

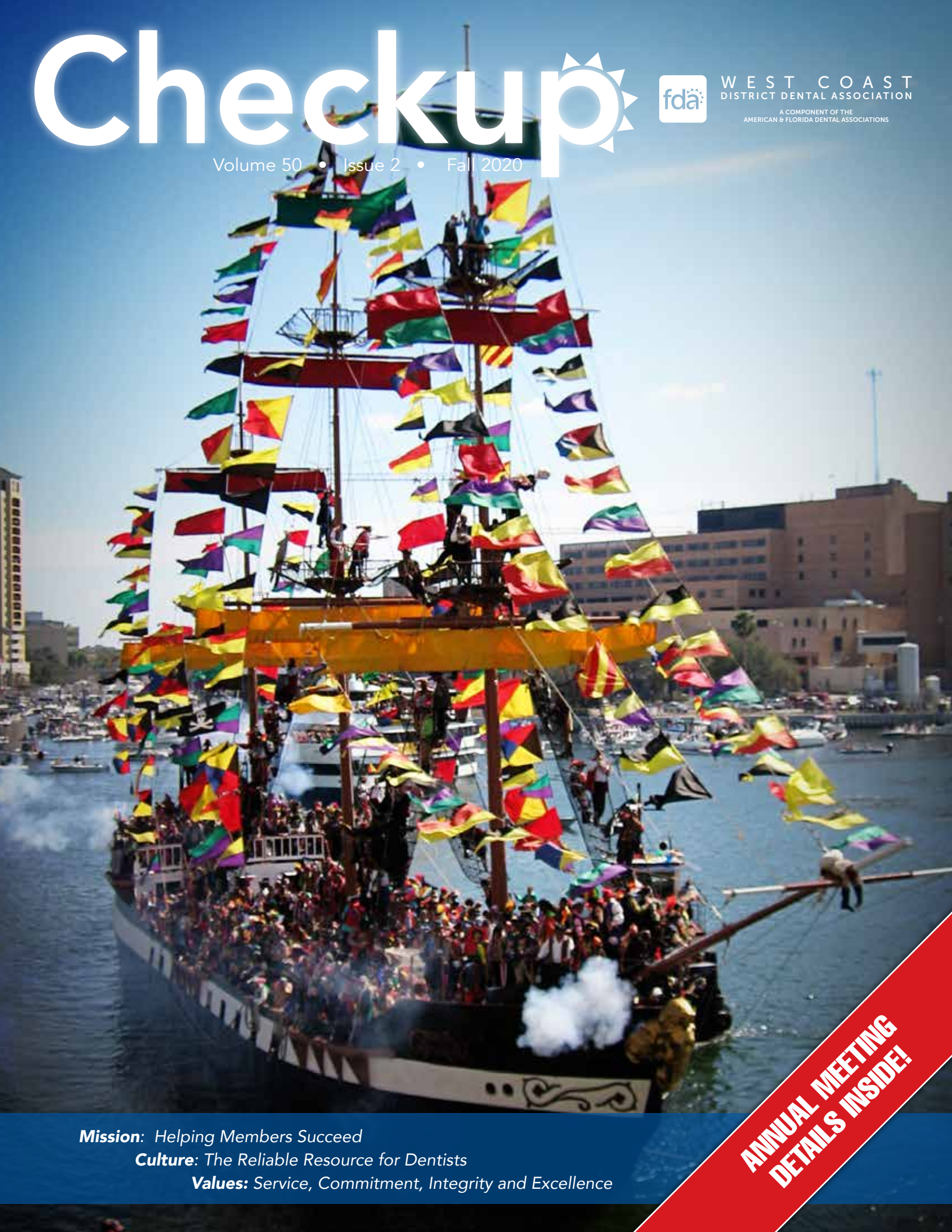
# Checkup

Volume 50 • Issue 2 • Fall 2020



WEST COAST  
DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE  
AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS



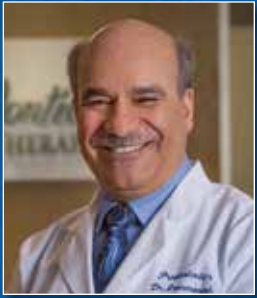
**ANNUAL MEETING  
DETAILS INSIDE!**

**Mission:** Helping Members Succeed

**Culture:** The Reliable Resource for Dentists

**Values:** Service, Commitment, Integrity and Excellence

# President's Message



**Dr. Reza Iranmanesh**  
**President**

Greetings from the entire West Coast Team! I trust that you and your lovely families had a safe and healthy summer, and you reopened your practices or started new, productive ones.

This summer was nothing like what we have seen in our lifetime. The global pandemic has created unprecedented action by governments and businesses around the world, and has impacted the daily lives and routines of people across the globe; bringing monumental changes to our lives. We are reminded that we live in an ever-changing world, and the WCDDA is a reflection of that world. We must be ready to listen and adapt, always drawing upon our core values of service, fellowship, integrity, and leadership. If we live by and apply these values, we will be well prepared to pass through this storm.

I am truly honored to serve as your WCDDA President for the 2020-2021 year. The WCDDA Officers and I appreciate the trust you have placed in us, and we are fully committed to you. Our goal is to move our association strongly forward under established guidelines presented to us because as our motto states, we are here to "Help Members Succeed"!

I am proud of my cabinet and our team at the WCDDA office. It's fascinating to imagine how they find new ways to adapt and stay nimble each year and will continue to do so for years to come. In the face of a pandemic, the WCDDA has not stopped. Rather than cancelling our meetings altogether, we moved meetings from in-person or virtual to hybrid, focusing on finding new ways to serve our members. We turned the Summer Meeting at Naples from a potentially lackluster event, to a full success; largely in part due to our dedicated members. Each week we are proving that the WCDDA is flexible and offers a way to connect with members. We build on this momentum and seize the opportunity to embrace change so that the WCDDA keeps thriving!

