

A minihistorical perspective of the AAE: 1943 to 1983

In recognition of the AAE's 40th anniversary, this short history of the Association is being published sequentially in the April to July issues of the Journal. This is the second part.

The Second Decade

In 1953, a survey of the AAE membership showed that 34 members limited their practice to endodontics, 24 limited their practice to endodontics and periodontics, and 10 were endodontic instructors. Ralph Sommer chaired a committee to study the feasibility of a Specialty Board in endodontics and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry held its first "World Conference on Endodontics." Approximately 475 dentists were AAE members and each received the first report of the Nomenclature Committee that year.

For the AAE, 1954 also meant an increase in the number of study clubs. Edgar D. Coolidge received the first Annual Award of Merit from the Alumni Association of Loyola University's dental school. Before the annual meeting in Chicago, a television course in endodontics was presented by the University of Michigan at the University of Illinois School of Dentistry. This popular course was given for several years. The scientific session that year featured various essays, motion pictures, and table clinics, ranging from J. Freedland's "Bleaching Vital Fluoresced Teeth and Devitalized Teeth" to E. Alan Lieben's "A Histological Study of the Comparative Effectiveness of Commonly Used Pulp Capping Materials: Its Clinical Significance." Concerns over infection and surgical versus nonsurgical approaches continued to dominate the presentations.

... The Nautilus, the first atomic-powered submarine, set sail in 1954 and Senator Joseph McCarthy was seen in the televised hearings on alleged Communist influence in the US Army.

On April 21, 1955, the AAE was incorporated under the general Not-For-Profit Act in Illinois. The roster listed 568 members and study club activity continued to increase. On the first day of the annual meeting at Chicago's Conrad Hilton Hotel, the Detroit Endodontic Study Club gave "A Study Club's Presentation of the Successful Management of a Pulp-Involved Tooth" while John I. Ingle discussed "Histological Determination of Root Canal Failure," Bertram L. Wolfson spoke on "Selective Endodontics Based on Clinical Findings, Radiographic Evidence, and Restorative Requirements," and George Stewart lectured on "Value of Mechanical Preparation of Root Canals." John Pear represented the Association at a "Workshop on Dental Specialties" sponsored by the American Dental Association.

... That year, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, AL, bus to a white man and the civil rights movement began in America.

In 1956, the American Board of Endodontics was organized and later incorporated under the Illinois Not-For-Profit-Act on July 30. The AAE Library published its first list of endodontic reprints and the Southern Endodontic Study Club was started. A survey of 41 US dental schools showed that 10 had endodontic departments. The annual meeting featured an "all university" table clinic program as well as a full and varied scientific slate, including David Green's discussion of "A Stereobinocular Microscopic Study of Root Canal Apices and the Surrounding Area of Anterior Teeth," which was presented with three-dimensional equipment that required the audience to be furnished with special glasses.

In 1957, the scientific session of the annual meeting expanded with the addition of case history presentations along with table clinics, motion pictures, essays, and visual education programs. A panel discussion centered on "The journal situation" in which N. Weir Burkman, Victor Dietz, Louis Grossman, Maynard K. Hine, John Ingle, Henry Kaiser, and moderator Harry Healey discussed whether they should continue with present policy, seek other journal affiliations, or reactivate the *Journal of Endodontia*. Membership had grown to 609 and the Ladies Auxiliary of the AAE was organized. An application for the recognition of endodontics was filed with the American Dental Association.

In 1957, Birger Nygaard Ostby introduced EDTAC to the profession to assist in enlarging root canals in conjunction with reamers and files.

... The beatnik era had its beginnings in 1957 with the publication of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*.

In 1958, Edgar D. Coolidge, "the dean of endodontics," was elected Honorary President of the AAE and Birger Nygaard-Ostby of Norway was elected an Honorary Member. The first supplement to our list of endodontic reprints was published, and Maynard K. Hine, the AAE's fifth president, was elected an ADA Trustee. A one-year moratorium on recognition of new specialty boards was reimposed by the American Dental Association, without recognizing endodontics, and the AAE Research Committee devoted its time to the initiation of programs for the standardization of root canal instruments and filling materials.

... Also in 1958, the first domestic jet airline opened in this country when National Airlines initiated its flight from New York to Miami on December 10.

