



# AORTA

ALPHA OMEGA REVIEW OF TORONTO ALUMNI CHAPTER, PI CHAPTER | MARCH 2024 VOL. 65. NO.4  
WEB SITE: [WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG](http://WWW.AOTORONTO.ORG)

## 2024 ALPHA OMEGA

ALPHA OMEGA TORONTO  
CHAPTER PRESENTS:

# FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

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# LANI'S LETTERS



Dear AO family,

I hope you have had a wonderful start to 2024 and are looking forward to a busy and exciting calendar of events with your fellow Alpha Omegas!

Our year kicked off last month with an informative webinar organized by our Advocacy Committee which featured a discussion about "Antisemitism and the Law" with renown lawyer Howard Levitt. This is unfortunately a very current and hot topic as the spread of misinformation and extremist ideologies contribute to the perpetuation of antisemitic beliefs in Toronto and around the world. The ongoing hostage situation in Gaza and the innocent lives being lost every day since the atrocities committed by Hamas on October 7th continue to evoke strong feelings of outrage and sadness among us. Our community is united in prayer and stands in solidarity with the people of Israel.

Some of our members have safely returned home from the AO European ski trip in Verbier, Switzerland and many of us will be reunited this week as we gather for our annual Winter Seminar and Charitable Draw. We raised just under \$10,000.00 from the sale of our raffle tickets last year and we hope to surpass this amount this year! Our evening CE program at Adath Israel started out with a great turnout to hear from Jonathan Madras (endo) last month

and new member Stephanie Grossman will be presenting a lecture on Orthodontics in February. In March we will hear from member Mark Kochman (full mouth rehab) and Sid Lisser, a chiropractor specializing in TMD treatment, will be presenting to us in April. Our annual CPR certification is being offered on Monday, March 25.

I would like to highlight the incredibly creative and fun social programs that we can look forward to in the upcoming months. The Yorkville Jewish Centre will once again be hosting our annual Challah Bake on Thursday, February 29. We look forward to having many members in attendance as we raise money for Israel while performing the mitzvah of Hafrashat Challah. The Winter Social on Sunday, March 24 will be a fun and active day on the courts for both experienced and new players at the Jar Pickleball Club! On Thursday, April 4, our AO Revival committee has arranged a fun and creative Flower Workshop for in which participants will craft beautiful floral centerpieces to take home. Coinciding with the return home of our snowbird members, Alan Vinegar has arranged for an AO visit of the new Toronto Holocaust Museum which will involve an educational film and live presentation by Holocaust survivor Andi Reti.

On May 1, our AO Revival Speaker Series is thrilled to present a most inspiring lecture by Dr. Robert Stewart, a kidney transplant surgeon at St Michael's Hospital. Dr Stewart's brush with death has prompted him to raise awareness of the deceptive veil of invincibility that often shrouds healthcare professionals. Through sharing his personal story, Dr Stewart aims to dismantle the myth of perpetual resilience in doctors, fostering a culture that acknowledges vulnerability as a strength rather than a weakness.

As my term as President comes to an end in the spring, I look forward to seeing our executive members in attendance at Bistro Grande on Tuesday, May 21 for our Annual Business Meeting. We will once again be hosting the Spring Picnic at the Toronto Zoo on Sunday, June 2 and our installation BBQ

*continued on page 7*

# AORTA



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of Alpha Omega**

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## Next Executive Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
*with the Annual Business Meeting*

## Next AORTA Deadline (May)

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

## Notable Achievements

Please inform the AORTA of fraters or members of their families who have achieved success, honours or milestones.

## Benevolence

Please call Lorne Chapnick regarding illnesses or deaths of fraters.  
Email: lorne.chapnick@utoronto.ca  
Home: (416) 782-1521

*The opinions as expressed by the editors and columnists of the AORTA do not necessarily reflect the views of Toronto Alumni Chapter and/or its executive. All correspondence should be sent to the editor at barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca*

## DENTAL VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL

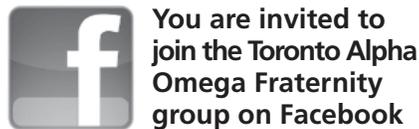
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Do you have a story to tell that other Fraters would love to hear?



Contact the AORTA editor **Barry Reinblatt** at [barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca) with your suggestions!

## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

If any Alpha Omega member knows of individuals or corporations who may be interested in sponsoring our programs please let me know. This will ensure the quality of our programs and events.

Please email this information to [stephenkay@sympatico.ca](mailto:stephenkay@sympatico.ca). To all committee chairmen, please forward a list of your corporate sponsors. Also please list the contacts and email addresses.

Thank you.  
**Stephen Kay**

# FROM THE EDITOR



I hope this issue of the AORTA finds everyone safe. Given what is happening in Israel and around the world, I know I am not alone in having serious concerns about the blatant anti-semitism that is being paraded in the streets. The only way to combat this is to stay true to our ideals and try to make our voice heard above all others. As **Guy Aboodi** says so eloquently in his article in this issue about the Winter Seminar, our strength is in our unity and community. So stay strong and feel free to read in this issue about all that Alpha Omega Toronto has to offer to keep us a united community.

You can read **Guy's** full article about the Winter Seminar as well as reports from the recent Advocacy Webinar and Ski Trips. There is information about many upcoming events including the Evening Continuing Education Seminars, the Winter Social Pickleball event, the Annual CPR Workshop, The Sunday Morning Group Tour of the Holocaust

Museum, the AO Revival Speaker series event, and the annual AO Picnic.

We have an article by **Dana Levy** about AO's efforts to purchase a mobile dental unit for Hebrew University and their response. We also have our regular contributors: **Stan Kogon** with an interesting article on dental ID and fingerprints, **Steven Brown** with another humour article, and **Barry Korzen** sends us a beautiful picture from Switzerland. Please enjoy this issue and remember that feedback is always welcome at [barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:barryreinblatt@sympatico.ca).

