By Sierra Rendon
Managing Editor

The International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI) hosted its Winter Symposium from Feb. 7-9 at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas.

The group played on the city’s famous phrase: “What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas,” and turned it into a mission statement:

“What you will learn in Vegas will stay with you, with your auxiliaries and will enhance your ability to practice implant dentistry!”

The Winter Symposium, which drew more than 800 doctors from around the world, 300 auxiliary staff and more than 250 exhibitors/representatives, featured a variety of speakers and focused on new imaging technologies, new macro implant prosthodontic treatment planning concepts, new micro or localized soft and hard tissue esthetic concepts and case presentation concepts including stem cells for bone grafts, sinus augmentation and use of angled abutments.

Thursday’s session focused on “Management of Patients, Surgery and Bone” and included speakers like Dr. Ady Palti who spoke on “4-D Planning for Minimally Invasive Surgery” and Dr. John Ricci on “How Implant Surface Micro Textures Affect Hard and Soft Tissue Interfaces.”

The International Congress of Oral Implantologists held its Winter Symposium in early February at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas. (Photo by Sierra Rendon)

Bellagio plays host to ICOI

Kristine Colker
Managing Editor, Show Dailies

Pioneering implant dentist Dr. Leonard L. Linkow is known by many as the “father of American implant dentistry.” Here, he shares with Implant Tribune his experience and thoughts on the industry.

I was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and attended Cunningham Junior High School, and then graduated from James Madison High School in 1944 and captained the high school baseball team, which won the championship. I was offered a minor league contract with the New York Giants baseball organization but had to leave spring training after three weeks because I was called to service (Army Air Corps), which I had previously enlisted for. After 27 months of service, I entered Long Island University for pre-med, graduated in only two years and six months and then entered New York University College of Dentistry in 1948 and graduated in 1952.

What advances have you seen in implant dentistry and how has this affected your practice and your teaching efforts?

When I first started pioneering implant dentistry in 1952, I had to take all of the “flack” from my peers because the dental field was not ready for implants. However, my belief in what I was doing, my