

THE ALABAMA COMPOSITE



The Newsletter of the Alabama AGD

Editor: Bill Chesser, D.M.D., MAGD

2020 Executive Council

Kim Stiegler, D.M.D.
President

Tim Smith, D.M.D.
President-elect

Charles Betts, D.M.D.
Vice President

Steve Gardner, D.M.D.
Treasurer

Gary Myers, D.M.D.
Executive Director

William E. Chesser, D.M.D.
Editor

Angie Gilliver
Executive Secretary

Ross Isbell, D.M.D.
Immediate Past President



We are all facing an unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic that is severely affecting our practices and our lives. I want to make you aware of resources that are available to help guide you through the coming weeks.

The Academy of General Dentistry has updated COVID-19 information posted to the website at www.agd.org/coronavirus.

Other valuable sources of information include:

www.aldaonline.org, www.ada.org, and www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html

The AGD is also working hard to make sure the needs and concerns of General Dentists are heard by Federal Agencies and Legislators. I encourage you to continue to respond to AGD and ADA Advocacy Calls to Action as the Congress develops COVID-19 Legislation. ADPAC reports that



Dr. Kim Stiegler

during recent Calls to Action that 117,462 Dentists delivered 358,535 emails to Senators and Congressmen. It is very important that we consistently lobby our representatives to ensure that our needs are being addressed during this crisis.

The AGD is also sponsoring a number of free webinars for AGD members on the website www.agd.org to keep you informed and provide you with some of your continuing education requirements without having to leave your home.

The Georgia Academy of General Dentistry has graciously made available on Facebook an informative emergency town hall meeting which answers many of your questions about legal matters, cash flow and staff considerations during this shutdown. You can access a recording of it at this link: www.facebook.com/georgiaagd/videos/2525439807671270/

Thank you all for being loyal supporters of the ALAGD and organized dentistry. In this time of uncertainty, organized dentistry is here to support you!



Dr. Kim Stiegler receives the President's green jacket from Executive Director Gary Myers (February 2020)

I wish you and your families good health and a quick resolution to this pandemic so we can all get back to taking care of our patients.

Kim E. Stiegler, D.M.D., MAGD
President, Alabama Academy of General Dentistry

FROM THE TRENCHES: 2020 COVID-19 UPDATE

Bill Chesser, D.M.D., MAGD

ALAGD President, Dr. Kim Stiegler, has suggested we need to communicate with our membership during this trying time on our planet. For further information, take note of the websites Dr. Stiegler lists in his article on page 1 of this newsletter.

The ADA and AGD are doing their best to help dentists through this quagmire of history-making uncertainty.

Please adhere to the CDC guidelines! At this time, only emergency treatment must be performed in



Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Bill Chesser

our offices. The Alabama Board of Dental Examiners has kept us updated on which procedures are considered emergencies. ALDA has also been sending out emails to help us.

The *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* has now been signed into law by President Trump. There may be financial help coming to keep offices afloat. The agd.org and ada.org websites will be helpful in guiding your employees through steps to apply for unemployment.

When you are not at your office, isolation for each of us is a must. Stay at home, except for trips to the

gas station, grocery store, pharmacy, or to pick up food at a carry-out location.

Chris and I are escaping by taking 2- or 3-mile walks early in the morning. The fresh air, songs of the birds, and exercise are great stress-relievers. We also have enjoyed the Sunday broadcasts issued by our church each week.

We had a "Zoom Happy Hour" yesterday with our children in Virginia, complete with wine, snacks, and hollering. FaceTime on your phones can also keep you connected with loved ones.

And, then, there's the binge-watching of British TV on Amazon Prime. We're starting to call each other "blokes" and "mates"! I'm really close to shouting, "Blimey!"

Stay safe. Wash your hands. Don't touch your face. And consider keeping a daily diary, for we'll look back on this one day and wonder how we did it. Goo'day!



In happier times—before "social distancing"—2020 ALAGD Officers were installed.

Pictured from left to right: Bill Chesser (Editor), Kim Stiegler (President), Ross Isbell (Immediate Past President), Charles Betts (Vice President), Steve Gardner (Treasurer).

EMERALD COAST AGD REVIEW OF DENTISTRY

The Status of Our Annual Meeting

At this time, the date for the Emerald Coast ALAGD meeting (originally set for September 10-12, 2020) is unknown. The ALDA meeting, usually set for early June of each year, has been rescheduled for sometime later in the summer.

Dr. Gary Myers, just returned from a harrowing trip home from New Zealand, is now communicating with ALDA, as well as our ALAGD venue at the San Destin Hilton in San Destin, FL, to agree upon the best possible solution for a meeting date for all parties involved.

We are all struggling with daily heartache over Family Responsibilities, Bills, Payroll, Supplies, concern for our staff members. We must survive, and so must the ALAGD, for the sake of the future of our profession. Watch your email folders for further information.



Dr. Ross Isbell conducts final Board meeting as President; Executive Director Gary Myers sits to his left.



ALAGD Executive Director and wife Scooter were "marooned" in New Zealand for many days. They are safe at home now, but it was a traveling "nightmare" finally reaching Birmingham!

A SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE STUDENT CHAPTER

As part of registering for the 46th Annual Review of Dentistry, hosted by the Alabama AGD in 2019, attendees were given the option to add an additional \$20 to their registration to cover the cost of a D1 student's AGD membership. The student chapter would like to extend a special thank-you to the following 30 attendees who contributed to this effort:

Dr. Peter Ackerman
 Dr. William Adams
 Dr. Charles Betts
 Dr. Paul Bishop
 Dr. Russ Brandau
 Dr. Lamar Carmichael
 Dr. John Carr
 Dr. Cathey Davis
 Dr. Charles Harvell
 Dr. Mary Holder

Dr. Robert J. Howard
 Dr. Earl Hydrick
 Dr. George Lukes
 Dr. Derrick D. Mendez
 Dr. Glenn Miller
 Mrs. Nancy Miller
 Dr. Ryan Morrison
 Dr. Toni Neumeier
 Dr. Hugh E. Ogletree
 Dr. Kuntal Pandit

Dr. Shivani Pandit
 Dr. Hube Parker
 Dr. Albert Redmond
 Dr. Bill Richardson
 Dr. Michael Robinson
 Dr. Earl Rogers
 Dr. Timothy Sizemore
 Mrs. Anita Skees
 Dr. David Skees
 Dr. Layne Washington



Due to a scheduling snafu, the Howard Gamble Memorial lecture for D4 students was canceled this year; Alabama AGD President, Dr. Ross Isbell (left), and recent grad, Dr. Bo Bradford (right), are pictured with some dedicated students who still tried to attend.



Daffodils introduce SPRING to south Alabama!



**GOLD LEVEL
SPONSORS**

Burdette Dental Labs
Dentsply Sirona
Henry Schein
Oral Arts Dental Labs
Patterson Dental

SILVER LEVEL

BioHorizons
CareCredit
Time Traveler Backups

BRONZE LEVEL

Air Techniques
Alysyn
Blackburn Dental Lab
Garfield Refining Company
Keep IT Simple
ProAssurance
Sprint

CORPORATE SPONSORS FROM 2019

- help us show our appreciation to last year's corporate sponsors -