

CDDS OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

President	Noell Craig
President -Elect	Adam Gordon
Vice President	Pinkney Gilchrist
Secretary/Treasurer	Don Benton
Newsletter Editor	Amy Lee

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Awards	Kara Moore
Constitution and Bylaws	Deena Smith
Council on Dental Health	(Open)
GKAS	(Open)
Workforce	Pinkney Gilchrist
Task Force on Medicaid	Jamie Mitchell
Finance	Donald Benton
Governmental Affairs	Ched Smaha
(Law Day, Legislative Reception)	Mike Loden
GADPAC	Michael Wright
Membership Services	Ash Walker
Recruitment & Retention	Cameron Garvin
Emile T. Fisher Foundation Rep	Paul Fraysure
Peer Review and Ethics	Greg Burns
Public Relations	Lindsay Holliday
Nominating	Michael Wright-Delegate Chair
	Amber Lawson- ADA Delegate
	Samer Othman - Immediate Past President
	Doug Booth, Bradshaw Ford - At-large

CDDS Delegates:

Michael Wright (2021)Chair
Pinkney Gilchrist (2020)
Vincent Carey (2021)
Vin Bhasin (2022)

CDDS Alternate Delegates:

Cameron Garvin (2023)
Tommy Peterson (2023)
Jackson Fordham (2024)
Paulomi Shaw (2024)

Board of Trustees:

Ash Walker (2020)
Adam Gordon (Pres Elect)

ADA Delegates:

Amber Lawson

Got any news we can sink our teeth into?.....

We want to know and want to share with your colleagues!!!

Please email: DrAmyLee@bellsouth.net or call:

Cell (478) 951-5639 Office (478) 757-5826 Fax (478) 757-5823



CENTRAL DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Here's your dose of "Mental Floss"

Dr. Amy Lee - Editor

Dr. Lindsay Holliday -Assistant Editor

Vol. XXXVX - No 2 - February 2021

Zoom Membership Meeting



Thursday, February 18th at 7pm

Program

Dental Sleep Medicine

~Improving a Broken System

Learn to identify signs and symptoms
of sleep issues in your patients.

Learn how to seamlessly refer your patients
for a proper sleep evaluation.

Speaker is Pulmonologist

Dr. Avi Bhar

1 hour of CE provided

FREE of charge to attend

To register: <https://gadental.org/CDDSMembership>

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we welcome 2021, we are filled with hope for a new year filled with healing and good health! Regarding the Covid-19 vaccination, the ADA advocated on our behalf and ensured that the CDC include dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants as healthcare personnel. We are included in phase 1A of the vaccination process. If you or any of your office team are still in need of a vaccination appointment, please call the North Central Health District at 1-844-987-0099 to schedule at a health department near you.

We are creating a WhatsApp group as a means of communicating among all of our Central District members. Our Executive Committee uses WhatsApp to communicate as a group, and we have found it to be an effective method of group communication. If you would like to be a part of our Central District WhatsApp, please text your first and last name to me at 404-859-6072. You will need to download the WhatsApp application on your smart phone, and then send me a text from your cell phone with your first and last name.

Don't forget to register for our Thursday, February 18 Zoom membership meeting at 7pm for 1 hour of free CE. I am hopeful that we will all be able to gather in person on Amelia Island at the GDA in July! I wish all of you a healthy, happy, and successful 2021!

Sincerely,
Dr. Noell Craig

2021 Calendar of Events

Tues., Feb. 2	EC Meeting at 7pm via Zoom
Thurs., Feb. 18	Membership Meeting via Zoom - 1 hour of CE offered—7 pm
Fri., March 19	BOT Meeting via Zoom
Tues., May 4	EC Meeting at 7pm
Thurs., May 13	Membership Meeting
Wed., July 14	BOT Meeting at Ritz Amelia Island
Thurs., July 15	HOD Meeting at Ritz Amelia Island
July 15 -18	Annual GDA Convention at Ritz Amelia Island
Tues, Sept. 7	EC meeting
Thurs, Sept. 16	Membership Meeting
Tues, Nov 2	EC Meeting
Thurs, Nov 11	Membership Meeting
Tues, Dec 7	Legislative Reception

Law Days are not being set up at this time per the GDA

these meetings will be GDAPAC giving strategies based on rating from GDA.

Public Relations: Lindsay Holliday hopes we can stimulate more interest for younger members in this committee.

Nominating Committee: Pinkney Gilchrist is nominated for Vice President of CDDS. Jackson Fordham, Palomi Shah, and Katie Garvin are nominated for Alternate Delegates. Mike Loden re appointed as District Trustee and Amber Lawson re appointed as ADA Delegate

ADA: Amber reports that she took part in five day ADA Zoom meeting. She plans to get a updated report with what was discussed and any policy changes from this meeting. She plans to send this out to EC at later date.

