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LDA

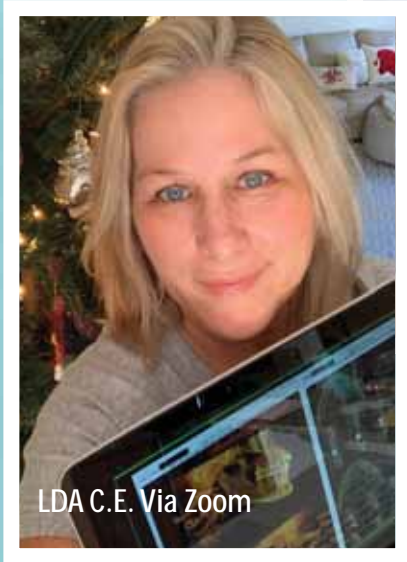
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JOURNAL

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EDITOR

Dr. Brian D. Basinger

818 Pierremont Rd.
Shreveport, LA 71106
(318) 869-3020
basingers5@basingerdental.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Annette B. Droddy

LDA Headquarters
5637 Bankers Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
(800) 388-6642 Toll-free
(225) 926-1986 Local Line
E-mail: annette@ladental.org
Web site: www.ladental.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dr. William M. Hall, Jr.

7600 Fern Ave., Ste. 1100
Shreveport, LA 71105
(318) 865-1469
E-mail: dr802@bellsouth.net

EDITORIAL BOARD

Dr. Gary Caskey

Dr. Gary L. Roberts

Dr. David N. Austin

LDA OFFICERS

Dr. David M. "Trey" Carlton III

President
5422 Provine Pl.
Alexandria, LA 71303-3772
(318) 445-4870

Dr. Kristi Soileau

Past-President
3634 Coliseum St.
New Orleans, LA 70115
(504) 899-2255

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President-Elect
3701 LA-59
Mandeville, LA 70471
(985) 871-9733

Dr. Steve Morgan

Secretary-Treasurer
219 Grinage St.
Houma, LA 70360
(985) 868-5699

Dr. L. King Scott

Speaker of the House of Delegates
120 Professional Dr.
West Monroe, LA 71291
(318) 325-4600

LDA STAFF

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Development

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Director of Accounting

Jeanne McFall

Director of Conference Services

Candice Castro

Executive Assistant

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Established in 1878, the Louisiana Dental Association (LDA) is the largest professional health organization for dentists in Louisiana. It is a statewide grassroots organization whose purpose is to promote, advocate, and protect the dental professional. The LDA has over 1,900 members.

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On the cover: WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES! January 2020 – no one in the dental world had any idea what 2020 would bring. The emotional high of LSU's National Championship was quickly doused by California wildfires, post-impeachment fallout in Washington, and the pandemic that shut down the American health care system. Louisiana was one of the first states to re-open dental care due to the diligence of your LDA leadership. But even with dentists back in their offices, new PPE requirements and virtual everything has brought new meaning to our online information

overload. And now, as we begin 2021, COVID-19 vaccines have become the focus of most Americans.

LDA members can view the *Journal*
online at www.ladental.org.



LDA

editor

Dr. Brian Basinger
Editor, LDA Journal

2020: The Year That Was

As we look forward to a new year and try to put 2020 behind us, I'm reminded of a recent ad campaign from Match.com. In the ads, Satan is looking for a date on the internet and ends up being a perfect match with a girl named "two-zero, two-zero" or 2020. In the commercial, they do pretty much what you might expect Satan and 2020 to do on a date: hoard toilet paper from a public bathroom, hit a local gym where every other treadmill is closed due to social distancing, enjoy a movie in an empty theater while she records it on her phone and then they take selfies in front of an actual dumpster fire. And finally, as they're watching meteors come crashing down to Earth, Satan wistfully says, "I just don't want this year to end" and 2020 responds "Who would?"

Well, I know quite a few people who have been ready for 2020 to end for a long time now. It's been a long, strange year. We started the year with terrible fires in Australia, Prince Harry and Meghan quitting the royal family, the WHO announcing that a deadly coronavirus had emerged in China, Kobe Bryant dying in a helicopter crash, LSU winning another college football National Championship and President Trump was impeached (and later acquitted). That was just in January! That was followed by a seemingly endless procession of other notable events including a stock market crash, murder hornets, a nasty presidential election, Black Lives Matter protests, DisneyWorld shutdown!?, deadly wildfires in California, and answer: "Beloved game show host passes away," question: "Who is Alex Trebek?"

No one will forget the month of March. In the United States, our country came to a sudden stop as the coronavirus was suddenly here. Fear of the unknown gripped many and we were told to stay at home. Dental practices (and many other businesses) across the country were closed for a minimum of six weeks and in some states for months beyond that. The way we practice has changed, as has much of our lives. Many of us were forced to stop what we were doing and that gave us time for things we might not usually make time for.

With nowhere to go and unable to work in their regular jobs, many people were able to spend a lot of time with their immediate family. A lot. Of. Time. In most cases this was a good thing. My wife and I regularly walk in our neighborhood but we were able to take some really long walks on previously undiscovered routes that we wouldn't have normally

taken. Thankfully we had nice spring weather and yards and gardens were attended to like never before. Since restaurants were closed, taking the time for home cooked meals and sitting down to enjoy them was something that many realized they had been missing.

On a professional level, we were forced into new ways of communicating that most of us had not experienced before. Ever heard of a Zoom meeting before this year? In person continuing education meetings that had been years in the planning were suddenly cancelled but found a way to happen virtually instead. Maybe not as exciting to watch on a computer screen as gathering with your colleagues but it was better than nothing. The American Dental Association, along with the state and local components, really came to the forefront as leaders in dentistry and frankly, healthcare, this year. They pivoted almost instantly to a virtual world and being a constant, reliable and timely source of information on all things COVID-19 related. The coming together of many different groups into one loud and unified voice to represent rank and file dentists nationally and in state houses across our country helped dentists get back to work and safely treating our patients much quicker than most imagined possible. The various relief efforts by Congress have also been influenced and shaped by continuous lobbying efforts on our behalf. Also, pharmaceutical companies that are notoriously secretive and highly competitive have been sharing information and research worldwide to come out with a vaccine in record time to try to help curb the spread of this coronavirus.

While 2020 may not have been our favorite year ever, it may not have been the total dumpster fire that many would have us believe. As we roll into 2021, let's take our positive experiences and cooperative spirit forward from last year. And just maybe, when we look back on 2021, we can truthfully say that we didn't want the year to end.

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LDA president

*Dr. David M. "Trey" Carlton III
President, Louisiana Dental Association*

LDA's Oral Health Professionals Vaccine Task Force

In the past several months, dental offices have adapted to a new normal and returned to work to provide much needed dental care. As a high-risk group, dentistry definitely has risen to the challenge of keeping COVID rates among dentists remarkably low. A recent large scale data collection and published report by the ADA found that less than 1% of dentists nationwide had contracted COVID-19. This is very good news and shows what dentists are doing with heightened infection control and increased attention to patient and dental team safety is working. As many of you already know, long before COVID-19, oral health professionals already used more infection control than many other professions!

With the virus still present and many areas of the country seeing high positivity rates, the news of approved vaccines is very welcomed. The release of these vaccines is an incredible accomplishment and should be our opportunity at moving in a direction of normalcy. Many dentists have reached out to ask about dentists and their teams being included in the early rounds of vaccinations that are taking place. Although the CDC has given guidance that health care personnel with the potential to have direct or indirect exposure should receive vaccinations, the final authority rests with each individual state to prioritize who receives the vaccine.

The LDA has had many discussions with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) about prioritizing vaccines for dentistry and has continually stressed that oral health is essential to overall health emphasizing that undiagnosed and untreated dental disease is associated with many systemic health conditions. We are thrilled that LDH has designated dentistry as an essential health care service and dentists and their teams as essential health care workers. Because of this designation, LDH has designated dentists in Phase 1B, tier 1. Phase 1B follows 1A. 1A includes the highest risk healthcare workers and the staff and residents of long-term care facilities. And it is LDH's intention to vaccinate the whole dental team, not just dentists.

The next challenge for dentistry in Louisiana is to coordinate the distributions and locations across the state for the dental team to get their vaccinations. As you can imagine, this is no small feat. The LDA is working in collaboration with the LSB, the LA Department of Health, the LDH Immunization Program, Bureau of Infectious Diseases, and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. LDA leadership and staff are working diligently component by component to set up access to vaccines. Some hospitals came through right away, some took longer, but we have been able to set something up in every component. Many dentists were able to connect our staff to leadership at certain hospitals. We are so appreciative of that assistance. THIS is what organized dentistry is all about.

To help coordinate the framework and implement this large-scale project, I have authorized an Oral Health Professionals Vaccine Task Force. This task force will consist of volunteer dentists from each region to help with site location, paperwork, distribution and scheduling of the vaccination process for the whole dental team. Thank you to all those who have volunteered and have offered to help facilitate the vaccination process. There is little doubt that there will be high demand for the vaccine, and this will allow dentistry to continue working to safely provide care and prevent oral diseases to our patients. We have been working with component leadership across the state to make this happen so quickly, especially over the holidays.

As of this writing, 1,100 dentists have filled out our survey for themselves and their team, many of those with multiple dentists in their offices! Continue to watch emails from the LDA, your component or even a hospital or facility in your area who are contacting you about setting up an appointment about timing and the location to receive vaccinations. Your LDA is working hard to get vaccines, even with so few to get. We are in contact with a variety of resources in each component. Things will happen fast and more info will come as it is available. 2021 will be a busy year.

