative cast gold followed by the rationale for selection of materials, and the modus operandi for accurate and consistent waxing and casting procedures.

High quality visuals accompanied each step so that the audience was left with a comprehensive and effective clinical procedure to follow.



Dr. Warren Johnson.

Dr. Jack Ferracane

Research Developments in Dental Composites

From the University of Oregon, Dr. Ferracane presented an in-depth look at the chemistry and chemical properties of the composite resin dental materials. He described in some detail the history of the filler materials utilized in the composites, their changing nature, and the continuing search for techniques to improve both their nature and their density within the materials. He noted the problems that have presented themselves as polymer research chemists sought to cope with the stresses of the oral cavity. The fundamental nature of the BIS-GMA was demonstrated along with those diluent resins that make it possible for the manufacturers to create a matrix which will flow. He further described the manner in which different filler particles affected the condensing properties of any given resin, showing the various different sizes for comparative purposes over a relatively long period of time.



Dr. Jack Ferracane.



Dr. Bruce Small.

Dr. Bruce Small

Direct and Indirect Composites, a Clinical Overview

Dr. Bell has spent a great deal of time analysing the clinical behavior of the newer dental materials that have presented themselves during the last twenty years or so. Many have been proposed as replacements for existing materials, and Dr. Bell took a critical look at the successes and failures associated with these materials. The slides demonstrated each phase from direct through indirect techniques for the tooth colored restoratives, the parameters for their usage and the limitations that are associated with each in varying clinical situations. Many of the materials look just fine in the early stages, but under stress in function are not able to compare with cast or direct gold for durability and functional stability.

Dr. Maxwell Anderson

An Inside Look at Dental Plans

Dr. Anderson gave us an inside view of the Washington State Dental Plan. The information was timely and was well received. It is naturally difficult to produce a synopsis of all the information that was passed to us; however it was interesting to accept the intellectual challenge presented to us of making the comparison with industrial standards where suppliers are viewed as, and also treated as, but a small cog in chain of events that leads to the final product. When viewed on a global scale in the overall budget of a company like Boeing Aircraft of Seattle, benefit costs for Dental Plans are but a microcosm of the overall expense of manufacturing. Of particular interest to those of us in the profession of dentistry was the quality comparison that was undertaken between the "Managed Care Programme" and the "Private Insurance Programme" at Boeing Aircraft there being no difference this was attributed to the nature of the managed programme which being in competition with a private programme, and each being in place for a highly educated and trained work force clearly could not act in an unrestrained manner.



Dr. Maxwell Anderson.



Dr. Daryl Farley.

Dr. Daryl Farley

Review of the Clinical Procedures

Following the discussion of what may form at least some part of the future of the profession, we were treated to a beautiful display of slides taken at the annual clinical session the previous day at the Dental Clinic at the University of British Columbia. All the Operators are to be warmly congratulated. The standard was uniformly high, and once again we have seen the cream of our profession rise to the occasion with a fine display of clinical dentistry at its very best. The drive and determination to succeed in this exacting discipline translates into fine service throughout the whole field that is restorative dentistry for the immense benefit of those fortunate enough to select a gold foil operator as their personal dentist.

Gold Foil Course in New Jersey

The course participants successfully completed a week-long direct gold course conducted by Dr. Warren K. Johnson of Seattle, Washington. The course participants were Dr. Bruce Small from Lawrenceville, New Jersey, Dr. Alan Rauch of Somerset, New Jersey, Dr. Marvin Seltzer of Brick, New Jersey and Dr. Victor Avis of Staten Island, New York. The course was held from July 14-18, 1997 in the office of Dr. Bruce Small.

The participants attended a half-day lecture on the first day of the course on direct gold which included indications and types of direct gold restorations, use and application of the rubber dam, sharpening and use of hand instruments, the making of gold foil, the rolling of gold foil pellets and cylinders, and the preparation, insertion, condensing and finishing of gold foil. The assistants of the participating doctors were taught the technique for hand malleting, the rolling of gold foil pellets of varying size and the technique for annealing the Easy Gold and gold foil pellets by Shari Jones. After the demonstration, the assistants practiced malleting and the rolling of gold foil pellets



Participants in the picture, from left to right: Drs. Bruce Small, Marvin Seltzer, Victor Avis, Allan Rauch and Warren Johnson, course director.

under the supervision of Shari Jones.

