

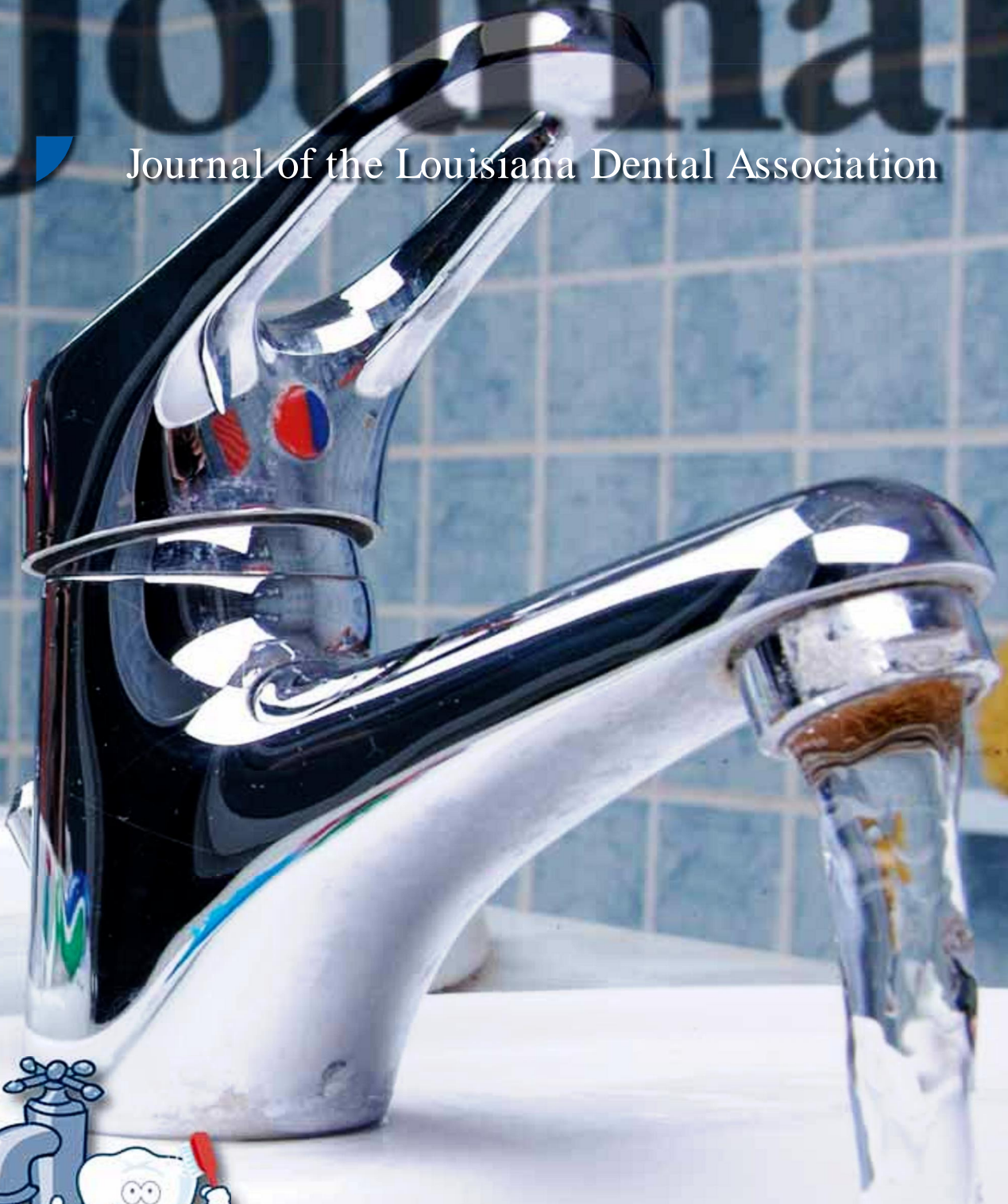
VOL. 67, NO. 1

LDA

SPRING 2008

Journal

Journal of the Louisiana Dental Association



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LDA Journal

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Mission Statement

The purpose of the Louisiana Dental Association is to encourage the improvement and to protect the health of the public, to promote the art and science of dentistry and to represent the interests of the members of the dental profession and the public it serves.

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On the Cover Tap Into a Healthier Smile! is the theme for the LDA's public affairs campaign to broaden public, media and governmental awareness of the benefits of community water fluoridation and lay the groundwork for passing legislation in 2008 that could bring fluoridated water to virtually everyone in Louisiana. The campaign is a partnership with (and funded by) the ADA and part of the State-Based Public Affairs Program initiated by the ADA in 2007.

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



from the editor

David N. Austin, D.D.S.
Editor, LDA Journal

Let Us Keep Up the Good Fight

Community water fluoridation has been cited as one of the 10 greatest health achievements of the 20th century in the battle against tooth decay. Dental caries remains the single most common chronic childhood disease worldwide. Dental decay among children is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever.

Drinking optimally fluoridated water is unquestionably one of the safest and most beneficial, cost-effective, public health measures for preventing, controlling, and in some cases, reversing, tooth decay. Unfortunately, many citizens believe their public water contains optimal levels of fluoride when, in fact, it does not.

Efforts to introduce fluoridation are frequently undermined by limited funds for infrastructure, perceived controversy, voter apathy, confusing ballot language and an abundance of misinformation that has flourished on the Internet and elsewhere. As a result, optimally fluoridated water is available to only two-thirds of those served by public water systems.

If you will take a look on pages 22-23 at the list of communities throughout Louisiana that are not being served by a fluoridated water system, you may wonder if our state is even close to the two-thirds being served as reported by the ADA. No doubt, it could be better, much better.

We as dentists must advocate for community fluoridation for our children to have the absolute optimal benefit to fight dental decay, regardless of their race, creed, and, most of all, of their financial status. After all, if we do not advocate for fluoridation, who will?

I urge you, as one or as a group of dentists within your community, to jump on the bandwagon and push community fluoridation in your area and to fight the good fight to make this available or to keep it from disappearing if you have it now. There are anti-fluoridationists that refuse to acknowledge the absolute fact of over 50 years of proof of the safety and benefits of community water fluoridation.

As always, the LDA and ADA have the facts, literature, information, and anything you might need to help you get the word out among your neighbors, friends and municipalities that are contemplating fluoridation.

As a dentist, I am proud of my profession for so many things. But I must say, community water fluoridation remains the one constant that brings me the most pride and can and will help children everywhere to have improved dental health.

Our state's regular general legislative session begins March 31 and the LDA, with the help of the ADA, will be going after community water fluoridation and we will need your help! Please, contact your legislators' offices and let them know that this is an issue that's so important to you, as well as to the children of their community. And, please, please, please respond to the e-mail or fax calls to action through the super easy VoterVOICE system as soon as you receive them from the LDA. The LDA staff and lobbyists will be doing most of the work to put together the message and you can send a note out in just a few clicks!

Let's work together so that all of our communities can 'Tap into a healthier smile!'





Dr. Melisa Christian, a Fortress Dentist.

I live

in Dallas, Texas. I grew up nearby in Mesquite. There's a wonderful opportunity here, and diversity. There's also a great running community.

I practice

in a general dentistry office with the most supportive and energetic staff. I became interested in dentistry after meeting a dentist who made a tremendous impact on patients.

I recharge

by running. It's an avenue to find your inner strength, and do things you never thought possible.

I qualified in Boston for the 2008 Olympic Marathon Trials. To prepare, I'm cross-training to compete in triathlons. I also volunteer coach.

I love

teaching. I've taught second-year students at Baylor College of Dentistry how to design and fabricate removable prosthodontics.

I hope

to make a difference in my patients' lives. Dentistry is more than restorations; it's caring for people.

I plan

to have my own practice someday, and make a difference the way Dr. Kahn did for my family.

I admire

Dr. Leineweber, my mentor at Baylor. Even with a very large practice, he was able to deliver quality care. Patients loved him.

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from the president

Thomas H. Price, D.D.S.
President, LDA

The Home Stretch

With April quickly approaching, I hope everyone is making plans to attend the LDA Annual Session and the New Orleans Dental Conference. Besides the fact that it will be a fun event, there are outstanding speakers in the lineup and a large contingency of exhibitors. The House of Delegates, which occurs during the Annual Session, will conclude my year as your LDA president. Instead of reminiscing over the accomplishments of the past year, I will simply present the current state of the Association and provide some personal thoughts concerning the future.

The state of our Association is very strong. The House of Delegates will be presented a budget for 2008 that demonstrates a slight income excess over expense. We are operating in the black and endeavor to continue to do so. The LDA reserves are at 74% of the proposed budget. We enjoy an outstanding relationship with the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, as well as the Louisiana Dental Hygienists Association and various other auxiliary associations, not to mention the relationships we have cultivated with state legislators and national congressmen.

Membership is at an all time high and our volunteers continue to grow. LDA-sponsored events continue to break attendance records. My deepest appreciation to our councils and committees who continue to work hard to improve your membership services. Of course, the LDA staff is the best and we should all thank them at every opportunity.

This past year, I have had the opportunity to

travel all over our country and meet with other association presidents. Having listened to the issues and politics facing our profession, I can only express to you how fortunate we are here in Louisiana. The LDA is the envy of many other associations. We are united and enjoy the blessing of that unity. Most of the issues confronting other groups, in my opinion, are the direct result of splintering within their group or the inability to communicate and cooperate with their state board, hygiene association and state legislators. Let us all do our best to preserve this wonderful and unique bond that holds all parties together for the best interest of the public and our profession here in Louisiana.

A perfect example of cooperative effort for the public good is our current fluoridation campaign. There are still communities within Louisiana, including Baton Rouge, which do not have fluoride in their public water. However, with the help of the ADA, we are initiating a public awareness campaign in an effort to educate our local and state legislators on the preventive benefits of fluoride. Through the LDA Council on Governmental Affairs, a mass media campaign to local groups, business leaders, chambers and governmental leaders has been initiated. As a member of the LDA, I hope you will support this effort and help communicate the benefits of fluoride in your community.

I believe the events that will adversely affect the future of our profession will indeed appear from the national prospective and trickle down. These issues

include paraprofessionals, access to care and filling material choices and regulation. The federal government and special interest agendas will require our constant attention on these issues. You can be thankful for the ability of our Association to influence some of these groups to our benefit. If for no other reason, this makes paying my annual dues worthwhile.

As I move into the home stretch, I am pleased to know Dr. Marty Garrett will be stepping up into leadership as LDA president. I can assure you, Marty will be a great president and leader of our Association. Please give him all of the support and friendship that you have afforded me this past year. Once again, please accept a big thank you for allowing me to serve you as the president of the LDA. It will always be an experience I will cherish.

A parting thought:

The secret of success is consistency of purpose.

