

LDA Journal

VOL. 69, NO. 1

SPRING 2010

Journal of the Louisiana Dental Association

Dentists and Team Members Helped to Give Kids A Smile During National Children's Dental Health Month





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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: Dentists around the state volunteered for Give Kids A Smile Day on Friday, February 5, 2010. (Top photo, then moving clockwise) Dr. David Balhoff with assistant Sarah Taylor; fourth year dental student P.J. Henderson at the LSU School of Dentistry clinic in Baton Rouge with a student from Wildwood Elementary; dental student Michael Von Gruben shows a student how to brush his teeth at the LSU School of Dentistry clinic in Baton Rouge; students at Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger's office show off their Saints gear and goody bags; second year hygiene students at the Southern University Shreveport Metro Center give a child sealants. For more great GKAS pictures, check out pages 10-14.

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



LDAA

guest editorial

Dr. Charles B. "Charlie" Foy, Jr.
President, Louisiana Dental Association

WE DAT . . . the LDA!

WHO DAT?? That is certainly a phrase that has been heard quite a lot lately, not only in South Louisiana, but throughout the state and actually throughout the country. The Saints have certainly given us a lot to be proud of; however, the question Who Dat in this article refers to something different. Who Dat provides multiple continuing education opportunities in the form of the Alpine Lecture Series, the Summer Education Conference, the Annual Session and New Orleans Dental conference, the Last Chance Seminar and, in the near future, the CCCE (Caribbean Cruise Continuing Education)? Who Dat provides group health insurance, liability insurance, malpractice insurance and disability insurance? Who Dat works tireless hours protecting our interests? Who Dat lobbies the legislature on our behalf? Who Dat stays current on issues relevant to our individual practices and dentistry as a whole? Who Dat works for you in all of these ways? WE DAT...the LDA!

WHAT DAT? What are some of the issues the LDA has been addressing this year?

Access-to-care seems to be the new buzz phrase that is being bandied about these days. In fact you may have seen that the recently released report from the Pew Center on the States, *The Cost of Delay: State Dental Policies Fail One in Five Children*, gave Louisiana an "F" in addressing children's dental needs. The report sheds light on several critical dental care issues and anyone who reads this report will find it troubling, as did we, even though it does acknowledge some progress made in recent years and confirms the value of our present initiatives. We were graded on eight benchmarks and unfortunately only two of the eight were complete.

A lot of things are being done or at least contemplated in the name of access, some of them good, some not so good. First, the good, which is the level of our Medicaid fees in Louisiana. According to The Pew Report, the reimbursement to

dental Medicaid providers is over 70% of the median retail fees. It is currently about 65% of the 2008 NDAS Fee Survey and we will continue to strive to reach our goal of the 70th percentile. This is due entirely to lobbying efforts of the LDA. For nearly 10 years we have been steadily getting increases in the fees. It is a slow process, but we have built a strong alliance with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) along the way. The relationship that we have with DHH is invaluable and they know that the LDA has the best interest of the public in mind whenever we make a recommendation.

The LDA, through the efforts of their Access-to-Care Task Force is in the process of implementing a pilot program in Jefferson Parish schools, where the children are screened and those identified as having dental disease are referred to a dental office for treatment. The LDA believes that the dental office is still the optimum place for treatment. Similar programs will soon get underway in Lafayette and in Baton Rouge.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) will be working closely with the LDA in the very near future on a new program to increase access to underserved children. Like I mentioned previously, DHH and the LDA have a great relationship and this spirit of cooperation will go a long way in solving some of the problems.

We also continue to work toward community water fluoridation. The percentage of the population with fluoridated water is still below the national average. The LDA was successful in 2008 in passing legislation to help communities with over 5,000 connections fluoridate their water systems. This past year our main thrust was to be the implementation of this fluoridation initiative. However, due to the school-based dentistry issue, our attention was sidetracked from fluoridation (an update on school-based dentistry coming so stay tuned). The LDA will be working with several communities in the coming

year to make fluoridation available to more Louisiana families. Fluoridation has been shown to be one of the most cost effective ways to prevent caries in the general population. We owe it to the citizens of the Who Dat Nation to provide the means to cut their risk of caries significantly.

I mentioned that some of the proposed solutions to the access problem are not so good. Another term which seems to be gaining popularity is the "mid-level provider." This proposed provider would be a person who may or may not have a college education, they would have a short course (most are about 18 months) on drilling, filling and extracting teeth. What is that you say? You mean that I could have saved approximately six and a half years of school and still practice dentistry? You betcha! Preposterous? The LDA thinks so. You may remember that this started in Alaska with the Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs) to treat the Eskimos because allegedly you could not get dentists to go in and treat them. A number of people warned that this would spread to the lower 48 states. Sure enough, they were right.

Minnesota now has provisions for a mid-level provider in their state. Maine is right behind them. A number of other states are also looking at this as a way to solve the access-to-care problem. I was told that Louisiana has a shortage of dentists at a recent LDA Board meeting. I politely disagreed and explained that what we have is a maldistribution of dentists. Dental practices have a high overhead and economics dictates where a dentist will practice their profession. Mid-level providers would be faced with the same economic pressure and they would be practicing in the same areas that fully trained dentists practice. I stated during my speech at last year's House of Delegates that dentistry should be done by dentists. Just because someone is economically disadvantaged or lives on a reservation does not mean that they should receive second-class dental treatment from someone with marginal training. The LDA has helped sponsor legislation in the past to help and continues to seek ways to help dentists with economic incentives to practice in rural areas. The LDA, along with some other like-minded states, is currently working to keep mid-level providers out of our state.

I told you earlier to stay tuned for an update on school-based dentistry. Although the LDA feels that the optimum place to receive dental treatment is in a dental office, we do realize that there may be some people for whom this is not possible. This is

where school-based dentistry comes in. However, for this type of dentistry to be safe and truly help with access-to-care, we feel that two things need to happen. First, the schools where the treatment is being done should be in rural areas where there truly is a shortage and not in large metropolitan areas where there are many dentists already available to treat these children. Secondly, for safety's sake, there needs to be parental involvement. A parent or guardian should be available, even if just by phone, to ascertain the accuracy of the health history and to make sure that the parent understands the treatment their child is about to receive. However, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, with the exception of a few members, feels that access should not be impeded in any way and no parental involvement is needed. The argument is that the phone call is too onerous a requirement for the mobile dentist and besides nothing bad has happened yet, so things must be OK.

The Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) who truly practice in rural areas and do some school-based dentistry have phone conversations with the parent or guardian. They will tell you that it is hard to get in touch with some of these parents, but they do it. I guess we just need things to be easy and, besides, it is in the name of access, right?

By now you may be wondering not WHO DAT, but HOW DAT? The answer is YOU DAT!! You the members are the LDA! You make us strong and we appreciate that. Together we can keep our profession safe from those who would like to turn it into a trade, similar to the barbershop days. We need your help. We need your participation. Take advantage of the great opportunities that we offer, especially the Annual Session and New Orleans Dental Conference in April. Come to Dentists' Day at the Legislature and make your voice heard. When you pay your dues, don't forget LADPAC.

Since this is my last letter to you, I want to thank you all for allowing me the privilege to serve as your president. It has allowed me the opportunity to see old friends and to make new ones. I have enjoyed working with many of you and dentistry in this state is better because of you. Finally, I do not want to miss the opportunity to thank the wonderful staff at the LDA who made my job easy, who kept me on track and had the difficult job of making me look good. Of course, my wonderful wife, Anne, deserves my thanks and my love for putting up with me and the countless meetings this year. Au revoir mes amis!



LDA louisiana dental hygienists' assoc.

Diane O'Connor, R.D.H., B.S.D.H.
President, LDHA

Children's Dental Health – FIRST Educate the PARENT

This past week a six-year-old patient and his Dad were in my operatory for their six-month recall hygiene visit. My six-year-old patient had occlusal decay present per his dental exam. I launched into my foods that cause cavities litany: soft drinks, diet soft drinks, mints, gum, hard candies, jellied candies, coffee and tea with sugar, apple juice, sport drinks, lemonade... followed by "Are any of these foods that you consume?" Dad's immediate response for his son was "All of them."

Parents purchase the foods their children consume. Parents must be educated about the effects of their child's diet on his/her dental health. We need to

recommend dietary options to our patients, such as sugar free gum and mints, especially those with xylitol or recaldent. Fresh fruit, carrot sticks with dip and popcorn are among the "good tooth foods."

When your patient is in the dental chair, this is the ideal time to teach children and their parents since you literally have a captive audience. Show the parent and the child where dental plaque is present in the mouth. Show them the plaque on the scaler. Teach them how to floss and brush to most effectively remove dental plaque. Optimal children's dental health is achieved when dental professionals educate the parent AND the child.

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New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session

at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center

Don't miss:

- *LDA House of Delegates meeting
Thursday, April 8, at 1:30 p.m.*
- *Welcome Reception & LDA President's Party
at the National WWII Museum
Thursday, April 8, from 7-11 p.m.*
- *Socials in the Exhibit Hall:
Ice Cream on Thursday, April 8, at 4 p.m.
Coffee and Cookies on Friday, April 9, at 4 p.m.*

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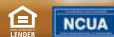
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LDA lsu school of dentistry

Dr. Henry A. Gremillion, Dean
LSU School of Dentistry

Outreach: Choice or Responsibility?

