Minutes of AAGFO Board Meeting

May 07, 2014 Sentinel Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Call to Order at 2:05pm by President Janet Zinter

Minutes of Previous Board Meeting: Motion approved to accept previous minutes of AAGFO Midwinter Council Meeting, Feb. 2014

Secretary Report: There was one piece of correspondence from Dr. David Thorburn. He informed me that Dr. Norm Ferguson passed away March 17, 2014 at the age of 91. He was an original member of our academy, a former president in 1983 and also a recipient of our Distinguished Member Award. Since or last meeting there have been no new applicants or nominees for membership. This year 14 students have been awarded the AAGFO Senior Student Award at their graduations. Less and less schools teach gold foil and thereby do not give our award. Other schools have been dropped over the years because of total non-participation or by request. The Journal of Operative Dentistry through Kevin Matis is now making older Gold Leaf editions available online at their website: jopdent.org. Recently, I was able to rediscover the source of the AAGFO zinc patterns that adorn our Distinguished Member Plaque. We received a 33 percent discount by ordering several years’ worth in advance.

Submitted: Marc Tollefson

2015 Midwinter Meeting: No Report

2014 Annual Meeting Reports

Wendell Foltz reported that 11 operators will be operating at the clinical portion of our meeting and that 3 of them are first time operators. Carol Klingensmith was commended on her work to make this annual meeting a success. It was noted that the dental students will probably not be available at our meeting due to a conflict in their schedule. The AAGFO table clinic will also be available at our meeting for demonstration in foil technique. There are 61 attending this meeting as reported by Elaine Neal. The breakdown is 31, member/guests, 15 spouses, 4, speakers, 7 extras/gala and 4 Assoc. Ferrier members for Friday only. Kevin Matis outlined the requirements for members to get continuing education credits at this meeting.

2015 Annual Meeting Report

Dan Henry reported that Pensacola, Florida will be our location. He stated he wants to attract guest dentists as well as our members in order to increase our visibility and profitability. The speakers he intends to choose are Dr. Glen DuPont on occlusion, Dr. Cohen on pathology, and hopefully a speaker on leadership from the Paragon Group. The costs for this meeting were also discussed, and also advertising our meeting through dental journals. Our clinical session will be held at the Pensacola Junior College Hygiene School with 10 chairs available. The dates for our annual meeting are Oct. 21-24, 2015.

Treasurer’s Report: Dr. Evans reported that we currently have 106 active and associate members. This represents a net loss of 12 members since our midwinter meeting in February 2014. There has been no way of tracking why members have
Recently deceased members are: Drs. Max Anderson, Art Lien, and Norm Ferguson. Our financial situation has not changed much since February. Our beginning bank balance as of Jan. 1, 2014 was $61,271.85 and our balance as of May 7, 2014 is $55,440.28. The difference is due to prepaid meeting expenses. A final financial summary will be done after this current meeting.

2016 Annual Meeting Planning: Dr. Neal reported the University of Pittsburg dental school as a possibility as well as Costa Rica. Seattle and Vancouver B.C. were mentioned as well. It was then moved and seconded that these last 2 cities be given first consideration for our 2016 meeting.

Literature and Research: No report

Nominating Committee: Dr. Susanne Grennell will be the new member on the Executive Council. Dr. Barry Evans is this year’s Distinguished Member and there will be no Outstanding Clinician award given but Dr. Richard Brinker will be honored for his many years as the editor of the Gold Leaf.

Web Page Report: Dr. Scott Barrett reported that he is working on an online payment option for tuition and dues for our academy.

Gold Leaf / Journal Report: Dr. Brinker reported that he and Dr. Barrett continue to make the transition of responsibilities to Dr. Barrett as our new editor. Kevin Matis reported that many old Gold Leaf editions are now available online at the Operative Dentistry website. (www.jopdent.org). The cover of the Journal of Operative Dentistry will also be changing in the near future and several designs were discussed. A more dynamic cover design was favored.