-Benjamin Disraeli

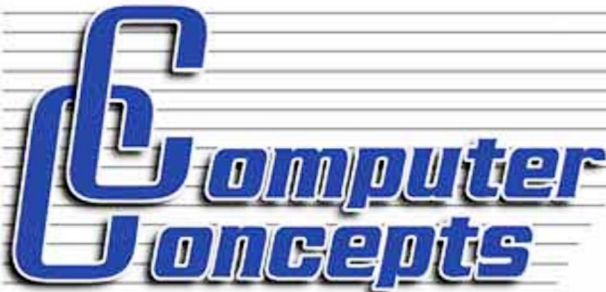
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from the president-elect



An Interview with the President-Elect: Dr. Maurice B. Marty Garrett

It will be a great pleasure for me to serve as your next LDA president. I will be following a great leader, Dr. Tom Price, and I feel honored to have been chosen in this position. I hope to continue the work of the fine members that I am following in this position in order to continue serving organized dentistry.

Prior to taking office in April, I would like to tell you all a little about myself. I graduated from the LSU School of Dentistry in 1981 and finished a periodontics residency in 1983. I have been in private practice in Baton Rouge since 1985.

I am married to Tammy Achord and have six children, Brent, Meg, Gaines, Annie, Caroline and Catherine.

When not in the office, I enjoy coaching youth sports, hunting and fishing. As with so many of you, my family and I are big LSU fans and enjoy tailgating and cooking at home football and baseball games.

Dentistry as a profession and organized dentistry as my professional organization have been good to me! I have enjoyed working with fellow dentists in several positions, including president of my local component,

Greater Baton Rouge, and state peer review chairman prior to becoming an LDA board member. I've always been impressed with the dedication and teamwork of my fellow LDA members who strive to promote and provide good oral health care. These volunteers insure the independence of quality dental practice.

Nationally, access to proper oral health care is one of our most pressing issues.

The key for dental leaders is to stress that qualified dentists are the ones who should direct and provide the care to our patients! On the state level, I would like to improve the communication and cooperation with the state's hygienists. The community water fluoridation program is an excellent way we can combine efforts to improve the state's oral health.



Dr. Garrett in 2004 deer hunting.



Dr. Garrett in 2000 after a goose hunting trip.



Dr. Garrett's family: Brent Garrett, Dr. Marty Garrett, Catherine Garrett, Annie Garrett, Meg and Michael Thomassie, Tammy Garrett, Caroline Garrett and Gaines Garrett.



Dr. Garrett has coached softball for 23 years. Here he is pictured with his twin daughters Catherine and Caroline in 2002.

I accepted this position for the opportunity to work with leaders of our organization who volunteer their time to improve their profession. The combined LDA-NODA meeting is a shining example of the teamwork

involved in organized dentistry. I look forward to working with the LDA Board of Directors and the LDA staff to continue to improve on the activities and benefits the LDA can provide our members.



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Senior Vice President/CEO, LDS

Let's Continue to Grow the LDS Program in 2008!

The year ahead will no doubt offer its fair share of both business and personal challenges, as most years do. LDS would like to suggest that the LDA/LDS Endorsed Program of Products and Services can offer you some of the resources necessary to successfully meet these challenges.

First and foremost, the endorsed companies along with the products and services they offer have been seriously reviewed for quality, reliability, integrity and genuine interest in being of service to you, the members of the LDA. And, most of these companies offer a discount on a recurring basis for purchases made under their endorsement agreements with LDS.

Access to the most current listing of endorsed companies, along with a brief description of what they offer, is accessible at any time from the LDA Web site at www.ladental.org under the News and Information for Your Practice link. You can also request an LDS Ready Reference Binder by calling the LDA at (800) 388-6642.

An example of an endorsed company that you may be already purchasing from on a regular basis, but have not registered with as an LDA member, is Office Depot. The registration process is quick and simple and you will save money through the LDA Endorsed Program on most items except electronics. You MUST also contact the Office Depot Business Development Representative for the LDA, IN ADVANCE, for discounts before special ordering or purchasing furniture. The discount afforded by this extra step is generally worth the effort.

The LDA/LDS Endorsed Program also offers several other opportunities that are directly related to the marketing of your practice to your potential patient base and for the efficient day-to-day operations of the practice. We highly recommend Bruner and Company if you are considering the establishment of a practice Web site. Ron Bruner will work with you to help you use the template based package. This quality package is very reasonably priced and has many of the earmarks of a custom designed site, or you can also have a

specially designed site done for your practice. For more information on the packages, go to www.myldawebsite.com.

Another endorsed company valuable in day-to-day office operations is Paychex. They are involved in office payroll records, preparation of related tax records, actual payroll production, tax deposits and other related business. Greenflag Profit Recovery by Transworld Systems is an LDA/LDS endorsed company that can assist your business manager in the accounts receivable aspect of your practice. Yet another endorsed company, CareCredit, can provide the financing resource for your patients that need to extend the payout time of your recommended treatment plan.

Plus, in the area of your personal practice related needs, our program can offer you a solid group of resources. The LDA/LDS Endorsed Program recommends Fortress Insurance Co., an A rated company for your dental practice liability insurance. You should contact Stormy Blair, at Robert Ellis & Associates in Mandeville, La., at (888) 503-5547, for a quote, if you are not already covered under this program. Your premium savings will be significant in most cases and the service you will receive is the best available. Also through Robert Ellis & Associates, as part of the endorsed program, you can apply for Workman's Compensation Coverage, as well as Business Office Policy coverage.

The list of LDA/LDS endorsed products and services has several other offerings that can benefit you and your practice. LDS is as successful as the members who participate in the program, so please continue to make this program as successful as it was in 2007. By supporting this program, you help LDS generate royalty income from your purchases that is returned to the LDA as non-dues revenue to use in support of membership benefit programs and other association operational needs. As always, on behalf of your LDS board members and the LDS staff, we say THANK YOU, to the LDA members who participate in the endorsed program.

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In the News



Dr. Eric T. Geist (Northeast) was elected president of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery helps set the standards for the confluence of education, training and experience for the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to assure the public of an acceptable level of attainment by those who are Board Certified.

To this end, the Board's mission includes examination and certification of candidates, and recertification of Diplomates. Dr. Geist becomes the second Louisiana Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon to be president of the Board joining LSU Department Head and Boyd Professor Dr. Jack Kent.

Dr. Geist maintains a private practice in Monroe, La., and serves as clinical assistant professor, Department of Surgery, division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at LSUHSC Shreveport and associate professor at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

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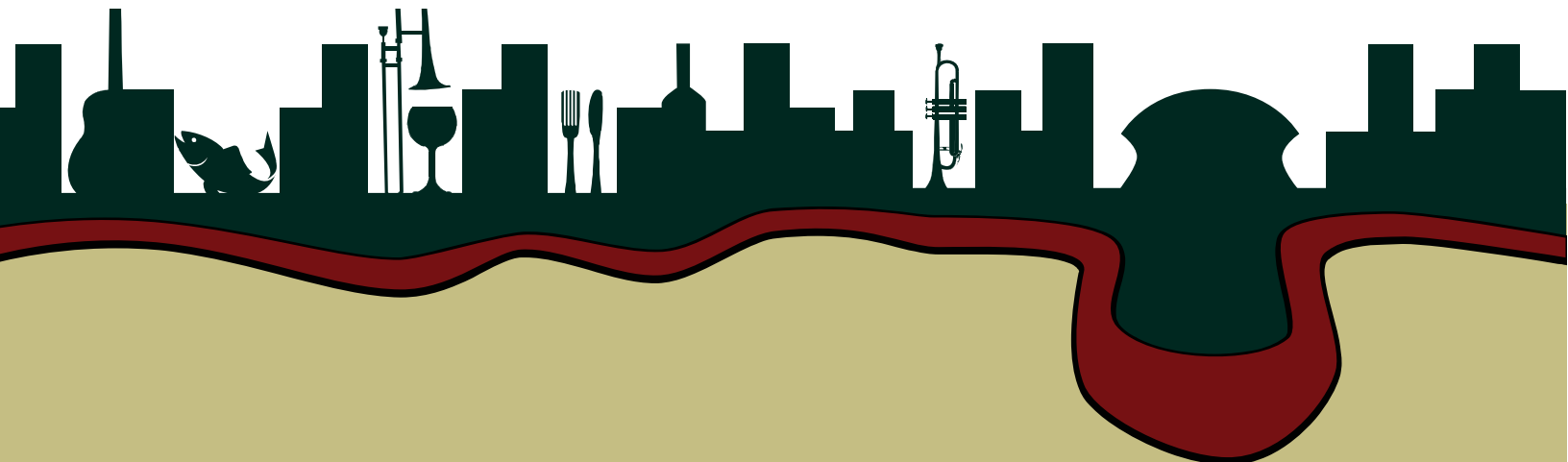
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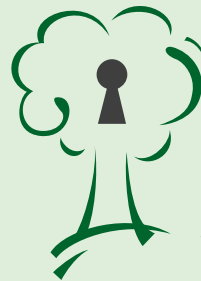
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Dr. Ronald Redmond, D.D.S.
San Francisco, CA

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DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME

LDA Celebrates National Children's Dental Health Month and Give Kids A Smile Day



Dr. Brian D. Basinger
Chair, Council on Communications

Dentists across the country used this past February to raise awareness about the importance of oral health by providing dental screenings, education and an opportunity for future dental services to children who do not have regular access to dental care. Louisiana dentists contributed to this effort by using their time and talents to showcase National Children's Dental Health Month and volunteer during Give Kids A Smile Day. GKAS events and NCDHM activities promoting proper dental health were held across our state. Just a few of the activities reported to the LDA included:

Bayou

The Bayou component, under the direction of Dr. Danny Melancon, held an annual poster contest for NCDHM. Forty schools submitted over 500 entries. Bayou will give away 20-25, \$100 savings bonds as prizes. Among the schools that participated, the group will have a drawing for a computer, which will be rewarded to the winning school.

Greater Baton Rouge

Dr. Johnnie Hunt, Dr. Tom Kiebach, Dr. Nelson Daly, Dr. Steve Ripple, Dr. Tom Foster, Dr. Tracy Crear and Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger also held sealant events at their offices with the help of Dr. Dionne Richardson of the Office of Public Health. Dentists who utilized the



Dr. Steve Ripple's staff smiles for GKAS. (Greater Baton Rouge)

Office of Public Health and Health Care Centers in Schools said the partnership was ideal because these groups were able to contact the schools for them and work with the schools to organize transportation, chaperones and permission slips. This allowed the dentists and their staff members to see more patients and do what they do best—dentistry! Dentists who volunteered at these events included Drs. Nick Rauber, Kenneth St. Romain, Jr. and Kramer Irby.