**Barry Reinblatt**



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **EVENING CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR**

Wednesday, March 20  
& Wednesday, April 17, 2024  
Adath Israel Synagogue  
37 Southbourne Avenue

### **WINTER SOCIAL PICKLEBALL**

Sunday, March 24, 2024  
10:00am - 12:00pm  
The Jar Pickleball Club  
900 Caledonia Road, Unit 5

### **AO CPR WORKSHOP**

Monday, March 25, 2024  
5:30pm - 8:30pm  
Adath Israel Synagogue  
37 Southbourne Avenue

### **AO REVIVAL FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP**

Thursday, April 4, 2024  
Petals in the City

### **AO GROUP TOUR OF TORONTO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM**

Sunday, April 14, 2024  
10:00am - 11:30am  
4588 Bathurst Street

### **AO REVIVAL SPEAKER SERIES**

Wednesday, May 1, 2024  
Dr. Robert Stewart  
Adath Israel Synagogue

### **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
Bistro Grande  
1000 Eglinton Avenue West

## Just A Reminder...

The Roster is for the exclusive use of the membership of Alpha Omega Fraternity. Anyone found using this directory for solicitation purposes will be prohibited from advertising to Alpha Omega and may be the subject of legal action.

# ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

On January 16, the Alpha Omega Toronto Advocacy Committee organized a Zoom Webinar. Howard Levitt, a well known Toronto employment lawyer, presented on the topic of "Antisemitism and the Law." He discussed employment law ,especially as it related to examples such as the future of law students who have signed various petitions and difficult potential antisemitic interactions with patients and staff .

Mr. Levitt's presentation was followed by an Q and A session with our Members. We had over 90 participants on our Zoom, and I am pleased to report that nearly all stayed online until the very end. For those who missed the Zoom, a recording is available by contacting Velarie at [info@atoronto.org](mailto:info@atoronto.org) My sincere appreciation to Ilana Kraus and Iris Kivity-Chandler,my co chair, for their participation.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Marcus AO Advocacy Committee, Co-chair

# LANI'S LETTERS *(Continued)*

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will be held at Adath Israel on Thursday, June 20. Our beloved past president David Cowan has once again planned an exciting day of Sailing for our members at the Island Yacht Club on Wednesday, July 10 and with this we will conclude our programming for the year.

I would like to thank our amazing Line of Officers, Executive members, and all our wonderful members for being an incredibly supportive and dedicated team during this emotionally challenging year. It has never been more important to be an active member of Alpha Omega and I am truly honoured to be representing our extraordinary organization in this role. We are a resilient

people, and we will emerge from this period of darkness stronger and more unified than ever before. After all, the Jewish story is one of hope- Hatikvah- and our guiding light of hope is a powerful force that will always transcend adversity and evil.

Am Yisrael Chai!

Lani Kraus



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# ...1000 WORDS

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the Bergamasker Alps in the distance. It is only accessible on foot during the summer or by train all year and the train travels on the highest railway track in Europe and the steepest in the world. The journey from St.

Moritz, Switzerland to Tirano, Italy travels through 55 tunnels and over 196 bridges and is a not to be missed trip.

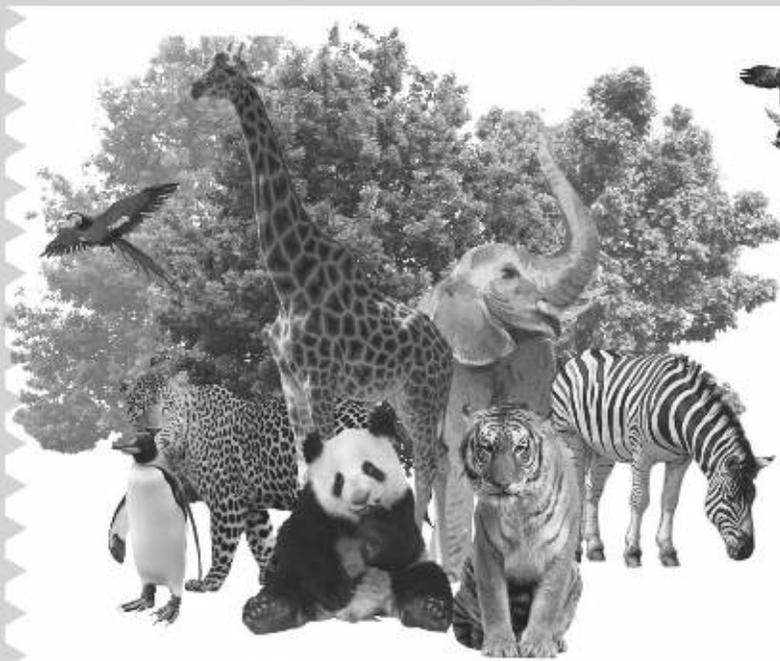


**Correction:** In the ...1000 words description in the January issue, the words דחי מיקוח were inadvertently flipped to read יחד חזקים which changes the message that Barry was conveying. The editor apologizes for this mistake.

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Toronto Chapter

2024

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**We wish all the AO members a Happy and Healthy Passover.**

# AND THERE WAS A SEMINAR TOO...

Almost 4 months after October 7, with the war in Gaza still going on and 134 hostages still held by the Hamas, we gathered for our Winter Seminar and Annual Charitable Draw.

I never had any question regarding the role of Alpha Omega in our lives as Jewish dentists, but an event like this seminar is the best way to demonstrate it: Not to take away from the professional value of an incredible full day continuing education lecture, nor to downplay the benefit of 6 core 1 CE credits; but it is still the personal get-together with our fellow fraters that is the absolute difference-maker for me. In days of rising antisemitism, our strength is in our unity and community. Alpha Omega gives us both.

