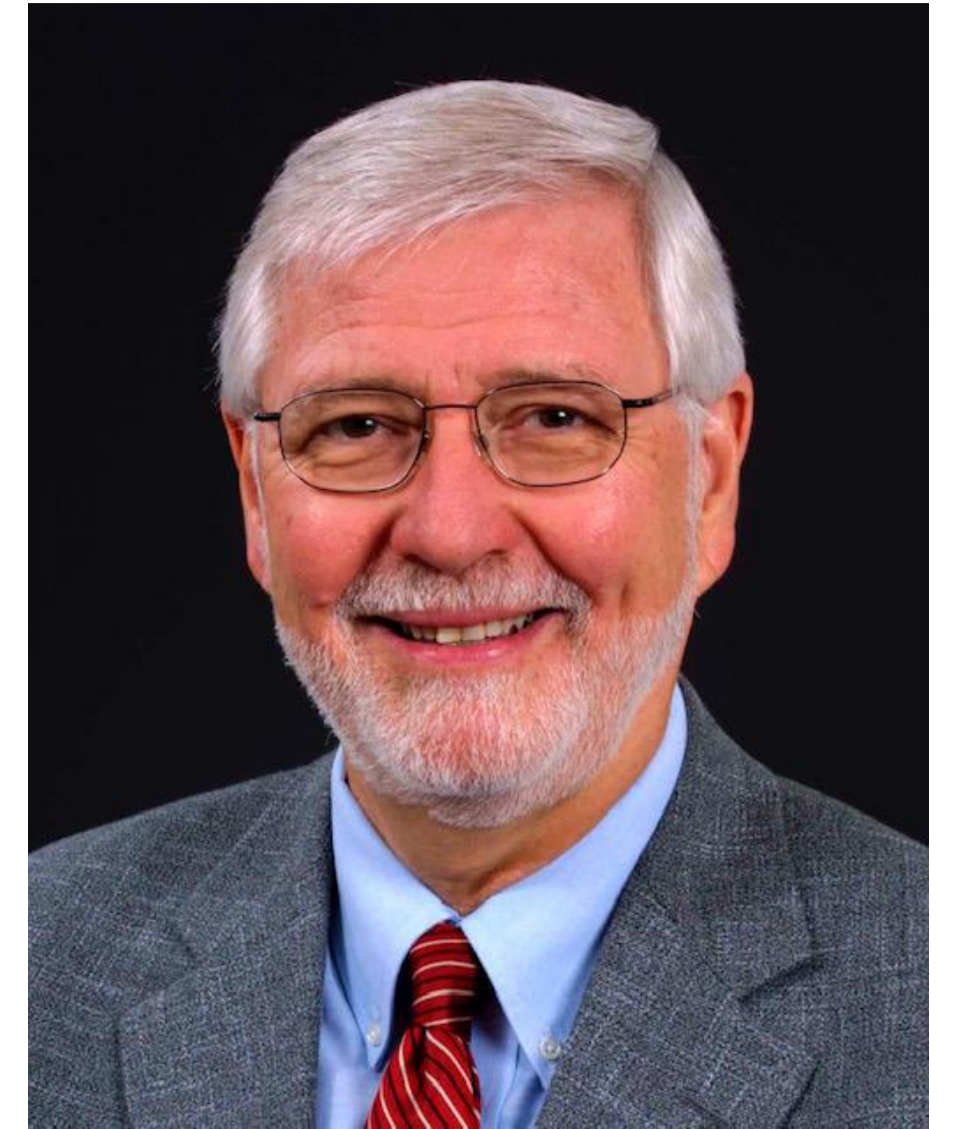
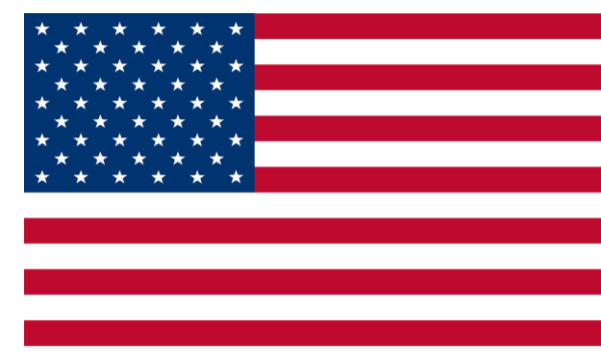