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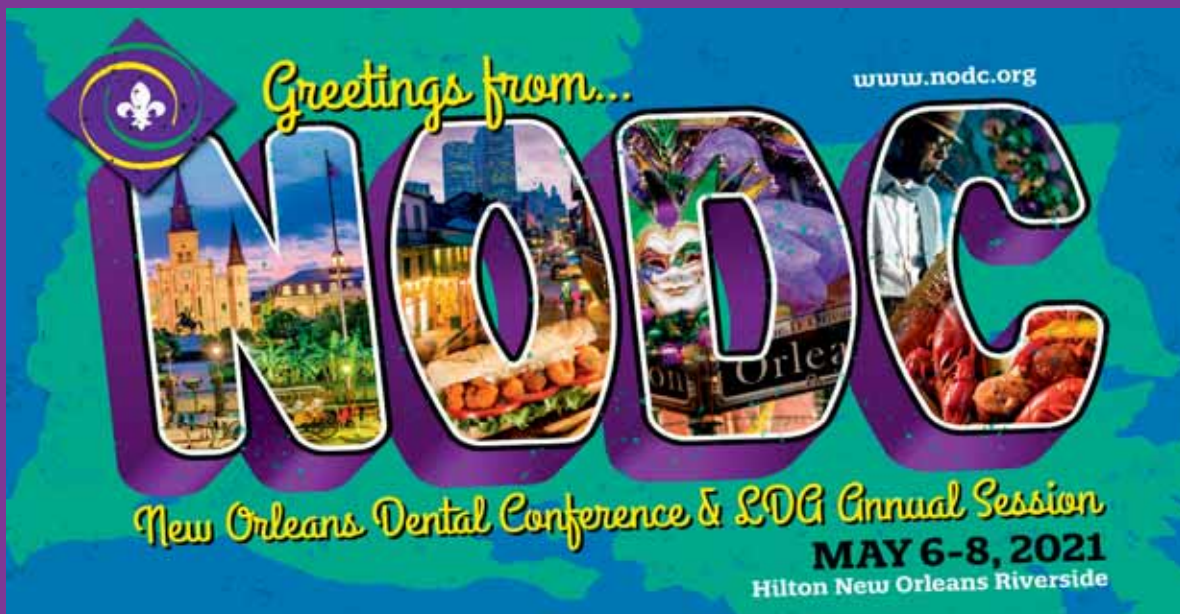
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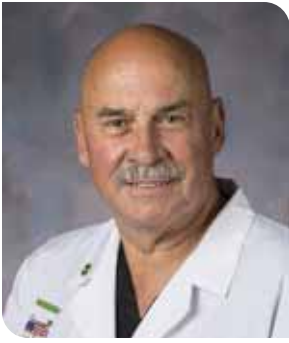
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LDA feature

*Paul Casamassimo, DDS, MS
ADA Culture of Safety in Dentistry Workgroup*

Unit or Spoon It?

The COVID-19 viral pandemic has brought infection control front and center in dental practice. Most attention has been with viral transmission through contact and aerosol in our dental world; but in the public sector, the longevity of virus contamination on various surfaces has been a concern and hand and surface cleansing have partnered with social distancing in efforts to control spread. In dental practice, surface disinfection is a standard protocol, but an area that has gained less attention has been dental material packaging, distribution, and handling. This brief article talks about how we use, disinfect, and minimize cross-contamination of dental materials.

Some dentists continue to use materials dispensed from bulk stores. The obvious benefit is cost-savings. Use of bulk materials is on an as-needed basis at point of use, or in increments prepared ahead of time and packaged by staff for use when needed. Hopefully, the practice of replacing dispensed, but unused, bulk materials is not common, if done at all, due to the risk of wider contamination. Yet, bulk use can still have contamination risks all along the use chain. The first risk is with the material container itself. We may naively believe that suppliers clean and sterilize containers and packaging, but that is not always true. In a small study I did several years ago, almost half of bulk packaging yielded pathogens. As we have learned with COVID-19, the supply chain offers ample opportunity to add contamination even if supplies leave the manufacturer in a clean state. Dispensing in the office requires strict attention to surfaces, instruments, personnel barriers, sterile receptacles, and storage. Expiration of self-packaged materials, and insurance of packaging barrier effectiveness add to the challenges. Unless a practice can assure all of these, there is the assumption of contamination and possible transmission of infectious agents.

Unit dosing is growing in acceptance in routine dental care, for obvious reasons of convenience and greater assurance of contamination control. The

downsides are cost and waste, and if you are environmentally conscience, the addition of still more plastic to our environment. Even unit dosing has its risks if not done properly. Some unit dosing is not really “unitized” and is really just packaging for easy dosing for multiple patients. Some unit dosing still requires decontamination prior to use. Don’t assume that a dispenser in a plastic container is sterile, unless so stated. Unit dosing often also has expiration dates, which need to be accounted for in storage and utilization. Cleaning and disinfecting can be challenging; by definition, unit dosing means “one-and-done” and most are not meant for reuse. Dentists may want to salvage remaining material and use what’s left for another patient, but in an absolute sense, that isn’t intended. The recent furor over aerosol in the COVID-19 crisis suggests that if material is to be saved for later use, rigorous decontamination and preferably separation from the active treatment area be in place, which may not be possible for all materials. A best practice has to be to ‘choose and use’ only single use, single patient materials. While manufacturers may claim that post-treatment disinfection is possible, it is technique sensitive and effectiveness can’t be assured.

As a result of the pandemic, we may be required to adhere in the future to a medical-surgical standard for cleanliness that includes mandated one-use products and the era of bulk-dispensing may end. My advice to dentists reading this is to begin a thoughtful process of introducing unit-dose materials into your practice and analyzing what it means from a safety, efficiency, and cost standpoint. The question of tighter control over potential transmission of minor and major infectious diseases inadvertently via vectors known to be controllable, is one of when not if, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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And while we’re at it, why don’t we get your supplies to you faster? Henry Schein and TDSC join forces to form new entity serving organized dentistry.

A significant change happened in the U.S. dental supply market in October, when Henry Schein completed an agreement with the California Dental Association’s The Dentists Supply Company to become TDSC.com, Powered by Henry Schein. The CDA retains an interest in the newly formed operating



company. An advisory committee consisting of 12 dental association leaders, dentists and others will sit on the advisory committee.

TDSC.com, Powered by Henry Schein remains committed to serving members of organized dentistry and offering every-day low prices, according to Stanley M. Bergman, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Henry Schein. The

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LDA feature



Robert P. Apple, CPA

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Beware of the 2020 Tax Bomb

The year 2020 was a difficult and confusing year for many practice owners. The uncertainty created by business shutdowns, stay at home orders, government programs and a changing business landscape have clouded the lenses we typically assess a year through. Assessing your practice's performance and ultimately the owners' tax burden will be a much more complex process than in most years. It is more important than ever to review your accounting records and consider the possible outcomes to be prepared and avoid any painful surprises during tax filing season. The typical spot checks of annual collection totals and overhead percentages are unlikely to give the full story in a year as complex as 2020.

Here are some important topics to consider:

- **PPP Deductibility:** On Sunday, December 27th, President Trump signed the most recent COVID-relief and government spending bill. One of the most important pieces of this bill for practice owners is the clarification allowing deductions for expenses paid with PPP funds that will be claimed in the forgiveness process. This is an unprecedented case of double-dipping and a huge tax savings to PPP recipients. Practice owners should consider this late change to 2020 taxes when calculating their 4th quarter estimated tax payment.
- **Reduced payroll typically leads to reduced withholdings:** Most practice owners who accepted the PPP loans did their best to comply with the requirements laid out by the SBA. One of the components was a pro-rated cap on wages for practice owners earning greater than \$100,000 per year. Many dentists had to temporarily reduce the wages they paid themselves from their LLCs or Corporations to comply with this requirement. In doing so, decreasing wages in most cases will also decrease tax withholdings from these paychecks. If a practice owner relies on W-2 withholding to pay their personal taxes, it is important to assess how your 2020 withholdings may vary from a "normal" payroll year.
- **Reduced variable expenses:** Businesses generally have two different types of expenses: variable expenses, which increase based on the amount of revenue generated, and fixed expenses, which do not change in a linear fashion based on volume. Generally speaking, fixed expenses remained fairly constant throughout the Covid-19 shutdowns. For most practices, these expenses include rent, legal & professional fees, insurance, and overhead items such as interest. Variable expenses on the other hand were significantly impacted by the Coronavirus shutdowns. With a lack of consistent patient flow, variable expenses such as payroll, dental supplies, and credit card processing fees saw a significant drop. Most practice owners are aware of their decrease in collections for 2020, but many have failed to recognize the significant decrease in variable expenses and their effect on taxable income. Many practice net or taxable incomes will be higher than expected due to lower practice expenses during the shutdown.
- **Various Taxable Grants:** There have been many agencies who have provided government assistance throughout the pandemic economic event. Two popular programs amongst dentists were the Health & Human Services (HHS) Provider Relief Fund and the Louisiana Main Street Grant program. The HHS Phase 2 grant program provided a taxable grant of up to 2% of prior year patient revenue for struggling dental practices. In addition, there was another round of money given out at year-end in a 3rd Phase. Utilizing funds from the CARES Act, Louisiana established the Main Street Recovery Program which issued grants to Louisiana businesses for up to \$15,000. Unless explicitly stated, these grants will be included in taxable income for 2020 and should be part of a practice owner's year-end tax planning. For many, it is also important to recognize Unemployment compensation is taxable income for the recipient.

- **Reduced or Delayed Estimated Payments:** 2019 filing due dates were relaxed due to the escalating situation, as well as estimated payments for the first 2 quarters of 2020. Many taxpayers took advantage of this opportunity to hang on to their cash as they faced a great deal of uncertainty. Some practitioners have made large quarterly payments to “catch-up” to a traditional year’s payment schedule, but for others, fear and/or a lack of liquidity has caused them to slip further behind on their payments. It is important to assess where your payments stand as many practice owners hoarded cash throughout the middle portion of 2020 and have had their businesses recover due to increased demand or government assistance.

It is important to assess how each of these areas could impact your net income and ultimately your income taxes.

Robert P. Apple, CPA, is a partner with AG Dental CPAs & Advisors, an LDA premier events partner. He is a member of the Academy of Dental CPAs. Should you want more information, visit www.agdentalcpas.com or call (225) 767-1020.

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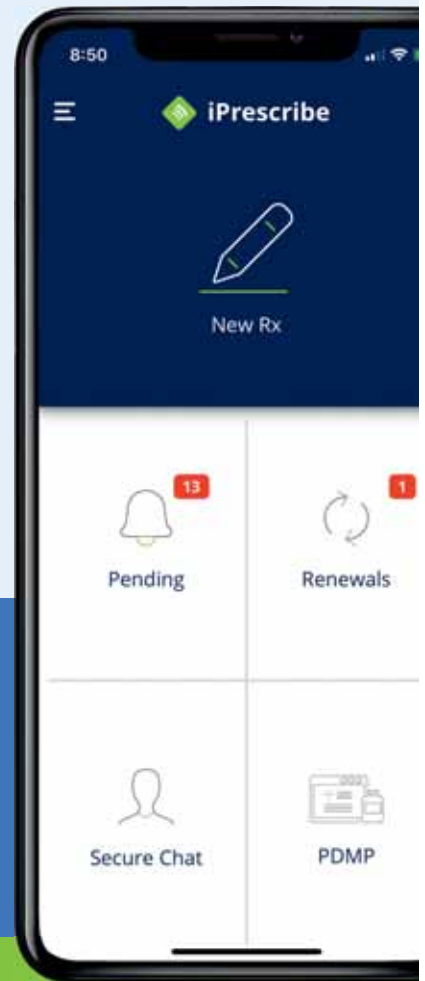
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LDA executive director

Annette B. Droddy
Executive Director, LDA

Using Challenges to Create Opportunities

Challenges stated in our last issue continue to impact our everyday lives, but we are all learning to live with them and adjust as needed to create opportunities. COVID-19 has certainly changed things but the LDA leadership and staff have kept on task to protect the interests of the dentists who we represent.

Our staff and leadership are currently preparing to work with the dental components and a collaboration of people from the LA Department of Health, the LSB, and the LSU Health Sciences Centers to secure the vaccine for oral health providers. (Read more in LDA President Dr. Trey Carlton’s article on page 4.) This has been a huge undertaking but our leadership is determined to serve their peers however necessary to help make this happen. At least two of the components should be well on their way to having all oral health staff vaccinated by the time you read this article!