And there was the seminar too...

We hosted Dr. Peter Nkansah, in my mind - one of the most brilliant speakers I have ever heard, who guided us through the ins-and-outs of **Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office**. 127 participants enjoyed refreshing their memory on this super important topic, in a most entertaining yet efficient talk.

The Annual Charitable Draw was completed while we all enjoyed our delicious lunch. Thank you to Caroline Alpert, Iris Kivity-Chandler, Laurel Linetsky-Fleisher, Tammy Herzog, Lani Kraus, Jordan Klimitz, Andrea Heckler and all of our members who asked their reps, friends and family for prizes - and who donated prizes themselves. Thank you to all of our prize donors - please see the donor list in this Aorta and please thank our donors! Thank you also to everyone who supported the event and our charities by buying tickets!

**\$8,625 was raised through this year's Charitable Draw!**

As always, the funds will be distributed back through the chapter's Charitable Board of Trustees.

The event was generously supported by **Garfield Refining, TD bank, and Adin Implants**. I wish to thank all of them for their ongoing support in our chapter, and specifically in the winter seminar.

We continue to pray for the hostages and for more peaceful times. We are stronger together!

Guy Aboodi, Chair



Thank you

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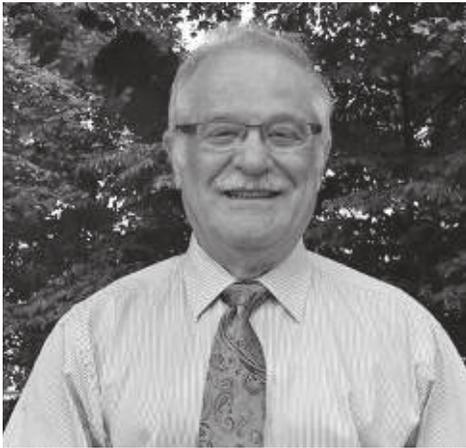
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# DENTAL ID AND FINGERPRINTS



There was a period when I was frequently asked to be the before-dinner-speaker for service clubs such as Rotary, Lions and Kinsmen. They needed someone to give a 30-minute talk prior to the meal and business meeting. These groups often provided small student bursaries and donations for dental care, so I accepted the invitations as an emissary of goodwill for the Faculty of Dentistry. Organizers advised me that the topic should not be serious, complex, political, controversial, or religious. I gave them a choice of two subjects: How Dental Students are Selected, or Scope of Forensic Dentistry. They most often chose the latter. I never got a choice of the meal (grilled chicken breast, mashed potatoes, and peas).

Although the audiences often included a few physicians and engineers, for the most part they were fellows drawn from the commercial world. To them, the idea of using teeth to identify a deceased was novel and entertaining. The content of my presentation consisted of basic information demonstrating the type of cases taken on by a forensic dentist. I focussed primarily on presumptive individual identification and touched on mass fatality dental ID as well. Using slides, I showed an example of a simple case, and left five minutes for Q and A, which was always popular. During the question periods, I frequently got comments such as, "I did not know that dental records were just like fingerprints" or "Is there a bank for dental records just like there is a bank for fingerprints?" Although I never claimed that dental ID was anything like fingerprints, one could understand the confusion. I took the

opportunity to provide a few points which made a clear distinction between these two personal identification techniques.

Fingerprints are individually characteristic and are immutable for life. The dentition, although more resistant than soft tissue to degradation, depends on invasive dental treatment or unique anatomic anomalies for its distinctiveness. For most people, over time, the number of teeth decrease due to wear, trauma and the ravages of periodontal disease, and caries. The loss of dental units reduces the number of unique identifiers which could be used for comparison. Edentulous jaws are notoriously difficult to identify. Dental identification is also dependent on the recovery of dental records, an activity with its own set of problems.

After doing a number of these talks, I realized that despite a reasonable understanding of dental identification, I had only a cursory knowledge of the history and application of the fingerprinting technique. Although I had worked alongside fingerprint technicians in morgues, mass fatality scenes and police training academies, my understanding of the technology was rudimentary.

## Who has fingerprints and what is their purpose?

Skin ridges or dermatoglyphs appear on the fingertips, toes, palms of the hand and soles of the feet of all primates as well as some arboreal mammals. Biologists have proposed that these ridges aid the sense of touch and add friction for the practical use of the hands and the feet. Babies are born with dermatoglyphs and the pattern remains unchanged for life. The ridges are arranged in loops, arches and whorls and have a pattern which seems to be influenced both genetically and environmentally during fetal development. The genetic contribution is complex and surprisingly, identical twins, who share the same DNA, have different fingerprint patterns. The finding of differences between identical twins also seems to be the case in palatal rugae patterns and the fine anatomy of molar cusps and fossae.

## History of fingerprint application in Identification

In the 1820's, the anatomist Johann Purkinje (Purkinje fibers in the heart's electrical conducting system), suggested that fingerprints may be individually characteristic. Sir William Herschel (of the astronomical Herschel family) showed that fingerprints were permanent by checking his own over decades. As a civil servant, in 1858, working in British East India, Herschel adopted the practice of having signatories to contracts add their fingerprints to the documents. This was the first practical application of dermatoglyphics. Independently, in 1877, Henry Faulds, a Scottish doctor, who taught physiology to medical students in Japan, noticed fingerprints trapped in the glaze of Japanese pottery. He was intrigued by the whorls and loops and made a study of the papillary ridges. Two years later, he used his findings to assist the local police in the apprehension of a burglar who left his sooty prints on the whitewashed wall of Faulds' home. Interestingly, when Faulds and Herschel had a dispute over the discovery of fingerprint theory, the ageing Charles Darwin was brought into the debate. By 1888, Darwin's cousin, the polymath, Sir Francis Galton, one of the greatest scientists of the day, who was entranced with all manner of morphologic variation between humans, went about to verify that fingerprints were unique. Once satisfied that this was true, he began a statistical analysis of the most common features of fingerprint patterns (whorls, arches, loops) which served as the basis for the development of a usable system for classification and comparison. Galton calculated that the chance of having two people with the same fingerprints was about 1 in 64 billion. Apart from the arithmetic combinations calculated by S.K. Neilson for missing and filled teeth, no such statistic has been proposed for teeth. The system Galton devised is still in use today.

