

Better Teeth at Any Age

Over the course of a lifetime, we ask a lot of our teeth, but there are ways to counteract the wear and tear and make our smiles beautiful once again.

At the age of 19, Daniel Spinogatti was involved in a car accident that changed his smile forever. “I was thrown from a convertible and I ended up chipping my incisors in the front of my mouth, probably about a sixteenth of an inch or more,” he shares. “There really wasn’t any visible change, but my teeth started to wear from there until the present. I’m now seventy-four years old.”

After deciding he was ready to do something about his well-worn teeth, Daniel says he followed the advice of two friends. “I wanted to develop a better smile than what I had, so two of my friends recommended that I see Dr. Blank,” he explains. “I admired their dental work, their whole structure, so I went to see him. I was impressed with his operation and equipment, as well as what my friends had told me about him, so I proceeded to seek his services.”



FHCN PHOTO BY MARC EDWARDS

In addition, his front six teeth had the enamel worn off the biting edge, so they were shorter,” Dr. Blank recalls.

“His bite had changed so much that the front teeth were hitting edge to edge,

personality; it was his smile.”

And now that smile is completely different, according to the dentist. “We restored his smile with all ceramic materials, all the metals were removed from his mouth, and all the teeth are individual and flossable,” he sums up.

“Very well satisfied”

From the very beginning, Daniel says that he was impressed. “Dr. Blank is probably the first dental surgeon I met who is very detailed and knowledgeable,” he shares. “From changing my bite, to thinking about how it would affect my whole mouth and my look, to the proper care of my teeth and my mouth, I’m very well satisfied.

“I think my mouth looks great, and I chew much better.”

Dr. Blank agrees wholeheartedly. “Daniel looks years younger – that’s what everybody else is telling me when they see his picture. They say, *Wow, that guy looks ten years younger and happy!*”

In addition to the dentist’s expertise, Daniel believes his great results have much to do with the state-of-the-art technology employed in Dr. Blank’s office. “The doctor has the latest equipment when it comes to communicating with the lab, as well as the latest photo equipment to show you instantly features of your mouth. I’ve never seen that before.”

“We use high-quality digital photography,” the dentist confirms, “and we document the size of the patient’s teeth so the lab can see exactly what I’m seeing. We also record the bite digitally with the use of the Tek-Scan III to make sure that the top teeth and bottom teeth all meet evenly, with equal timing and intensity.”

With an intraoral camera tour, Dr. Blank adds, they also are able to provide

a new perspective. “We show all new patients their mouths on the screen, one tooth at a time, so that they see the same thing the dentist or oral hygienist sees. To Daniel, it became obvious that the breakdown was occurring, which motivated him to want to take care of his teeth – he just wanted them to be functional – and he realized he was about to lose some function.”

The fact that Daniel was so pleased with the new look of his teeth, says the dentist, was simply icing on the cake. “That was a bonus. Dan’s desire for dental care was driven by functionality, and we finished with great cosmetics, but he didn’t come here looking for cosmetic benefits.”

With his stronger, healthier, younger smile, Daniel is certain he’s found the right dentist. “The people I know who have had their mouth renovated by Dr. Blank, they look *great*,” he asserts.

“I’m very impressed with everyone in the office. His staff is very nice and their knowledge is substantial. They’re really nice people.” **FHCN**—Kris Kline

Stephen Blank, DDS

www.PSLdentist.com



A better bite

Stephen G. Blank, DDS, a board-certified dentist who has been in practice in Port St. Lucie since 1985, takes great pride and satisfaction in improving the look and function of his patients’ teeth, and Daniel was no exception.

“He presented with several worn silver fillings that had turned somewhat black and had edges that were failing,

with crack lines on the front of the teeth from that bad bite position, or malocclusion. It’s just not a healthy way to bite.”

In addition to the alignment and bite problems, the dentist adds, such wear and tear affects the facial structure as well. “The face looks more tired, with more wrinkles present. The muscles become shorter – they fatigue more easily because they’re not in a comfortable resting position,” Dr. Blank explains. “When the muscles in the face close further than they used to, they get tired, which creates patterns of wear and fatigue.”

The solution for Daniel, the dentist shares, involved good oral hygiene for healthy gums, and smile restoration with the creation of custom crowns. “He first had all of his old amalgam fillings taken out, all the decay cleaned out from underneath those fillings, and those teeth were refilled with bonded material to make sure that each tooth had good integrity,” says Dr. Blank.

“Then we built the teeth back up so the upper teeth would display a little bit more when he smiled – they were starting to hide under the lip line and, because of the wear in the middle, the smile curve became reversed, like a sad face. If you looked at him before, you might get an impression that he wasn’t happy with you, which had nothing to do with his



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. BLANK



Scan the QR code for Dr. Blank’s contact information.

SNAP Instant Dental Imaging

Dr. Blank and his staff look forward to meeting the readers of *Florida Health Care News*. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (772) 878-7348. His office is located at 184 NW Central Park Plaza in Port St. Lucie. Call today for a complimentary cosmetic consultation, including SNAP Instant Dental Imaging, so you can see your new smile before you make any decisions.



Gold Medal Winner

Dr. Blank was awarded gold medals by the Florida Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (FACD) Scientific Session competition, which is designed to reward excellence in clinical cosmetic dentistry. The FACD is an organization devoted to seeking improvements in the science and art of cosmetic dentistry.

Dr. Blank invites you to visit his website at www.PSLDENTIST.com or call (772) 878-7348.