The annual meeting of 1959, held in Feb. in Chicago, featured a variety of scientific sessions, including ones by Samuel Seltzer, Kaare Langeland, Maury Massler, I. B. Bender, Harry Sicher, and Frank Trice. A motion picture film, "Cinematography of the Living Dental Pulp," produced

by Mauri Pohto and Arje Scheinin of the University of Helsinki was a notable feature. That year, a committee was established to study the possibility of making the distinction of "fellowship" available to members. Following recommendations of the research committee, 14 dental manufacturers were contacted about proposed standardization of endodontic instruments and materials.

. . . . Alaska became our 49th state in 1959 and Soviet Premier Khrushchev made an unprecedented visit to our country.

Presiding as keynote speaker of the 1960 annual meeting was Paul H. Jeserich, ADA president, who discussed, "Looking into the Future." The scientific program featured group clinics in which the dental schools at several universities and the Asociacion Mexicana de Endodoncistas participated. Membership was up to 671. Vincent B. Milas was appointed AAE Historian. At the annual session of the American Association of Dental Schools, AAE members presented a conference on endodontics. An ADA-sponsored 2-day conference on Dental Specialties resulted in creation of a new reference committee of the ADA House of Delegates to determine whether to create new areas of specialty. The ADA House lifted the moratorium on applications for specialty recognition. Also, the fellowship committee continued to investigate the creation of a fellowship status.

Before the 1961 annual session in Chicago, a symposium on "Biology of the Human Dental Pulp" was held. Samuel Seltzer chaired the discussion in which cells, ground substance, and fibers of the pulp were outlined. The cover of the program for the 18th Annual Session, the last to be held in conjunction with the Chicago Midwinter Meeting, bore an unofficial emblem, which showed an open book encased by the motto for health and function, "Sanitas Et Functio." This program also was the first to list the objectives of the association. A Site Selection Committee for the annual session was appointed and the next annual meeting was

planned for Miami Beach. In Chicago, the Edgar D. Coolidge Study Club was organized and the AAE's ninth president, F. Darl Ostrander, was elected speaker of the ADA House of Delegates. The American Board of Endodontics submitted a second application for recognition; however, after a presentation and review at the ADA Council on Dental Education's Sept. 6 meeting, the application for recognition was turned down.

. . . . On April 17 of this year, the invasion of Cuba's "Bay of Pigs" occurred and approximately 3 weeks later, Alan B. Shepard, Jr., was the first passenger of a US suborbital space flight.

Due to the influence of I. B. Bender, the 1962 annual meeting was not held in Chicago. Instead, the Hotel Fontainebleau in Miami Beach was the site of the meeting from Feb. 11 to 14. In his welcome to members, AAE President Glenn R. Brooks said, "Constant research and a place to exchange this information verbally is one of the purposes of our national meeting. We are looking forward to a scientific session which will enrich us with newer concepts and better ways to serve the public. This is our goal." Also that year, the National Board of Dental Examiners revised its examinations to include a section on endodontics. A special brochure for the public, "Your Teeth Can Be Saved," was prepared by the AAE and published by the ADA. Discussions continued on standardizing endodontic materials and devices in cooperation with the International Association for Dental Research, and some manufacturers began to comply. The Executive Committee adopted the Organizational Seal (with which we are all familiar) and AAE members were invited to attend a Registry of Periapical Pathology at the US Army Institute. The American Board of Endodontics submitted a new application for recognition by the ADA Council on Dental Education. AAE membership exceeded 750.

REGISTRY OF ASSOCIATES

California—Endodontics. Full-time tenure-track position at the assistant professor level in endodontics available July 1. Certified endodontist, Board-eligibility required. Teaching experience in endodontics, interest in research, and experience in general dentistry practice required. Formal training in education, such as M.Ed. or Ph.D. preferred. Responsibilities include clinical and didactic teaching of undergraduate and graduate students. Equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Send curriculum vitae to Dr. William H. Crawford, Jr., Dean, School of Dentistry, University Park MC-0641, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0641.

Philadelphia—Associate leading to partnership. Must be Board-eligible. Group practice (AR-337).

Endodontist completing residency in May. Male, age 33, 5 years' general practice, married, personable, proficient in surgery and i.v. sedation. Seeks associateship or partnership with endodontist or group in California. Has California license (AR-338).