Finding, lifting, and storing fingerprints is a technical skill-set that is beyond the subject of this essay. Suffice to say that police quickly recognized the value of this forensic evidence and as early as 1882, Juan Vucetich, an Argentine police chief, created the first

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method to record and place fingerprints in a file. He coined the term dactyloscopy for the process of using fingerprints for identification.

### **Is there a bank of dental records just like fingerprints?**

It is obvious to anyone who ever watched a police drama that lifting latent prints and comparing them to fingerprints stored in a data-base is a common forensic tool. Most countries keep the fingerprints of criminals in a digitized data bank which can be quickly searched. In Canada, the RCMP maintains such a bank. Some occupations may require employees to register their fingerprints or complete a criminal record check for security clearance. National and International police agencies, such as Interpol, are able to compare an unknown fingerprint to the prints in their data-base and respond to the enquiry within minutes. Unfortunately, there is no such data-base for dental records. In Canada and the USA, police agencies may upload basic dental information derived from a dental record of a missing-person or an unidentified body to a searchable data-base. In Canada, this information is managed within the Canadian Police Information Computer (CPIC) system, which is slowly becoming harmonized with a similar record system in the USA. It has taken more than a decade to find a work-around to the different dental nomenclature systems used in the two countries. Until recently, the dental codes were keyed into the programs by non-dentists. A Canadian unpublished review found that when dentists are not providing professional input, these records had an extremely high critical error rate.

There is no provision to transmit, store and maintain the dental records of the average citizen. The administrative cost of such a system would simply be unaffordable. Keeping such a bank up-to-date would be an immense and expensive task. The CPIC system can be searched, but the copies of the physical, or digital record, and the radiographs are not attached. Currently police ask dentists to develop the input codes and non-dental operators key those codes into CPIC. This has improved the efficacy of the process. In Ontario and in parts of New

York State, the Office of the Chief Coroner and local US medical examiners use DIP (Dental Identification Program), which is managed by dentists, to archive the dental records of unidentified bodies. Also, many police agencies in Ontario and some in the Northeast USA, add the dental records of missing persons to the DIP program. The dental data, documents, and radiographs, for both the missing persons and unidentified bodies, are attached to the case file and are digitally searchable. Regardless of the system, there are privacy laws to consider. Criminals give up certain privacy rights and unidentified bodies have no privacy consideration, but the average person maintains rights of privacy even if they are missing.

### **How are comparisons made?**

As noted above, fingerprints display an array of gross features such as whorls, loops, and arches. The fingerprint technician uses these, but also searches for finer details which have unique characteristics. These are described as islands, lakes, bifurcations, and ridge endings. "The chances of two individuals having the same identical ridges characteristics, in the same position is so remote as to be impossible" (C. Thomas 1978). No set number of identical characteristics are required by law. For court demonstration, ten points of concordance are usually shown, although the actual number is usually many times the minimum displayed. In the 1970-80's some forensic dentists adopted the points of concordance method. S.K. Neilson, in his text, Personal Identification by Means of the Teeth, suggested that 12 points of concordance would be compatible with fingerprint evidence. Significantly, there is no definition of a 'point of concordance.' Apart from Nielsen's extensive probability charts based on missing and filled teeth, he acknowledged that the experienced dentist is the most valuable factor in the comparison process. Dentists have the ability to add the weight of professional experience to any point of similarity so that a single unique finding could be sufficient to suggest a positive identity. In more than 50 years of forensic work, mostly doing identifications, I have never used fixed points of concordance to reach a conclusion.

The international effort to identify the victims of the largest natural disaster in recorded history, the SE Asian Tsunami of 2004, provides a perspective of the application of both fingerprints and dental records for victims who were neither criminals nor members of the military. On the island of Phuket in Thailand, 5,500 victims (Thais and tourists) were recorded as deceased. Of all those identified, 24% were made by fingerprint comparison as compared to 69% by dental means.

There have been great advances in methods used to locate, lift, photograph, record, and compare fingerprints. Although dental identification can be assisted by application of computer aids such as CAPMI, PlassData and DIP, the process to select and compare dental records relies on the comprehensive knowledge dentists possess of restorative dentistry and oral pathology.

Considering the enormous advancements in DNA retrieval, storage, and banking of individual genomes, as well as the decrease in cost and increase in speed, I suggest that within the next decade, or two, at the most, except for the most unusual circumstance, both fingerprints and dental identification techniques will become historic oddities.

Stan Kogon

# MOBILE DENTAL UNITS FOR HEBREW U

Last week during a personal trip to Israel, I had the opportunity to visit the Dental school at the Hebrew University Hadassah campus in Jerusalem. I was invited by the Dean, Prof Dr Avi Zini as he wanted to personally thank us for the initiative we had to help out and raise funds to purchase a mobile dental unit for the school.

In the early days after October 7, while the whole country was in shock, grassroots efforts were underway to help out in any way possible the population in need. Needless to say, students and faculty alike were wondering how they could be of help above and beyond what they do at the clinics in the school.

A group of students at the Dental school, led by Dr Tali Chakartchi, a Periodontist colleague of mine, went out with a single mobile unit they had available to the different hotels in Jerusalem where evacuees were staying in order to help out with their dental needs.

While talking to Tali, and offering our help from here in Toronto, she mentioned they would benefit from at least another one of those mobile units. And thus, we reached out to the AO membership to raise the funds necessary for purchasing the unit and send it out their way.

