

# AO NOW

Foundation Edition

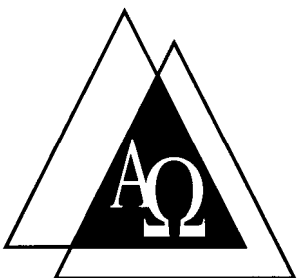
FOUNDATION EDITION

February 2009



## Special points of interest:

- TAUSDM
- Dream West Recap
- Arizona Auction
- Grant Awards
- Special Funds
- DVI
- New Board Members
- B'nai AO
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## Campaign Underway to Refurbish Physical, Educational, Research Facilities at TAUSDM – Targets Listed for New Campaign

### THE FUTURE IS NOW!

A list of targets has been issued for the *Future is Now* campaign at Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine at Tel Aviv University, founded by Alpha Omega.



They are as follow:

- Complete renovation of the Post-graduate wing (entrance floor); estimated cost (9,000 sq. feet) is \$500,000.
- Upgrading of Post-graduate wing (Endodontics, Pediatric Dentistry (ground floor); estimated cost (1200 sq. feet) is \$150,000.
- Refurbishing the Phantom Head Students' Laboratory (ground floor); estimated cost (1200 sq. feet) is \$300,000.



- Establishment of a Phantom Head Continuing Education Laboratory (ground floor); estimated cost (1200 sq. feet) is \$300,000.

- Naming of the Surgical/Anesthesia rooms (Niznick Clinics); estimated cost (two rooms total) is \$30,000 per room.

- Naming individual units (Niznick Clinics); estimated cost (10 total units) is \$10,000 per unit.

Naming of Operator/Recovery Rooms (Niznick Clinics); estimated cost per room (nine rooms) is \$20,000 per room.

### Post Graduate Floor to be Named for Frater Morise Weindling of Blessed Memory

The Postgraduate floor will be split into 3 wings...Periodontics, Oral Rehabilitation, and either Endodontics, or Oral Medicine... each wing to be named for a major donor. Morise Weindling, was a long time member of the Boca Chapter of Alpha Omega, a member of TAU's Board of Governors, and the recipient of an Honorary Fellowship from the University. Upon his death, significant funds were willed to the dental school that he had so energetically supported since the school was built some 30 years ago, enabling the Post Graduate floor to be built. The campaign is being directed on behalf of the Fraternity by The U.S. Foundation. The Canadian Foundation...always deeply

involved and generous will be asked to participate. The London Trust has likewise indicated that it too will be most supportive, much as it has been in the past. Other chapters in other parts of the world will be solicited as well as will individual members. *Remember...It is OUR School.* More complete details regarding this important campaign will be forthcoming.



From left: Dr. Gerald Niznick, Prof. Haim Tal, and Prof. Benny Peretz at the new Faculty Clinic.

### The Gerald and Reesa Niznick Family Clinic Floor Completed

It is anticipated that treatment of residents will greatly relieve the cost constraints at the Dental School. The addition of special rooms and new equipment will likewise be beneficial. In a message appearing in the "Future is Now" publication, Gerald Niznick wrote, "My goals have always been to support Israeli dental education at both dental schools founded by Alpha Omega, bringing high quality, innovative dental implant products to the Israeli market."

## Dream West – Warm & Hospitable

As conventions go, this past year's venue was smaller than it has been in the past. Nonetheless the warmth and camaraderie at the venue in Scottsdale, the Westin Kierlands Hotel and Resort, matched the climate of Arizona.



The Western Tourials

The Foundation meeting was marked by the election of two new Members-at-Large, Robert Simon and Steven Spitz. The grant awards...due very much to the

downturn in the U.S. economy was considerable less than the previous year, but still quite representative in the projects and programs that received aid. Augmented by outstanding contributions from the Canadian Foundation, the London Trust, and from other individual chapters, total amount contributed amounted to more than \$350,000! A full report of grant awards is published in this Newsletter issue.