Drs. Bradley Comeaux, Paige Sigsworth and Robert Delarosa's practice visited Duplessis Primary and Denham Springs Elementary to provide screenings and exams to over 150 children. Drs. Comeaux and Sigsworth also worked with hygienist Heather Bencaz and the Louisiana Dental Hygienists Association to organize library visits and puppet shows at Jones Creek Library and Bluebonnet Library. Dudley the Dinosaur



Dr. Paige Sigsworth's staff educates children on the importance of oral health. (Greater Baton Rouge)



Alexis Russo, LSUSD student
(Greater Baton Rouge)



Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger (right)
and hygienist Jodi Rozarto
(Greater Baton Rouge)



Dr. Nelson Daly (Greater Baton Rouge)



Drs. Johnnie Hunt, Nick Rauber, Kenneth St. Romain, Jr., Tom Kiebach and Kramer Irby (Greater Baton Rouge)

was also there to visit the children and to teach proper brushing and flossing techniques.

Dr. Ed Hood's dental team in Denham Springs recently completed their third annual Dentistry from the Heart event on Friday, February 8, 2008, to celebrate dental health month and Valentine's Day.

NODA

Under the direction of NCDHM chair Dr. Jason Parker, NODA participated in several events, including Smiles at the Hive Court of Dreams in conjunction with the New Orleans Hornets on January 25, 2008. Before the game, NODA had complete use of the Hornets' court to educate and screen along with fun and games to entertain children who came to the Hornets' KIDZ Night at the HIVE. During the game against the Los Angeles Clippers, NODA was recognized on BUZZ Vision for their extraordinary efforts to promote dental health.

NODA passed out NCDHM material to all in-house patients of the Children's Hospital, as well as children at Lakeside Mall and the Children's Museum in New Orleans.

NODA also collaborated with Children's Hospital Tooth Buses and Oregon Mobile Tooth Bus and set up three locations around the New Orleans metro area. These buses delivered comprehensive dental care to the underserved population in New Orleans that was affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Northeast

The Northeast Dental Association and the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Dental Hygiene Program held a very successful program for GKAS. The event had a great turnout and fantastic results. The event was held at the Glenwood School Based Health Center, which is



Ten dental hygiene students from Southern University-Shreveport campus also gave their time to assist dentists at the event.



Dr. Tom Foster (Greater Baton Rouge)



Dudley the Dinosaur teaches children proper brushing and flossing techniques. (Greater Baton Rouge)

located at Riser Middle School in West Monroe, on February 22, 2008. This clinic exists because many of Riser's students do not have access to health care apart from emergency rooms. For the second year, Northeast dentists and dental hygiene students utilized the clinic

Continued on page 14



Dr. Maureen Fenton (Northwest)



Dr. Brian Basinger (background) and
Dr. Sanders Graf (Northwest)



Dr. Larry Robinson (Northwest)

Continued from page 13

to screen children for decay and treatment. Dr. Cindy Pulitzer coordinated the event along with Wendy Cranford, R.N., C.N.N., director of the Glenwood Based Health Center, and Jordan Williams, R.D.H., ULM hygiene instructor. Other dentists who volunteered with the event included Drs. Kimberly Caldwell, Wayne Cranford, Kristi Davis, Lance Donald, Robert Huffstutter, Les Tarver, Tessa Madere, Chris Owens, Sam Pulitzer, Cory Turpin, John Shepard and Lane Eddleman.

The team screened over 280 Riser students. Volunteer dentists also returned to the clinic after the GKAS event to perform needed restorations to those children not covered by Medicaid and who do not have private care.

Northwest

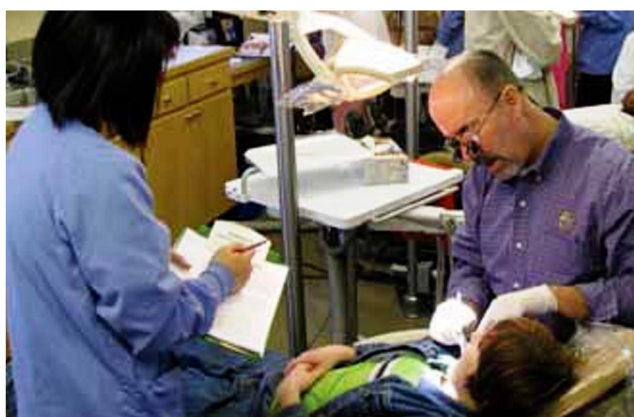
The Northwest Dental Association, under the direction of Dr. Brian Basinger and his staff, hosted their annual GKAS event at The Children's Dental Clinic in Shreveport on Friday, February 22, 2008, and provided screening, oral hygiene instruction and supplies to approximately 70 third graders from Werner Park Elementary School. Children needing further care were

sent to various dentists around the city who volunteered their services. Ten dental hygiene students from Southern University-Shreveport campus also gave their time to assist dentists at the event. Dentists who volunteered at the event were: Drs. Jeff Silmon, Sanders Graf, Larry Robinson, Ryan Walker, Gary Caskey and Maureen Fenton.

Southwest

The Southwest district, in conjunction with the GKAS program and LDA Council on Communications member Dr. James Richard Churchman, spent half a day at the Prien Lake Mall in Lake Charles giving away toothbrushes and handouts with information concerning tooth decay prevention, oral hygiene instructions, sealants and other issues related to the overall health of teeth. This ongoing program has been sponsored for over 20 years by Southwest and its Alliance.

If you or someone you know hosted or volunteered at an event, please let the LDA know by calling (800) 388-6642 or e-mailing info@ladental.org!



Dr. Les Tarver (Northeast)



Dr. Chris Owens and ULM hygiene instructor Mrs. Chaney (Northeast)

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LDA

executive director

Ward Blackwell, M.J., Executive Director, LDA

Fluoridation Highlights '08 LDA Legislative Agenda

The ultimate objective of the LDA's new public affairs campaign that urges Louisianans to Tap Into a Healthier Smile is the passage of legislation that could bring fluoridated water to virtually everyone in Louisiana.

As part of the campaign, the LDA's consultants conducted focus group research to determine how to best frame our message. Though an official report of the research has not been issued yet, the sessions clearly reinforced the importance of the messenger's credibility as one of the most important factors in the success of any communication to be persuasive.

Your credibility with your patients is one of the strongest cards in the LDA's hand, and the success of this campaign could well be determined by how frequently LDA members communicate with their patients and legislators. Some key points to bear in mind are:

As with so many things, Louisiana ranks near the bottom in community water fluoridation (CWF) compared to other states. Only about 40% of Louisiana citizens currently benefit from CWF compared to 64% nationwide.

The LA Office of Public Health estimates implementing CWF in all unfluoridated LA communities with 10,000 or more homes would only cost about \$6.5 million – a tiny amount when the state is reaping near billion dollar surpluses each year.

The Centers for Disease Control calls CWF the single most effective public health measure to prevent tooth decay and one of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century.

Fluoride is a naturally occurring substance; small amounts are present to varying degrees in all water sources. CWF is simply the adjustment of the fluoride level in drinking water from that which naturally occurs to the optimum level to protect teeth.

All kinds of supplements are added for health reasons to food and drink we consume: iodine is added to salt, vitamin D is added to milk, folic acid is added to breads and cereals, etc.

There are all kinds of precedents for government to mandate activities with which some people disagree in the name of public health and safety, such as mandatory immunizations and seat belt laws.

Every \$1 invested in CWF saves roughly \$38 in dental treatment costs. The savings in reduced Medicaid expenditures alone easily exceed the cost of community water fluoridation.

In addition to CWF, the LDA will be managing several other issues during the coming legislative session. As always, funding for dental Medicaid programs will have a prominent place on the legislative agenda. Despite seven consecutive years of funding increases – a record unmatched by any other health care group – dental Medicaid reimbursement rates are still well below our stated goal of the 70th percentile of the NDAS fee survey. Moreover, it has been several years since ANY increases have been made to the adult denture program rates.

It's likely the LDA will also be involved in efforts to secure funding for the LSU School of Dentistry to continue its new hygiene program and oral health center in Baton Rouge. This new program evolved as a way to make optimal use of the school's former, temporary home at the LSU South Campus following Hurricane Katrina now that the school is firmly reestablished in New Orleans.

Be on the lookout as well for news about legislation relating to the administration of the Patient's Compensation Fund, medical necessity review, and possible revisions to the cap on medical malpractice damages.

Above all, remember that grassroots lobbying is the LDA's most effective form of advocacy. And yes, that means you! So, watch for alerts from the LDA in your email and respond by using our super-easy VoterVOICE system to contact your legislator. And, make plans now to attend Dentists' Day at the Legislature on April 23 and visit with your legislator face-to-face.

If everyone does just a little, we're sure to have a successful 2008 legislative session.

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Eighth Annual Membership Fishing Rodeo

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Louisiana state board of dentistry

Samuel Rinca, D.D.S.
resident, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry

Louisiana State Board of Dentistry Update

As this edition of the LDA Journal is dedicated to legislation and fluoridation, we would like everyone to know that the board supports the dental association's position on fluoridation. It is long overdue for all citizens of the state to receive this valuable resource. Time and time again and in every place it has been implemented, fluoridation has proven to be an effective tool in the battle against tooth decay. Studies have shown that where there is no fluoridation, dental problems are greatly increased.

Insofar as legislation goes, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry has very little this year. There are really only three items at issue. We are raising from one to three years the time an applicant will have to apply for licensure by outside examination. After three years, that applicant can apply for licensure in Louisiana via credentials.

Another piece of legislation will allow us to raise fees for the certificate confirmation of expanded duty dental assistants. The last item will allow us to charge a fee for the expungement of first-time advertising violations. After this bill goes into effect, we will proceed with rulemaking so that licensees who have had only one advertising violation against their records, and no other disciplinary actions or present investigations, will be allowed to have these violations removed from their record and from our Web site.

Also of note to all of you is that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry had the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA) administer a clinical examination in Louisiana for the first time on February 29-March 1, 2007.

Any candidate successfully completing the CITA examination may apply for licensure in 15 states and Puerto Rico. Our board feels that this is the best clinical examination available at this time. We

reviewed all others before deciding to join with CITA. The calibration of the examiners is second to none. CITA offers live and online calibration to our graders. This allows a grader to be calibrated when it is convenient and not miss any extra days out of the office. All graders must pass the calibration exam the day before the examination is administered. This ensures that all candidates are graded fairly no matter where they take the examination (North Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana or Puerto Rico). Three independent graders review each piece of work without consulting each other. It takes two graders to fail a section. If anyone is interested in participating as an examiner in the CITA examination, you may go to www.citaexam.com and click on Grader Information.

In closing, I would like to express my personal gratitude to Drs. Dennis Donald, Vance Wascom, and Butch McVea. They have been term limited off the board but have been mentors for me as I learn this job. When you see any of them, you should thank them for a job well done.