About 75 percent of all dentists maintain solo practices. As dentists, we tend to be independent, disciplined, detailed and self-reliant. All too often, we get into routines that include our families, friends and office personnel. Routines are important in that they provide much needed structure in our lives. But sometimes, the best thing we can do is to get out of our routines, to make the deliberate effort of reaching out to our larger communities and to expand our comfort zones. It's a great way to recommit to the ideals of dentistry. I'd like to tell you about a few of the people who are making this deliberate effort.

Let's begin by applauding the 157 dentists, students and hygienists who provided free health care for 983 school children in Louisiana during this year's Give Kids A Smile Day on February 5. Nationally, it is estimated that about 13,000 dentists participated in this wonderful event, which grows larger every year.

Next year's Give Kids A Smile Day will be on February 4, 2011. I urge you to open your hearts and participate in an activity that is of tremendous importance to the children in your community who do not have access to dental care. The office of the Louisiana Dental Association does a masterful job of coordinating the statewide network of dentists. To sign on for next year, contact Annette Droddy at annette@ladental.org.

Reaching out to underserved populations is a year-round challenge with a lifelong benefit. Research has shown that students who participate in community outreach are more likely to adhere to the highest ethical standards in dentistry and hold closely dentistry's service mission.

Five years ago, Nick Rauber graduated from LSUSD. Today he has a thriving practice in Baton Rouge. While he was a student, he took the lead in starting outreach for adults with developmental disabilities living at the Magnolia School in New Orleans. Nick's sister lives at Magnolia. Today, that caring continues under Karen Oertling, a member of the faculty in our dental hygiene



Dental hygiene student Aimee Breerwood shows Joan Rasch a Magnolia School resident the right way to brush her teeth.

program. Her son also is a resident at Magnolia. Under her professional and loving supervision, second-year hygiene students regularly monitor the unique needs of the Magnolia residents.

I also want to introduce you to one of our current dental students, Raj Diwan. Last September, he sent out an e-mail to our 325 dental and hygiene students asking if they would like to volunteer in community health events. Within hours, he received replies from 107 saying YES! Since that time, Raj started a student organization called "Making Impressions." They work hard and collaborate with everyone. He and the other students have served at the Special Olympics, church fairs, clinics for the homeless, residential programs for the AIDS population and health fairs in suburban areas. Raj estimates that the students have helped at least 1,000 people.

That's a big number but the important number to remember is one. Each one of us in the dental community can have a big impact on the life of one child or one adult by going beyond our boundaries. Outreach can reconnect us to the best part of our human nature and remind us why we became dentists.

If you would like to be part of our outreach efforts, contact Dr. Bob Barsley at (504) 619-8693. He is director of oral health resources, hospital and community dentistry.

Dentists' Day at the Legislature 2010 Wednesday, April 21



Dentists' Day is a grassroots event celebrating the dental profession that offers dentists the opportunity to meet their lawmakers. After visiting with your legislators, don't forget to enjoy the reception, with food, music and fun!

Schedule of Events

- 2 p.m.** Briefings (Capitol Park Welcome Center, walking distance from Capitol)
- 4:30 p.m.** Visit House and Senate chambers and leave notes for legislators
- 5:30 p.m.** Reception for dentists and guests and legislators at Pentagon Barracks (walking distance from Capitol)

Co-Sponsored by LADPAC and DAP-PAC

Registration Form: Please mail, fax, call or e-mail the LDA by April 14 to reserve your spot!

Name _____

Component _____

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I will be attending (circle one):

- 1) ONLY the speakers presentations from 2-4 p.m.
- 2) ONLY the reception at 5:30 at the Pentagon Barracks
- 3) BOTH the speakers presentations and the reception

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Dr. C. Richmond Corley, Jr.
Senior Vice-President/CEO, Louisiana Dental Services, Inc.

Visit LDA/LDS Endorsed Companies at the New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session

LDS is pleased to announce we will be in the Exhibit Hall at the NODC and LDA Annual Session. Our booth numbers will be the same as last year – 509, 606 and 608. The layout is actually a four booth square site with Robert Ellis & Associates, Inc., an LDA/LDS endorsed company, occupying the fourth booth (#507) in the square. The three LDS Booths will be shared by representatives of six endorsed companies: Paychex, Office Depot, Transworld, LDS Glove Program, Amalgaway and New Line Medical's Hand Piece Doctor.

In addition, several other LDA/LDS endorsed companies will be present in the Exhibit Hall in their own booths. These companies are: booth 508 - Elavon; booth 703 – CGI; booth 507 – Robert Ellis & Associates; booth 502 – ADS Transitions/Lovelace and Associates; booth 614 – Bank of America Practice Solutions; booth 425 – Bruner and Company Website Design; and booth 705 – SolmeteX.

We encourage you to visit as many of these endorsed companies as you can during your time in the Exhibit Hall. Make sure to identify yourself as an LDA member and inquire what their company's being a part of the endorsed program has to offer you because you are an LDA member (discounts, service, etc.). If you cannot go personally to visit these folks, then we ask you to send (if present at the meeting) a member of your staff that is involved with purchasing supplies and/or services for your office to represent your interest. We hope to see you in New Orleans April 8-10.

We are pleased to feature in this edition of the *Journal* one of the Endorsed Program companies that has been with us for many years. This company originally signed on as NOVA Information Systems, but is now known as Elavon, a wholly owned subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp and leading global Electronic Payment Processing Company. Through the LDA/LDS endorsed relationship with Elavon, we have been very fortunate to work with Barbara Martin, now an executive in the Association Marketing Division of Elavon. Barbara has worked tirelessly over the years to make Elavon card processing and the related services program for LDA members the most member friendly that it can be.

One of our mutual goals has been to some day have an in-state dedicated account executive for sales for the LDA membership. We are pleased to announce that the day has now come. Lorie Verbois will work with LDA members to customize a payment processing program specifically designed to fit the needs of their business. To get started now, please contact Lorie Verbois, your local account executive at 225-753-3765 or 225-229-6461 or e-mail her at lorie.verbois@elavon.com to begin building your new payment processing program.

Pick one company and give the program a try. Both you and the LDA membership programs will benefit by your participation.

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Sand Dollar Marina, Grand Isle, LA

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Visit the LDA Web site at www.ladental.org for more information.



LDA council on communications

*Dr. Brian D. Basinger
Chair, Council on Communications*

Louisiana Dentists Continue Their Goal of Giving Kids A Smile

Many LDA members volunteered their time this February in support of the American Dental Association's National Children's Dental Health Month. From giving educational presentations at schools to participating in the February 5, Give Kids A Smile Day events, dentists around the state gave close to 6,000 children something to smile about. (Numbers reported to the LDA by our members.)

For instance, East Baton Rouge Parish dentists worked with Health Care Centers in Schools to bus children to participating dental offices to receive screenings, cleanings, fluoride and, in some cases, sealants. At some locations, like the LSU Dental School, the children were also given presentations to teach them how to brush correctly and explain why taking care of their mouth is important. Children also participated in hygiene "games" while waiting to be screened, in the hope of teaching the children what foods are good for healthy teeth. Several components do similar events, including Northwest, Northeast and NODA. The Northwest component hosts their event with the students at the Southern University at Shreveport Metro Center (dental hygiene clinic).

For many of the children, GKAS was their first trip to a dental office. This provided our members

the opportunity to make the experience a positive and reassuring one to encourage continued care. So, to all of the dentists that participated this year, I would like to say THANK YOU. Getting children

to the dentist is a big first step, but showing them that it is a safe and fun environment is hopefully one step that could keep them coming back.

While we were able to see a large number of children this February, it is important to note that there are many more children who could use our help. Now is a great time to start thinking about how YOU can be involved next year. A few hours on a Friday afternoon can make a big difference. You don't have to be a pediatric dentist to participate and getting involved is easy! You can even get free supplies from the ADA, but you have to register EARLY, usually in November, so start planning now. Check the ADA Web site, www.ada.org, for tips on how to get started. You can also always call the LDA office and they will be happy to help you get in touch with events and participating dentists in your area.

The photos on the following pages were taken at GKAS events around the state. If you have any photos from an event you hosted or attended or any information to report to the LDA, e-mail info@ladental.org or call (800) 388-6642.



Amy Speights poses with students



Dental students Haley Bui and Emmanuel Enime with a student at LSUSD New Orleans



Among the 50 dental students participating in the Give Kids A Smile event in Baton Rouge were, from left, Son Nguyen, David Guidry, Anthony Chia, Michael VonGruben, Jamie Beck and Matt Ganey.



Dr. Ryan Walker



Dental student Jeffrey Gregson gives a lesson in brushing to a student from Wildwood Elementary School.



From left, Raymond Nope, Chelsea Agar, Shilpa Nileswhar, Erin Maturin, Kevin Williams, Leslie Baldwin, Dr. Claudia Cavallino, Jonathon Rusnak, Rachel Anders, Kristen Knecht, Emanuel Enime, Margaret Patterson, Karen Haynie and Dr. Janice Townsend.



A first year hygiene student at Southern University gives an oral hygiene presentation.



Dr. Chris Cosse



Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger



A student receives a fluoride treatment.



Students await treatment at the Southern University Shreveport Metro Center.



Tara Wicker, Dr. Billy Hall, Jill Dyason and Sue Catchings



Dr. Shelley Joachim talks with a student from University Terrace School.



Bernice's 3rd-5th grades. On the left are Drs. Paige Volentine, Kirt Touchstone and Steve Turpin. Behind on the right are Mary Lynn Willett, R.D.H., Krystal Vowles, and Amy Griffith (Dr. Touchstone's staff).