Needless to say, we were successful! Our efforts led to raise enough seed money which was then matched locally and one unit was purchased. Moreover, the supplier also contributed with the donation of a second unit to the dental school.

I had the privilege to meet a few of the students involved, and it really stayed with me how much this outreach helped them not only in learning in a practical way to work under stress and in a non-dental setting, but also showed them how

much the moral support they provided to these evacuees made them feel that their contribution was making a huge impact in these times of extreme need. They learned what can never be learned in a classroom or a dental clinic setting.

As I returned from Israel I was left with the warmest of feelings knowing that we were able to help out from Toronto in such a significant way,

I'm very proud of what we were able to achieve.

Am Israel Chai

Dana Levy  
DDS DipPerio MSc (MRCDC)



CANADIAN FRIENDS OF THE  
HEBREW UNIVERSITY  
OF JERUSALEM

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים

Dear Alpha Omega Friends,

On behalf of the Hebrew University – Hadassah School of Dental Medicine and the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who generously contributed to the Mobile Dental Unit Campaign that launched swiftly after the horrific attacks on October 7. Your gifts, along with others dedicated to this meaningful initiative, have had profound impact, and enabled the school to procure two units, which are now actively providing vital dental services to those affected by the war in the northern and southern regions of Israel.

Many thanks to Drs. Steven Millman and Dana Levy, whose efforts led to the success of the initiative amongst the Canadian members.

The bond between Alpha Omega and the faculty traces back to the school's joint inception in 1953, where the Canadian presence has been, and remains, significant. The enduring relationship cultivated over the years is deeply valued, and your support is appreciated now, during these most challenging times and in times as we look toward the future.

Should you have any inquiries or require further details regarding these units or other engagement opportunities at the school, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at 416-837-3679 or [heather@cfhu.org](mailto:heather@cfhu.org).

Warmest regards,

Heather Gutmann  
Development Director, GTA  
Canadian Friends of Hebrew University



ALPHA OMEGA TORONTO CHAPTER PRESENTS:

# Toronto Holocaust Museum

GROUP TOUR

APRIL  
14  
2024  
10:00AM

**\$18**

/ PER PERSON

Members & guests  
are welcome.

Toronto Holocaust  
Museum address:  
**4588 Bathurst St,  
North York, ON  
M2R 1W6**

Join us on Sunday, April 14 for a  
special event: Alpha Omega Group  
tour of the Toronto Holocaust Museum.

10:00 am - 11:30 am

The tour will include a film and speech  
from Holocaust survivor: Andy Reti  
(Museum is recommended for children ages 10+)

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO REGISTER**

email: [info@atoronto.org](mailto:info@atoronto.org) | 416-250-7417

# WINTER SEMINARS SERIES 2024

For 24 years, Alpha Omega has had a successful run of its reincarnated winter seminar series. From its earliest beginning at Panorama, British Columbia, to its most recent excursions to Whistler, British Columbia, and Verbier, Switzerland, the Winter seminar series has taken us around the world. It has become a social, adventure filled and learning experience that has enriched the lives of its participants and organizers. It could not be as great a success without the participation of its sponsors, and it's educational speakers. We would like to thank 123 Dentist/Altima, Glidewell, Henry Schein, Cary Wasser at Vertus Capital, 5 AXIS DENTAL Lab, Miles Rubinoff at Brash Financial, David Weinberg and Associates, Mitchell Polakow Insurance and Financial Planning and Associates for their continued support. In addition, we would like to thank David Weinberg, Mark Librach, Miles Rubinoff, Robert Barron, Sharon Perlmutter, Cary Wasser, Doug Hendler, and Rick Horenfeldt for their presentations.

Please consider joining us next year as we venture to two new exciting destinations. We will be celebrating our 25th year of adventures to ski destinations. Details will be available within the next few months. Please look out for them. It has been a pleasure serving as the organizers of this program. See you next year!

Fraternally Mark Librach, Rick Horenfeldt and Jeff Mandel.



## Alpha Omega Winter Seminars 2024

### Platinum Level Sponsors

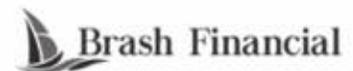


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# THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE CONTAINS NO COARSE LANGUAGE, BUT SOME MATURE SUBJECT MATTER. READER DISCRETION IS ADVISED! AS USUAL.

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by Steven Brown

O.K. Here we go. Hold on to your seats. We'll go with 4 groupings. As usual, the first is random, and as usual, the following may contain jokes you don't understand. This is for mature audiences only. Parental permission is advised. So in conclusion; this will be a very long conclusion.

I just watched the Yogi Berra documentary. Him and Winston Churchill were the greatest statesmen of their eras. So I made up a Yogi-ism that I think he would have liked. "If I'm going to teach you everything I know; first you have to forget everything you don't know!" And another for Yogi. I just read that all superstar athletes have a longer wing span than their height. I played centre in basketball, and I was 6'4", but my wingspan was 5'11". So,.... if I was only 6" shorter, I could have been the best centre in Toronto. I think Yogi would approve.

When Paula and I start 'discussing', I always begin with "This could be the beginning of a really good argument." And when Paula says "There's a lid for every pot." I always come back with; "Not if it's Tupperware!" And this 5th one is stupid, so don't read it. If a wall was painted a week ago, but it rained today, would it still be considered wet paint? OYE!

Now, I can't remember if it was from the 2nd time I had Covid, or after the 3rd shot, but I lost at least 90% of my taste and smell. (No, it's still not back.) So, whenever we go out for dinner, and the 'waitperson' (politically correct), comes over after 5 minutes, and says, as they always do - "How's everything tasting?" I love to say - "I don't care." And sticking with Covid. Since restaurants have reopened, haven't you noticed, they're all

charging as if you're at the airport. And speaking of famous mimes. I love Marcel Marceau. I've got all his albums.

