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JOURNAL

JOURNAL OF THE LOUISIANA DENTAL ASSOCIATION



2021

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Volume 80, Number 3, Fall 2021

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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: After living in a virtual world, LDA members, and their family and friends, were able to gather safely in person to attend the LDA Foundation Fishing Rodeo and Summer Education Conference. Participants were able to raise funds for the LDA Foundation at the rodeo and receive in-person C.E. hours at the Summer Conference. If you couldn't make it this year, the LDA looks forward to seeing you next year! See pages 8-9 and 20-21 for more information on these LDA events.

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



To Mask or not to Mask, is that the Question?

By Dr. Brian Basinger Editor, LDA Journal

had resolved to not write anything about covid again after the last issue of the Journal. My first issue as editor last year was right after the covid outbreak began and each issue and editorial since has been affected by it, which is reflective of what's happened in our lives. As the virus has reared its ugly head again this summer, I feel one more editorial touching on the subject is warranted.

"No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the House. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining as I do opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony."

Patrick Henry in 1775

Has anyone else noticed the mixed and everchanging messages we've received from our "leaders" at the local, state and national level including the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) throughout this covid pandemic? Anyone remember in the early days of the virus how we were going to do some things, including stay at home, to "flatten the curve" and then we'd be out of the woods on this deal? Well, we flattened the curve yet the restrictions persisted. We were even told in the early days of the virus not to wear a mask because it wouldn't help. Then we were told that if we got the vaccine we could start living life again and America was reopened. In May of this year, President Biden took off his mask and declared that vaccinated people could take theirs off, too. Now, we're being told to put them back on and our governor has issued another mask mandate. Enough already.

Different states and even different cities within those states have handled covid in a variety of ways, from super restrictive ultimatums handed down to citizens to wide open and do as you please approaches in other areas. And with basically the same results. We were told that a vaccine would be our savior and life could resume once we had been vaccinated. The scientists who

develop those sort of things came up with 3 different vaccines in an extremely short amount of time. They vary in effectiveness from 85-95%. That's pretty impressive! Despite some initial reservations I decided to get the vaccine when it was offered. My reasoning was to protect my family and my patients and to try to help our society get back to normal quicker because getting the vaccine is what our government encouraged and offered as a lifeline to that normalcy. And now they're dialing that back again.

Personal responsibility. Ever heard of it? Apparently, it's not something that we Americans possess or can perform anymore. At least that's the message we're getting from many of our leaders. Two states, side by side, with opposite responses from their governors. On July 29, Texas governor Abbott issued this statement: "Today's executive order will provide clarity and uniformity in the Lone Star State's continued fight against COVID-19. The new Executive Order emphasizes that the path forward relies on personal responsibility rather than government mandates. Texans have mastered the safe practices that help to prevent and avoid the spread of COVID-19. They have the individual right and responsibility to decide for themselves and their children whether they will wear masks, open their businesses, and engage in leisure activities. Vaccines, which remain in abundant supply, are the most effective defense against the virus, and they will always remain voluntary - never forced - in the State of Texas." Contrast that with Louisiana governor Jon Bel Edwards just 4 days later reinstating a mask mandate which says "All individuals in the State of Louisiana shall be required to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when indoors in any place outside of a private residence except for the circumstances provided in the section below." Two states, two opposite responses.

Here are two contrasting quotes on vaccinations from world leaders. The first is "Mandatory vaccinations will never be allowed because (this) is a free country and its people are sovereign." The other is "This is not about freedom or personal choice." The first quote is from Russian president Vladimir Putin and, you guessed it, the second is from our president, Joe Biden. Huh?! Role reversal?

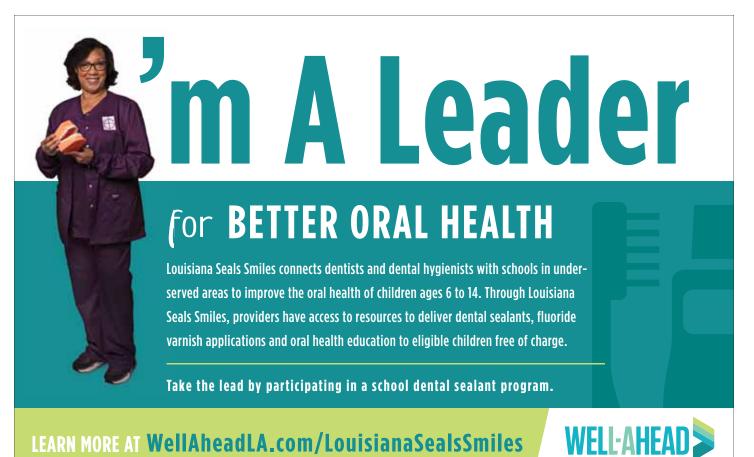
Three covid vaccines have been made available to all Americans for free for those who

want to be vaccinated. As of the end of August, approximately 52% of Americans have chosen to be vaccinated. Which means approximately 48% have chosen NOT to be vaccinated, which is their right. The country we live in allows us the freedom to choose that sort of thing. The Declaration of Independence says that we as Americans "...are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." If your pursuit of happiness includes getting a vaccine, so be it. If it doesn't, so be it.

That being said, currently over 90% of people hospitalized due to covid in our country have not been vaccinated. Apparently, the vaccine is pretty effective, as advertised. The consequences of getting vaccinated are that you more than likely won't get covid, but if you do, it won't be nearly as bad. The consequences of not getting vaccinated are you have a good chance of getting covid and the result of that may put you in the hospital, or worse. Again, it's your right to choose.

Should the half of Americans who have been vaccinated be subjected to mask wearing, physical distancing and possible shutdown of businesses again due to the small possibility of transmission to others? Should the unvaccinated half of Americans be threatened with losing their jobs if they choose to not get the vaccine? In my opinion, the answer to both is a resounding "No". Our government is overstepping its authority and our promise of liberty by proposing and imposing these very things against us. If you disagree with the decisions that are being made at all levels of government on these and many other related items, let your political representatives know. That's the only way dissenting voices have a chance of being heard. Now back to Patrick Henry and his speech. You may be more familiar with the last line of his speech than the opening that I quoted earlier. He, and I, will end with "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" Throughout our country's history, great men (and women) have sacrificed, sometimes with their lives, to give us the right to make choices the way we see fit. Now is the time for our leaders to allow us to exercise that freedom. Something to think about.







COVID-19 Caused a Step Backward; ADA and LDA Still Working for Dentists

By Dr. Glen J. Corcoran President, Louisiana Dental Association

hanks in great part to the LDA's work in gaining access to the vaccine for dental professionals, we were all so happy to get the vaccine and to only have to wear masks in healthcare facilities. But don't throw away those masks vet. As we enter into Fall 2021, we are still dealing with COVID-19. Areas throughout the country are seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant and its high rate of transmission. Louisiana is one of the states leading in a surge of cases. The White House notified the Governor that we were in a state of concern. It seems to be seriously affecting those who are not vaccinated. This has caused Louisiana's Governor John Bel Edwards and the Louisiana Department of Health on July 23, 2021, to issue updated guidance for this fourth COVID-19 surge. Updated guidance says that all people vaccinated and unvaccinated should wear face masks while indoors if six feet of social distancing cannot be maintained.

After an increase in hospitalizations (again with mainly unvaccinated Louisianians) throughout the state, on August 4, the Governor reissued another mask mandate for vaccinated and unvaccinated people while indoors. Governor Edwards enforced that the COVID-19 vaccine is the best tool available to fight this surge. The LDA will continue to monitor any updated LDH guidance. The ADA is strongly encouraging dental professionals to be vaccinated for

COVID-19. The ADA Health Policy Institute data found that nearly 90% of dentists reported being fully vaccinated for COVID-19, while 93.4% of dentists reported receiving at least one dose.

On the national level, the ADA continues to protect the Dental profession. The COVID-19 healthcare emergency temporary standard issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) exempts most dental offices. The ADA advocated to OSHA that dental offices had low incidences of transmissions and were already practicing CDC and OSHA infection control guidelines. ADA President Dr. Daniel Klemmedson commented that this rule by OSHA affirms that substantial new infection controls, such as rerouting ventilation systems, would have little, if any, impact on the dental industry with already exceptionally low infection rates. The ADA's stance that requiring additional infection control would have little effect on the dental industry with already low rates of COVID-19. Also, the CDC narrowed its recommendation limiting aerosol generating procedures in the operatory. The CDC recommendation now is to avoid aerosol generating procedures in a dental operatory only for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infections.

The ADA has also issued dental-specific technical guidance and provided an update to office procedures during COVID-19. There is a very informative and helpful

tool kit on the ADA website specifically for members about talking to your patients about the COVID-19 vaccines. The tool kit lists many scenarios patients may ask dental team members about the vaccines. As dental professionals, we care about our patients' oral health, as well as their overall health. Now with the uptick in COVID-19 cases occurring, dental offices should still provide screening before patients come into the office.