Celebrating 50^{an} 25 YEARS

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

Acadiana

25 Years

Dr. Edward M. Moody II
Dr. John M. Oubre
Dr. Carl J. Breaux

Central

25 Years

Dr. Lee M. Romine
Dr. Michael J. Stacey

50 Years

Dr. Bernard C. Hollier
Dr. Robert B. Phillips

Greater Baton Rouge

25 Years

Dr. Louis L. Mason
Dr. John P. Harbour
Dr. Jeff D. Ellard
Dr. Mark D. Porta

New Orleans

25 Years

Dr. Frederic Guerens

Dr. Jamie M. Manders
Dr. Richard T. Nelson III
Dr. Gustavo M. Coutin
Dr. Lisa P. Germain
Dr. John R. Ritchie
Dr. Roy J. Delatte, Jr.
Dr. Vincent L. DiLeo, Jr.
Dr. James K. Curley
Dr. Roland A. Caire, Jr.

50 Years

Dr. Raymond J. Schiele
Dr. Clarence B. Parent, Jr.
Dr. Anthony J. Lala
Dr. John N. Estes, Jr.
Dr. Vincent N. Liberto
Dr. J. Donald Duvigneaud
Dr. Lathan W. Garcia
Dr. Clay C. Hunley
Dr. John D. Shea

Northlake

25 Years

Dr. Mary A. Beilman
Dr. Charles R. Mehle, Jr.

Northeast

25 Years

Dr. Eric T. Geist

50 Years

Dr. Max M. Funderburk, Jr.

Northwest

25 Years

Dr. William B. Goyne
Dr. Benjamin E. Foster, Jr.
Dr. Clarence B. Erickson
Dr. Steven A. Russell
Dr. Charles E. Hubley

50 Years

Dr. Charles H. Goben, Jr.

Southwest

25 Years

Dr. Thomas B. Baggett III
Dr. Philip D. Moses
Dr. Mark Daughenbaugh



Northeast Installation of the 200 officers: (from left) Dr. Marty Garrett, LDA president-elect Ward Blackwell, LDA executive director Dr. Kirt Touchstone, NELDA president Dr. Lance Donald, NELDA president-elect Dr. Jennifer Boles, NELDA secretary Dr. Sam Pulitzer, NELDA vice president Dr. King Scott, NELDA past president and Dr. Jeff Hooton, NELDA's director to the LDA.



Northlake Installation of the 200 officers and legislative dinner: (from left) Dr. Charles Roy, Northlake president State Senator Ben Nevers Dr. Billy Ledoux, Northlake representative on the LDA's Council on Government Affairs Dr. Jim Moreau, LDA state coordinator of the Grassroots Action Team Leaders Dr. Mari a LaSalle, newly-appointed state board member and Dr. Marty Garrett, LDA president-elect.



LDA feature

Kevin Hayes, D.D., member of the LDA lobbying team, partner with the law firm of Coedel, Parsons, Koch, Blache, Balhoff and McCollister

Tap Into a Healthier Smile Fluoridation Initiative Will Need Grassroots Advocacy

The 2008 Regular Session will begin March 31, 2008, and with 60 new House members and 18 new Senators, it promises to be a tremendous educational process as we try and let each new legislator know about the LDA.

The Louisiana Dental Association and the American Dental Association have partnered to make a push during the upcoming session to provide fluoridated water throughout Louisiana. We met early on with the Department of Health and Hospitals and in conjunction with them, we have produced several public service announcements (PSAs) for both radio and television. We have also set up a Web site, www.healthysmileslouisiana.org, to provide factual information on the fluoridation issue.

The LDA used the time during the Governor's first special session to visit with legislators and gauge their interest in various proposals that may be introduced. During the past several sessions, the legislature has been very reluctant to mandates and their impact on local governments. The LDA is trying to balance that

concern with the need throughout this state for fluoride, and its effectiveness in preventing cavities and dental disease.

The LDA envisions two components of this legislative initiative. The first piece will be the enabling legislation, which will authorize fluoridated waters in communities that currently do not have it. This legislation will be handled by the House and Senate Health and Welfare Committees. The second component of this initiative is the funding mechanism that will move forward through the appropriations process.

As the session approaches and the LDA has a lead author and bill number, we will keep you aware of what is happening so that you can contact your legislators and express your support on fluoridation. Grassroots will be a necessary and very important component of this initiative. In the meantime, the Tap Into a Healthier Smile campaign will continue and you can keep up with its progress through the healthy smiles Web site.

Fluoridation Campaign's Consumer Web Site

www.healthysmileslouisiana.org



Louisiana Community Water Systems Serving 5,000 Population and Above That Are Not Fluoridated (Sorted by Water System Name)* (As of October 2007)

Note: Systems highlighted in Red are showing an optimal level of fluoride, however since they are listed as variable (Var), they are included.

Water System Name	Primary Parish	Pop Served	# of wells # of Inj points	Water System Name	Primary Parish	Pop Served	# of wells # of Inj points
ABBEVILLE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Vermilion	12,620	1	COMINGTON WATER SUPPLY	St. Tammany	8,483	4
Total Population for Water Source:		12,620		Total Population for Water Source:		8,483	
BASTROP WATER SYSTEM	Morehouse	18,920	2	CROSS GATE SUBDIVISION	St. Tammany	7,076	2
Total Population for Water Source:		18,920		Total Population for Water Source:		7,076	
BATON ROUGE WATER COMPANY	East Baton Rouge	385,272	27	DELHI WATER SUPPLY	Richland	3,200	4
IBERVILLE WATERWORKS DISTRICT 2	Iberville	6,700		WARDEN WATER SYSTEM	Richland	300	
PLANTATION GARDENS	Iberville	160		EAST RICHLAND WW DIST.	Richland	1,900	
RED OAK WATER COMPANY	East Baton Rouge	7,280		BAYOU MACON WATER SYSTEM	Madison	1,400	
Total Population for Water Source:		399,412		Total Population for Water Source:		6,800	
BAYOU LIBERTY WATER ASSC	St. Tammany	13,504	3	DENHAM SPRINGS, CITY OF	Livingston	28,872	4
Total Population for Water Source:		13,504		TESI PLANTATION PARK SUBDIVIS	Livingston	644	
BAYOU TACHE WATER WORKS	St. Martin	9,100	5	Total Population for Water Source:		29,516	
Total Population for Water Source:		9,100		EAST FELICIANA RURAL WATER WORKS	East Feliciana	12,436	7
BEAU CHENE WATER SYSTEM	St. Tammany	6,500	3	Total Population for Water Source:		12,436	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,500		EDEN ISLES WATER SUPPLY	St. Tammany	8,713	2
BEAUREGARD DISTRICT NO 2 WARD NO 5	Beauregard	6,116	4	Total Population for Water Source:		8,713	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,116		FALSE RIVER WATER CO.	Pointe Coupee	5,012	2
BELMONT WATER SYSTEM	Sabine	2,444	3	Total Population for Water Source:		5,012	
EBARB WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO 1	Sabine	7,708		FRANKLIN WATER SUPPLY CITY OF	St. Mary	8,354	1
Total Population for Water Source:		10,152		Total Population for Water Source:		8,354	
BERWICK BAYOU VISTA WW COMMISSION	St. Mary	8,876	1	GRAMBLING STATE UNIV. WS	Lincoln	6,000	3
Total Population for Water Source:		8,876		Total Population for Water Source:		6,000	
BLANCHARD WATER SYSTEM	Caddo	10,936	2	GREENLEAVES UTILITIES	St. Tammany	7,600	2
Total Population for Water Source:		10,936		Total Population for Water Source:		7,600	
BOGALUSA, CITY OF	Washington	14,000	6	HAMMOND, CITY OF	Tangipahoa	18,000	4
Total Population for Water Source:		14,000		Total Population for Water Source:		18,000	
BOGUE-LUSA W.W. DIST.	Washington	5,200	3	IBERVILLE WATERWORKS DISTRICT #3	Iberville	8,296	2
Total Population for Water Source:		5,200		IBERVILLE WWKS #4 - SOUTH	Iberville	169	1
BREAUX BRIDGE TOWN OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Martin	7,400	3	Total Population for Water Source:		8,465	
CEOLA WATER CORPORATION	St. Martin	9,900		JEANERETTE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Iberia	5,997	7
Total Population for Water Source:		17,300		Total Population for Water Source:		5,997	
BRIARWOOD TERRACE	St. Tammany	15,484	6	JEFF DAVIS WTR AND SEWER			
Total Population for Water Source:		15,484		COMMISSION NO 1	Jefferson Davis	5,662	1
BROWNVILLE WATER SYSTEM	Ouachita	13,244	3	Total Population for Water Source:		5,662	
Total Population for Water Source:		13,244		JENNINGS CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Jefferson Davis	13,000	1
BUCKEYE WATER DIST. #60	Rapides	9,294	8	Total Population for Water Source:		13,000	
WARD 1 WATER SYSTEM, INC.	Avoyelles	3,057	1	JESSIE DUB JAMES T P WATER SYSTEM	Calcasieu	400	3
Total Population for Water Source:		12,351		KAPLAN CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Vermilion	5,177	
BUNKIE TOWN OF	Avoyelles	4,815	1	Total Population for Water Source:		5,177	
SW AVOYELLES WATER DIST.	Avoyelles	960		KINGSPOINT SUBDIVISION	St. Tammany	7,164	3
Total Population for Water Source:		5,775		Total Population for Water Source:		7,164	
CALCASIEU PARISH WW DISTRICT NO 9	Calcasieu	9,264	2	KIROU - DARBONNE W. S.	Ouachita	7,740	2
Total Population for Water Source:		9,264		Total Population for Water Source:		7,740	
CARENCO CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	6,600	2	LA TECH UNIVERSITY W. S.	Lincoln	9,000	3
Total Population for Water Source:		6,600		Total Population for Water Source:		9,000	
CHENIERE DREW NORTH W.S.	Ouachita	10,104	5	LAWCO DE QUINCY	Calcasieu	5,379	3
Total Population for Water Source:		10,104		Total Population for Water Source:		5,379	
CITY OF MANY WATER SYSTEM	Sabine	4,575	2	LAWCO ELUNICE WATER SYSTEM	St. Landry	18,636	1
SABINE PARISH WATER DISTRICT #1	Sabine	3,000	1	Total Population for Water Source:		18,636	
FLORIEN WATER SYSTEM	Sabine	660		LAWCO NEW IBERIA WATER SYSTEM	Iberia	43,938	1
Total Population for Water Source:		8,235		MCLENNY CO WATER SYSTEM	Iberia	1,472	
CITY OF NEW ROADS	Pointe Coupee	8,000	1	Total Population for Water Source:		45,410	
Total Population for Water Source:		8,000		LEE ROAD WATER COMPANY	St. Tammany	6,084	4
CITY OF PLAQUEMINE	Iberville	16,948	6	Total Population for Water Source:		6,084	
HIGHWAY 1148 WATER SYSTEM	Iberville	1,059		LEESVILLE, CITY OF	Vernon	7,803	2
Total Population for Water Source:		18,007		NEW LLANO WATER DEPT.	Vernon	2,490	
CITY OF PORT ALLEN	West Baton Rouge	5,500	3	Total Population for Water Source:		10,293	
Total Population for Water Source:		5,500		LEONVILLE VILLAGE OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Landry	7,200	4
CITY OF WINNFIELD	Winn	6,685	1	Total Population for Water Source:		7,200	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,685		LIVINGSTON, TOWN OF	Livingston	5,668	3
CITY OF ZACHARY	East Baton Rouge	16,257	4	Total Population for Water Source:		5,668	
Total Population for Water Source:		16,257		LOGANSPOUT WATER SYSTEM	De Soto	2,000	3
CONCORDIA WWKS DIST #1	Concordia	6,618	1	DESOTO PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO 1	De Soto	5,712	
RIDGECREST WATER SUPPLY	Concordia	835	1	Total Population for Water Source:		7,712	
Total Population for Water Source:		7,453		LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY	West Feliciana	6,362	4
COTEAU WATER SYSTEM	Iberia	6,640	3	Total Population for Water Source:		6,362	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,640		LPWD NORTH PRODUCTION FACILITY	Lafayette	1,972	2
COTTONPORT, TOWN OF	Avoyelles	2,314	2	LAFAYETTE UTILITIES WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	132,000	
AVOYELLES WARD 3 WW DIST	Avoyelles	2,019		LPWDN GARY S TRAILER PARK WS		100	
PLAUCHEVILLE WATER SYSTEM	Avoyelles	3,420		LPWDN POTPOURRI VILLAGE WS		604	
MANSURA, VIL OF (LAWCO)	Avoyelles	1,815		LPWDN LA NEUVILLE HOLIDAY SUBDIVISION WS		935	
Total Population for Water Source:		9,568		LPWDN COUNTRYSIDE MOBILE HOME PARK		360	