All 3 of our kids have run 1/2, and full marathons. So I was thinking. If that damned Greek messenger had just been 26 miles closer, and only had to run .2 miles to get the message to whoever it was in Marathon; I could run a marathon every day! Think about it. You could too. And; when I was in High School in 1973 (you figure it out), they had an information day. One topic, in each of 20 rooms. Me and a buddy, walked into a room by mistake. Two ladies of about 110 years of age each, were sitting there alone waiting to explain their subject, and when we realized it was to tell us about the Bahai religion, we looked at them and said - "Ba Hy." And left.

No joke. Just like the rest. I just passed some graffiti that said - "Stop the progress. Kill the rich!" I guess I can agree, but where to start? And another sign on Dupont. Really. "Massive Auto Collision". I think I'll avoid that one. (That could be a double entendre). And let's talk carbon neutral for a minute. When there's no wind, shouldn't there be solar panels to keep the blades running. Nah! But after driving to Newfoundland this summer, I can absolutely tell ya, - Trees are not the answer!

Now Home Depot. Am I the only one? How does Home Depot always know what I want before I get there, and have enough time to always move it to aisle 41 in the farthest back corner of the store. And I don't think I've ever told anyone this, but I used to be an Olympic swimmer. Really. I only used to swim during the Olympics. And tell me if this happens to you. (Not really. I don't want to

know.) Every time I go to the Dollar Store, I end up spending \$20. It should be called 'The 20 Dollar Store'.

What about this one? The USA's view on gun control. - Armsagedon. Or the sign we just passed that said "Prehistoric World, - Coming soon". Now THAT, is a double entendre. And my kids are screaming already about the next one. If you're not supposed to judge a book by its cover, why do they put covers on books? I'm keeping that one in, because I'm more than tenacious. I'm elevenacious. Ach. Sorry. Not really. We might be half way done now. Come on. You can do it. I just read a column in the Globe and Mail that said December 21st was the shortest day of the year. But they can't fool me. They're all 24 hours.

It's angry time again. If incompetence was worth something, most people would be rich. Also, when you receive an email, and it's sent to a group, and 6 people are named, and then - "3 more". If you're part of the "3 more", how do you feel? It sucks when there are 6 more important people than you. And if you hit the 3 more, to find out who they are, I hope you don't find out you were the 3rd. I'd de-friend the sender right away. And can you believe this. Whenever I lose something; when I find it, it was in the very last place I looked.

Sometimes when there's nothing to do on a Sunday morning, I'll watch some religious revival shows. I'd join in, and scream 'Praise the Lord!' when someone is healed, but why did the Lord let this happen in the first place? Huh? Speaking of death. I told a buddy that my will states that my oldest daughter gets all the apartments in Scarborough. My middle son gets all the apartments in North

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York. And my youngest daughter gets all the apartments in downtown Toronto. He said, "Boy, your youngest daughter is going to be very rich!" I said "Nah. They're just my paper routes". Continuing on this dead end street. When my Bubby was on her death bed, she called everyone into her room. She then asked me "Are all my sons here?" I said yes Bubby. She said "Are all my grandchildren here?" I said yes Bubby. She said "Are all my caregivers here?" I said yes Bubby. And with her dying words she said, .... "Then why are the lights still on in the kitchen?" Which reminds me. I'm going to open a Hair Salon, but it'll only be for people over 95 years of age. I'm going to call it "Curl Up and Dye". Triple entendre. I told you in the title - reader discretion was advised.

On a lighter note, if you need new footwear, make sure you 'Shoe's Wisely'. Paula just told me to stop. I'm not gonna listen.... When I owned thoroughbred racehorses in the 1980's, I'd take my kids out on Saturday mornings to watch the workouts on the backstretch. Afterwards, I'd walk my horse to cool her down. It's called a 'Hot Walker'. One time one of them stepped on my left big toe. They weigh about 1200 pounds. The horses, not the big toes. I thought it was broken. Not the horse. My toe. So instead of spending 'x' hours at Emergency at the hospital, I took Rebecca to my office. She was 7 years old. I lined up the periapical under my toe, and yelled "Rebecca, Hit The Button". She yelled back "Which One?" I yelled back, "The one that says 'Authorized Persons Only'." I've still got the PA. No breaks, and I saved 6 hours. So report me. There's a statute of limitations. And I don't practice anymore. So there! Good luck.

Now I don't know about you, but I like meeting up with people I haven't seen in 30 or 40 years, so we can talk about the GOD. Not that one. The 'Good Old Days'. And while I'm offending people, I ordered a tall blond at Starbucks the other day, and 5 girls jumped up from their tables. This is going downhill fast. And you think you're cheap. I always order a black coffee, (no room), so I get my full allotment of coffee, and then take some sips, and then add milk. Beat that!

And then there's the Mother Superior who liked to run 5 miles every morning. That morning it was 90F. (That's very hot). When she got back, she told her secretary not to let anyone in. So she took off her Habit, (that's nun's clothing), got naked, and sat down to do her work. Ten minutes later, the secretary buzzed her and said "I know you told me not to bother you, but the blind man is here." The head nun figured, what the heck, and said "OK. Let him in". When the blind man came in, he stopped in his tracks, and said "Whoa! I'm here to clean the blinds!"

How about the female medical student who guessed what was wrong with every patient she was ever presented with. They crowned her "Miss Diagnosis." (That's mine.) And I was sitting with a fellow instructor the other day who called someone on his 'device', but they had to call him back, and all I heard him say was "I can give you my cell number". So I blurted out - "You were in prison?" I have no filter. And speaking of no filter. When I was at Hebrew School, at Bathurst and GlenCairn, there was a famous dive type food place called Stubby's around the corner. I went in one day after Hebrew School and said "Hey Stubby. I'll have a bacon burger." He said "No you won't!" I said "Stubby, it says right on the board behind you, Bacon Burger." He said "That's for the Goyim." Before you call Barry. Goyim means nations. It's not demeaning. So there.