Old / New Business: Dr. Zinter listed who is responsible for our table clinic at the AOD meeting in Chicago for the next few years. 2015 - Clyde Roggenkamp; 2016 - Bruce Small; 2017 - Alan Rauch. Job descriptions for the Executive Council were also discussed especially for the secretary and the meeting planner. Dr. Zinter also encouraged us to contribute more gold articles for the Journal of Operative Dentistry. Dr. Foltz’s table clinic at the Operative Dentistry annual meeting was mentioned as a possible future article. Dr. Henry encouraged us to send pictures of our gold/gold foil clinical work to each other as inspiration for further fine dentistry and to offer helpful critiques.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm by President Janet Zinter.

Attending: Kevin Matis, Wendell Foltz, Dan Henry, Marc Tollefson, Rick Brinker, Janet Zinter, Barry Evans, Alan Rauch, Scott Barrett, and Clyde Roggenkamp. Bruce Small, Elaine Neal.

The Academy of Gold Foil Operators would like to recognize the contribution Kevin Matis and the Journal of Operative Dentistry to the publication of our newsletter. Beginning with the January 2014 issue, the newsletter has resumed the tradition of mailing a hard copy to the membership. Kevin has taken on the responsibility of printing and mailing the newsletter.

In addition the AAGFO board made the decision to have the publication published on the JOD website. In addition to the current issues, Kevin has added all available issues on the server. All current members can access the site and read the archived newsletters. The site can be accessed at: www.jopdentonline.org. Look for the box "Society Newsletters. There you will find the Archives dating back to 1979.

Thank you Kevin for providing this valuable resource to our members and any other individual interested in our academy.
I am honored to just be an active member of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators. To be President of an organization that can trace its heritage back to dentists of the caliber of George Ellsperman, Gerry Stibbs, Lloyd Baum, and Richard V. Tucker, to name a very few, is humbling indeed.

This is the premise of my thoughts as I take on the responsibilities of this position. A small group of people can change the course of events in a society or a profession; either positively or negatively. I believe we are at a point in our profession where small changes can and are making big differences.

We can be the impetus for positive change, or we can stand aside and allow the viruses of complacency and self-interest to invade our profession and destroy it.

In a larger sense, most if not all of the issues we face today are symptoms of a larger problem we face as a society. The attitude that I should not have to sacrifice anything to get what I want, it is my right!

There is a generation that seems to have lost the understanding that true success comes through work, sacrifice and taking responsibility for one’s own actions.

Put another way; “Service is a virtue that distinguishes the great from others. It is the dividing line that separates the two groups of the world; those who help from those who hinder, those who lift from those who lean, those who contribute from those who only consume. To give encouragement, to impart sympathy, to show interest, to banish fear, to build self-confidence and awaken hope in the hearts of others, in short to love them and show it, is to render the most precious of gifts.”

Stephen Covey; *First Things First.*

Our profession has never needed this example, which can be set by the members of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators, more than it does today.

The art of placing the gold foil restoration needs to be reintroduced within an ethical based, patient centered dental school curriculum. Whether a student ever places a foil restoration, after graduation, is not the issue. The game changer is the fact that by being required to learn this one technique the student is exposed to discipline and elegance at the same time and in the process the skill level, of the student, is increased in all disciplines.

Therefore, I make this challenge to the members of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators. Use your considerable influence to encourage the reintroduction of the teaching of gold foil in dental schools. Be prepared to volunteer to help with these programs and always be a role model for excellence to all dentists.

Dan B. Henry DDS
AAGFO President 2014-15
This year’s annual meeting was hosted by the Alex Jeffery Gold Foil Club. The meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Associated Ferrier Study Clubs. The Alex Jeffery members did an excellent job arranging for a memorable and educational time for all attendees. By all accounts they exceeded their own expectations. The members of the study club are Barry Evans, Dan Saucy, Carol Klingensmith, Sarah Pittman, and Tasha Bollerman. Wendell Foltz serves as mentor to the group.

In her second year as Meeting Planner, Elaine Neal worked in conjunction with the local club members to insure that all of the AAGFO, AFSC members and guests enjoyed themselves in Portland. Elaine will play an important role in the planning and arrangements for the 2015 meeting in Pensacola, Florida. She will be working closely with Dan Henry, current president of the AAGFO.