In other news, as president of the LDA, I attended the ADA District 12 Caucus in late August, along with 11 other Louisiana delegates. I would like to recognize all our LDA delegates and thank them for their service to organized dentistry. Joining me in the ADA delegation representing Louisiana are: Dr. Mark Chaney, Dr. King Scott, Dr. Lance Savoie, Dr. Mike Luminais, Dr. Stephen Morgan, Dr. Nelson Daly, Dr. Kristi Soileau, Dr. Stephanie Weaver, Dr. Brian Basinger, Dr. David Hildebrandt, and Dr. Marty Garrett. The ADA District 12 Caucus consists of delegates from four states: Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. There will be over 35 delegates meeting at the Caucus to discuss upcoming ADA resolutions, which will be voted on at the annual ADA House of Delegates in Las Vegas in October. Hurricane Ida prevented the South Louisiana group from attending in person but Zoom made it possible for us to participate.



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FOUNDATION

The LDA Foundation at Work During Unprecedented Times

By Dr. Nelson Daly President, LDA Foundation

our LDA Foundation has been hard at work. As a 501c3 charitable trust, all funds raised are used to fund disaster relief grants and access grants for access-to-care related events. Since 2005, the Foundation has also provided financial assistance to many LDA members who had property damage as a result of devastating hurricanes and other weather-related disasters!

Throughout the past two years, great disasters were faced, and the LDA Foundation was able to assist many of the impacted LDA members through grants. There were many stories of dentists having damage to their offices, homes, or both, and needing assistance. Dentists were resilient and the success stories reminded the LDA Foundation of its great mission to aid dental professionals and their families who are in need. Hurricane Ida is sadly another

example of the assistance provided by the Foundation. As of this writing, we have identified over 60 members with damage and over 40 grant applications filled out, with more arriving each day.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the LA Mission of Mercy (LaMoM) has been postponed to August 2023. The LDA Foundation is working with the Acadiana component to host the LaMoM inside of the Lafayette Convention Center, next to the Cajun Dome. Mark your calendars for August 2023, and be on the lookout for more information.

The LDA Foundation Fishing Rodeo in Grand Isle once again rolled on in mid-July. Check out the photos and winners inside this issue of the *LDA Journal*. Drinking beer and telling lies (it was THIS big!!!) once again was the motto, and we lived up to it. Thanks to numerous

sponsors, we brought a dozen senior LSU dental students again this year. The students always have a great time bouncing ideas off the "more seasoned" dentists, enjoying the camaraderie, and experiencing the fun of seeing organized dentistry. The sponsors in attendance were able to capitalize on their presence, so it was a win-win all around. This year, the Fishing Rodeo contributed just over \$10,000 to the LDA Foundation. Since its inception, about \$100,000 has been raised for the LDA Foundation. Mark your calendars for July 14-16, 2022, to join us next year!

The LDA Foundation takes great pride in assisting the LDA members in need. Whether it is registering to attend the Fishing Rodeo, volunteering at the LaMoM, or donating to the Foundation when you pay your dues, all support is appreciated. Know that your efforts continue to help all of us.



Donate to the LDA Foundation

The LDA Foundation offers disaster assistance grants for dentists with property damage during state of emergencies like Hurricane Ida. The grants are based on the financial availability of funds through the LDA Foundation.

How to donate:

- Call the LDA office at (225) 926-1986
- Write a check to the LDA Foundation, and mail it to 5637 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808
- Make a secure online contribution at www.ladental.org and click on the LDA Foundation link



Reeling 'Em In!

By Jeanne McFall
Director of Conference Services, LDA

he LDA Foundation Fishing Rodeo had another successful year, thanks to all the rodeo participants and sponsors. If you have never joined us for this event, you should plan on it for 2022! It is truly the most unique event the Louisiana Dental Association puts on each year. We are excited to continue to grow this event, make it more fun, have even better prizes, and donate MORE money to the LDA Foundation. Each year, the money made from the Fishing Rodeo directly benefits helping fund the community outreach programs such as the Louisiana Mission of Mercy (LaMOM). We are excited to tentatively host the next LaMOM in 2023.

Mark your calendars to attend the next LDA Foundation Fishing Rodeo, Thursday, July 14-Saturday, July 16, 2022.

Thank you to the premier event partners and sponsors: AG Dental CPAs & Advisors, Bayou State Crown & Bridge Lab, Brown & Brown Insurance Association Service Professionals, DentaQuest, MCNA Dental, Patterson Dental, Campus Federal and K.B.



Annette Droddy, Dr. Lance Savoie, Dr. Damien Cuffie with DentaQuest, Dr. Sally Daly and Dr. Nelson Daly.





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Red Snapper	Joe Baughman Bayou <i>15.25</i>	Dr. David Hildebrandt New Orleans <i>15.10</i>	Joe Baughman Bayou <i>13.65</i>
Trout Stringer	Dr. Thomas Nash Baton Rouge 13.25		
Grouper	Dr. Clint Sandefer Baton Rouge 13.70	Dr. Chad Biggio Baton Rouge <i>4.30</i>	
Yellowfin	Dr. David Bulot Baton Rouge <i>50.95</i>	Dr. Chad Biggio Baton Rouge <i>47.10</i>	Dr. Clint Sandefer Baton Rouge 44.10
Mahi Mahi	Dave Kaufmann Jr. New Orleans 6.70	Chris Bordelon Bayou <i>6.00</i>	Sam Mullen New Orleans <i>3.16</i>
Kids (15 & under)	Jacob Droddy Baton Rouge <i>1.45</i>	Ryan Droddy Baton Rouge <i>1.15</i>	
Note: Weights in pounds and ounces.			



Overcoming "Resistance" and Knowing When to Update Your Estate Plan

By Chad Olivier CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

f you have a smartphone, you know you need to periodically update its software. It starts with a notification that a "software update is ready to install." Then, the phone politely gives two choices, "Install Now" or "Remind Me Later." I know I need to install the update. I rely on my phone, but it's going to take time, and I'm busy. The first few times my phone reminds me that my product is needing an update, I'm often in the middle of a text or sending an email, and so I promptly press "Remind Me Later." After procrastinating the update for the third time, my phone starts to lag, things aren't loading as quickly, and I know if I don't update soon, something is going to crash. Finally, after recognizing the consequences of not updating in a timely fashion, I press "Install." After the update is complete, my phone runs a little more smoothly because it's prepared to perform the necessary functions... until it's time to update again.

Your estate and financial plans are like the smartphone in that periodic updates are necessary for your plans to work as well as they should. So why do people so often put off updating them? Why did I put off updating my phone? Why the delay? If you have had these feelings of procrastination, some would say you are facing "Resistance." Behavioral psychologists describe "resistance" behaviors as a psychological reaction that occurs when we want to make a change or take an action but

come up with various reasons to not get started. These obstacles include delaying, procrastinating, and avoiding the desired change.

Don't be dismayed, there are ways to combat resistance, which involve focusing on WHY you should take the favorable action, then taking specific steps toward the action. This article will outline the reasons WHY you may need to update your estate plan, including events such as relocations, legislative actions, and relationship changes.

Reasons to Update Your Estate Plan: Have You Moved?

When putting together your estate plan, remember that state and federal laws both apply, and laws can differ from one state to the next. Essentially, if you move, parts of your already-established estate plan could be out of sync with local laws.

Here are three priorities to be aware of if you're moving:

- Taxes Does your new home state have an estate/inheritance tax? How will that affect your overall plan? Are there other state tax laws that could affect your strategy?
- New financial Planner If you're working with a new financial planner, do they need to hold any other licenses or work with any other professionals to perform the duties required in the plan?
- State interpretation How will your new home state interpret your estate plan and documentation?

It usually makes sense to update your estate plan documents when you move out of state. Namely, your living wills, end-of-life health care choices, and powers of attorney are state-specific. Consider revisiting these documents with an estate planning attorney when you relocate.

Reasons to Update Your Estate Plan: Will Legislation Affect Your Estate Plan?

A change in presidential administration can bring with it a fundamental change in economic philosophy, specifically regarding taxes. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, signed by former President Donald Trump in 2017, brought extensive updates to estate planning. Two notable provisions are as follows:

- The annual gift tax exclusion was raised to \$15,000.
- The lifetime gift exclusion was raised and is currently \$11.7 million.

These two provisions affect "gifting." The annual gift tax exclusion is important to consider as you plan for the future and work toward a tax-smart plan. The lifetime gift tax exclusion is the highest it's ever been. This exclusion offers excellent opportunities to prepare for the transfer of properties, businesses, and other large assets without losing large amounts to taxes. With estate taxes up to 40%, there could be a great deal lost in the transfer, particularly without a high gift tax exclusion.

It's important to note, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is on the list

of reforms President Joe Biden is discussing. He has floated the idea of dropping the lifetime exclusion to a lower amount. Even without reform, the provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act are going to sunset in 2025, at which time the figures will revert to their previous levels, a change back to \$5 million for the lifetime exemption if upcoming legislation doesn't address the issue. Setting up trusts, accelerating transfers, gifting assets in advance and other strategies should be on your mind before these changes affect your plan.

Reasons to Update Your Estate Plan: Have Your **Relationships Changed?**

Although society has always been complex, relationships have become even more complicated in the last few generations. An explicit estate plan has never been more important. One common example in today's world is divorce, which may happen more than once during a person's life. Blended families are common, so

your beneficiaries could be a mix of biological and stepchildren.

