



GP NEWS



The Publication for the General Practitioner

Volume 38, Number 1

January, 2014

IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE CALIFORNIA AGD

Dr. William Langstaff Is California AGD's Spirit of Leadership Awardee



DR. WILLIAM LANGSTAFF
Villa Park

The Deon Carrico Spirit of Leadership Award is presented to a dentist who has, for an extended period of time, consistently contributed time, effort, talent and expertise for the betterment of the California Academy of General Dentistry. The award originated in 2002 and was named in honor of Past President and Executive Director, Dr. Deon Carrico at the suggestion of Dr. Mike Bromberg, a Past President of the CAGD. The awardee for 2013 is also a past president of the CAGD.

William "Bill" Langstaff has served his profession starting almost immediately after his graduation

from dental school. Going back to life's real start, Bill was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 11, 1947. The Langstaff Family moved to Dearborn in 1948 to be closer to his father's work (Ford Motor Car Company, Tool and Die Leadership). Bill went to elementary and junior high in Michigan. These were important formative years during which Bill developed people skills by delivering the Detroit Times between the ages of ten and thirteen. He earned enough money to pay for college from that route. During the Michigan years, he became involved with music and took after his Uncle Bill and learned the clarinet.

The Detroit Tigers and Detroit Red Wings were his favorite sports teams. Bill's father, Frank, retired and moved the

family to Sarasota, Florida where Bill entered ninth grade. Ultimately, he attended Sarasota High School.

Bill received a B.S. from the University of South Florida in 1969 and went on to attend dental school at Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine receiving his degree in 1973. His education at Case helped Bill to be able to hone techniques and build confidence in the dentistry, especially in the area of implants. Before entering active duty in the Naval Dental Services at Long Beach Naval Station, Bill took three dental license exams (*California, Florida and the Northeast Regionals*). He passed all of them. His first duty station was on the soon to be decommissioned Hospital Ship "Repose." He was the lone dental officer on that ship whose duty was to perform exams for exiting Marines—he was a very popular guy! Soon, he was sent to the Long Beach Naval Station Dental Clinic where he learned the art and the profession of dentistry. Bill's classmate, Jeff Wissot's wife, Gerri, introduced Bill to Toby Horscovitz. They were married in 1976. Bill says: "It is said behind a successful man, there is as good woman. Toby and I have been a team since the beginning. We bought a small new general practice in Villa Park, California in 1975." Toby received a master's degree in Speech Pathology in 1974 from Cal State University, Los Angeles.

Toby and Bill have three children: Melanie (35) lives in Mission Viejo and works in Bill's office, Andrea (31) lives in Portland, Oregon and works for the Health Care Department at Portland State University, and Dave (29) lives in Santa Cruz, California and is involved in business ventures, one of which is Kale Snack Food Products in Portland, Oregon. All are happy in their endeavors.

Bill became involved in organized dentistry by becoming in-

(continued on page 4...LANGSTAFF)



The G.P. NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY of GENERAL DENTISTRY

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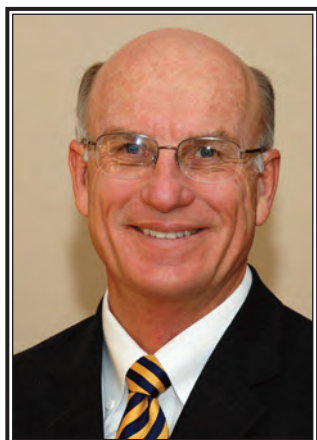
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Dr. Guy Acheson's popular coverage of the State Legislature and the Dental Board . . . *this time, about the desire of some in the dental hygiene community wishing to establish independent practice*



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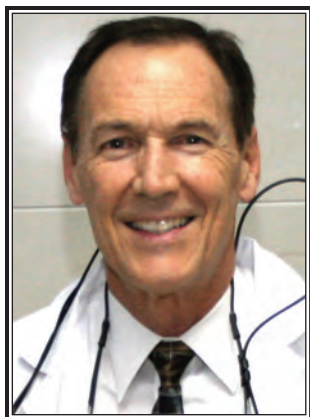
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Past CAGD President, Dr. Anita Rathee, presents an article on antitrust laws . . . *an especially important subject that all dentists need to read and know about, without fail...*



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MasterTrack candidate, Dr. Bruce Bosler, takes us to a Chinese dental hospital for the treatment of underserved children as well as offering instruction to dental students



LANGSTAFF *(continued from page 1)*



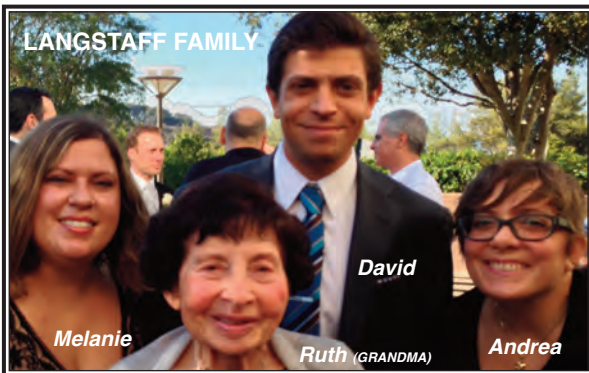
Mother, Irene; sister, Fran; Bill (1954)



California State Assembly testifying on behalf of dentistry (2013)



In Mexico with father-in-law (1995)



LANGSTAFF FAMILY

Melanie

Ruth (GRANDMA)

David

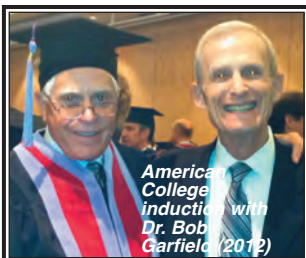
Andrea



Bill Walton

John Howard

Supporting cycling ride of quadrapolitic dentist



American College induction with Dr. Bob Garfield (2012)



Nautica Malibu Triathlon First Place (2013)

involved with implant dentistry. While in dental school an oral surgeon, Dr. Charles Babbish, sparked his interest. He became a member of the AAID, AO and the ICOI. In 1995, he met Dr. Robert Garfield, who was involved with implants as well. This relationship is still very active at many levels. Bill joined the AGD while in dental school and has an active card dating back to 1973. It was Dr. Jeff Lloyd who invited Bill to a SCAGD meeting in 2002, that started a wonderful journey which he is still enjoying. During the early years of his SCAGD involvement, he along with his very good friend, Dr. Chika Raju, created the format for CE that is still being used to this day. Bill worked his way to president of the SCAGD and soon became involved at the state level. With suggestions from Dr. Myron Bromberg, Bill established the CAGD Officer's Installation Dinner. The idea was to make the CAGD Annual Meeting a two- or three-day event. To this day, this event is being conducted in the same manner. Bill eventually became president of the CAGD. Bill created the concept of the "President's Council for Future Planning" where invited dentists gathered to discuss the direction of the CAGD. Committees such as Watchdog, Communications, and others were created. New connections to the California Dental Association were made with leader meetings prior to each CDA convention. State-level testimony regarding mid-level providers by CAGD members got the attention of the state legislators as well as the CDA. Many of these events are still in place. Today, the CAGD has evolved to a new level.

Bill credits Dr. Deon Carrico with creating the foundation for the CAGD as we know it today. He says: "Leadership is truly a reality by planning and following through and by recognizing individuals who are talented in the areas necessary to complete the plan. A good leader is one that is more of a conductor by putting the pieces together and directing the talents of good people to complete their tasks.

"I believe this academy has the foundation for many good leaders, now and in the future. It has been an honor, privilege, and passion to serve the California Academy of General Dentistry over these many years and I hope I've made a difference."



2013 Wounded Warrior Fund Ride

Los Angeles to San Diego



College Graduation (1969)



Cousin Don Langstaff, DDS, influenced Bill toward a career in dentistry (1973)



Wedding Day July 10, 1976



Bill and Toby (2009)



Relaxed in Italy (2001)



DR. TIM VERCELES
Hayward

*“You must
become the
change you
wish to see
in the world.”
—Mahatma Gandhi*

CAGD Fever... Catch It!

I congratulate our outgoing president, Dr. Guy Acheson, for his energetic and enthusiastic leadership. We had quite a year of challenges and change in the field of dentistry. With his leadership, the CAGD had a voice at the table in Sacramento with the legislators and at the Dental Board of California meetings.

The year 2014 will be transformational. With the arrival of 2014, comes hope and optimism that the future of general dentistry continues to be bright. The CAGD will continue to be your advocate in Sacramento and we will work tirelessly to preserve and protect the interests of the general dentist in California.

It is my distinct honor to serve as your president for the year. My focus will be to continue to grow our membership and provide excellent value for their dues dollars spent. The CAGD will strive to provide members with excellent continuing education courses, to assist in attaining your Fellowship and Mastership status. We will continue to be your most active advocate for general dentistry!

In November of 2013, we had Dr. Steve Buchanan present his lecture on “The Art of Endodontics” in front of a packed house of 500 dentists at the Disneyland Hotel. This program, co-sponsored by Delta Dental, is an example of the high quality CDE programs the CAGD provides for members and non-members.

I invite you to join us for the CAGD Annual Meeting on Saturday and Sunday, January 25th and 26th, 2014. Our meeting will be held at the luxurious Fairmont Newport Beach for a fun weekend of learning. Dr. Jack Griffin will lecture on restorative bonding: “Let’s Stick Together.” Dr. Dai Phan will be speaking on prosthodontics for the general practitioner: “Prosthodontic Pearls for the GP.” Dr. Reid Pullen presenting a participation endodontic course: “Dentsply Endodontic.”