No Annual Meeting would be complete without an afternoon of socializing and catching up with old friends. This year we were treated to a trip to a beautiful Willamette Valley.
Insurance is a Benefit
And other Musings

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as editor of The Gold Leaf for the past several years. My predecessor, Dr. Allan Osborne late of the beautiful isle of Vancouver outside Victoria has served as an inspiring mentor and role model. I wanted so much to see him knighted for the role he has played in dentistry and have pursued this accolade on his behalf on numerous occasions; however, have been unsuccessful so far. Dr. Osborne provides, as do so many of our membership, the rare combination of leadership, tenacity, and a shared love of devotion to his profession. In fact we saw during my brief tenure the passing of so many of our beloved and esteemed members, it seems only fitting to mention them here.

When Allan and I worked together, we produced a version of The Gold Leaf that was hand assembled and hand stamped and mailed individually. It was a real challenge to bring our publication to its current electronic as well as ‘snail mail’ version. I especially wanted to convey the excellence of our members’ operations under often less than desirable conditions. The meetings, whether on a local, national or international basis are attended with camaraderie, conviviality and a certain joi-de vie. It was my mission to capture as much of that as possible.

The use of four color separation was often a source of frustration due to the pixilation that so often accompanied a file size that was deemed by my artistic support as rather large to send electronically. We experimented with different compression techniques but it will remain for future editors to solve this conundrum to ensure delivery of the highest quality work which so defines and represents our fine Academy.

Though our small journal chronicles the humanistic side of our meetings and accomplishments, it was always my intent to include the work and thoughts of the many scientific presenting which contribute to our understanding and expertise. From the time of the 1950’s and 1960’s, the writing has usually trended toward editorial in nature vs the cited peer reviewed progeny we now have in the brilliantly executed and published periodical: The journal of Operative Dentistry; a work of amazing coordination and superb interdisciplinary cooperation. I must mention my colleague and mentor, Dr. Michael Cochran, his right hand staff Dr. Tim Carlson, Kevin Matis and now Dr. Jeff Platt… I would be remiss if I did not also mention the third editorial leg of our seat of excellence and caring: The Lineangle, edited lovingly by our friend and colleague: Dr. Barbara Young. Their combined attention to all of the scientific and business details is both inspiring and humbling.

Visions for future editorial content include: enhanced video clips of meeting content: social as well as clinical. Scientific citations and hyperlinks for content and further analysis… in addition, live interactive real time scheduling of members’ forums to get encourage discussion, and areas of mutual concern. At that point, our journal becomes a living thing not just an archival record of past events. To breathe life into such an effort will require the support of all our members, as well as leadership from the editorial front lines.

It is this attention to the smallest detail and focus on excellence I will mention finally. Our profession has come under the blanket scrutiny of the ‘payer establishment’ who have used our own hard won science in a game of one upmanship as it applies to the Evidence Based Medical model. Our philosophy and methods often don’t simply apply to something like say, first pass biliary kinetics and unknown little white pills… decades are required to provide the kind of evidence we need to defend our position. As for double blind studies, what ethical provider would subject a patient unknowingly to an unknown course of treatment? What patient would accept an unknown course of treatment? It goes without saying, this plays right into the wheelhouse of the payers who want to deny payments for ‘unproven treatments’ or ‘those of dubious clinical efficacy’ …for the very subscribers they purport to represent; this deny and delay tactic is certainly not in any one’s best interest other than their own.
Dr. Terry Donovan’s excellent presentation (Journal of Esthetic and Restorative Dentistry Vol. 16 pages 194-204 May 2004) of Dr. Tucker’s work (A Restorative Clinical Evaluation of 1341 Cast Gold Restorations) is an excellent case in point… again, it involved several decades and showcases the beauty, durability and longevity of gold restorations. It is this brand of evidence that will ultimately exonerate and validate the clinical decision making we all face on a daily basis.

As I wrap up my tenure as your editor, I want to take the time to thank you all for your patience and understanding as we have forayed into the electronic age and beyond. The journey has been and will continue to be exciting with hopefully many of the aforementioned changes.