And even with various COVID-19 related tasks at hand, the LDA has continued to work on other goals or projects impacting dentistry and our members.

In November, the LDA’s Council on Government Affairs held the annual meeting that suggests a legislative agenda that will go before both the LDA Board and the House of Delegates. Part of the agenda voted upon by the Council includes proceeding forward with third party payer issues. As you may remember, we were successful during the 2020 Legislative Session in passing pre-existing conditions and downcoding legislation. The LDA applied for and received another ADA State Public Affairs Grant to continue our work on this very important issue that impacts so many of our members. Our lobbying team met with the Commissioner of Insurance on Dec. 16 so that we could begin plans for the 2021 legislative agenda.

Besides working with LDA leadership on efforts to vaccinate oral health providers, much of the last days of 2020 were spent working with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) and DentaQuest on finalizing information for providers. LDH announced in February its intent to contract with two dental administrators for Medicaid. The Department selected DentaQuest USA Insurance Company, Inc. and MCNA Insurance Company d/b/a MCNA Dental Plans. The new state MCO Medicaid contract date was Jan. 1, 2021. It made for an interesting end of year, but all three groups are

working diligently to have as smooth a transition as possible even though there have been plenty of bumps along the way. The COVID-19 pandemic certainly did not help. If you are a provider having trouble with the transition, contact the LDA office and we will assist you in getting the correct answers to your concerns. And remember, you do not have to choose one or the other. You can be a provider with both MCNA and DentaQuest.

One item of importance for dentists was announced at the Dec. 5 LA State Board of Dentistry meeting and is highlighted in Dr. Willis’ article (and I would like to restate to make sure no one misses it): We are unsure of what 2021 will bring, and at our December Board meeting the Board voted to accept the

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results of manikin licensure exams for 2021 graduates. As for continuing education requirements for licensees renewing at the end of 2021, those will remain 20 in-person hours and 10 online hours. If the epidemic continues, this may be adjusted at our May LA State Board of Dentistry meeting.

The LDA has representatives that attend the LSBSD meetings as guests and will update members immediately should the C.E. decision change.

In December, we also said goodbye to Sharon Elliott, our membership director of 13 years. Sharon has moved on to other adventures and we wish her well. We were fortunate to be able to find a wonderful new addition to our team, Colin Zvosec. Colin has jumped right in and shown great initiative. If you have any questions, Colin looks forward to helping you and getting to know all of our members. Read more about Colin in the box to the right.

In 2020, we were able to host all of our C.E. events and most of our other Council meetings, etc., with changes and adjustments to make the year as successful as possible for our membership. Our 2021 resolution will be to take what we learned in one of the most challenging years we have collectively experienced and to continue moving forward. It is unlikely that everything will ever go back to “normal” but we certainly can work together to promote, advocate and protect the dental professionals. Our challenges are far from over but when we are working with a team of over 1,800 peers, those challenges are much easier to overcome.



Colin Zvosec joined the LDA staff as the new Director of Membership Development in December of 2020. Prior to arriving at the LDA, he was a part of the Annual Giving team in the LSU Foundation, overseeing the phone program. No stranger to membership, Colin ran the Membership program at the University of Northern Illinois Alumni Association. In his first full year, the program saw revenue growth of 44%. Before his stint at NIU, he worked in athletics marketing at Creighton University and Sam Houston State University. He received his bachelor's degree from Ohio University, and he completed his master's degree at the University of Kansas. Colin currently resides in Saint Gabriel with his wife Claire, a faculty member at LSU, and their daughter Lily, who will turn one in May.

SAVE THE DATE

Event	Date	Location
L.H. Bowden Leadership Conference	Friday, January 15, 2021	LDA Headquarters
Winter C.E. & Ski	Sunday, February 14 - Tuesday, February 16, 2021	The Steamboat Grand Hotel Steamboat Springs, CO
HOD C.E. & Golf	Friday, March 19, 2021	Carter Plantation, Springfield, LA
House of Delegates (HOD)	Saturday, March 20, 2021	Embassy Suites Hotel, Baton Rouge, LA
New Orleans Dental Conference/LDA Annual Session	Thursday, May 6 - Saturday, May 8, 2021	Hilton Riverside New Orleans www.nodc.org
Summer Education Conference	Wednesday, June 23 - Saturday, June 26, 2021	Hilton Pensacola Beach Pensacola, FL
LDA Foundation Fishing Rodeo	Thursday, July 15 - Saturday, July 17, 2021	Sand Dollar Marina Grand Isle, LA
LDA Kick-Off C.E.	TBD August 2021	TBD
LDA Winter C.E. with Character	Sunday, February 28 - Tuesday, March 2, 2022	Walt Disney World®, The Grand Floridian Lake Buena Vista, FL

For more information on LDA events, visit www.ladental.org/events or call Jeanne McFall at (225) 926-1986.



LDA Lsu health new orleans school of dentistry

Edward J. Hebert, DDS '84
President, LSU Health School of Dentistry Alumni Association

There is "Great" Opportunity for the LSUSD Going Forward

I hope the receipt of this article finds everyone well! As president of the LSU Health School of Dentistry (LSUSD) Alumni Association, it is my honor to introduce the school's new dean, Robert M. Laughlin, DMD. He is the sixth person and the second alumnus to serve as dean of LSUSD. He has been interim dean since May 2020.

Dr. Laughlin joined the school in May 2019 as head of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Chief of OMS for Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in Baton Rouge. He is holder of the James R. Peltier Endowed Chair in OMS and will continue to serve in these roles in addition to his role as dean. He holds academic appointments with both LSUSD and the LSU Health School of Medicine.

Dr. Laughlin earned a BA in the biological sciences from the University of Chicago in 1998 and his DMD from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine in 2002. He completed his residency and general surgery internship in oral and maxillofacial surgery at LSU Charity Hospital in New Orleans in 2006 followed by a fellowship in head and neck surgery and microvascular reconstructive surgery at the University of Michigan. He also spent time as a visiting professor in the Department of Head and Neck Oncology at Shanghai Ninth Peoples Hospital in China.

Our new dean has served our country with distinction. Dr. Laughlin was in the U.S. Air Force from 1990 to 1998 and then joined the U.S. Navy in 1998. After completing his training in 2007, he joined the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, where he served as attending surgeon, residency program director, and department chairman. Dr. Laughlin provided care in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring



Freedom, serving active duty military and dependents, retirees, congressional delegates and foreign diplomats.

With over 17 years of experience in the full scope of oral and maxillofacial surgery, Dr. Laughlin has special interests in head and neck oncology, microvascular reconstructive surgery and temporomandibular reconstruction; he has lectured internationally on these subjects as well as on maxillofacial trauma. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a reviewer for the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Dr. Laughlin has extensive research experience, working with top researchers at the Uniformed Services of the Health Sciences, Department of Ophthalmology in Bethesda, Maryland, and the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine Department of Surgery. His research in upregulation of bacterial virulence after surgical stress was instrumental in National Institutes of Health RO-1 funding for the University of Chicago, Department of Surgery. He has served as principle investigator and co-investigator on multiple research grants and has authored numerous journal articles and chapters in oral and maxillofacial surgery textbooks. Dr. Laughlin is the co-editor of the *Atlas of Operative Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*.

The recipient of numerous awards, including the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Community Service Award for his actions during Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Laughlin is the first oral and maxillofacial surgeon nominated for the LSUHSC Charity Hospital Intern of the Year, and the first and only oral and maxillofacial surgery resident to be awarded the prestigious Jack Kent Foundation OMS Award, also for his contributions in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. In 2008 Dr. Laughlin received the Navy and

Marine Corps Commendation Award—the highest military service award. In 2014 he was the first oral and maxillofacial surgeon in the Navy to receive the Master Clinician Award from the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.

Dr. Laughlin is married to Captain Allison A. Henry, Dental Corps, United States Navy. Capt. Henry has served honorably for the past 23 years, including service aboard the USS Pearl Harbor, USS Tarawa and USNS Mercy. Dr. Henry has two sons Allen (16) and Curtis (14).

On a personal note, in 2019, at the request of Dean Henry Gremillion, I served as keynote speaker at the annual White Coat Ceremony. Speaking to the Dental Hygiene Class of 2020 and the Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2022, my message focused on the importance of relationships, professionalism, integrity, respect and gratitude. The following summer, I had the opportunity to meet Dr. Laughlin at an Alumni Association board meeting in Baton Rouge. I believe he reflects these same values and will effectively lead LSUSD in the coming years. Dr. Laughlin's command of the issues facing our dental school with the loss of Dr. Gremillion and in the midst of the COVID pandemic is impressive. Under his leadership, I believe there is "great" opportunity for the LSU School of Dentistry going forward.

Deans of the LSU Health School of Dentistry

Edmund Engler Jeansonne, DDS (1966-1974) ±

Allen Anthony Copping, DDS (1974)±

Edmund Engler Jeansonne, DDS (1974-1976) ±

Jack Henry Rayson, DDS (1976-1993) ±

Eric J. Hovland, DDS, MEd, MBA (1993 to 2008)

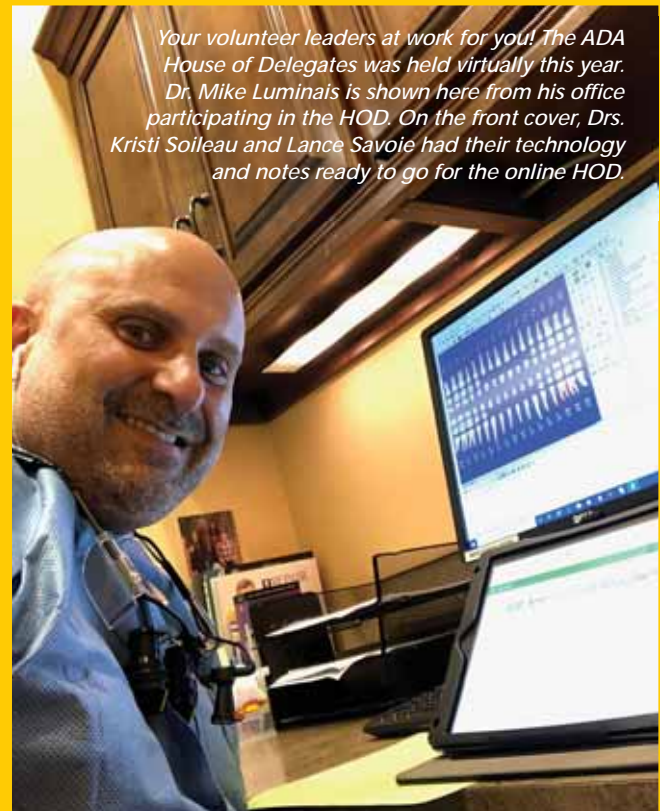
Henry A. Gremillion, DDS, MAGD (2008 to 2020) ±

Robert M. Laughlin, DMD (2020 to Present)

ADA House of Delegates



Dr. Brian Basinger
"at" the ADA HOD.



