

Now, back to why you should go to meetings. In my opinion, the ADA (not the GDA) has failed the average dentist in our state by failing to represent the values that we were taught regarding the profession and the attitudes that we should have toward our patients. So how are you going to change an organization that is failing you? Dropping out is losing out. You have to know the issues and you have to know what is going on in your own arena. Where are you going to learn the most about the profession of dentistry? The golf course, your Sunday school class, and the local Rotary meeting may be places that produce interesting tidbits that may be personally and financially rewarding. However, dentistry is going to be discussed at the meetings of the dental association and that would be the component of the ADA and GDA – The Central District. The government is getting involved in health care. The insurance industry is fighting for its life and your life is irrelevant to them. The profession's publications (especially *The ADA News*) are written by the ADA staff and what they write is often slanted to the presentation that the staff of the ADA wants it to be. To summarize let me make two more comments. One of these may be dealt with later since we have not discussed it in depth.

1 – The Central District Meeting is the place where the information on your ability to serve your patients and make a living is discussed. These discussions may be in the program or they may be in the informal conversations held at the dinner table.

2 - Membership in the ADA is the only way to have a meaningful chance to be involved in the future of your profession.

If you think that some issues can be handled differently. Write or call your Trustee ( Mike Loden) or your ADA Delegate (Kara Moore). They need to know what you think and you can send your thoughts to Chicago and the ADA. Better yet, ask to be put on a committee and tell them yourself.

The battle for the future of dentistry is being fought right now. Not two years from now, but now. *What is your decision? Play or Pass.*

## Calendar of Events

|        |                        |
|--------|------------------------|
| Feb 5  | GKAS Give Kids a Smile |
| Feb 18 | Meeting at WRAFB       |
| Feb 19 | CE Conference at WRAFB |
| Mar 3  | LAW Day                |
| May 13 | Regular Meeting        |



To read additional content and color photos of last meeting, etc., please visit online:  
<http://www.hollidaydental.com/ccds/newsletters.htm>



## CENTRAL DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

*Here's your dose of "Mental Floss"*

Dr. Amy Lee - Editor

Dr. Lindsay Holliday -Assistant Editor

Vol. XXIX No. 1 – February 2010

## CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING

6:00 ~ SOCIAL • 7:00 ~ DINNER • 8:00 ~ PROGRAM



**Thursday, February 18th**  
**Officer's Club**  
**Warner Robins Air Force Base**

### SPEAKER

**Dr. David Klingman DMD**

Resident, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Department of Dental Medicine, Long Island Jewish Medical Center

### TOPIC

**A Survey of Oral Pathology**

PLEASE .... RSVP for the meeting **AND** Friday Conference by **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8th**

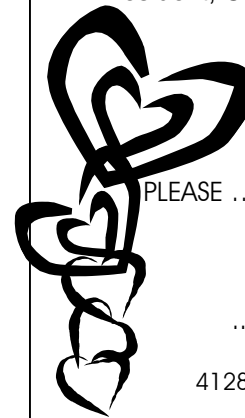
This is for Air Force Base security requirements.

Dinner meeting - \$20 Thank you!

...or Pay at the Door \$5 extra, or IOUs for \$10 extra!!

Send to: Dr. Don Benton

4128 Arkwright Rd., Suite B - Macon 31210 t.doc@cox.net



When submitting your RSVP, be sure to indicate your choice for the meal: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Flank Steak

### PLEASE NOTE THIS!!!

**You need a drivers license in order to enter the base to get to the Officer's Club.**

**NO late RSVPs due to tightened air force security.**

## WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Roy E. Lehrman, D.D.S.

In a previous Presidents letter I opened with the statement if not now when? When is now, because if we don't act now it will be too late. The dentists of the Central District need to make our stand now. What do I mean? No longer can we rely on someone else or the ADA to handle the problems that we face everyday. In fact our biggest problem is the ADA, our parent organization, no longer has the best interest of the dentist in GA as part of their agenda. What do I mean but that statement? The ADA is not looking out for its members, but is playing a part in the development of the mid-level provider.