Conversely, your family could simply be growing. If you establish your plan as a young adult, you might have a child, which means your plan needs revision. Later in life, grandkids who you may want to include in your legacy might enter the picture. Your estate plan should reflect these big life moments.

Take the Time to Update Your Estate Plan

Sometimes people with very good intentions put off updating their estate and financial plans because of "Resistance." Steps to overcome resistance include, remembering your reasons why you have an estate and financial plan in the first place, considering the possible consequences if you don't make the changes, building a team of appropriate professionals to help you remain informed and put the necessary changes in place. If you regularly update your estate plan, you can

leave a legacy of clarity for your loved ones and get the assets where you want them to go. The best strategy is to be prepared. A CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ will be able to help you with this.

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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.oliviergroup.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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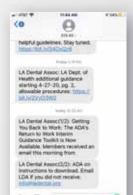
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Solic above and be

Dr. Hall with Roy, his DDS patient.

Louisiana Honors Dr. Bill Hall for 34 Years of Service

By Dental Lifeline Network

Dr. William M. Hall Jr., known to most of us as Bill, has been a Donated Dental Services (DDS) volunteer since 1987 and joined the DLN • Louisiana Board of Directors almost 10 years ago. He has donated more than \$49,000 in dental treatment and helped change and save the lives of 19 people with special needs. In July, he retired from his service on the board and during his association with DDS and DLN • LA has always gone above and beyond as a volunteer and as a board member.

"I've had the good fortune to serve as a volunteer dentist, and more recently as a board member, for Dental Lifeline Network Louisiana and its DDS program. This opportunity has repeatedly "proved" to me the old-time wisdom that if you REALLY want to feel good...do something good for someone else," said Dr. Hall.

Having Dr. Hall as DLN • LA Board member for so many years has helped Dental Lifeline Network's Louisiana DDS program to grow and thrive. His expertise and reputation in dentistry allowed the organization to expand its mission to change and save the lives of more people.

"Having Dr. Hall as a volunteer and on the board for so many years has been an absolute pleasure and honor. Bill is a great supporter of the organization and a wonderfully responsible board member," said DLN President & CEO Fred Leviton. "He's made a significant contribution to the DDS program by offering his services and by helping raise money to help

more patients. We are grateful to have had an amazing volunteer dentist and board member. Thank you for everything you've done!"

DLN sincerely thanks Dr. Hall for his years of dedicated service, and we wish him all the best as he moves on to a new chapter.

DLN • LA was established in 1987 in collaboration with the Louisiana Dental Association and has helped more than 5,400 DDS patients since its inception. At least 380 dentists and 78 dental labs volunteer for the DDS program in Louisiana.

According to the American Dental Association, over half of vulnerable elderly patients do not have dental insurance coverage. Because of this staggering figure, DDS provides access to comprehensive dental care for people with disabilities or who are elderly or medically fragile and have no other way to get help. Thank you again to Dr. Hall for his dedicated service and to the 380 plus DDS volunteers in Louisiana!

34 Years



LDA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021-2022

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via ZOOM

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Examining the Link Between Obesity and Early Onset of Periodontal Disease in Adolescents and Young Adults in the **United States**

By Meghan Newport Nettles RDH, BS, President, Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association

besity is a chronic and degenerative condition that is becoming an epidemic, public health crisis in the United States. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), from 1999-2000 compared to 2017-2018, the prevalence of obesity increased from 30.5% to 40.2%. Severe obesity prevalence rose from 4.7% to 9.2% from 1999-2000 compared to 2017-2018. Obesity is a known risk factor for other chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes, hypertension, and certain cancers.

Obesity has also been linked as a risk factor for the development of periodontal disease. Periodontal disease is an inflammatory disease of the teeth and supporting structures of the periodontium. The periodontium of the oral cavity includes the teeth, bone, and ligaments that anchor the teeth to the supporting bone structure of the oral cavity. Although the known cause of periodontal disease is gram-negative anaerobic bacteria, many systemic conditions can increase the severity of periodontal disease. Some of these risk factors for periodontal disease include cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes, and hypertension.

Childhood and adolescent obesity are of great concern in recent years. According to the CDC, obesity prevalence for ages, 2-5 years old was 13.9%, 18.4% for 6-11 years old, and 20.6% for 12-19 years old. The CDC also reports 47.2% of adults 30 years old and older have some form of periodontal disease. This number increases with age at 70.1 %. Periodontal disease is not a common condition in persons under the age of 30. However, with recent trends in increasing obesity in adolescents and children, are younger people at higher risk for developing periodontal disease?

Many of the studies conducted regarding obesity and periodontal disease focus on the physiology of obesity and how it affects the oral cavity. The theory of obesity as a risk factor stems from the physiology of oxidative stress and how it increases inflammation of the gum tissue (Dursan 2016 and Suresh 2014). Several of the aforementioned studies also diversify among different person groups such as age or gender.

With the obesity problem growing exponentially in younger individuals, chronic illnesses that generally had onset in older adults may begin developing at a much younger age. Further exploration of obesity as a

risk factor for periodontal disease as well as more focus on this health problem in younger age groups (under 30 years of age) could help with the development of intervention programs and resources for health care providers to combat obesity and its risk for early development of periodontal disease in the younger generation.

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Transition Easy with ADS Lovelace and Associates

By Dr. Michael J. Maginnis President, Louisiana Dental Services, Inc.



s time goes by, I am often asked, "when do you plan to retire?" or more likely, "you're not going to retire before you finish my case, are you?" I'm sure I probably look like I should retire. Between the gray and missing hair and the wrinkles, it is obvious that I have been at this quite a while. I assure my patients that I plan on being here – and why not? It's a great indoor job, and it's air-conditioned!

However, I'm not everybody,

and there are numerous dentists every year who decide it is time to retire, sell their practices or take in an associate. Lucky for LDA members, LDS endorses ADS Lovelace and Associates. From buying

your first practice, to planning an exit strategy, and everything in between, ADS helps dentists with every significant career move.

ADS Transitions is the largest group of independent transition specialists in the United States. ADS Lovelace and Associates have embraced a simple philosophy: If the deal isn't good for both the buyer and the seller, don't pursue it.

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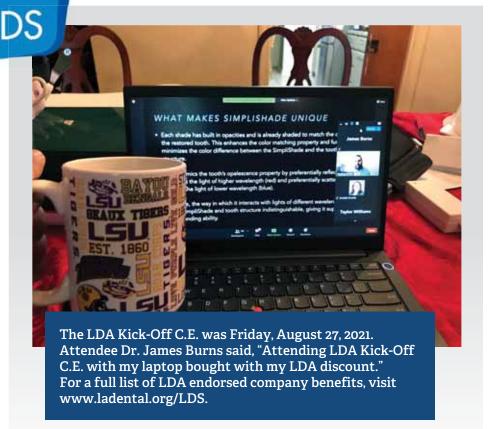
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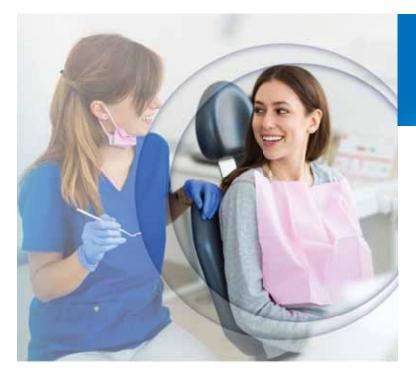
- Practice Appraisals Including practice sales, partnerships, insurance and divorce.
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LDA members receive two FREE hours of Practice Transition or Practice Management consulting services (a \$600 Value), a \$300 discount on all practice appraisals and a 30% off discount on any continuing education programs offered by ADS members. To take advantage of any of these offers, visit www.lovelaceandassociates.com or contact Preston Lovelace at (225) 927-8015 or (888)294-8109.

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Striving for the Greater Good for All Dentistry

Pandemic, Ice Storm, Hurricanes – What's Next?

Annette Droddy Executive Director, LDA

hen I walked into my office on Jan. 4, 2021, I had no idea what series of events would ensue because the State of Louisiana now included all healthcare providers access to the vaccine. "Access" was the interesting word. Dentists and dental staff were next to get the vaccine, however, where could they get the vaccine if they did not have hospital privileges? Your LDA staff stepped up to the plate. We had dentists, members and non-members, and dental staff calling non-stop, sometimes filling every line that comes into our office.

After consulting with then LDA President Dr. Trey Carlton, we began reaching out to hospitals. We could see that many hospitals wanted to help get our dentists vaccinated, but there was no direct link to contact dentists. We called all over the state and secured specific events or spots for dental personnel to get the vaccine. Some hospitals were able to do more than others, but we appreciated every vaccine that we could secure for dentistry. Our Northwest component worked with LSU Health Shreveport to set up appointments. Vaccines were at a premium in early January, and we worked hard to get dentists into the spots that were available. Within 10 minutes that day. I had a dentist personally tell me that I may have saved his life by helping him to get an appointment, and I had another yell at me for trying to get access for dentists because he did not want to take the shot. My, how telling that 10 minutes would be as the fourth round of COVID has popped back into our lives!