Your volunteer leaders at work for you! The ADA House of Delegates was held virtually this year. Dr. Mike Luminais is shown here from his office participating in the HOD. On the front cover, Drs. Kristi Soileau and Lance Savoie had their technology and notes ready to go for the online HOD.

LDA Foundation

The LDA Foundation appreciates the kind donations contributed during the 2020 dues cycle, which is Dec. 2019, through Nov. 2020. We appreciate your dedication to the Foundation and the financial assistance to help support our mission. These contributions were especially important this year in assisting our Southwest Louisiana friends during the devastating hurricane season.

The mission of the LDA Foundation is to enhance the oral health of our State by providing funding for clinical research, education, scholarships and access to care programs, as well as providing financial assistance to dental professionals and their families who are in need. The LDA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation registered in the State of Louisiana. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

To make a Foundation contribution, call the LDA office at (800) 388-6642, email info@ladental.org, make a PayPal contribution on the LDA website (www.ladental.org) or mail a check to the LDA Foundation, 5637 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

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Dr. David Doerle
Dr. Timothy Fontenot
Dr. Vintage Le Blanc
Dr. James Pearce
Dr. Dayton Prudhomme
Dr. Angela Soileau
Dr. Phillip Stelly
Dr. Bridgette Vidrine

Bayou

Dr. S. Ber
Dr. Donald d'Aquin
Dr. Whybra Duay, Jr.
Dr. Kenneth Luminais
Dr. Fred Tenney
Dr. William Walsh

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LDA Louisiana state board of dentistry

*Dr. Richard Willis
2020 President, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry*

LSBD Updates

Well, 2020 has been completely unexpected. The COVID-19 numbers seem to be on the rise, and people around the country are adjusting their holiday celebrations in light of social distancing requirements. Here in Louisiana, hurricanes have added to the pandemic's burden for many. And as dental professionals, I'm sure we have seen the impacts to our patients, staff, and practices. I certainly hope 2021 is less eventful.

My tenure as the 2020 Louisiana State Board of Dentistry President has come with unique challenges. We had to figure out a way to license graduating students when no patient-based exam could be offered. We had to get used to Zoom meetings instead of in person ones.

We had to adjust continuing education requirements for people renewing their licenses in 2020. And, of course, we all had to adjust our practices earlier this year with the Department of Health's directives.

We are unsure of what 2021 will bring, and at our December Board meeting the Board voted to accept the results of manikin licensure exams for 2021 graduates. As for continuing education requirements for licensees renewing at the end of 2021, those will remain 20 in-person hours and 10 online hours. If the epidemic continues, this may be adjusted at our May Board meeting.

In addition to the pandemic and hurricane situations, the Board will soon be moving to another office. We will still be located in Baton Rouge, but I am hoping



we will be in a spot that is more easily accessible by our licensees. I hope to have that move completed by January. We will, of course, keep you updated once a new location has been found.

Despite these circumstances and activity, the Board's business continues. License renewals began in October as usual. If you have not renewed your license prior to the March 5 meeting, your license will be revoked for non-renewal.

You must report your CE online to CE Broker before you will be allowed to renew your license. If you renew your license in 2020, all CE, with the exception of anesthesia and CPR (including BLS, ACLS, and PALS) may be completed online. If you have any questions about this, please call the Board office.

As a reminder, all dentists must complete three hours of opioid

management CE one time during the course of their professional licensure period. This is not needed each time you renew. However, if you received an exemption from the opioid management CE requirement the last time you renewed your license, you will need to submit another exemption request this time as well. Although completing the opioid management CE is a one-time requirement, an exemption from it must be requested each time you renew. It may be easier if you simply take an approved opioid management course rather than submit the affidavit for the exemption.

The Board has not resumed CDC office inspections at this time due to the ongoing pandemic. However, we are still conducting inspections for anesthesia permits. Should you need a new moderate sedation or general

We are unsure of what 2021 will bring, and at our December Board meeting the Board voted to accept the results of manikin licensure exams for 2021 graduates. As for continuing education requirements for licensees renewing at the end of 2021, those will remain 20 in-person hours and 10 online hours. If the epidemic continues, this may be adjusted at our May Board meeting.

anesthesia permit, submit your application and fee to the Board office, and the inspector will contact you to schedule the inspection.

The Board office remains closed to visitors. Any documents or applications must be mailed to the Board office as we cannot accept anything in person at this time. You may always call the Board office for assistance with any paperwork that must be sent to us.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Board members and the Board staff. 2020 has been interesting to say the least, and their hard work has made it as painless as it could possibly be. And while I definitely hope 2021 is easier on us all, Louisiana's dental community is hard working and resilient, and I know we can weather any storm. I hope everyone remains safe and healthy and has had a wonderful, if different, holiday season.

**New Orleans
Dental Conference/
LDA Annual Session**

**May 6-8, 2021
www.nodc.org**



2021 LDA Membership Renewals

2021 membership renewals have been mailed. If paying by credit card, go to www.ladental.org, Dental Resources, Pay Your Dues. If you have any questions about your dues, or you did not receive your renewal invoice, contact Colin Zvosec at (225) 408-3293 or colin@ladental.org.

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LDA and ADA have your back.**

I'm Retiring, Do I Still Need to Pay Membership Dues?

To be eligible for ADA and LDA retired status you must be fully retired (not earning any income from the knowledge of dentistry) on or before March 31, 2021, to receive this benefit in 2021. To request a retired affidavit, contact Colin.

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*Author of **The Resourceful Dentist: A Guide to Financial Success***



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Submitted by Well-Ahead Louisiana (LA Department of Health)

Dental Professionals Play a Role in Reducing Teen Vaping

The dramatic rise in the number of teens using e-cigarettes, or vapes, has alarmed health experts to the point that, in 2018, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams referred to it as an epidemic.ⁱ

E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that deliver nicotine, flavorings and other ingredients to the user. Commonly known as vapes, they can also be referred to as mods, tank systems or e-cigs.ⁱⁱ Vapes have been a draw for teens because they come in flavors such as mango, cherry, cotton candy and crème. They can look like regular cigarettes, but vapes shaped like USB flash drives are popular among youth, including JUUL and PAX Era.ⁱⁱⁱ

In Louisiana, use of e-cigarettes, or vaping, among middle and high school students has doubled since 2017 and tripled since 2015. As of 2019, approximately 32% of high school students and 15% of middle school students in the state reported that they used a vape product more than once.

What makes those numbers more troubling is that teens do not believe that vapes are bad for them. One in five middle school students, and one in three high school students, in Louisiana said that they do not think vapes are harmful to their health.^{iv}

Most youth also do not know that vapes contain nicotine.^v Not only is nicotine highly addictive, but nicotine

"I am officially declaring e-cigarette use among youth an epidemic in the United States."

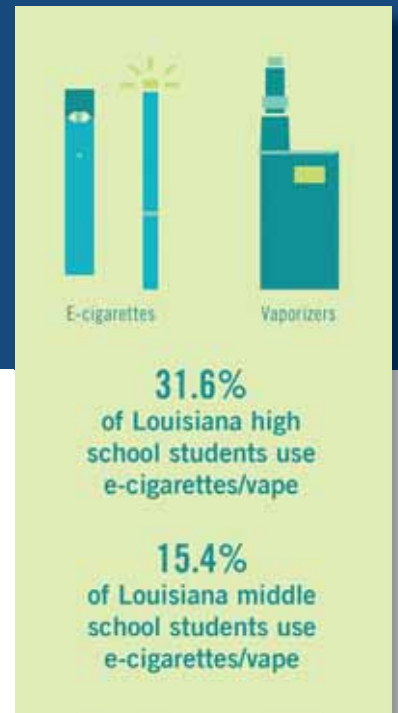
U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams, 2018

exposure during adolescence can harm brain development (which continues until the mid-20s), affect learning, memory and attention and increase the risk for future addiction to regular cigarettes or other drugs.

In addition to the nicotine, vape aerosol contains harmful substances including cancer-causing chemicals, volatile organic compounds, ultrafine particles, and flavorings that have been linked to lung disease and heavy metals such as nickel, tin and lead.^{vi}

Well-Ahead Louisiana, the chronic disease prevention and healthcare access arm of the Louisiana Department of Health, works to connect educators, coaches, parents and healthcare professionals with resources to educate themselves and our state's youth about the dangers of vaping and how to help teens who do vape to quit.

As healthcare providers, dentists and dental hygienists can play an integral role in addressing and treating all tobacco use, include vaping, among youth and young adults. Simply asking about the use of vapes when screening young patients for tobacco use, along with



The ADA policy on vaping can be found at www.ada.org/vaping.

sharing about the risks of vapes and other tobacco products with teens and their parents, can open a dialogue and provide an opportunity for teens to seek cessation resources. Well-Ahead recommends www.teen.smokfree.gov as a resource for youth cessation and support.

Well-Ahead's Provider Education Network offers the **Brief Tobacco Intervention Training**, in which healthcare professionals can learn three simple steps to effectively talk to their patients about tobacco and evidence-based cessation services. By becoming a certified **Fax-to-Quit Provider**, dentists can also refer adult patients directly to the Louisiana Tobacco Quitline, a toll-free telephone and online service that provides counseling and cessation medications. Learn more and take the trainings at <https://www.walpen.org/tobacco-intervention-training>.

Another way for dental professionals to show their commitment to reduced tobacco use is by having their office become a WellSpot. WellSpots are places that implement smart changes in their environments that promote better health for their staff and patients. Examples include going tobacco-free, supporting a worksite fitness program or implementing team-based care. To learn more about becoming a WellSpot, visit <http://wellaheadla.com/>.

Take the lead in reducing teen vaping by learning how to effectively talk to teens about vaping and other

tobacco use and recommending cessation resources.

For more information or tobacco prevention and cessation resources provided by Well-Ahead Louisiana, contact wellahead@la.gov.

ⁱ "Surgeon General Warns Youth Vaping Now An 'Epidemic'", National Public Radio. (2018) Retrieved Nov. 17, 2020 from <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/12/18/677755266/surgeon-general-warns-youth-vaping-is-now-an-epidemic>

ⁱⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019). About Electronic Cigarettes (E-Cigarettes). Office on Smoking and Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/about-e-cigarettes.html.

ⁱⁱⁱ Quick Facts on the Risks of E-cigarettes for Young People. (2020). Retrieved 29 October 2020, from https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html

^{iv} Well-Ahead Louisiana and The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living E-Cigarette Report "Use Among Louisiana Youth: Findings From the Louisiana Youth Tobacco Survey", 2019.

^v Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019). About Electronic Cigarettes (E-Cigarettes). Office on Smoking and Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/about-e-cigarettes.html.