### Special Foundation Event Goes West

The Foundation and its guests went "westward ho" at the colorful "Rustler's Roost" overlooking the lights of Scottsdale. It was a funtime and proceeds greatly benefitted the Foundation.



Desperados Uditsky, Goldblatt, Margolis



Jessie James Hole-in-the-Wall Gang Richmans, Rothmans, Specktors



Sundance Epstein & Kitty Elaine

## And the Highest Bidder is ..... Auction, Foundation & Chai Clubs Huge Success

The setting was festive...tables were filled with dozens of silent auction items, auctioneer Sid Tourial (with helper Steve Kahan) was at his best, and the special 'gifts' for the Foundation Club and Chai Club drawings were on display.

ings, sculptures, vacation packages, dental supplies and equipment, sports memorabilia, and valuable commemorative posters and photographs of world famous celebrities. Laurie's daughter, Jenna, one of the world's great "sports schnorrers", as late as two days prior to the auction evening, discovered the Colorado Coyotes staying at the hotel and in no time, came up with signed hockey sticks.

Once again, Andy Lasky outdid himself, surpassing last year's record amount collected on behalf of the Foundation and Chai Clubs.

The total amount netted from the auction and drawings was

over \$42,000. The 2009 cruise convention will challenge the Foundation to produce similar results, employing some innovative ideas. Suggestions are welcome.



Auctioneers Steve Kahan & Sidney Tourial



Auction Audience

Chairperson, Laurie Gordon Shaw secured an unbelievable number of valuable items, many of them donated by our own Alpha Omega members. There was jewelry, crafted items, paint-



Sy Evans, winner with Sculptor Ben Williamowsky and "Lasso Louie"



Silent Auction Items



Minna & Ben Williamowsky with Bronco Beryl

## Grant Awards Announced Economic Constraints Affect Available Grant Awards

<b>DENTAL SCHOOLS</b>	
The Maurice and Gabriella School of Dental Medicine at Tel Aviv University Founded by Alpha Omega.	\$31,000
Hadassah School of Dental Medicine at Hebrew University Founded by Alpha Omega	\$31,000
The D. Walter Cohen Center for Middle East Studies	\$1,000
Rambam Medical Center, Dental Trauma Unit	\$5,000
<b>PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS</b>	
Jewish Healthcare International (JHI) Bikur Holim Hospital	\$2,500
JHI Dental Care for Needy Ethiopian Families in Israel	\$2,500
Dental Care for Holocaust Survivors, Israel	\$3,000
Dental Care, Children with Oncological Diseases, Israel	\$2,000
Save a Child's Heart Foundation (Oral Healthcare)	\$1500
<b>DENTAL CARE, ELDERLY</b>	
Los Angeles Home for the Aging, Dental Clinic	\$1,000
Massler Geriatric Clinic, Tufts University	\$2,000
Caroline Kline Gallard Home for Elderly, Seattle	\$1,000
Hebrew Home of Greater Washington, Pro-Bono Dental Clinic	\$1,000
American Joint Distribution Committee, Mobil Clinics, Israel	\$2,500
<b>DENTAL CARE, CHILDREN</b>	
Dental Volunteers in Israel (DVI)	\$1,000
Aleh Organization, Children with Special Needs, Israel	\$1,000
Miftnanim, Immigrant Children at Risk, Israel	\$1,000
Levav Beit She'an, Dental Care for Needy Children	\$1,000
<b>OVERSEAS MISSIONS-GOHI</b>	
Center for International Maxillofacial Missions	\$2,000
Society for Third World Care	\$2,000
<b>EDUCATION-UNITED STATES</b>	
American Dental Association, Leadership Institute Fellow	\$10,000

### SPECIAL FUNDS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

The Alpha Omega Foundation has, over a period of time, established a number of special funds. These funds have been augmented by contributions from various chapters and from individuals who have 'adopted' a specific program involved to satisfy a desire to help those in need through acts of tzedakah. These special philanthropic funds are herein listed:

- Crisis in Israel (special care for victims of Lebanon war)
- Help for Sderot (aid for beleaguered residents of Sderot, Israel)
- Dental Care for holocaust survivors
- Society for Third World Care
- Special Smiles (Special Olympics)
- Aid for Needy, Tbilisi, Georgia

Appearing on this page is a resume of projects and programs that are recipients of grant awards. Chapters are encouraged to adopt at least one as an annual charitable endeavor. "Try it...you'll like it!"