Committees with no reports:

Membership, Fischer Foundation, Ethics, Constitution/Bylaws, Workforce, Taskforce/Medicaid

Unfinished Business: Cameron Garvin has been re appointed to Recruitment and Retention Committee

New Business: GDA Foundation asked for donation from our District. We will evaluate our current financial status with Don Benton and make a donation accordingly. Ranges of \$500 to \$3000 discussed. No motion for donation give at this time due to Treasurer reporting unavailable. Noell discussed possible speaker for future meeting being a Pulmonologist from Macon that will discuss Sleep Apnea and snore appliances. There was interest in this topic. Reminder for November 14th BOT and HOD meetings Reminder for CDDS Meeting for 1 Hr CE credit on November 12th . Noell will make sure there is a GDA email blast to members for this meeting. Michael Wright led the pre-HOD caucus meeting from 7:40-8:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned @8pm

Submitted by Adam Gordon for Don Benton



TREASURER'S REPORT -January 2021

Balance brought forward	32,102.10
Withdrawals	
Macon letter Service Nov. mailout	496.29
PRN Consulting, Nov. Speaker. Zoom mtg.	300.00
GDA Foundation Contribution	3,000.00
Deposits	
GDA final dues for 2020	31.31
Balance Affinity Checking	28,337.12
Respectfully submitted, Don Benton	

Updating the ADA's Member Conduct Policy so that member discussions, social media posts, communications, and interactions with other dentists, dentist members, Association officers, trustees, and staff should be respectful and free of demeaning, derogatory, offensive or defamatory language.

All my best,
Amber

November 3, 2020 @ 7pm via Zoom

Minutes: from Sept 15th EC were approved

Finance: Sec/Treas. Don Benton was unable to attend this meeting. We will ask about getting check to speaker for the November 12th CE meeting. Speaker is Carol Paige and is owed \$300.

GADPAC: Mike Loden made announcement that he is mistakenly listed on the committee in newsletter (adjustment to future newsletters will be made). There was a reminder for the November 14th meeting for BOT and HOD. A topic that will be discussed at



by Ched Smaha

Please continue to support GDAPAC!!! Your dollars are extremely valuable in this arena. Happy New Year.

Ched Smaha

ADA REPORT by Amber Lawson

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your information. This platform will also update the ADA. A direct way to access updates is by going to look for them at <https://www.ada.org/en> or <https://www.gadental.org/>. All information regarding Covid, third party payment issues, and other resources can be found there.

I serve on the ADA Council on Communications and am the chairman of the Integrated Marketing Workgroup. There are a lot of exciting things going on to enhance your experience as an ADA member. One is the ADA website, which is being completely updated to make it much more user friendly and informative. So, keep checking in and be on the lookout for the new website.

The first ever virtual ADA Annual Sessions and House of Delegates Meeting was held October 15 - 19, 2020. During their three sessions, the House of Delegates reviewed and acted on more than eighty resolutions, and many Fifth District members gave testimony on the House floor in support of our positions. Some of the key issues debated and decisions made by the House of Delegates included the following:

- Approving an ADA dues increase for active members to \$573, effective 1/1/2021.

Adopting a resolution stating that dentists with the requisite knowledge and skills should be allowed to administer critical vaccines to prevent life or health-threatening conditions.

- Approving a revision to the ADA's Policy on Dentistry to state that the profession of dentistry is "essential and should remain an independent health care profession that safeguards, promotes, and provides care for the health of the public which may be in collaboration with other health care professionals."

- Adopting an amendment to the ADA's Comprehensive Policy Statement on Teledentistry, as submitted by the 13th Trustee District, to expand upon the benefits of teledentistry as a way to reduce the effect of distance barriers to care. The amendment also states that "services delivered via teledentistry must be consistent with how they would be delivered in-person..." and that "As the care provided is equivalent to in-person care, insurer reimbursement of services provided [via teledentistry] must be made at the same rate that it would be made for the services when provided in person, including reimbursement for the teledentistry codes as appropriate." The GA ADA Delegation and other members of the 5th Trustee district fought to stop the passage of this resolution by providing opposing testimony during Reference Committee hearings and on the HOD floor because the revised language equates an in-person examination with a teledentistry visit. Also, the statement that "services delivered via teledentistry must consistent with how they would be delivered in-person" is an inherently inconsistent statement due to the tactile nature of dentistry

- Adopting a resolution on *Financing Oral Health Care for Adults Age 65 and Older* stating "that for the purpose of presenting potential legislation that includes dental benefits for adults age 65 and over in a tax payer-funded public program such as Medicaid, CHIP, privately administered Medicare or other federal or state programs, then the ADA shall support a program that:

- Covers individuals under 300% FPL
- Covers the range of services necessary to achieve and maintain oral health
- Is primarily funded by the federal government and not fully dependent upon state budgets
- Is adequately funded to support an annually reviewed reimbursement rate such that at least 50% of dentists within each geographic area receive their full fee to support access to care
- Includes minimal and reasonable administrative requirements
- Allows freedom of choice for patients to seek care from any dentist while continuing to receive the full program benefit
- The appropriate agency urge passage of legislation to enable dental offices to offer in-office membership plans to support direct care for all seniors.

- As part of the elder care initiatives, adopting a resolution that the appropriate ADA agency should consider reviewing the funding, mandate, reporting structure, and composition of the National Elder Care Advisory Committee to assist the ADA in accomplishing elder care strategies.

Updating the ADA's existing policy on the *Temporary Expansion of Scope During Public Health Crisis* to further clarify the ADA's support of the utilization of dentists choosing to participate in activities such as administering critical vaccines; performing FDA-authorized diagnostic tests to screen patients for infectious diseases, etc. in order to increase medical capacity during local, state, or federal public health emergencies.

- Approving a resolution regarding Diagnostic Testing by Dentists so that dentists with requisite knowledge and skills can order and administer medical tests to screen patients for chronic diseases and other medical conditions that could complicate dental care or put the patient and staff at risk and that point of care testing to screen is within the dentist's scope of practice.

- Adopting a new ADA policy entitled, *Tax Incentives for Medicaid Participation*, so that dentists should be allowed to claim a tax credit for the first \$10,000 of services provided under the Medicaid program.