^{vi} Quick Facts on the Risks of E-cigarettes for Young People. (2020). Retrieved 29 October 2020, from https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html

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LDA feature

*Dr. Rich Herman
Chair, ADA Culture of Safety in Dentistry Workgroup*

Life Threatening Emergencies in the Dental Office

A safe dental office will have in place a plan of action for when a life threatening emergency occurs. After all, an emergency, either medical or dental, can present at any time and successfully handling it requires a plan of action that the entire staff understands and has practiced. After all, it may be the dentist having the medical emergency!

Emergency policies must be developed specific to the size and type of dental practice. What is appropriate for a small general practice is entirely different than that of a large clinic; which is yet again different from what would be expected from an oral surgery practice.

Regardless of the type of practice, an emergency plan aims to manage the patient until help arrives. This comes down to maintaining an oxygen supply to heart and brain, thus managing the airway, breathing and circulation.

The small or solo practice may have a simple policy of two basic steps:

1. Calling 911.
2. Instituting Basic Life Support (BLS) procedures to support oxygenation culminating in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

In this situation, the entire staff must have current CPR training, which now includes the use of an AED. There is a staff member (and backup) appointed to call 911 stat.

An oral surgeon's office or a practice that utilizes sedation or general anesthesia should have access to more resuscitation equipment and be able to provide more advanced care.

In both settings, only repeated practice can result in calm, clear communication and effective addressing of the emergency.

The takeaway...have a basic plan and practice!



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LOUISIANA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

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Greater Baton Rouge Dental Association
Dr. Tamma Johnson-Gray

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LDA

last chance seminar

Jeanne Parr McFall
Director of Conference Services, LDA

Changing with the Times

W e at the LDA, along with you as dentists, are adapting to new technology that is emerging around us due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns. One of the many changes in the world of dentistry is how you get your continuing education hours. That said, LDA has begun offering ZOOM webinar courses this year. Our Last Chance seminar, which is normally the LDA’s largest live C.E. event, was changed from live to ZOOM back in September.

This member benefit offered 7 clinical hours through two sessions. Dr. Paul Ouellette spoke on, “A Full Spectrum of Implant and Adjunctive Orthodontic

Procedures” and Dr. Ronni Brown lectured on, “Tweaked,” “Cracked” and “Loaded”: A Profile of the Addicted Dental Patient. Both lectures counted towards in-person hours as LDA followed the guidelines set by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. Approximately 130 registrants enjoyed these lectures from the comfort of their homes or offices.

While we look forward to seeing you in person in 2021, we are glad so many of you decided to ZOOM with us for the 2020 Last Chance Seminar. Stay tuned to more events and adjustments as needed to make events and meetings happen for 2021.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

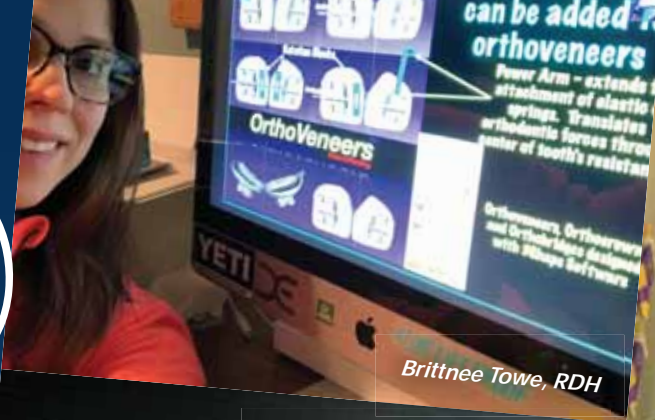
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Brittnee Towe, RDH



Dr. Eliot Guerin



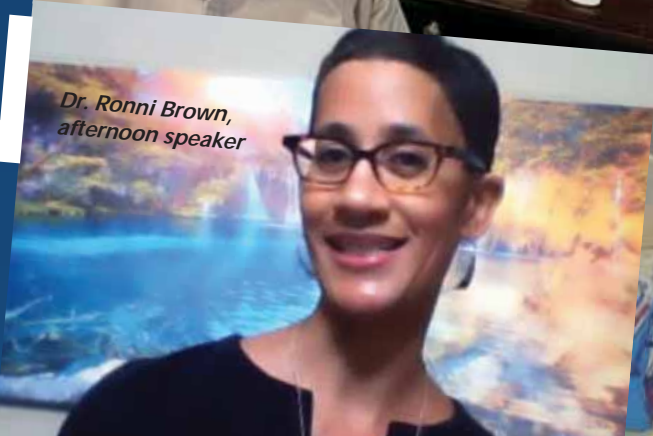
Dr. Anthony Bercier and his son



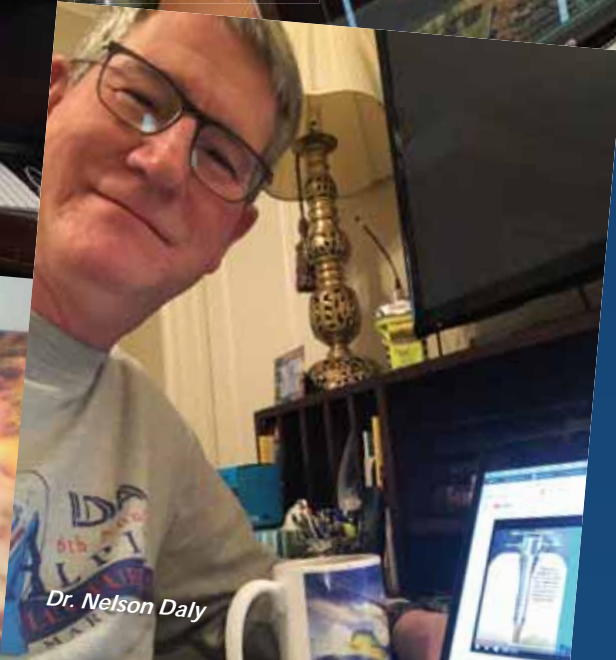
Dr. Gina Schellhase



Dr. Carlos Suadi



Dr. Ronni Brown, afternoon speaker



Dr. Nelson Daly



LDA

wealth management

Chad Olivier, CFP®
CEO/CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, Olivier Group

Building and Maintaining Generational Wealth

You have built or in some-way are involved in building a successful dental practice and have provided a comfortable living for your family. Now is the time to develop strategies to create generational Wealth.

The term “generational wealth” refers to assets passed down from one generation to the next. These assets may include real estate, investments, business interests, or anything else of monetary value.¹ Generations who receive inherited wealth often have a financial advantage, however, maintaining generational wealth across generations may have added challenges.

Reasonable minds have different opinions when it comes to passing on one’s wealth to future generations. Warren Buffett has said one should leave, “enough money so that they (one’s children) would feel they could do anything, but not so much that they could do nothing.”² An alternate opinion was offered by famous *Shark Tank* investor, Kevin O’Leary. He states, “I’m not planning on giving my kids any of my wealth. They know when their education is over, I’m pushing them out of the nest. You want to prepare your children for launching their own lives. I tell wealthy parents that if they don’t kick their kids out of the house and put them under the stresses of the real world, they will fail to launch.”³ If building generational wealth is part of your goals, there are strategies to consider regarding spending habits, putting an investment plan in place and educating yourself and future generations to become financially literate.

Rein in Your Spending Habits

An unhealthy relationship with money can be the root cause of overspending, and that relationship may have begun in one’s younger years and never got under control. Becoming more budget conscious means tracking the income coming in and the money going out of the household, with the goal being to cut unnecessary spending and save more money.

Set Your Specific Goals

As a part of building generational wealth, it is advisable to develop a relationship with a reputable financial professional who can help the wealth builder create a detailed financial plan. This plan will include how much money

should be saved incrementally to work toward individual goals. Strategies for paying yourself first and getting out of high-interest debt should be addressed by the wealth building financial plan. It is advisable to incorporate college-planning strategies to ensure those inheriting your generational wealth receive a quality education in their chosen field. It is important to remember, along with a college education, there needs to be an understanding of how to budget and make sound financial decisions, also known as an education in financial literacy.

Invest with Discipline

Remaining disciplined when investing is definitely easier said than done. With the constant bombardment of information, it becomes harder and harder to invest with discipline. That is why it is important to try and take emotion out of the investment process. Wealth can be destroyed much faster than it was created by trying to invest on gut instinct instead of an investment discipline. Warren Buffett says it best “We don’t have to be smarter than the rest. We have to be more disciplined than the rest.” That is why it is very important to have a combination of rigorous research with a set of disciplines that portfolio managers have developed over time.

Maintain Generational Wealth

Accumulating the wealth can be quite a feat. Many times, the next generation did not witness or appreciate the bad times it took to get to the good times. Upwards of 70% of wealthy families lose their wealth by the second generation, and 90% by the third. There are strategies to try to better the odds of maintaining wealth to span generations. Improving financial literacy in the next generation means having conversations about money: making smart money decisions and estate planning. Some families develop a family plan that includes a financial family office.⁴

If a family has a goal to be prosperous, including building generational wealth to increase prosperity for the family future, reaching that goal is not completely dependent on income. It is important to have strategies along with detailed financial planning that incorporates saving and investing over the long-term while building assets over extended periods of time. The plan should also include an educational

segment in which future generations are empowered to make sound financial decisions. So, set on your path to not only build but maintain your generational wealth.

¹ Marketwatch.com, *What is generational wealth and how do you build it?* Adams, Riley, July 2020.

² Fortune 1986

³ Chatelaine 2013

⁴ Money.com, *70% of Rich Families Lose Their Wealth by the Second Generation*, Taylor, Chris, June 2015.

This material is not intended to provide specific legal, tax, or other professional advice. For a comprehensive review of your personal situation, always consult with a tax or legal advisor. Neither Cetera Advisor Networks LLC nor any of its representative may give legal or tax advice

Chad Olivier, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, is the author of *What Medical School Did Not Teach You about Financial Planning* and *The Resourceful Dentist* and owner of Olivier Group in Baton Rouge, LA, which specializes in wealth management for physicians, dentists and affluent families. If you have any questions about this article please call (888) 465-2112 or visit us at www.oliviargroup.com or 4609 Bluebonnet Blvd., Ste. A, Baton Rouge, LA, 70809 or call 225-757-9484. Securities offered through Cetera Advisor Networks LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through CWM, LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Cetera Advisor Networks LLC is under separate ownership from any other named entity. Carson Partners, a division of CWM, LLC, is a nationwide partnership of advisors.



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LDA/LSUSD Mentoring Program

The LDA and the LSUSD Office of Alumni Relations have created a pilot mentorship program to connect senior students with LDA members. The mentorship program is a school year (for instance, Fall 2020 - Summer 2021) commitment; however, we hope that it will provide the foundation for ongoing professional relationships.

Registration is now open for LDA members. Sign up at <http://www.ladental.org/mentorship-program>. Program details will be sent following registration.



Celebrating 50 and 25 Years of Membership

In commemoration of 50 and 25 years of membership and in recognition whereof your fellow members and associates in dentistry extend their warm commendation and express their high esteem for this singularly outstanding achievement in your chosen profession of dental science.