We all agree that we need to grow our membership, but sometimes, we can get caught up in the numbers game and lose sight of the bigger picture. Let's grow the WCDDA sustainably. Let's celebrate that the WCDDA is now less about numbers and more about joining together in a variety of ways besides traditional meetings. I am inspired by what has not changed and never will in the WCDDA: the friendships, the networking, the ethics, and the service. These are the very values that make the WCDDA attractive to all.

Despite all the many challenges that Covid-19 has presented, I am so happy to announce that I have seen remarkable excitement and enthusiasm within our affiliate leaders. This year the Hillsborough County, Pinellas County, and Upper Pinellas County Dental Associations are offering much more value to their members - by merging their meetings and offering hybrid meetings that enables members to obtain more CE credit. At the same time, the additional 9 affiliate associations are working hard to offer noteworthy programs in order to better serve their members. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our affiliate leaders for their amazing work.

As we start to come back to a new normal from Covid-19, I would like to remind our members that organized dentistry – the ADA and especially the FDA - have offered tremendous support to the WCDDA during this uncertain and challenging time. They were very active in assisting us in with regard to PPP grants, PPE, HHS grants, SBA loans, having a voice in the Governor's Task Force, continual updated announcements, advice in HR, financial recommendations, and instructions on how to safely reopen our practices. I would like to urge everyone to support organized dentistry by contributing to our political arm, FDAPAC.

Regarding our future planning, the WCDDA has secured our annual meeting, which will be a bit different this coming year: a hybrid meeting with an amazing Office/Team option. The meeting will remain in conjunction with Gasparilla, as the WCDDA has procured a private tent at the parade. The proximity of Gasparilla and Superbowl weekend in Tampa will make this event a very memorable one! If you have not reserved your tent tickets, please do so quickly before we are sold out. We have also planned the 2021 President's Trip in Park City, Utah. This fantastic "ski" trip is packed with many activities and is great for the entire family. Even if you or members of your family are not skilled skiers (or skiers at all), you will still be able to enjoy the amazing outdoor activities we have planned while spending quality time with your families,

*(continued on page 1)*



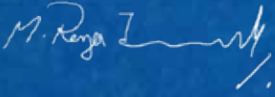
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## President's Message Continued...

friends, and colleagues. I hope you will join us on this incredible adventure!

I am looking forward meeting as many WCDDA Members as possible, as I will visit be visting each affiliation in the coming months. I have visited four affiliates thus far and have had the pleasure to meet remarkable colleagues and leaders. Until then, stay safe and healthy. Once again, I am honored to serve such an amazing organization and thank you for your trust in allowing me to serve you. You all can reach me at (813) 417-3906 or by email at iranmaneshdmd@gmail.com. 📧



Reza Iranmanesh, DMD  
WCDDA President

# 33rd Annual Summer Meeting

To view more meeting photos, visit [facebook.com/wcdda](https://facebook.com/wcdda)

*Each year, the Annual Summer Meeting is held at the beautiful Ritz Carlton Naples Beach Resort. The association offers up to 12 hours of continuing education credits throughout this popular three-day meeting which includes: family fun and adult activities, a fishing tournament, a golf tournament, and plenty of free time to enjoy the beach.*



Hook, line, and sinker! Luisa Zuknick caught a handsome Snook on the Fishing Excursion at the Annual Summer Meeting!



Dr. Rafael Palaganas' "Million-dollar swing" labeled him the champion of the golf tournament at the Tiburon Golf Club!



Dr. Craig Oldham "passes the torch" to Dr. Reza Iranmanesh, welcoming him into his presidency.



The Metz Family won 1st place! Check out their "Flossing Video" at the pool for the Family Photo Challenge!



Dr. Jaren Catlin and Dr. Deidre Campbell Catlin enjoying the Officer Installation at The Ritz!

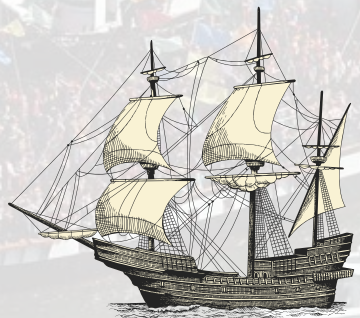
# WCDDA is hosting its 2021 Annual Meeting in conjunction with Tampa's World Famous Gasparilla Parade!



Visit... [bit.ly/3kSJdxj](https://bit.ly/3kSJdxj)  
to learn more about  
the event and to  
purchase your tickets.

WCDDA Gasparilla  
Private Parade Tent  
Saturday, January 30th  
(Private tent includes: food,  
open bar and private restrooms)  
**Visit [wcdental.org](http://wcdental.org) to  
purchase your tickets!**

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to participate in a unique event with dental family, friends and parade goers. WCDDA Members \$175/ticket max 4 per member; Non-Member Dentists \$225/ticket, max 4 per non-member.



Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla hosts a parade that begins at 2 p.m. at Bay to Bay and Bayshore in South Tampa. The 4.5 mile Gasparilla Parade of the Pirates, which has been presented by Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla annually since 1904, winds its way into downtown Tampa, featuring 103 floats, 3 marching bands and over 50 participating social organizations (krewes).

SOCIAL DISTANCE AND MASK PROTOCOLS WILL BE IN PLACE. IF THE EVENT IS CANCELLED, TICKETS WILL BE REFUNDED.