Endodontic practice for sale. Established, active quality practice. Upstate New York, outstanding recreational area. Available summer 1983 (AR-339).

Endodontist, age 30, 1-year general practice residency, 2 years endodontic residency, seeks associate/partnership in New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut areas (AR-340).

Excellent opportunity for endodontist to take over 17-year established limited practice. Approximately 25,000 patient charts. No cash necessary. Prime Southern California location (AR-341).

Part- or full-time overhead sharing arrangements, or associate with partnership potential. Experienced, personable, capable, and quality-minded endodontists. We offer a modern, established, growing, enjoyable, high-quality private practice in extremely prestigious area. Fifteen minutes from Santa Monica, 10 minutes from the beach. Reply to CDA Box 1578, POB 91258, Los Angeles, CA 90009.

Cleveland—Shaker Heights. Well-established (24 years) endodontic practice. Owner planning to retire. Terms available. Write: Marvin N. Forman, DDS, Inc., 20475 Farnsleigh Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, or call 216-751-0800.

Associate wanted for eventual partnership. Prime midwest location. Excellent opportunity (AR-342).

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The Third Decade

The 1963 meeting, celebrating "twenty years of progress and advancement through education and research in the art and science of endodontics," was held in Chicago. The new organizational seal appeared on the program's cover. As a tribute to the city, which was dubbed the birthplace of the association, essayists on the first day were all from Chicago. Members were shocked by the sudden death of Elmer A. Jasper (7th AAE President) at the podium while he was presenting the essay "Tissue Changes Following Endodontic Therapy." Membership amounted to 842 and a catalogue of 1,000 reprints was issued by the Library Committee. Applications for "Fellow of the AAE" were submitted. The ADA Council on Education, following earlier approval by the ADA Board of Trustees, recommended that endodontics be recognized as a special area of dental practice. A Reference Committee debated this recommendation at a daylong hearing at the ADA Annual Session. Recognition was approved and Resolution 35, "Resolved that endodontics be recognized as a special area of dental practice" was sent to the ADA House of Delegates. After much discussion pro and con, the delegates voted in favor of the resolution and endodontics was finally recognized as a specialty. In June, the registry of replantation cases was announced. Mary Crowley, microbiologist from the University of Michigan, was elected an Honorary Member.

. . . The date, Nov. 22, 1963, was one of special significance to all Americans. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated that day.

"Some of us have missed opportunities to see Babe Ruth play ball, surf at Waikiki, go possum hunting, join Arnie's army, crank a model-T Ford, have steak and grits for breakfast, and a few other wonderful things like these. I don't know about you, but I sure don't want to compound my mistakes by missing our 1964 meeting in Washington," commented AAE President James H. Sherard in the AAE Newsletter preceding the 1964 meeting.

More than 400 took his advice and attended the 21st Annual Session at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. The meeting was held while the cherry blossoms bloomed, from April 17 to 19. But this change in dates for the annual session was not only significant change, as AAE President James H. Sherard, Jr., pointed out, "With this 21st meeting in the nation's capital, a new era begins. The results of the untiring efforts of many of our members have been realized and endodontics is now recognized as a specialty by the ADA."

Also in 1964, the AAE Endowment and Memorial Foundation was established as was the Canadian Academy of Endodontics, the first national endodontic organization in that country, and George C. Hare, the AAE's 15th President,

was installed as its chairman. Also organized was the Southwest Society of Endodontics. On Nov. 11th, the American Board of Endodontics filed an application for approval as the recognized certifying agency with the ADA education council, which was discussed, reviewed, approved, submitted to the ADA House of Delegates, and unanimously approved. Edgar D. Coolidge was designated the first diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics.

. . . Meanwhile, US forces in Vietnam amounted to 84,000 by year's end.

The Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit was the site for the 22nd Annual Session at which AAE President J. B. Freedland greeted his fellow endodontists by saying, "Emerson once described a weed as a plant whose virtues have not been discovered. During this past year, our American Board of Endodontics was given official approval by the American Dental Association so that the recognition accorded endodontics as a special area of dental practice may be properly implemented. Since so many of us have been participants rather than spectators in this transition of endodontics, I feel certain that you share with me the pleasure of having successfully achieved this long desired goal for dentistry and endodontics. So, in an Emersonian sense, we have finally been discovered."