50 Years of Membership

Acadiana District Dental Association

Dr. Hiram A. McConnell, Jr.
Dr. Vernon S. Melancon
Dr. Jon A. Feerick
Dr. David E. Doerle
Dr. Roderick J. Smith

Greater Baton Rouge Dental Association

Dr. Chevies L. Newman, Jr.
Dr. Michael L. Vincent
Dr. Larry R. Germany

Northwest Louisiana Dental Association

Dr. Eric J. LeBlanc

Northlake Dental Association

Dr. Blaise V. Polito
Dr. Thomas F. Danos

Bayou District Dental Association

Dr. James L. Danos
Dr. Ellis D. Braud, Jr.

New Orleans Dental Association

Dr. Delbert E. Hale
Dr. Paul J. Walters
Dr. Michael T. Robichaux
Dr. Kenneth G. Schott

25 Years of Membership

Central Louisiana Dental Association

Dr. Leonard G. Hedrick

Acadiana District Dental Association

Dr. Mark A. Broussard
Dr. Natalie B. Brasseaux
Dr. Harold D. Kennedy

Greater Baton Rouge Dental Association

Dr. Leo R. Regan
Dr. Shelley M. Joachim

Northwest Louisiana Dental Association

Dr. David J. Bellew

Northeast Louisiana Dental Association

Dr. Ronald C. Stratton, Jr.
Dr. William C. Johnston
Dr. Kerry J. Viator

Northlake Dental Association

Dr. Melissa H. Pellegrini
Dr. Martha Anne Carr
Dr. Paul E. Dugas
Dr. Toby B. Moffatt

Bayou District Dental Association

Dr. S. D. Ber

New Orleans Dental Association

Dr. G. Bradley Gottsegen
Dr. Brian H. Miller

Southwest District Dental Association

Dr. Eric A. Sanders



Meghan Newport Nettles, R.D.H., B.S.
LDHA President

Covid-19 and the Importance of the Comprehensive Dental Examination

Keeping Covid-19 out of the office has been a challenge for the dental team. Some of the ways we are trying to combat the virus are prescreening patients before appointments, maintaining a social distance of six feet apart in the waiting room, minimizing the use of the waiting room, and checking the patient's temperature before entering the operatory. Another important factor to help combat the spread is the utilization of the comprehensive dental examination. A thorough exam by the dental care providers can not only help combat the spread of Covid-19, but also uncover risk factors for the virus.

A comprehensive dental exam includes far more than just cleaning your teeth. It involves a complete and thorough patient examination covering everything from pre-existing conditions, gum health, screenings, and diagnostic exams to guarantee optimal oral health. According to the Center for Disease Control, up to 90% of diseases exhibit some sign of oral manifestation. Inflammation of the gums is a common symptom of Type II Diabetes, COPD, hypertension, childhood cancers and some STD's. Many of our patients receive a routine prophylaxis every six months. For some patients, this is the most healthcare they will have all year. It is up to the dental provider to remind the patient how important overall health is to the health of the oral cavity and vice versa.

So how can the health of the oral cavity be a possible risk factor for COVID-19 and how can we use a comprehensive dental exam to help discover those factors? Although everyone is at risk for COVID-19, the CDC has released increased risk factors for COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m² or higher but < 40 kg/m²)

- Severe Obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m²)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Many of these reported risk factors are also risk factors for periodontal disease. During a thorough comprehensive dental exam, increases in inflammation of the gums, increased plaque and calculus build up, and inadequate home care could place the patient in the higher risk category for developing the risk factors for COVID-19. It is also particularly important when we see a breakdown in the patient's oral health, we encourage the patient to have a wellness exam to check for undiagnosed risk factors. Each patient should have a wellness exam with a medical physician one time per calendar year.

The comprehensive exam is the beginning to most dental visits. Some elements of the exam that should be included:

- Through medical history (medications and past diagnostics)
- Past dental history
- Intra and extra oral tissue evaluation
- Proper diagnostic radiographs
- Examination of the teeth
- Complete periodontal charting (pocketing, recession, furcation and mobility)
- Formulation of treatment plan
- Necessary referrals

Many of our patients have struggled with their health and well-being during 2020. As dental professionals, we can make a strong impact on how the patient views his or her overall health with a thorough comprehensive exam and health update. We can continue to bridge the gap between dental and medical health, as well as remind the patient of underlying risk factors related to COVID-19 and poor dental health.



Dental Lifeline Network is grateful for the Louisiana Dental Association's partnership in developing a Donated Dental Services (DDS) program in 1987 to help people with disabilities or who are elderly or medically fragile and had no other access to dental care, and for LDA's continued support.

During this difficult time of uncertainty, we are especially thankful to the Louisiana dentists and labs who have donated over \$11.5 million worth of comprehensive donated treatment for 5,396 people. DDS Coordinator Michelle Aiken is working hard to communicate with patients and volunteers on the status of their treatment, and communicating with the people on our wait list. We appreciate the dentists who continue to provide care and are full of hope that when the other dentists are ready, they will begin to see our patients again and to give them the care they so desperately need!



Dr. Elizabeth Riggs (New Orleans), volunteer since 2005, with her DDS patient and staff

The Story

The DDS program restores the oral health and often transforms the lives of the patients we serve, like, "Lisa," 35, who lives with her three teenage daughters in Baton Rouge. She suffers from heart disease and kidney failure and undergoes daily dialysis treatments. In desperate need of heart surgery and a kidney transplant, Lisa had to be free of all infection before she could be considered for surgery. Sadly, she had multiple broken and decayed teeth and was unable to afford treatment to address her dental problems. Formerly a housekeeper, Lisa was forced to stop working in 2016. Now, she relies on food stamps and Social Security benefits to make ends meet. Though Lisa has Medicaid benefits, the extensive dental treatment she needed was not covered. It seemed she had nowhere to turn. Fortunately, Lisa was referred to the DDS program, and

she was linked with a general dentist, an oral surgeon, and a lab who agreed to help. Thanks to these caring volunteers, Lisa received thousands in donated treatment that restored her dental health and got her one step closer to receiving a transplant! She expressed her sincere appreciation for this amazing gift. "It was a great experience for me and they helped me a lot. The volunteers were all great and treated me nice. Now I'm one step closer to getting a kidney transplant and I can eat things like popcorn and chicken."

The Louisiana DDS program is part of a network in which services are available in all 50 states. DLN volunteers provided over \$23 million in donated treatment nationwide in fiscal year 2019-2020.

DDS Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Totals

Patients Served¹ = 143
 Patients on Wait-list = 287
 Volunteer Dentists = 381
 Volunteer Labs in LA = 79
 Participating Labs outside LA = 9
 Value of Care to Patients Treated² = \$285,108
 Average Value of Treatment/Case³ = \$3,668
 Value of Donated Lab Services = \$25,028

¹Number of Patients Served includes: patients who completed their treatment plan; patients who received services but treatment plan is not yet complete; and patients who are linked with a volunteer but haven't yet received treatment.

²Value of care to patients treated includes value of donated lab services.

³Average value is based on patients that have completed comprehensive treatment; does not include active patients, or patients who continue to receive ongoing care from their DDS volunteer.

Get Involved

Please Visit: DentalLifeline.org
 Or Contact: Michelle Aiken, DDS Coordinator
 225.926.8062 (local)
 225.208.1226 (fax)
maiken@DentalLifeline.org

Donate

Please Visit: www.DentalLifeline.org/Donate

Connect with us



@DentalLifeline

Patient Treatment (DDS Program Totals 7/1/20 to 10/31/20)



Patients Served



Patients on Wait List



Volunteer Dentists



Volunteer Labs

Financial



Value of Care to Patients Treated
\$87,637



Average Value of Treatment/Case
\$6,241



Value of Donated Lab Services
\$4,593

Since Program Inception (1987)



Total Patients Treated
5,396



Total Value of Care to Patients Treated
\$11,514,911

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Continuing Education and LDA Events Calendar

For information on any of the following continuing education courses, please contact the course provider. To list your course in the next calendar, contact the LDA office at (800) 388-6642 or (225) 926-1986. Also check our website for the most up-to-date listings, www.ladental.org.

DATE: Ongoing
EVENT: Online Opioid Course
PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association, Approved PACE Program Provider
REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/onlinece

DATE: February 14-16, 2021
EVENT: LDA C.E. & SKI
COURSE: Lecture 4 clinical CE hours each day
PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association, Approved PACE Program Provider
LOCATION: Steamboat Springs, CO
REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/ski

DATE: March 19, 2021
EVENT: Golf & C.E. Hosted by CDEBR and LDA
LOCATION: Carter Plantation, Springfield, LA
REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/HOD or call (225) 926-1986

DATE: March 26, 2021
EVENT: LDHA Annual Session in Lafayette, LA
SPONSOR: NODHA
REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or contact RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: April 22, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: 6pm social; 7-9pm CE
SPONSOR: NODHA
REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or contact RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: May 6-8, 2021
EVENT: New Orleans Dental Conference/ LDA Annual Session
LOCATION: Hilton Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, LA
REGISTRATION: www.nodc.org

DATE: June 23-26, 2021
EVENT: Summer Education Conference 2021
COURSE: Lecture, 16 hours
PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association, Approved PACE Program Provider
LOCATION: Hilton Pensacola Beach, FL
REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/summerconference

DATE: September 16, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: 6pm social; 7-9pm CE
SPONSOR: NODHA
REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or contact RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: September 30, 2021
SPEAKER: Iggy Rosales
TOPIC: CPR
EVENT: NODHA CE; 3hrs Clinical;
TIME: 6pm social; 7-9pm CE
SPONSOR: NODHA
REGISTRATION: Fee (\$65); please pay at the time of the event: CASH or CHECK payable to Iggy Rosales. This course will be in "In-Person". RSVP to RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: October 21, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: 6pm social; 7-9pm CE
SPONSOR: NODHA
LOCATION: TBA
REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or contact RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: December 3, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: 11am - 1pm CE
SPONSOR: NODHA
LOCATION: TBA
REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or contact RDH@NODHA.org

UPCOMING COURSES

For latest course information, please check our website (www.lsucde.org)

REGISTER TODAY!

Online: www.lsucde.org

Phone: (504) 941-8193

Date	Course Information	Registration Fees*	Hours
February 19-21, 2021 LIMITED SEATING, HANDS-ON COURSE!	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant (EDDA) Training Presented by Karen Coco, EDDA; Loretta Hoyer, EDDA; and Telisa Rogers, EDDA at Lafayette General Medical Center	Assistant: \$700	24 clinical (12 lecture, 12 participation)
March 12-14, 2021 LIMITED SEATING, HANDS-ON COURSE!	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant (EDDA) Training Presented by Susan Lowrance, EDDA; Tonicia Reeves, EDDA; and Dana Williams, EDDA at LSU School of Dentistry	Assistant: \$700	24 clinical (12 lecture, 12 participation)
March 20, 2021 LIMITED SEATING, HANDS-ON COURSE!	Digital and Conventional Radiology (RAD) Presented by Dale Brooks Hernandez, LRT, Jeaneta Starks, DA; and Natasha Crossley-Williams, DA at LSU School of Dentistry	Assistant: \$325	8 clinical (4 lecture, 4 participation)
March 26, 2021 Attend this course from ANYWHERE!	Streamline Your Practice (morning topic) / Cosmetic Dentistry for Adolescents & Young Adults (afternoon topic) Presented by Dr. Gary Radz via Live-Stream Video Conference	Early Bird / Regular / Late Dentist: \$310 / \$340 / \$365 Hygienist: \$185 / \$215 / \$240 Dental Assistant: \$100 / \$120 / \$145	7 clinical (lecture)

*Consult our website for Early Bird, Regular, and On-Site Registration cut-off dates and times.



