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## The Bulletin



## Birmingham District Dental Society

November 2010

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

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

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**DATE:** November 9, 2010

**PLACE:** The Summit Club

**TIMES:** Hospitality Hour & Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres 5:30

Announcements 6:15

C.E. Program 6:30

**SPEAKER:** Mia Geisinger, D.D.S., M.S.

**TOPIC:** "The Effects of Periodontal Disease"

Dr. Geisinger is an assistant professor in the Department of Periodontology and Periodontal Predoctoral Program Director at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. She received her D.D.S. from Columbia University School of Dental Medicine and completed her Certificate in Periodontics and Implantology and her Masters of Science degree at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology. Prior to joining the UAB faculty in 2007, she worked in a private practice limited to periodontology in Goodlettsville, TN. She is the 2009 recipient of the AADR William Clark Fellowship Award and the American Board of Periodontology Foundation Teaching Fellowship. She has lectured nationally and internationally on periodontology and periodontal education. Dr. Geisinger's clinical practice includes all aspects of periodontology and implant dentistry and focuses on root coverage and aesthetic procedures as well as the links between systemic disease and periodontal inflammation. Her lecture will make you more aware of the increasing numbers of systemic medical conditions and the myriad interactions between periodontal inflammation and systemic diseases and more able to educate your patients about these interactions.

**The Summit Club is located at 1901 Sixth Avenue North. Come to the 31<sup>st</sup> Floor. We will have a variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres including shrimp cocktail, herbed lamb chops, bacon wrapped scallops, fruit and cheese, hot dip and chips, miniature desserts, iced tea, coffee, and a cash bar. Please send your check by Thursday before the meeting.**

**Advance Reservations: \$40**

**Tickets at the Door \$42**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Positive Directions!

On two fronts, we seem to be headed in a more positive direction. First, dentistry in Alabama is once again beginning to come together more cohesively and cooperatively. Second, our own Birmingham District Dental Society is working diligently towards improving as we closely examine and address our financial situation.

**At the last Board of Dental Examiners (BDE) open forum, the BDE asked the Alabama Dental Association (ALDA) to form a special committee to study and make recommendations addressing the "access to care" issue. As dentists, we are aware that the concept of Mid-Level Providers is being studied and utilized by other states. We, in Alabama, feel that public safety should be a primary concern and that Mid-Level Providers, and even aggressive expanded auxiliaries, could lead to a two-tiered quality of care instead of truly accessing dental access.**

Many years ago, the dentists of our state worked together to design the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program (ADHP), a concept that remains unique to our state, but one that successfully addressed the shortage of dental hygiene providers. Our state should be proud of the action we have already taken and stand on the fact that we have already addressed "access to care" on a large scale. Under this program, many rural area dentists have trained hygienists from their local population. Because of this, a positive impact in the area of prevention has occurred through more dental cleanings in under-served areas. This is a significant model that we can and should actively promote for other states to follow. In

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addition, there are other avenues to pursue, such as mobile dental units in the truly under-served areas. It is good to see ALDA and the BDE again looking to work together to come up with recommendations which are safe for the public..

Locally, the BDDS Executive Council is addressing the realities this economy has caused our local organization, like many other organizations and businesses, to face. Dr. Gerry Walker, BDDS treasurer, will be informing the society about our financial situation at the next meeting, November 9. We are encouraging suggestions from our members as we look for ways to stop the annual loss we have been experiencing. One way we are making changes is to look at ways we can cut expenses. This year, the Executive Council cut one expense by not spending as much money on the traditional dinner at our first meeting. This is just a small step since our expenses exceed our income. We will also need to look at other ways to be more efficient.

Another way we are making changes is by encouraging better attendance at our Friday meetings by inviting high quality speakers. Last month, Dr. DeWitt Wilkerson from the Dawson Academy spoke. Although this was our first attempt at this, the results are very encouraging. Not only did we make a profit, but all surveyed asked that we complete the series by having two more programs. Although these speakers are more expensive, the attendees felt that this high quality course was a great value, and we netted a greater profit than we typically net.