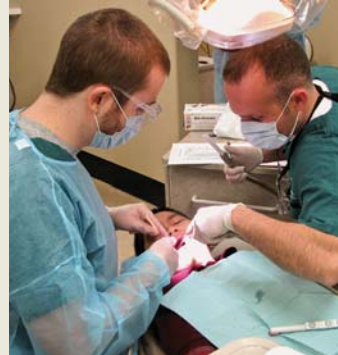
Dental students Ben Foster and Ray Jarvis at the LSUSD



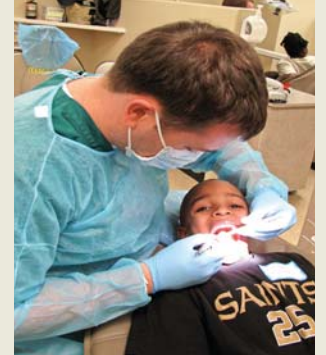
Christi Zito, R.D.H., and Shannon Boudreaux, R.D.H., providing hygiene education.



Dental students Laura Feucht and Jenna Warlick at the LSUSD



Dental students Paul Beyt and Phillip Griffin at the LSUSD



Dental student Brent Wilson at the LSUSD



Rep. Steve Carter entertains the waiting room.



Dental student Julia Cheuk with a student at the LSUSD



Students show off their new toothbrushes.



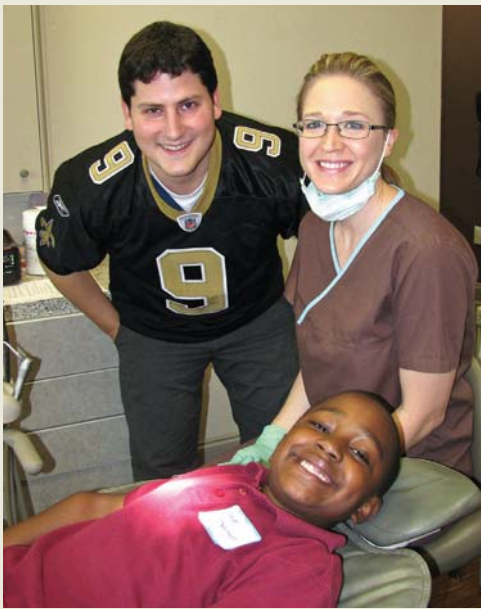
WBRZ films students at Dr. Johnnie Hunt's office.



Drs. Kraemer Irby and Nick Rauber



Dr. Brad Fruge with assistant Renee Heath



Dr. Andrew Simpson with Heather Accardo, R.D.H.



Dr. Jennifer Newton-Boles



Dr. Johnnie Hunt



Dr. Nelson Daly with a student



Dr. Joey Roberson



Dr. Kirt Touchstone with a GKAS patient



Ashley Lewis and Lauren Ellender with Dr. Ann Uzee



Dr. Paige Volentine with dental hygienist, Mary Lynn Willett, R.D.H.



Dr. Steve Turpin with Dr. Kirt Touchstone's assistant, Amy Griffith

Give Kids A Smile Day Events

Component	Dentist/Dental Office	Patients Helped	Services Provided
Greater Baton Rouge	Drs. Shelly Fallin and Lance Fallin	53	Examinations, Sealants
	Drs. Tom Foster and Andrew Simpson	45	Examinations, Sealants, Fluoride, Hygiene education
	Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger	27	Examinations, Fluoride, Hygiene education
	Drs. Nelson Daly and Ann Uzee	60	Examinations, Fluoride
	Drs. Johnnie Hunt, Justin Bonaventure, Brad Fruge, Kraemer Irby, Nick Rauber and David Balhoff	30	Examinations, Sealants
	Drs. Billy Hall, Jr., Alysa Englert, Caroline Black, Anne Rob Sommers and Jake Paige (Just Kids Dental)	72	Examinations, Fluoride
	Dr. Lee Koschel	45	Examinations, Sealants
	LSU Dental School in Baton Rouge (under the guidance of Dr. Ben Record, along with 21 dentists, 50 dental students, 12 dental hygiene students and 5 dental hygiene faculty)	225	Examinations, Sealants, Hygiene education
	Drs. Robert Delarosa, Bradley Comeaux, Paige Sigsworth and Brynn Leroux (Associates in Pediatric Dentistry)	90	Examinations, Fluoride
	Drs. Sancerie O'Rourke-Allen and Lesa Williams	82	Examinations, Hygiene Education
	Drs. Steven Ripple and Kredenna Beverly	45	Sealants, Fluoride, X-rays, Hygiene education
NODA	Drs. Claudia Cavallino and Janice Townsend (LSU Pediatric Dentistry in New Orleans)	20	Examinations, X-rays, Treatment plans, Hygiene education
	Drs. Willard Dumas and Jay Dumas	35	Examinations, Fluoride
Northwest	Drs. Brian Basinger, Larry Robinson, Robert Hill, Ryan Walker, Chris Cosse, Sanders Graf and Southern University Shreveport Metro Center dental hygiene students	60	Examinations, Sealants, Hygiene education
Northeast	Drs. Kirt Touchstone, Steve Turpin and Paige Volentine	56	Examinations, OHI, Fluoride, Bite Wings, Radiographs
	Drs. Karla Robertson, Chris Owens, Joe Yerger, Doug Keller III and Lance Donald	51	Examinations, Bite Wings
	Drs. Wayne Cranford, John Shepard, Cory Turpin, Jennifer Boles, Kim Caldwell, Joey Roberson, Troy Bostick, Kristi Davis, Ruth Griggs, Matt Turpin, Justin Tarver and Chris Robinson	187	Examinations, Hygiene Education

Other Dental Health Month Outreach Events

Component	Dentist/Dental Office	Services Provided
Greater Baton Rouge	Dr. Louis Mason	Hygiene Education, passed out dental goody bags
NODA	Louisiana Children's Museum (NCDHM Chair, Dr. Claudia Cavallino)	Showed dental health cartoons, passed out dental goody bags
	Dr. Pam Shaw (Children's Hospital)	Passed out posters and dental goody bags
	Dr. Ambrose Martin III	Examinations, passed out dental goody bags
Central	Health Enrichment Network, Growing up Healthy Program	Hygiene education, passed out dental goody bags
Acadiana	Drs. Melvin Anderson and Robin Hebert (Iberia Comprehensive Community Health Center)	Hygiene education

Dr. Gwen Corbett, a Fortress Dentist.

I live in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It is a great city full of cajun culture and a love of LSU.

I grew up in the local dental community. My father was a general dentist here for 35 years and my mother ran the office. After dental school, I joined the practice for 4 years before specializing. My father was a very empathetic dentist and an excellent mentor.

I practice endodontics with Drs. Simon and Bond at Root Canal Specialists of Baton Rouge. It's a top notch practice. Our patients are our priority.

I specialized in endodontics because I really liked the focus. Our patients are often in pain and afraid. It is very rewarding to relieve them of both.

I earned my pilot's license in 2006, and am now working on getting my instrument license. It is so exciting to just get in a plane and go flying, such a feeling of freedom.

I enjoy triathlons and racing. Balancing it all with a baby is a challenge. I really appreciate that dentistry gives me flexibility.

I love my family and friends. I have a tremendous friend network. They make my world go 'round.

I admire my mother so much. She's a cancer survivor with a lot of energy and fortitude.

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LDA

from the executive director

Ward Blackwell, M.J.
LDA Executive Director

PEW Report Worth Heeding for Several Reasons

In late February, the Pew Center on the States released a report titled *The Cost of Delay: State Dental Policies Fail One in Five Children*. The report set benchmarks for eight criteria intended to measure how well government policies in each state foster access to dental care for children. It then assessed each state on those criteria and assigned each state a letter grade based on how many benchmarks were attained. Louisiana was given an “F” for only attaining 2 out of 8 benchmarks.

As the largest organization for dental professionals in the state representing 80 percent of Louisiana’s active licensed dentists, the LDA was obliged to comment on the PEW Report. Basically, the LDA’s response attempted to make the most of the attention and clarity the report could bring to the LDA’s longstanding fight to improve oral health care for our children. Accordingly, the LDA response emphasized how the report validated the merits of our present initiatives.

For instance, the report applauded the passage in 2008 of a law mandating that local water systems with 5,000 service connections or more provide customers with optimally-fluoridated water once funding becomes available. However, the report then criticized the State for failing to fund the mandate due to budget shortfalls. We tend to agree with PEW and contend that the lack of funding for fluoridation stymies full implementation of one of the most cost-effective public health measures there is. Studies in Louisiana show every \$1 spent on community water fluoridation leads to roughly \$38 in taxpayer savings.

According to the state Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), only about 40% of Louisiana’s population receives optimally fluoridated water. The national average is nearly 70%, and the federal “Healthy People 2010” goal is 75%.

Likewise, the PEW Report acknowledged Louisiana’s progress in the past decade increasing dental Medicaid reimbursement rates in order to increase dentist participation in the program. So, the LDA pointed out that recent cuts to Medicaid and the even more severe cuts that may loom ahead threaten to erase the substantial progress made to date.

While the PEW Report makes clear that, as a state, Louisiana has lots of room for improvement of children’s oral health care, the report may not be the best measure for determining where we stand.

For one thing, Louisiana probably would have received a higher grade if better data had been available. For example, Louisiana apparently did not score well on one criterion in the

report, “tracks data on children’s dental health,” because of the format and timing of the State’s data submission, not because the State does no tracking. Similarly, the figures in the report for “share of Medicaid-enrolled children getting dental care” were more than two years out of date, and showed Louisiana falling several points short of the benchmark national average of 38.1%. Yet, the latest figures from DHH indicate that utilization in Louisiana has climbed to 38.3%.