IADT Life Member

Dr. Leif K. Bakland
Distinguished Emeritus
Professor of Endodontics
Loma Linda University, School
of Dentistry, California, USA



My interest in dental trauma began out of necessity: In 1980, Dr. John I. Ingle asked me to write a chapter on traumatic dental injuries for the 3rd edition of *ENDODONTICS*, to be published in 1985. I knew little about the topic, other than what I had learned from a Boston pediatric dentist, Dr. Harold Berk (developer of Pulpdent calcium hydroxide paste) during my endodontic specialty training at Harvard School of Dental Medicine (1971 - 1973). Dr. Berk taught us how to treat exposed pulps in teeth with traumatic crown fractures, using the paste.

Looking for helpful sources of information, I remembered the 1976 Annual Session of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) in Florida where I had attended a lecture by Dr. Jens Ove Andreasen, oral surgeon and pathologist from the Royal Dental College, Copenhagen on "Replantation of Avulsed Teeth." Meeting him there led to a lifelong treasured friendship. Later, I invited him to speak at a meeting in California (1981) and had the opportunity to ask him for guidance in drafting the trauma chapter for Ingle's textbook. As was his custom, he was immediately willing and ready to help. During the following decades, I continued to learn from him by being a co-author with him on many textbook chapters and scientific articles. Random events can have interesting outcomes.