Water System Name	Primary Parish	Pop Served	# of wells # of inj points
LPWDN OAKVIEW MOBILE HOME PARK WS		240	
LPWDN CAJUN MOBILE HOME VILLAGE WS		78	
LPWDN VATICAN SQUARE WATER SYSTEM		135	
LPWDN TOWNSHIP WATER SYSTEM		63	
LPWDN HOLIDAY MOBILE ESTATES WS		437	
LPWDN PLAUCHES TRAILER PARK WS		108	
LPWDN VOORHIES INDUSTRIAL PARK WS		234	
LPWDN CAMLUS WS		30	
LPWD SOUTH	Lafayette	7,809	
TESI TREW HILL SUBDIVISION WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	166	
TESI OSSUN HEIGHTS SUBD WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	268	
TESI GRANDE STAKES SUBD WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	290	
TESI CARENCRE VILLAGE SUBD WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	428	
MILTON WATER SYSTEM INC	Lafayette	7,200	
CHARTRES PLACE SUBDIVISION	Lafayette	240	
BROOKHOLLOW SUBDIVISION WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	114	
TESI FOX RUN SUBDIVISION WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	189	
TESI COUNTRY PINES M H EST WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	288	
YOUNGVILLE TOWN OF WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	4,950	
SCOTT CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	8,447	
LPWD NORTH PURCHASE FACILITY	Lafayette	2,172	
BROUSSARD TOWN OF WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	6,080	
TESI COACH HOUSE MANOR WATER SYSTEM	Lafayette	306	
Total Population for Water Source:		176,243	
MANDEVILLE WATER SUPPLY	St. Tammany	13,700	6
Total Population for Water Source:		13,700	
MANSHIELD WATER SYSTEM	De Soto	8,030	2
HIGHWAY 513 WATER SUPPLY	De Soto	160	
Total Population for Water Source:		8,190	
MARKSVILLE, CITY OF	Avoyelles	6,101	1
SPRING BAYOU WATER WORKS DISTRICT	Avoyelles	174	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,275	
MINDEN WATER SYSTEM	Webster	14,200	4
Total Population for Water Source:		14,200	
MIRE BRANCH WATER CORPORATION	Acadia	6,660	2
Total Population for Water Source:		6,660	
MONROE WATER SYSTEM	Ouachita	57,500	2
LAKE SHORE-SWARTZ W. SYS.	Ouachita	9,172	
WATERSIDE SUBD. W. SYS.	Ouachita	316	
TOWN & COUNTRY SERVICE	Ouachita	6,500	
NORTH MONROE ET AL W.S.	Ouachita	5,896	
Total Population for Water Source:		79,384	
MORGAN CITY WATER SYSTEM	St. Mary	12,703	1
ST MARTIN WW DISTRICT NO 2	St. Martin	1,200	
Total Population for Water Source:		13,903	
NORTH FRANKLIN WW	Franklin	8,000	3
Total Population for Water Source:		8,000	
NORTH PARK WATER SUPPLY	St. Tammany	9,648	6
Total Population for Water Source:		9,648	
OPELOUSAS CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Landry	21,600	5
Total Population for Water Source:		21,600	
PARISH WATER COMPANY	East Baton Rouge	123,130	26
Total Population for Water Source:		123,130	
PARKS VILLAGE OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Martin	8,200	4
Total Population for Water Source:		8,200	
PEOPLES WTR CO- DVILLE	Ascension	16,224	2
ASCENSION CONSOLIDATED UTILITY DIST #1	Ascension	511	
Total Population for Water Source:		16,735	
PINEVILLE, CITY OF	Rapides	20,862	9
Total Population for Water Source:		20,862	
PLAISANCE WATER SYSTEM INC	St. Landry	6,200	4
Total Population for Water Source:		6,200	
PONCHATOULA, CITY OF	Tangipahoa	5,180	3
Total Population for Water Source:		5,180	
PORT BARRE TOWN OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Landry	5,400	1
Total Population for Water Source:		5,400	
PRAIRIE RONDE WATER SYSTEM INC	St. Landry	5,928	2
Total Population for Water Source:		5,928	
RAPIDES ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION INC	Rapides	5,574	4
Total Population for Water Source:		5,574	
RAPIDES PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT #3	Rapides	18,450	6
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION	Rapides	1,200	
SPRINGHILL WATERWORKS, I	Grant	459	
BCB COMMUNITY WATERWORKS	Grant	729	
SOUTH GRANT WATER CORPORATION	Grant	4,593	
Total Population for Water Source:		25,431	
RAYNE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Acadia	8,583	3
Total Population for Water Source:		8,583	
RUSTON WATER SYSTEM	Lincoln	20,546	9
LINCOLN PARISH WW DIST 2	Lincoln	198	
RISER ROAD WATER SYSTEM	Lincoln	220	
Total Population for Water Source:		20,964	

Water System Name	Primary Parish	Pop Served	# of wells # of inj points
SLIDELL WATER SUPPLY	St. Tammany	38,612	6
Total Population for Water Source:		38,612	
SOUTH BEAUREGARD WATER SYSTEM	Beauregard	17,886	6
Total Population for Water Source:		17,886	
SOUTH-WEST ALLEN WW DISTRICT NO 2	Allen	6,636	5
Total Population for Water Source:		6,636	
SOUTHWEST QUACHITA WW	Quachita	7,840	1
Total Population for Water Source:		7,840	
SPRINGHILL WATER SYSTEM	Webster	6,512	5
Total Population for Water Source:		6,512	
ST BERNARD PAR WATERWORK	St. Bernard	67,900	1
Total Population for Water Source:		67,900	
ST JAMES WATER DIST NO 1	St. James	4,478	1
ASCENSION PARISH WATER WORKS DISTRICT #2	Ascension	1,564	
Total Population for Water Source:		6,042	
ST JAMES WATER DIST NO 2	St. James	9,382	1
PLEASURE BEND WATER SUPPLY	St. John the Baptist	264	
Total Population for Water Source:		9,646	
ST MARTINVILLE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	St. Martin	7,467	2
Total Population for Water Source:		7,467	
ST MARY PARISH WW DIST NO 5	St. Mary	7,500	1
Total Population for Water Source:		7,500	
ST MARY PARISH WW DIST NO 6	St. Mary	9,348	1
Total Population for Water Source:		9,348	
ST TAMMANY WATER DIST 2	St. Tammany	5,200	3
Total Population for Water Source:		5,200	
TALLULAH WATER SYSTEM	Madison	9,000	4
Total Population for Water Source:		9,000	
TANGI PARISH WATER DIST	Tangipahoa	29,988	11
Total Population for Water Source:		29,988	
THE MEADOWS	St. Tammany	5,016	3
Total Population for Water Source:		5,016	
VARANDORURAL WWKS	Washington	5,100	2
Total Population for Water Source:		5,100	
VILLAGE OF MARIINGOUIN	Iberville	5,200	2
Total Population for Water Source:		5,200	
VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM	Bossier	11,460	9
Total Population for Water Source:		11,460	
VILLE PLATTE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Evangeline	8,890	6
Total Population for Water Source:		8,890	
WALNUT BAYOU WATER ASSOC	Madison	4,100	3
EAST CARROLL W.S.(SOUTH)	East Carroll	1,692	1
Total Population for Water Source:		5,792	
WARD II WATER DISTRICT	Livingston	34,011	14
TESI-EAST LAKESIDE S/D	Livingston	324	
Total Population for Water Source:		34,335	
WBR DISTRICT #4 SECTION ROAD WINTERVILLE	West Baton Rouge	5,061	3
WBR PUBLIC UTILITIES	West Baton Rouge	4,424	
WBR DISTRICT #4 HOLIDAY INN	West Baton Rouge	1,265	
Total Population for Water Source:		10,750	
WEST BATON ROUGE WWKS DISTRICT #2	West Baton Rouge	7,976	4
Total Population for Water Source:		7,976	
WEST FELICIANA WWKS DISTRICT #13	West Feliciana	11,376	5
Total Population for Water Source:		11,376	
WEST HWY 80 ARK ROAD WS	Quachita	12,844	4
Total Population for Water Source:		12,844	
WEST MONROE WATER SYSTEM	Quachita	14,096	3
Total Population for Water Source:		14,096	
WESTLAKE CITY OF WATER SYSTEM	Calcasieu	7,000	5
Total Population for Water Source:		7,000	
WESTWEGO WATERWORKS	Jefferson	11,599	1
Total Population for Water Source:		11,599	
WHISPERWOOD ESTATES S/D	St. Tammany	7,076	1
Total Population for Water Source:		7,076	
WINNSBORO WATER SYSTEM	Franklin	5,755	5
ROBINSON ROAD WW	Franklin	75	
Total Population for Water Source:		5,830	
WW DISTRICT NO 1 NORTH VERMILION	Vermilion	6,275	1
Total Population for Water Source:		6,275	

* List includes systems that are concurrent (CON) to other systems, i.e., systems who either receive all their water or a portion of their water from another source (water system). Those systems listed may not serve a total population greater than 5,000, however when considered as a part of a consecutive system, the population is within the target range. Also, this list is not necessarily accurate as to population, number of wells or injection points.



LDA feature

Meredith Simoneau
DA ntern



Dr. Marty Saltzman hitting the slopes.