Finally, there are several criteria used in the report that are of dubious value for evaluating *actual* access to care, as opposed to the enactment of policies *intended* to increase access.

For example, the effect on access to care of “hygienists can place sealants without dentist’s prior exam” is at best unclear. There appears to be no hard evidence that there are significantly more hygienists with available time who could place many more sealants but for a lack of dentists to perform exams. Nor is it clear that it’s impractical to solve this problem by finding more dentists to conduct the exams. And, if hygienists were to place sealants without a prior exam by a dentist, it’s possible some children would receive them when an exam would have revealed the condition of their teeth contraindicated sealants. Similarly, PEW gives credit to states that “authorize new primary care [i.e., mid-level] dental providers” despite a lack of compelling data indicating such providers are not any more likely than dentists to locate in underserved areas. In fact, the experience in states with independent or collaborative hygiene practice suggests exactly the opposite is likely.

Finally, the report neglects to acknowledge such initiatives by the state, LDA and other health care organizations as the Louisiana’s Rural Scholars Program and tax incentives to encourage more dentists to practice in rural areas, or the LDA’s Dental Home pilot program that is designed to establish ongoing relationships with dentists and Medicaid-eligible children at an early age.

So, the PEW Report is both an opportunity to bolster support for LDA efforts to increase access and a warning to watch carefully for those whose agendas include access proposals that seem beneficial, but could actually serve to funnel money away from more effective initiatives. By keeping informed and involved, you can help the LDA succeed on both counts.

Note: a link to the PEW Report and a copy of the LDA press release can be found at www.ladental.org.



LDA louisiana dental assistants assoc.

*Elizabeth Schmidt, C.D.A., C.D.P.M.A., E.D.D.A.
President, Louisiana Dental Assistants Association*

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Don't forget to stop by the Louisiana Dental Assistants Association table at the conference. We will be delighted to speak with you and your staff, and provide information about education and membership. The LDA is a state component of the American Dental Assistants Association. Our focus is professional development and education for the technical and administrative staff. Along with membership in a professional organization, we provide educational programs, an informational journal, medical benefits and malpractice insurance.



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LDA feature

Interview with the President Elect: Dr. Edward Hebert

As all of our members might not know you, can you tell us a little about your background, education, family and hobbies?

I was born in Beaumont, Texas, and moved to Lake Charles when I was six years old. I graduated from Alfred M. Barbe High School, and attended McNeese State University where I received a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Zoology. I attended LSU School of Dentistry and graduated in 1984. While at McNeese, I managed the baseball team for four years and was also a Boy Scout Scoutmaster those four years. I am pleased to follow fellow classmates Drs. Gary Blanchette, Steve Ortego and Charlie Foy as president of the LDA.



Above left: Dr. Hebert's daughters: Jenna, Bethany and Kristen. Above right: Dr. Hebert and his wife, Gay Ann Hebert.

I am happily married to Gay Ann Hebert whom I met in my junior year of dental school, as she was an incoming dental hygiene student. We have three wonderful daughters: Kristen (24), LSU Baton Rouge graduate, physician assistant program, past LSU Tiger Girl and currently employed by the New Orleans Hornets as a Honeybee Dancer; Bethany (19), LSU freshman and LSU Tiger Girl; and Jenna (14), Saint Louis Catholic High School freshman.

When I'm not in the operatory, I enjoy landscaping, water gardening, golf and participating in sports activities. I am also a Eucharistic minister in my church and volunteer my time with the Calcasieu Community Clinic and other charitable organizations.

What inspired you to take an active roll in LDA leadership?

After serving my term as Southwest District Dental Association president, I replaced Dr. Richard Chafin as a member on the Legislative Committee (now referred to as Council on Government Affairs). I proceeded to serve two terms on the LDA Board of Directors.

What inspired me to consider furthering my LDA leadership was an incident that occurred in October 2002, seven and a half years ago. I was traveling to Tyler, Texas, with Drs. Gary Roberts, Les Tarver and Curtis Zeringue (coincidentally, all past LDA presidents) to participate in a Mission of Mercy with the Texas Dental Association.

Gary turned to me in the back seat and asked when it would be my time. I replied, "for what."

He said "LDA president, of course." I remember thinking "yea right." I was serving my first term as a board member and that thought had not ever crossed my mind. Les and Curtis both said at the same time, "yea, why not." It made me think over the next several days "yea, why not me." So, after serving a three year stint as your secretary treasurer, here I am. Sometimes, all one needs is to have someone make a suggestion or put a thought into your head!

What are your goals for the LDA during your term as President?

I have three goals:

Maintain membership initiatives with respect to striving to attain good quality individuals who are active, work with committees and are selfless when it comes to giving of their time in support of LDA functions and activities.





Above left: Dr. Hebert and wife, Gay (far right) and daughters, Kristen, Bethany and Jenna. Right: Dr. Hebert's relaxing place in his back yard.



I want to continue to keep our committees active and strong. We need to pursue the objectives that our long-range strategic plan set out for us to accomplish over the next three to five years.

Continue to improve our position we took at last year's House of Delegates concerning mobile dentistry. There was a lot of confusion and uncertainty about the resolution that eventually became legislation that went to the state legislature. I believe it was important that we brought the issue up for discussion and acted on it. In retrospect, we could have handled the resolution much differently, however, it is now out there and we will move forward with it and work with our members for the good of the community.

What in your opinion, are the most critical issues facing dentists right now, and how would you like the LDA to respond to these issues? The LDA is very involved in guarding the interests of dentists both in state and national government. What issues are you looking forward to becoming more involved with during your term as president?

The most critical issue facing dentistry right now is protecting our interests with regard to allowing our members to provide the best care for their patients and follow evidenced-based guidelines. We are constantly having to deal with the issue of amalgam. The ADA opinion, which I agree with, is that the public policy should be guided by sound science, carefully analyzed and applied to facts. As quoted by past ADA President Dr. John Finley and Executive Director Kathleen O'Loughlin, "there is a misconception that because dental amalgam contains mercury it is toxic."

Secondly, we are following closely the development of the health care reform being developed in Washington. It is of utmost importance that we remain attentive to the agenda. I believe the focus right now is hospitals, physicians, insurance companies and drug makers. I believe we will eventually be included as part of the overall picture. This is why it is important that we continue to strive and be available for the underserved. We must have a program that we believe is providing

for the needs of the community, as well as preserving our career goals of providing good and safe dental care for all patients.

The LDA has done just that with the guidelines we presented on access-to-care. We want to continue to provide safe, quality health care for all, as well as serve the business interests of the dentists.

What are your future predictions for organized dentistry, as well as dentistry as a profession? How do you think dentistry will change and develop?

Dentistry is becoming increasingly diverse, and we must be aware of the needs of new member dentists, along with the technology dental students learn throughout their education. "DOING THE RIGHT THING" when it comes to ethics and professionalism are important aspects of the profession. I have always strived to keep the operation of my practice simple so I can focus on patient care. I believe there will be a lot of challenges to day-to-day operations of our offices.

I believe dentistry will change and develop as follows: First, the electronic age is upon us, with respect to Web sites, digital x-rays, paperless offices, electronic health records, internet communications and insurance claim submission. There is a tentative mandate for 2014 to have electronic records transferable. There will always be a concern with how standardization will apply to reduction of errors, increased safety, and confidentiality in health care delivery.

Second, we will have to closely evolve with the younger dentist population and the standards they are trained with (internet communications, online education, podcasts, etc.) These are great technology trends, however running a dental office will have some basic issues that will never change, that being challenges of overhead control, health care reform and what level of technology you implement into your office. There will be a balance of combining good basic dental care with how much technology fits into your particular comfort zone. The complexity of that technology will vary broadly from office-to-office. And, as my final comment, let us all focus on why we are here in the first place - to provide our patients the care and attention that they entrust to us.



LDA access-to-care

Dr. Maurice B. "Marty" Garrett
Chair, Access-to-Care Task Force

Continuing to Work to Serve the Dental Needs of Our Children

I've had two patients leave my practice recently over differences of opinions. Their reasons are interesting schools of thought. One lady accused me and my profession of trying to poison her community water supply by adding fluoride. I explained the true benefits of fluoridation to her but it fell on deaf ears. I'm sure many of you have had similar discussions with misinformed folks. Please be assured that the top priority of our public and legislative agenda will continue to be the implementation of optimal levels of fluoridation of our communities' water supplies. As you all know, fluoridation is the most economical and effective way to improve the oral health of our citizens and we as a profession need to continue to promote the fluoridation program.

A male patient left our practice because he couldn't agree with a dentist who opposed dentistry in schools. I explained that I support a better way to provide safe and comprehensive care to all our children. I, along with my fellow LDA members, support the "dental home" concept. The dental home refers to an ongoing relationship between a dentist and patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivery in a comprehensive, continuously accessible and family-centered way. This is the primary goal of your Access-to-Care Task Force!

Led by the efforts of Drs. Don Donaldson, Claudia Cavallino and hundreds of participating dentists, we are working with Jefferson Parish in a pilot program developing relationships with local schools to provide dental homes to our state's children. In addition, we

are partnering with pediatric and family physicians to begin oral screenings and referrals to appropriate dental offices for dental treatment when needs are detected in the medical offices. Also, your LDA is participating in the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's Head Start Dental Home Initiative to provide dental homes to children who may otherwise go without care.