A Study Club Workshop and a breakfast for new members were introduced at the annual session during this meeting and the first examinations of the American Board of Endodontics were held. Approximately 127 candidates had applied. An examination for Fellowship was also given. Preceding this session was a three-day conference on the teaching of endodontics. The conference, sponsored by the AAE and American Fund for Dental Research, was conducted by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation Institute of Graduate and Postgraduate Dentistry of the University of Michigan and more than 50 schools participated in the discussions on endodontic education.

Later that year, guidelines for the limited practice of endodontics were formulated and Maynard K. Hine, the AAE's fifth president, was elected president of the ADA and F. Darl Ostrander was reelected speaker of the ADA House.

In 1966, approximately 314 attended the 23rd Annual Session in San Francisco, the first to be held on the West Coast. In welcoming members, AAE President Henry S. Schmidt explained the reasoning behind the new process for selecting annual meetings sites, "This our first meeting on the West Coast, is the result of the policy established by the Executive Committee, whereby the site of the annual meeting is rotated to enable all sections of the country to have the opportunity for hosting the meeting." Newly Sponsored Student Endodontics Awards were presented to 39 dental schools and a student membership category was started in the Association.

The ADA amended its bylaws so a special section of the scientific session could be dedicated to endodontics. The Endowment and Memorial Foundation was incorporated. Also that year, John I. Ingle received the alumnus of the

year award from Northwestern University and Vincent B. Milas received an alumni medal from the Loyola University Dental Alumni. In October 1966, Seymour Olet became editor of the *Newsletter*, in which new AAE President John I. Ingle reported: "This summer has been characterized by change! In fact the year 1966 will be known historically as a benchmark year; primarily in health care socioeconomics. The July 1 inauguration of Medicare has already materially affected the practice of medicine. We, in dentistry, shall soon feel the impact of Title 19 as the states pass enabling legislation. If New York sets the pattern for the nation in this regard, we should see a steady influx of patients seeking dental care."

Also that year, the AAE and ABE contributed \$3,000 to the ADA's Fine Arts Fund, which was used to purchase Theodore Gall's and William Engels' abstract, welded, bronze wall sculpture that now graces the headquarter's lobby.

... Also in 1966, Hanoi was bombed and Edward Brooke became the nation's first black senator.

St. Louis was the site for the 1967 Annual Session and AAE President John I. Ingle reported on the special significance of this city:

"One hundred years ago in this city, Dr. Bowman announced the use of gutta percha as a root canal filling material. If you will think back, there are not many products in use today that were developed a century ago. And as yet, we have not in all this age of technology developed an endodontic filling material superior to gutta percha.

Root canal therapy is vastly different than it was in 1867. We are reaching toward the apogee of success. Today, by careful diagnosis and treatment, success in endodontics is nearly 100 percent.

How many men visualized only a short time ago that we could once again stimulate growth in the incompletely formed root which had become pulpless? Who visualized only a few years ago that the sophisticated surgical techniques presently used, as well as the devices to extend root length and to intentionally replant apparently hopeless cases?

The endodontist is fast becoming the diagnostician for dentistry, and it is in this area where we must make our greatest strides, in dental education and in the specialty. I am sure that through such meetings as this 100th Anniversary Meeting, our knowledge will surge forth."

Membership had increased to 1,000 and the study club chairman reported on 21 endodontic clubs in the US, South America, Great Britain, and New Zealand.

At the ADA's annual session, our first endodontic exhibit met with overwhelming success. The Nomenclature Committee presented its glossary of endodontic terms, culminating three years of hard work. Edgar D. Coolidge, an AAE founder and Honorary President, died. The first endowed endodontic professorship in the nation, the Samuel and Hannah Holzman professorship at New York University, was given to Morris B. Auerbach.

... By December 1967, 475,000 US troops were in South Vietnam.

In his welcome to the 550 attendees at the 25th Annual Meeting at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, AAE President Edwin C. Van Valey noted: "Since our beginning, 25 years ago, our Association has grown from a handful of general practitioners dedicated to the preservation of teeth to a group of 1,000 active members who are general practitioners, specialists in the field, teachers, and research men—all vitally interested in the same principles of the men who

preceded them. At this time, we look back and we look forward. We look back and thank the men who have created the stepping stones for us. We look forward to the day when all teeth will be saved and when there is an even better understanding of endodontic principles in the profession and among the patients we treat."

