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## The Bulletin



## Birmingham District Dental Society

December 2009/January 2010

1801 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35205

E-Mail: Birminghamdds@bellsouth.net Tel: (205) 933-1718

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**DATE:** December 1, 2009

**PLACE:** The Summit Club

**TIMES:** Hospitality Hour 5:30

Dinner and Program: 6:30

**SPEAKER:** Paul D. Eleazer, D.D.S., M.S.

**TOPIC: "Bread and Butter Diagnosis"**

Dr. Eleazer is chairman of the Department of Endodontics, program director of the post-graduate endodontic residency program, and an implantology resident at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. He came to Birmingham in 2001 from the University of Louisville where he headed the residency program in endodontics and chaired the Department of Periodontics, Endodontics and Dental Hygiene. Prior to that, he taught at the Medical College of Virginia and practiced in Albany, Georgia. He received his D.D.S. from the University of North Carolina in 1970 and a certificate in endodontics and a master's in oral biology from Temple University. His talk will cover everyday tips for solving difficult diagnostic problems and preventing problems before they happen. He will present actual clinical cases and reading radiographs and anticipating what you might find inside the tooth based on radiographic subtleties. He will also discuss pain and the weight that should be assigned to various pulp tests. His talk will also cover infections of the head and neck.

**The Summit Club is located downtown at 1901 Sixth Avenue North. Take Sixth Avenue North and turn left down into the Regions-Harbert Parking Garage. From there, take the elevator to the first floor and then the other elevator to the 31<sup>st</sup> floor. Our menu will include The Summit Club salad with dried cranberries, roasted pecans, bleu cheese tossed in vinaigrette, grilled salmon with tomato caper relish, chef's vegetables, dinner rolls, and natural juice apple pie. Please return your check by Thursday before the meeting. Or give us a call at 933-1718 if you can't get it in the mail.**

**Advance Reservations: \$40.**

**Tickets at the Door: \$42.**

**PLEASE WELCOME** Drs. Andrew Perry, VA Hospital, and Catherine Williamson, Bluff Park.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

**This month, a long-time patient of mine told my receptionist that she could not come in for her prophylaxis appointment since she had lost her job, a job she had held for over a decade. It made me think of my brother-in-law Dr. Donald Baugh. I remember talking to Don once during a particularly bad time in the economy for the steel mills in Birmingham. Don told me of the despair many of his patients were facing in the time of rising unemployment for the steel workers. He told me of a man who had told him he could not pay for the dental care of his children when he was laid off from the steel mills. Don, without hesitation, told him to bring his children in. He told me that the man had been a faithful patient during the good times, and that he felt the obligation to provide their dental care during the bad times. He knew that when their situation improved the father would return as a patient with gratitude for the care Don had given his family.**

Henry Brook Adams once said: "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Don died in 2005, yet I still hear his advice on this and many other issues pertaining to life and our responsibilities as dentists. I encourage each of you to listen carefully for that cry for help from your patients. When one loses his or her job, there is a profound doubt introduced into his or her life. Family providers, who once had no thought of how tenuous their economic position was, are being faced with pressures that few of us have to face. If my schedule is an example, we have openings available during our days to help someone who could use a little lift in their lives. I do it to honor Don's memory and the struggle of good men and women who are facing a challenging time in their lives.

**Each of us has had truly motivational teachers like Don Baugh in our careers. There's not one of us who can claim to be a self-made man or woman. We are where we are today because we stand on the shoulders of our predecessors, our mentors and teachers who have given us a profession that is greatly respected by our fellow man. We have been given this profession to hold for a brief time and pass to the next generation. Let's vow that the profession we pass along is stronger because of the effort and care we put back into it and because of the level of care we provide for our patients.**

I can't think about Christmas with the Baughs without remembering how much Don loved to be around his family. He had a nickname for each of us, and he really enjoyed being surrounded by his family and friends. I hope each of you and your loved ones have a wonderful holiday season with lasting memories of good times together. I am proud to be your colleague.

Cheers,

Roy

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**The Bulletin of  
Birmingham District  
Dental Society  
is published monthly at  
1801 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. South  
Birmingham, AL 35205**



**President: Dr. Roy A. Smith, III  
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**WE GET MAIL!**



I would like to inform the members of the Birmingham District Dental Society of the changes I have recently made in my practice location. After a long and rewarding career at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry, I made the decision to retire from my faculty position effective October 1, 2009. I have since been fortunate enough to secure a position practicing at the Calera Dental-Center. I am now accepting referrals at this new office and would be glad to help you with your patients in any way I can. In the last 15 years, my practice has been mostly concentrated in the area of complex fixed prosthetics including implantology.

Fee free to contact me at my new office on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays at (205) 620-3312 or on my cell phone (205) 907-7183. I look forward to

talking with you.

Sincerely,

Jean O'Neal, D.M.D., M.S.D.

Dear Colleagues,

I've received a request from a member of the local VFW Post in Homewood to help our veterans in the VA Medical Center here in Birmingham. There is a need for toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, combs, playing cards, shaving cream, disposable razors, ball point pens, and notepads. Mr. George Raburn, formerly with Medical Assurance, is spearheading this drive and has requested our help. If you would like to help our veterans, please bring donations to our next meeting, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, and we'll get them to Mr. Raburn.

Thanks for your support,

Roy Smith

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**NEAR THE TOP** – Pledges to the United Way campaign have reached 95 percent of our \$62,000 goal. They stand at \$59,060.

Our United Way liaison Meredith Watkins says we hope to wrap things up by Dec. 1. If you have not sent in your pledge, please do.

Or if you are one of the ones who pledged a cumulative \$18,000 last year and have not renewed, please renew. We have a reputation for going over the top the last few years.