As has occurred throughout our history, when dentists in Alabama work together, solutions to problems are found! Please contact us with your suggestions. – Leigh Kent



### How's this for measured results?

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**CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Steve Stricklin who won the election for a seat on the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama. A past president of our district, Dr. Stricklin practices in Alabaster. He says, "Let's all work together for the betterment of dentistry."**

**JANUARY INTERNSHIPS** –Pre-dental students at Birmingham-Southern College are participating in pre-health internships which involve shadowing a dentist during the month of January. They will observe the patient and dentist to gain an appreciation of the dedication, lifestyle and interpersonal skills a health-related career demands. They will work for you a minimum of 30 to 40 hours per week. If interested in participating in this vital program, please contact Dr. Jeannette Runquist, Health Professions Program Advisor at 226-4882. Health-related professional and graduate schools now require that candidates have extensive shadow experience.

**DENTAL HYGIENE STUDY CLUB** members will hear Dr. Guy Rosenstiel speak on "Medical Emergencies" at their Nov. 8 meeting in Volker Hall, Room E, at 6 p.m. Contact Becky Walters at 823-5554 for more info.

**THE EASTERN DENTAL HYGIENE STUDY CLUB** will hear Paul Lawrence speak on 3M-ESPE, "Prevention Therapy" Nov. 9 at The First Baptist Church of Trussville at 6 p.m.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING – For Sale: Used Soredex Cranex3+Model #PT- 11 P panoramic x-ray machine. Bought new 10 years ago. Would like buyer to come to our office and use machine. Our office is located in Birmingham – Hwy. 280. Asking \$5,000. Please call 981-9449 for information.**

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**SHINE A LIGHT** is the theme of this year's United Way Campaign. Letters have gone out from Dr. Robert Rudolph, chairman, and you might be getting a call from one of the committee about your pledge. At this time, we've raised \$10,000 according to Meredith Watkins, our liaison with United Way.

The goal is \$68,500 and Meredith would like to have it wrapped up by Nov. 19. Our United Way committee includes Drs. Milton, Essig, Jennifer Davis, Debbie Sema and Justin Zellmer. Please dig deep!

**GOOD NEWS** about Dr. Mike Edwards who was injured in a motorcycle/truck accident after our September meeting where he spoke to us. Dr. David Holcomb says he is at home in Wedowee and getting around on a walker.

Dr. Edwards comes back to UAB two days per week for therapy. He had to have at least two surgeries – pelvic and foot - after his accident, so his progress is really good!

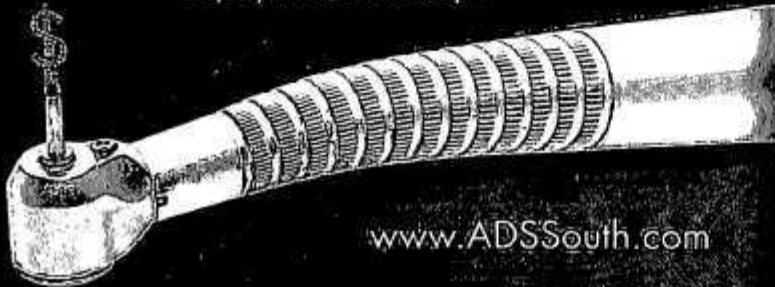
**CHARITABLE DONATIONS – Our BDDS Dental Outreach Committee** frequently encounters lab costs for patients they are helping. If you would consider a charitable contribution for this purpose, please mail a check to Birmingham District Dental Society, 1801 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35205. It will be tax deductible!

**NEW MEDICAL WASTE DISPOSAL COMPANIES – Drs. Russell Turner and Allen Kessler** have informed us of two new companies in this area whose costs may be cheaper than what has been available to date. They are G Med Services and West Med Disposal.