The Literary Committee was formed at the 25th meeting to investigate: revision of the pamphlet, "Endodontics Can Save Your Teeth"; a proposed publication for public distribution outlining what endodontics does; and an informational pamphlet for AAE members. Also, the Fellowship Committee was discontinued and a new committee, the Honors & Awards Committee, was organized.

The May 1968 *Newsletter* paid honor to AAE Dental School Deans: John I. Ingle of the University of Southern California, John T. Bird of Washington University, Leonard C. Alexander of Marquette University, Maynard K. Hine of Indiana University, and Harry Blechman of New York University.

In a later *Newsletter*, AAE President Samuel S Patterson looked to the future: "If I were asked to summarize the importance of our first 25 years of existence, I would have to admit that among other things our primary efforts consisted of organization and recognition. Although we should continue to improve and expand these measures, our thoughts and efforts should now be directed to the broader use of interest of the skills and philosophies of endodontics. Some of our future goals should center around 1) expanding the size of our Society, 2) a permanent headquarters at the ADA Headquarters Building under the guidance of a lay executive and 3) guidelines for the teaching of undergraduate, post graduate, and graduate endodontics."

Chicago's Picasso sculpture graced the cover of the program for the 1969 Annual Meeting, which was held in that city. Eleanor McClintock was hired full-time at the Central Office in Atlanta. In June, the Harry J. Healey Study Club was started and the Florida Society of Endodontists was given its charter. The "Registry of Associates" appeared for the first time in the *Newsletter*. As of Jan. 1, there were 302 diplomates of the Board. By Aug. 1, 122 students were AAE members. A linguistic survey, taken in September, disclosed that 35 members were bilingual and 22 languages—from Albanian to Yiddish—were spoken by our members.

... Also in 1969, Chappaquiddick was in the news and Neil A. Armstrong walked on the moon.

The 27th Annual Meeting, held in Atlanta, was dedicated to Harry B. Johnson, who was described as "one of the great men in endodontics who gave much of himself, his talents, and creative skills to preserve and maintain man's natural dentition. He was, in his day, the only limited practitioner of endodontics in the entire world. The first biologic research to prove that endodontics was a scientifically accepted theory demonstrated that his method of treatment was superior to any being practiced throughout the world."

The 1970 meeting also featured a color TV program on Sunday morning in which Alfred Frank spoke on endodontic implants and Milton Siskin reviewed homogenous dental transplants. The "Ethical Guidelines for the Limited Practice of Endodontics" were printed in the roster. The Insurance Committee was instructed to develop a standardized form

to be used in conjunction with the Glossary. Also that year, the Endowment and Memorial Foundation awarded its first graduate student loan. The endodontic section in the *Journal of Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, and Oral Pathology* was increased from 220 to 340 pages per year. From Sept. 16 to 19, the Conference of the Biology of the Human Pulp was held in Memphis and sponsored by the AAE, ABE, and E & M Foundation. Attendance exceeded 350. As of Jan. 1, 1970, there were 342 certified diplomates.

. . . . In the news in 1970 was the "Chicago 7" trial and during the year two women became the first female generals in the US Army.

In 1971, the Philadelphia Marriott was the site for the 28th Annual Meeting. The scientific program included research seminars, symposiums on endodontic-periodontic problems, root studies, periapical biology, practice administration, and new concepts on dental education. The Committee for Clinical Correlation of Research was established. Samuel Seltzer's new text, *Endodontology*, hit the book stores, the "Endo Tips" column appeared in the *Newsletter*, and Harold Stanley's Pulp Registry had been in existence for six months. In 1971, membership had increased by 14%. The 1,173 members were from the United States, Canada,

and 18 foreign countries. The Endodontic Society of New South Wales and the AAE became penpals of a sort—they exchanged endodontic literature—and AAE member James A. Tsigonis was ordained a priest in the Greek Orthodox Church. In December, members were saddened by the death of founder and past president of both the Association and the Board, Ralph F. Sommer.

In 1972, the AAE held the annual meeting in conjunction with the Canadian Academy of Endodontics at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal. And, approximately 22 members attended a special meeting with the British Endodontic Society in Europe. The AAE's Council on Dental Education was restructured so that a student member and specialist could be appointed. In the spring, AAE members were mailed the "Estate Planning and Personal Inventory Workbook." Harvey Sarnier was retained as association lawyer and his column, "Law & Legislation," soon appeared in the *Newsletter*. The Foundation gave away approximately \$22,000 in student loans.

