

THE ALABAMA

Composite



DEDICATED TO THE CONCERNS
OF GENERAL DENTISTS IN ALABAMA

Official Publication of the Alabama Academy of General Dentistry • Fall 2016





2015-2016 Officers:

Rachel Osborne D.M.D.

President

Toni Neumeier, D.M.D.

President-Elect

Derrick Mendez, D.M.D.

Vice President

Gary Myers, D.M.D.

Treasurer

William E. Chesser, D.M.D.

Editor

Gary Myers, D.M.D.

Executive Director

Angie Gilliver

Executive Secretary

Doug Beckham, D.M.D.

Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS:

William C. Adams, D.M.D.

Albertville

Steve Gardner, D.M.D.

Huntsville

Charles L. Graffeo, D.M.D.

Huntsville

Kim Stiegler, D.M.D.

Mobile



Editor's Notes

Bill Chesser, DMD, MAGD

The SAGA of the E.D.D.A

The **Enhanced Duty Dental Assistant** (EDDA) may become a reality in the near future. A bit of background material is in order to set the record straight.

In **2013**, the Alabama Board of Dental Examiners (BDE) proposed that a new licensed auxiliary be created. The impetus for this was a need to aid high-volume practices in increasing procedures, especially in offices providing care for Medicaid patients.

At this time, **33 other states utilize these auxiliaries**. In the opinion of the BDE, this action would send a message to Alabama Legislators that our profession is concerned about access to care, giving Alabama dentists an option for providing more treatment to more people in need of care. Hopefully, this would keep Mid-Level Provider proponents, a practice model which is not in the best interests of patients, (in the opinion of your BDE), away from our Legislators.

From the outset, the BDE was adamant that this not be pursued if the Alabama Dental Association (AIDA) did not approve. AIDA was contacted, and gave their consent to proceed. The Bill went directly to the Legislators, passing both House and Senate immediately.

Next, committees were formed to determine how this auxiliary would be trained and licensed. Unfortunately, there was major controversy over this. Many of our licensees did not agree with the EDDA proposal at all.

After surveys by the BDE and AIDA, there were only three initial procedures that dentists-at-large were comfortable having an auxiliary perform, over and above that which is already allowed. (1) **Polishing anterior composite restorations**; (2) **Polishing posterior composite restorations**; (3) **Fitting and cementing stainless steel crowns on primary teeth**, after being prepped by a licensed dentist. Of course, **all procedures would be done under direct supervision of the dentist**.

During this time, one of the BDE members serving on the EDDA Committee, Dr. Howard Gamble, became seriously ill, and died at the end of 2015. Howard had been instrumental in producing the AGD "**White Paper on Access to Care**" several years ago, which suggested Enhanced Duty Dental Assistants as a method of helping with the access-to-care dilemma.

A majority of AIDA members were not in favor of the EDDA concept. This left the BDE with very few options. They could:

- (1) Do nothing—not a good situation;
- (2) Go to the Legislators and request the law be removed—possibly making dentists look foolish, and not recommended by the Legislative consultants;
- (3) Get busy and have the EDDA concept become reality.

On **September 22, 2016**, the BDE met in Montgomery with the Alabama Sunset Committee. We learned here that the Legislators were not pleased that this law had been "on the books" since 2013, and was yet to be put into action. In other words, we have been told to get it done.

This leaves the Alabama BDE with only one option. We must **determine the procedures** EDDA will be allowed to perform, **develop training facilities** to teach the procedures, and **develop a proper license examination**. There you have it: the **EDDA Saga in a nutshell**.

President's Message

Rachael Osburn, DMD, FAGD



WE ARE MAKING PLANS NOW – HAVE YOUR SAY!

I have been honored to serve as your Alabama AGD President this year. I appreciate the Academy's allowing me to be an active part in such a great organization, one which allows increase in knowledge of our profession, grants quality CE, and creates an environment for lasting friendships in our dental community. It is gratifying to follow in the footsteps of so many fine dental leaders in Alabama.

As we move forward, I encourage each of you to let us know the ways we in AGD can better serve you. Our AAGD Board meets four times a year, with Sub-Committees meeting several more times annually. Their sole goal is to organize CE meetings which will be informative, enjoyable, and totally worthwhile to Alabama dentists.

We need your input. Please feel free to contact any of the Board members listed on Page Two of the "Alabama Composite" if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Elsewhere in our Newsletter, you will find details of our 44th Annual Review of Dentistry, to be held in the newly renovated Sandestin Hilton September 7-9, 2017. We all look forward to hearing from you as we iron out details for three days of learning and fellowship.