As YOUR association with YOUR best interest at heart, the LDA has and will continue to move forward to continue to work for the betterment of the profession. We are not just a staff that cares about our members

but a Board of leaders who work diligently to represent every corner of the state in goal setting and to protect this profession that is near and dear to all of you. It is with you in mind that we have stayed in close contact with the Governor's office and the LA Department of Health. It is for your safety and financial stability that we will continue to keep dentists as essential providers at the forefront of our conversations with key governmental officials.

It is with your best interest in mind that the LDA leadership and staff continue to serve our members. Last fall when two hurricanes hit Southwest Louisiana, we thought, what next? Then in early 2021, an ice storm hit our state and caused damage to some dental offices, but also kept us from working for a few days and, for some, caused a loss of electricity. Then, out of almost nowhere, Hurricane Ida made her devastating appearance. It has been a rough two years for our state but through it all, "organized" dentistry has continued to do what we can to help our members. I have been constantly amazed at my conversations with dentists, telling me about damage and loss, but that their peers are assisting them, offering them space to practice, telling them about resources to help. Organized dentistry is a network of hard working dental professionals who care about each other and the profession.

As many of you may know, the LDA Foundation offers disaster assistance grants for dentists with damage during a statewide declared declaration of emergency. Within 24 hours of Hurricane Ida hitting Louisiana, I heard from no less than 10 other state dental associations asking how they could help or what they could do for their fellow dentists. Many are planning to contribute to the LDA

Foundation grants. It is because of these generous contributions that we are able to continue the grant program. In subsequent issues, we will let our membership know what states and friends of dentistry have contributed to the grant program. If you were not impacted by the storm but would like to contribute, call the LDA office or visit the LDA website at www.ladental.org and click on the LDA Foundation link.

Incredibly, in the midst of a pandemic and everything else that has impacted Louisiana, the LDA has been able to host nearly every one of our events/meetings since June 2020. Whether virtual, masked, socially distanced or without parties/social gatherings, we will keep moving forward. As you have hopefully read before, the LDA was also able to successfully pass four pieces of thirdparty payer legislation between the 2020 and 2021 legislative sessions.

Again, thank you. Thank you for vour trust in the LDA and its leadership and staff. Thank you for maintaining your membership, even in some of the most difficult times. Our membership continues to grow. It is because of our combined efforts that we are able to weather these difficult times.

Thank you for your membership in the LDA.



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The Beach is Calling

By Jeanne McFall Director of Conference Services, LDA

fter such a crazy year and a half, it is no surprise that the 2021 Summer Education Conference at the Hilton Pensacola was more popular than it has been in years. We are happy to say so many dentists and dental staff enjoyed this four-day conference. The conference hosted four different speakers with four different topics and after the 4-hour morning courses, everyone hit the beach for some fun in the sun. This tax-deductible trip is not only family-friendly but also a great way to reward your staff members. If you couldn't join us this year, we hope to see you in 2022, June 8-11.









Dr. Brandt Schmidt and Dr. Ronald Britsch visiting with LDS endorsed companies.



Dr. Steven Latiolais and his wife spending time on the Pensacola beach.



Dr. Glen Corcoran, Dr. Donald Delatin, Dr. Liz Kidder and Dr. Dustin Kidder.



Dr. Joshua Jones with his wife and children.



Speaker Dr. Liz Kidder with her hygienist Beth Ruebsaman.



Dr. Richard Churchman and his grandson having fun at the resort's pool.



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Committed to Service: Caring for those with Special Needs

By Dr. Robert M. Laughlin Dean, LSU School of Dentistry

or many at LSUSD, Dr. Frank Martello, clinical associate professor and part-time faculty member in Comprehensive Dentistry, is the one person who comes to mind in the effort to provide dental care for children and adults with special needs.

Dr. Martello has treated the complex dental needs of children with developmental disabilities and adults with cerebral palsy, down syndrome and autism for decades. He is a board member of Donated Dental Services, formerly known as the National Foundation for Dentistry for the Handicapped. For 36 years, he has been the volunteer dentist at The United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Greater New Orleans, where he also serves as a board member and director of its dental clinic.

Recently Dr. Martello has played an integral role in moving forward some important initiatives to strengthen access to dental care for those with special needs. One was helping the dental school develop a partnership with The UCP of Greater New Orleans. As a result, we recently received a \$100,000 gift from the organization to improve access to dental care for individuals with special needs.

This gift is timely as the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) recently implemented a new educational standard following the National Council on Disability issue brief, "Neglect for Too Long: Dental Care for People with Intellectual and

Developmental Disabilities." The organization urged the commission to modify dental school accreditation requirements to include "more robust training" in the care of intellectually and developmentally disabled patients as opposed to "simply requiring that dental students be competent in assessing the treatment needs of patients with special needs." This is good news for those in need of care.

The donation will provide \$60,000 to establish an endowment, The United Cerebral Palsy of Greater New Orleans & Dr. Frank Martello Conference and Education in Dentistry Fund, which will support teaching best practices in the delivery of oral health care to patients with special needs. The remaining \$40,000 will provide direct dental care to UCP-referred uninsured or underinsured adult patients.

Dr. Martello, along with members of the Louisiana Dental Task Force for Adults with Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities, also championed Louisiana House Bill 172 and Health Care Reform 34, which passed in the 2021 Louisiana Legislative Session. Sponsored by Representative Rhonda Butler, the new law requires that the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) ensures that comprehensive Medicaid coverage for dental care is provided to each person age 21 or older who is enrolled in any Medicaid waiver program for persons with developmental or intellectual disabilities. It requires LDH to take all actions

necessary to make the coverage available on or before July 1, 2022.

According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, health care for individuals with special needs requires specialized knowledge as well as increased awareness and attention, adaptation, and accommodative measures beyond what are considered routine. Individuals with special health care needs may also be at an increased risk for oral diseases throughout their lifetime. Dental issues in this population may include malocclusion, crossbite, decayed or missing teeth, mouth breathing, thin enamel, as well as periodontal disease and poor oral hygiene.

As LSUSD educates and trains over 80 percent of the dental professionals who practice in the state, our role is central in helping to alleviate this troubling issue of access to care. Therefore, we have identified five ways to improve access to care for children and adults with special needs:

- Establish an oral health clinic devoted to the care of those with special needs;
- Establish an LSUSD student organization focused on this issue;
- Strengthen student education in the treatment of patients with intellectual and physical disabilities;
- Provide opportunities for students to attend national conferences to identify best practices for caring for this population; and
- · Seek additional funding to



increasingly improve access to care for this population, thereby improving their overall health and quality of life. A sincere thanks to all of you who are helping to address this challenge in Louisiana.

General Practice Residency: Suite #312 Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery: Suite #306 (225) 763-3939



Student Award

Congratulations to the 2021 LDA Student Award recipient, Bailey Walker! The award is presented to a graduating senior who best represents and conducts his/her life in accordance with the ideals of the profession of dentistry, and who has demonstrated a willingness to be involved with organized dentistry.



State Board Updates

By Dr. Ike House President, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry

t would be impossible to write this message without mentioning the sympathy we all feel for the victims of Hurricane Ida. We pray that everything will be back to normal soon for everyone affected! As of this writing, it has only been a week and a half and still no electricity for many people including the state board office. We have been able to do much of the work remotely, but we are behind dealing with licensing tasks and items we receive by mail. By the time this issue is published, we hope these events will only be a distant memory.

It is notable that there has only been \$500 total levied all year for violations of the dental practice act. It is gratifying to know that the dedicated dentists and hygienists of Louisiana have been on our best behavior and doing exemplary work for the patients we serve. The perception of some has been that the state board is unreasonable in assessing fines, but I have not observed

it to be so in the years I have served.

The board office has moved to a small. less expensive location on the eastern part of Baton Rouge - away from the congestion of downtown where the office had been located. Since we do not own a building but rather rent, it is a smaller office and meetings are at the hotel where the board members stay. We hold meetings only four times a year so leasing a larger space did not make financial sense with the spiraling costs of renting in Baton Rouge. We are doing our best to keep costs down so licensing fees won't have to increase (which have not in 10 years).

Due to a new bill that passed through the Louisiana legislature this spring, the LSBD will be joining a program established by HB398. This will provide direct supervision of all the board's actions involving

rules or disciplinary
actions through a review
process by lawyers who
are employees of the
state district attorney's
office to ensure that no
anti-trust violation will
occur. This could poten-

tially save the board, and thus the professionals who pay licensing fees, millions of dollars for only \$10 or less annually per licensee. Because of prudent management of the board's finances, it is anticipated that this amount will be absorbed without raising fees.

Each district of the state has its own representative to the LSBD, sometimes more than one. Take the time to tell yours thank you for their service. I have been very pleased with the dedication of our board members for the many hours that are spent to fulfill our mission. Thank you also to the LDA for providing this conduit for communication.

LDA/LSUSD Mentorship Program

Nearly 40 LDA members have begun mentoring LSUSD students! The mentorship program offers dentists the opportunity to share advice and expertise with future members of their profession.

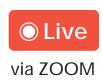
Registration is open for LDA members. Sign up at www.ladental.org/mentorship-program.