When planning for your summer CDE, don’t forget to consider joining us in Detroit, Michigan for the AGD Annual Meeting from June 26th to 29th, 2014. The headline speakers are Dr. John Kois and Dr. Carl Misch. *You won’t want to miss this unique educational opportunity!*

Please spread the word about what the CAGD is doing for general dentistry, and encourage your non-member colleagues (*GPs or specialists*) to join our organization.

You can contact me at drtimv@hotmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.

As always, let us know how we can serve you better! □

CAGD's Annual Meeting "CE" Extravaganza

★ JANUARY 25-26, 2014

★ **The Fairmont Newport Beach**
4500 MacArthur Boulevard, Newport Beach 92660

Course Descriptions and Objectives:

LET'S STICK TOGETHER

Jack Griffin Jr., DMD

Simplifying indirect and direct restoration with the most durable esthetic materials ever (Participation course) Let's stop the madness. The goal of this course is to simplify materials and techniques to provide great success with an increased efficiency with both indirect and direct esthetic restorations. We will learn indications for newer indirect materials such as Lithium Disilicate and Zirconia with preparation and placement methods for each focusing on newer materials that are easy to clean up and give symptom free results. We will learn how to prep fast for success, do great build-ups, and simplify esthetic post placement with new universal bonding materials. Time will be spent learning bioactive materials that actually stimulate tooth formation. We will eliminate problems you have with posterior composites such as weak contacts, sensitivity, and slow placement with predictable matrix systems, bulk fill materials, and great bonding techniques. We will learn how to do it right the first time and to make the practice more enjoyable and efficient.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. We will learn efficient preparation and rational for lithium disilicate and zirconia restorations and learn cementation and bonding for each with the most predictable materials ever.
2. We will place regenerative/bioactive liners and cements to eliminate sensitivity and increase patient happiness; create stable long-term dental infrastructure with esthetic posts, dentin replacement, and dentin sealing for better bonds and less pain.
3. We will use universal bonding agents and become efficient with direct composite placement—preparation, selective etching, bonding, matrix selection, bulk fill, bioactive/regenerative liners.

DENTSPLY ENDODONTIC

Reid Pullen, DDS

This course is designed for the dental clinician who desires to stay at the forefront of the latest scientific advancements, endodontic techniques and schools of thought. Discussion will include NiTi metallurgy and irrigation technologies that are cutting edge and changing endodontic therapy. Please bring two or three extracted teeth for the hands-on session.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. *The Science and Physics of Instrumentation:* Advances in metallurgy and file engineering that address cyclic fatigue and file separation.
2. *Efficiency with Fewer Files:* Design enhancements that deliver consistent canal shapes in less time and with fewer instruments.
3. *Energized Irrigation Protocols:* New technologies and techniques for removing bacteria and the smear layer.
- 6 4. *Obturation:* State of the art, centrally condensed gutta percha technologies vs. single-cone techniques.



Guest room rate is \$139 a night

949-476-2001

PROSTHODONTIC PEARLS FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

Dai Phan, DDS, MS

Management of Dental Patients with Head and Neck Cancer:

Explains the role of the dental practitioner, oral complications during chemo and radiation therapy, as well as pre-radiation and surgical planning work up. Also presented are common maxillofacial prosthodontic procedures.

Making Sense of Prosthodontics: Restorative principles that ensure a successful outcome. Articulator selection, usage, denture rim contouring, artificial teeth selection, impression techniques, anterior guidance philosophy and RPD design principles.

Sleep Apnea and Treatment: Explains the different types of sleep apnea and treatment options with focus on the role of the dental professional in treating obstructive conditions with emphasis on the oral appliance.

Practical Clinic Tips for Solving Common Prosthodontic Problems: Learn techniques that provide advanced results in restorative procedures. Creation of realistic provisionals, chairside correction of unretentive denture bases and post-palatal seal areas, seating and occlusal refinements of the TMD splint, detection and correction of underextended denture borders, cheek biting solutions and "quick-fix" techniques.

Dental Considerations for Methamphetamine Users: Understanding the role of dental professionals in recognizing abusers. The effects of meth on the body and the oral cavity will be discussed. Management of behavior and restorative considerations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Understand current treatment modalities.
2. Identify effects of radiation and chemotherapy to the oral cavity.
3. Discuss how to manage patients with maxillofacial defects.
4. Identify how to fabricate obturators and speech aid prostheses.
5. Discuss the rationales of prosthodontic principles.
6. Identify how to select artificial teeth in removable prosthodontics.
7. Discuss concepts of occlusion and occlusal diseases.
8. Identify types of sleep apnea and the role of the dental professionals.
9. Discuss how to apply basic techniques to correct restorative challenges.
10. Discuss the effects of meth in the oral cavity and provide appropriate dental interventions. (see the following page)

We thank our sponsors:



Things To Do in and around Newport Beach:

With nine miles of sandy beaches, the opportunities are nearly endless for beach lovers in California's most picturesque playgrounds. But the fun doesn't stop on the sand! Newport Beach and the surrounding areas are also home to many museums, world-class shopping, fine dining, challenging golf courses, renowned attractions, performing art venues and spas. Special events and festivals are another way to experience the unique character of Newport Beach. A year-round schedule of sporting events, food and wine tastings, film and music festivals, boat parades and more ensures your stay is full of new ways to play.

Here are just a few ways to pass the time away:

Catalina Island, Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, golf, museums, dozens of exquisite and casual dining choices, shopping and more.

REGISTRATION FORM or register online at www.caagd.org (credit cards only)

Saturday, January 25 AM session 8 a.m. till noon; PM session 1 p.m. till 5 p.m.	AGD Member	Non-AGD Member	Staff and Students
Let's Stick Together — Dr. Griffin (all day lecture) — 8 hours <input type="checkbox"/> All day — 8 CE lecture credits	\$ 149	\$ 249	\$ 149
Dentsply Endodontic — Dr. Pullen (hands-on) — 4 hours <input type="checkbox"/> AM — 4 CE participation credits <input type="checkbox"/> PM — 4 CE participation credits	\$ 149	\$ 249	\$ 149
Sunday, January 26 AM session 8 a.m. till noon; PM session 1 p.m. till 5 p.m.	AGD Member	Non-AGD Member	Staff and Students
Prosthodontic Pearls for the GP — Dr. Phan (all day lecture) — 8 hours <input type="checkbox"/> All day — 8 CE lecture credits	\$ 149	\$ 249	\$ 149
Let's Stick Together — Dr. Griffin — 4 hours <input type="checkbox"/> AM — 4 CE participation credits <input type="checkbox"/> PM — 4 CE participation credits	\$ 149	\$ 249	\$ 149
Dentsply Endodontic — Dr. Pullen (hands-on) — 4 hours <input type="checkbox"/> AM — 4 CE participation credits <input type="checkbox"/> PM — 4 CE participation credits	\$ 149	\$ 249	\$ 149
CAGD Dinner Party — INDUCTION OF OFFICERS <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday night	\$ 99	\$ 99	\$ 99
HALF-DAY LECTURE CREDIT IS AVAILABLE WITH PRIOR ARRANGEMENT	\$ 109	\$ 159	\$ 109
TOTAL	\$		



The California AGD is designated as an Approved PACE Program Provider by the Academy of General Dentistry. The formal continuing dental education programs of this program provider are accepted by the AGD for Fellowship, Mastership and membership maintenance credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by a state or provincial board of dentistry or AGD endorsement. The current term of approval extends from 6-1-12 to 5-31-16.

REGISTRATION (submit a separate form for each attendee and print legibly). For online registration (credit cards only) go to www.caagd.org

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

E-mail (NEEDED TO CONFIRM REGISTRATION. INFORMATION KEPT CONFIDENTIAL) _____

AGD Membership No. _____

Now is the time to join the AGD at www.AGD.org

Payment Method:

CHECK I'm paying by check and it is enclosed and payable to the CAGD in the amount of \$ _____

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Name of Cardholder _____ Card Billing Address if not the same as above: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Security Code _____ (the security code on Visa and Mc is a 3-digit number at the end of the signature panel on the back. On AMEX it's a 4-digit number above the account number on the front)

Mail or fax this registration form to:

Cancellations can only be honored before November 15, 2013

CAGD, 950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150, Folsom, California 95630 Attn.: Event Registration Fax: 916-932-2209 Questions, call: 916-932-2245





Dr. Guy Acheson in Sacramento

Watchdog REPORT

Dr. Guy Acheson, DDS, MAGD

Committee Chairman, Fair Oaks

Dental Hygienists Want Independence in 2014

Dental therapists are on the back burner at this time. Dental Hygienists fighting to gain independence from dentists is at the top of the list for dental legislation in 2014.

I just returned from the Dental Board of California meeting in Los Angeles. This was the last meeting for the year and it is always interesting because it gives some strong hints at what the agenda will be for next year. It became very clear that Dental Hygienists will be making a big push for independence.

Dental Hygienists are regulated by the Dental Hygiene Committee which operates within the Dental Board of California (DBC). The Dental Board has left the Dental Hygiene Committee pretty much alone to make decisions about the practice of dental hygiene. The DBC maintains control of a few key subjects, such as scope of practice.