For Perio Residents and Periodontists preparing to take the Oral Exam (Part II) for certification by the American Board of Periodontology; practicing periodontists looking for a comprehensive review and an update in periodontics; and general dentists and dental specialists who are interested in periodontics.

Mock Oral Board Exam participation is limited to 28 Dentists ONLY!
Register Early to ensure your spot!

2 1/2 Day Review Course + 1 1/2 Day Mock Oral Board Exams

Friday-Monday, January 15-18, 2021

31 clinical hours (20.25 lecture, 10.75 participation)

AGD #490 | Course #01-20-Video*

This course limited to 28 dentists - Register Early to secure your spot!

OR

2 1/2 Day Review Course

Friday-Sunday, January 15-17, 2021

20.25 clinical hours (lecture)

AGD #490 | Course #01-20-2.5-Video*

GROUP RATES AVAILABLE!

Visit lsucde.org for more information.

Now is the time to join Dentists of Metairie. You will have opportunities to learn new skills from our team of experienced professionals.

Responsibilities

- Actively participate in the Perfect Patient Experience™ by striving to keep your patients focused on optimal treatment while attending to their individual concerns and promoting the good qualities of your doctor.
- Remove deposits and strains from teeth by scaling and root planning.
- Select and use appropriate fluoride treatments and polish tooth restorations.
- Educate patients regarding the importance of oral hygiene, as well as instruction and demonstration of effective oral hygiene methods.

Qualifications

- Degree or certification for Hygiene from an accredited college or technical school; or equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to meet state licensure requirements. Commitment to continuing education for hygiene and dentistry
- Valid and current Registered Dental Hygienist license in accordance with applicable state licensure requirements.

Benefits

- Medical, dental and vision insurance
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- Tuition Reimbursement
- Child care assistance
- 401K

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\$10K Sign-On Bonus Available: Now is the time to join Lafayette Modern Dentistry. Let us allow you to do what you do best by doing the dentistry that you diagnose while exploring future partnership opportunities. We follow through on our promise to clinicians with our culture of patient centric care, our ability to deliver comprehensive integrated care, and our ability to support modern dentistry. PDS supported owner dentists know that being backed by the country's leading dental support organization allows them to focus on providing patient centric and clinically excellent care.

Benefits

- Competitive Compensation and Benefit Package
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- Malpractice Insurance
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- 401(k) Savings Plan

The average full-time PDS-supported Dentist earns \$160,000 - \$390,000.

Testimonial from Dr. Callaway-Nelson: "Partnering with PDS has given me the opportunity to realize my dream of practice ownership. I am able to do the dentistry that I love." - Dr. Callaway-Nelson

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Now is the time to join Baton Rouge Modern Dentistry. You will have opportunities to learn new skills from our team of experienced professionals. If you're ready to take your career to the next level and gain valuable experience, apply today! Let us allow you to do what you do best by doing the dentistry that you diagnose while exploring future partnership opportunities. We follow through on our promise to clinicians with our culture of patient centric care, our ability to deliver comprehensive integrated care, and our ability to support modern dentistry. PDS supported owner dentists know that being backed by the country's leading dental support organization allows them to focus on providing patient centric and clinically excellent care.

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Associate Dentist needed for a Family Dental Practice in Lake Charles, LA. Flexible hours, Buy-in Option. Established and profitable practice with friendly, professional and competent staff. Please call Bob Houston: 866-898-1867 - bhouston@paragon.us.com

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Continued next page...

Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Full-Time Hygienist to join our team. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. State-of-the-art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of Baton Rouge, LA with work hours being Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm. At Grand Family Dentistry we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care and service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our hygienists practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the hygienist to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefits (Health, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand (985) 705-3786 or Email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Full-Time Hygienist to join our team. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in Mandeville, Louisiana. State-of-the-art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of Mandeville, LA with work hours being Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm. At Grand Family Dentistry we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care and service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our hygienists practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the hygienist to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefits (Health, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand (985) 705-3786 or Email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Full-Time General Dentist to join our team. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in Mandeville, Louisiana. State-of-the-art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of Mandeville, LA with work hours being Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm. At Grand Family Dentistry we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care and service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our doctors practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the doctor to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefits (Health, Vision, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, Professional

Liability Insurance, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand (985) 705-3786 or Email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Seeking Staff Dentist, Monroe, LA. PHSC offers a competitive compensation package, state of the art facilities and equipment. Student loan debt forgiveness is also available. Contact us at: tfields@phscenter.org.

DENTAL ASSOCIATE NEEDED: Dentist in Houma area looking for a Dental Associate with long-range career advancement with buy-in option. Applicant must be dependable, assertive, career oriented and possess a good personality. Applicant must have goals for expansion in an already established, lucrative practice. If you feel that you would like to work in a team oriented, relaxed setting with a staff who is friendly, professional, and competent, then call our office to set up an interview. Call Dr. Shane M. Zeringue, (985) 851-7905 (office) or (985) 688-3711 (cell).

General Dentist, Baton Rouge, LA: Now is the time to join a fast growing organization. Let us allow you to do what you do best by doing the dentistry that you diagnose while exploring future partnership opportunities. We follow through on our promise to clinicians with our culture of patient centric care, our ability to deliver comprehensive integrated care, and our ability to support modern dentistry. PDS supported owner dentists know that being backed by the country's leading dental support organization allows them to focus on providing patient centric and clinically excellent care.

Benefits:

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- Malpractice Insurance
- Healthcare Benefits (Medical, Prescription Drugs, Dental and Vision)
- 401(k) Savings Plan

The average full-time PDS-supported Dentist earns \$160,000 - \$390,000.

Apply Here: <https://www.click2apply.net/b7nABwTVb6WYuxJ7febmk>

Now is the time to join Dentists of Lake Charles. Let us allow you to do what you do best by doing the dentistry that you diagnose while exploring future partnership opportunities. We follow through on our promise to clinicians with our culture of patient centric care, our ability to deliver comprehensive integrated care, and our ability to support modern dentistry. PDS supported owner dentists know that being backed by the country's leading dental support organization allows them to focus on providing patient centric and clinically excellent care.

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Continued next page...

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Apply Here: <https://www.click2apply.net/ygzm5PFMGVZnikoKt6jNW>

Office Space for lease in south Bossier City. 1613 Jimmie Davis Hwy., 1500 square feet, 4 operatories, lab/sterilization area, consultation room, private office. Call (318) 572-2203 for additional information.

Now is the time to join Dentists of Mandeville as a Registered Dental Hygienist. You will have opportunities to learn new skills from our team of experienced professionals.

Responsibilities:

- Actively participate in the Perfect Patient Experience™ by striving to keep your patients focused on optimal treatment while attending to their individual concerns and promoting the good qualities of your doctor.
- Remove deposits and strains from teeth by scaling and root planning.
- Assist in the prevention and control of dental caries (decay) and gum disease.
- Obtain and review dental history and/or records from patient (review patient health history and care slips). Ensure that the health history is updated for all returning patients.

Qualifications:

- Degree or certification for Hygiene from an accredited college or technical school; or equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to meet state licensure requirements. Commitment to continuing education for hygiene and dentistry.
- Valid and current Registered Dental Hygienist license in accordance with applicable state licensure requirements.
- Advanced degree (e.g., Masters) for Hygiene from an accredited college or technical school; or equivalent combination of education and experience preferred.

Benefits: Medical, dental and vision insurance, paid time off, tuition reimbursement, child care assistance, and 401K. **Apply Here:** <https://www.click2apply.net/Y72wZRCdzNdmtPv5i8PXq>

Registered Dental Hygienist, Baton Rouge, LA: Now is the time to join Millerville Dental Group. You will have opportunities to learn new skills from our team of experienced professionals.

Responsibilities:

- Actively participate in the Perfect Patient Experience™ by striving to keep your patients focused on optimal treatment while attending to their individual concerns and promoting the good qualities of your doctor.
- Remove deposits and strains from teeth by scaling and root planning.
- Assist in the prevention and control of dental caries (decay) and gum disease.
- Obtain and review dental history and/or records from patient (review patient health history and care slips). Ensure that the health history is updated for all returning patients.

Qualifications:

- Degree or certification for Hygiene from an accredited college

or technical school; or equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to meet state licensure requirements. Commitment to continuing education for hygiene and dentistry.

- Valid and current Registered Dental Hygienist license in accordance with applicable state licensure requirements.
- Advanced degree (e.g., Masters) for Hygiene from an accredited college or technical school; or equivalent combination of education and experience preferred.

Benefits: Medical, dental and vision insurance, paid time off, tuition reimbursement, child care assistance, and 401K. **Apply Here:** <https://www.click2apply.net/LYLqRAsBDJBVfBaAfZp24>

LAFAYETTE, LA GENERAL PRACTICE FOR SALE: 3 fully equipped operatories, leased space. \$575k average collections, 100% fee for service, owner retiring. Asking \$400k OBO. Owner willing to stay 6 months during transition. Call (337) 207-0263 for information.

Now Hiring with Bonus Packages of \$3,000 for Hygienists and \$20,000 for Dentists with opportunities of Partnerships in state-of-the-art practices in Lafayette (LARGEST IN THE CITY). Our office is digital/paperless and is equipped with the most innovative technology that includes scanner, 3d printer and CBCT. You will have a strong patient flow giving you ample opportunity as the sole provider to treat and educate a diverse patient pool. You'll have the autonomy of a traditional private practice without the administrative and financial burdens of practice management. We have a great compensation package with a Guarantee Salary of \$208,000 a year! If interested, please email your resume to tuan.nguyen@bayoubraces.com or call at (870) 362-1118.

Periodontist, New Orleans: The Opportunity - You became a dentist to provide excellent patient care and a periodontist to have a career that will serve you for a lifetime. As a PDS®-supported periodontist, you will have a balanced lifestyle, fantastic income opportunities and you'll work for an office that cares about people, their patients and their community. You won't have to spend your time navigating practice administration and instead you'll focus on your patients and your well-being.

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FOR SALE, Periodontal Office Equipment: 2 Gendex x-rays, Sordex Panorex, Ais Techniques Scan-X digital x-ray, track lights, Chayes-Virginia chairs, Tech West dual pump wet suction, mobile side carts with suction, P&C air compressor cavitrons, portable Phillips Oralx 65 x-ray, plus more equipment. Call/email for pricing, temcneely@aol.com or (318) 393-8808.