I am proud of the efforts our state's dental professionals are making to improve the dental health of our citizens. Please continue your enthusiasm and know your LDA is working with you to provide the best environment for quality dental care!

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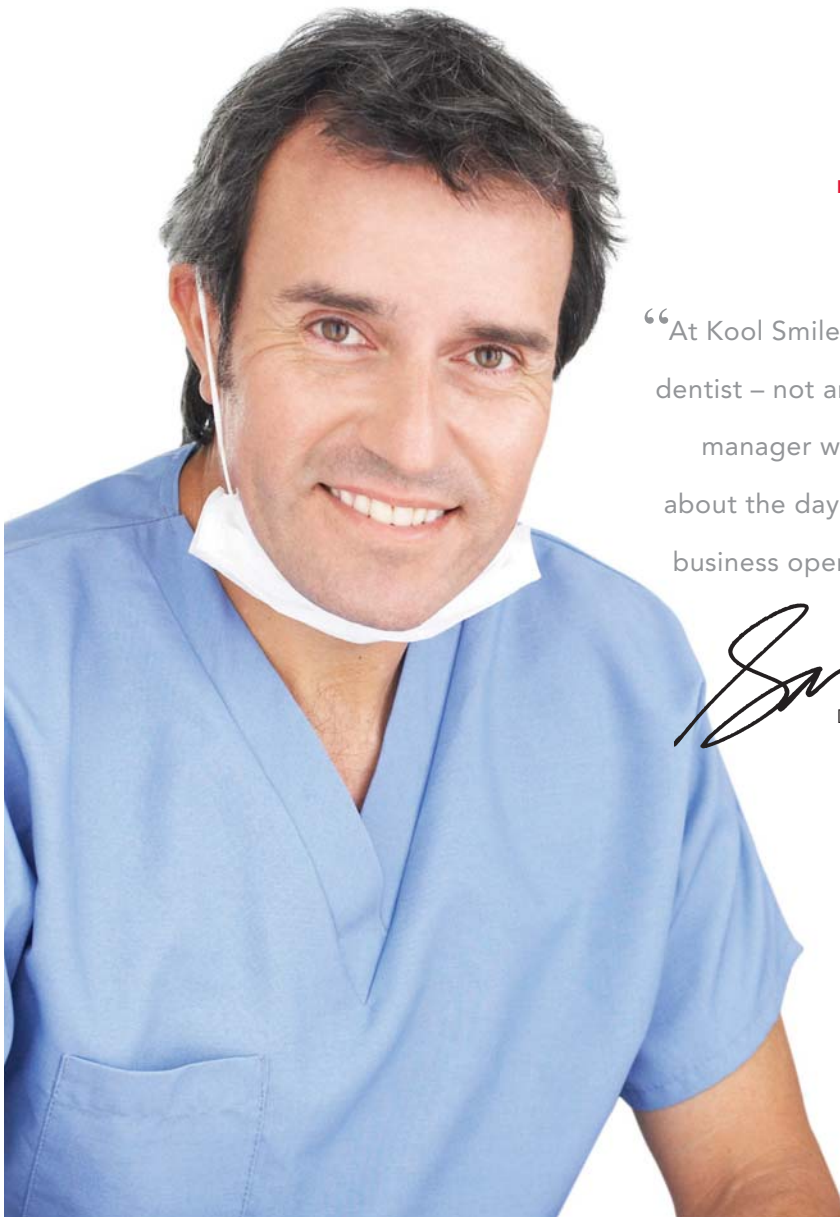
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Dr. Charles R. McInnis	Northwest
Dr. Samuel P. Gautier	Northwest
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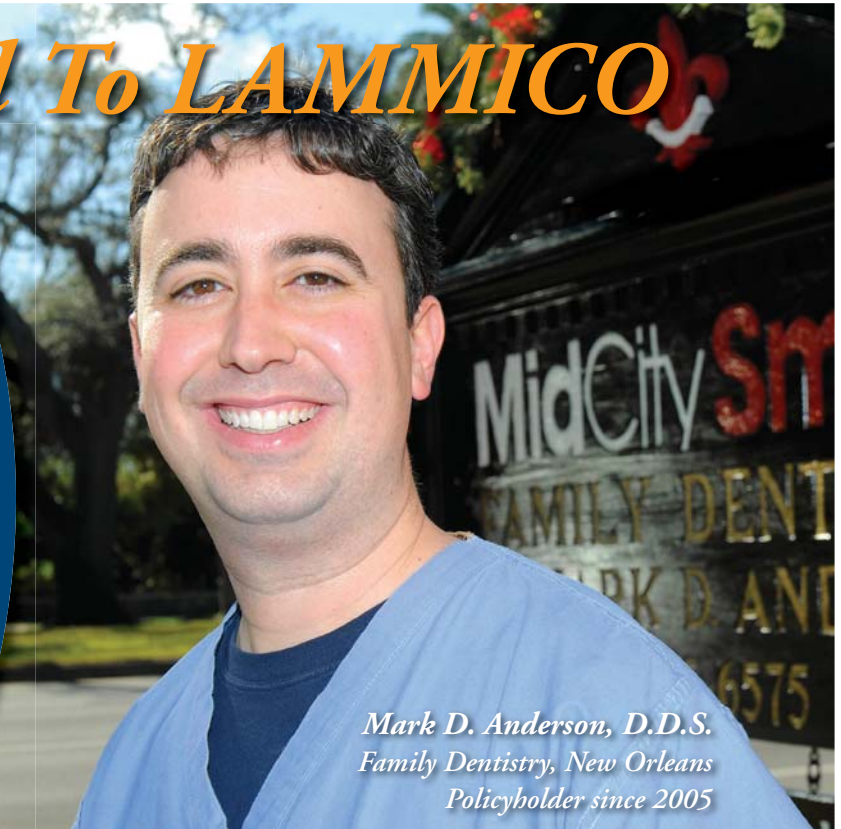
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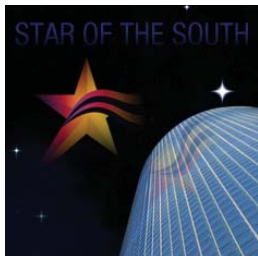
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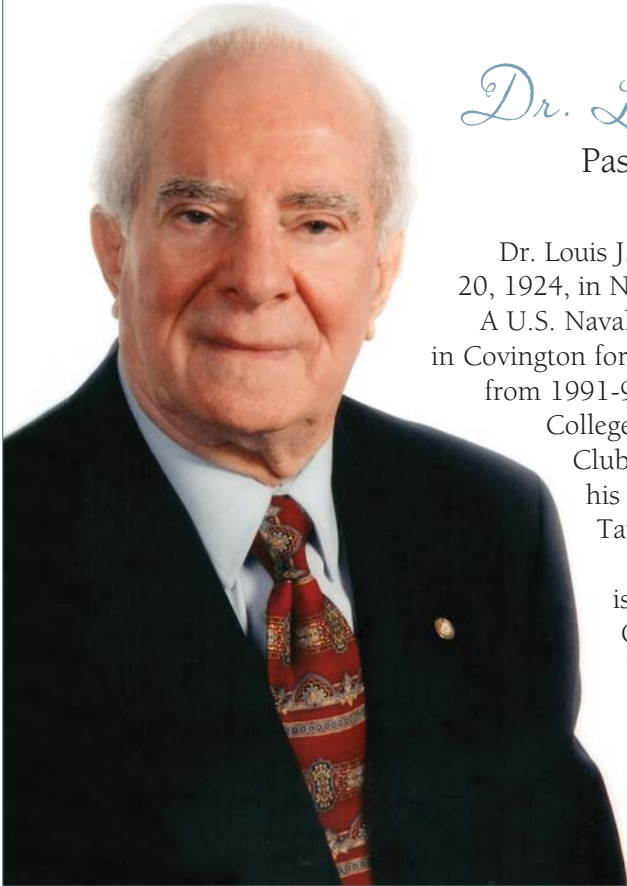
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Dr. Louis J. Gallo

Past President of the LDA, 1991 – 1992

Dr. Louis J. Gallo passed away on February 7, 2010. He was born September 20, 1924, in New Orleans and became a resident of Covington, La., in 1952.

A U.S. Naval veteran of WWII, Dr. Gallo operated a private dental practice in Covington for 48 years. A past president of the Louisiana Dental Association from 1991-92, he was admitted into the American and the International Colleges of Dentistry. Through the Knights of Columbus, The Lion's Club and his catholic faith, he proved his love and dedication to his community. He also served the Board of Directors of the St. Tammany Homestead and was a member of several carnival krewes.

The beloved husband of the late Norma Jean Huss Gallo, he is survived by five children: Cynthia G. Price (Donald), Deborah G. Berris (Craig), Barry C. Gallo, Karen F. Gallo, Diane G. Frosch (Gerard); one brother, Joseph Gallo, Jr. (Iris) and nine grandchildren: Alison P. Clark, Christopher L. and William G. Price, M. Reid and P. Conner Berris, J. Leigh and Thomas C. Gallo, Lane K. David and G. Austin Frosch. He is also survived by his dear friend, Jamie Rapp.

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- ❖ Socials in the Exhibit Hall: Ice Cream on Thursday, April 8, at 4 p.m.
Coffee and Cookies on Friday, April 9, at 4 p.m.
- ❖ LDA House of Delegates meeting Thursday, April 8, at 1:30 p.m.
- ❖ Welcome Reception & LDA President's Party at the National WWII
Museum Thursday, April 8, from 7-11 p.m.