Now is the time to unite, and if you know any dentist who is not a member pressure them to join, if they want to practice dentistry in the future as we practice dentistry today.

We need to keep our number high because there is strength in numbers, which leads me to March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Law Day), we need to have as large as possible turnout. We need to let our Representatives know what our position on mid level providers are in GA.

There are several bills that affect dentistry, but I will let Martha tell you about them.

Lastly I want to remind you of several dates:

- January 31, 2010 last day to pay your dues for them to count for Central District.
- March 3, 2010, Law Day Let's set the record for the highest percent for any district.

In closing, we all need to step up to the table in order to save dentistry as we know it today.

See you at our next meeting,  
Roy

*It is so SWEET to have a group of dentists who are concerned about the future of their profession!*



## The Ty Report....



I never thought that I would find myself writing op ed/ editorials. But here I am. I always enjoyed Bill Shipp ( not our fellow dentist, but the *Atlanta Journal* columnist ). When he retired last year, the Monday morning *Telegraph* was never the same. To me he was generally trying to educate the public with information that they would not normally encounter. Of course as in the case of all such scribbling, it was in the end his opinion.

Today at lunch, I asked John Bowman what he would like to have as the next topic for the CDDS Newsletter. His request was that something be written about why we should go to dental meetings. Over the last year, I have tried to blend information concerning the American Dental Association into a relevant business metaphor. In September the topic was bankruptcy and the editor ran it along with the original inflation/deflation article. A compilation of the two was run in the Alaska Dental Society Journal in August, but several other state Journals including our own refused to consider printing this for a wider audience. It's alright to grumble, but it makes people nervous if you put it into writing.

In November, we continued with the hidden problems of ADA Corp and the secret discussions concerning the ADA's finances at the ADA meeting in Hawaii. Our November CDDS newsletter was sent from the state GDA office to the GDA's delegation to the ADA House of Delegates. Immediately after the Georgia ADA delegation received our op/ed piece, three of the delegates from the Georgia delegation assailed this writer in defense of their actions and hard work for dentistry. Now, the question put to you in November was, do you trust the ADA delegation with your future and I challenged you to check it out. The question was in keeping with the theme of the previous op/ed pieces that the ADA was the only organization that could affect your future. Therefore, since there might be some confusion out there concerning what I meant, let me make some direct (always a dangerous thing to do) statements to clarify what I believe. Keep in mind that I have never written about or taken a position on the GDA delegation to the ADA. My only reference to them was to challenge each of you to know what they were doing as they represented you at level of the national organization.

So here are some declarations as previously stated.

1 – The ADA is the only organization that can affect your professional life

2 – The AGD is a wonderful organization for many things, but in the past five years it has demonstrated that it is unwilling to make a difference in the political fate of dentistry.

The big discussion at the level of the ADA involves relaxing our stringent policy against midlevel providers in order to “be at the table” for discussions with these foundations. The fear is that if we leave our policy as is we risk being excluded from their discussions on how to solve the “access to care” problem. At the moment, Kellogg, in particular sees the ADA as an obstacle and not a resource on how to solve the access problem. I feel that the reality of the situation is that these entities do not need or want us to be “at the table”, so relaxing our policy would only serve to destroy us.

At this moment your ADA delegation is networking with other states to make sure our policies are not relaxed but instead are strengthened. We are doing this in hopes of uniting our organization in the fight to keep poorly educated providers away from our patients.