Blessings to you all,

Rachel Osborne, DMD

President,

2016 Alabama Academy of General Dentistry



The President presents Dr. Doug Beckham the Past President's plaque.



Dr. Osburn in charge of the Board of Directors Dinner.

We are so very proud of our 2016 AGD President, Dr. Rachel Osborne. Her carefully planned program for our Regional Meeting at Sandestin was awesome. This woman stepped up at a time when Alabama AGD really needed her, and she delivered!

Back in early 2014, at our Strategic Planning Meeting, our Board realized there was at that time no-one to succeed our then-President, Dr. Doug Beckham. Howard Gamble, our Executive Director, personally called Rachel at her home that Saturday afternoon and asked (begged!) her to agree to be President-Elect.

Rachel had been working “in the trenches” for several years with Alabama AGD, and was at that time doing a great job with the somewhat thankless—but extremely important—task of CE-reporting for our organization.

Miraculously, she accepted the challenge, and said YES! Her only codicil to this agreement was that she have the promise of everyone’s support in carrying out the plans for our AGD Regional Meeting. Promise made, and she took it from there. As an added bonus, we received the services of her wonderful Mom, Sherilyn Osborne, who was a tremendous help at the 2016 meeting.

Dr. Osborne began her career as a graduate of the Alabama Dental Hygiene

Program (ADHP), later making the decision to attend dental school. Few people set this goal, and even fewer follow through. Rachel is in that tiny percentage, and we are all benefitting from her choice.

Our meeting is surely one of the best dental CE bargains in the South. Proceedings went off with nary a hitch, and many areas of our profession were covered. Our own Mike Edwards and John Coke provided a Certification Course for Oral Conscious Sedation, a hands-on study for “Six-Month Smiles”. Other subjects covered included the use of lasers in clinical practice, dental materials updates, endodontics, periodontics, and oral surgery.

But that was not all! Dr. Bob DeShazer’s annual Blow-Out Giveaway at the Exhibitors’ Party was once again an explosive success, as thousands of dollars-worth of valuable door prizes were awarded to lucky Docs, staff members, and exhibitors. The popcorn wasn’t bad, either.

Veteran attendees to our meetings know what fun we all have while satisfying CE requirements for our profession, but if you have not yet had the pleasure, give us a try. Next summer, September 7-9, 2017, needs to be set aside on our To-Do List right now. And remember, it will be On. The. Beach.



Dr. Mark Donald speaks to the members. He is the Immediate Past President of AGD.



Mrs. Sherry Gamble speaks to the audience at the Board Dinner.



Gordon Isbell, Zack Studstill, Michele Waren, and Derrick Mendez.

VIEW OF DENTISTRY



Dean Michael Reddy speaks to members at the Dean's reception.



Dr. Howard Glazer, one of our speakers this year, is a happy winner at the exhibit hall party. Dr. Tim Brooks (L) congratulates him.



Angie and Chris Gilliver always have everything under control at registration.



Dr. Bill Ingram is always the epitome of sartorial splendor!



Dr. Karl Koerner explains oral surgery to general dentists.

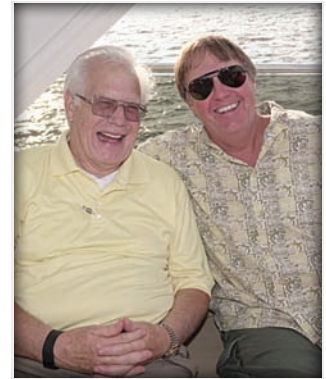


Dr. Mike Edwards (L) and Dr. John Coke present the certification course for Oral Conscience Sedation.



This is something not known about our meetings – Gary Myers, Executive Director, hauls this trailer to all our meetings. It is full to the brim with things we need to run our meetings.

2016 ANNUAL REVIEW OF DENTISTRY



Gary Myers with Mark Donald (Immediate Past President of AGD). Oral Arts Lab provided a gathering on their Yacht; unfortunately weather did not allow them to leave the dock but think they had a good time anyway.

Folks on board the Lady Pamela complements of Oral Arts. (L to R) The Stiglers, Millers, McLaughlins and Neumeiers.



Lunch time on the veranda.



Always a popular spot at break time during lectures!

DENTISTRY IN THE NEWS

ADA Reaffirms Dental Amalgam Is “Durable, Safe And Effective.”