The afternoon was spent prepping, inserting and finishing a Class I or buccal pit gold foil on a Ivorine tooth. Condensing of the direct gold was done by hand malleting.

The second, third and fourth days were spent placing Class I, pits and casting repairs on patients. The participants saw a patient in the morning and afternoon of each day.

There were sixteen foil restorations placed

in patients during the course.

Application for membership in the Academy was made by the participants of the course.

At the end of the course a cocktail hour was held for the participants and their assistants. The assistants were presented with a bouquet of flowers and a certificate of completion. The participating doctors likewise were given a certificate of completion. After the ceremony the participants went to Lorenzo's Restaurant in Trenton, New Jersey for a delicious meal and some camaraderie.

We even had time to sneak in nine holes of golf one evening.

VICTOR WILLIAMS CLINICIANS AWARD

DR. RONALD ZOKOL



Dr. Ronald Zokol, recipient of the Victor Williams Clinicians Award, with wife Marie.

Food For Thought

FOR ALMOST THIRTY YEARS the BIS-GMA resins have dominated the field of aesthetic dentistry. As a fundamental resin with its great viscosity, and consequent need for dilution for practical purposes, it could not serve alone as a restorative material of enhanced properties. Without the addition of filler particles, the shrinkage associated at polymerisation with all resins in dentistry simply left the profession with the age old problem of heavy microleakage. Thus began the long and tiresome effort to counteract the fundamental flaws in these materials by acid etching and modification of the various types of filler material. More recently strides have been made towards some sort of bond to dentine which we are told is almost as great as that which is undoubtedly obtained with enamel. Almost at the same time other lecturers inform us that at between 30-36 months such a bond is no longer reliable or effective. The original 3 stage procedure developed by Dr. R. Bowen is now offered as a one-step procedure presumably because three steps, or two steps, would be beyond the comprehension of the bulk of the profession (given the high education status of entrants to the profession it must be God help the rest). Studies purport to demonstrate the effectiveness of each new product. These same studies do not however actually analyse the product that they are testing, (e.g., are the auto's taken for testing true production line vehicles?) nor do they mention (with one notable exception that was observed) the age of the product that was tested and the potential differences to be anticipated through the aging process. Fancy names are developed by each manufacturer in an effort to blind the opposition or to sug-

gest that theirs alone is the only chemistry capable of performing up to par. Is there for example really some reason that a silane coupler cannot be noted as such in the various kits? Are the manufacturing skills of different polymer chemists working with the same chemicals so very different, the one from the other? One prominent lecturer retires and the order of desirability changes. This is somewhat baffling to the simple minded.

It was noted by one particularly eminent educator, for whom the editor has the very highest respect, that the reason that the composites are so popular is because they are so simple and convenient to use. Notwithstanding we constantly see continuing education courses designed to "Update" or to give guidance to practitioners in negotiating the "maze" of composite dentistry when in reality little more than some degree of standardisation of nomenclature would suffice. There would appear to be a superfluity of sales effort directed towards this particular sphere of dentistry in which the material themselves are relatively inexpensive and simple to manufacture, it would suggest that there is an ever present danger that the profession pass over other equally or more important areas as a result. There should be no ebbing of the development of traditional skills even if these are less in demand. Given current developments in microbiology it is certainly not possible to predict the future of the activity of microorganisms such as Strep Mutans, or the continued efficacy of the fluorides.

Dr Allan Osborn
Editor

HELP SOUGHT FROM DOWN UNDER...

The following is a letter received by Dr. Ronald Harris

Dear Dr. Harris,

May I enlist your assistance in the following matter: I have recently retired from active practice having been in endodontic practice for over twenty years. Prior to that while still in general practice I used to do a few gold foil fillings. When cleaning out my cupboards I came across some supplies of gold foil for which there is no market in Australia. The approximate quantities are as follows.

- 1/40th oz Velvet gold cylinders Starter (Ney)
- 1/40th oz Velvet Gold cylinders Special B Foil (Ney)
- 1/10th oz Gold Cylinders, assorted (Ash)
- Assorted strips Williams Mat Gold Foil

The quantities are only approximate, some of the boxes may have had some gold removed.