*For more information and a complete
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wealth management

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

To Convert or Not to Convert: That is the IRA Question The New Roth IRA Conversion Opportunity

The Roth IRA conversion opportunity is finally here for people making over \$100,000. In 2009 (and prior), only families with adjusted gross incomes under \$100,000 were permitted to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, but beginning this year, new tax rules take effect and *all* individuals are eligible to make this conversion. The catch is that you must pay the taxes now on the converted amount (at your current income tax bracket).

The Roth IRA provides investors the opportunity to put away after-tax dollars and collect growth on these funds. As long as the investor is over age 59 ½ and has held the Roth account for at least five years, the funds, including earnings, can even be withdrawn tax-free. So the question for this year is to convert or not to convert? Let's look at three key issues to address before deciding: 1.) How will you use this money? 2.) How will you pay the taxes? 3.) The "do over" and how it works.

How Will You Use this Money?

This question is crucial and should always be considered before deciding to convert any part of an existing Traditional IRA. Those in retirement or close to retirement that expect to have decreasing tax brackets and will be living off of the IRA money should not convert. If you are many years from retirement and you expect to be paying more taxes once in retirement, then the conversion might be a good idea. If you do not plan on using the IRA money during retirement and want to pass it on to the next generation then converting to a Roth IRA looks extremely attractive. Assets held in a Traditional IRA must start being distributed when the holder turns age 70 ½, however, no such lifetime distribution rules apply to a Roth IRA. This could be an excellent way to pass on part of your estate to the next generation tax-free, truly stretching your IRA for generations. Imagine giving a tax-free investment to your grandkids to grow for years and years. But keep in mind the Roth IRA is still included in estate tax calculations.

How Will You Pay the Taxes?

Those planning to convert should pay the taxes from outside the IRA. Do not beat down an IRA 25% to 35%


in order to pay the taxes for the conversion. If the IRA is large consider converting only part of the Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA in 2010. The owner will have to pay income tax on the previously untaxed value of the converted IRA. This can either be done in full in 2010 or the holder can choose to include half the conversion amount in taxable income in 2011 and half in 2012. Amounts converted after 2010 are subject to tax fully in the year of conversion. Keep in mind that if you are currently in a high tax bracket, your income taxes will most likely be higher in 2012, so it is probably in your best interest to pay all of the taxes in 2011.

The "Do Over"

Few times in life can you get a "do over," but the Roth conversion is one of them. After converting a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, you have up until the filing extensions after taxes are due the following year to change your mind and convert back to the Traditional IRA. For example, let's say you converted a \$100,000 IRA to a Roth and the market value went down to \$80,000 by the time you were going to file your taxes. Instead of paying \$30,000 in taxes, you could convert back to the Traditional IRA and negate the taxes. Then you can re-convert back to the Roth in the next calendar year, hopefully at a lower cost or conversion basis.

Consider all three of these concerns before making a decision on whether to convert your Traditional IRAs or not. Consult your financial planner, as well as your CPA before any decision is made.

Chad Olivier is author of "What Medical School Did Not Teach You about Financial Planning" and owner of the firm The Olivier Group, LLC 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 (888) 465-2112 or visit us on the web at www.oliviergroup.com. Securities and Financial Planning are offered through LPL Financial Member FINRA/SIPC. Please note that the above article is for informational purposes only, nor is The Olivier Group specifically endorsed by the LDA. Financial planning requires detailed individualized analysis of each person's specific situation.

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ladpac LDA

Dr. David Kestel
Chair, Louisiana Dental Political Action Committee (LADPAC)

Happy New Year, Happy Mardi Gras, and how about those SAINTS!

Another year has come and gone and as we enter into the new year, once again we need to stay abreast of what is happening in our state and national legislatures.

Your contribution to LADPAC enables us to lobby effectively for dentistry. Our participation in the political process is our bipartisan voice fighting for dentistry. On both the state and national levels, we must remain vigilant. A prime example of what our PAC does for us is the suspension of the Red Flag Rule for dentistry.

Your monetary savings for this legislative achievement far outweighs your LADPAC membership dues. This is a prime example of your contribution in action. This ALONE is worth your contribution EVERY year.

Thanks to all of you who have participated in this process. If you are not a LADPAC member, now is the time to step up and join us in this important fight for dentistry.



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This list includes all LADPAC contributions submitted with payments of 2009 LDA membership dues and/or received from individual dentists through December 31, 2009.

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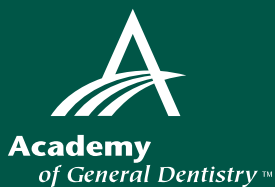
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- David S. Hornbrook, DDS, FAACD, a lecturer on all facets of esthetic dentistry and product development
- John Kanca III, DMD, a pioneer in the field of adhesive dentistry
- Clifford J. Ruddle, DDS, FACD, FICD, an internationally recognized expert in all aspects of clinical endodontics
- Terry T. Tanaka, DDS, MAGD, a widely recognized teacher of advanced restorative and prosthodontic procedures

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LDA

Louisiana state board of dentistry

Dr. Charles T. McCabe
President, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry

*“Bless the beasts and the children
For in this world they have no choice
They have no voice”**

Deamonte Driver died on February 25, 2007, at the age of 12 years. While the untimely death of any child is tragic, what was particularly disturbing in this instance was the cause of his death. He died from a severe brain infection that started with an abscessed tooth, according to the Washington Post. Deamonte was a member of an underserved segment of our population – poor, Medicaid eligible individuals. This is an extreme example of what former Surgeon General David Satcher called a “silent epidemic” of untreated oral disease, in his landmark report on oral health in 2000. It is a national disgrace that in 21st century America, millions of children do not receive basic preventive and restorative dental care. Many reasons are cited for this: lack of funds, lack of insurance, unavailability of dentists, lack of parental concern, unavailable transportation, etc.

In Louisiana, only 32% of Medicaid eligible children received any dental services at all in 2008. This translates into an astonishing 510,000 eligible children who received no dental care.¹ The unmet need for dental services in this population is staggering. A recent study revealed 42% of Louisiana third-grade students had untreated cavities and in some rural parishes the incidence was as high as 55%. Approximately 38% of Louisiana dentists are “active” providers (meaning they have received at least one paid visit in the last six months) in the Medicaid program.² The percentage of Louisiana dentists who actually see a significant number of Medicaid patients is probably much less than 38%.

The LDA is to be commended for their efforts to address obstacles to care. The Medicaid Task Force headed by “Don” Donaldson was successful in increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rate to the 65th percentile of the NDAS Fee Survey in an effort to encourage more dentist participation. (Unfortunately, emergency legislation effective January 22, 2010, decreased reimbursement rates.) Legislation that mandates fluoridation for community water systems will help control caries, the most prevalent – and preventable – childhood disease. The Give Kids A Smile program is helping bring dental services to those children in need. The federal government is addressing the access problem through FQHCs (federally qualified health clinics). Efforts by individual dentists to

provide dental treatment in schools has greatly enhanced access to care for children unable to receive treatment at a brick and mortar dental office. Unfortunately, the mobile/portable dentistry issue has also generated a great deal of controversy.

In recent years, no issue that has come before the Board has generated more interest and controversy. Although rules governing mobile dentistry had been in place for several years, the legislature has directed us to revisit this topic. We have received input from individual dentists, LDA representatives, school principals, school nurses, teachers, lobbyists, representatives of FQHCs, the Department of Health and Hospitals and, most recently, the Federal Trade Commission. We have reviewed legislation that other states have enacted to address this subject and we have revised and re-revised our pre-existing rules.

One of the main points of contention involves the manner in which parental involvement/informed consent should be handled. Few would argue that ideal dental care is best achieved with a long-term relationship in a “dental home”, beginning early in life with close parental guidance. Unfortunately, for far too many children, this scenario will never be realized. The parental involvement and dental care that you and I experienced does not exist for a large segment of our population. For many children, it comes down to school-based and/or mobile dental care or no dental care at all.

The Louisiana State Board of Dentistry exists for the sole purpose of protecting the interests of our citizens. When considering this issue we must ask ourselves, “What is best for the children?” I can assure you, we will act in the best interests of the children.

God bless the children, for in this world they have no choice, they have no voice – but we have a choice, and we are their voice.

*The Carpenters, 1972

1 Department of Health and Hospitals Oral Health Program presentation, December 2009; “State of the State – Snapshot of Oral Disease Status” – Louisiana Oral health Program – Rishu Garg, M.D., MPH, oral health program epidemiologist.

2 Information captured on Nov. 19, 2009 using the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Management and Finance, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Medicaid Provider Locator at http://www.lmmis.com/provweb1/provider_demographics/provider_map.aspx. DHH defines an “active” provider as “one that has received at least one paid visit within the last six months.” Oral Health Program DHH/ Office of Public Health FFY 07/08 (10/01/2007-09/30/2008)

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Who Dat Nation Supports United Way

Dr. Ray Unland, Jr.

President, Louisiana Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped

United Way (UW) of Greater New Orleans is having its fundraising campaign. Unless something changes, the campaign is expected to fall short of its goal by \$500,000.

One of the many charities that UW supports is Louisiana Foundation of Dentistry of the Handicapped (LFDH). Without UW support, LFDH would have completely closed its doors for several years when our other funding sources (State of Louisiana) were not available. UW has supported us every year since we became a UW agency in 1988.