Agree or not. Truth in advertising is the greatest oxymoron of all time. Agreed! But I figured out a good oxymoron just now. After the 3rd time I had Covid, I told everyone I was feeling negative, and much better. True.

I mentioned we drove to Newfoundland this summer. In retrospect I can say there were a lot of crazy drivers on the highways. And I, was only one of them. Speaking of travel. We're in Montreal now, and tonight at a restaurant, when the waitress came over, (yes it was a lady), I said "Bonjour". And she said "What can I get you?" I said "OMG! How do you know I'm not French?" She replied "It's the way you said Bonjour sir." I give up. You know after taking Public School French for 6 years, and Level 2 French

at U of T night school last year, I'm proud to say I'm completely fluent in all the colours and numbers. And in Quebec, does all the graffiti have to be in French? Also, Steve Martin, (just google it), once said "Those French. They have a word for everything!" Well, I just noticed on the highway, they don't have a word for everything. What about maximum, and minimum. And one more NFL story. In our teens we were going to a Cleveland Browns game in a Cadillac Eldorado. John was doing 92 mph when the cop in the cowboy hat, reflective sunglasses, and gun by his side, stopped us. He said. "Is this your car son?" John replied. "No, it's my grandfathers." The cop said "Figures!" (Off to a bad start.) When we started laughing in the back seat, the cop looked straight at us and said "Anything funny back there boys?" (Things were getting worse.) But just wait. He then looked at John and said "Do you know how fast you were going son?" And, no joke; John said "Well sir. You know with these big cars, you can't really tell how fast you're going." Without missing a beat, the cop said, (not jokingly), "Why? Don't these big cars have speedometers?" We missed the first half.

And now about getting old(er). You know how I get to sleep? Counting Crows. Look them up. And I have a theory. I know my Zaidy's pants went up 2 inches a year above his waist, after he turned 80. I figured if he made it to 90, he'd have to undo his zipper to talk. There's going to be a lot to call Barry about this time, so let's continue. I keep wanting to google ADHD, but I keep getting sidetracked. And the best thing about having totally white hair when you're young is, I've been using priority seating for the last 40 years on the TTC. But even though I'm getting older, I know I'm still OK, because I eventually remember what I forgot. And I finally started collecting OAS. - Old Age Security. My kids told me they needed the money. Also, for those of you that have trouble remembering your passwords, for getting into programs on your 'devices', I have only one password, and I always remember what it is. My password for everything is "Forgot password." Try it. You'll thank me. And I don't know about you, but this gravity thing is really getting me down.

# THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE... (Continued)

I can't believe you're still reading. I've also come to the conclusion that it's tougher and tougher when you're babysitting, and the grandparents bedtime is earlier than their 3 year old grandchild's. Lastly on the older stuff. I always know what day of the week it is, plus or minus 3.

Annnnd, - Dental. I don't know about you, but occasionally I'd have what I used to call a 'NASA' patient. Regarding crowns; when I sent the patient to the lab for custom shading, and the lab called me 4 hours later, and told me they changed the shade 12 times, and the patient was crying, I'd say they were a NASA patient. They'd say they never heard of such a thing. I'd tell them it stands for 'No Acceptable Shade Available'. And who could forget this lady. She couldn't pinpoint the problem tooth. So I said "Don't worry. We have 3 tests to figure this out. The first is cold. The second is percussion. And the third is" ....And she blurted out "FIRE?!" I told her we hadn't used fire since the old days. Again with the instructors at school. I work with an instructor who goes trekking all over the world. She left for Mongolia, and a week later at school when someone wanted to call her, they asked what the time difference was. I yelled - "About 400 years!" And the new Clinic is a real maze. Everyone's always getting lost in the floor to ceiling aisles. I suggested coloured tape on the floor, like they have in some hospitals. If they take me up on it, it will be a real 'Tour De Floors'. I'm getting tired. Why you're still here, I have no idea. Just read this. It's not mine. 'Sar-chasm' is the gulf between the author of sarcastic wit, and the person who doesn't get it. I like that. And now that I've stopped practicing, I've heard many people tell me that retirement is hard..... Not so far! But at the Faculty the other day, outside at lunch time, they had free ice cream, sponsored by the Amalgamated Steel Workers Union. (Dental assistants are part of that). Unbelievable, but true. So I wanted free ice cream too. So I went up, and told them I was part of the Amalgamated Amalgam Workers. And it worked. Last Yogi-ism. I recently cut my thumb off while buttering a bagel. (Not really). After the doc sewed it back on, I asked if I'd still have my 1/2 court shot at the buzzer. He asked if I ever made

it. I said "Never". So he said "Then you'll still have it".

New paragraph. What the hell. When you see 5 foot tall signs for a Dental Practice, don't you pine for the good old days, when building a practice was by 'Word of Mouth'. Yes. Double entendre. And rule number 124 for why I don't have a cell phone. — I don't like being interrupted!!! (I'll find out eventually.) Last bit of advice for most of you younger than me. Change thinking about the 'What ifs, into the Who cares.' You'll be better off in the long run. Also, if you're worried about what someone is thinking about you. Don't worry. They're not thinking about you. And in conclusion, conclusion. That's not a mistake. This is

really the conclusion. People can't drive you crazy, if you don't give them the keys.

As always, (and especially this time). (And I can't believe you made it this far). I remain.

SHB



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# ***A0 winter social 2024***

## **PICKLEBALL**

Sunday, March 24, 2024

10:00 am - 12:00 pm



The Jar Pickleball Club  
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***\$36 per person***

***A0 Members only***

All levels are welcome!