# The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

## WCDDA Summer Meeting

✧ August 6-8, 2021 ✧

Contemporary Preps, Digital Impressions Dentistry,  
Fabrication Techniques and Materials  
Dr. Michael Fling  
HIV and Emerging Diseases Update for the Dental Practitioner  
Tom Robertson

To reserve your club-level room reservation, contact the WCDDA office (813) 654-2500. To reserve your regular room reservation contact The Ritz-Carlton, Naples (239) 598-3300

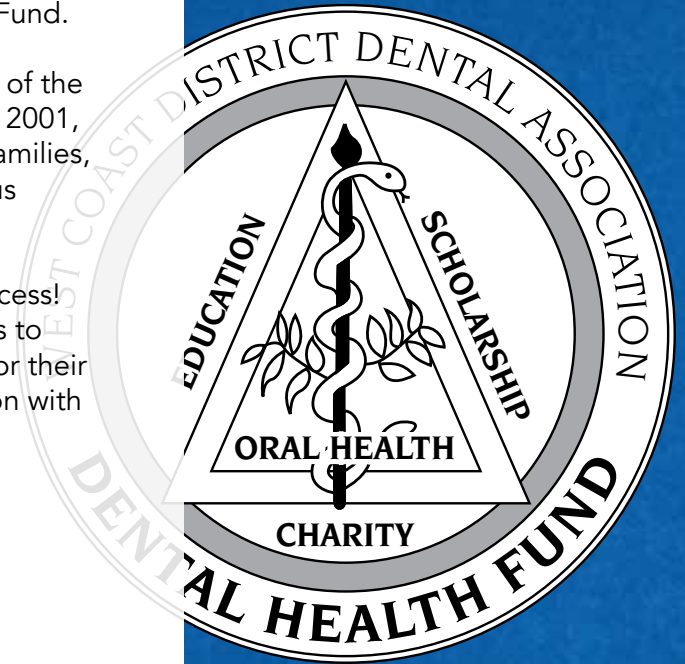


# WCDDA Fund

Each year, many of our 2,300+ dentist members dedicate their time and resources to serving the community, through the WCDDA Fund. The mission of our Fund is to generate and direct resources for charitable and educational oral health programs for the people of the West Coast District in the state of Florida. Since its inception in 2001, the WCDDA Fund grows with support from dentists and their families, friends, and staff through individual contributions and by various sponsored activities.

The WCDDA Annual Summer Fundraiser Raffle was a great success! The virtual raffle raised \$4,892.42 and allowed for more doctors to join in the fun. The WCDDA would like to thank the following for their donations towards our successful raffle event held in conjunction with the summer meeting in Naples:

- ✓ Coastal Networks
- ✓ Florida Dental Association
- ✓ Henry B. Plant Museum
- ✓ Horsepower for Kids Animal Sanctuary
- ✓ OnTrak Promographics, Inc.
- ✓ Shamrock Dental, Inc.
- ✓ The Florida Aquarium



## Volunteer Opportunity for WCDDA FUND Committee

The WCDDA is seeking committee members for the WCDDA FUND Committee.

### *What is the FUND?*

The WCDDA Fund is a donor advised fund administered through the Florida Dental Health Foundation and it is through this partnership with the FDHF that the WCDDA Fund receives guidance, a tax-exempt status as a 501c (3) charitable organization and educational foundation, and administrative support.

### *What are the goals of the FUND?*

To be a self-sufficient entity to support local (West Coast District) charitable and educational oral health programs. Develop name recognition, familiarity, and longevity of the WCDDA Fund throughout the West Coast District area of Florida. Not to conflict with the Florida Dental Health Foundation, but to assist in the continued growth of the Florida Dental Health Foundation.

### *What are the objectives of the FUND?*

- Support requests for student aid through grants and reward academic achievement with scholarships thereby increasing the number of dental hygiene, assistant, and laboratory technician graduates.
- To assist dental programs in recruitment activities and specific needs required to excel in the education of all students.
- To support the dental health education and prevention of dental diseases to all sectors of the public with a special focus on Access to Care programs.
- To recognize special requests from all entities of dentistry which enhance and promote the dental profession.
- To provide disaster relief to WCDDA members.

The FUND Committee meets virtually or by phone up to three times per year.

If you are interested in serving on the FUND Committee, please contact Lissette Zuknick at [lissette@wcdental.org](mailto:lissette@wcdental.org)

# WCDDA New Members & Condolences

*The WCDDA Would Like to Extend a Warm Welcome the New Members and Returning Members to the American, Florida and West Coast Dental Associations.*

Dr. Mike Abdoney, Tampa  
Dr. Hussein Abdulameer, Fort Myers  
Dr. Baha Abuaita, Lutz  
Dr. Ziad Al Adham, Palm Harbor  
Dr. Beatriz Alpizar, Lutz  
Dr. Hiba Alqasemi, Palm Harbor  
Dr. Roshni Amin, Lakeland  
Dr. Imary Arce Febles, Naples  
Dr. Jeannely Arias, Ruskin  
Dr. Valentina Aristizabal, Bradenton  
Dr. Emad Barakat, Lithia  
Dr. Samir Barsoum, Lutz  
Dr. Hanan Beck, Tampa  
Dr. Cody Bertoch, Tampa  
Dr. Brandon Bohrer, Clearwater  
Dr. Winnelle Bonilla, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Alexander Brao, Naples  
Dr. Jordan Brown, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Sachell Calderon, Wesley Chapel  
Dr. Casey Cameron, Lakeland  
Dr. Jade Carter, Tampa  
Dr. Matthew Chan, Plant City  
Dr. Michael Chanthalangsy, Riverview  
Dr. Elizabeth Chavez, Cape Coral  
Dr. Jason Cho, Lakeland  
Dr. Jonathan Colucci, Tampa  
Dr. Zaneta Corral, Bradenton  
Dr. Vinh Dang, Tampa  
Dr. Bao Tran Dao, New Port Richey  
Dr. Jaime Davenport, Naples  
Dr. Anya de Frias, Valrico  
Dr. Anthony Decker, Parrish  
Dr. Stephanie Denis, Sarasota  
Dr. Yash Desai, Plant City  
Dr. Matthew DeVivo, Tampa  
Dr. Thomas Devlin, North Port  
Dr. Bhumi Dharia, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Aaron Doerner, Myakka City  
Dr. Amit Doshi, Tampa  
Dr. Matthew Downes, Cape Coral  
Dr. Nicole Dunlap, North Port  
Dr. Lucas Eliopoulos, Fort Myers  
Dr. Claudia Espinosa, Lakeland  
Dr. Omar Estevez Delgado, Bradenton  
Dr. Lauren Feininger, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Kara Ford, Temple Terrace  
Dr. Christopher Forsee, Sebring  
Dr. Marcel Fundora, Winter Haven  
Dr. Tiffany Gallegos, Pinellas Park  
Dr. Grace Garcia, Clearwater  
Dr. Earving Garibaldi Bernuil, Tampa