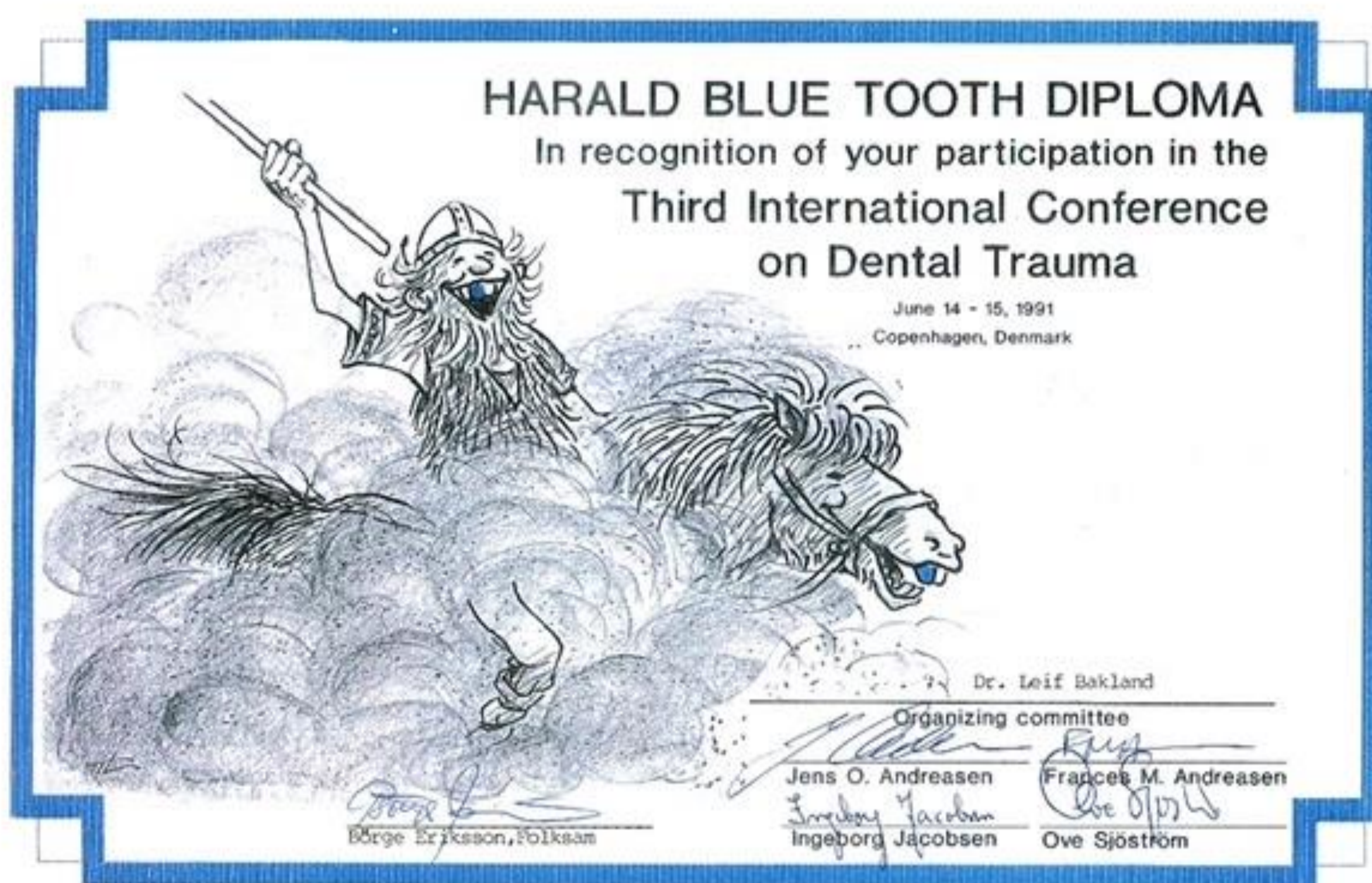


**3rd IADT World Conference (1991) Dr Leif K. Bakland, Dr Frances Andreasen,
Dr Jens Ove Andreasen**

Joining the AAE Board of Directors in 1982, I had an opportunity to become involved in various AAE programs, including serving on the program committee for the 1st International Conference on Oral Trauma held in Dallas, Texas in 1984. That Congress provided an opportunity to get acquainted with leading dental trauma experts, most of whom came from Scandinavia. My involvement in dental traumatology had a good beginning.

Five years later, Sept. 21, 1989 in Stockholm, Sweden, the 2nd International Conference on Oral Trauma was held and the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) was established. I did not attend that conference, but joined the IADT soon after and attended the 3rd World Congress in Copenhagen in 1991.

During the Copenhagen Congress, I was invited to join the IADT Board of Directors and was asked to begin developing plans for another world congress in the U. S. Following the 4th World Congress in London in 1993, the plans for the 5th Congress in La Jolla, California in 1994, were finalized.



Harold Bluetooth attendance diploma (1991), created by Frances Andreasen

In 1995 I was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the IADT and served in that capacity until 2005 when I was appointed Executive Director. I held that position until 2012 when we turned over the management of the IADT to RES Seminars, a professional organization in San Diego, California.

Starting with the 1st International Conference in Dallas 1984, I have attended 19 of the 20 world trauma conferences including the last one in San Diego, California in 2018. Sadly, that was also the last conference that Dr. Jens Ove Andreasen was able to attend.

The IADT provided me with many opportunities to serve. I have been a member of the Editorial Board (2000-2011) and Associate Editor (2012-2015) of our journal, Dental Traumatology. In 2013, I was honored to receive the Jens Ove Andreasen Lifetime Achievement Award in Dental Traumatology. Participating in IADT activities allows one to meet and work with wonderful colleagues from around the world – that has indeed been my experience and for which I am most grateful. Looking back at 30+ years of involvement with the IADT, I can truly describe it as a memorable journey.