LDA Last Chance Seminar





Friday, December 10, 2021 | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Dr. Nathaniel LawsonReceive 7 Clinical C.E. Hours

AM Course: Bonding Dental Ceramics

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Class II Composites

Whether you renew your license in 2021 or 2022, this course will count towards IN-PERSON continuing education hours, even though it is being held virtually.

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New Orleans Dental Conference/LDA Annual Session Legend Hangs Up the Cleats After a Quarter of a Century!

By Dr. Vincent L. DiLeo, Jr. 2021 NODC/LDA Annual Session Chairman and LDA Board of Directors Member (NODA)

hat is the difference between Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Muhammad Ali, Arnold Palmer, Michael Jordan, Pelé, and Wayne Gretzky...and Dr. Glenn Dubroc, Jr.? Only one of them lasted 25 years!

According to Webster's dictionary, if you are old enough to know what that is, defines champion (n) as a person who vigorously supports or defends a person or a cause; visionary (adj) thinking about or planning the future with imagination or wisdom; dedication (n) the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or purpose. All of these terms only begin to describe Dr. Glenn Dubroc, Jr.

Accolades are certainly nothing new for Glenn. Glenn has been an active member of the ADA. LDA and New Orleans Dental Association (NODA) since 1989. He has been extremely active in both his local and state associations serving in numerous positions with NODA, including 2003 President, Membership Committee chair, Mentor Committee chair, Board of Governors, and Honors & Awards Committee chair. He was the LDA Council on Membership chair from 2007-2010 and served numerous years in the LDA House of Delegates. He was the NODA Honor Dentist in 2009 and received the LDA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, in 2015. He now serves on the part-time faculty in the LSUSD Department of Orthodontics as an associate clinical professor. He is



a member of the LSU Committee of 100 and served as the secretary/ treasurer of the LSU Orthodontic Alumni Foundation. Glenn has been on the Board of Directors for the Southern Association of Orthodontics and Delegate for Louisiana to the American Association of Orthodontists. He is also an active Alumnus of Holy Cross School, having served as chairman of

the Board of Directors, and aids in the annual Golden Blue Gala fundraiser. He received a 2014 Holy Cross Alumnus of the Year Award.

Now on to the present or, 25 years ago, Dr. Mark Chaney invited Glenn to replace him as chair of the conference's Parade of Prizes. Glenn had no idea that this would turn into a 25-year journey seeing numerous transformations over two and

a half decades, having worked with Normalee Ward, Connie Bittner, Gina Brewer and now Jeanne McFall. In 2006, not long after Hurricane Katrina, the NODA leadership placed its faith in Glenn to bring the conference back to life and sustain it. A joint venture with the LDA, an economic recession, another ADA Annual Session, departure from the convention center and now a pandemic has all been successfully navigated through the help and perseverance of Glenn. This year's conference faced with a fullblown pandemic presented a unique, unchartered challenge. Glenn's continued devotion to working out all of the plan B's, C's and D's all paid off. Also, I cannot leave out all the help and support from his wonderful wife Bobbi at his side.

It became apparent to me a few weeks before this year's Conference that as the chairman, I was not going to let this guy just disappear into the sunset without ample recognition

and a proper farewell. Glenn was presented with a crystal trophy, a gift certificate to the Marriot Grand Hotel in Pointe Clear, Alabama, and a few rounds of "He is a jolly good fellow."

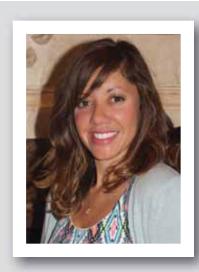
So, now as the curtain goes down on his final performance, it can be

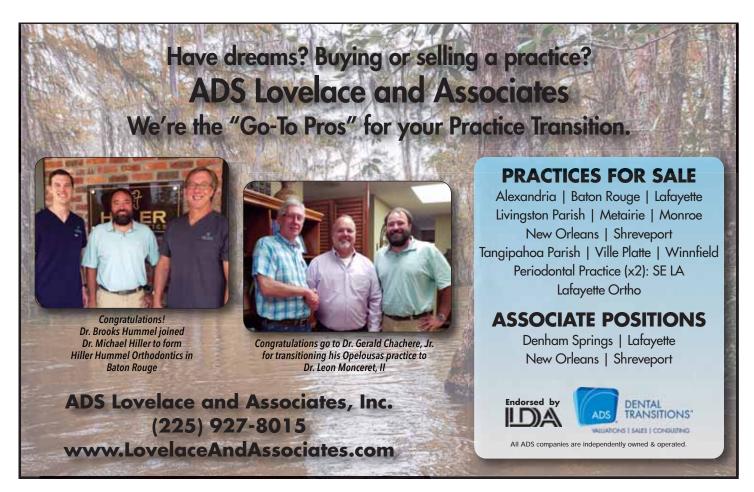
duly noted that as the aforementioned champions, Glenn will also go down as one for the record book. He made my job as Chairman and committee members' jobs easier and I, as well as everyone else, will miss him dearly!

LDA Staff **Anniversary**

Thank you for 5 years of service to the LDA!

Candice Castro Executive Assistant







Three Ways to Manage Emergency Patient Care and Protect Practice Records in the Aftermath of a Violent Storm

By Robert McDermott
President and CEO, iCoreConnect (LDA/LDS Endorsed Company)



storm is named when winds reach 39 mph. Elsa's 65-mph winds promoted her to 2021's fifth named storm and the earliest point in the Atlantic hurricane season in which five storms were named by July. This lends truth to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's latest hurricane outlook calling for even greater odds of an above-average season. 2021 is on track to be the sixth consecutive year to feature above-average tropical storm activity.

It's clear this is another active season when the weather may impact your patients and your practice. That's why it's important to also *give a name* to one of the most critical components of patient management in the midst of disrupted care: compliant email communication. Cloud-based, HIPAA-compliant email provides continuous and coordinated care during a weather event or even your normal routine.

Take inventory now of your current business communication practices. Here are three areas where certain cloud-based, compliant email software can change the game.

Coordinate Care without Concerns and Constraints

Sharing and receiving patient records quickly, of any size, and even across state lines eliminates barriers to expedient care. Most compliant email services cap the attachment size in each email. Find a service that allows you to send and receive Protected Health Information (PHI)



from any location without file size constraints. Get patient information into the right hands at the right time.

Peer to Peer Connection

Cloud-based HIPAA-compliant email can save you time and resources – *if* it has a built-in referral network. Search by zip code or specialty to make sure your patient gets care from a verified provider no matter where they are in the country. And it works *both* ways. Doctors can easily find you to send patients your way for care.

Protect Patient Data to Keep Your Practice Moving

You can't send and receive PHI if your records are lost or damaged. When you use an office-based server and/or a paper filing system, your practice is at the highest risk of significant financial and time lost to reconstructing patient files, purchasing new servers and getting operational again.

Cloud-based practice management software backs up every record with every keystroke to multiple secure servers. The servers are housed in data centers across the country with the tightest cyber and physical security. You always have access to all records and can email from any location with the internet.

These workflow improvements aren't limited to emergency situations. Consider the benefits of accessing multifaceted email and practice management resources all the time. Perhaps it's time to prioritize these ways of streamlining your clinical workflow and elevating patient care.

iCoreConnect is an LDA/LDS endorsed company with expertise in cloud-based technologies, improving security, workflow and business profitability.

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News



Dr. Kristi Soileau has been appointed to Reference Committee C (dental education, science and related matters) for the ADA House of Delegates happening October 2021, in Las Vegas.



Congratulations to LDA member Dr. Billy Hall for becoming the chair of the Louisiana Oral Health Coalition. As chair, Dr. Hall hopes to increase the membership to allow more of the community to work toward achieving the LOHC mission: "Coordinating the provision of information, resources and services so that people of all ages can have excellent oral health."



Dr. Steve Morgan, LDA president-elect, (left) and Dr. Steve Ortego, chair of the American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) and Ball, La. dentist, during the ADA Presidents-Elect Conference in Chicago, IL. The AADPAC is the bipartisan legislative arm of the ADA that gives a political voice to thousands of dentists and dental students who care deeply about their patients and profession.



The LSU Alumni Association honored Dr. Henry A. Gremillion as a 2021 Hall of Distinction Honoree. Dr. Gremillion was the Dean of LSU School of Dentistry before his passing in 2020. He was a dedicated educator and visionary who gave his full support to the LSU Health Foundation with an eye to consistent advances for the School of Dentistry.

2022 LDA Distinguished Service Award

2022 LDA New Dentist Award

OFFICIAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Please photocopy, legibly complete, and forward this form together with any supporting documents or exhibits to the LDA, 5637 Bankers Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. <u>All forms must be postmarked by November 1, 2021</u>. Please use additional pages if necessary. Please write clearly. If you have questions, contact the LDA office at (800) 388-6642, Dr. Mark Chaney, Chairman of the DSA Committee, at (504) 861-2523, or Dr. Brent Benoit, Chairman of the Council on the New Dentist, at (985) 853-1142.