Thanks again to our committee which includes Drs. Leigh Kent, chairman; Doug Beckham, David Holcomb, Andy Duckett, Melissa Nix, Sherri Weissman, Debbie Sema and Robert Rudolph.

**ORTHODONTISTS STEP FORWARD**

--We heard from three who were willing to help Devonta, the boy sponsored by the Church of the Reconciler. Dr. Dominique Backus will straighten his teeth. Dr. Christine Abenoja helped with one of our charity patients who had moved here from New York. His mother couldn't find anyone to remove brackets which had been on his teeth six years, and the learning disabled young man was about to enter a training program for a job. Dr. Abenoja said we now need to find someone to do a deep cleaning for him. Please call our office at 933-1718 if you can help.

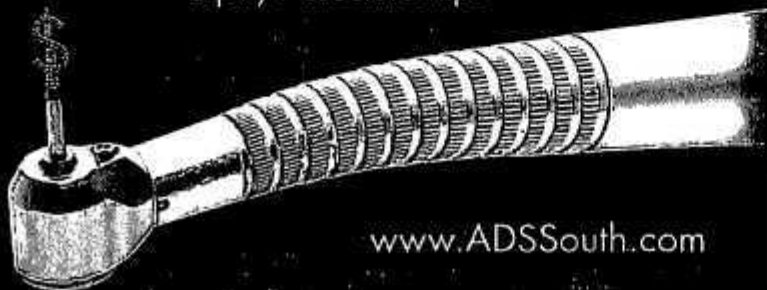
**DENTAL HYGIENE STUDY CLUB**

members will hear Dr. Chris Vlachos speak on "Sleep Apnea" at their Dec. 14 meeting in Volker Hall at 6 p.m. Contact Becky Walters at 823-5554 for info.

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**JANUARY SEMINAR AND THEN SOME!** When first you flip over to that pristine 2010 calendar, put a big circle around January 15<sup>th</sup>. On that day at Hoover Country Club, we'll have a six-hour seminar for our dentists and a four-hour seminar for hygienists. The dentists' program will feature Dr. John Burgess of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and will be underwritten by Dentsply Caulk. The hygiene program will feature Brenda Sharp McCarson, R.D.H, B.S. and will be sponsored by Brasseler. Everything will get underway at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast.

**Dr. Burgess is assistant dean for Clinical Research and director of Biomaterials at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. He joined the faculty in 2007 after Hurricane Katrina. Recently, he and eight students had 17 papers accepted at the International Association for Dental Research in Washington, D.C. He was formerly professor and chairman of Operative Dentistry and Biomaterials as well as assistant dean for Clinical Research at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center -- School of Dentistry. He has published more than 300 articles, abstracts and textbook chapters and presented more than 800 continuing education courses.**

"The Adhesive Restoration" will be his topic, and it will include segments on bonding agents, ceramics, cements and a composite resin update.

**Your fee, which includes a buffet brunch will be \$125.**

**Dental Hygienists can expect a program on Advanced Instrumentation and Mastering the Piezoelectric Ultrasonic Scaling Device from Ms. McCarson, whose thirty years as a licensed dental hygienist includes experience in the dental and medical sales industry, public health dentistry, education and clinical practice in general and periodontal practices. A graduate of Greenville Technical College, she holds an AS in Dental Hygiene and a B.S. in Health Science from the Medical University of South Carolina. She is currently a product specialist for Brasseler USA's Dental Hygiene and Surgical Segments.**

**Her program will include an overview of the different classifications of dental hygiene treatment instruments, a review of the root morphology that complicates dental hygiene instrumentation, evaluations of hand-instrument opportunities beyond the SH6/H7 and S204S, and an introduction to the design, function and use of popular advanced instrumentation. In the Scaling portion of the program, attendees will have an opportunity to practice the correct technique in a clinical setting with extracted teeth. They will learn to distinguish between the two categories of power scalers and understand the mechanism of action and stroke pattern for sonic, piezo and magnetostrictive power scalers. This course will be limited to 40 participants and will cost \$35.00. Lunch is included. Please use the following form to sign up for Jan. 15.**

**JANUARY 15 SEMINARS:**

**DENTIST or HYGIENIST:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount enclosed @ \$125 for dentists  
and \$35 for hygienists**

**Please mail to BDDS: 1801 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. So,  
Birmingham, AL 35205 by Jan. 7, 2010.**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EDWINA  
TAYLOR**, founder of Cahaba Valley  
Health Care. Edwina has been named a  
Purpose Prize Fellow, an honor for social  
entrepreneurs over 60 who are using their  
experience and passion to take on society's  
biggest challenges.

Edwina was named a Fellow for providing  
access to health services for the  
underserved, primarily Hispanic  
population in Jefferson and Shelby  
counties.

She was flown to a Summit on Innovation  
Oct. 31 at Stanford University's Graduate  
School of Business' Center on Social  
Innovation.

**The fellows underscore a trend in  
entrepreneurialism later in life.  
According to studies by the Ewing  
Marion Kauffman Foundation, the 55-  
64 age group is the most active in  
creating new ventures.**

"More than ever, the problems facing our  
communities, country and world call for  
creative solutions," said Marc Freedman,  
co founder of the Purpose Prize and  
author of *Encore: Finding Work That  
Matters in the Second Half of Life*.  
Fortunately, we don't run out of ideas as  
we age.

In 2,000 Edwina left a successful career as  
a nurse practitioner to form Cahaba Valley  
Health Care, now a major provider of  
vision, dental and other health services.

We are grateful to her for taking care of  
the many people we refer to her Sunday  
dental screenings.

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