



OFFICERS 2010–2011



President..... Kara Moore
 President Elect..... Alfred Peters
 Vice President Michael Wright
 Secretary/Treasurer Don Benton
 Editor Amy Lee
 Trustee GDA Mike Loden
 Delegate to ADA..... Kara Moore

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Awards..... Deena Holliman Smith
 Constitution/Bylaws..... John Kuo
 Dental Education Foundation..... Paul Fraysure
 Dental Health Shirley Fisher
 Finance..... Kendrick Mathews
 Forensics..... Cameron Garvin
 GADPAC..... Paul Fraysure
 Legislative Amber Lawson
 Recruitment and Retention..... Ched Smaha
 Oral Health in Institutional Settings..... Kara Moore
 Peer Review Greg Burns
 Public Relations..... Lindsay Holiday
 Workforce Pinkney Gilchrist
 Information Technology Vin Bhasin

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1. Immediate Past President - Roy Lehrman
2. Chairman of the CDDS Delegation - Kendrick Mathews
3. The Senior ADA Delegate - Kara Moore
4. Two members at large from the CDDS. - Bill Argo, Thomas Griffin



GDA DELEGATES

Kendrick Mathews (Chairman)
 Paul Fraysure (rolls off Feb 2014)
 Craig McCroba (rolls off Feb 2013)
 Shirley Fisher (rolls off Feb 2012)
 Roy Lehrman (rolls off Feb 2011)

ALTERNATE DELEGATES

Don Spillers (2020)
 Amy Loden (2019)
 Lindsay Holliday (2018)
 Mike Loden (2016)
 Deena Smith (2015)



CENTRAL DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Here's your dose of "Mental Floss"

Dr. Amy Lee - Editor

Dr. Lindsay Holliday -Assistant Editor

Vol. XXX No. 2 – May 2011

Meeting

Central District Dental Society

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

Thursday May 12th
Idle Hour Country Club

Speaker

Dr. Charles Wells

Topic

What's New in Sleep Apnea



PLEASE...RSVP for the meeting by **TUESDAY, MAY 6th**
 Thursday Dinner meeting - \$20
 ...or Pay at the Door \$5 extra, or IOUs for \$10 extra!!
 Send to: Dr. Don Benton via enclosed card.

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kara Griffin Moore, D.D.S.

If you asked me what my least favorite thing about college was...I would respond "writing papers". So it is with mixed emotion that I write my last President's report for the Central District Dental Society. This will not be the last that you hear from me however. I will be around (or at least offer my services to be around) to serve you as your ADA representative for many more years to come!

I believe we have had another great year! Our meeting attendance continues to be growing strong and we have retained membership better than most districts. One thing that I love most about being part of the CDDS is the camaraderie exhibited at each meeting. I hope that every member feels welcomed when they walk in the door. Our district has had a tremendous increase in the numbers of new dentist attending events and I think that is due to the mentoring that is done by so many of our more experienced and distinguished members!! I have been blessed by having the best mentor any dentist could ever have, my father. The wealth of knowledge I have gained from him could not have been learned in a decade of class room lectures. I feel so lucky to have him to bounce ideas off of daily and to have him encourage me through situations that would have ordinarily put me in a tail spin. The most valuable of all lessons usually do not involve handpieces or teeth at all. It is the everyday life experiences that he has helped steer me through for the last 6 years that have meant the most to me. I wish every member could have a mentor like him to learn from and I think they can, to a certain extent. We are not all competitors in this world. We are all in this boat together and if we try to put down and compete fiercely with every dentist in town we will effectively do nothing but hurt ourselves. Respect each other, respect your profession and everyone will come out a lot better off. We have much greater battles to fight than the other dentist down the road! I'm looking forward to working with Dr. Alfred Peters and Dr. Michael Wright again next year as they assume the roles of President and President-Elect and I'm looking forward to only having to get one article in by the deadline!!!

May everyone have a warm and wonderful summer and remember to share your knowledge and your experience with those around you. You were put in this position in life for a reason!