NOMINATION FOR: (check one) NEW DENTIST A	WARD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (DSA)
Nominee's Name	Date of Birth
Spouse's Name Childre	n's Name(s)
Address	
PhoneCell	ADA#
Nominee has been a member of the ADA/LDA for	years. Nominee's local component
Does the nominee prefer communication via email or phone?	Phone #
General description of nominee's dental practice:	
Nominee's service to the LDA and ADA (i.e. service project value to the association and the year, chronologically beginning	es, committees). Briefly describe the nature of the service, its ng with the most recent.
Nominee's service to the dental profession in general. Desc and the year(s). Include other dental organizations, projects	ribe service to the profession other than ADA/LDA activities (chronologically.)
Community Service. Describe activities in the community ar dental clinic, school and church activities (chronologically.)	nd the year(s) of service such as volunteer work at community
Other information you deem significant about the nominee	

On a separate page, please compose a two-paragraph statement of why you feel this person deserves this award from the LDA and organized dentistry. Please attach your letter to this form for submission. Please state your relationship to this person or why you are the person recommending the nominee for this award.

2022 LDA Humanitarian Award

OFFICIAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Please photocopy, <u>legibly</u> complete, and forward this form together with any supporting documents or exhibits to the LDA, 5637 Bankers Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. <u>All forms must be postmarked by November 1, 2021</u>. Please use additional pages if necessary. Please write clearly. If you have questions, contact the LDA office at (800) 388-6642, Dr. Mark Chaney, Chairman of the DSA Committee, at (504) 861-2523. The LDA DSA Committee also oversees the LDA Humanitarian Award.

Nominee's Name		Date of Birth	
Spouse's Name	Children's Name(s)		
Address			
Phone	Cell	ADA#	
Nominee has been a mo	ember of the ADA/LDA for	years. Nominee's local component	
Does the nominee prefe	er communication via email or phone?	Phone #	
General description of	nominee's dental practice:		
Include other organiza	tions, projects of service (chronologica	efforts. Describe service to the profession and the year(s).	
Community Service. I		d the year(s) of service such as volunteer work including such	
Other information you	deem significant about the nominee		
	nlease compose a two or three-para	graph statement of why you feel this person deserves the	

On a separate page, please compose a two or three-paragraph statement of why you feel this person deserves the Humanitarian Award from the LDA and organized dentistry. Please attach your letter to this form for submission. Please state your relationship to this person or why you are the person recommending the nominee for this award.

For a list of past recipients of the DSA, New Dentist or Humanitarian awards or for awards requirements, visit the LDA website at www.ladental.org or call the LDA office at (800) 388-6642.



Cyber Liability & Data Breach

Loss Prevention Tools

By Stormy Blair Vice President, Brown & Brown Association Services Professionals (an LDA/LDS endorsed company)

ental offices are one of the top targeted professions for hackers. Think about it! Dental practices store a wealth of very important information that can be used for identity theft and blackmail purposes – things like patient names, addresses, dates of birth, social security numbers, insurance cards and health histories. This is virtually a treasure trove of data for hackers!

Clever hackers have many ways of exploiting dental practices, especially when a practice has outdated software, vulnerable email systems, and inattentive employees. As the sophistication of hackers and other cyber criminals increases, so do the types of threats and the number of data breaches.

It is critical that everyone in the practice diligently follows established security measures and safeguards. Remind all employees of the importance of strict adherence to security protocols and established safeguards.

Take Action Now

Although not meant to be all-inclusive, the following basic best practice measures are extremely important and should be prioritized:

- Ensure all software has the latest security options/patches. This will help protect against malware, viruses, and hacker attacks.
- Frequently back up all important data and information and verify your backups. Regular backups reduce the likelihood that critical data is lost in the event of a cyberattack. Protect the backups in a remote or external location, outside of your network, where they are safe from ransomware that seeks out backup copies. Periodically verify that your data backup process is working properly to assure that your data will be recoverable if a crisis occurs.

- Change and strengthen passwords **frequently.** Systems are only as secure as the passwords used to access them.
- Use two-factor authentication. This can add an extra level of security to help prevent an account hack.
- Slow down to avoid being yet another "phishing scam" victim. Take the time necessary to validate suspicious or unexpected emails. And do not click a link, pop-up or attachment without first hovering your cursor over the link to display the URL to assess its legitimacy. If there is an urgent call to action, rather than clicking on a link, consider a different way to validate the request, such as speaking with the sender to get verbal confirmation that the communication is legitimate or visiting the purported sender's URL.
- Remind all employees of the importance of powering down computers when not in use. Computers are not accessible to attacks or intrusions when powered off.

Next Steps

· Periodically assess security measures and safeguards. Address changes in practice operations and staff, as well as any changes to potential internal and external security risks, to ensure overall cyber preparedness. Set aside some time to review the

- practice's safeguards and make changes necessary to ensure that the right measures are in place to protect patient information.
- Provide regularly scheduled cybersecurity awareness training. Dentists and all staff members should complete ongoing training. This will ensure that everyone is familiar with risks and the existing protocols in place for loss prevention.
- Insure against the financial impact of a cyber-attack/data breach. The loss of revenue and cost of recovery can be staggering. A practice should obtain a cyber liability and data breach insurance policy as protection for this type of loss. Choose a policy designed for and offered by a carrier experienced with the unique needs of a dental practice.

Resources:

https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/ quidance/start-security-quide-business#segment

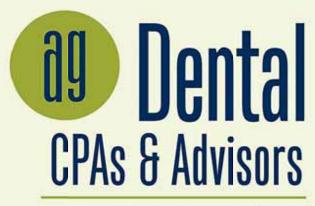
https://success.ada.org/en/practicemanagement/guidelines-for-practicesuccess/gps-managing-professional-risks/ managing-cyber-liability-risks

https://www.dds4dds.com/temp/a46cc929-9662-415b-9811-19fae527d521/DDS%20Guardian%20Vol%20 19%20No%202%20Quarter%202%202017.pdf

Contact the LDA's exclusive insurance agency for more information and a no-obligation quote at:

Brown & Brown Association Services Professionals

Stormy Blair, Vice President sblair@bb-asp.com https://www.bbgulfstates.com/asp



beyond accounting.

Contact us for a consultation to learn more about what AG Dental CPAs & Advisors can do for you and your practice.

(225) 767-1020

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Continuing Dental Education

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
September 24, 2021	Phantom of the Opera-toryA Pharmacology Overview & Update for your Dental Team Presented by Tom Viola, R.Ph., C.C.P. at LSU School of Dentistry	Regular / Late Dentist: \$340 / \$365 Hygienist / Lab Tech: \$215 / \$240 Dental Assistant: \$120 / \$145	a maximum of 7 clinical hours (lecture)
	If you live more than 120 miles from New Orleans, this course is available via Live-Stream Video Conference.		
October 8, 2021 INCLUDING THE LATEST COVID-19 UPDATES!	Infection & Prevention Control 2021 Presented by Eve Cuny, MS & Kathy Eklund, RDH, MHP via Live-Stream Video Conference (Only)	Regular / Late Dentist: \$340 / \$365 Hygienist / Lab Tech: \$215 / \$240 Dental Assistant: \$120 / \$145	a maximum of 7 clinical hours (lecture)
November 5, 2021	The Digital Era Of Examinations Presented by Dr. Lou Graham and Dr. Tony Tomaro via Live-Stream Video Conference (Only)	Early Bird / Regular / Late Dentist: \$159 / \$189 / \$219 Hygienist / Lab Tech: \$119 / \$149 / \$179 Dental Assistant: \$79 / \$89 / \$99	a maximum of 3 clinical hours (lecture)
December 3-4, 2021	The Many Faces Of Orofacial Pain: Beyond TMD Presented by Dr. Sol Brotman, Dr. Cristina Cabret-Aymat, and Dr. Maria-Carmen B. Wilson via Live-Stream Video Conference (Only)	Early Bird / Regular Dentist: \$2,200 / \$2,417	a maximum of 14 clinical hours (lecture)

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

In-Depth Courses That You Can Sink Your Teeth Into

Dentistry's Role in the Diagnosis & Management of Sleep Disorders

Friday-Saturday, October 1-2, 2021 via Live-Stream Video Conference*

Presented by Dr. Steve Carstensen & Dr. Supat Thammasitboon along with Orofacial Pain Continuum Directors Dr. Dale Ehrlich, Dr. Gary Klasser, Dr. Christopher Spencer, and Dr. Ronald Auvenshine

AGD #: 200 | Course #43-21-Video* | a maximum of 14 clinical hours (lecture)

Registration Fees:

LSUCDE live video

conference as

in-person

Regular AFTER 12:00 pm / noon (CST) 8/20/21

Dentist/Healthcare Provider:

\$2,417

LSUCDE video courses are live-streamed via BlueJeans. CE administrators perform roll call and random check-ins via the chat window in BlueJeans. If you miss one or more check-ins it could affect your credits. Before the course you will receive three links: a link to the meeting, a link to a short test, and a link to a course evaluation. You must submit the test and evaluation in order to receive credit The Louisiana State Board of Dentistry counts CE hours earned through Registration Fees: How to Fabricate a New Generation of

Hyprid Dentures for Edentulous Patients

Longer-Lasting • More Hygienic

\$998 **FREE**

More information

on these & other

upcoming courses can be found at

www.lsucde.org

Friday-Saturday, November 12-13, 2021 at LSU School of Dentistry

Presented by Dr. Marco Brindis and Julio Zavala, MCDT

AGD #670 | Course #52-21 | a maximum of 10 clinical hours (6 lecture, 4 participation)

Early Bird BY 12:00 pm/noon (CST) Regular AFTER 12:00 pm / noon (CST) 10/01/2021 10/01/2021 \$1,995

\$1,845 Dentist (only 30 seats available): Lab Technician (only 5 seats available): 1st Dental Assistant (must register with a dentist): 2nd Dental Assistant (must register with a dentist): \$848 **FREE**



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: September 30, 2021 **EVENT:** NODHA CE; 3hrs Clinical

TIME: 6:30 pm sharp!

