

Minutes of the June 2010 Dutchess County Dental Society General Membership Meeting.

The 6/22/10 General Membership Meeting of the Dutchess County Dental Society was held at Dutchess Golf and County Club in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Our members and guests began arriving at 6:00 pm, signing in, picking up their place cards from the well organized table prepared by Steward Anthony Bonavoglia, and enjoying some social time with their friends and colleagues, while audio-visual equipment was set up for our speaker by AV Manager Scott Bailey and this evening's Program Arranger Mike Schwartz got things organized with our scientific session speaker.

President Rosemarie Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She expressed her deep appreciation to our members and the Executive Board for their support during her presidency on this, the occasion of her last meeting as President for this administration. Dr. Mason was acknowledged with well deserved applause.

Dr. Mason also acknowledged the assistance of Dr. Scott Bailey and Gary Leinkram for their ongoing work in maintaining and assembling our audio-visual equipment at our General Membership Meetings, and they were also acknowledged by our members and guests.

Continuing, Dr. Mason informed us that Dr. Armen Manasar has been named an Honoree at the upcoming Vassar Brothers Medical Center's Diamond Gala and of Dr. Irving Baum's election as a Fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

Next, Dr. Mason introduced seven members who have served on the Executive Board for at least 20 consecutive years and presented them with plaques and medals. They are: Drs. Irving Baum, Bill Kirtland, Stephen Kaplan, Armen Manasar, Mark Mason, Michael J. Schwartz and Michael Smith. And again, our members and guests acknowledged these long contributions with hearty applause.

And finally, Immediate Past President Allen Ackerman presented Dr. Mason with a beautiful plaque, with mounted gavel, to thank her for her service as our President. This produced a Standing Ovation from our assembly.

President-Elect Tom Bloom rose to express his appreciation for the confidence shown in him and expressed his own confidence for the coming administration and in the Executive Board. He also acknowledged the strong efforts and support of Dr. John Costello, who chairs several committees, and Society and Board Secretary Steve Ross.

Dr. Kaplan reminded members that June is Open Enrollment month for MVP, and Dr. Smith introduced a potential new member.

And then Dr. Schwartz rose to conduct the ceremonies for the presentation to Dr. Joel Miller, recipient of the 2010 Walter Wallace Stevens Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service and announced his election to the Dutchess County Dental Society Hall of Fame. Dr. Schwartz spoke of Dr. Miller long and many contributions to the Dutchess County Dental Society and to dentistry and our community and presented him with the beautiful plaque signifying his achievement. Dr. Miller received very enthusiastic applause from our members and guests and he remained at the podium to speak.

Dr. Miller spoke of his admiration for our profession. He spoke of the history of the Dutchess County Dental Society and its growth as a significant force in the professional lives of our members and in our community. He compared dentistry to his current occupation as New York State Assemblyman. He reflected on how dentists serve in a highly ethical way, assist and support one another and hold their patients' interest as their highest value and how different it was in political life, where self-interest often seemingly overcomes service to the public and ethical responsibility is not always as well maintained as it should be. Dr. Miller's love for our profession was clearly felt by all of us and especially by those of us who are his constituents and experience personally his incomparable level of service to the public.

Dr. Miller is a down to earth speaker, who is able to communicate with humor and also with sincerity. At the conclusion of his talk it was clear from our response that our Society holds Dr. Miller in highest esteem.

All our members and guests received a commemorative booklet describing Dr. Miller's career and the biography of Dr. Walter Stevens, for whom the award is named.

Our members and guests enjoyed a few minutes for conversation and an excellent dinner and then it was time for our program. Dr. Schwartz introduced our speaker.

Dr. Edward M. Feinberg's CV is far too long to enumerate completely here. His distinguished career with his father, Elliot Feinberg, and in his own practice, is a tribute to the profession of dentistry and service to the profession. He has held multiple positions in the American Dental Association and the New York State Dental Association. In the Ninth District Dental Association he has served as Vice President, President, Past President, Editor, Ninth District Dental Association Bulletin, Membership Committee Chairman, Membership Committee Survey Chairman, ongoing Member of the Nominating Committee and Centennial Committee Chairman.

He has held many other positions including: Director, Westchester Academy of Restorative Dentistry, Chairman, New York State Section of the Pierre Fauchard

Academy, Past President, Scarsdale Dental Society, Past President, Scarsdale Rotary Club, President, International College of Dentists, New York State Section, American Association of Dental Editors Membership Committee, Board Member, Scarsdale Chamber of Commerce, Member of the International College of Dentists, American College of Dentists, American Association of Dental Editors, American Academy of Implant Prosthodontics, Alpha Omega Fraternity, Tufts Alumni Admissions Program, and the Academy of Dentofacial Esthetics.

Dr. Feinberg has many received honors including: 1998 Leadership Award; Ninth District Dental Association, 1999 D. Austin Sniffen Medal of Honor, 2003 New York State Pierre Fauchard Academy Award for Distinguished Service, 2005 Paul Harris Fellowship, Rotary International, 2007 Continuing Education Award for 2500 hours of CE.

Dr. Feinberg's lectures and demonstrations have been presented at the Ninth District Dental Society (including branch societies and study groups), the Greater New York Dental Meeting, the Westchester Academy of Restorative Dentistry, the Philadelphia County Dental Society, the Spanish-American Medical and Dental Association, the Oregon Dental Association, the Indian Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the Chicago Dental Society, and the Scarsdale Rotary Club. Numerous articles have been written for the Ninth District Dental Association Bulletin, the New York State Dental Journal, and two web pages.

Dr. Feinberg's presentation tonight was entitled "The Precision Attachment Case: Restorations for Natural Teeth and Implants".

The Precision Attachment Case is often overlooked as a treatment option or discounted as inferior to fixed bridgework. However, precision attachment cases often last *longer* than fixed bridgework--even on the weakest teeth imaginable. Dr. Feinberg presented evidence and explained why this is so. Precision attachment cases also work exceedingly well on implants and offer superior comfort and function to an implant overdenture.

Using many PowerPoint slides from his library of 100,000 slides and digital pictures taken since 1950, Dr. Feinberg demonstrated how precision attachments can be used successfully on both natural teeth and implants.

Dr. Feinberg's approach to fixed and removable dentistry is one that many of our members are not familiar with, but it has stood the test of time in the form of dentistry that has lasted decades even when placed on weak teeth that might have been thought unable to carry the case.

Dr. Feinberg asks that dentists do not yield to experimental fads of the moment, but use tried and proven techniques in their care, and his work is surely a model of that care and concern and commitment to excellence.

Dr. Feinberg patiently answered many questions from our members.

Our speaker received applause for his presentation and his contribution to our range of knowledge. He was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a World Famous and Highly Prized Dutchess County Dental Society Coffee Mug.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

The next General Membership Meeting of the Society will be September 21, 2010 at a place to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven B. Ross, D.D.S.
Secretary
Dutchess County Dental Society