"Save a Child's Heart" Patient



"Dental Volunteers in Israel"  
Trudi Birger Clinic, Jerusalem



Emily & Danni in Guatemala



Destruction in Sderot



## DVI – Putting a Smile on Jerusalem’s Disadvantaged

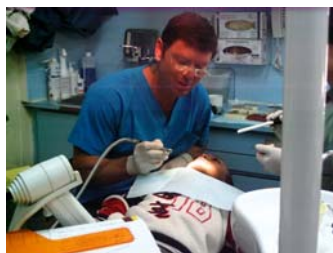
Dental Volunteers for Israel has added a new instrument that has been extremely successful in encouraging youngsters to climb into the dentists’ chair – virtual reality glasses. As the volunteer dentists drill cavities and cement fillings, the youngsters are pleasantly distracted as they watch films such as *Shrek*. One youngster, oblivious that the volunteer dentist had finished his work, even refused to get off the chair.

This is yet another example of how DVI, with the help of many volunteer dentists from Alpha Omega, is making a significant difference in the dental care of thousands of disadvantaged Jerusalem children.

In 2008, the free clinic dramatically increased the number of treatments it provided, with more than 15,000 treatments performed on disadvantaged Jerusalem children and youth-at-risk, ages 5 to 18. Last year, the number of volunteer dentists and the children they treated rose by an unprecedented 30 percent, in great part due to the many Alpha Omega members who answered DVI’s urgent call in the summer for volunteer dentists.

Because dental health care costs are not covered by the Israeli government’s health services, the DVI non-profit clinic is the only means by which these Jerusalem children can receive oral health care – including a six-month recall program free of charge. Since its inception in 1980, over 30,000 children have been treated at the clinic.

Just three hours after his plane had touched down in Israel in January, Dr. Howard Katz of San Diego was already busy examining a child at the busy clinic. “I’m happy to help,” said the veteran dentist. It was his first time volunteering at the clinic, and he was already planning to return in the summer to offer his services.



Dr. Howard Katz, volunteer

His two-week stint at the clinic also included memorable Sabbath meals at the homes of local

residents, as well as time to explore Jerusalem’s exotic Old City and discover its many ancient sites that reverberate with history.

Dr. Katz is one of over a hundred volunteer dentists who come to DVI annually to offer their unique skills and services at the free dental clinic. DVI, founded by the late Trudi Birger, is the largest and longest running clinic of its kind in the country. It is the only clinic in Israel permitted by the Health Ministry to accept international volunteer dentists.

The volunteer dentists are housed free-of-charge at DVI apartments around the city. The friendly and supportive staff at the clinic often offer recommendations for site-seeing, restaurants and entertainment.

For many dentists, like Dr. Sofya Kats of New York, the challenge of working on 10 youngsters a day has been an invaluable learning experience. “You learn that you have the speed to work on a lot of people in a day,” noted Dr. Kats, who graduated from dental school two years ago and has been a member of Alpha Omega.

Her colleagues at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn were so determined that she vol-

unteer at DVI that they contributed \$900 to defray the cost of her plane ticket.

“It’s a good experience for someone who wants to work with children,” she said, adding that it also has been an opportunity “to experience what it is like to work and live here.”



Dr. Sofya Kats & happy patient

DVI can be contacted at [debbie@dental-dvi.org.il](mailto:debbie@dental-dvi.org.il). For more information about the clinic, visit their website at <http://www.dental-dvi.co.il>.

## FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Elected to Members-at-Large positions... filling the expired terms of Laurie Gordon-Shaw and Bernie Kahn are Robert Simon and Steve Spitz. Robert Simon is a member of the Boca Chapter of Alpha Omega (California) and Steve Spitz is a member of the Boston Chapter. The post of Stu-



Whitney Mostafiz

dent Representative to the Foundation, succeeding Pejman Nasibi, has been filled by Whitney Mostafiz, a student member of Delta Chapter (Harvard). The contributions of the student representatives have in recent years, been outstanding... Whitney promises to follow that lead.



Steven Spitz



Robert Simon

## B'NAI AO IS GROWING

The 'Dream West' convention, by normal standards, was not one heavily attended. You would never know it by the turnout at the daily minyans of B'nai AO, Alpha Omega's "in-house synagogue". There was never a time when a quorum was lacking. Because several of our members were saying memorial prayers, AO, for the first time in many years, held services morning and evening. There was never a problem putting it together. Nonetheless, because the convention covered many days of Chanukah, with Torah reading included in every morning service, the Fraternity was called upon to exhibit all of its resourcefulness.

Thanks to Rabbi Brisman of Congregation Har Zion (Scottsdale), a Torah was made

available. Rabbi Brisman himself, was our Torah reader for the first day of the convention. After that, thanks to the following participants, there was no problem. Torah readers were David Eisenstadt (Toronto), and Mickey Yitschaky (Jerusalem), and services were led by John Wolffe (London), Bobby Gelb (Seattle), Gideon Zimmerman (father of members Tamara and Deena, spouse of member Bianca), Michael Tenenbaum (Montreal), and others. John



Wolffe was the Gabai Godol and made certain that services were conducted smoothly....and supplying the traditional after-service schnapps.

The Kaballah Shabbat services were conducted in front of a standing-room-only "congregation", and were led by Chazan David Zimmerman (of the Toronto Zimmermans). Shabbat services were likewise heavily attended and a kiddush was served, 'sponsored' by Larry Vinegar (spouse of Marcy Schwartzman of Vancouver) and Fred Margolis (Illinois). Ben Williamowsky was the "shul shamos", making sure the 'sanctuary' was kept in order, opening and closing on time,

prayer books and prayer shawls available, and other chores incumbent of a synagogue caretaker (commonly known as "shul-schlepper").

The tradition of honoring newly elected officers was followed, as Charlene Berkman, Marcy Schwartzman, and Dan Uditsky were called upon for special recognition.

The entire concept of B'nai AO is a great one and should continue to be an integral part of Alpha Omega's convention agenda. New Friday evening prayer books were available for the first time. They may be purchased and dedicated in honor or memory of an individual for \$25.00, through the Foundation office.

## ARIZONA RE-VISITED Sidney Tourial, Chairman, US Foundation

Each year the Alpha Omega International Convention affords an opportunity to install our new officers, celebrate the year we have completed, and finalize plans for the future. We also happen to have a lot of fun along the way. The meeting in Scottsdale was no exception.

Over the past few years we have started the convention with our Foundation Board of Directors meeting and finished it with our auction and Foundation Club reception. Our Foundation meeting was very informative, as many officers and committee chairs had the opportunity to talk about the wonderful things our Foundation did in 2008. We completed the "Honoring the Past-Planning the Future" campaign to raise needed funds for our dental school in Jerusalem. We hope

that everyone will make an effort to complete his/her pledge, and also make sure that the name of the associated chapter is on the "Wall of AO Chapters" in our beautiful new conference room at the school. This past year we raised funds for the dental facilities in Sderot, Israel; we committed our Foundation to participation with the Fraternity in our new "AO Branding"; we agreed to join the Fraternity in Alpha Omega's "Global Oral Health Initiative"; we unanimously agreed to support the "Tomorrow Smiles Campaign".

We were busy in Arizona (they even tell us the sun was shining all week). The Alpha Omega Achievement Medal was awarded to Dean Arthur Dugoni of San Francisco. We thank Cliff Litvak, Alpha

Omega' President in 2008, and wish a hearty Mazel Tov to Dan Uditsky, installed as International AO President for 2009.