The Dental Hygiene Committee is going through a sunset review in 2014. This means that the Dental Hygiene Committee will expire in 2014, unless the legislature passes legislation to reconstitute the body for another three to five years. Because new legislation is required to make this happen, it provides an opportunity to change the organization and powers of the body. The Dental Hygiene Committee gave testimony that clearly expressed their goals of becoming a completely autonomous board that is fully independent from the DBC. If this were to happen it means that the Dental Hygiene Board could promote

legislation to expand dental the hygienist's scope of practice without any oversight or control by the Dental Board. It means that the Dental Hygiene Board could promote legislation to allow fully independent practice with their own business entities. It would be a back door way to create fully independent dental therapists in California.

The first effort at providing independent practice of hygiene is already in the works. Currently, Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) are allowed to open their own businesses in areas that are identified to be a federally designated healthcare shortage areas. If the location of the business loses its status as a healthcare shortage area, the hygiene business must close. The Dental Hygiene Committee stated that their first order of business for 2014 will be to change those regulations so that an independent RDHAP hygiene practice can continue to exist if its location loses the designation as a healthcare shortage area.

The first public hearings on the Dental Hygiene Committee sunset review will be in Sacramento in March of 2014. *You can bet that I will be there.* Watch the CAGD website, E-newsletter, and possible E-blasts for information on the time and location of this hearing. You may want to attend.

As always, feel free to contact me for more information at: drGuyacheson@gmail.com

*The Academy of General Dentistry is the premiere organization
for today's general practitioner*



TO ALASKA AND BACK

MasterTrack Reunion Cruise



CRUISE AND LEARN

The CAGD cruised through the summer with courses in Alaska!

Organized by Dr. Sun Costigan and lead by Dr. Richard Ringrose, Mastertrack graduates learned about the future of dentistry, preventing implant complications, implementing medical codes into dentistry, and practice management.

Family and friends enjoyed the sights, the food and the dental lectures on Holland America's Westerdam.

Dr. John DiPonziano, Dr. Muna Sultan, Dr. Paul Schafer, Dr. Sun Costigan, Dr. Richard Ringrose, Dr. Stephen Lockwood and Dr. Michael Lew each gave dental lectures in the mornings.

Implant Abutment Selection By Stephen Lockwood, DMD, MAGD



In the afternoons, fish were caught, glaciers photographed, and rain forests were hiked.

— Michael Lew, DDS, MAGD
Regional Director, CAGD

CRUISE ORGANIZERS



Rich Ringrose and Sun Costigan



San Diego AGD Happenings

Adina Manolescu, DDS, FAGD, *President, SDAGD, San Diego*



DR. MANOLESCU

I am delighted to have been elected President of the San Diego Component in 2014! I look forward to working with my fellow San Diego AGD officers and board members to organize continuing education courses that are on the cutting edge of dentistry. We will strive to increase AGD membership in San Diego.

I have been given a wonderful opportunity to represent the San Diego AGD, and I am very proud to do so.

Our CE meeting on "Implants in the Esthetic Zone" was a success. Dr. Andrew Chapokas spoke about how to treatment plan and restore implants in the anterior region, both with traditional and immediate placement. He covered soft tissue and grafting as well as provisionalization and custom impression techniques.

Early on in my career I recognized the benefits of pursuing a wide range of continuing education courses that would allow me to perfect my skills and keep on the cutting edge of dentistry. Joining the Academy of General Dentistry allowed me the opportunity to attend CE courses of the highest quality and to become part of a network of general dentists that mentored me, gave me invaluable advice and helped me become successful.

My inspiration for becoming a dentist was from a trip back to my birthplace, Romania. I volunteered to assist my aunt, who is a dentist, in providing dental care to people living in remote villages. The rewarding experience of alleviating pain, improving another person's quality of life and self-image, motivated me to choose a career in dentistry. I am currently in pursuit of Mastership status in the AGD.

Our continuing education programs for 2014 are being finalized. Stay tuned.

Our San Diego AGD officers for 2014 are:

ADINA MANOLESCU, DDS, FAGD
President

ERIKA KULLBERG, DMD
*Vice President and
Military Liaison, Region 17 Representative*

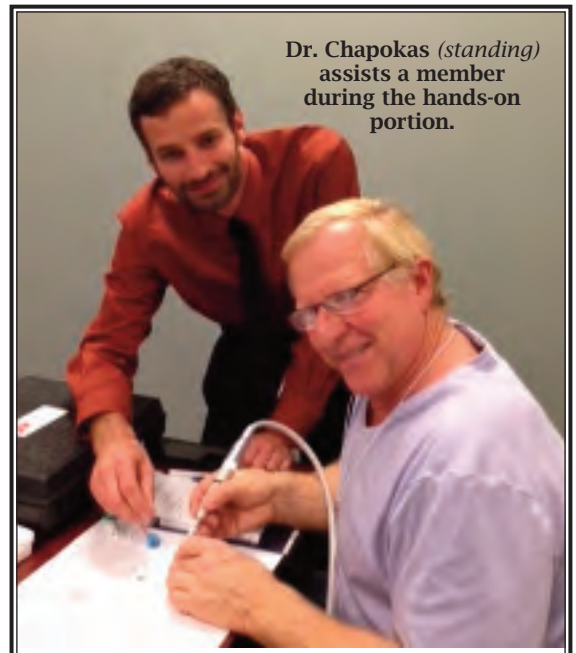
THANH TRAN, DDS
Secretary/Treasurer

KIRK HOBOCK, DDS, MAGD
Immediate Past President



10

The armamentarium



Dr. Chapokas (standing) assists a member during the hands-on portion.

THE SUBSTANCE RAVAGES AND DESTROYS TEETH

“Meth Mouth”

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, more than twelve million people age twelve and older reported that they had used methamphetamine at least once in their lifetime. “Meth” causes a large number of health problems for users of the drug, but one of the most visual signs takes place in the mouth.

According to the November, 2005 issue of AGD Impact, the news magazine for the Academy of General Dentistry, more general dentists are spotting drug use during dental care.

“Meth” has recently been identified as one of the most destructive substances to affect oral health in recent years. Dentists attribute the rampant decay of “meth mouth” to a lack of a user’s concern about oral hygiene combined with drug-induced dry mouth, teeth grinding and a craving for carbohydrates and sweets.

Patients face a variety of problems attributed to “meth” use. *“Users will have gray-stained plaque build-up on their teeth and a large number of cracks on the teeth,”* says Charles Tatlock, DDS. *“These patients also have a large number of cavities. The tooth decay is rapid and after a year of use, dentures are the only option for many patients.”*

Another reason for the rapid decay of teeth is the caustic nature of the ingredients used to make “meth.” Ether, benzene, Freon and paint thinner are just a few of the extremely dangerous materials to be used in creating “meth.” The drug is manufactured mainly in home labs in rural areas of the country. The drug used to be a rural problem, but has been spreading to urban areas in recent years.

In addition to the dangers presented by using “meth” alone, the drug can negatively interact with dental drugs. For that reason, dentists should be cautious when administering local anesthetics, sedatives, general anesthesia, or nitrous oxide, or when prescribing narcotics, according to the ADA.

Eric Curtis, DDS, MAGD, AGD spokesperson says that dentists are warned to watch out for cocaine use because of the damage it can do when it interacts with local anesthetics. *“Meth has the same risk,”* says Dr. Curtis. *“If somebody is self-medicating with ‘meth’ and they have taken meth in the last twenty-four hours they are at risk for a serious problem.”*

For many dentists, the only time they encounter “meth” users is after the damage to the mouth is done and the recovered user is looking for treatment. The majority of the time, the only choice is to extract the teeth. Obviously, if a patient presents early enough, there is always a better chance of restoring the teeth.

Physiological descriptions of “meth” users:

- Body odor (possibly a chemical smell)
- Irregular heartbeat
- Chest pain
- Elevated temperature and excessive sweating
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Dry mouth
- Blurred vision
- High blood pressure
- Dilated pupils

Behavioral descriptors of “meth” users:

- Signs of agitation
- Excited speech
- Possible increase in sexual activity
- Increase in sensitivity to noise
- Poor hygiene
- Intense paranoia
- Possible auditory and visual hallucination
- Impaired perception in thought process
- Occasional episodes of sudden and violent behavior
- Tendency to become compulsive
- Increase in physical activity level
- Decreased appetite

Northern California AGD Happenings

Ralph Hoffman, DMD, *President Elect, NCAAGD, Corte Madera*

The Hottest Topics in Dentistry

The highly sought after international speaker and President of the American Academy of Facial Esthetics, Dr. Louis Malcmacher, spoke to a fortunate group of dentists at the Hotel Kabuki in San Francisco on October 18, 2013. His presentation was "The Hottest Topics in Dentistry" and he addressed a wide range of issues from adhesive agents and composites to dermal fillers and Botox. The small group allowed freedom for numerous questions and demonstrations and the comfort of the Hotel Kabuki provided everyone with a first class learning experience. The relevance of the program and the enthusiasm in how it was delivered earned Dr. Malcmacher very high scores from his appreciative audience.

Other courses held earlier this year included the subjects of Endodontics, Dental Sleep Medicine and Indirect Restorations Utilizing Cerec technology. This was the fourth and last course offered by the Northern California AGD in 2013. Watch for our 2014 calendar.