Alpine 2008 Lectures, Learnin and a hole Lot of Fun!

Over the Mardi Gras holidays, LDA members hit the slopes in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for the annual Alpine Lecture Series. Trappeur's Crossing Resort was the host of this year's event and it proved to be an excellent one. During the four-day trip, dentists attended lectures by Dr. William van Dyk, Dr. Michael Kadair and David Nelson, J.D. to obtain up to 16 hours of C.E. credit. The LDA is grateful to these speakers for their informative lectures.

But, participants got a lot more out of this trip than just education. Guests got a breathtaking view of the mountains, as they took their free gondola ride to the top of the mountain for the Mardi Gras Extravaganza Reception on Saturday, February 2. On Super Bowl Sunday, participants were treated to a Super Bowl party with food provided by Robert Ellis & Associates and



Dentists outside of Trappeur's Crossing Resort wearing their Alpine shirts.



The group gets in the Mardi Gras spirit at Alpine 2008.



Dr. C. Richmond Corley, Jr. and Liz Daughenbaugh en oy the snow.

Louisiana Dental Services, Inc. Dentists and their families gathered around two big screen televisions to watch Louisiana-born Eli Manning of the New York Giants defeat the New England Patriots. Ward Blackwell, LDA executive director, commented it was obvious from the cheers of the crowd that most participants were pulling for the hometown boy and were excited to see him win.

Guests also had plenty of free time and a ton of fresh snow for outdoor activities. The resort reported that they had record snow fall for that time of year, making the conditions perfect for skiing, snowboarding and snowmobile riding. Alpine is always a great way to earn C.E. and have fun with the family. This year was particularly enjoyable because of the extra Super Bowl Party and the prime conditions for skiing. I recommend this event for any LDA member looking for C.E. and a

great vacation, said Dr. Nelson Daly, a regular Alpine participant.

Mark your calendars now for next year's Alpine Lecture Series, February 21-24, 2009, at Squaw Valley USA (Lake Tahoe).



(From left) Dr. Nelson Daly, speaker David Nelson, J.D. and Dr. Southey Hays at the Mardi Gras Extravaganza reception.

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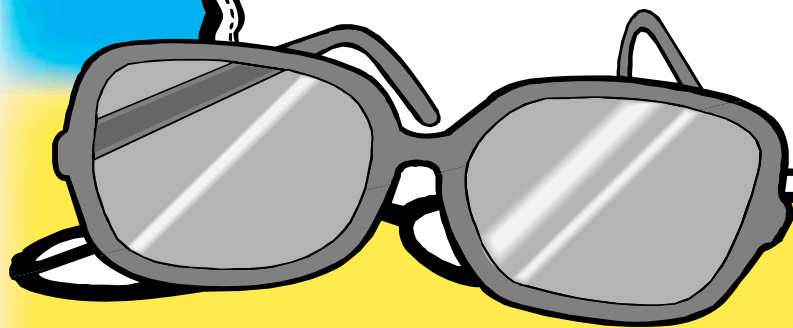
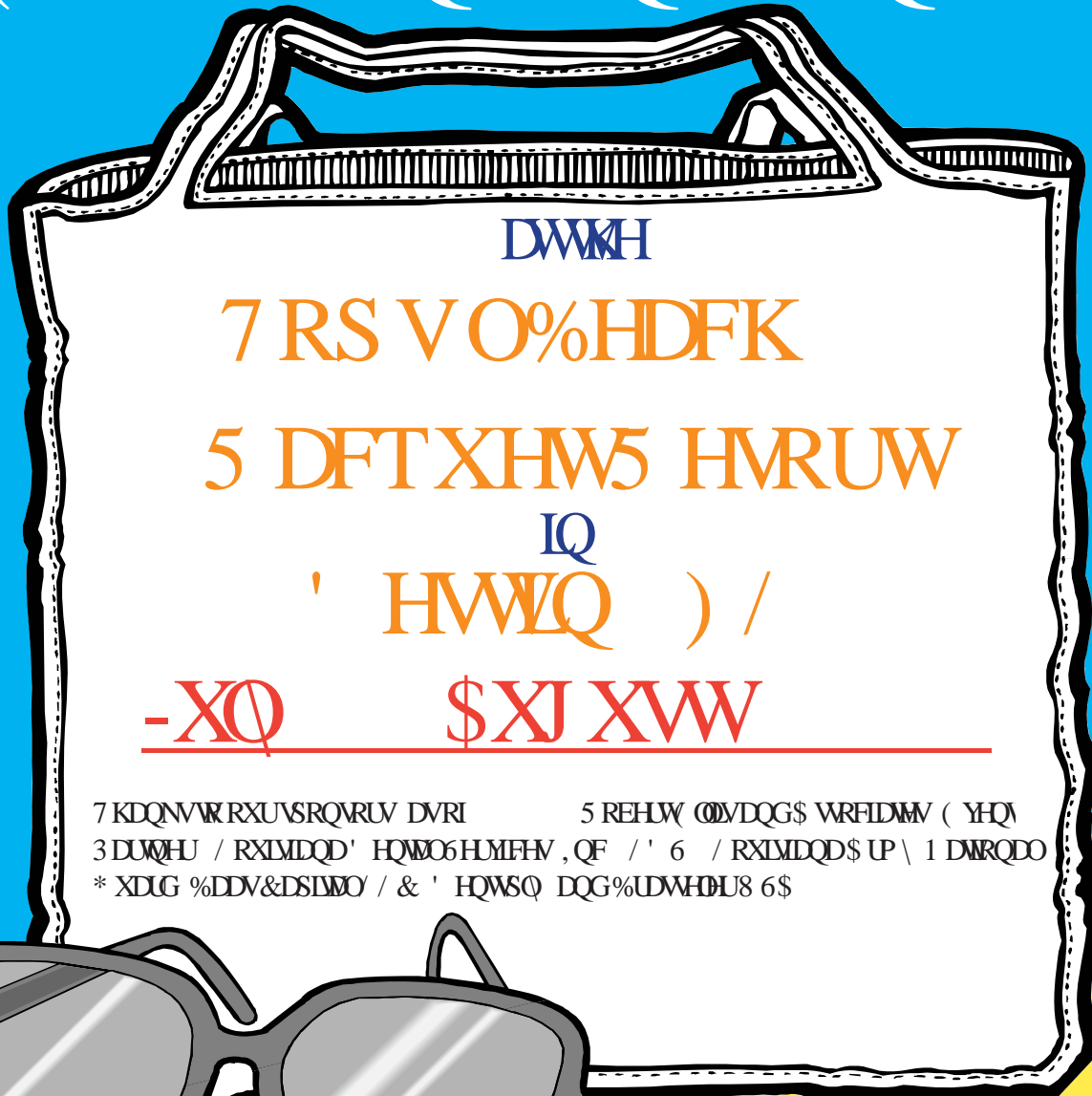
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LDA lsu school of dentistry

Eric J. Hovland, D.D.S., M.Ed., M.B.A.
Dean, LSU School of Dentistry

Progress Continues

The school's relocation to Baton Rouge following Katrina is beginning to fade in our collective memories in comparison to our rebuilding challenges in New Orleans. Fortunately, progress continues at a steady pace due to the cooperative and spirited efforts of our faculty, students and staff. The leadership of the LSU Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) has also helped address specific challenges especially facility renovations.

Rebuilding our staff and faculty has been a primary focus as we lost approximately 50 percent of our staff and 30 percent of our faculty following the storm. Although we are not up to pre-Katrina numbers, we have hired quite a few employees since our return, helping us to accelerate our recovery. However, Governor Bobby Jindal's recent state hiring freeze has made the rehiring process a little more cumbersome. Although we did not receive a blanket exception, LSUHSC and other health-related state institutions are able to provide letters of justification for those positions that are essential for operations. Often, crucial faculty hires and positions that involve direct-patient care have been approved by the governor's office. If the hiring freeze is lifted in July, we will proceed in filling some of our most-needed vacant administrative positions as well.

Department chair searches continue for endodontics, oral & maxillofacial surgery and pediatric dentistry. Once finalized, the information will be disseminated as soon as possible. In addition to faculty who have served on search committees, I would like to thank Dr. Bill Keaty, an alumnus and pediatric dentist in Lafayette, for his tireless support in the search for a new pediatric department chair. Bill continues to inspire me with his commitment to the LSUSD. The search for a new dean is also progressing, and it is

hoped that an announcement will be forthcoming this summer.

Our rebuilding efforts continue school-wide. Contractors are installing a new roof; the new bookstore is under construction on the third floor of the administrative building; the main auditoriums continue to undergo renovations; the research labs will soon be reconstructed; and the first floor reception area of the E.E. Jeansonne Clinic is completed. A patient orientation program will soon be launched in the new reception area to enhance patient services and compliance. Architectural drawings have also been completed for the new building, which will house a state-of-the-art esthetic clinic and a faculty dental practice. It is expected that the new building will be completed within three years.

On a very positive note, LSUSD has been selected as the inaugural academic dental institution recipient of the William J. Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation. The award will be presented by the ADEAGies Foundation in conjunction with the 85th American Dental Education Association Annual Session this spring. The school will be honored for its innovation in rebuilding dental education in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina. This is an extraordinary recognition, and I am so grateful to everyone who helped to make it possible.

Please consider joining us for our upcoming alumni events this year. Reunions and our annual alumni reception will be held in conjunction with the LDA/NODA Conference in April; our 8th Annual Golf Classic is scheduled in May; and Alumni Day is scheduled in the fall. I look forward to seeing everyone and as always, please accept my warmest appreciation for the continued support and encouragement during this transitional time.

LSU School of Dentistry 2008 Events

Alumni Reception Reunions
in conjunction with the DA DC

Friday, April 11, 2008
The Plimssoll Club, New Orleans
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

8th Annual Golf Classic

Friday, May 2, 2008
Tamahka Trails Golf Club, Marksville
8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
Reception held the evening prior

Graduation

Saturday, May 15
UNO Lakefront Arena
10:00 a.m.

Advanced Education Graduation

Friday, June 20
UNO Lakefront Arena
1:00 p.m.

Alumni Day
in honor of Dr. Harold Birch

Friday, October 3
LSHSC School of Dentistry, New Orleans
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For more information call the Office of Community Affairs at (504) 388-1234 or e-mail community@lsuhsc.edu.

Marc W. Judice



Marc W. Judice has been actively engaged in litigation since 1977, with emphasis in the areas of medical, dental, healthcare and professional liability defense. He is certified in Civil Trial Advocacy by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

Marc has been asked to give numerous presentations in the fields of law and healthcare to a wide array of organizations including: Lafayette Parish Medical Society, Louisiana Society of Orthopedic Surgeons, Louisiana Society of Neurosurgeons, Acadiana Pediatric Society, Acadiana Dental Association, Louisiana Medical Mutual Insurance Company, The Medical Protective Company, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, National Business Institute, LSU School of Dentistry, Medical Risk Management and LSU School of Law.