. . . . Also that year, Alabama Gov. George Wallace was shot and Sen. Thomas Eagleton stepped down from the Democratic vice-presidential nomination when it was learned he had had electroshock therapy.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Endodontics, the theme of the South African Congress

Endodontics in Everyday Practice will be the theme of the International Congress in Johannesburg, South Africa on Oct. 2 to 7. The Congress, sponsored by the Endodontic Society of South Africa, includes a slate of clinicians and lecturers from around the world.

AAE member Dr. Calvin Torneck of the University of Toronto will discuss endodontic failures, trauma and endodontic therapy for developing permanent dentition, and new endodontic materials while Dr. Henry Trowbridge of the University of Pennsylvania will outline mechanisms and control of dental pain, reparative mechanisms of pulp and dentin, and pulpal inflammation.

From South Africa, Professor John Lemmer, head of the department of oral medicine and periodontics at the University of Witwatersrand, will discuss the endodontic-periodontic dilemma. His fellow faculty members, Dr. Johan Reineke, director of the facial deformity unit, will cover treatment of the medically compromised patient; Professor Mervyn Shear, head of oral pathology, will speak on periapical pa-

thology and endodontic therapy; and Dr. Errol Stein, special lecturer for the orthodontic department, will discuss modification of orthodontic treatment to resolve endodontic problems.

From the department of endodontics and occlusal rehabilitation at the University of Pretoria, Dr. Herman Strating will explain restoration of the endodontically treated tooth.

Mr. Geoffrey W. Robertson, vice-president of Security Travel, which is arranging the meeting, suggests that those attending the congress can extend their time in Africa by also visiting the SABI SABI Game Reserve, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Plettenberg Bay, Oudtshoorn, and Capetown.

Portugal elects first endodontic board

Dr. Cesar Mexia de Almedia writes that the Portuguese Society of Stomatology and Dental Medicine approved the statutes and elected the first Board for the Section of Endodontics. Members of the new Board are: Dr. Almedia as president, Dr. Belo Moreira as vice-president, and Dr. Jorge Cruz as secretary.

This new Portuguese Board of Endodontics has goals very similar to those of our ABE as Dr. Almedia reports that according to its statutes, the

Board "proposes to contribute to the development of endodontics in Portugal, promote study, exchange knowledge and experience between its members and all those in the field of research who are making valuable contributions to the proper prevention and treatment of pulp diseases."

Dr. Almeida also reports that in addition to various clinical meetings, the Board will host two 18-hour courses (one in Oporto and one in Lisbon) given by AAE member Dr. Angel Lasala of Venezuela. Dr. Lasala received a special certificate of merit from the AAE at the 40th Annual Session.

Important Board Dates

Written examination—Thursday, Nov. 3, 1983, Northwestern University

Oral examinations—Friday & Saturday, Nov. 4 & 5, 1983 Ramada—The O'Hare Inn, Des Plaines, IL

For more information, contact: Dr. Joseph Tenca, American Board of Endodontics, 211 E. Chicago Ave., Suite 830, Chicago, IL 60611.

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The Fourth Decade

The Fairmont Hotel in Dallas was the site for the 1973 annual meeting. A plenary session focused on local anesthesia and pain while dental auxiliary utilization was the topic of another scientific session. Research seminars covered such topics as the reparative process following pulpotomy, the metaendodontium: a differential biological entity, and the possible role of endotoxin in pulpal and periapical disease. The four main seminars were televised and repeated. Louis I. Grossman became an Honorary Member and the first recipient of the award named for him. The award was given, it said, "with esteem and appreciation for superlative and meritorious contributions to the art and science of endodontics and for exemplary dedication, service and leadership to dentistry, and this association."

The Biology of the Human Dental Pulp that resulted from the conference of the same name was published by C. V. Mosby and a conference on periodontics and endodontics was held in Philadelphia. Charter member Sophia Bolotny, one of the first female endodontists, died on July 17. The Tar Heel Endodontic Association was started.

The 1974 annual meeting was held in San Diego's Sheraton-Harbor Island Hotel; approximately 1,190 attended. Because of increased membership, more than one hotel was used by members. A panel discussion focused on third-party payments while graduate student research seminars ranged from an autoradiographic demonstration of trigeminal nerve terminals to a scanning electron microscopic study of dentinal tubule size and distribution.