It seems a pity to sell it as scrap. If you know of somebody in the States who might be able to use it, I would be happy to ship it to him and would leave it to him to work out what the gold is worth today. I enclose a photo of this material.

I also have a very old Gold Foil Mallet. This was given to me by the widow of a dentist with a request to try and sell it for her as she is not very well-off. Again I know of nobody in Australia who is interested, if you know of anybody in the States who might be, please show him the enclosed photo and ask him to give me an approximate idea of the value of this very old set. I will then communicate with the lady in question and probably arranging to ship it to the USA.

Your name was given to me by Dr. Manny Weisman. Any help you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

E.H. Ehrmann



Dr. Ludlow Beamish Acceptance Speech – *Continued.*

I would like to single out some of our living great. But sure as the sun will rise tomorrow morning if this is done some worthy individual will be omitted – you know who your leaders are!

You know when Norman gets wound up he can be quite a philosopher. Some years ago – about thirty – when giving one of his papers to us he said something that I think is relevant today. I will paraphrase: “few of us are given the blessing of leadership. Well if you can’t lead then let us follow the best”. This is the privilege that we in this great Academy have – the finest and the best to follow. Doesn’t it give you a quiet and modest little thrill to know that most of our Academy members have given a talk, presented a clinic, helped with a course – have done something to further the scope and improve the standard of our service to general dental health. To know that you and I are part of that “giving” to our professional knowledge just contributes so much to our happiness in our professional life. Of course we all want to make money – but real happiness requires more – the pleasure of serving others and being a part of a great humanitarian profession.

After 46 years in practice I felt that it was time for me to retire. Upon leaving the office you will receive many cards of kind wishes and genuine hope for your future happiness ... but you will be surprised how many will put in a personal note saying “Thanks for being my Dentist, and Thanks for being my friend”. Comments like that you cannot buy. You earn them by being a warm, concerned and compassionate human being. You have shown some genuine interest in the mother, the father and the kids, and you were concerned about your patient’s pain anxiety – yes you had a genuine warm and ethical relationship with the people you were serving. For student recruits excellence in your clinical performance is of the greatest importance, but your ethical conduct must go hand in hand with being a skillful practitioner.

At the University of British Columbia a new chair has been added, a chair of Ethics for the faculties of the Health Sciences. Wonderful! Now Ethics is a subject being given official status! It will be interesting to see what impact this Chair of Ethics will have on the conduct of our young practitioners. I am very hopeful.

In the last few days through the magic of electronics we have witnessed the death of two remarkable women. We have also seen the ghastly display of violence and terror in the market-place of Jerusalem. Terror, violence, and lack of compassion are so much a part of our daily lives. You all have seen at least part of that moving memorial service to Princess Diana in Westminster Abbey. Did you notice that the prayers, speeches, and the songs all contained one message that came out loud and clear – the wish for a gentler and more compassionate society. The Princess’ brother referred to this. When his eulogy was concluded he turned from the congregation, there was about three seconds of complete silence, and then the vast audience within the Abbey, and the throngs on the London streets broke into spontaneous and prolonged applause. People are yearning for a society where ethical conduct plays a part in their lives.

Our membership in the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators is but a miniscule part in the world population. But it is made up of leaders – people who influence others. Surely it is right that we should be an example to others in our communities of what a decent, concerned, and ethical conduct can mean to making our world a better world. Let us make excellence in our clinical activities, and an ethical conduct in our daily human relationships go hand in hand as we walk down the road of life.

One cannot be an active part of a great academy without the backing and encouragement of our loved ones. Because of Betty’s devotion to her family she has raised three loving young ladies who, through Betty’s training are all three loving mothers and gifted homemakers. They also have their own professions. It has been to Betty that this credit must be given for the raising of our children. To Betty also goes much credit for allowing me to spend so many hours on professional activities, and to have done this graciously – thank you Betty.

When I look at the list of the members who have preceded me as your Distinguished Member I am indeed tremendously impressed, and humbled. This honour you have conferred on me is certainly the highlight of my professional career. My thanks to you for choosing me. Many, many thanks to all of you.