Kara Griffin Moore

So, what's a guy to do? The economy IS struggling. Most of us are not working at anything near capacity. So, who are your friends? I don't believe that anybody ever thought that any government agent was here to help you. Now, what about the insurance companies? I have been inundated recently by letters from various companies promising to help me by putting patients in my chairs. Heaven only knows, some of them look very interesting. A recent newsletter from Collier, Sarner & Associates, Inc. compared the income of a dentist who had cut his fees by 20%. I don't remember the specific issue, but putting this together with some stuff I remember from past seminars, I believe that the conjecture of those speakers was that a 20% cut in fees resulted in a 50% cut in income. Don't forget that all of a dentist's costs remain the same. Materials go up, the staff has to eat, and the rent and power must be paid. In all of my years of practice, I don't ever remember Georgia Power giving me a month's power usage at no charge or offering me a plan where I could get my power at a 20% discount to what those other non-Georgia Power patrons were paying.

Of course, all plans are not alike and there are a lot of dentists who have signed up for plans. However, always remember that the GDA and ADA offer FREE objective analyses of plans and the meaning of the small print.

One of the GDA efforts recently made on your behalf in the Georgia legislature is called Non-Covered Services legislation. You can read about it elsewhere in this journal. This legislation was to stop insurance companies from controlling your fees on services that are not covered by their plans. You might think that I am joking, but that is exactly what they are doing in many cases. I am happy that the GDA has helped put this bill on the governor's desk to sign.

Each person has to decide how to work their way through this economy. In my opinion, it will be a while before it gets any better. I don't care what the Wall Street wizards tell us about the recession ending last year. It is still going on in my office and the offices of a lot of my friends. Here is what you must remember. (And what you read here is merely my opinion and should be regarded as such.) Decide who controls your practice, you or someone or something else. **Make your decisions based on a good business model rooted in facts. You may be working hard on the new patient load provided by your friendly insurance company just make sure you are heading toward retirement and not the poor house.**

Ty Ivey

The Ty Report.. "It's the Economy Stupid!"



"It's the economy stupid." This quote gained its notoriety in 1992 when Bill Clinton used it to defeat George Bush the Elder (or whatever his name was). There is a good chance that most of you have from time to time used this phrase. There have been many chances to call it into the present tense in the last 19 years. Now, perhaps more than ever, you could use it on just about a daily basis.

Two interesting questions could be directed to each of you. They would be:

'Can you see an emergency patient today?' and 'How long will it take you to appoint a patient for routine operative?'

These are the types of questions that pop up on all of the surveys that the GDA and the ADA send to us to gauge various considerations regarding manpower. In the last 10 years we have heard ad nauseam about Access to Care. It was at the heart of the Alaska Dental Health Aide Therapist issue that you know more about than you ever wanted to know. All of the foundations that are seeking changes in the social order (Kellogg, Rasmuson, Robert Wood Johnson, etc.) are beating the Access to Care drum in dentistry as if the future of the entire world depended on the outcome. But, now it is 2011, just three very long years since 2008 and "It's the economy stupid." How many of you have a full book for the next month? Okay? How many of you have a full book for the next week? I will stop at that.

I still communicate with a reasonable number of our compatriots across the country and it appears to me that there is NO Access to Care problem. Far from it. What we have is the same thing that we have always had a problem of Access to Funding for dentistry. This comes in many forms. Many of the "private" patients who have or have had dental insurance are losing their insurance benefits and now they no longer appear to value the money that has been spent on their teeth. At least, they appear to be reluctant to have dental expenditures as a line item in their budget. The government has never wanted to pay for dentistry. When budgets need "reforming" dental insurance is the first thing to go. When the GDA was working for you in the legislature in the last two years, it was pointing out to the legislators that if they wanted to cut the dental Medicaid budget why not let medicine participate? After all, while physicians have been complaining about not getting a fee increase in the last 10 years, Medicaid dentists have had significant fee cuts for the last 10 years. Where is the sense of fairness?