Dr. Louis Malcmacher demonstrates trigger point palpation of the masseter muscles on Dr. Vladimir Benjamin while Dr. Jennifer Crandall and Dr. Luzana Brignon look on. Dr. Malcmacher holds Mastership status in the AGD.

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AGD's National Headquarter's New Address:

Academy of General Dentistry
560 West Lake Street
Chicago, Illinois 60661

Evolving Skills of an AGD Master

Shanthi Madireddi, DDS, FAGD, Los Altos Hills



DR. MADIREDDI

Life is full of fascinating journeys. One of them was an adventure that I embarked on three years ago. It was not the one I took to Europe or to Yellowstone or to the Grand Canyon. Those were amazing, but what really opened my eyes was the journey to personal growth. In the process of earning my Fellowship in the AGD, I desperately wanted to join some type of general dentistry study group, wherein everyone could bring cases and learn from others. However, I felt that many of them were too specialized, and that prerequisite training was needed to participate in those groups.

When I heard about the California AGD's MasterTrack Program, I was intrigued because it was a way to learn proficiency in sixteen disciplines of general dentistry. I was on a waiting list for two years, but eventually began the program. This MasterTrack program consists of eight days per year for four years. This is divided into two sessions annually, each session involving three days of lecture and participation instruction plus one day of case presentations.

At the end of the four years, attendees earn all of the participation credits needed in addition to most of the additional lecture credits needed to earn the Mastership certification. The speakers are world-class, and they are available throughout the year for email or telephone consultation for dentists who have questions about specific patient cases. Case presentations are the best part of MasterTrack. Being forced out of your comfort zone is sometimes the only way to learn new skills. These presentations involve treatment planning one or more dental scenarios for the particular module that is being studied, providing the treatment and then speaking about the case(s) in a fifteen-minute slide presentation to a group of forty classmates and instructors. For example, this might include the placement of porcelain veneers, or bone grafting and implant placement. The level of difficulty is chosen by the student, but attendees are expected to challenge themselves. Docendo discitur. The ancient Latin philosopher Seneca reminds us that "one learns by teaching."

The location alternates between Northern and Southern California. There is a new group being formed that will meet in Southern California beginning in April of 2014.



Below are some of the overwhelmingly positive sentiments expressed by current MasterTrack class members:

Keyla Spring

I think the MasterTrack program has been one of the best continuing education courses I have ever taken. I am impressed with everything about it, from the caliber of professors to the top notch classes and handouts, the camaraderie involved, not to mention the honor you earn at the end. The passion I feel for dentistry has been stimulated and refreshed. Dr. Ringrose and Lynn Peterson have done a superb job putting the program together. I feel sad that we are getting close to the end. This group is so much fun and supportive. I don't want it to end!

Khazzandra Miranda

Joining this MasterTrack program has been one of the best decisions I've ever made. All the speakers and classes have been great. Not only have I learned much from great speakers and instructors, but I learned just as much from my colleagues. The CE credits, the distinction of becoming a Fellow and a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry doesn't compare to the friendships I have made from the MasterTrack. Just priceless.

Upen Patel

The personal enjoyment and professional growth from this program has been stupendous! Our fellow classmates have become wonderful lifelong colleagues and have developed into outstanding teachers themselves due to the MasterTrack program.

Jeff Stein

It has been a phenomenal experience. I took classes that I would not have taken otherwise. My horizons in dentistry have been expanded. The friendships and camaraderie were invaluable.

Darryl Chun

MasterTrack has enabled me to identify weak points. That is photography, powerpoint, orthodontics, etc. have helped me integrate these disciplines into my practice. I have enjoyed getting to know all our classmates, who are unique and special. I have friends and colleagues for life!



(continued on the following page...MASTERTRACK)

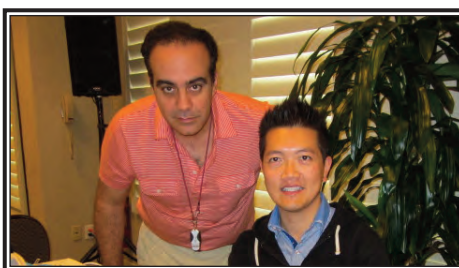
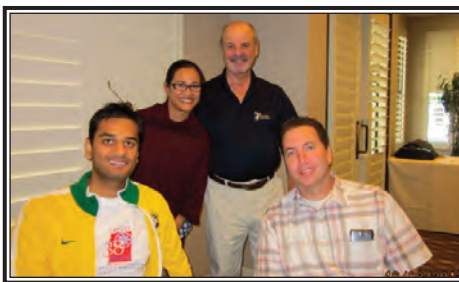
Welcome To Our New Members

Dr. Keon Ahghar, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Michael Ahn, *Brea*
 Dr. Jessica I. Aquino, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Nyinyi Aung, *Alhambra*
 Dr. Dzhoni Avetisyan, *Granada Hills*
 Dr. Shweta Bansal, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Amy Blake, *Pacifica*
 Dr. Colleen Buehler, *Sacramento*
 Dr. Hien Q. Bui, *San Diego*
 Dr. Kai Chih Chang, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Pan Wen Chang, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Jennifer Chau, *La Puente*
 Dr. Annie Chen, *San Jose*
 Dr. Victoria Choi, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Stuart M. Clements, *Whittier*
 Dr. Bridget E. Collins, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Ariana Damian, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Jessica R. Dillon, *Carlsbad*
 Dr. Maria Melissa Francisco, *Monrovia*
 Dr. Tiffany Giang, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Kapil Grewal, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Heng Guang, *Corona*
 Dr. Rajan Gupta, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Shulamit Harkavy, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Dalia Jamma, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Tiffany Jones, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Min Chul Jung, *Temple City*
 Dr. Murtaja Kamalaldeen, *Santa Clara*
 Dr. Cherilyn J. Kasperian, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Jacob Kefgen, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Andrew Kim, *Irvine*
 Dr. Jiwon Kim, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Betty Kuang, *San Francisco*

Dr. Christina Kon, *Upland*
 Dr. Alexander Lee, *Daly City*
 Dr. Brenda Lee, *Arcadia*
 Dr. Christine Leung, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Dongkook D. Lim, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Christine Liu, *San Jose*
 Dr. Vienna Liu, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Kyle Low, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Cindy Ly, *Fontana*
 Dr. Susan H. Lu, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Julia J. Ma, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Cristina R. Markiewicz, *Camarillo*
 Dr. Sayalee Mehta, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Catherine Motoyasu, *Clovis*
 Dr. Husam Najah, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Hiteshkumar K. Nana, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Saman Nazarian, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Alexander Nguyen, *Rancho Palos Verdes*
 Dr. Jennifer Nguyen, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. John Nguyen, *Montclair*
 Dr. Wai Mei Nham, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Justin Nichols, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Wendy L. Nickisch, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Michael Paisner, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Rujul G. Parikh, *Manteca*
 Dr. Mital M. Patel, *Fremont*
 Dr. Pratik Patel, *Ventura*
 Dr. Priya Patel, *Fremont*
 Dr. Richa Patel, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Julissa Percolla, *Bakersfield*
 Dr. Ani Pilikyan, *Glendale*
 Dr. Manreet Randhawa, *Sacramento*
 Dr. Rana Al Rasheed, *Los Angeles*

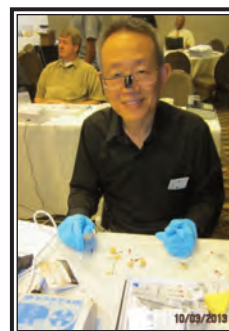
Dr. Keith E. Reber, *Tustin*
 Dr. Catherine Reyes, *Diamond Bar*
 Dr. John Reynolds, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Ana M. Rodriguez, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Kristy Rogers, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Garrett B. Rubio, *Laguna Beach*
 Dr. Peter Ryoo, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Kurt Schubert, *Encinitas*
 Dr. Richard D. Sellen, *Cupertino*
 Dr. Ryan Senft, *Oakland*
 Dr. Luke Sharron, *Santa Barbara*
 Dr. Kurt Schubert, *Encinitas*
 Dr. Maulik M. Shah, *Modesto*
 Dr. Steven Spivak, *Valley Village*
 Dr. Brittany Su, *Orange*
 Dr. Farhan A. Syed, *Santa Clara*
 DR. Alan Tanner, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Betsabeh D. Tehrani, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Uyen Thompson, *Chula Vista*
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 Dr. Steven Truman, *San Carlos*
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 Dr. Valerie Velasco, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Jasveen Wadia, *Los Angeles*
 Dr. Matthew E. Warnock, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Amir Wassif, *San Francisco*
 Dr. Breanna Wong, *Orange*
 Dr. Desiree Yazdanshenas, *San Juan Capistrano*
 Dr. Andrew J. Zakarian, *San Diego*

MASTERTRACK *(continued from the previous page)*



WHAT IS INVOLVED?

To achieve Mastership status, a dentist must complete a minimum of 1,100 hours of approved continuing education with at least 400 hours in participation, hands-on courses in sixteen different subject codes. Students are involved in demonstration of a particular skill or technique under the direct supervision of highly skilled experts.

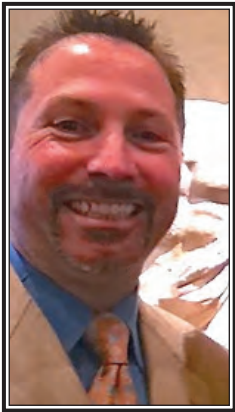


Dr. Gordon Christensen says:

“Achieving the AGD Fellowship and Mastership status are goals deserving the attention of every general dentist.”