Please go to the following site and search for dental care  
<http://www.wkkf.org/>

## TREASURER'S REPORT January 11, 2010



|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Balance Brought Forward .....                    | 11,200.87 |
| Balance of Checking Acct.....                    | 8,368.62  |
| <b>Withdrawals</b>                               |           |
| Flowers,Ivey Appreciation .....                  | 42.80     |
| GDA, Invitations for new Dentist Reception ..... | 39.25     |
| Hygiene Scholarship Certificates .....           | 13.57     |
| CGTC Scholarship .....                           | 500.00    |
| MGTC Scholarship .....                           | 500.00    |
| Macon Letter Svc. Nov.mailout/postage .....      | 595.28    |
| Macon Letter Svc.Leg. Rec. mailout/postage ..... | 463.13    |
| Nov. Membership Mtg,IHCC .....                   | 2,638.13  |
| CE Speaker Expences.....                         | 266.88    |
| Aramark Svs,CE Food, Beverage .....              | 404.16    |
| CE Handout Material.....                         | 517.08    |
| Legislative Reception, Brickyard.....            | 4,241.11  |
| Bank Maintenance Fee.....                        | 20.00     |

### Deposits


|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Nov Membership Mtg .....    | 1,385.00 |
| Nov. CE Mtg .....           | 2,795.00 |
| GDA Late Dues Receipts..... | 849.50   |