Dr. Benjamin Ghaly, Brandon  
Dr. Katherine Gouveia, Tampa  
Dr. Ana-Maria Grama, Tampa  
Dr. Ericka Gray, Tampa  
Dr. Matthew Green, Sebring  
Dr. Lori Gruskin, Bradenton  
Dr. Zena Gutmann, Sarasota  
Dr. Marina Hanna, Palm Harbor  
Dr. Fasih Haq, Fort Myers  
Dr. Nicole Hernandez, Tampa  
Dr. Yismae Hernandez, Lehigh Acres  
Dr. Sarah Houle, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Jimmy Huynh, Palm Harbor  
Dr. Anna Ichoa, Tampa  
Dr. Olayinka Igun, Fort Myers  
Dr. Nima Iranmanesh, Tampa  
Dr. Charles James, Fort Myers  
Dr. Cameron Johnson, Sarasota  
Dr. Tina Jose, Tampa  
Dr. Young Kim, Bradenton  
Dr. Linda Kornienko, Cape Coral  
Dr. Ruben Krebs, Naples  
Dr. Anna Krizan Fano, Fort Myers  
Dr. Linda Lavadia, Clearwater  
Dr. Lynn Le, Largo  
Dr. Vera Lee, Lithia  
Dr. Marc Levicoff, Riverview  
Dr. Alexander Levine, Fort Myers  
Dr. Ari Levine, Sarasota  
Dr. Paul Lewis, Largo  
Dr. Tiara Lewis, Winter Haven  
Dr. David Long, Bonita Springs  
Dr. Mary Mabry, Lakeland  
Dr. Ashima Madan, Safety Harbor  
Dr. Christina Makram, Wesley Chapel  
Dr. Armita Mashkouri  
Dr. Abigail Matthews, Boca Raton  
Dr. Vilson Merkaj, Largo  
Dr. Anthony Michelotti, Safety Harbor  
Dr. Ashley Millstein, Tampa  
Dr. Macy Moore, Seminole  
Dr. Paul Mosad, Wesley Chapel  
Dr. Mohamed Moustafa, Tampa  
Dr. Kenninthon Munoz, Miramar  
Dr. Nikhila Nemmarugommula, Spring Hill  
Dr. Ly Ngo, Largo  
Dr. Shannon Novak, Naples  
Dr. John Obeck, Tampa  
Dr. Johnathan Parks, Sarasota  
Dr. Hollie Paschke, Sarasota  
Dr. Puja Patel, Wesley Chapel

Dr. Sneha Patel, Tampa  
Dr. Steven Pavlushkin, Tampa  
Dr. Josephine Perez, Naples  
Dr. Tyler Perimenis, Naples  
Dr. Anthony Pikos, Clearwater  
Dr. Rebecca Pikos, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Gregory Prior, Clearwater  
Dr. Sanket Rathod, Spring Hill  
Dr. Jackson Reddick, Lake Wales  
Dr. Roberto Reyes, Winter Haven  
Dr. Douglas Robinson, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Carolina Rodriguez Colon, Lithia  
Dr. Yanira Rosario, Tampa  
Dr. Emily Ross, Naples  
Dr. Sara Safdari-Sadaloo, Tampa  
Dr. Thomas Salinas, Spring Hill  
Dr. Herb Salisbury, Venice  
Dr. Aareet Sandhu, Venice  
Dr. Leidy Santos, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Grady Scott, Bonita Springs  
Dr. Francesco Sebastiani, Naples  
Dr. Rita Seddeik, Largo  
Dr. Parth Shah, Port Charlotte  
Dr. Anna Shahrouh, Tampa  
Dr. Masroor Shariff, Temple Terrace  
Dr. Mary Shehata, Tampa  
Dr. Mitchell Shoemaker, Lehigh Acres  
Dr. Munsha Sidhu, Wesley Chapel  
Dr. Pablo Silva, Cape Coral  
Dr. Aaron Sipos, Fort Myers  
Dr. Priscilla Sosa, Sarasota  
Dr. Robert Sparks, Lakeland  
Dr. Mitchell Stumpf, Tampa  
Dr. Anastasia Talalenko, Bonita Springs  
Dr. Jean Paul Taveras Santos, Tampa  
Dr. Mckenzi Taylor, Saint Petersburg  
Dr. Lang Thach, Riverview  
Dr. Ernesto Ulloa-Jimenez, Tampa  
Dr. Jean Valdez, Wesley Chapel  
Dr. Laura Velez Velez, Naples  
Dr. Randall Weisel, Spring Hill  
Dr. Jay Wickersham, Zephyrhills  
Dr. Shanelle Williams, Sarasota  
Dr. Danielle Williams, Tampa  
Dr. Boyd Wilson, Largo  
Dr. Andrea Wise, Fort Myers  
Dr. Shadan Yassine, Tampa  
Dr. Petros Zacharopoulos, Dunedin  
Dr. Annie Zhang, Tampa  
Dr. Alexander Ziegler, Wesley Chapel

## In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our colleagues.

Richard Bolvin, DMD of South Pasadena passed away on June 18, 2020

Jack Ronald Conner, DDS of Tampa passed away on August 19, 2020

Richard J. Finocchi, DDS of St. Petersburg passed away on October 20, 2019

Collin M. Gallant, DDS of Fort Lauderdale passed away on September 9, 2019

William Malcom Midyette, DDS of Plant City passed away on July 24, 2020 \*past president of the WCDDA

Norman Robert Steuer, DDS of Clearwater passed away on March 1, 2020

A contribution has been made to the WCDDA Fund in their memory. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to the Florida Dental Health Foundation, indicate WCDDA Fund in the memo and mail to: Florida Dental Association, Attn: Foundation, 545 John Knox Road, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida 32303.