TIME (10/4) carries an article from Health.com stating new research out of the University of Georgia suggests “dental fillings made of amalgam—a mixture of mercury, silver, and other metals—can contribute to elevated mercury levels in the body.” The study found “people with more than eight fillings had blood mercury levels more than twice as high as people with no fillings,” although the article notes the average mercury levels for these individuals were still “below the safety thresholds established by the EPA and the World Health Organization.”

The ADA (9/30) examined the study’s findings, noting that although the study found a “statistically significant difference in circulating levels of mercury, all the levels observed were within the lower 95% confidence limit set forth as safe by

the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences.” In addition, the findings “also pointed to the impact of fish consumption in blood total and methyl mercury levels.”

The ADA released a statement Friday reaffirming its position that “dental amalgam is a durable, safe and effective cavity-filling option” and providing information for patients about restorative materials at MouthHealthy.org.

The ADA Morning Huddle compiles news stories from a wide range of sources to let you know what the general media is saying about dentistry, whether or not it agrees with the ADA’s views. Publication of an article in the Morning Huddle in no way implies ADA’s endorsement, agreement, or promotion of a particular article.



The Grand is in the rear view mirror

WE'RE BACK!

Yep! We're back! The 2017 Annual Review of Dentistry will be at the **Sandestin Hilton**. That's right: **On. The. Beach.**

Our meeting date has also undergone an overhaul. We will be gathering the week after Labor Day, which should make many of you very happy, according to our surveys.

Our decision four years ago to move our Alabama AGD meeting over to the Grand Hotel at Bay Town was mainly driven by finances. Since then, the Grand has been very good to us, and the room choices were satisfactory for most of our attendees.

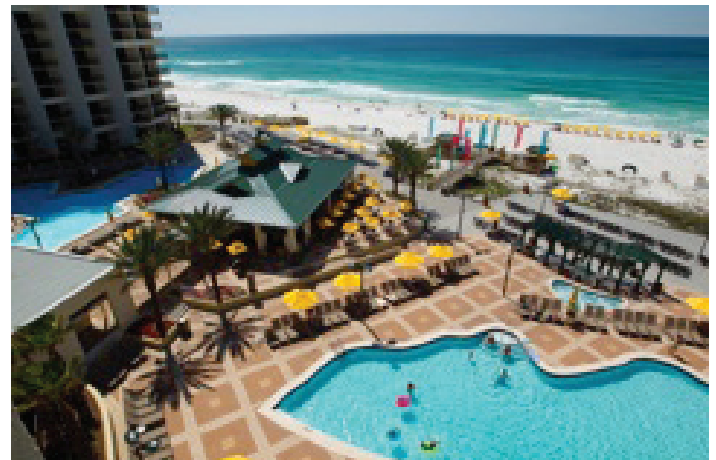
However, there is no restaurant in the facility, and families were required to walk into the village for all meals not prepared in-room—pizza not-withstanding. The inclement weather experienced on more than one occasion made those mad dashes for meals memories to forget!

We have listened to your moans. Many of our loyal attendees, as well as most of our exhibitors, would prefer the **View of The Gulf** and the roar of the waves, not to mention the option of **Room Service!**

ABOUT THE DATE CHANGE: it seems impossible to miss the in-school dates, what with the constantly changing calendar plans for the huge number of school districts we cover. In addition, **the rates are cheaper after Labor Day!**

Now, all we have to do is dodge those danged hurricanes! The Sandestin Hilton has undergone a stunning **30 Million Dollar Renovation/Expansion**, completed just last year. Plenty of beautifully remodeled rooms will be available for our convention-goers and exhibitors. And don't forget: **THE GULF!** And a place to eat, in-house!

Mark your calendars now: **September 7-9, 2017**. Our President for this upcoming year is Dr. Toni Neumeier, of Birmingham, a Faculty member at UAB School of Dentistry. She is planning a fabulous roster of events, and you must make plans to be there.



Sandestin Hilton.



Academy of General Dentistry
P.O. Box 956
Sheffield, AL 35660
1-888-AGD-BAMA

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Montgomery, AL
Permit # 456

THE ALAGD THANKS OUR 2015 CORPORATE SPONSORS

GOLD:

**Apex • Burdette Dental
Coltene • Patterson Dental
Oral Arts • Straumann**

SILVER:

Dental Team Performance • Shofu

BRONZE:

**360 Imaging • Pro Assurance
Proctor and Gamble • WEAVE**