

D. Walter Cohen 1st Annual DVI Lecture

By Dr. David L. Hoexter, BA, DMD
Editor-in-Chief, Dental Tribune



Dr. D. Walter Cohen, high above the clouds in New York City, inaugurated the first Annual Dr. D. Walter Cohen DVI Lecture.

Held at the American Express Tower at the World Financial Center, one could imagine the unending hopes and vision of the indefatigably giving founder of DVI, Trudi Birger, all while visualizing the glistening sunset reflecting off the waters of the Hudson River.

The aptly-named DVI was created out of a genuine need: The only insurance not covered in Israel is dental insurance, so a group of devoted

volunteers (Dental Volunteers for Israel) stepped in to fill the void.

Nearly a quarter century ago, the remarkable Trudi Birger, a Holocaust survivor who devoted the rest of her days to improving the lives of Israelis, opened a free dental clinic for children in Jerusalem. A nonsectarian, nonreligious clinic provides free dentistry for all children who ask for it.

Since its establishment, the Trudi Birger Dental Clinic has provided totally free dental health care, including prevention, to over 20,000 of Jerusalem's underprivileged children between the ages of five and 18.

Over 50 percent of the patients are Arabs. The providing dentistry is done by volunteers. A huge amount of the dental equipment has been donated for years by Sullivan-Schein keeping it an up to date modern facility.

Helping Dr. Cohen organize the splendid evening in New York were Drs. Deborah Weisfuse, Robert Lipner, and Alan Helfer.

The centerpiece of the evening was the presentation by Dr. Dan



From left: Dr. Dan Nathanson, Dr. David L. Hoexter, Dr. D. Walter Cohen

Nathanson, who is Chairman of the Department of Restorative Sciences/Biomaterials at Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Cohen introduced Dr. Nathanson as a Master Clinician who is President-Elect of the International Federation of Esthetic Dentistry.

Dr. Nathanson recently received a Fellowship, as had Dr. Cohen previously, from the International Acade-

my for Dental Facial Esthetics as well.

His presentation, entitled 'Ceramic Crown Options For The Esthetically Demanding Patient' was very informative and enthusiastically received.

Dr. Cohen is so excited about children getting free dental treatment and knowledge of prevention, he can only encourage volunteers to reap the joy and participate. **DT**

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