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**DENTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

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Please send in your nomination for Dentist of the Year by November 17. Our fax number is 933-1707.

The nominee should be an individual who has made significant professional impact in the advancement of dentistry. Achievements can involve areas such as dental community service, clinical research, scholarly activity, or any other areas reflecting the high professional and ethical standards of our society.

Individuals must be nominated by a current member of the Birmingham District. Members of the Executive Council are not eligible for nomination for a period of five years after completion of their term.

After the applications are reviewed and discussed by the Executive Council, selection of the deserving candidate will be done by closed ballot. The winner will be announced at our February general meeting.

**Nomination Form  
Birmingham Dentist of the Year  
Award**

**1. Name and Address of the  
Nominee** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Name and Address of the  
Nominator** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**3. Nominee's Professional  
Credentials** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**4. Why Your Nominee Deserves This  
Honor** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Deadline: Nov. 17, 2010**

**Please mail to BDDS, 1801 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
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**Or : FAX to 933-1707**

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## **BDDS COMMITTEES 2010-2011**

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### **LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Maureen Pezzementi, Chair  
Carolynne Scott Pete Real  
Lisa Miller

### **ADVISORS, LAWSON STATE**

Teri Chafin Adolphus Jackson  
Warren Arrasmith Bill Findlay

### **CATASTROPHE**

Keith Calvert

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Mark Todd

### **DENTAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Victor Kyatt  
Mark Todd

### **DENTAL CLINIC**

Calvin McCulloh, Chairman  
Lee Ferguson Ron Cater  
Steve Stricklin David Hufham  
Teri Chafin - Health Dept.  
Ken Storey - Athletics

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Barry Goodspeed  
David Winchester

### **DENTAL SCHOOL LIAISON**

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### **DENTIST WELL BEING**

Sherri Weissman

### **GIVE KIDS A SMILE**

Angel Rohner

### **HISTORY**

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Bill Lawson

### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Don Englebert  
John Phillips

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Milton Essig  
Debbie Sema

### **NECROLOGY**

Toxey Dorsett

### **THE NEW DENTIST**

Melissa Nix

### **NON-DUES REVENUE**

Gerry Walker Milton Essig  
Mike Randle

### **PEER REVIEW**

Milton Essig, chairman  
David Peters Ashley Ford  
Barry Goodspeed and Victor Kyatt  
Paul Koch Adolphus Jackson

### **PROGRAMS**

Leigh Kent  
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### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

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### **ANNUAL SESSION**

Gary Myers  
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### **BUDGET AND AUDITING**

Kevin Alexander 2010

### **DENTAL BENEFITS & DENTAL CARE PROGRAMS**

Jerome Scales

### **DENTAL EDUCATION & LICENSURE**

Maureen Pezzementi 2010  
Roy A. Smith, III 2010  
Huw Thomas

### **DENTAL HEALTH & PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Steve Mitchell, chairman, 2013  
Richard Vest, 2013

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### **PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW**

**MEMBERS** Nov. 9. They are Drs. Cathey Davis, Vestavia Hills, Michael R. Marshall, Huffman, and Ralph D. Roden, Vestavia Hills.

Those unable to be present in September were Drs. Sonia Makhija, Kelli Albritton, Sudha Gutti, Medhi Karimipour and Karol Poczatek.

## **LEGISLATION**

Janice Jackson 2014

## **MEMBERSHIP AND RELIEF**

Debbie Sema, chairman 2012  
Ashley Ford Guy Rosenstiel  
Doug Beckham

## **THE NEW DENTIST**

Melissa Nix Debbie Sema  
Justin Zellmer Maureen Pezzementi  
Robert Meador

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

George Petznick 2013  
Kent Palcanis 2013

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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. Leigh Kent**  
**President-Elect: Dr. Robert Rudolph**  
**Vice President: Dr. Milton Essig**  
**Secretary: Dr. Maureen Pezzementi**  
**Treasurer: Dr. Gerry Walker**  
**Editor: Carolynne Scott**

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