Marc served as Chairman of the Board of Directors at University Medical Center in Lafayette; Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Medical Center of Southwest Louisiana; and on the Board of Trustees for Women's & Children's Hospital.

Marc was listed in the 2007 inaugural edition of *Louisiana Super Lawyers*, an honor awarded to only five percent of Louisiana attorneys. He has earned the highest rating (AV) from Martindale-Hubbell for skill and integrity. Marc is listed in the *Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers*, the *Marquis Who's Who in American Law* and *Marquis Who's Who in America*.

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LDA staff update

Meredith Simoneau
DA intern

LDA Welcomes New Director of Accounting

It is a bittersweet time at the LDA office. The staff is sad to see current director of accounting Amanda Raymond leave, but excited about a bright future with Tiffany Waddell as the new director of accounting.

Amanda has been with the LDA for over a year now but is moving to Quantico, Va., with her husband, Drew Raymond, a marine who is being stationed there. Shortly before moving, Amanda will give birth to a baby girl she plans to name Emma Grace. The LDA expresses its sincerest appreciation to Amanda for the

hard work she put into the Accounting Department and wishes her the best of luck in the future. I have enjoyed my time at the LDA and am very sad to leave, Amanda said.

Amanda has been training Tiffany in anticipation of her departure. Tiffany comes to the LDA with many years of experience in accounting. She most recently worked at



Tiffany Waddell

Moreau Physical Therapy, where she was their team accountant for all four locations. Tiffany is married to Jason Waddell, an electrician for ExxonMobil. She, her husband and her two children, Haley, 17, and Tommy, 5, reside in Zachary. Tiffany graduated from LSU with a general studies degree, but says she has had an interest in accounting since high school. Tiffany said, I was attracted to the LDA because I knew it would give me the opportunity to do things outside of accounting. I look forward to attending events like the LDA Annual Session in April and getting to know some of our members.

At the LDA office, Tiffany will be responsible for various tasks including payroll, accounts payable and receivable and the LADPAC and DAP-PAC record keeping. I have only been here two weeks but it already feels like home. Everyone on staff has been so nice and welcoming. I could not ask for a better place to work, she said. In her spare time, Tiffany enjoys reading and spending time with her friends and family. The LDA would like to welcome Tiffany to the office and is thrilled to have her on board.

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LD A wealth management

Chad Olivier, CFP
Wealth Consultant/LPL Branch Manager, The Olivier Group, L.L.C.

Emotions o Investing

The looming recession, increasing consumer debt, the slow real estate market, and the banking crises could have the average investor concerned about their current and future investments. Turn on any news station and these will be the main topics. All of these topics may be alarming and even possibly have you considering burying your money in the back yard. Well, the truth is the news organizations are in the business of making the news exciting and preying on your emotions. The key in investing is to make sound financial decisions not based on emotions.

category	Annualized Returns 1987 2006
S&P 500 Index	11.8%
Average Equity Fund Investor	4.3%

Dalbar, Inc., Tract of Quantitative Analysis of Investor Behavior

As you can see in the chart by Dalbar Inc., from 1987 to 2006 the average annualized return for the S&P 500 Index was 11.8%. During this time period was a market crash in 1987, two wars, September 11th terrorist attacks, recession, an oil crisis, a weak dollar, Republican presidents, Democratic presidents, Republican led congress, then Democratic led congress, and still an annualized return of 11.8%. However, in the same time period the average equity fund investor only did a 4.3% average return. What leads to this vast difference in returns? Let's look at three emotionally driven bad investment habits that can attribute to this difference.

Barbaiting: The practice of moving in and moving out of an investment class. The most common example of this practice is when an investor moves all out of equities and into cash, trying to avoid a market downturn or a crash. This is often described as trying to time the market. In other words, the average investor is constantly moving money in the market and not merely staying invested. This is a practice that seldom works and should not be considered when trying to grow your portfolio.


Barbaiting: The practice of selling winners and keeping losers. Not all investments are good investments. However, many times the investor has an

emotional attachment to these investments and has convinced himself that they will come back one day. Well, that day may never come and now the investor has sold all of his investments that were making money and is left with a portfolio of investments that are losing money. Even though it goes against our basic instinct, sometimes you should implement the practice of buying high and selling low in order to rid your portfolio of its losers.

Barbaiting: The practice of the concentrated stock position. Making so much money on one particular stock for many years leads you to believe that most of your money should be in this one stock. Well, stocks do not always just go up, especially if you are placing all of your faith and financial security in one company stock. Enron, Worldcom, and Lucent Technologies are examples of companies that benefited from double digit returns for many years, yet are now practically worthless.

Do not fall prey to these common, but bad investing habits. The solution is to stay diversified and to have your assets allocated correctly at all times in all types of markets. The road will be bumpy, but the key to solid long-term investing is to keep your emotions under control.

Chad Olivier is owner of the firm The Olivier Group, L.L.C. in Baton Rouge, La., which specializes in retirement planning and wealth management for physicians, dentists and other affluent individuals and families. If you have any questions about this article or future topic suggestions, please call 225-333-1111 or visit us on the web at www.theoliviargroup.com. Securities and financial planning are offered through Insko Private Ledger Member ASD S.C. Please note that the above article is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to serve as financial advice, nor is the Olivier Group specifically endorsed by the CFP Board. Financial planning requires detailed individualized analysis of each person's specific situation.

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John B. Peterson, D.M.D., Co-founder and Chris M. Rothman, D.D.S.
Co-founder, Institute of Medical Emergency Preparedness, C

The Deadly Misconceptions with the Lin s o Survival: Are ou Truly Prepared or Medical Emergencies

Are you truly ready for that unthinkable, inevitable medical emergency? That is a question you must ask yourself as well as your staff.

When a medical emergency occurs it is not just a dentist's problem, it is a problem that involves the entire dental team. If your office does not recognize the problem, respond quickly, and act appropriately, the survival rate for the victim decreases. The action that you and your team take today may be the difference in the life or death of a patient or yourself. Would your staff be able to intervene and keep you alive if you were the victim.

Many dental offices share common misconceptions or excuses about why they are not prepared or do not have emergency protocols in place for patient rescue. We refer to them as the 5 Deadly Misconceptions.

hat are the Deadly Misconceptions

1. A medical emergency will not happen to me.
2. A medical emergency will not happen in the office.
3. Calling 911/EMS is the answer.
4. My staff and I will not panic during a medical emergency.
5. CPR is all we need to know.

hat are the Lin s o Survival

1. Dentist training
2. Staff training
3. Medical emergency plan
4. Proper equipment (automatic external defibrillator AED , vital signs monitors, portable oxygen, etc.)
5. Emergency drug kit
6. Mock drills

Dr. Arthur Pancioli, vice-chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University

of Cincinnati Medical Center and National Institute of Health stroke team member states, being an emergency room physician, I deal with emergencies everyday; that is what I do. The office-based practitioner, when confronted with a medical emergency will have to treat the emergency until someone arrives to assist and transport the patient to an emergency room. It is your duty to be the utmost prepared and ready for that emergency when it happens. Life-threatening emergencies such as sudden cardiac arrest or anaphylaxis will have to be treated by you in the dental office for the patient to survive. Do not expect the ambulance to be parked out in your parking lot waiting for your call. Until they arrive, you will have to maintain and sustain the life of the patient. I cannot begin to stress how important it is to remain calm and act quickly when confronted with a medical emergency.

When an unthinkable event happens in your dental office a catastrophic medical emergency will you be able to say that you did all that you could? Would you be able to prove that you did all that you could? How would you answer a patient if he or she asked the following:

What is the training of the dentist and staff in regards to medical emergencies?

Is there a medical emergency plan in place and is it thoroughly practiced by the entire dental team? Is the office properly equipped to handle a medical emergency with an AED or emergency drug kit?

Are mock drills performed in this office? If so, how often?

Do the dentist and staff attend any lectures on emergency medicine on an annual basis?

Continued on page 33

In Memoriam

Dr. Robert Jack Cassingham Passes Away

past resident of the ADA -



Dr. Robert Jack Cassingham, age 75, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, died Wednesday, October 31, 2007, of complications from a stroke. He was born on November 6, 1931, in Kokomo, Indiana, to Harry and Rhoda Cassingham. In 1953 he married Mary Louise Holt. He graduated from Kokomo High School in 1950. He received a Bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1954; a DDS degree from IU Dental School in 1958; and a Master of Sciences in Dentistry from IU in 1970.

Dr. Cassingham had a dental practice in Hillsboro, Indiana, and then in Kokomo, from 1960-1968. He was a Professor of Periodontology at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, from 1970-1974. He was a Professor of Periodontology at Louisiana State University School of Dentistry in New Orleans from 1974-1994, from which he retired in 1994. At that time, he was granted the title of Professor Emeritus.

A chair at the LSU School of Dentistry was named for Jack and his wife, Mary Lou, in 2005. He

was a member of Scottish Rite; an active member of Main Street United Methodist Church in Kokomo, the Aurora United Methodist Church in New Orleans and the Faith United Methodist Church in Fort Smith. He was very active in the dental profession having served as president of the New Orleans Dental Association, as the 1992-93 president of the Louisiana Dental Association and on various committees of the American Dental Association.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; and his sons: Dr. Scott Franklin Cassingham and wife Pamela of Shreveport, Louisiana, retired Lieutenant Colonel Jack Holt Cassingham and wife Catherine of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Guy Henry Cassingham and wife Tanya of Atlanta, Georgia, and Lee Jay Cassingham of Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is also survived by six grandchildren: Amanda, Lydia, Hannah, Camille, Megan and Sean.

Memorial contributions may be made to Habitat for Humanity dedicated for New Orleans reconstruction or a charity of your choice. (Published in the Times-Cajun on 11/8/2007.)

Continued from page 32

Now is a great time for you to totally re-evaluate your practice on its approach to medical emergencies. Start today and make the commitment to ready your office for medical emergencies. The steps you and your office take today could be the difference in saving the life of someone tomorrow, possibly yours.

Drs. John B. Peterson and Chris M. Rothman are the co-founders of the Institute of Medical Emergency Preparedness. M.E.S. is the developer of the Emergency Response System (ERS) that is the first and only in-office emergency protocol patient rescue training system that is used for rapid deployment during a medical emergency by the dental team. His innovative product simplifies organizing, preparing and

training a team to respond to medical emergencies in the dental office setting. To learn more, visit www.emergencyactionui.com call 1-800-368-1000 or e-mail info@emergencyactionui.com.

The Emergency Response System is part of the ADA DSD endorsed products and Services program. All ADA members will receive a member discount when ordering the Emergency Response System simply by entering ADA in the promotional Code area when ordering on the website, www.emergencyActionGuide.com. We encourage you to start today in preparing your offices for the unexpected.