**Balance** ..... 3,199.02

Money Market Balance ..... 4,919.40

Total Assets of CDD ..... 8,118.42

Respectfully submitted,  
 Don Benton



# Warner Robins Air Force Base CE CONFERENCE for Dentists & Staff Friday, February 19th WRAFB Conference Center

Table clinics open at ..... 7:30 am  
 Program .....8:00 am

## Topics:

**Chris Lauritzen DDS**  
 78th Dental Squadron  
 Commander

**"Esthetic Inlays and  
 Onlays"**

**Servo Van Ramos DDS**  
 Resident Director at  
 Ft. Gordon

**"Soft Tissue Esthetics for  
 Fixed Prosthodontics"**



**Dr. Brian Bergeron**  
 Program Director,  
 Endodontics Residency  
 Diplomate, American  
 Board of Endodontics

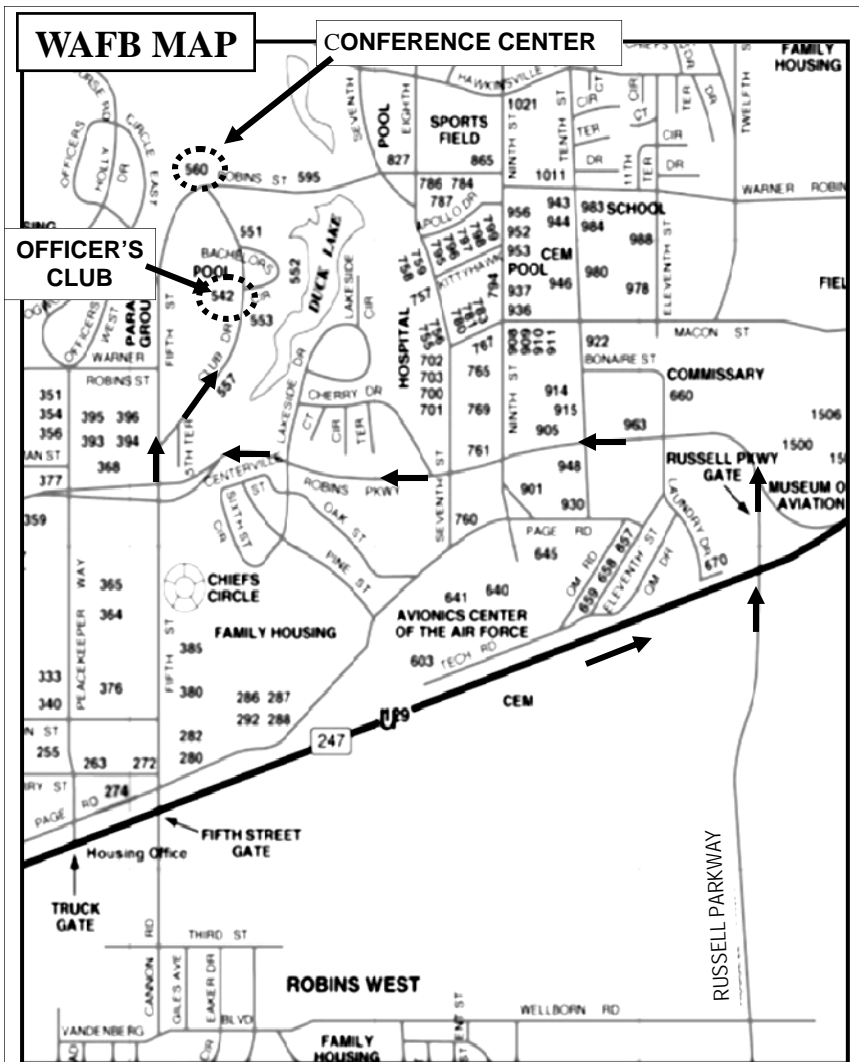
**"External Cervical  
 Resorption"**

**David Klingman DMD**  
 Resident, Oral and  
 Maxillofacial Surgery

**"A Survey of  
 Oral Pathology"**

*An outstanding opportunity to  
 "gain a little knowledge"!*

**Don't delay...  
 send in your reservation card today!!!**



On the map, the circles are around both areas where we will be meeting. On Friday, the venue is on base instead of the Museum of Aviation like last year. The circle that is by the "pool" is where the Officer's Club is on base. The second circle just above that is the Robins Conference Center. The name of the street that you need to take a right turn on to get to the Officer's Club is called Martin Luther King Blvd. Once they take a right on that street, this will be followed by almost an immediate right after that original turn to put you on the street with the Officer's Club. A larger map is available online at: <http://www.holidaydental.com/cdds/newsletters.htm>

●Jay Harrington asked question of value of officer visits at the Caucus breakfasts. Discussion centered around feeling that sometimes the visit is useful and sometimes it is not very useful. Jay was quick to note that the HOD is the most important forum for discussion of ideas. Council on Dental Health: Shirley Fisher wanted to mention Feb. Give kids a Smile month. please report to her and take photos to send to GDA office. More info to follow in Jan. regarding locations and times of events.

●**New Dentists Committee:** Kara mentioned very successful event Sponsored by Perry Dental Lab Co-Owner Casey Daniel on October 22. Excellent fellowship and fun was had by all

●**Public Relations-No Report**  
Peer Review - No report other than workshop at GDA Headquarters on Jan.9,2010.

●**Recruitment and Retention:** Kara is continuing to update contact info for all existing and new members for accuracy.

●**CE Program:** Kara updated EC on sign-up for meeting on November 13, Topic is practice management.

●**Scholarships:** Shelia Shaw submitted names for the Hygiene scholarships from CDDS and Paul Fraysure updated as well for the GDEF Scholarships to be presented at meeting on Thurs. Evening. Trustee Report: See Mike Loden's Report. No other business meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Submitted by  
Don Benton, Jr. DMD



## ADA Delegation - Kara G. Moore

If you think that the liberal government is the only enemy to dentistry at this time, you are wrong. Right now there are two entities that are singled handedly trying to bring down the dental delivery system as we know it. The Pew and Kellogg foundations have become the self anointed Messiah to those who do not receive regular dental care. They have decided that they know better than anyone else how to solve the problem of access to care. Instead of restoring funding to already starving public government programs or encouraging prevention at the public health level, they have decided to pour millions into grants that will educate mid level providers. They are particularly targeting states with weak dental boards and liberal governments but they are knocking on everyone's door. Kellogg and Pew have millions of dollars to hand out, and at this moment, they are dead set on "fixing" dentistry. I encourage all of you to go to their websites and see for yourself what is on their agenda.

Continued.....