Highlights from the Board of Trustees

- GDA Action editors are requesting members to submit articles, pictures, and information about events held by the districts.
- Members are encourage to register early for the GDA annual meeting to be held at Hilton Head Marriott Resort on July 21-24. "Two Kings: Legends in Concert" will be the Show of the Year.
- Dr. Kent Percy wishes to encourage everyone to attend the ADA annual session in Las Vegas on Oct. 10-13. On-line registration starts April 6 (www.ada.org).
- Gov. Deal appointed two new members to the State Board of Dentistry. Rebecca Bynum a state licensed dental hygienist currently working with Azalea City Family Dentistry in Valdosta and Dr. Richard Bennett a dentist in Gainesville.
- The Board of Trustees discussed the GDA membership retention efforts. The BOT determined that the districts need to work harder to retain members due to the drop in membership for the last two years.
- It was announced at the April BOT meeting that the central district won the Law Day Challenge for the seventh time in eight years.

Alfred B. Peters

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

**Tuesday - May 10th
at the office of Amber Lawson
1902 Hardeman Avenue, Macon**

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

Any CCDS member is welcome to attend.

GOT ANY NEWS?.....

For items of personal interest from our members,
please email or call me!

Amy Lee

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ADA REPORT Kara G. Moore

- For this quarter's ADA report I have decided to give you a quick run down about what is going on around the nation. It is just a glimpse of what we could be facing in the near future. A lot of people do not care to read a long multi-paragraphed article, but anyone can focus on a few bullet points. So if you have the stomach, take a look! I hope these will hold your attention and draw focus to the importance of supporting each other through the ADA and grass roots efforts. The ADA is trying to prepare each state adequately for the legislative fight they have in front of them, but without the help of its membership, it is a lost cause.
- According to the ADA, only one state and one jurisdiction have laws allowing for midlevel providers. Those are the dental therapists in Minnesota and the dental health aide therapists (DHATS) in Alaska working with the native Americans.
- Each of these states have legislation proposing the following idea(s):
 - Oregon** - a dental therapist created from a hygienist, which gives duties such as prescriptions and even dentures.
 - Washington** - A dental therapist and advanced dental therapist that would require 400 hours of on site supervision and after completion the person would have only off site supervision. They could do almost all duties of a dentist.
 - Kansas** - Registered dental practitioner developed from a licensed hygienist. 18 months of hygiene school and 20% of income must come from Medicaid. (No indication of how that would be controlled)
 - New Mexico** - Creates dental therapist who can fabricate dentures, perform extractions, pulpotomies, biopsies, and write prescriptions for narcotics and antibiotics.
 - Maine** - Dental therapist would need 750 hours of classroom and clinical training, NO SUPERVISION of any kind after completion and capable of writing ALL types of RX.
 - Vermont** - Strives to create a dental therapist with 2 years of training who can do everything except crown and bridge. Ironically, in order to do hygiene services the therapist must also have completed an additional year of dental hygiene education. (i.e. 2yrs to be a junior dentist, 3 years a hygienist!)
 - Michigan** - A social worker from the University of Michigan is working on an alternative dental workforce model in the state and is in discussions with stakeholders (no legislation yet)
 - New Hampshire** - The Pew foundation has been active promoting workforce models through out the state with stakeholders. It officially announced March 1st that it would be starting a workforce initiative in New Hampshire.
 - Ohio** - This state has a Kellogg grant and the recipient is the Universal Health care action network of Ohio (UHCAN). UHCAN has been holding organizational meetings across the state to initiate legislation.
- Georgia** - Nothing yet! Thanks to our active law day efforts and the grass roots dentists of the GDA!!!!

- Jay Harrington made some comments regarding HB 187 that had been pulled at the request of Governor Deal. The governor has initiated a Global Study of CMO's to better understand the problems and pluses Georgia is facing at this time.
- ADA Delegation report: See Kara Moore's report.
- New business: Treasurer Don Benton will request dues information for the other GDA districts to help evaluate our district dues structure relative to the rest of the districts. Our May 12 meeting will be at Idle Hour Club. Discussion regarding consideration of Brasseler as a CE sponsor in the Fall. Michael Wright is seeking input for a Fall course as it will be a license renewal period at the end of this year. Shirley Fisher encouraged the group to submit photos and activities for Children's Dental Health Activities to the GDA for publishing in GDAAction.