SACRAMENTO-SIERRA AGD NEWS

William Kushner III, DDS, *President, SSAGD, Danville*



DR. WM. KUSHNER

Wow! 2013 flew by so fast. With the holidays past us it was nice to reflect on what a productive year we had with the Sacramento-Sierra Academy of General Dentistry. Congratulations to the new slate of officers. I am honored to serve as this year's President. I am also fortunate to have Dr. Smita Khanwala as Treasurer and Dr. Maryam Saleh as Secretary. I thank the SSAGD Board for its continued support, participation, and dedication.

To recap 2013, I recall some amazing events that I wish to share. We had a great composite course with Dr. Lee Brady in April. Dr. Brady brought enlightenment to the new strategies in using materials as well as the utilization of curing lights. The Patterson facility in Roseville was a great venue.

The Dental Learning Updates in Contemporary Dentistry in June was fantastic. We had 300 attendees and Rella Christensen presented "How To Stay Healthy When Your Patient's Aren't." Many vendors were there to visit at the breaks.

Dr. Michael Lew presented "Success in Dentistry" at Brabant Dental Lab in September. His presentation was very interactive and got the whole class involved in discussing market-forces and changes in our National Healthcare system and how it may affect our practices.

We had a great planning meeting and were able to create a fabulous 2014 calendar.

The SSAGD has planned the following courses:

- ◆ **Saturday, March 8th (9 till 1) — DENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY**
—Dr. Guy Acheson—Brabant Dental Lab—
a lecture/hands-on course (4 units of CE)
- ◆ **Thursday, April 17th (6:30 till 9:30) — REALIGN**— Henry Schein facility in Rocklin — a lecture course on a new orthodontic product created by Align and Schein (3 units of CE)
- ◆ **Saturday, June 14th (subject, time, location TBA).** We plan to have an eight-hour course (8 units of CE)
- ◆ **Friday, October 3rd (time, location TBA). CAD/CAM E-MAX**
— Ivoclar will put on a workshop/hands-on course for restoration glazing, staining and layering porcelain. This training will be for any brand milling machine. Ivoclar will provide a CDT for the course (6 units of CE)

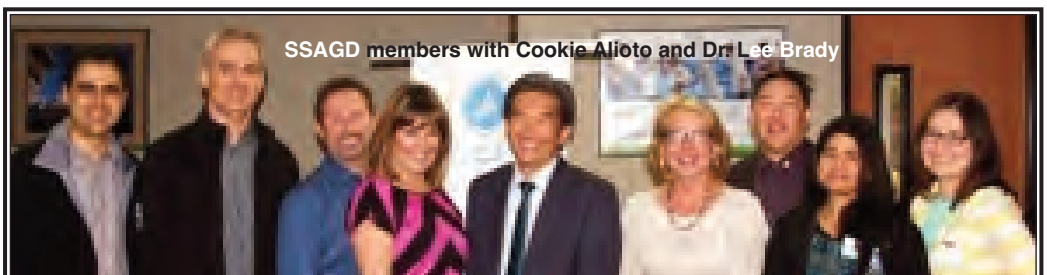
We welcome 2014 with our focus of providing memorable continuing education courses. We plan for our future and development not only for our board, but for our membership. We hope to see many of you at our upcoming events. □



Dental Learning Update Course



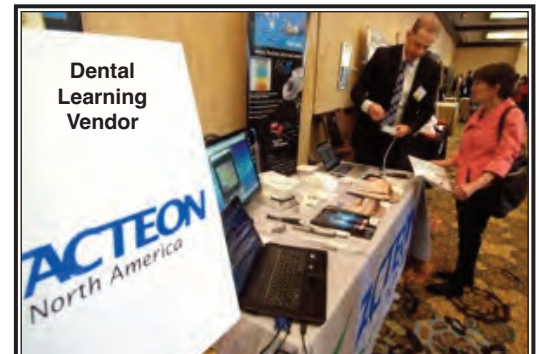
Dr. Lee Ann Brady Course



SSAGD members with Cookie Alioto and Dr. Lee Brady



Dental Learning Update Course



Dental Learning Vendor

ANTITRUST LAWS

Do They Help Us or Hurt Us?



Anita Rathee, DDS, MPH, West Hills



DR. ANITA RATHEE

Antitrust laws were first enacted in the United States in 1890, although the history of competition law dates back to the Roman Empire. The purpose of antitrust laws is to promote competition in the marketplace. Competition lowers costs and this is beneficial to the public. Antitrust laws are enforced by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Justice

(DOJ). According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) website, "Competition in health care markets benefits consumers because it helps contain costs, improve quality and encourage innovation."

There is a perception that antitrust laws have historically been used against us in dentistry, rather than for us. This is because federal regulators have aggressively pursued antitrust enforcement actions against health care providers. As a matter of fact, a landmark federal criminal case prosecuted against health care workers involved dentists in Arizona. In 1990, three dentists and their companies were found guilty of conspiring to raise the co-payment fees paid by members of four Tucson-area dental plans. Third party payors, on the other hand, have received relatively little scrutiny. Their actions to contain costs are viewed as beneficial because it results in lower costs to consumers. Penalties for antitrust violations are severe and can include up to ten years in jail with fines of \$1 million per violation for individuals and up to \$100 million per violation for organizations. Aside from this, the cost of defense is usually exorbitant and not likely covered by malpractice or other types of insurance. Needless to say, treading on issues even remotely related to antitrust must be dealt with very carefully and judiciously in order to steer clear of any potential violations.

The Sherman Antitrust Act, enacted in 1890, prohibits any concerted action that unreasonably restrains competition. The three main categories are "price fixing," "conspiracy to boycott" and "restraint of trade." According to the ADA's guide to antitrust laws in dentistry, the first rule of thumb in understanding the antitrust laws is that any action that results in increased prices also increases the risk of antitrust. "If the point of collective conduct is to stabilize or raise prices, the antitrust yellow flag is waving." Remember, lowering prices and increasing competition is the purpose of antitrust laws. If two

or more dentists compare fees and decide to charge the same fee for a procedure, it is called price fixing. If several dentists get together and decide they don't like the fee schedule an insurance company is offering and refuse to participate in that plan, it is considered conspiracy to boycott. There is no antitrust violation, however, if dentists look at the same fee schedule and independently decide as individuals that they do not wish to participate. Nor is there a violation if the dentists are partners or part of a corporation. In these circumstances, the corporation or partnership is considered a single entity.

Restraint of trade violations are particularly problematic as evidenced by the FTC investigation of the North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners. The FTC found the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners illegally thwarted competition by taking actions to stop non-dentist from providing teeth whitening goods and services to consumers. The Commission claimed that The Dental Board's illegal actions led to higher prices and reduced choices for consumers. This decision was upheld by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on May 31, 2013. The initial complaint was filed in June of 2010 and the case has been in litigation for three years.

Needless to say, antitrust violations are serious as well as expensive and time consuming to defend. Not only as organizations, but as individuals, we must be cognizant of any actions on our part that may violate antitrust laws. It may seem that our hands are tied and there is little that we can do. However, an important exception to the antitrust laws is the right for individuals and groups to collectively lobby government action, even if that action would harm competition, provided that the lobbying is in good faith. An important way we can exercise this right is by supporting Congressman Paul Gosar, a dentist from Arizona. Among other things, he has sponsored a bill, H.R. 911 which seeks to repeal the antitrust exemption afforded to health insurance companies by the McCarran-Ferguson Act.

The ADA has an excellent resource "Antitrust Laws in Dentistry: A Primer of 'Do's Don'ts and How To's' for Dentists and Dental Societies."

The booklet can be found at www.dcdsny.com/pdfs/members/antitrust_booklet_full.pdf

This is a reprint of an article that appeared in the summer issue of the San Fernando Valley Dental Society's publication, "Dental Dimensions" and appears here with Dr. Rathee's permission.

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*Thirty-fourth Annual SKI & LEARN sponsored by the
Southern California Academy of General Dentistry and the Western Society of Periodontology*

Snowmass/Aspen, Colorado

FEBRUARY 8-15, 2014

Our program will begin with a Sunday night, February 9th wine and cheese party. There will be a mid-week Nastar Race. The final event will be our Friday night awards banquet.

We will be staying at the Top of the Village Condominiums, a ski-in, ski-out location. Our accommodations will be largely two- and three-bedroom units. These units will have daily maid service, fully equipped kitchens with all utensils, VCRs, DVDs, washers and dryers in each unit, indoor pools, whirlpools, sauna, steam room, fitness center, daily coffee service, free shuttle service around Snowmass and all taxes and service charges.



The package will include round-trip air and bus transportation, seven nights lodging and lift tickets for five out of the six days and all baggage handling. The cost for this entire package will be \$1,799. This is by far the best value in the entire ski industry.

The dental continuing education program will be conducted each morning and each afternoon for four days in the Office Clubhouse within 150 feet of the condominiums. 16 units of continuing education will be available through the AGD in category one. The seminar fees are as follows: Dentists @ \$255; Auxiliaries who are not dentists @ \$110.