Limited spots

**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT  
VIA E-NEWSLETTER**

AO REVIVAL PRESENTS

# *Floral Design Workshop*

*with Petals in the City*

**Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**7:00 pm | 83 Glengrove Ave. W**

**Wine & light dinner provided  
\$95.00 per person**

**AO MEMBERS & IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY**

Please join us for this amazing & creative workshop.  
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Limited attendance - RSVP promptly to avoid  
disappointment.

*contact the office for more information*  
**info@aotoronto.org**

This program has been subsidized by AO Toronto Chapter

ALPHA OMEGA TORONTO CHAPTER PRESENTS:



# FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

Taught by: Canadian Paramedic Rescue

**Monday, March 25, 2024**

Adath Israel Congregation  
37 Southbourne Avenue, Toronto

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

*A light dinner will be served at 5:00 pm*

**\$55.00 PER PERSON**  
**AO members and staff only**

Before the workshop:

All participants will receive a link to complete the online didactic portion before attending the in-person session

**Bonus Lecture:**

Medical Emergency Review

Dr. Adam Kaplan

CORE 2, 1 POINT

**RSVP by March 11, 2024**

Please make sure to include full name and email for all registrants.

Contact the office for more information

[info@atoronto.org](mailto:info@atoronto.org)

# TRIBUTE

## Emergency Aid to Israel

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Gary Elman and Family on the loss of his father David

Dr. Jeff Solomon & Eva Rosenthal and Family

Dr. Tracy Berman on the loss of her mother Vicky  
Dr. Riley Lewis

### GOLD CARDS

#### Condolences

The Tanenbaum Family on the loss of her mother Judith Cohen

Dr. Laurel Linetsky-Fleisher & Danny Fleisher and Family

Fern and David Glicksman on the loss of their mother Ruth

Dr. Stephen & Carole Zamon and Family

Dr. Sheldon Fine on the loss of his mother Randi  
Dr. Stephen & Carole Zamon and Family

Dr. Ira & Yosi Marder and Family on the loss of his brother and uncle Eli

Dr. Jeff Solomon & Eva Rosenthal and Family

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Condolences

Barry Avrich on the loss of his mother Faye  
Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Elisabetta Bigsby on the loss of her husband Stephen

Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

Dr. Ira Marder and Family on the loss of his brother Eli

Dr. Bonnie Chandler

Henry Shub on the loss of his wife Rhona  
Dr. Aubey & Marilyn Banack

## General Tribute Fund

### PLATINUM CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Ira Marder and Family on the loss of his brother Eli

Dr. Mark & Heather Librach and Family

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Ira Marder on the loss of his brother Eli  
Dr. Stanley & Ellen Markin

Dr. Ira Marder and Family on the loss of his brother Eli

Dr. Robert & Elizabeth Erlich

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## Terry Shapero Fund (Yad L'Kashish)

### GOLD CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Ira Marder on the loss of his brother Eli  
Dr. Rick Rodney

---

## Dental Volunteers for Israel (DVI)

### GOLD CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Ira Marder on the loss of his brother Eli  
Dr. Stephen Abrams & Rosette Rutman

Dr. Gail Schupak on the loss of her sister Carin Miller

Dr. Jack & Michelle Bottner

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## Alpha Omega/Henry Schein Holocaust Survivors Oral

## Health Program

### TRIBUTE CARDS

#### Condolences

Dr. Harvey & Maura Cooperberg on the loss of her mother Chava

Dr. Stanley & Ellen Markin

Dr. Brian Rittenberg on the loss of your parents Larry and Bella

Dr. Jon & Ellise Gasner

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4. Platinum Cards \$50.00+ each
5. Bulk Tribute Cards (10 cards) \$150.00 each

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For assistance, contact Harvey Cooperberg at (416) 223-4616, or by email at [tribute@aofoundation.ca](mailto:tribute@aofoundation.ca)

6. Toronto Alpha Omega Forest \$18.00 per tree.

A donation of Trees in the Toronto Alpha Omega Forest in Canada Park, Israel, may be ordered directly from J.N.F. When ordering please indicate the purchase through Alpha Omega Fraternity.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (416) 638-7200

ALPHA OMEGA OFFICES (416) 250-7417

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Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Weekdays Only

## CONDOLENCES TO:

Dr. Ira Marder on the loss of his brother Eli

Dr. Yossi Marder on the loss of his uncle Eli

Dr. Tracy Berman on the loss of her mother Vicky

Dr. Harvey & Maura Cooperberg on the loss of her mother Chava

Annie Haber on the loss of her husband Frater Dr. Allen Haber

Dr. Marvin Schwartz on the loss of his father Mayer

Dr. Sigal Schwartz on the loss of her father Mayer

The Family of Frater Dr. David Eller

### Anyone needing help or information with tribute cards, please contact:

Harvey Cooperberg at [tribute@aofoundation.ca](mailto:tribute@aofoundation.ca), or call Harvey at (416) 223-4616. As well, anyone who wishes to volunteer some time assisting with this very worthwhile cause, please contact Harvey as above.

# Honour a loved one and perform a mitzvah with Alpha Omega Tribute Cards

## WHERE DO THE TRIBUTE CARD FUNDS GO?

The Alpha Omega Foundation of Canada distributes funds from the sale of tribute cards to Dentally related agencies such as:

- Dental Volunteers for Israel
- Yad LaKashish (*Services to the Elderly*)
- Beit Issie Shapiro (*Services to Disabled Children*)
- CAMH Dental Clinic
- Dentistry for All (*Clinic in Guatemala*)
- ALEH C.A.R.E.S. Dental Clinic
- Princess Margaret Hospital Dental Clinic
- AO Dental Centre at Baycrest

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Dr. Luke Austin,  
New Glasgow, NS



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# WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 2024

# SPEAKER SERIES

WITH

**DR. ROBERT STEWART**

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