Please consider joining me in making a contribution to United Way. For the month of March, every \$50 in donations will entitle you to a chance for a George Rodrigue print of the famous Blue Dog



with Drew Brees. These prints will have signatures of Drew Brees and George Rodrigue and three will be given away. It is surely going to be a collector's item.

Giving is easy: You can donate by phone by calling (504) 827-6814. You can log into the United Way Web site at www.unitedwaynola.org <<http://www.unitedwaynola.org>> where you will find a link on the front page. You can also snail mail checks to:

United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area

ATTN: March to the Finish

2515 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70119

[please make checks payable to United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area]

Your contribution to UW DOES make a difference. Thank you for your support. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions at rayinno@yahoo.com.



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Tarver Receives NELDA's Distinguished Service Award

On January 7, 2010, at Northeast Louisiana Dental Association's officer installation banquet, Dr. Les Tarver was presented with NELDA's Distinguished Service Award.



(From left) Dr. Tim Perry, Dr. Les Tarver and Dr. Ralph King.

Established in 1996, the award recognizes members that have distinguished themselves through exceptional devotion to their family, their community, and their profession. These NELDA members are known for fostering the highest moral and ethical principles and they serve as role models with true regard for fellow practitioners.

To be nominated and ultimately chosen for this award, Dr. Tarver's peers acknowledged that he has always demonstrated honest desire to serve patients to the best of his abilities, he has always made himself available to help others in need, and his friends and neighbors call him doctor out of genuine respect.

Dr. Ralph King also presented Dr. Tarver with his American College of Dentists certificate during this banquet.

Hand Serves as President of the Southwest Academy of Restorative Dentistry

Dr. Larry Hand served as the 2009 president of the Southwest Academy of Restorative Dentistry. The academy, which represents a region including five states (Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico) promotes excellence in restorative dentistry and its membership is by invitation only.



Dr. Hand is a graduate of the LSU School of Dentistry. He is a past president of the Northwest Dental Association, as well as a member of the American Academy of Restorative Dentistry and the International Academy of Gnathology.

Dubroc Receives NODA's 2009 Honor Dentist Award

On March 6, 2010, at the New Orleans Dental Association President's Installation Banquet, Dr. Glenn Dubroc will become the youngest member of NODA to ever receive the association's Honor Dentist Award. The award was first given to Dr. F. Harold Wirth in 1982.



Dr. Dubroc is an associate professor in the Department of Orthodontics at LSU, where he has taught orthodontic residents for the past 14 years. He also maintains a private practice limited to orthodontics in Lakeview.

His service to organized dentistry has been far too varied to be able to list everything, however, to name a few of his positions, Dr. Dubroc was the 2007 chair of the New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session, the 2003 president of NODA and is currently the chair of the LDA's Council on Membership and Dental Practice.

McCabe Elected President of LSBD

Charles McCabe, D.M.D., has been elected president of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, the licensing board for the 2,493 dentists and 2,016 dental hygienists practicing in Louisiana. This will be his second term as president of the board. This year marks his 14th year of service on the board, during which he was active in formulating legislation to regulate oral conscious sedation.



Dr. McCabe is an associate professor in the Department of Periodontics at the LSU School of Dentistry. He has been affiliated with the school since 1982. He received his D.M.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1976 and completed specialty training in periodontics at the Boston University School of Graduate Dentistry in 1980. In 1995, he became a diplomat of the American Board of Periodontology. He is also a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He maintains a private practice limited to periodontics in suburban New Orleans.

Governor Bobby Jindal Announces the Reappointment of Dr. Lynn Philippe to the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry

Governor Bobby Jindal announced the reappointment of Dr. Lynn Philippe to the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. Philippe is a dentist and oral and maxillofacial surgeon. He was nominated for reappointment by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry to serve as a representative of the 8th Dental District, as required by statute.

Ritchie Named Director of Admissions at LSUSD



Dr. John Ritchie has been chosen director of admissions for the LSU School of Dentistry. He succeeds Dr. Jim Weir who retired in December. He has been a member of the LSUSD faculty since 1981 and was promoted to associate professor in 1986. From 1989 to 1995, he was director of the General Dentistry Residency program. From 1995 to 2006, he was chairman of the Department of General Dentistry. Since 2006, Dr. Ritchie has been director of diversity and minority affairs.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, he played a vital role in developing a network of community dentists to provide clinical training for fourth-year students. For the last 26 years, he has had a private practice in the LSUHSC School of Dentistry Faculty Dental Practice.

classifieds LDA

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GONE FISHING: Hang your sign and take to the waterways. With our revolutionizing BleachBright teeth whitening system you do not have to supervise, no damming, no preparations. Your staff collects the \$99.00 to \$149.00 and you pay \$15.00 for a cosmetic teeth whitening kit that will provide results 2 - 8 shades brighter, no sensitivity, and in only 15 minutes. Why wait, see us today at www.bleachbright.com.

JUST KIDS DENTAL, a General Dentistry practice for children is offering a Fulltime Position in New Orleans. We have a state-of-the-art facility designed with kids in mind. We offer a competitive salary and production bonus with full benefits. We are an approved National Health Service Corp. location and can assist with

applying for Student Loan Repayment Plan. For more information, call Dr. Billy Hall at (225) 330-6622 or e-mail at bhall@justkids-dental.com. Please see our Web site at www.justkids-dental.com.

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Job Description: Invest in Yourself! Kool Smiles is a general dentistry group that is providing kids and their parents in underserved communities with the dental care they desperately need. As a dentist, you get to focus on taking care of your patients, while we take care of the business itself! Our offices are brand new and equipped with modern technology such as digital x-rays and electronic dental records.

Kool Smiles now offers:

- Full & Part Time Opportunities Coming Soon in Monroe, Shreveport, Lake Charles and Lafayette
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- Accumulate over \$1Million through our innovative Wealth Management Program - exclusively for our dentists only!
- Health, dental and vision insurance
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- Continuing education reimbursements
- Company paid life insurance
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Requirements: All candidates must have a degree in dentistry from an accredited dental program. In addition, candidates must have a current, valid license to practice dentistry in the state where providing patient care (License must be in good standing) or be willing and able to obtain licensure.

Contact: Kool Smiles, Renee Baron, Phone#: (770) 916-7045, Fax#: (678) 247-7801, Email Address: rbaron@ncdrllc.com, Web Site: www.koolsmilespc.com

Company Description: Kool Smiles, General Dentistry for Kids and Parents, is a growing group practice dedicated to providing access to quality dentistry across the country. We provide comprehensive dental care and accept most insurance plans including Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance plans (SCHIP). Currently we have offices and opportunities in AZ, AR, CT, DC, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MS, NM, SC, TX, VA, and WA.

Kool Smiles opened in 2002 with the clear mission to provide urgently needed care for underserved kids living in our community. Over the past few years, we have continued our mission and are serving 75+ locations in 15 states. Many of our patients would not receive care without the efforts of Kool Smiles professionals. To continue this mission, we are looking for qualified, energetic dentists who share this vision and want to make a difference in the lives of their patients.

SHREVEPORT - Office space for lease, 2,000 sq. ft. located in a two story office building that has a large medical clinic in it. Four treatment rooms, consultation room, break room, and private office. Networked throughout and plumbed for N2O in three treatment rooms. Daylight lights throughout. All dental equipment and office furniture is in place and is modern, attractive, and functional. Equipment and furniture is for sale for \$30,000. (318) 797-1550.

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Go to www.ladental.org and click on the **Classified Advertising link.**

For all classified advertising, payment is required in advance and ads will be placed on the LDA Web site on the next possible business day after payment is received. Make checks payable to the Journal of the Louisiana Dental Association. Placement of a classified ad up to 30 words is \$30 for LDA members and \$50 for non-LDA members. For each additional word, LDA members pay \$0.15 and non-LDA members pay \$0.30. Ads will remain on the LDA Web site for three months and will appear in one issue of the *LDA Journal*.

For more information or to place a classified ad, contact Dr. William Hall at (318) 865-1469 or dr802@bellsouth.net or *LDA Journal* Managing Editor Annette Drodzy at (225) 926-1986 or info@ladental.org.

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LDA

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).

DATE: March 26, 2010
COURSE TITLE: CDEBR: Golf and C.E. at The Bluffs
SPONSOR: Continuing Dental Education of Baton Rouge (CDEBR). To register, contact Dr. Joey Porter (225) 291-9900 or go online at www.cdeofbr.com
INSTRUCTOR: Dean Henry Gremillion

New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session

April 8 - 10, 2010, New Orleans Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. We look forward to seeing all of you in the Crescent City! For more information, call (504) 834-6449 or visit www.nodc.org.

DATE/TIME: April 15, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.
COURSE TITLE: Oral Pathology Update
LOCATION: 127 W. Broad Street, Lake Charles, La. 70601
SPONSOR: SW LA District Dental Association, Dr. Peter Bayles, (337) 786-6221
CREDIT HOURS: 1, clinical, lecture
DESIGNED FOR: General Dentist, Specialist
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jim Weir
FEE: Included with dues for SW members, others contact Dr. Bayles

Dentists' Day at the Legislature

April 21, 2 p.m. for briefings, 5:30 p.m. for reception. Call (800) 388-6642 or visit www.ladental.org to register.