For Foundation Night we all dressed up in best western gear for a foot-stomping good time at Rustler's Roost, on a high Mesa overlooking Scottsdale (plenty of good food, too!) . Everyone had fun at our golf outing, especially our many winners. Thanks to Andy Lasky for an outstanding job in raising funds for the Foundation Club...and Lori Gordon-Shaw amazed us once more with her ability to put together a great auction...as she does every year. Financially, we raised a lot of funds for the Founda-

tion, and I cannot emphasize how much fun everyone had getting together so many times during the week.

A special 'thanks' to all our officers, and especially to Ben and Ralph in our Foundation office for making events in Arizona run so smoothly.



Foundation Board

Kahan, Tourial, Prankoff, Rothman, Mostafiz, Williamowsky, Goldstein, Spitz, Rothstein, Ressler, Litvak, Lasky

## Peace of Mind in Midst of Financial Turbulence

### The Alpha Omega Charitable Gift Annuity

Risk versus rewards is the fundamental test by which any investment is measured. But given today's uncertain economic outlook, it is an increasingly complicated choice.

At a time when stock market swings of hundreds of points in a day are a routine occurrence, many Alpha Omegas and friends are searching for safety, stability and predictability. The Alpha Omega Foundation gift annuity offers a safe harbor from the current financial turbulence and gives you the peace of mind you may be seeking. (Current low-yield rates make this charitable planning strategy more appealing than ever).

By incorporating a gift annuity into your own estate planning, risk is removed from the equation and only the rewards remain - both for you and the Foundation. The benefits for you are impressive:

- Guaranteed fixed income for life that is partially tax-free
- Valuable income tax deduction
- Possible avoidance of capital gain tax

The Alpha Omega Foundation also benefits from your generosity. At the end of your life the Foundation uses the amount that remains in your gift annuity account to continue its

philanthropic programs in dental health, education, research and care through out the world.

A charitable gift annuity provides the donor and a beneficiary for life based on a fixed percentage of the amount of the gift. The rate in effect when you acquire your annuity never changes. It is guaranteed for life - and is backed by the full financial strength of the Alpha Omega Foundation.

Viewed in the light of current market conditions, these rates are very appealing. And there are other factors that enhance them even more. You receive a deduc-

tion in the year you fund your annuity, and for the duration of your life expectancy - a portion of each payment is tax-free. These tax benefits increase your yield.

You should consider a deferred-payment gift annuity. There is no contribution limit. You may contribute appreciated securities and not be currently taxed on the gain. Of course the longer you defer payment, the greater the annuity payment will be. The current economic environment makes this an advantageous time to do so.

Please call our office of planned giving, toll free 1-877-368-6326 and we will prepare a personalized illustration of how a gift

## SEVEN STRATEGIES FOR INVESTING DURING VOLATILE MARKETS

By the Smith Barney Division of Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. Courtesy of John Hasenberg

*(Editor's note: John Hasenberg, Senior Vice President—Wealth Management, Smith Barney, has served as financial advisor to the Foundation since 2002, and has contributed greatly to the growth and stability of its investment portfolio. He has been asked to submit this article in consideration of the present downturn in the global economy. John Hasenberg is a Financial Advisor located in Washington, DC. He may be reached at [www.fa.smithbarney.com/hasenberg](http://www.fa.smithbarney.com/hasenberg)).*

The markets don't always behave the way we'd like them to: Geopolitical turmoil, natural disasters, interest rates, and world events can have a profound effect on market movements. Since no one can predict how markets will perform, it's important to develop an investment strategy to help you meet your financial goals.

### Work with a Financial Advisor:

A financial advisor can offer an understanding of your complete financial picture, not just your investments. In periods of market volatility when most support is needed, a Financial Advisor can

provide: 1) Access to important decision making research and marketing; 2) Ongoing monitoring of your investment portfolio, while anticipating your changing needs; 3) A comprehensive market plan.

