

Michael D. Spektor, DDS (Perio '79) Wendy S. Spektor, DDS ('82)

BY RANDY NEWQUIST, DIR., A.R.

**"If I am not for myself, then who will be for me?
And if I am only for myself, then what am I?
And if not now, when?"**

RABBI HILLEL

This famous saying from Rabbi Hillel, recorded in Pirkei Avot, has always been an inspiration to Drs. Michael and Wendy Spektor. Rabbi Hillel was known for his kindness, his gentleness and his concern for humanity. The Spektors have taken

his message to heart and used it as their source of inspiration in giving back to the people and community around them.

Dr. Michael Spektor received his certificate degree in Periodontics from the University of Washington School of Dentistry in 1979. Dr. Wendy Spektor received her

D.D.S. degree from the University of Washington School of Dentistry in 1982. They met in 1978 when Michael was a graduate student in periodontics at the School of Dentistry and Wendy was a first year dental student. They were married and have had a true partnership ever since. Both are

very supportive of each other as they balance their busy schedules involving family, work and community involvement. Wendy appreciated that Michael was so encouraging to her and never let her get down on herself. He always stressed being positive, getting out of the box and broadening her education. As a result, Wendy has always enjoyed the "nuts and bolts" type of dentistry with an aesthetic flair and she has built an excellent reputation in her practice.

Michael taught full-time at the UW School of Dentistry for two years and then taught half time for fifteen years. Early on he worked with the undergraduate students and also the degree completion program for hygiene students. Later he worked with the graduate students and was also involved in a practice management course for the senior dental students. He has had a periodontic



L to R, Spektor family – Jeremy, Michael, Wendy and Jordan.



Michael and Wendy biking around the Mendenhall Glacier in Alaska.



L to R, Jordan, Michael and Jeremy in Alaska.

and implant private practice in Bellevue since 1981.

Wendy served as an independent contractor when she graduated in 1982. Volunteering and getting involved were ways she built her leadership skills and helped her dental practice grow. Wendy organized the Washington State Association for Women Dentists. Even though the organization no longer exists, she felt it served an important purpose in drawing women dentists together for support in the early years. Wendy has years of involvement in causes such as the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter, the Seattle Guild of Juvenile Diabetes and the American Academy of University Women Mentoring Program to interest and keep young women ages 11-19 in the sciences. Wendy is a model for women who choose to excel, blending career, community leadership and family. Currently she is the Seattle Chapter President of the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity.

Michael served as the editor of the Seattle-King Dental Journal from 1984-85. He has served on the Seattle-King Dental Society Board and on the WSDA Communications and Marketing Committee. Both he and Wendy have been highly involved in the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity for Jewish Dentists. He served as President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle for two years. He was on the National Board of the United Jewish Communities. He is the Vice Chair of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee for Washington State. He has been involved in the Washington State Holocaust Resource Center which works with holocaust education in Washington State for grades 6-12.



The dog Roxi Spektor.

He also has been involved in political fundraising.

Both Wendy and Michael are involved in grassroots lobbying for dentistry as members of DentPAC and AdPAC. They have traveled to Washington D.C. for training and spending time educating legislators on dental issues as well as fundraising for political campaigns of those who are sensitive to the needs and concerns of the dental profession. They find this is an excellent vehicle to protect the profession of dentistry and the well being of their patients.

Even with busy lives in the dentistry field and serving in the community, the Spektors feel their top priority is their family. They reside in Mercer Island, Washington. They have two wonderful sons. Jordan is nineteen and a sophomore at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Jeremy is seventeen and a junior at Mercer Island High School. They also have a golden retriever

named Roxi. The Spektors enjoy spending time together as a family, taking family trips together and doing fun activities together.

In their free time, Michael enjoys being involved in a softball league, the Seattle Mariners, golf, reading and enjoying the arts such as theatre and the

symphony. Wendy enjoys her family, speaking, marketing, fashion, reading and volunteering.

The Spektors are being honored by the Seattle Chapter of Hadassah on May 5, 2005 for their leadership, generosity and hard work on behalf of the Seattle community. The Gala will raise funds for the Hadassah Maxillofacial Dental Clinic for victims of terrorism.

When you are near Drs. Michael and Wendy Spektor, you realize they are both passionate about giving back to the greater community. They give their time, money and deeds to those passions that they feel will make the world a better place. They are examples to all of us of how Rabbi Hillel would want all to be. Drs. Michael and Wendy Spektor are an inspiration to me and to all who know them. 🐾



Michael and Wendy Spektor.