Ski.com, once again, will be handling our travel arrangements. For reservations and a complete brochure of information for registration, Ski.com can be reached at:

Martha Perez at Ski.com
800-525-2052, Ext. 3045

or contact **Robert Garfield, DDS, Executive Director, SCAGD**
2720 Aqua Verde Circle
Los Angeles, California 90077-1502
or call 310-471-4916
or email to drrobertgarfield@aol.com

Navigating through Obstacles



DR. RICHA PATEL
*University of the Pacific
Intern'l Dental Student*

Richa Patel, BDS, IDS Class of 2015, AGD FellowTrack Program, University of the Pacific

The opportunities that exist for dentists now and in the future make oral health one of the most exciting, and rewarding professions. Individuals who choose to pursue dental careers are motivated, scientifically curious, intelligent, ambitious and socially conscious health professionals. And those who decide to migrate from their countries have an extra zeal to make the best use of the opportunities.

They are men and women from diverse backgrounds and cultures; all of them with a desire to change socially or professionally from their previous lifestyles. The United States of America is, without doubt, a country with an ocean full of opportunity and the dental profession is very fulfilling here, more so than in most other countries.

International Dental Graduates or Advanced Standing Graduates fall into two major categories; those who are permanent residents and those who are non-immigrants. Today, we are talking about non-immigrant dental graduates. The ones having permanent residency status have a path which is very similar to dental students and saves them from having to go over obstacles in their dental career.

One Thing that Bothers Me

International Programs are designed for dentists from other countries to come to the United States and practice. Isn't it obvious that out of these professionals, the majority of them will end up staying in United States, especially after spending so much of their resources getting relicensed in this country? These professionals have to go through the long, stressful process of multiple and unpredictable changes in visa requirements regarding their status. Is it so difficult for the government of the United States to understand that? With this group of dentists, 95% of them work as general dentists and 80-85% continue doing so throughout their careers. This benefits the United States as it helps to fill in the lack of general dentists in many areas.

Just before Graduation

Fill out your post-completion application form, the Optional Practical Training (OPT) as early as April. Once you receive a recommendation for post-completion OPT from your Designated School Official (DSO) to pursue your OPT, you must apply for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) with the U.S. Customs Immigration Service (USCIS) within thirty days. Additionally, according to USCIS, you may file up to ninety days prior to your program end date, but not

later than sixty days after your program end date. It's best to give a maximum time for the USCIS to process your application and, if possible, apply before ninety days from your official graduation date. The officers at these offices may change and this often leads to problems in the granting of the OPT status. Be sure to fill the form precisely. A photo of you is to be sent with the application. It is to be on a clear white background with your signature. It needs to be small enough that they would have no problem incorporating it onto the OPT card. Pay attention to these details if you don't want to delay your OPT. Once you have determined that F-1/OPT is the best pathway for you, and you are ready to apply, you can find the full application process and legal requirements outlined on <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/practical-training/>

Right after Graduation

If you have a job, that's great. If you do not, there are a number of job forums that you can use to apply. There are ample job opportunities out there. If you have a student loan and are wishing to settle in the United States, consider a state like Texas. It is a place many young dentists prefer as the cost of living is affordable with no state taxes. This is an important factor for a new graduate. There are many corporate and private firms that offer non-immigrants the opportunity to apply for H1 visas (*unlike saturated states like California*). The cost of application is normally included in your pay package. If not, some may ask you to pay them for the expenses incurred. The total application for the H1 costs a dentist around \$5000.

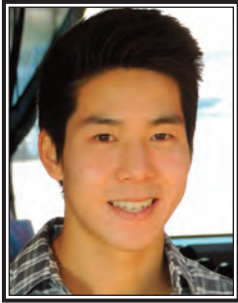
Points To Keep in Mind During Your Job Hunt

As discussed above, there is no shortage of jobs for dentists in many states. The catch for non-immigrant dentists is that they need their employers to sponsor them for the H1 visa. In California, especially in the urban areas where there is saturation of dentists, it is extremely difficult. Entrepreneur dentists applying to small or mid-level companies may find that those companies will not pay for the H1. The application for the H1 has to be done within one year of your start date. From the employer's viewpoint, it is hard to judge how beneficial that potential employee might be to his or her office in such a short time. There is a proposal to include the DDS/DMD under the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) group of professions and to grant a twenty-nine month OPT period.

The most critical thing is to be accurate with your information. Keep it updated and aim high with the right attitude and the hurdles can be passed successfully. Hopefully, this article, proves to be useful information and will guide you through your transition period.

FellowTrack South

University of California at Los Angeles



RYAN WOO
AGD FellowTrack
Student Chapter
President

Ryan Woo, Student FellowTrack President, UCLA Class of 2015

Lithium disili-what? Biogeneric copy who? Thankfully, those thoughts were quickly dispelled after attending the CAD/CAM training session hosted by Patterson Dental and the CAGD. Both organizations collaborated to graciously hold a hands-on tutorial for UCLA CAGD members for the use of CEREC.

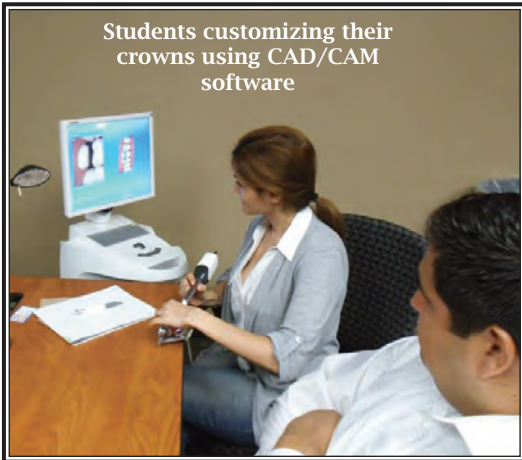
The presentation covered a full spectrum of topics with everything from the biomaterials science behind the technology and the indicated uses for each ceramic material, to the practicality of implementing a CAD/CAM system in one's office. Unlike most presentations that easily end up in a sales pitch, Patterson summarized the cost-benefit of systems on the market, enabling us to become informed practitioners in the future.

The hands-on portion proved to be both enlightening and humbling. Starting from a prepared tooth we scanned the

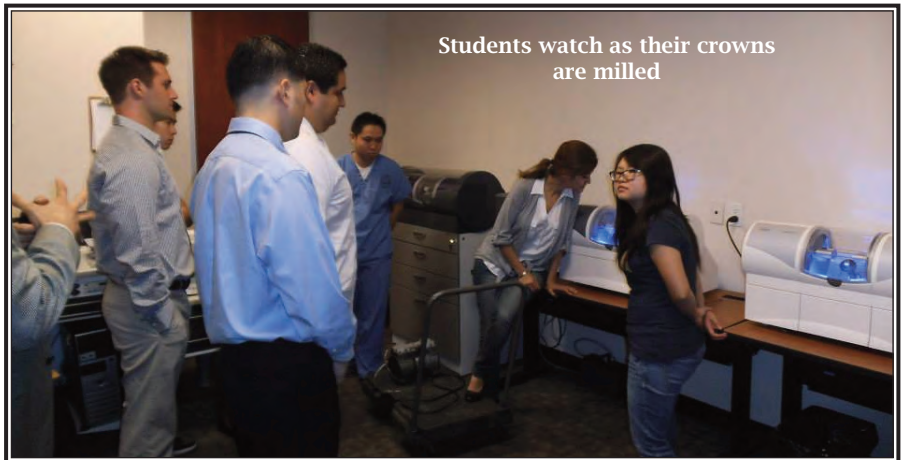
model, adjusted crown specifications, milled/stained/glazed, and then fired the crown in the furnace to produce the finished product. Fortunately, this was not a real patient because some of the occlusal grooves looked more like burnt marshmallows than delicately characterized pit and fissure stains. The whole process gave us an appreciation for the skill sets and foresight needed to make this an effective office tool.

Digital impressions and chairside milling has been present for many years now. As technology advances, the use of these machines has become increasingly paramount in offering dentists convenient and economical options for fixed restorations. As emerging dentists, we will be faced with an ever-changing dental field and we are thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the avantgarde.

On behalf of the UCLA CAGD FellowTrack Student Chapter, we want to thank Patterson Dental and the CAGD for their generosity in hosting the training session. □



Students customizing their crowns using CAD/CAM software



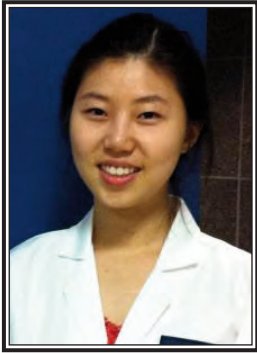
Students watch as their crowns are milled



UCLA AGD member attendees

FellowTrack North ✨ A Lunch and Learn Course

University of California at San Francisco



SO YOUN MIN
"Jenny"

I am very proud that the AGD at the UCSF is growing exponentially every year. We started as a small organization with very little publicity. This year, we had ninety people show up to our very first meeting. We were fortunate to receive enough funding from our school and the AGD to provide delicious lunch to all the students who came to our events. With the help of an amazing team of board members and mentors, we were able to hold one orientation and one lunch and learn about oral surgery complications.

At our first board member meeting, we asked our members last year what they would like to change this year to improve AGD at UCSF. Some of the issues that were mentioned were that they did not even know about the AGD and that they did not know how to apply for AGD membership. To change that, we made flyers to advertise our club and reached out to the first year dental students to publicize our organization from early on.