Continued next page...

Electric drills, handpieces/attachments, and overhead lights for sale. Drills and handpieces/attachments to be sold as a whole: (4) BienAir Chiropro-L Premium Edition Drills with (4) foot pedals, (3) handpieces, and (3) power cords along with (8) BienAir contra-angled handpiece attachments and (7) BienAir straight handpiece attachments. Asking \$29,500. Lights to be sold as a whole: (4) Midmark dual surgical lights model 355-034. Asking price, \$12,500. Photos available upon request. Contact Amy at amy@misuracaorthodontics.com or call (225) 766-3300.

General Dentist Opportunity New Orleans/Metairie at Canatella Dental: We are seeking a part-time or full-time general dentist for our modern, state-of-the-art offices in the New Orleans area. Start date is negotiable. Cerec, CBCT, and up-to-date technology in both locations. Competitive compensation and great opportunity. Please contact us at 504-282-0700 or frontdesk@canatelladental.com.

Arcadia, LA General Practice for Sale: This 5 operatory practice is located in an attractive free-standing, leased building on a major thoroughfare with great signage and visibility. A turn-key, state-of-the-art operation, fully digital and completely chartless and is equipped with a Sirona CBCT. Annual collections of \$1.3 million. Being one of only two dental offices in the entire parish, there is excellent potential for further practice growth. Long-term, well-trained staff in place, ready to support new doctor. For an online tour of our facility and to learn more about our practice, visit us at www.southernpinesdental.com. Doctor retiring but will stay 3-6 months to transition to new owner. Contact Dr. Jesse H. Roberts, Jr. at (318) 243-5093 or email drjrobrj@yahoo.com.

DENTAL PRACTICE FOR SALE: 5 operatory building in Hammond area/Tangipahoa parish. Free standing building for sale or lease. Large established patient base. Call (225) 721-2048 for more info.

FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME DENTAL HYGIENIST POSITION AVAILABLE: We are a fast-growing, privately owned dental office in Thibodaux, seeking a talented and enthusiastic Dental Hygienist to join us in a great deal of fun. There are huge opportunities for advancement for everyone on our team and because of our unique bonus system and promotion policy...your income potential is essentially limitless.

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Dentists of Lake Charles, Endodontist: Now is the time to join Dentists of Lake Charles. You've invested the time to become a great endodontist, now let us help you take your career further with more opportunity, excellent leadership and one of the best practice models in modern dentistry. As an endodontist working in an office supported by Pacific Dental Services®, you can rely on a great number of referrals as you will be providing PDS®-supported owner dentists the ability to provide excellent and comprehensive care under one roof. You will have the autonomy to provide your patients the care they deserve and provide you with the opportunity to earn. As a PDS-supported endodontist, you have the opportunity to work full-time or part-time, fantastic income opportunities and you'll work with an organization that cares about their people, their patients and their community. You won't have to spend your time navigating practice administration, scheduling, or any other administrative tasks. Instead you'll, set your hours and focus on your patients and your well-being. **Apply Here:** <https://www.click2apply.net/8ws3dccc5q569j>

Pacific Dental Services Supported Office, Oral Surgeon: You've invested the time to become a great oral surgeon. Now let us help you take your career further with more opportunity, excellent leadership and one of the best practice models in modern dentistry. As an oral surgeon supported by Pacific Dental Services®, you can rely on a great number of referrals, as you will be providing owner dentists the ability to provide excellent and comprehensive care under one roof. You will have the autonomy to provide your patients the care they deserve and provide you with the opportunity to earn excellent income and have a balanced lifestyle without the worries of running a practice. As a PDS®-supported oral surgeon, you will have a balanced lifestyle, fantastic income opportunities and you'll work for offices that care about people, patients and their communities. You won't have to spend your time navigating practice administration and instead, you'll focus on your patients and your well-being. **Apply Here:** <https://www.click2apply.net/kfndbgqc662k9p2j>

Multiple Opportunities in N. LA! GP = Pedo Specialists needed right away. See Below:

- Pedo - Bossier City, <https://loxo.co/job/469775?t=1603208525776>
- GP - Shreveport & Bossier, <https://loxo.co/job/481437?t=1603208420902>
- Pedo - Monroe, <https://loxo.co/job/469768?t=1603208619351>

Visit us at www.dentalteamfinder.com or jessica@dentalteamfinder.com.

GBR Dental Clinic is looking to add a new doctor to our multi-doctor, general dentistry practices. We have two locations in the Greater Baton Rouge area. Call (225) 304-4230 for a recorded message with information about joining our practice or send an email to drlouismason@gmail.com.

Millerville Dental Group - Dental Assistant (Baton Rouge)

Responsibilities

- Perform functions in accordance with the applicable state's Dental Auxiliaries Table of Permitted Duties.
- Actively participate in the Perfect Patient Experience by striving to keep your patients focused on optimal treatment while attending to their individual needs and concerns.
- Escort patients to/from the front desk and introduce them to other team members as appropriate. Maintain a clean, sterile, and cheerful environment.
- Record patient charting and all of the dentist's notes in the digital patient chart as directed by the dentist.
- Maintain strict compliance with State, Federal, and other regulations, (e.g., OSHA, WC, Dental Board, HIPAA, ADA, DOL, HR policies and practices).

Qualifications

- Necessary industry certifications and education.
- Possess outstanding time management, communication, and technical skills.
- Can-do attitude, a proactive nature, a strong sense of ownership and integrity and a desire to continue to learn and grow.
- Demonstrate knowledge of dental terminology, instruments and equipment.

Benefits

- Medical, dental and vision insurance
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- Paid time to volunteer in your local community

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Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Full-Time Hygienist to join our team with a sign on bonus of \$3,000 after probation period. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in **Baton Rouge, Louisiana**. State-of-the-art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of **Baton Rouge, LA** with work hours being Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. At Grand Family Dentistry, we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our hygienists practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the hygienist to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefit (Health, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand at (985) 705-3786 or email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Full-Time Hygienist to join our team with a sign on bonus of \$3,000 after probation period. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in **Mandeville, Louisiana**. State-of-the-

art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of **Mandeville, LA** with work hours being Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. At Grand Family Dentistry, we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care and service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our hygienists practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the hygienist to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefits (Health, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand (985) 705-3786 or email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Grand Family Dentistry is seeking a Part-Time General Dentist to join our team. This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most successful private practices in Mandeville, Louisiana. State-of-the-art facility, impressive team with efficient systems that literally run the practice so you can focus on the practice of dentistry! Again the position is in the family oriented community of Mandeville, LA. with work hours being Tuesday - Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. At Grand Family Dentistry we pride ourselves in providing the very best oral healthcare services in a friendly, community-focused practice setting. We strive to be leading edge dental providers of comprehensive dentistry while providing the absolute best care and service to our patients. The services we provide range from routine cleanings to implants, periodontal care and endodontic services. Our doctors practice in a collegial atmosphere with a professional operations team, allowing the doctor to focus on quality patient care. We provide a competitive compensation package, including comprehensive health benefits (Health, Vision, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, Professional Liability Insurance, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand (985) 705-3786 or Email: granddds@grandfamilydentalcare.com

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For more information or to place a classified ad, contact LDA Journal Managing Editor Annette Drodgy at (225) 926-1986 or info@ladental.org.

David N. Austin

Game of Drones

I think it's safe to say that I'm glad to see 2020 pass on by. Hopefully 2021 will be much better for all of us. My goal for 2021 is to lose 10 pounds. I only have 14 more to go. But even more exciting is that I got a drone for Christmas.

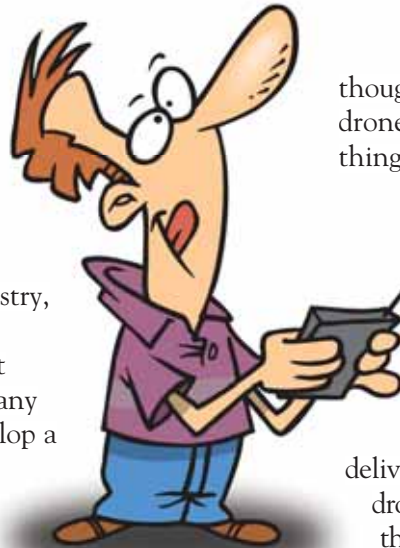
Of course, our military has had drones for years. They came out with the Caitlyn J drones a few years ago. Odd name but I can explain that at the end of this article. I named mine Dilbert.

Our own LDA science laboratory located in Bunkie has been researching drone benefits in dentistry, and has actually helped to develop drone use in other businesses. Most recently a German breakfast company worked with our LDA labs to develop a food delivery service via drone to their customers, which has become a big hit during the pandemic. Luftwaffles has not only gained a large foothold there, they now intend to invade Austria and France as well.

Learning to fly a drone has been a daunting task. Thankfully, I have my name, address and phone number attached to it and on several different occasions I have had the good fortune to have some nice folks return Dilbert to me when he didn't return home.

The other day my wife left and forgot her house key so I told her don't worry, I'll send her the key via the drone. I was able to program the coordinates into it and off it went with the key. She called me about an hour later to ask when will it be arriving?

The next day, the manager at our local Tinseltown movie theater called to let me know he had my drone in the lobby and would I please come and get it. I was puzzled over how it got there but noticed as I was leaving that one of the movies playing was "The Killer Bees."



After calling the manufacturer, I was assured a software update would fix the problem. The update was simple but calling the locksmith to change the locks on our house took a few days. Seems Dilbert 'lost' the key somewhere in the theater.

So how can we use drones in dentistry? I thought that a neat marketing idea would be to have the drone deliver toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and other things we give our patients after a routine prophylaxis and exam. How cool would that be to have a drone deliver these to our patients' homes, dropping them off in the front yard on or near their front porch? All you do is put the names and addresses in the drone database and send Dilbert on his way. Easy and impressive for sure.

Ok, so maybe drones delivering post-prophylaxis paraphernalia are not ready for prime time. On its second delivery of the day, my patient's husband took a shot at my drone in his front yard with his 12 gauge. Apparently, he thought it was an invasion from an alien force or something. Broke one of Dilbert's propellers.

Even after repairs and another software update and a couple of reboots, Dilbert hasn't been the same. He seems to have lost his passion for flying, barely clearing the trees and steers far away from houses. On more than one occasion, the owner of the Lucky Tavern on 9th Street has called me to come get Dilbert. Seems he'll fly in and just land on the bar and hang out.






Well, all I can say is, I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or talented....I actually forgot where I was going with this.

Lately, Dilbert and I hang out on our back patio and listen to the golden oldies on the radio. It seems to calm his computer processor down and I know soon I'll have him back in the air.

Now Dilbert gets agitated whenever I mention the military drones known as the Caitlyn J, so I don't want him to hear me. They were called that because they are totally unmanned. Dilbert hates that!



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