DATE/TIME: April 23, 2010 (registration at 8 a.m. and course at 8:30 a.m.)
COURSE TITLE: A Six Step Plan to a Paperless Practice
LOCATION: Clarion Hotel, 1419 E. 70th Street, Shreveport, La. 71105
SPONSOR: ARK LA TEX ACADEMY OF DENTISTRY, 806 Medical Circle Suite #200, Longview, Texas 75605, (903) 753-0337, fax: (903) 236-4537, ADA CERP and AGD-PACE recognized provider. To register, contact Ronnie Hermes, (318) 688-2970 or rhermes14@aol.com, or Clint Bruyere, (903) 753-0337 or clintbruyeredds@cablelynx.com. Download registration forms and additional information from the Web site at www.arklatexacademy.com.

CREDIT HOURS: 7, clinical, lecture
DESIGNED FOR: all
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Lorne Lavine
FEE: \$245 for doctor nonmembers; \$35 for staff
DATE/TIME: April 30, 2010 (registration 8:00 a.m. and course begins at 8:30 a.m.)
COURSE TITLE: "Restore Your Confidence in Restoring Primary Teeth," "If You Can't Beat'em, Enjoy Them" (Behavior Management from a new Perspective)
LOCATION: Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center, 346 Civic Center Blvd., Houma, LA 70360
SPONSOR: Bayou District Dental Association, 1608 Polk Street, Houma, LA 70360, (985) 879-1972, fax (985) 879-4661, ADA CERP recognized provider
CREDIT HOURS: 6, clinical, lecture
DESIGNED FOR: All
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Greg Psaltis
FEE: \$200 for doctor nonmembers; \$70 for staff

DATE: May 21, 2010
COURSE TITLE: CDEBR: Restorative Dentistry
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Glen Dupont
CREDIT: 7, clinical, lecture
SPONSOR: Continuing Dental Education of Baton Rouge (CDEBR). To register, contact Dr. Joey Porter (225) 291-9900 or go online at www.cdeofbr.com.

DATE: July 6-8, 2010 (AGD House of Delegates) and July 8-11, 2010 (Annual Meeting)
COURSE TITLE: Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) 2010 Annual Meeting & Exhibits
LOCATION: New Orleans, LA
SPONSOR: Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), 211 East Chicago Ave., Ste. 900, Chicago, IL 60611. Register at www.agd.org/neworleans or call (888) AGD-DENT, extension 4339. AGD-PACE recognized provider.
DESIGNED FOR: All

LDA Fishing Rodeo

July 16-17, 2010, Sand Dollar Marina, Grand Isle, LA

LDA Summer Education Conference

Wednesday - Saturday, July 28 - 31, 2010, Tops'l Beach and Racquet Resort. Call (800) 380-4808 to reserve your condo.

2010 Course Schedule

(For an up-to-date list, go to www.lsusdce.org)

COURSE#	DATE/CITY	COURSE NAME, LOCATION, & AGD SUBJECT CODE		FEES	HOURS LECT/PARTIC
12-10	Mar. 26-28 Fri.-Sun. New Orleans	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant ("EDDA") w/Nancy Weiss, RDH, EFDA, Henrietta Frederick, CDA, EDDA and B. J. Triay, CDA, EDDA - at LSUSD	Assistant	\$415	24 L/P Clinical
13-10	Mar. 27, Sat. New Orleans	Digital & Conventional Radiology for Dental Assistants w/Drs. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar (at LSUSD)	Assistant	\$149	7 L/P C
13-10AR	Mar. 27, Sat. 3-5 pm New Orleans	Advanced Radiology [NEW!] with Drs. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar (at LSUSD)	Assistant	\$49	2 L/P Clinical
14-10	April 16 - 18 Fri.-Sun. New Orleans	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant ("EDDA") with Nancy Weiss, RDH, EDDA, Henrietta Frederick, CDA, EDDA and B. J. Triay, CDA, EDDA (at LSUSD)	Assistant	\$415	24 L/P Clinical
15-10	April 17, Sat. New Orleans	Digital & Conventional Radiology for Dental Assistants with Drs. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar (at LSUSD)	Assistant	\$149	7 L/P Clinical
15-10AR	April 17, Sat. 3-5 pm N.O.	Advanced Radiology [NEW!] with Drs. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar (at LSUSD)	Assistant	\$49	2 L/P Clinical
16-10	April 23-24 Fri.-Sat. New Orleans	Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD): Current Concepts [NEW!] w/ Dean Henry Gremillion, DDS, MAGD, and Dale Ehrlich, MS, DDS at LSUSD (Early Bird Fee: \$480. After March 23: \$530.) AGD #182	Dentist	Reg. by 3/23: \$480	14 L/P Clinical
17-10	May 7-9 Fri.-Sun. Baton Rouge	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant ("EDDA") with Eliska Davis, RDH, MRC, Ebony Lang, RDH, and Tonya Whitehead Chidester, EDDA, (at LSU South Campus)	Assistant	\$415	24 L/P Clinical
18-10	May 8, Sat. Baton Rouge	Digital & Conventional Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries w/Dr. Kavas Thunthy and J. Sean Hubar, at LSU South Campus	Assistant	\$149	7 L/P Clinical
19-10	May 21-23 Fri.-Sun. Lafayette	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant ("EDDA") with Gen Benoit, RDH, Med, Theresa Courtois, RDH, MS, & Julie DeRouen, EDDA, at Lafayette Community Health Care Clinic	Assistant	\$415	24 L/P Clinical
20-10	June 3 - 5 Thurs.-Sat. New Orleans	Head and Neck Anatomy and Dissection [NEW!] w/Dean Henry A. Gremillion, DDS, MAGD AGD #012 at LSUSD AGD #181	Dentist	\$2,250	TBA L/P Clinical
53-10	June 11 Friday New Orleans	Cosmetic Provisional Fabrication - From Smile Design to Advanced Fabrication w/ Dr. Mike Malone (at LSUSD) A limited-attendance, hands-on program. Call us for Early Bird special fees, and half-day option. AGD #780	Dentist Assistant	\$335 \$215	7 L/P Clinical
21-10	June 17-27 Thurs.-Sun. Ireland	Continuing Education and Tour of Ireland [NEW!] To register, please call Jodi of Cruise and Travel Partners at 800-856-8826, or go to www.cruiseandtravelpartners.com .			12 L Clinical
24-10	June 25-27 Fri.-Sun. Baton Rouge	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant ("EDDA") with Eliska Davis, RDH, MRC, Ebony Lang, RDH, and Tonya Whitehead Chidester, EDDA, (at LSU South Campus)	Assistant	\$415	24 L/P Clinical
25-10	July 9, Fri. New Orleans	OSHA/Infection Control - at LSUSD AGD #148	Dentist RDH/Ass't	\$165 \$139	7 L Clinical
26-10	July 16, Fri. New Orleans	Practice Management Course [NEW!] (Topic and speaker TBA) at LSUSD AGD #550	All	TBA	7 L/P nonclinical

L = Lecture • P = Participation • C = Clinical NC = Non-Clinical
*Early Bird Special Pricing



For additional information or to register for a course, please call (504) 941-8193 Elsa or (504) 941-8198 Laura

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David Austin

There's An Ap For That...

We are truly living in the age of instant communication. I recently purchased a smart cell phone and have enjoyed downloading and using the multitude of applications (programs) that are available over the wireless network and Internet.

People are truly impressed when you tell them about the weather this morning in Hong Kong or something really useful like the artist's name that is singing a song on the elevator you happen to be in.

We dentists need more specific applications that could be useful in our everyday lives. Here are 10 that I would like to see:



1. **Who the Heck are You?:** If I happen to be out and about and run into a patient and can't remember his/her name, I want to be able to discreetly hold my phone up and let it scan them and presto... "Why Mrs. Shlotzblat, so good to see you..."
2. **I Want to Eat Chocolate!:** This is not specific to dentists, but would be my personal favorite. This GPS ap would let you quickly find a discreet eatery between your office and home that is serving anything chocolate that evening. You could slip in and out without your spouse finding out.
3. **Will He Pay His Bill?:** A self explanatory application that would give you a thumbs up or down after scanning the patient's brain and bank account.
4. **Will I Pass This Test?:** Best for dental students, or any student really. A quick scan of your head would quickly tell you if you are truly prepared for the big exam.
5. **Am I Gonna Hurt You Dude?:** Especially good for those apprehensive patients. A quick oral and body scan would reveal whether or not your anesthetic will be successful for this procedure.
6. **Time to Refer You Outahere:** Would quickly allow you to pull up a list of specialists in order of like to dislike, and make a recommendation of where to send this patient.
7. **Are You Really My Patient?:** How many times have you been called on a weekend by someone claiming to be your patient and you saw them only three months ago and they are now dying of pain. This program searches through your patient database while you are listening to them and would let you know if they are a patient of record, pay their bills, timely appointments, etc.
8. **Composite Lightsword:** If you are in the middle of completing some composite restorations and the electricity goes out, you could pull out your smartphone and cure them using this program that causes the phone screen to become an intense light beam. This could also be used to discourage those pesky drivers who follow too closely on your rear bumper.
9. **Fire or Hire:** While interviewing a prospective employee, this would allow your phone to also evaluate them and let you know if they would be an asset or liability. Would also be helpful during the dreaded employee 'I need a raise speech.' The phone would automatically ring during this and would thus give you a way to excuse yourself from the room and out the door.
- 10.????? Ok, I had all 10 of these written down at home, but when I called using my new phone, I was dropped and lost the call, so I didn't get this one in time to write it in here. I think it was the Colonoscopy ap.... no maybe it was: Is It a Good Day to Go to the Office? ap, ... no, that wasn't it. Geez, now my phone battery is dead....



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