*"Phenomenal, professional, and timely, are just a few words to describe my relationship with FDAS and Rick. Without hesitation, FDAS is the absolute best!"*

*- Dr. Freddie W.,  
Customer Since 2004*



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### **CONTACT RICK**

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# Member Benefits... Good to Know Information!

**COVID-19** and its impact on our daily lives is rapidly evolving. Here are some resources and guidance to help dentists navigate this unprecedented time for their practices, staff and patients. Stay up to date on evolving information by visiting, <https://success.ada.org/en/practice-management/patients/infectious-diseases-2019-novel-coronavirus>

## **New ADA Toolkit Offers Guidance for Providing COVID-19 Testing in Dental Practices**

– The American Dental Association, in consultation with its Advisory Task Force on Dental Practice Recovery, has released a toolkit to help guide dentists interested in offering their patients rapid response, point-of-care COVID-19 testing within their practices. The COVID-19 & Lab Testing Requirements Toolkit includes information for dentists on applying for the federal certification required to offer this type of testing. The toolkit features an FAQ on in-office testing and CLIA requirements, an interactive map with additional laboratory testing requirements by state and steps to follow when applying for a federal certificate of waiver to offer patients point-of-care testing. The toolkit also includes compliance requirements, tips for developing a waived testing program in dental practices, COVID-19 test reporting requirements, an FAQ on responding to patient questions and guidance on medical benefit plan claim filing for in-office COVID-19 testing. Visit, [ADA.org/virus](http://ADA.org/virus)

**Human Trafficking Bill**, Chapter 2019-152, Laws of Florida, which addresses dental healthcare professionals must **complete one hour of continuing education (CE) on human trafficking and post a sign about human trafficking in their office by January 1, 2021**. Each healthcare provider licensed by one of the named Boards must post a sign regarding human trafficking in a conspicuous place accessible to employees by January 1, 2021. The sign must be at least 11 x 15 inches and in at least 32-point type. The sign must contain statutorily required language and be posted in English and Spanish. The Department has also provided Mandarin translations of these signs for use in offices where those languages are spoken. The links below contain signs that meet the statutory requirements when printed at the listed size. <http://www.flhealthsource.gov/humantrafficking/>

**Controlled Substance Prescribing Bill**, Chapter 2018-13, Laws of Florida, which states that each prescribing practitioner who is registered with the United States Drug Enforcement Agency, is required to take a Board-approved continuing education course, unless the practitioner is already required to complete such a course under his or her practice act. In 2019, Hb 549, amended Florida Statute 466.0135 making Continuing Education on the Safe and Effective Prescription of Controlled Substances required at each renewal for all Dentists.

## **Fighting for the Profession of Dentistry**

Dentistry's state and federal political action committees ensure the association has a place at the table when lawmakers are debating legislation that affects dentistry. The FDA Political Action Committee (FDAPAC) Board of Directors and American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) work hard to identify and support dental-friendly candidates. To stay informed, visit [ada.org/advocacy.aspx](http://ada.org/advocacy.aspx) and [floridadental.org](http://floridadental.org).

**Avoid Costly Legal Fees and Malpractice Suits** by using this free service available only to members. **Peer Review** doesn't always have to be started by a disgruntled patient. A frustrated dentist who feels that everything has been done to satisfy the patient, with no success, also can recommend Peer Review. This is a service provided by colleagues to other members to help mediate problems, and most of the time avoid costly and emotionally draining litigation or Board of Dentistry complaints.

## **Managed Care Handbook for Members**

You Want Me to Sign What? A Florida Dentist's Handbook on Managed-care Contracts is a comprehensive reference including information on reimbursement, risk, negotiating, and rights and duties of both parties. Contact the WCDDA office to obtain your copy, (813) 654-2500.

**ADA's Center for Professional Success** – Resources for Your Personal and Professional Life. This interactive web resource offers members relevant and effective solutions you can use every day: managing your career, expanding your knowledge and balancing your life. Visit [success.ada.org/en/](http://success.ada.org/en/).

## **FDA's Career Center**

A slick platform that provides dentists and dental employers a better way to find each other and make that perfect match. Visit, [floridadental.org/member-center/fda-career-center](http://floridadental.org/member-center/fda-career-center).

**Other Member Benefits Include:**  
**ADA" Find a Dentist":** The online tool, [mouthhealthy.org](http://mouthhealthy.org) promotes your practice by allowing you to keep your profile up to date and making it easy for potential patients to locate your practice.

**FDA Services:** Provides a wide range of insurance at affordable rates. Individual/Group Health, Professional Liability, Term Life, Workers Compensation, Disability, Malpractice, Auto and Pension plans are available. Contact Rick D'Angelo at (813) 475-6948 or [rick.dangelo@fdaservices.com](mailto:rick.dangelo@fdaservices.com).

**ADA Credentialing:** Spend more time with patients and less time on cumbersome, redundant paperwork. Think like a dentist and run your office like an entrepreneur with ADA's Credentialing Service. Visit [ada.org/credentialing](http://ada.org/credentialing).

**ADA/FDA/WCDDA Websites:** Information right at your fingertips, visit [ada.org](http://ada.org), [floridadental.org](http://floridadental.org) and [wcdental.org](http://wcdental.org) to access important information on laws, rules, and continuing education and employment opportunities. Visit ADA's New Dentist Blog, [newdentistblog.ada.org](http://newdentistblog.ada.org) and FDA's Beyond the Bite Blog, [floridadental.org/members/fda-blog](http://floridadental.org/members/fda-blog).