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 10, 2009

**Attending:** Roy Lehrman, Kara Moore, Jay Harrington, Kendrick Mathews, Alfred Peters, Shelia Shah, Deena Holliman-Smith Mike Loden, John Kuo, Paul Fraysure, Don Benton, Lindsay Holliday.

●**Minutes** of the September meeting Approved by acclamation.

●**Treasurer's Report:** Discussed and approved. Suggestion made by R.Lehrman to add a bottom line of total assets at end of report that totals both checking acct and money market balances, will include in Feb. report. District will proceed with incorporation for tax exempt status with GDA address for housing filing address to prevent confusion over time with subsequent treasurers.

●**Kara Moore's report of Base meeting in Warner Robins,** CE on Thursday evening then a Four Doctor Panel on Friday. Date to be determined as soon as possible.

●**ADA Delegation Report:** K. Moore noted no dues increase this year. She could not discuss the controversy over the ADABEI, ADA Business enterprises issue confronting the delegates to the ADA. Stay tuned for more details as they develop. There's an attorney-client issue that needs to play out!

●**Membership:** New members noted were Ray Shelko and Tracy Long. Make them feel welcome when you see them. Suggestion made to have Katy Garvin assume membership duties next year. Ched Smaha and Kara Moore will follow up.

●**Government Affairs: Request** by Jay Harrington to support Lee Hawkins at the highest level possible in his bid for Nathan Deal's U.S. House seat as Nathan will run for governor in November 2010. We need Lee in D.C.!!!! Also remember Legislative Reception on Dec.1 at the Brickyard. It is crucial for high attendance with spouses as well. March 3,2010 is CDDS LAW Day at the Capital in Atlanta. Maximum attendance is required for success under the Dome. We need a new level of commitment to make a difference for our patients.

●**Information Technology:** Pres Roy discussed issue of Facebook page for GDA that has been discussed at BOT mtgs. Still in discussion stage and may be further addressed in Jan. BOT Session. Also discussed was issue of linking member websites to GDA site as now it is not possible to do so. Still in discussion at BOT level for now. Roy's message was that caution is critical at every step regarding these sites!

●**Constitution and ByLaws:** John Kuo and Kara Moore discussed with EC options for terms of service for delegates and alternates. After much debate they will report at next EC Council with best option for a vote. Pres. Roy brought up need for pre-caucus meeting prior to Jan.HOD meeting .He will pole members of delegation to determine date and time of a pre-caucus.

## GADPAC REPORT IT WORKS FOR YOU!

PAUL FRAYSURE

*2010 has arrived and the new session  
of the Georgia legislature has convened.*



As I write this article, I have just returned from the January session of the Georgia Dental Association House of Delegates. It opened with a panel of ten gubernatorial candidates. In attendance were former Governor Roy Barnes, Congressman Nathan Deal, Secretary of State Karen Handel, insurance commissioner John Oxendine, Adjutant General David Poythress, State Senator Eric Johnson, State Representative DuBose Porter, Ray City Mayor Carl Camon, Ray McBerry, and Libertarian John Monds. As I listened to each of them speak for 8-10 minutes on their respective platforms, I couldn't help but think about how each of them, if elected, could lead the state of Georgia through these difficult economic times and be sensitive to the dental needs of our citizens and also the business needs of the dental profession. Prior to the forum, each of the candidates had received position papers on Medicaid, caps on non-covered services, SB 50 on silent PPOs, and SB 62 on Prompt Pay.

But then I thought, the Governor doesn't make the laws, he is the executive officer of the state, and he carries out the letter of the law. Yes, we need a governor who is friendly to dentistry, but even more importantly, we need legislators who have open minds to the dental needs of Georgia citizens and open ears to the voices of the dental profession as they make legislative decisions.

That is where we dentists come into play with political involvement; direct or indirect. Go to legislative receptions and meet the legislators from our district or go to Law Day at the state capitol and see the political process in action and meet legislators from other parts of the state.