### Have a Plan:

Developing a financial plan is one of the best ways to meet long-term goals. A plan should be developed well in advance of a turbulent market, helping you set realistic goals and appropriately manage your return expectations.

### Invest Regularly:

Investing regularly, even during market downturns can help you reduce your overall costs. *Dollar cost averaging* is one of the best ways to invest regularly, regardless of how the markets perform. It further encourages discipline and may also ease the anxiety of daily market fluctuations.

### Diversify:

"Don't put all your eggs in one basket." Diversifying your portfolio can reduce risk and volatil-

ity if the assets have little or no correlation to each other. There are several ways to diversify and reduce potentially reduce portfolio volatility: 1) Purchase different types of mutual funds; 2) Among asset categories, purchase stocks and bonds; 3) Purchase some stocks and bonds outside the U.S., since some markets move opposite the U.S. market.

### Put Volatility to Work for You:

Do you consider 'the glass half-empty or half-full'? Your perspective can affect the decisions you make during market downturns. Rather than make negative irrational decisions, view a down market as an opportunity to build your portfolio, taking advantage of lower unit costs.

### Stay Invested:

Resist the temptation to move out of the market and wait for it to rebound. How do you know when is the right time to leave? How do you know when is the right time to start investing again? The investment strategy your advisor has developed will help you make decisions that will meet your long-

term goals.

### Be Patient:

There will always be uncertainty in the markets; volatility is a natural part of the investment cycle. It may take time...but markets do rebound. In the meantime call your advisor to help you develop an action plan, and continue to focus on your long-term investment goals, rather than short-term market moves.

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# “OPEN-WIDE” Golf Tournament Produces Winners

## Tiger Woods Beware!

One of the bonus benefits of “warm-weather” conventions is Alpha Omega’s golf tournament. The weather in Scottsdale cooperated, the course was magnificent, and the golf was... hmmm...so-so....and...here are the winners.

Foursomes.

- 1) Richard Shapiro, Sean Shapiro, Marty Braverman, Landon Braverman
- 2) Cliff Litvak, Lauren Litvak, Sy Evans, Adam Moltz
- 3) Bob Simon, Amy Simon, Kathy Kampel, Larry Rot-

man

Closest to Pin:

- 1) Jon Miller; 2) Bruce Braverman; 3) Laurie Gordon-Shaw

Straightest Drive:

- 1) Steve Miller; 2) Charlene Berkman

Longest Putt:

- 1) Steve Spitz

There were prizes for everyone, lunch was served, and ‘fun’ was the keyword.



Alpha Omega Foundation  
50 W. Edmonston Drive #404  
Rockville, MD 20852

Phone: 301-738-6400  
1-877-368-6326

Fax: 301-738-6403

e-mail: [Foundation@ao.org](mailto:Foundation@ao.org)

Website: [www.ao.org/foundation](http://www.ao.org/foundation)

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IT'S EASY

You can order on-line through the AO website ([www.ao.org](http://www.ao.org))

You can order direct from the Foundation by e-mail: [foundation@ao.org](mailto:foundation@ao.org)

You can order from Tribute chair, Mike Goldstein by e-mail: [Mgold535@aol.com](mailto:Mgold535@aol.com)

You may order via phone from Foundation 1-877-368-6326

You may use check or credit card.

Single Card:	\$10.00
Pack of 6:	\$35.00
Single Gold:	\$30.00
Platinum:	\$100.00
Jewish New Year Cards (pkg. 15):	\$19.00

Gold and Platinum cards will be mailed by the Foundation and acknowledgement published in the AO Journal. Proceeds from sale of New Year cards accrue to the AO Student members in support of student affairs. In future editions of the Foundation Newsletters, acknowledgements of tributes will be inscribed there as well.



THE ALPHA OMEGA FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS EXTEND GREETINGS FOR A HAPPY AND JOYOUS PURIM

