

# FACES OF THE ACADEMY: FEATURING ALVIN GLASGOLD

This month, we feature Alvin I. Glasgold, MD, founder of the Glasgold Group Plastic Surgery in Highland Park, N.J. Dr. Glasgold has served as chief of the Division of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J., for 25 years. In addition, he is an attending physician at both St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick and the Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital in New York City. Among his academic positions, he is a clinical professor of surgery at Univeristy of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He was a resident instructor at Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital. Dr. Glasgold has also served as an AAFPRS fellowship director and a board examiner for the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

A prolific writer on medical issues, Dr. Glasgold is the author of a textbook called, *Application of Biomaterials in Facial Plastic Surgery*. His byline also appears in multiple facial plastic surgery textbook chapters, and 33 of his articles are in medical publications.

We asked Dr. Glasgold to answer a few questions with the hopes of inspiring our younger members to follow in his path to great success.

*Having had many years of experience in practice, what advice would you give the young surgeon on how best to succeed?*

It is important to set realistic goals, although these may change as your practice grows. Focus on being the best that you can be. Take advantage of the Academy. A fellowship is important. Attend meetings, as well as courses, and get a solid foundation on which you can grow. Visit other established surgeons. Observe them in the operating room and the way



their practice is run. There is no substitute for quality. Hold your work to a high standard. Do not settle for mediocre results. Do not make excuses for a less than optimum outcome. Fix it. Treat your patients as if they were your family.

*What is the greatest change you have witnessed during your career?*

The greatest change in the Academy is from an organization striving for recognition to one which is recognized as the leader in facial plastic surgery.

We are no longer second class citizens.

Personally, the greatest change was the introduction of the external approach to rhinoplasty and with it the advent of new techniques which I am pleased to have participated in. This has changed the quality and predictability of my results and brought me to a new level of excellence.

The expectation for

rhinoplasty results, both primary and secondary, are greater than 20 years ago.

The Internet has made a significant change in referral patterns to our practice. In the past it was mostly patient referrals. Now our referral base has exploded through the Internet and we have patients coming from all over the United States and Europe.

*What are you most proud of?*

After 40 years in practice, I am proud of the relationship I've had with my patients and colleagues. It has been an exciting ride.

Having my two sons join me in practice is a unique and rewarding experience. Mark has made a name for himself in facial rejuvenation surgery and with Robert, has taken over that aspect of our practice. Robert is now teaching me some new tricks in rhinoplasty. I am proud of the book they co-authored on complimentary fat grafting. My daughter Ellen Lange looks over the facial skin spa to compliment our practice and has developed her own line of skin care products.

It is amazing that from my tentative beginning in facial plastic surgery we now have a busy three-man practice.

I was fortunate to have spent two years in the Air Force doing a large volume of rhinoplasty. Early

*See Pride and Joy, page 18*



THE GLASGOLD GROUP AS SEEN HERE INCLUDE (FROM LEFT): ROBERT A. GLASGOLD, MD; MRS. JOYCE GLASGOLD; ELLEN LANGE; DR. GLASGOLD; AND MARK GLASGOLD, MD. ▲

## HIS PRIDE AND JOY(CE)

From *Faces of the Academy*, page 6 in my career, I was fortunate to meet Jack R. Anderson, MD, at an Academy course. He became my mentor and good friend and was very generous with his time, allowing me to visit him often and encouraging and advising me on my work. That was the beginning of the ride. I am proud that in 1990 Jack decided he wanted to have an external rhinoplasty course in New York City and asked me to help organize and teach it at Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. This may have been one of the first external rhinoplasty courses done under the auspices of the Academy (see photo below of the 1990 External Rhinoplasty course).

We have had a fellowship



What was your most unusual experience, in or out of the practice of facial surgery?

My most unusual experience is falling in love with a 17-year old girl and remaining married to her for 51 years.

DR. AND MRS. GLASGOLD ARE SEEN HERE WITH THEIR PRIDE AND JOY, FOUR OF THEIR GRANDCHILDREN. ▼

program for the past 16 years, which allowed me to do for other young surgeons what Jack Anderson did for me. It is exciting to watch them establish themselves and even to be asked to participate in their courses. Working with the fellows keeps me young and on my toes.

In addition to private practice, I was Chief of the Division of ENT at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Clinical Professor of Surgery. For many years, I was very involved in teaching rhinoplasty to the residents at Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. In my spare time, I was able to write a text *Applications of Biomaterial in Facial Plastic Surgery*, as well

as numerous articles and chapters on rhinoplasty and mentoplasty. I have been honored to be included in *Castle Connolly's Top Doctors* since its inception.

Mark and Robert have assumed most of the responsibility for our practice and have completely taken over all aspects of aging face. This has allowed me to reduce my workload and limit my surgery to rhinoplasty, which has always been my first love. Fortunately, there is enough rhinoplasty to keep Robert and me busy.

My free time involves traveling with my wife, Joyce, and vacationing with my kids and their children. Swimming has replaced running. We spend summers at the Jersey Shore where I love to sail and veg out.



Thank you, Dr. Glasgold for your time in answering these questions; we know you have inspired many of our members. ■

## HIS SERVICE TO THE ABFPRS

From *Schoenrock Award*, page 8 "Mark helped shepherd through almost one-third of the 990 diplomats who are currently certified by the ABFPRS. He also helped incorporate new disciplinary alert notices from state medical boards into the Credential Committee's review process. On top of all that, he was responsible for overseeing the new Terms and Conditions program for diplomats who are currently working through problems with their state medical boards. That's an incredible achievement," states Dr. Papel. "His work for this committee speaks volumes about Mark's ongoing commitment to uphold and expand the exacting standards that our certification program represents," concludes the ABFPRS president.

In addition to his continuing duties on the Credentials Committee as a senior advisor, Dr. Connelly also serves as ABFPRS vice president, and is a member of the Bylaws and Publications Committee as well as the Graduate Medical Education Committee. He has also served as ABFPRS secretary and was in the first group of diplomats to complete all ABFPRS MOC in FPRS® requirements.

Dr. Connelly has an active facial plastic surgery practice at the Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center in La Crosse, Wis., and loves to spend any free time with his wonderful wife, Jeanne, and their children and grandchildren. ■

Nominations for the 2011 Schoenrock Award should be addressed to the ABFPRS Executive Committee in care of ABFPRS, 115-C South Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, or by e-mail at [SchoenrockAward@abfprs.org](mailto:SchoenrockAward@abfprs.org).