The Political Awareness Committee was established that year and the Glossary of Terms Used in Endodontics (including insurance codes) went into its second edition. The endodontic section in "Triple O" averaged 32 pages per month, exceeding its quota, and plans were made to start our own journal, to be published by the ADA. The

new journal would replace this endodontics section as well as the *Newsletter*. As of Jan. 1, 403 members were active diplomates.

... Richard M. Nixon's resignation was the top news story of 1974.

In 1975, membership had reached 1,886. Another 2,618 nonmembers subscribed to our new publication, the *Journal of Endodontics*. In introducing the first issue, AAE President Alfred L. Frank said, "I congratulate those wonderful giants of endodontics who have made all this possible. To all of them, both living and departed, the first issue is dedicated. To the rest of the endodontic world, both in general and limited practices, its perpetuation is bequeathed."

The 32nd annual meeting was held in New Orleans. For the first time, instant cassette copies of the convention were available and one scientific session, Face to Face, used a question and answer format in which the audience asked the extemporaneous opinions of Larz Spangberg, Harold Stanley, James Guttuso, and Leonard Adams. As of March 31, there were 412 Board Diplomates as well as 278 Board-eligible candidates and 21 applications pending.

... The kidnapping of Patty Hearst occurred in 1975 and US civilians were evacuated from Saigon as Communist forces completed their takeover of South Vietnam.

The 1976 annual meeting was held in Hollywood, FL. For the first time, scientific sessions were simultaneously translated into Spanish. The meeting was dedicated to Gerald I. Wernick, general arrangements chairman, who died before he could see his efforts for the meeting materialize. A Regional Peer Review Advisory Committee was organized.

... That year, the mysterious "legionnaires' disease" killed 29 in Philadelphia and the Viking II lander set down on Mars.

Myofascial pain, pulpal-periodontic lesions, pediatric endodontics, and philosophy of the practice of dentistry were just some of the subjects addressed at the 34th annual meeting in Houston. AAE President Frank B. Trice welcomed fellow endodontists by saying: "During the years the complexities of the problems associated with our profession have grown far beyond our

past perceptions. The interactions that occur at our annual meetings make a valuable contribution toward understanding and solving these problems. The general atmosphere of the meeting, combined with the learning experiences and an environment that leads to friendships based on mutual respect, is always a memorable experience."

... Also that year, Jimmy Carter pardoned draft evaders, Gary Gilmore was executed, and Bert Lance resigned.

The 35th Annual Session in Las Vegas was attended by more than 1,500. Program chairman David Green explained the meeting's purpose as "Our intent is to provide a variety of quality presentations: from the neutrophil to the nerve, from molecular biology to practice management, from pulpal pain to endodontic technique, and from business meetings to luncheons and parties." That year, the *Journal* had two special features—an Endodontic Historical Perspective and an issue devoted to the memory of Birger Nygaard-Ostby, who died during the year. I. B. Bender was presented with the Grossman Award and the Ralph F. Sommer Award was established. The Dominican Endodontic Society was formed.

Membership for 1978 had reached 2,335, with an increase of 200 members in that year. The greatest percentage of increase was noticed in the category of active members from foreign countries.

... Hubert Humphrey died in 1978 and the words neutron bomb and reverse discrimination became familiar to all.

About 1,600 attended the 1979 annual meeting in Atlanta at which scientific sessions focused on bone as dynamic tissue, surgical endodontics, endodontic microbiology (titled *What's New in Drugs and Bugs?*), clinical problems, chemotaxis, and a panel discussion on the standards and regulations for endodontic materials and devices. Subjects of symposiums included inflammation, practice management, the use of roots and root substitutes, filling materials, and investments (*How to Make Yourself Swindle-Proof*). The AAE decided to move its central office to Chicago and *Update on Endodontics*, a collection of endodontic abstracts, was published. Membership was up to 2,457; 122 new members joined that year alone. At the 120th

ADA Annual Session, the AAE's scientific display, covering emergency treatment for patients in pain, endodontic-periodontic cases, and avulsed teeth, was awarded top prize.