No other business, meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Don Benton



At the last CDDS meeting, February 24th at WRAFB, the following officers were elected, and will be installed at the GDA annual meeting in July:

President - Alfred Peters
President Elect - Michael Wright
Vice President - Ched Smaha
Alternate Delegate - Pinkney Gilchrist
Chairman of the Delegation - Jay Harrington

We sincerely thank them for their willingness to serve our Society!

Calendar of Events

May 12 Membership Meeting
July 21-24 GDA Annual Meeting

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our meetings!!!

CDDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

February 22, 2011

Meeting held at office of Amber Lawson

Called to order by Pres. Kara Moore at 7:05pm.
Attending: Kara Moore, Michael Wright, Lindsay Holliday, Alfred Peters, Amber Lawson, Amy Lee, Kendrick Mathews, Paul Fraysure, Deena Holliman-Smith, Shirley Fisher, Amy Loden, Mike Loden, Jay Harrington, Don Benton.

- Minutes approved from Nov. 2010 Meeting.

Treasury Report: D. Benton reviewed Treasury Report and noted that GDA dues allocation typically is received in March or early April. At the January House of Delegates Caucus it was voted to approve a one-time donation to the MCG(GHSU) Building Fund to be part of a naming opportunity in the amount of \$2,500. We would make that donation sometime after the dues allocation is received. Also discussed was the increased cost per-plate for meals at the various venues we typically used for meetings. Approved also was a \$150 honorarium for the speaker for the all-day course, Dr. Scott DeRossi from GHSU for lodging and travel expenses.

- Legislative: Amber updated list for the CDDS day at the Gold Dome and would coordinate carpools for the various areas. Date is March 9 and she expects us to bring along someone new if possible to add participation as well as keep our winning place as having the highest participation of all the districts.

- Membership: Kara reported for Ched Smaha, Pam at GDA HQ reported our numbers with some people slow at renewing. She encouraged all to take advantage of the monthly prepayment system going out in March or April to make it easier to renew by the January 30 deadline. Kara also noted the Recruitment and Retention meeting in April at the ADA in Chicago. After some discussion it was decided to approach Katie Garvin to attend this meeting or an alternate if Katie could not attend. Motion made seconded and approved.

- Nominating committee: Kara reminded all present that the nominating committee must meet prior to the next meeting. Members of the committee are Kendrick Mathews, Thomas Griffin, Kara Moore, Bill Argo, Roy Lehrman. The committee needs to propose names in nomination for: New delegate, Vice-president to follow Michael Wright, Chairman of the delegation.

- BOT Report: Mike Loden noted the success of the GDA subsidiary PDRS and its plans to expand to offer collection services to other professionals. Please see the BOT report for other details.

- President-Elect, Alfred Peters noted the changes that had recently been made to the Medicaid program and the CMO's more problems and very few solutions.

Governmental Affairs Committee

★LAW DAY REPORT★

A great amount of appreciation goes out to all of the Central District Dentists who took time out of their practices on March 9th to attend Law Day at the Capitol. Once again, the Central District won this year with 12.2% of our district members participating in the event. The NW District came in second with 9%. The Central District has won 7 out of the past 8 years. This is a critical time for our profession and our Country and I thank each of you for protecting the future of our great profession.



Amber P. Lawson

TREASURER'S REPORT April 2011



Balance Brought Forward 2,630.05

Withdrawals

GDA Mailout List /Labels 12.05
Horizons Officers Club meal 1,528.50
Feb. Speaker Honorarium 150.00
Macon Letter Service, Mailout 662.07
Office Services Co. Labels 112.34
Maintenance Fee, Dec. Jan, Feb, March 80.00

Deposits

Feb. Meeting Receipts 1,388.34
GDA Dues Disbursed to CDDS 12,138.00

Balance 13,611.43

Money Market Balance 4,830.69

Total Assets of the CDDS 18,442.12

Respectfully Submitted, Don Benton

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