COURSE: CPR

SPEAKER: Iggy Rosales

LOCATION: Patterson Facility, 107 Mallard St.,

Ste. D, Saint Rose, LA 70087

SPONSOR: NODHA

REGISTRATION: Fee (\$65); please pay at the time of

the event: CASH or CHECK payable to lggy Rosales. This course will be in "In-Person". RSVP to RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: October 8, 2021

TOPIC: The Heart of Dentistry, Maximizing

You and Your Patient's Health and

Quality of Life (7hrs. credit)

TIME: 8:30 AM

SPONSOR:Ark LA Tex Academy of DentistrySPEAKER:David Meinz, MS, RDN, FAND, CSPLOCATION:Wyndham Garden Shreveport, 1419 E.

70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105

PROVIDER: ADA CERP Approved

REGISTRATION: https://www.arklatexacademy.com/events-

calendar.html. Please contact: Ronnie Hermes (318) 797-9997; rhermes14@ aol.com or Clint Bruyere (903) 753-0337; clint.bruyere.dds@gmail.com

DATE: October 19, 2021
LOCATION: Rotolo's Pizzeria on 70th

SPONSOR: ADHA Louisiana Shreveport-Bossier

REGISTRATION: http://www.sbdha.net/continuing-education.html

DATE: October 21, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: 6pm social; 7-9pm CE

COURSE: Oral Surgery

SPEAKER: Dan Harris, DDS OMFS

SPONSOR: NODHA

REGISTRATION: www.nodha.org or RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: November 5, 2021

TOPIC: Techniques to Radically Cut Times

and Complications on Restorative

Dentistry (7hrs. credit)

TIME: 8:30 AM

SPONSOR: Ark LA Tex Academy of Dentistry

SPEAKER: Dr. Jose-Luis Ruiz

LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Shreveport, 1419 E.

70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105

PROVIDER: ADA CERP Approved

REGISTRATION: https://www.arklatexacademy.com/events-

calendar.html. Please contact: Ronnie Hermes (318) 797-9997; rhermes14@ aol.com or Clint Bruyere (903) 753-0337; clint.bruyere.dds@gmail.com

DATE: November 5, 2021
SPEAKER: Joyce Bassett, DDS
TOPIC: Composite Artistry

LOCATION: Quality Inn South, Baton Rouge, LA SPONSOR: LA Academy of General Dentistry FEE: AGD Member: Free; Non-Member: \$325; Lecture Only \$150 (4hrs);

\$325; Lecture Only \$150 (4hrs); Hygienists: \$125; Staff: \$65

REGISTRATION: http://lagd.org/continuing-

education/ce-courses/

DATE: November 12, 2021
EVENT: LDHA Fall Session

LOCATION:Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City, LASPONSOR:ADHA Louisiana Shreveport-BossierREGISTRATION:www.nodha.org or RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: December 3, 2021
EVENT: NODHA CE; 2hrs
TIME: IIAM – IPM CE
SPEAKER: Dr. Larry Bates
LOCATION: Virtual
SPONSOR: NODHA

FEES: \$15 for Potential Members/\$10 for Members **REGISTRATION:** www.nodha.org or RDH@NODHA.org

DATE: December 10, 2021
EVENT: LAST CHANCE
LOCATION: Virtual Event

PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association,

Approved PACE Program Provider

REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/lastchance

Continued next page...

DATE: January 14, 2022

EVENT: L.H. Bowden Leadership LOCATION: LDA Office, 5637 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA

PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association www.ladental.org/bowden

DATE: February 4, 2022

TOPIC: Know Your ROH, Uncovering the Potential

of Your Hygiene Team (7hrs. credit)

TIME: 8:30 AM

SPONSOR: Ark LA Tex Academy of Dentistry

SPEAKER: Rachel Wall, RDH BS

LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Shreveport, 1419 E.

70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105

PROVIDER: ADA CERP Approved

REGISTRATION: https://www.arklatexacademy.com/events-

calendar.html. Please contact: Ronnie Hermes (318) 797-9997; rhermes14@ aol.com or Clint Bruyere (903) 753-0337; clint.bruyere.dds@gmail.com

DATE: February 27 – March 1, 2022

EVENT: Winter C.E. with Character

LOCATION: The Grand Floridian Resort &
Spa, Lake Buena Vista, FL

PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association,

Approved PACE Program Provider

REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/character

DATE: April 1, 2022

TOPIC: Clinical Endodontics for the General Dentist (7hrs. credit)

TIME: 8:30 AM

SPONSOR: Ark LA Tex Academy of Dentistry

SPEAKER: Dr. Alex Fleury

LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Shreveport, 1419 E.

70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105

PROVIDER: ADA CERP Approved

REGISTRATION: https://www.arklatexacademy.com/events-

calendar.html. Please contact: Ronnie Hermes (318) 797-9997; rhermes14@ aol.com or Clint Bruyere (903) 753-0337; clint.bruyere.dds@gmail.com

DATE: April 7-9, 2022

EVENT: NODC/LDA Annual Session **LOCATION:** Hyatt Regency Hotel, LA

PROVIDER: Louisiana Dental Association and

New Orleans Dental Conference **REGISTRATION:** https://www.nodc.org/register

DATE: June 8-11, 2022 **EVENT:** Summer Conference

LOCATION: Hilton Pensacola Beach, FL **PROVIDER:** Louisiana Dental Association

REGISTRATION: www.ladental.org/summerconference

State Board Approved Radiographic Certification Course

NOW ONLINE

LDA members: \$50

Additional participants: \$25 each

Non-LDA members: \$125

Additional participants: \$50 each

MEDCOM's "Radiographic Techniques and Safety: Introduction to the X-ray and Safety Precautions" is available through the LDA and approved by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. It can be used for in-office education of dental assistants, counts for C.E. credit and saves you time and money compared to classroom instruction.

To order, visit the LDA website at www.ladental.org or call (800) 388-6642 or (225) 926-1986

Classifieds

Well-established, profitable general dentistry practice available for purchase in Jefferson Parish. Practice is located in a single-story office complex. 5 ops. Clean, spacious office with updated technology. Relationship-based practice with large patient base (2,756 unique patients visited in past 24 months), strong hygiene activity, and consistent annual production over \$1mil. Seller has built strong goodwill over 39 years, will provide transition to ensure continuity, and is motivated to sell. Real estate may be purchased as well or can be leased. Please contact Lewis Health Profession Services at info@lewishealth.com or (972) 437-1180 for more information.

Modern general dentistry practice **for sale.** Turn-key office in Southeast Louisiana. Collections of \$1.371m in 2019 and \$1.023m in 2020, projected to exceed \$1.2m in 2021. Low overhead, well below national average. Room for growth or multiple dentists/ specialists! 7 fully equipped operatories, 2 additional plumbed. Updated technology, digital x-ray and pano/ceph (can be upgraded to 3D), laser. Seller is willing to stay, to help with transition. One hour drive from New Orleans or Baton Rouge. Great local schools. For additional information contact, louisianamoderndentaloffice@ gmail.com.

Three dental operatories, electric chairs, stools, equipment, surgical equipment, computer monitors and dental lab equipment ready to move to another office. Willing to negotiate price. Contact: New Orleans Dentist (504) 909-7891.

DentaQuest is hiring a part-time (20 hr/ week) Dental Consultant. Responsibilities include reviewing claims, evaluating appeals, counseling providers, identifying providers with aberrant utilization patterns, and acting as a clinical SME (or liaison) for internal entities. Must live and be licensed Orthodontist in the state of Louisiana. Apply online at https://dentaquest.gr8people.com/ jobs/4078/dental-consultant-orthodontistremote-must-be-located-in-louisiana.

Dutchtown Dental Center, located on the outskirts of Baton Rouge, La in Geismar, La is looking for a fulltime or part-time associate to join our **team.** We are an excellent diverse practice offering almost every form of dentistry. Our emphasis is on patient relations as well as maintaining excellent relationships among our team. This is an opportunity to grow professionally as you can be mentored in all aspects of dentistry as well as dental practice management. Expect to gain experience in operative dentistry, oral surgical procedures including implant placement and bone grafting, orthodontics, pedodontics, prosthodontics, as well as the treatment of TMJ disorders. An opportunity to buy into the practice is desired, but not mandatory. An excellent opportunity for recent graduates and dentists with little or no experience. We have a great environment, great facility, outstanding staff and excellent location. If you are a dentist who is already in practice but is looking for another opportunity to further your career please give us a call. You can fax your resume to 225-673-1907, email to dutchtowndentalmanager@gmail.com or call and speak to Dr. Landry 504-884-7861.