**Free Florida and HIPAA Compliance Forms:** Free HIPAA forms are available to all members. Visit [floridadental.org/members/member-resource](http://floridadental.org/members/member-resource)

**CE Broker Tracking:** Continuing education attendance records are uploaded into CEbroker.com for each member who attends a meeting at the FDA, WCDDA and affiliate levels.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AND HOW TO JOIN, CALL (800) 260-5277 OR VISIT WCDENTAL.ORG OR FLORIDADENTAL.ORG.**



# Association Business - Official Calls

## Official Calls

There will be a caucus of the West Coast District Dental Association's Delegation on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via conference call.



Dr. Lane Karp

The Florida Dental Association is holding a virtual House of Delegates meeting Saturday, January 23, 2021.

Dr. Lance Karp  
WCDDA Secretary

## New WCDDA Team Member

**Andreas Perello Garcia**  
*Administrative Assistant*



Andreas

After obtaining his bachelor's degree in Media, Culture, and Communications at New York University, Andreas returned to Tampa where he was born and raised.

With a strong working background in customer service and human resources, and an extensive education covering skills like cultural and business communications, digital media, and marketing - he began to pursue his professional career, which led to him joining the team. In his personal time, Andreas enjoys traveling and exploring new cultures throughout the world, spending time with his family, and keeping up to date with current socio-political events.

## Team Member Transition

*It saddens us to report that our wonderful Client Services Manager, **Heather Nelson** is soon relocating to Georgia. We've truly enjoyed her time with the WCDDA and wish her well!*

## Call for Nominations

Accepting Leadership Nominations:

The WCDDA is accepting written nominations for the WCDDA Secretary.

Please forward written nominations to the WCDDA Executive Cabinet prior to April 2, 2021.

Accepting Award Nominations:

- Distinguished Service Award: This award is given to a member for outstanding service toward the dental profession and the West Coast District Dental Association.
- Dan Bertoch Leadership Award: This award is given to a young dentist who has proven leadership skills.
- Affiliate of the Year Award: This is given to an affiliate that has contributed the most towards improving the WCDDA by increasing membership numbers, having the most volunteers, and supporting the ideas, activities and meetings of the WCDDA.
- Kintsugi: This award is given to any member who has shown dedication or commitment towards improving the access to healthcare issue in the community.

Please submit nominations to the WCDDA office by December 31, 2020.

**WCDDA President's Trip**  
**Park City, Utah**  
**Feb. 24 - March 1, 2021**

Join your colleagues, family and friends for the annual President's Trip! WCDDA President, Dr. Reza Iranmanesh invites you to join him for WCDDA Snow Days in Park City, Utah! Group events will be pre-arranged. For more details and to complete an interest form, visit [www.wcdental.org/annual-meetings-ce/presidents-trip](http://www.wcdental.org/annual-meetings-ce/presidents-trip)

# Dan Bertoch Memorial Grant

Dr. Dan Bertoch devoted much time to advocacy for the dental profession. It is in his spirit that a Memorial Fund in Dan's name was established in 2011 to provide funding for first-time attendee(s) to Dentists' Day on the Hill in Tallahassee on March 16, 2021. The grant can be used towards transportation to and from Tallahassee, and accommodations at the host hotel.

For questions regarding the Dan Bertoch Memorial Grant, contact the WCDDA Office at (813) 654-2500 or email: [lissette@wcdental.org](mailto:lissette@wcdental.org). Download the grant application by visiting, [www.wcdental.org/wcdda-fund/scholarship-forms](http://www.wcdental.org/wcdda-fund/scholarship-forms)



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**WCDDA 99th Annual Meeting, CAMLS Tampa . . . . . Jan. 29, 2021**

**WCDDA Gasparilla Parade Private Tent, Tampa. . . . . Jan. 30, 2021**

Dentists' Day on the Hill, Tallahassee. . . . . March 16, 2021

Florida Mission of Mercy, Jacksonville. . . . . April 9-10, 2021

WCDDA Executive Cabinet Meeting, Live & Virtual . . . . . May 7, 2021

WCDDA FDA HOD Caucus . . . . . June 15, 2021

FDA House of Delegates, Orlando . . . . . June 25-26, 2021

Florida Dental Convention, Orlando . . . . . June 24-26, 2021

**WCDDA 34th Summer Meeting, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. . Aug. 6-8, 2021**

**America's Dental Meeting, Las Vegas . . . . . October 11-15, 2021**

# A NOVEL APPROACH TO REPLICATE AN EXISTING MAXILLARY DENTURE

Reprinted with permission from the Arkansas Dental Association  
Arkansas Dentistry, Fall 2019 issue.

**BY DAVID E. UMSTED, D.D.S.,  
TERENCE C. HILGER, D.D.S.,  
ALEXANDER DOZIER - D4 UT DENTAL  
STUDENT, AND GREG WILMOTH, C.D.T.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The demand for complete denture treatment is continuing. More than 36 million Americans are edentulous in at least one arch and this number is estimated to increase to nearly 38 million by 2020.<sup>11</sup>

Ninety percent of those who are edentulous have dentures and about 15 percent of these have dentures made each year.<sup>1</sup> The ADA recommends that dentures should be replaced approximately every seven years. However, an unpublished study found that the average denture is 17.6 years old.<sup>2</sup>

Many general dentists resist making dentures.<sup>3</sup> This can be due to a variety of reasons. They often still use the same procedures learned in dental school which can be time consuming and sometimes difficult to master. Many dentists have found they can generate more income per hour doing other procedures. Also, denture patients can often be difficult to predictively satisfy. They sometimes have unrealistic functional expectations, especially concerning the mandibular denture. All mandibular denture patients should be informed about the availability of dental implants. However, implant dentistry may not be appropriate for all patients and conditions.<sup>4</sup>

Most new techniques are variations of the traditional five appointment technique taught in most dental schools. It is

The ADA recommends that dentures should be replaced approximately every seven years. However, an unpublished study found that the average denture is 17.6 years old.<sup>2</sup>

the authors' desire to offer a simplified technique for replicating an existing denture.