In 1980, Elenore Baker retired and Irma Kudo was appointed Executive Director. The 37th annual meeting, *The World of Endodontics: An International Event*, held in Los Angeles was attended by 1,500. In July 1980, the first commercial advertisements were accepted by the *Journal*. By this time, endodontics had the fourth largest register of diplomates (479) among the dental specialties. The Central Office of the AAE moved to Chicago from Atlanta on June 1 and Association membership records were computerized. The Coolidge Award went to J. B. Freedland and the Grossman Award went to Samuel Seltzer.

The Endowment and Memorial Foundation sponsored the highly successful Conference on Drug Therapy and the Grants-in-Aid Programs were established. Membership comprised

2,167 active members, 51 affiliates, 68 life members, 7 honorary members, and 1 associate member for a total of 2,634—an increase of 176 during the year. In 1980, Louis I. Grossman's endodontic textbook, *Endodontic Practice*, went into its tenth edition.

The 1981 annual meeting in Philadelphia focused on *Beyond the Root Canal—The Total Patient*. Endodontic roundtable seminars were introduced.

For the first time, a convention center, rather than a hotel, was used for the 1982 annual meeting in Phoenix. Attendance was 1,700 and the educational program was extensive, featuring Herbert Schilder on *Current Status of Clinical Endodontics*, Eugene Natkin on *Radiologic Interpretation of Significance in Endodontics*, Jerry Taintor on *Restoring Endodontically Treated Teeth*, and Norton Teichmann on *The Deleterious Effects of Polymorphonuclear Leukocytes in the Inflammatory Process*.

Our *Journal* published a special issue, dedicated to Louis I. Grossman. In

his history of the specialty, Dr. Grossman, looked to the future and his words furnish an appropriate conclusion for this short history:

"In the 1920s and 1930s, a number of dental study clubs were devoted principally to operative dentistry. An endodontic study club was formed in Philadelphia in 1939 and existed for several years. Eventually, in 1943, an organizing committee, of which I was a member, met in Chicago to form an association of those interested in root canal therapy. From the original nucleus of 19 men who gathered to form the American Association of Endodontists, the association has grown to nearly 2,000 members. It has been a strong influence in the development of endodontics around the world through its annual meetings and its journal. Research, both laboratory and clinical, have contributed their share to the advancement of endodontic practice. Graduate education in endodontics has assured the public of qualified, competent dentists specializing in endodontic treatment. In retrospect, most of the advances in endodontics have been made during the past 30 years or so when the empiric gave way to the scientific. I feel confident that the next 30 years will bring even greater advances in endodontics."

Ellen Wade Beals

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As A Member How Can I Help?

At its December 1980 meeting, the Council on Dental Education recommended that the American Dental Association undertake a major study to review the purpose of specialty recognition and to accomplish the most effective restructuring of those areas deserving specialty recognition. An advisory committee was formed by the Council. How did they respond?

"Areas of dental practice are recognized as specialties by the American Dental Association to protect the public and improve the quality of care provided them by the dental profession and for no other reason. It is the Association's belief that the needs of the public are best served if the profession is oriented primarily to general practice and specialties are recognized only in those areas where additional expertise is essential to maintain or restore oral health. It is not in the public interest for the profession to be fragmented by

recognition of a multiplicity of specialties with overlapping jurisdictions. Therefore, in order to be recognized as a specialty, an area must demonstrate that there is substantial, documented public need and demand for special services which cannot be adequately met by general practitioners or by specialists in other recognized areas. In this regard, it believes that it is in the best interest of the public for dentistry to remain primarily a profession of gen-

eral practitioners and for the number of recognized specialties to be limited to the minimum necessary to assure the provision of quality clinical care."

The Council will submit its recommendation for approval or denial to the Association's House of Delegates. Any specialty area of dental practice and an appropriate certifying board must be approved by the ADA House of Delegates.

Are you aware that only 1% of AAE members are delegates or alternate delegates to the ADA? It is not a very secure feeling to realize how few votes represent endodontics.

The AAE works hard to fulfill the basic sponsoring strength for specialization by establishing a strong Board which is required; by sponsoring research and continued education which is required; by establishing, reviewing, and policing high standards of excellence for accreditation which is required; but it cannot vote in the House.

Only when you members become politically involved in your local and state organizations can you preserve and perpetuate your earned specialty position. It is time to become involved and to identify yourself.



AAE President Donald E. Arens.