In addition, to foster a more welcoming environment for new attendees and returning members, we wanted to do something differently than many other Lunch and Learn events. Rather than having people sign into a list placed on a table (which is usually the rate-limiting for most of the Lunch and Learns), our team members used welcome cards and actively got info from people while they waited for the food. Our efforts definitely paid off. We were very happy with an amazing turn out at both events.

The topic for our first Lunch and Learn event of the year

Jenny So Youn Min, AGD President, UCSF, Class of 2015

was very interesting which generated a great deal of enthusiasm among our students: "How To Avoid Oral Surgery Complications" by Dr. William Choi. He is a volunteer faculty member at General Practice Residency. He shared with us a number of very difficult cases that he treated in his private practice. His stories were very inspired because he showed us how much a general practitioner could do.

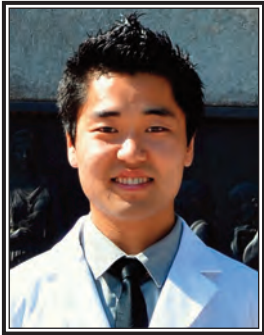
With the help of CE courses offered by the AGD, the scope of the general practice can broaden astronomically. His stories were truly reinforcing of the AGD's motto of life-long learning. Dr. Choi was a great speaker and our UCSF students were very interested and engaging during the talk.

I am excited for our future events which will be as great as, or even better than, the successful two events that we have had to date. Having the best team, including our mentor, Dr. Ralph Hoffman, I am certain that the rest of the year will be an amazing one of growth for the AGD at the UCSF chapter. □



University of Southern California

David H. Kim, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC



DAVID KIM

Dear Doctors and FellowTrack Students:

My name is David Kim, and I am currently a third-year student at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at USC.

I was fortunate enough to be in a position to help the AGD Student FellowTrack program at USC this year. I first heard about the AGD as a freshman. While the number of groups and organizations that stressed various specialties seemed endless, I found it odd that general practitioners did not have as much representation. However, upon discovering the AGD, I found that its dedication and backing of the general dentist specifically was not only refreshing, but needed.

As I discovered more and more about the AGD, I could not help but want to be involved. From its support of lifelong learning that is dentistry through continuing education courses and its Fellowship and MasterTrack programs, but also how it goes to bat for general dentists regarding treatment options and the range of services that general dentists can perform.

Over time, I slowly began to get more involved, culminating in events such as the CAGD Student Leadership Conference to sponsoring USC's very own Membership Orientation for other future AGD student members. The turnout was great as shown in the photos and I believe that is attributed more to AGD's commitment to general practitioners and our interests.

While in school many students, myself included, are scrambling just to graduate and often forget that there is so much to learn outside of school. It is wonderful that an organization like the AGD exists to help us with that education and really learn all we can so that we can not only offer our patients the latest treatment, but also the best options. In the ever-evolving and advancing field of dentistry, I believe the partnership between dentists and the AGD will help us to offer care that is truly outstanding and above the standard of excellence. □

Fight On!



American Student Dental Association



Jim Lam, CAGD Vice President, Class of 2015, USC School of Dentistry

Our meeting was held at the Pacific Dental Services headquarters in Irvine, California in October of 2013. It began with an introduction to the ASDA, its background and constituency. There are eleven districts (*all the dental schools in California belong to District 11*). There were many UCLA students present (*approximately thirty*), but only about five USC students (*I am a student at USC*). There were representatives from other schools present, but I did not get a count. USC was severely underrepresented compared to the other schools of dentistry in California.

The topics presented to us and that were discussed are listed below:

Stay Involved and Make a Difference— Dr. Carol Summerhays, ADA District 13 Trustee, AGD member and USC alum, went over the summary of the book, “Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.” A profession is not a job, a profession is self-regulating. She encouraged students to get involved in leadership positions in organized dentistry. She went over tripartite membership: local, state and national. USC is losing ADA membership from 100% to 56% (*while in school to after graduation*). An interesting note, she said the ADA is losing its market share of general practitioners.

What Every Dental Student Should Know: Current Issues Facing Dentistry and the Future of the Profession— Dr. Lindsey Robinson, CDA President, USC alum, and wife of a 2017 USC dental student, mentioned how Micra, Denti-Cal rate cuts, Delta and Covered California are affecting dentistry. There is a flattening of dental expenditures and increasing student debt, a couple of the key forces reshaping the dental landscape. The dentist of the future needs to be adaptive and multi-faceted.

Advocacy and ADPAC— Dr. Matt Campbell, ADPAC District 13 Representative, spoke. He told us that ADPAC is the #2 largest healthcare PAC in the U.S. (*behind orthopedic surgeons*). He stressed the need to elect politicians that are pro-dentistry, but that requires a lot of money. He also stressed the need to participate in the community to give our profession a good name. The minimum ADPAC donation for students is \$5.

Expanding the Role of Dentists through Community-based Telehealth Connected Teams— Dr. Paul Glassman, Director of Pacific’s Center for Special Care, spoke. He went over access and disparities pertaining to dentistry. There is a lower insurance coverage percentage in dentistry compared to overall healthcare. He explained how the telehealth dentistry model can benefit a dental practice. Basically, a dental hygienist is sent outside the office to a site (*such as a school or church*) and screens patients and refers, if necessary. He also went over a novel way of dealing with caries that involves impartial removal.

Medical Protective— MP is a malpractice insurance company. They explained the difference between an occurrence and claims-made policy. To be honest, I still don’t completely know the difference and which is better.

Pacific Dental Services— A question and answer session. They brought in four PDS dentists and the students could ask any question they wished. A lot of questions were asked about how PDS functions. PDS is a corporate dental company, but apparently the dentists have full autonomy of their treatment plans. However, they mentioned how a lot of the offices were outfitted with CEREC machines. A dentist can own only up to 49% of the practice while PDS owns 51%. They stressed that they were different than other corporate dental companies.

Ways To Wreck Your Finances— Ryan Schulte, Envision Wealth Group, is a personal finance manager. He went over different ways people can ruin their finances. Pitfalls, such as spending money you don’t have for things you don’t need, and not buying insurance for value. He broke down the investment pyramid of low risk to high risk (*savings account to precious metals*). Bottom line is that we must put away more to retire with more (*a simple concept, but a lot of people don’t optimize their finances*).

Vendor Fair—It appeared that half the booths were corporate dental companies. Other companies present included U.S. Bank, Crest, Colgate, a practice selling/buying company, and Envision Wealth Group. I got some free stuff, but also a lot of corporate dentistry people were asking me when I am graduating and where I would like to practice. Half the companies didn’t even have locations in California. The next meeting will be at the annual session in Anaheim, February, 2014.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS OF DENTISTRY ATTEND

CAGD's Student Leadership Conference

Michael Lew, DDS, MAGD, Regional Director, CAGD, Novato



On a warm Saturday at the beginning of the school year, student leaders from USC, UCLA, UOP and UCSF conferred with each other at the CAGD's Leadership Conference held in Oakland, an annual CAGD event.

Drs. Cheryl Goldasich, Ralph Hoffman, Michael Lew, Guy Acheson and Sun Costigan along with CAGD's executive director, Lynn Peterson, assisted in organizing FellowTrack programs for the students at their respective schools.

Hearing how the AGD can facilitate success after dental school and learning the tools that the CAGD offers for excellent FellowTrack programs made for an interesting morning. Mr. Mark Buzko from Dentist Advantage gave an eye-opening lecture that afternoon on the topic of Risk Management.

Student leaders from California's schools of dentistry who were in attendance:

Bahareh Bakhtiari, Alina Borchardt, Christine Chan, Bridget Collins, Omar Gabr, Shula Harkavy, Venkateswarlu Kadi- veti, Claudine Kashiwabara, David Kim, Jiwon Kim, Sarah Koyama, Hua Feng Kuan, Angela Laithangbam, Jim Lam, Jenny Min, Justin Nichols, Danielle Niren, Richa Patel, Manreet Randhawa, Kristy Rogers, Garrett Rubio, Poonam Shah, Heidi Sipin, Piyush Sisodia, Melissa Styles and Triet Vuong.



CAGD's Executive Director, Lynn Peterson (left) with Shula Harkavy, student attendee, at the Student Leadership Conference sponsored by the CAGD in September



Student leaders from UCSF, UCLA, UOP and USC at CAGD's Student Leadership Conference (six CAGD leaders are in the mix as well)

Humanitarian/Teaching Visit to Guilin

Bruce Bosler, DDS, FAGD, Vacaville

Nestled amongst karst mountains in southern China is the city of Guilin. It is one of the most beautiful places on the planet. The Li River winds through miles of vertical emerald mountains. Night fisherman, standing on bamboo rafts, fish using cormorant birds by the light of hanging lanterns.

two days later, just in time to eat and go to bed.