Duplicating a denture would indicate that no changes be made to the existing denture and this is rarely the case. Normally, the fit of a worn denture can be improved by modifying the intaglio surface.<sup>5</sup> Prosthetic teeth often exhibit wear and can be improved by the use of new teeth with proper occlusal adaptations.<sup>6</sup> Also, in an old denture, degradation of the acrylic base is often present which needs to be replaced for hygienic reasons.<sup>7</sup>

However, new dentures may be difficult for some patients when major changes are made to the occlusal scheme, vertical dimension of occlusion (VDO), and design of the denture bases. This is especially true in older or medically compromised adults whose ability to adapt to new dentures may be diminished.<sup>8</sup> Many denture patients want the new denture to have the same look, feel, and functional abilities of the existing denture. This can be difficult to achieve when starting with no reference points for prior VDO, midline, lip support, tooth selection, plane of occlusion and occlusal scheme. By using

the patient's previous dentures, all of these features can be more easily replicated in a new denture.

The following procedure allows the dentist to use an existing maxillary denture as a custom impression tray and to facilitate tooth selection and arrangement. It also reduces the number of appointments from five to three.

## **CASE STUDY**

A 71 Year old female patient presented to the UTHSC College of Dentistry wearing an immediate denture that had been fabricated six months earlier. It was opposing six remaining mandibular teeth (#22-27) and a chromium-cobalt mandibular removable partial denture (RPD) replacing the missing posterior teeth. (Figure 1). A maxillary complete denture opposing a mandibular distal extension RPD is a common clinical presentation.<sup>9</sup> Many of these patients exhibit symptoms consistent with "combination syndrome" as described by Kelly.<sup>12</sup> This patient had symptoms of "combination syndrome" including a posterior tipping of the occlusal plane due to mandibular posterior alveolar resorption and a slight enlarge-



**Figure 1**

ment of the maxillary tuberosities.

A new denture and mandibular RPD were made using traditional techniques with a slight increase in VDO, a change in the position of the anterior teeth for esthetics, and an occlusal plane more parallel with the ala-tragus line. After multiple adjustments the patient expressed dissatisfaction with the new maxillary denture due to the change in esthetics and the increased VDO. She requested that another maxillary denture be fabricated that was identical to her immediate denture which was more similar to her natural teeth.

It was decided to fabricate a new maxillary denture that replaced the desired features of the original immediate denture. This would be fabricated opposing the patient's original mandibular RPD to prevent changes in the maxillary posterior tooth position even though the original mandibular partial had a less than ideal antero-posterior slope of the occlusal plane.

## TECHNIQUE STEPS

### Appointment #1:

A master impression was made inside the patient's original immediate denture. Border molding with heavy body VPS (Aquasil®, Dentsply Sirona) was done to re-establish the peripheral extension. A light body VPS (Aquasil®, Dentsply Sirona) was used to make a wash impression. (Figure 2) This impression was made using a closed mouth technique<sup>10</sup> with the patient biting in maximum intercuspation against the original mandibular RPD and natural teeth. This was done to maintain the desired VDO and occlusal scheme. A face-bow registration ( Whip Mix®) was made with the denture in place to capture the relationship of the impressed maxilla to



**Figure 2**

the condylar axis. The impression was poured with type 3 dental stone (Whip Mix®) and then the denture containing the new cast was mounted on the articulator.

The Whip Mix flat occlusal plane assembly (occlusal stand) was placed on



**Figure 3**

A record base (triad) was made on the new cast. The type of tooth and mould used on the previous immediate denture had been documented in the patient's record and was used again in the new denture. The new teeth fit exactly into the putty index. This insured that the teeth had been set in the same facial-lingual position, with the same tilt, and at the same VDO with the matching occlusal

Most new techniques are variations of the traditional five appointment technique taught in most dental schools. It is the authors' desire to offer a simplified technique for replicating an existing denture.

the articulator and adjusted until it was 3-4 mm inferior to the occlusal surface of the denture. Silicone laboratory putty (Lab-Putty, Coltene/Whaledent) was placed on the assembly to register the incisal and occlusal surfaces of the denture. This created an index for subsequent placement of the new prosthetic teeth. (Figure 3). It is important to note that the new master cast was not separated from the impression until the maxillary denture and cast were mounted and the silicone index was created.

The denture was separated and removed from the new master cast and the denture was returned to the patient. (Figure 4) This was all accomplished the same day so the patient was not without their denture for an extended period of time.

surfaces. If the previous tooth information is not available then teeth of the same approximate size and shape can be used, although further adaptive refinements and a clinical remount may be necessary. After the teeth were set into the putty index they were attached to the record base with softened wax and festooned. (Figure 5)

### Appointment #2:

A wax try in was performed. The anterior tooth arrangement duplicated the original immediate denture and needed no adjustment. There was a slight discrepancy in the posterior occlusion that required a clinical remount utilizing the opposing cast, and refinement of the set

Appropriate use of this technique can result in decreased clinical and laboratory time and increased patient satisfaction for those patients who desire their new prosthesis to resemble their old one.<sup>5</sup>



**Figure 4**

up. The corrected trial denture was tried back into the patient's mouth and bilateral occlusion was verified. (Figure 6)

The wax cameo surface of the trial denture was fashioned in a manner similar to the previous denture and sent to the commercial lab for final processing and finishing procedures.

**Appointment #3:**

The new replica denture was delivered. (Figure 7) The fit of the intaglio surface was verified using pressure indicator paste and occlusion was verified with articulating paper. Only minor adjustments were necessary and the patient was very pleased with the esthetics, phonetics, and feel of her new denture.