Indirectly, we can help support the legislators who support dentistry by contributing to GADPAC. Your contributions to GADPAC are used to help legislative candidate's campaigns. Those legislators who attended our Central District Legislative Reception were each given a contribution from GADPAC for their respective campaigns.

Our support of our dental friends at the state capitol is so crucial in these days of hard decision making about the state budget, Medicaid, national health care, and other issues that affect dentistry. What can you do?

**CONTRIBUTE TO GADPAC.**

**BE A TEAM PLAYER. IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**



Roses are red, violets are blue...

At the meetings, is where we want to see you!



## Governmental Affairs Committee

### ★LAW DAY★

Wednesday ★ March 3, 2010

*Your attendance is needed  
now more than ever!!!*



We currently have 39 dentists signed up to attend Law Day on Wednesday March 3, 2010. With healthcare reform, budget cuts, and many other significant issues on the horizon, our presence at the Capital is essential. Carpools will be arranged for this event so call Bill Argo 742-4254 if interested. We will plan to have groups leaving from Macon, Warner Robins and Milledgeville.

### 2009 Legislative Reception

Approximately 95 dentists, legislators, and spouses attended the annual Reception at the Brickyard. This was a productive night for building and maintaining relationships with our legislators, and it was a very enjoyable time for fellowship with our colleagues. Thank you to all who participated.

Sincerely,  
William V. Argo, Jr.  
wvaperio@aol.com

## BOT REPORT

1) BOT moved for the GDA to create and institute a Facebook page as a new avenue to reach membership and improve communication. The IT committee will provide a status report in six months. Motion passed unanimously and was also approved in the House.

2) Dr. Kent Percy (GDA President) will appoint a special task force to explore the issue of alternative dental providers (mid level providers) and how it relates to our current dental practice act in Georgia. This task force will report back to the BOT by February 12, 2010.

3) The BOT directed the President of the GDA to write a letter of censure to the officers and Board of Trustees of the ADA for failing to develop a clear plan for state associations to protect the patients that their members serve from under-educated entities who would encroach on existing Dental

Practice Acts. This resolution passed unanimously and also passed unanimously in the House.

4) Senator Ralph Hudgens addressed the board to answer questions about his campaign and intentions if elected Insurance Commissioner. He is in favor of SB52 (prompt pay bill) and also in favor of a compromise bill SB50 (silent PPO's) limiting Ins. Co's ability to share/sell your contractual information to other rental networks.

5) Seth Harp (R) also presented to the board campaigning for Ins. Commissioner. His views were essentially the same as Senator Hudgens.

6) Sam Olens (candidate for Attorney General) presented his campaign platform to the board. Indicated awareness of illegal practice of dentistry (notably whitening kiosks) and intends to more effectively prosecute this. Will require reorganization and management changes to put more lawyers under AG purview and jurisdiction. It was the general consensus of the board that this gentleman is sharp as a tack. Do not take my word for it however, he has a website like every other candidate for every public office.

7) Skip Jones of Professional Debt Recovery Services (PDRS) advised us to make sure we are getting photocopies of our patient's drivers licenses in addition to their insurance information and social security numbers to assist in debt recovery efforts. Additionally, he strongly recommended turning accounts over no later than 120 days past due in order to improve chances of recovery. PDRS is an extremely professional and effective service for GDA members and I highly encourage you to partner with them. Call the GDA office for more information on how to take advantage of their services

8) And most importantly...**PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND LAW DAY!!! CDDS LAW DAY IS MARCH 3.** However, you are welcome and invited to attend any district law day if your schedule requires. There has never been a more important time for our legislators to see how involved and organized we are as a profession, and how committed we are to the safety and health of our patients.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Loden, Trustee



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> at 7:00 PM**

Lindsay Holliday's office  
360 Spring St., Macon

All Committee Chairpersons, Delegates, and Officers are members of the Executive Committee and are required to attend. Other interested district members are welcome to attend.