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LDA Louisiana dental assistants association

Lila Schmidt, C.D.A., C.D., M.A., D.D.A.
President, Louisiana Dental Assistants Association

Benefits For our Staff

Employee benefits are an expense that some offices find difficult to deal with as insurance costs, in particular, continue to rise. The American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) has an option. Enroll your staff in the ADAA.

Why? Because membership in the ADAA offers access to group insurance programs such as major medical, disability, term life and has a prescription discount service, and \$50,000 of professional dental assisting liability insurance is included as part of membership. This would cover the employee in the case of litigation. The severity of litigation to dental offices nationally has doubled in the past seven years and is rising faster than the rate for physicians or medical offices.

The annual ADAA membership fee is \$122. Twelve dollars goes towards membership in the Louisiana Dental Assistants Association.

An educational/informational journal comes out bimonthly and is included with the ADAA membership fee. The magazine has articles for the clinical assistant, as well as the administrative staff and practice managers. The Dental Assistant Journal offers information on the latest in technology, along with free C.E. courses. PennWell's Dental Office magazine also provides free subscriptions.

ADAA JOURNAL SESSIONS AND

to advance the careers of dental assistants and to promote the dental assisting profession in matters of education, legislation, credentialing and professional activities which enhance the delivery of quality dental health care to the public.

The Louisiana Dental Assistants Association has a new Web site, www.LADAA.org. We are considering allowing dental assistants and doctors to post employment ads on our Web site. We will also have a booth at the New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session, so come by and visit if you are interested in more information, or you can e-mail me at Eschmidt817@aol.com. You can also visit the American Dental Assistants Association at www.dentalassistant.org.

Our Annual Session will be held in conjunction with the ADA Annual Session in San Antonio October 16-19, 2008.

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LADPAC

David A. Kestel, D.M.D.
 Chair, Louisiana Dental Political Action Committee LADPAC

LADPAC Is our Political Vehicle

I am writing you today to share with you how vital it is that we make the Louisiana Dental Political Action Committee (LADPAC) a serious, important part of our dental responsibilities. LADPAC enables us to work in the political arena as full and active participants. Its dollars support and encourage elected officials to vote on the side of organized dentistry. This should be one of your highest priorities, especially in an election year.

As health care providers, we see so many legislative issues that are crucial to our livelihood - crucial to the health of our patients - put on the back burner for other causes in which we are not invested. Therefore, it is imperative that we invest ourselves in every way possible when it comes to our legislative goals. This means not only knowing your legislators, but talking with them, educating them and thanking them when they help us in the legislative arena. These are all vital functions of the LDA. LADPAC is designed to enable the LDA to do what an individual component cannot.

Ask yourself this - Does your current investment in LADPAC reflect your commitment to dentistry? If not, challenge yourself to commit more to the legislative arm of our organization whether that be in time, energy or an additional contribution.

If you are a current contributor to LADPAC, thank you. Please talk with your colleagues and tell them why you have felt it so important to use your resources for this important cause.

LADPAC is your political vehicle. It optimizes your representation with elected officials. It is your organization and wants to do what is best for dentistry. Campaign law prohibits the use of dues money for contributions to political candidates. Funds for LADPAC must be raised in addition to, and separate from, LDA dues. Won't you please help yourself, your family, your patients, and organized dentistry with a generous contribution to LADPAC?

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c.e. and lda events calendar

For information on any of the following continuing education courses, please contact the course sponsor. To list your course in the next calendar, please contact the LDA office at (800) 388-6642, or (225) 926-1986 in Baton Rouge. Please also check our Web site for the most up-to-date listing of all LDA-sponsored continuing education events. www.ladental.org

New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session, April 10-12, 2008, Ernest Morial Convention Center, Hall H, New Orleans, LA for more information or to register, call (504) 834-6449, visit www.nodc.org, or e-mail norma@nodc.org. Registration booklets were mailed in December and are available to download from the LDA Web site at www.ladental.org.

DATE TIME May 30, 2008
COURSE TITLE Dental Technology
SPONSOR Continuing Dental Education of Baton Rouge (CDEBR), call Dr. Joey Porter at (225) 291-9900 for registration information. AGD-PACE recognized provider.

INSTRUCTOR Dr. Loren Levin
FEE Free for CDEBR members, \$200 for non-members

DATE June 26-28, 2008
COURSE ADA New Dentist Conference - Jazzed in New Orleans
LOCATION Hilton New Orleans Riverside, New Orleans, LA
 The conference includes continuing education courses targeted to new dentists, recent graduates and dental students. This two-day program offers up to 11 hours of C.E. in practice management and clinical topics. Leadership development workshops will also be offered.
FEE register by May 9, 2008, and attend for \$295 for member dentists and \$145 for member dental students. Special pricing applies for guests, staff, etc.
 For more information, go to www.ada.org, call (800) 621-8099, ext. 2779 or e-mail newdentist@ada.org.

DATE TIME July 30 August 2, 2008
COURSE TITLE LDA Summer Education Conference
LOCATION Tops'l Beach & Racquet Resort, Destin, FL
SPONSOR LDA - For reservations, call (800) 380-4808. For event information or to register, call (800) 388-6642 or go to www.ladental.org. Watch your mail for official event brochures coming soon! ADA-CERP recognized provider.
INSTRUCTORS Dr. David Little, Dr. Alex Fleury, Ray Baas, and Dr. Dean Mersky
FEES \$295 for LDA members, \$335 for ADA members, \$365 for non-members, \$99 for dental staff, \$79 for LDA associate members, \$79 for dental school students.

DATE TIME October 17, 2008
COURSE TITLE Aesthetic Periodontal Procedures
SPONSOR Continuing Dental Education of Baton Rouge (CDEBR), call Dr. Joey Porter at (225) 291-9900 for registration information. AGD-PACE recognized provider.
INSTRUCTOR Dr. P.D. Miller
FEE Free for CDEBR members, \$200 for non-members

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COURSE NO. Cor NC	DATE	DESCRIPTION & SUBJECT CODE		FEES	Cr.HRS
22-08 2nd Attendee	May 16 Fri. 165	<i>Crown and Bridge Temporaries in the Dental Office</i> w/Dr. Harry Go a	DDS or 1st. Attendee	195	07L/P C
10-08	May 23-25 Fri. Sun.	<i>Expanded Duty Dental Assistant</i> a/k/a EDDA N/A w/Nancy Weiss, RDH, EDDA & Henrietta Frederick, EDDA Lafayette Community Health Care Clinic, Lafayette, LA L T ATT N ANC	Au .	449	24 L/P C
13-08	June 6-7 Fri. - Sat.	<i>Digital Photography & Digital Case Presentation</i> #138 w/Drs. John Barksdale & J. Jerome Smit at Pleasant Mall on LS S Main Campus, Baton Rouge, LA L T ATT N ANC	DDS or 1st. Registrant Au .	1,395 295	14 L/P C
11-08	June 20 22	<i>Expanded Duty Dental Assistant</i> a/k/a EDDA N/A w/Nancy Weiss, RDH, EDDA & Henrietta Frederick, EDDA at LS S in New Orleans, LA L T ATT N ANC	Au	389	24 L/P C
12-08	June 21	<i>Digital & Conventional Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries</i> w/Dr. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar in New Orleans, LA	Au	139	07 L/P C
15-08	June 26 28 August 14 16 Thurs. - Saturday	<i>Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry Advanced Esthetic Workshop</i> w/Dr. Jimmy Eubank #780	DDS Lab Tech	5,995 2,495	42 L/P C
16-08	July 18 20 August 22 24 Sept. 12 14	<i>Local Anesthesia for Dental Hygienist</i> w/Drs. Michael O'Brien and Frank Drongowski in New Orleans	RDH	,1295	72 L/P C
18-08	September 19-20 Fri. Sat.	<i>The 2nd. Annual Clifton O. Dummett Jr. Memorial Lecture on Dentistry for the Pediatric Patient</i> w/Drs. William F. Waggoner and David B. Kennedy	DDS Au .	TBA	14L/P
21-08	October 3 Friday	<i>ALUMNI DAY A TRIBUTE TO F. HAROLD WIRTH, DDS</i> w/Dr. Michael Schuster	DDS RDH	95 75	06 L C
23-08	October 27 November 2	<i>Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Review Course</i> Advanced Cosmetic Maxillofacial Surgery At the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel, New Orleans, LA	DDS	TBA	

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L Lecture P Participation C Clinical NC Non-Clinical

David Austin

Wisdom of the Aged

Another birthday has come and gone. Someone asked me if I could be either 35 or 55 years old, which would I choose? That's a real no-brainer because I would pick 27 every time. It's the same analogy when someone tells you that money can't buy you happiness. I would rather cry in a Porsche than a Hyundai any day.

You know, you're only as young as you feel. Lately, everything that works hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work. Many times when I get up it feels like the morning after, but I haven't been anywhere! Frankly, my back goes out more than I do. Sadly, my little black book contains only names that end in M.D.

Recently, my neighbors were playing music in their back yard really loud. I went out on my patio and danced naked shuts them down every time. A lot of young people wonder why us older types don't drive and use our cell phones at the same time. It's because we need our hands free to make gestures.

The advent of the computer era has been a little tough for us oldsters. Just the language of computer use has taken some getting used to. For instance, I remember when a program was a television show and a cursor was someone who used profanity. If you unzipped anything in public, you might go to jail. And to log on' meant to throw some wood on the fire. My father was a little ahead of his time because his idea of rebooting was a swift kick to my behind twice. I probably needed it.



It is a little unnerving to notice that your children are beginning to look middle aged. It's really sad when the grandkids are old enough to ask annoying questions like, Do those wrinkles hurt? Makes you want to do a little rebooting.

Getting older is not all that bad. You have to be careful because sometimes your mind may make a contract that your body can't keep. As long as you have a good memory and fairly decent health, old age can be a joy. For instance, little things like walking from the corner store on a cool spring evening just can't be explained to younger folk. Of course the feeling was interrupted when I got home and my wife made me go back and get the car.

Old age is not for sissies, that's for sure. Whenever we visit some place new I'm always the first person to find the bathroom, and enjoying it less. I have become anti-everything: anti-fat, anti-smoke, anti-noise, anti-inflammatory. If I am smiling a lot while you're talking to me, it's probably because I can't hear you. A lot of people think I have become grumpy and impatient. That's not true; I just don't like traffic, waiting, children, politicians...lately, I have had trouble remembering simple words like uh. I'm sure everything I can't find is in a secure place and if you will give me a hammer, I can open those child-proof caps.

Is it just me, or are they making adults younger these days?

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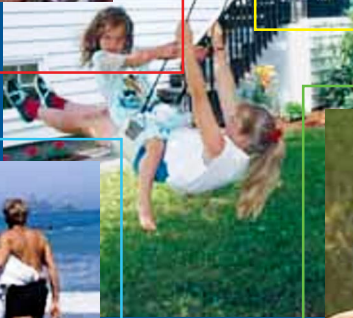
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