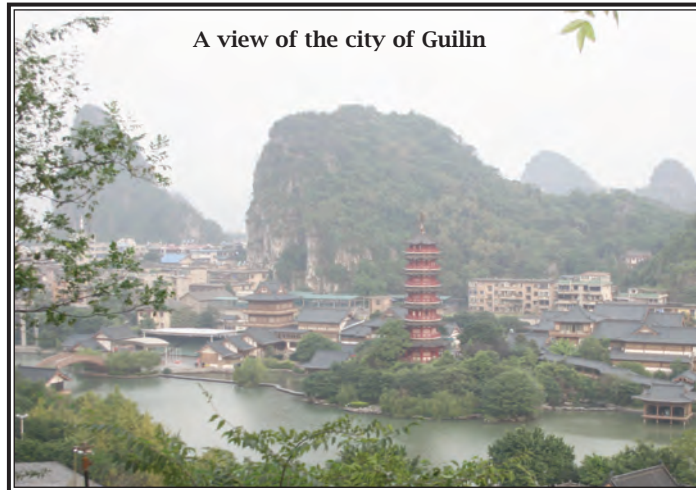
Monday through Friday, we saw patients in a very nice clinic. In the evening, we lectured to the dental staff and students. Ultradent provided a PowerPoint presentation to help teach their technique of root canal preparation and obturation. They were generous enough to supply nearly all of our restorative and endodontic supplies. I also found this an excellent opportunity to share my MAGD MasterTrack PowerPoint cases with them.

Dr. Hsu, a participating dentist from Boston, shares this experience: "A mother brought her nine-year-old cerebral palsy son to see me for the second time. He was grateful (*I had filled his painful teeth on the right side last year*). He waited eighteen months to see us, the 'American dentists,' again! I realized that we could make a difference."

Lorrie Belcher, a nurse-anesthetist with our group, shares this uplifting story: "One experience I had was when I went out into the country with the optometrist and fit glasses for the elderly, these sweet Chinese farmers and wives came in bent and worn; hands and faces etched with years of labor. We fit them with something so simple as reader's glasses and gave them the newspaper to read. Their weary faces brightened up with huge smiles as they read for the first time in years. It was such an uplifting experience."

I personally saw a young single mother who couldn't afford root canals to save two of her molars. Much of her income went to medical expenses for her adopted son suffering with a chronic blood disease. Her expressed gratitude for saving those two molars made my entire visit worthwhile.

One afternoon, part of our group visited a very progressive school for children with Down's syndrome. About 100 children sat patiently and respectfully waiting for us to arrive. We brought them gifts from America and they returned gifts to us made by their own hands. Our hygienist



A view of the city of Guilin

The Affiliate Hospital of Guilin Medical University's Department of Stomatology hosted our team of dentists and support auxiliaries to treat the local underserved population and to offer evening instruction on new dental techniques and dental materials.

Our team numbered twenty-two; seven dentists (*four of whom spoke Chinese*), one optometrist, two nurses, two hygienists, a videographer and nine other support staff. Our team represented six different states in the USA: California, Alaska, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, New York, and Utah. AGD members included Karl Koerner, DDS; Scott Stucki, DDS; Josh Davidson, DDS; Newell Walther, DDS; Kenneth Wong, DDS, MAGD; Yin Hsu, DMD, MPH, FAGD; and myself, Bruce Bosler, DDS, FAGD.

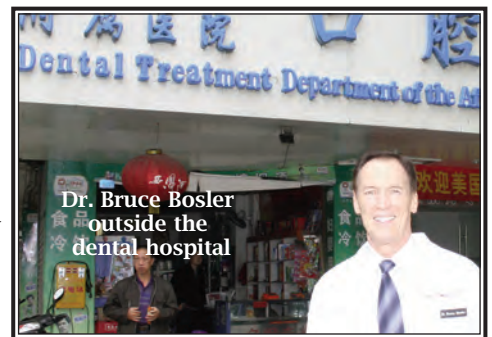
Over the years, Dr. Karl Koerner, an AGD member and practicing dentist from Utah, has organized multiple such humanitarian trips to China. He is a popular speaker on Oral Surgery and finds potential humanitarian participants wherever he travels. He lectured to our CAGD MasterTrack group this past April. During his presentation, he included a few pictures of China and spoke some Chinese. *That hooked me and I was ready to go!* It was something I've always wanted to do.

In October, we all met for the first time at the Los Angeles Airport. After three flights, four security checks, customs, nineteen hours of total flight time, and losing a full day lost over the international date line, we arrived

26 at the Jing Tong Hotel,



Activity on the Li River



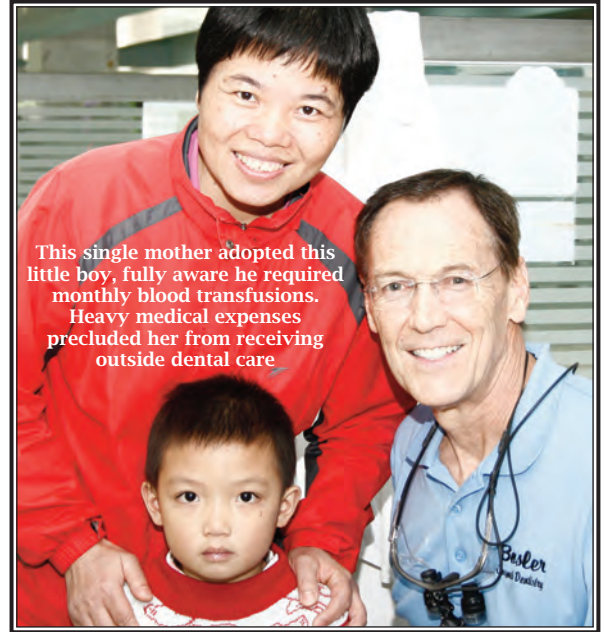
demonstrated proper brushing and flossing technique. I led them in a popular Chinese folk song, "Mwo Li Hua" which I had learned many years before as a missionary in Taiwan. Visiting those children was the emotional highlight of my trip.

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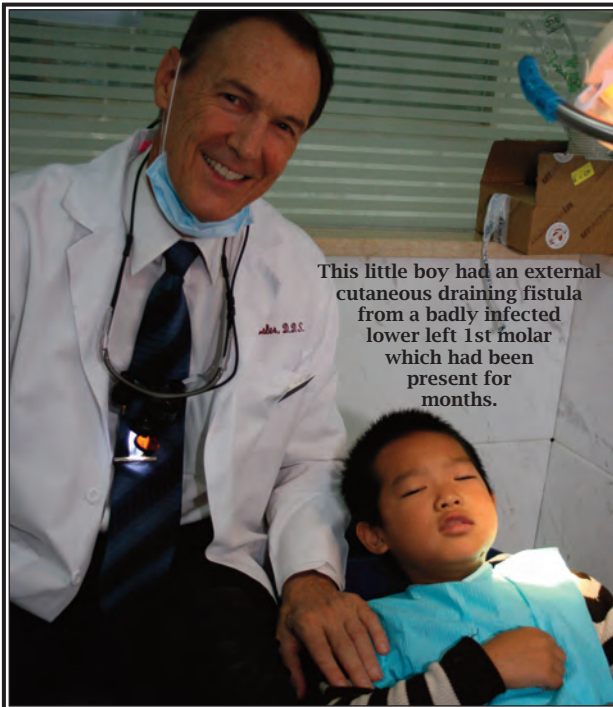
Humanitarian/Teaching Visit to China (continued from the previous page)



Dental students and doctors look on as Dr. Bosler talks to a patient prior to an endodontic procedure.



This single mother adopted this little boy, fully aware he required monthly blood transfusions. Heavy medical expenses precluded her from receiving outside dental care



This little boy had an external cutaneous draining fistula from a badly infected lower left 1st molar which had been present for months.



Our host, Dr. Liang, confers with Dr. Davidson



Dr. Bosler shares his knowledge with staff at the Guilin Dental Hospital in the evening after having treated patients all day.

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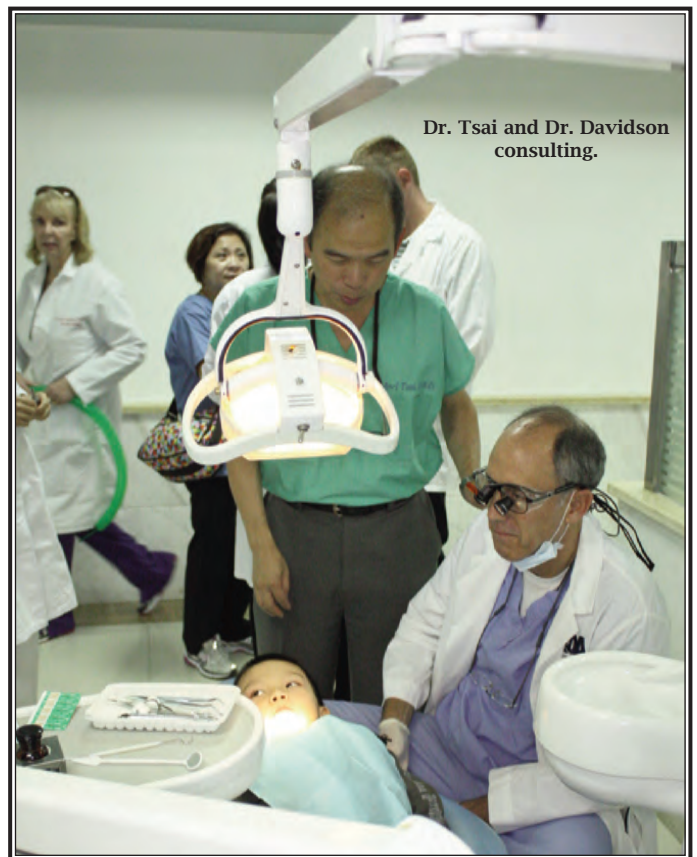


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Humanitarian/Teaching Visit to China (continued from the previous page)



When we left China, we left new friends and brought home memories we will always cherish.

Interested participants can reach Dr. Koerner at:
Karlkoerner@comcast.net