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 familyoriented 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, Vision, Dental), Life Insurance, Continuing Education Allowance Program, Professional Liability Insurance, 401(k) program and leadership opportunities. Please contact Dr. Grand at (985) 705-3786 or email: granddds@ grandfamilydentalcare.com.

Our growing private practice is looking to add a part-time general dentist in **New Iberia**, **LA**. Three+ years of experience needed with ability to work on Thursdays and Fridays. Molar and pediatric experience preferred but not required. Please call 337-369-6587 for more information.

Bayou Braces & Dentistry is currently seeking Associate Dentist and Dental **Hygienist** for growing practice in: BATON ROUGE - NEW ORLEANS - LAFAYETTE - SHREVEPORT - LAKE CHARLES -ALEXANDRIA - MONROE!

As our Associate Dentist, you will have strong patient flow, giving you ample opportunity as the 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. Offering great compensation package with GUARANTEED SALARY of \$200,000+ per year, plus \$10,000 BONUS!

As our Dental Hygienist, you will become a part of a fast-paced and customer-centric practice. Our offices are digital/paperless and equipped with the most innovative technology including scanner, 3D printer, and CBCT. With streamlined services and an awesome team, you will love being a part of the bayou family!

Please email your resume to hire@ bayoubraces.com or call Dr. Tuan at 870-208-4530, if interested.

Continued next page...

General dentist needed for busty Northshore office. Part-time/fulltime. Competitive salary, student loan repayment, other benefits negotiable. Please send resume to Northshoreddsresumes@gmail.com.

Full-time dental hygienist opportunity: Kinder, LA. Join Lake Area Dentistry for a wonderful opportunity to grow in an established, state-of-the-art group dental practice. We are a general dental practice serving families within the greater Lake Charles area. We are locally owned, not a corporate office. We are seeking a full-time dental hygienist to join our exceptional team. Email resumes and questions to katie@lakeareadentistry.com.

Looking for dentist at a practice in **Lafavette**, **LA**. Flexible hours, full or part time available. Please contact Jeannie Theriot: jtherioto4@gmail.com.

Baton Rouge, LA: Two exceptional dental offices, major street locations, custom designed floor plans, plumbed, etc. Call 225-933-4604. I) Area of Our Lady of the Lake Office Park. 7612 Picardy Ave., Suite N, and 2) Area of Towne Center Shopping Complex, next door to City Pork restaurant. 7341 Jefferson Hwy., Suite A (front building).

Austin, Texas. Multi-specialty, noncorporate dental surgical practice (OMFS and Perio) seeks oral surgeon to join our 2-office, 3-doctor practice. Position available immediately. CBCT in both offices. Our office provides full scope of oral and maxillofacial surgery including dental implants. Candidate must be able to provide excellent surgical services, be patient and team-friendly, establish and maintain relationships with new and existing referring offices and be interested in growing the practice. Excellent income guaranteed. Board-eligible or board-certified highly recommended. Send inquiries and CV to kris. owens@optimaimplants.com. Austin, Texas. Multi-specialty, non-corporate dental surgical practice (OMFS and Perio) seeks endodontist to join our 2-office, 3 doctor **practice.** Position available immediately. CBCT in both offices. Candidate must be able to provide excellent endodontic services, be patient and team-friendly, establish and maintain relationships with new and existing referring offices and be interested in growing the practice. Board-eligible or board-certified highly recommended. Send inquiries and CV to kris.owens@optimaimplants.com.

General dentist needed at Acadian **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
- Modern offices equipped with the latest dental technology
- 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. 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." Pacific Dental Services is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sex, ancestry, citizenship status, mental or physical disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, veteran status, or military status.

Apply Here: https://www.click2apply.net/ Oa8Qoaf2rP5EsDpni2qB



Midmark PowerAir Oil-Less Air Compressor for sale. Model p21. NEVER USED! o hours of use. Includes sound reduction cover. Asking price \$4,500. Contact Vance at vorthodds@aol.com or 225-766-3300.

New Orleans Periodontal Practice for Sale: New Orleans offers something for everyone - from food and culture to art and architecture. This periodontal dental practice for sale is sure to be what you're looking for! LOCATED IN A FREE-STANDING BUILDING, THE REAL ESTATE IS AVAILABLE FOR THE BUYER TO PURCHASE IF DESIRED. Currently equipped with four operatories there is a large physical expansion opportunity via a build out. The current doctor is interested in a buy-out and open to staying on for a smooth transition (if the incoming doctor would like). Collections over \$900,000 & Seller's Discretionary Earnings of \$385,000. 1,000 active patients and 25 new patients per month. Contact Kaile Vierstra to learn more: kaile@professionaltransition.com or give us a call: 719.694.8320. We look forward to speaking with you!



Dr. C. Kenneth Sherman is announcing the sale of a 5-op dental office in **Hammond, LA,** the home of his practice for 34 years. The address is 2102 Rue Simone, Hammond, LA, 70403. The building is currently occupied by my old practices but will be available in February or March of 2022 based on construction of Dr. Megan Currier's new office. It is located in a great place in the center of Hammond and there is more than adequate parking in front of and behind the building. It has only been a dental office and was constructed in 1984 with an addition placed in 1997 and room for more addition to the building. It is built off the ground and is 2240 sq. ft. The 2nd floor is for storage only and 4 of the ops have a built in nitrous-oxide system.

Contact Dr. Sherman at kenshermandds@ vahoo.com.

Registered dental hygienist needed at Lafayette Modern Dentistry. \$1K signon bonus.

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
- · 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
- Educate patients regarding the importance of oral hygiene, as well as instruction and demonstration of effective oral hygiene methods
- Maintain strict compliance with State, Federal, and other regulations, (e.g., OSHA, WC, Dental Board, HIPAA, ADA, FEHA, DOL, HR policies and practices)

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

- Medical, dental and vision insurance
- Paid time off
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Childcare assistance
- 401K

Pacific Dental Services is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sex, ancestry, citizenship status, mental or physical disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, veteran status, or military status. Apply Here: https://www.click2apply.net/ KMAnd2TAXWJ5fpw6iLdwB

General dentist needed at Baton Rouge 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.

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Our busy general dentistry office in Prairieville (near Baton Rouge) is looking for a full-time dental hygienist to replace one of our long time hygienists who will not be returning after maternity leave. We have another hygienist who is available to work I day a week moving forward so there is flexibility to work either 3 or 4 days per week. Health insurance, paid vacation, and other benefits are part

of the package. We have a great crew here and are looking for an exceptional person to be part of it. Email resume to frontdesk@smartdentalcare.com or fax to (225) 677-9993.

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LASTPAGE

LDA Marriage Counseling

By David Austin

nless you have been buried under a rock or have been married for a very long time, you may not be aware of an LDA member benefit – marriage counseling. You read that correctly. While marriage among consenting adults is not always a bed of roses, it seems that marriages with either one spouse being a dentist or both can be especially hard to navigate. We are here to help.

A marriage can be like a deck of cards. In the beginning, all you need is two hearts and a diamond. But sometimes, near the end, you wish you had a club and a spade.

Our counselors have seen the broadest scope of complaints and have helped many of our members and their families pull themselves out of the well of despair and back onto the road of marital happiness. Lately, however, even our trained professionals have had trouble formulating and enacting successful outcomes due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Recently, we tried during our state mask mandate and travel restrictions to schedule

and perform counseling services via Zoom meetings. Unfortunately, that has not been very successful. It seems that if the spouses are in the same room during the meeting, then somebody's computer usually gets broken.

So, we have formulated some things to try and maybe not try before actually scheduling a counseling session so as to streamline how we can help you back on the road to marital bliss.

Many married couples actually have trouble sleeping together. Someone always tosses and turns more, snores, getting up multiple times in the night, yelling during sleep – you get the picture. We often suggest sleeping in separate bedrooms and find that this can actually help the quality of your marriage. Recently a couple in Lake Charles has had great success. His bedroom is in Lake

Charles, and hers is in Los Angeles.

We had a wife tell us during one of our more successful sessions, she takes her husband everywhere, but he keeps finding his way back. We were trying to figure out a solution, so we asked her why she was so frustrated with him being around her. She told us that he

had not spoken to her in 18 months. When we asked him why, he stated he didn't want to interrupt her.

A prominent dentist in Baton Rouge was complaining that his wife continually would have car problems and that this was actually causing their marriage to also run erratically.

He stated that recently she came

in the house and told him her car wasn't running well and thought it might be water in the carburetor. When he went outside to check, he found the car parked in the swimming pool.

All of these encounters could be resolved easily with better communication skills with each other. Communication definitely will improve if an attorney is involved because their grammar is much more precise and costly. But let us try to correct things before that happens.

One of our success stories involves

a client who actually owned up to his last fight with his spouse. When his wife asked, "What's on the TV tonight?" He answered, "Dust." Their separation should be finalized soon.

Remember, marriage is the number one cause of divorce. We here at Marriage Counselors of the LDA, located 3rd floor, Bank building, downtown Bunkie, LA, are here to help. And you can be assured of this: we're not happy until you're not happy.



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