

Why Angle Society?



I am often asked many questions about my techniques and opinions about treatments, but recently I was asked to share my thoughts about the Angle Society.

I am a member of the Angle Midwest Component and it took me five gruelling years of preparation before being accepted into this prestigious society. In retrospect, I feel the process of qualifying is the real magic, as one learns so much during the process and I appreciate this process just as much as I do rubbing shoulders with the world's best Orthodontists at the Angle Society's meetings.



■ Fig. 1: An immensely proud day seeing my mentor, Dr. Gene Roberts, receiving his Albert Ketcham Award. Orlando 2016.



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Ever since I became interested in Orthodontics, I have been obsessed with Dr. Angle’s life, technologies and ideas, which have proven to be a great way of learning our profession. This started 30 years ago and when I was asked recently why there should continue to be an Angle Society I came up with a threefold answer.

Firstly, to be a beacon to all the young doctors so that they can also aspire to become members.

Secondly, to act as an anchor, to prevent us from drifting aimlessly through this ocean full of fascination, mystery and challenges.



■ Fig. 2: Angle Society members. The 42nd Angle Biennial meeting, Chicago, 2017 — the Shining Hill of our profession.



■ Fig. 3: There is no better way to gather wisdom from the world's elite than at an informal dinner party.

Thirdly, to function as a port in which members can dock, mingle and return laden with information to their practices.

Becoming a member of the Angle Society truly has affected my life.

It has elevated my appreciation not only of Dr. Angle, but also of the incredibly talented members of the Angle Society. To be able to interact with so many great Orthodontists from different countries and different generations is truly a privilege, as well as a great learning process and never ending inspiration.

Sometimes I ask myself what would be Dr. Angle's vision of his society, were he with us today?

As a pioneer and innovator and someone who spent his life on the cutting edge, would he be content to rest on his laurels and merely stand on this solid foundation? Or, would he rather use this solid foundation to venture into the unknown and always be looking at ways to expand his knowledge and create, try and experiment with new techniques, such as digital?

Would he merely want to tread water, or rather surge forward and open all of our minds, young and old, experienced and freshmen, to further enhance our profession and this society, maybe even becoming more internationally prominent by establishing components in every continent?

As I never could have met Dr. Angle, I am not sure what his answers would be, none of us do, but I suspect he would be digitally leading the way for us to follow.



■ Fig. 4: Enjoying the great outdoors. Not all holes were made by OBS! Others were created to fill with golf balls.