So, to all of my colleagues: stay strong, fight the fight, and continue to serve your fellow man with grace and humility. Dr. Scott Barrett, past President AAGFO, has served dutifully as webmaster and now interim editor. His is the best kind of corporate knowledge and support. He knows and honors our heritage. He is laser focused on our mission and our future. I know what we espouse will continue because it represents the highest form of truth and justice in our small corner of the universe. Again, thank you so much for this opportunity to have served as your editor…

Richard B Brinker
Editor Emeritus

Janet Zinter recognized Gloria Foltz for her tireless contribution to the Academy. Gloria can be seen following her husband Wendell around during the clinical operations. She has accurately recorded the images Wendell takes of all the steps of the clinical operations.

Behind the scenes she works diligently putting together a power point presentation. Gloria is adept at organizing the title slides, pre-operative, and post-operative images. Once completed she sits back and quietly evaluates the results.

For many years Gloria has been responsible for helping Wendell and all of the operators look good. We are fortunate to have Gloria involved in our program. We can’t thank her enough for all the time she has spent in this capacity for the Academy.
In presenting this year’s Distinguished Member Award to Dr. Barry Evans, we could begin by talking about the definition of the word “distinguished”, which means “to be made conspicuous by excellence”. Dr. Barry Evans exemplifies conspicuous excellence in several areas of his career and life and this award acknowledges him for his skill as a gold foil operator and his accomplishments and service to this organization.

Dr. Evans’ commitment to his profession can be seen in his long term membership and participation in several dental organizations, in which he has held several offices. He is a member of the Academy of Restorative Dentistry, the American College of Dentists, a Fellow in the International College of Dentists and a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry. He is a Past President of the Academy of RV Tucker Study Clubs, Past President of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators, Immediate Past President of the Associated Ferrier Study Clubs and currently serves as Treasurer of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators. He has been a long term member of 7 different study clubs and has mentored 4 study clubs. He has presented numerous essays, table clinics and papers and was honored as AAGFO Outstanding Clinician of the Year in 2007.

Dr. Evans was a member of the Seattle RV Tucker Cast Gold Study Club for 33 years, where he honed his skills in cast gold restorative work. He has been a member of the Alex Jeffery Study Club since 1983 and has had a venerable list of mentors, including Dr. Dick Tucker. Dr. Evans has been heard to say that what makes him a good dentist is “bulldog determination” and where this can be seen time after time is in the work he accomplishes in study club. There is no better example of what “distinguished member” means than the example a clinician like Dr. Evans sets; working with concentration, diligence, humility and respect for his patients to create beautiful, long-lived restorations which set a standard of excellence for his fellow study club members to follow. His roles as student and mentor are of one piece and he is above all, a constant learner. A common thread which unites the recipients of this award is that in addition to having superlative clinical skills which their fellow dentists emulate, they are all natural teachers by virtue of their ability to generously share information with their fellow clinicians.

Dr. Evans practices in Portland, Oregon where he continues to be an influence in Oregon dentistry with his involvement and support of OHSU School of Dentistry. Barry and his wife Yvonne have two children, Arianna and Bryce (who is also a practicing dentist in Seaside, Oregon) and four grandchildren. In acknowledging how important family support is to all of us in our dental careers, Barry shares this award and the admiration of his fellow AAGFO Members with his wife Yvonne. Thank you, Barry, for all you do for us!

Carol Klingensmith, D.M.D
Meeting attendees were rewarded with excellent presentations by the following standouts in our profession.

Dr. Tom Walker ..............Sleep Dentistry
Dr. Dick Tucker ..............Gold Foil Techniques
Dr. Brad McAllister ..........Soft Tissue Management.
Dr. Tom Hilton ...............Composite Update
Dr. Jack Ferricane ..........Dental Materials
Dr. Wendell Foltz ..........Clinical Critique
Clinic Day at Oregon Health Sciences University
School of Dentistry

Clinical Operations
Photography by: Dr. Wendell Foltz and Gloria Foltz

Dr. Tasha Bollerman
Dr. John Christensen
Dr. Barry Evans
Dr. Susanne Grennell