**CONCLUSION**

A novel denture replacement technique was used to create a new prosthesis which replicated an existing maxillary denture favored by the patient. The position of the anterior and posterior teeth and vertical dimension of occlusion were copied.



**Figure 5**

Modifications to the intaglio surface were made to account for ridge resorption and to improve retention, support, and stability.

Appropriate use of this technique can result in decreased clinical and laboratory time and increased patient satisfaction for those patients who desire their new prosthesis to resemble their old one.<sup>5</sup>

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The authors would like to thank Dr. David Cagna, Dr. Russell Wicks, and Dr. Scott Hollis for their guidance in this project.

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**Figure 6**



**Figure 7 (Replica denture)**

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**Vinay Jain, B.D.S., M.S., M.D.S.,** Associate Professor, Prosthodontics University of Tennessee College of Dentistry (pictured) was one of the co-authors of "A Technique for Acquiring a Centric Relation Position for Edentulous Patients, Facilitated by Wax Occlusal Analogs" in the Summer 2019 issue of Arkansas Dentistry. Dr. Jain's name was inadvertently left off as an author of the article.



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Dr. Roberta Pileggi

**February 18, 2021**

TBD

**March 18, 2021**

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Head and Neck Cancer, Dr. Mark Reuben

**May 2021**

CCDA & LCDS Spring Meeting

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Indications, Risks, and Complications with Third Molar Surgery,

Dr. Jack Longmire – Virtual

**March 25, 2021**

Perio & Alzheimer's, Dr. Jessica Stilley-Mallah

**May 20, 2021**

Current Digital Applications in Dental Implantology,

Dr. Reza Iranmanesh

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Endodontic Canals Found in the Most Unusual Places,

Dr. Raed Kasem

**March 23, 2021**

Pathology – Amazing Biopsy Findings, Dr. Rob Ruffalo

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Human Trafficking, Dennis Solon

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Botox in Dentistry, Jan Cornelius, DDS, PA

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Coordinating Orthognathic Surgery into a Comprehensive Dental Treatment Plan, Dr. Pat Ricalde

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Forensic Odontology and Medicolegal Investigations, Glori Enzor, DDS, PA

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Veterinary Dentistry, a summary of our current practices, Dr. Wade Gingerich

**May 2021**

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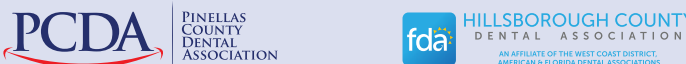
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*Dr. Brent Mayer*

The FDA PAC is tasked with supporting dental friendly candidates at the state level. The “tooth party” is not connected to any one political party or agenda; instead, political figures and aspiring political figures are vetted on their support of organized dentistry by the FDA. The PAC gives us a seat at the table and helps shape current and upcoming rules and regulations that affect our profession.

In recent times, additional CE requirements including human trafficking and controlled substances prescribing were introduced. These requirements resulted in mandatory courses not being in line with our standard license renewal dates, which the PAC is currently addressing. The PAC has also addressed who was allowed to give the controlled substances course, resulting in driving down costs.

Another recent example of how the PAC benefits **all** dentists includes the placement of Dr. Rudy Liddell, then FDA president, on the Governor’s re-open task force following the COVID-19 pandemic. The task force, with Dr. Liddell’s participation, helped **all** Florida dentists reopen their offices to comprehensive care one week earlier than expected.

Outside forces are only going to continue to affect the way we practice, and it is imperative for us to have great relationships with the decision makers in Tallahassee. With current campaign finance regulations, PAC offers flexibility and support above and beyond individual contributions. Timely and meaningful benefactions can make all the difference in tight political races, and having dental friendly legislators at our state level can ensure we have the tools and resources necessary to provide the best care for our patients and the people of Florida for years to come!

There are multiple ways to help: You may choose to donate time, money, or other resources. A great way to contribute to the PAC is by attending the FDA’s Dentist Day on the Hill! This is a fun event which can leave a lasting impression. Dentists gather in small geographic based groups and set up small face-to-face meetings with legislators to voice specific dental concerns. The event is fun, organized, and a great introduction to the legislative process. It is a great way to network and to meet some thought leaders and decision makers from your own community. The WCDDA has a grant available for 1st time attendees to help offset the cost!

There are many ways to help financially:

1. FDA PAC voluntary contribution: Just check the box with your annual dues statement!
2. The Capital Hill Club: A \$500 pledge that can be acted upon when a need arises. This is not paid up front as it is a promise to contribute when a need arises.
3. Century Club: A voluntary PAC contribution of \$150. This helps increase the funds the PAC can contribute. The more Century Club members we have, the more comprehensive our outreach can be, and the greater influence we can have!



Other resources include, becoming a Legislative Contact Dentist! Dentists are paired with current legislators from their area. The idea is to exchange contact information and act as a resource when legislation affecting dentists is proposed. FDA helps guide this interaction, supplying necessary resources for legislators and dentists.

My hope is that you will consider supporting the FDA PAC in the coming year. If you already support the PAC, thank you! Please consider increasing your support. New legislators have been elected and the PAC can use our support. Thank you for your time and efforts and please contact me directly if you would like help getting started!

Brent Mayer, DMD MS  
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# Tip of the Tongue



**Hugh Wunderlich, DDS**

## The ADA Picks a New Pilot

A series of decisions led us to choose our new leader. At one point, we even flipped a coin. It was his decision to fly out that day. And since he was a pilot, and a gray-haired dentist familiar with this part of the world, we followed.

Our mission in Southern Africa had diverted us to Linkwasha. The obscuring fog and morning mist made the air heavy and wet. I could only hear the sputtery engine of the landing plane, in which we were to depart.

The African plains looked much different than the viney foliage in the Tarzan movies. The “runway” – anywhere there wasn’t a tree or a herd of wildebeests – was typical for this part of Zimbabwe. The “tarmac” was an area of flattened grass that a sleeping elephant had abandoned – a great natural crop circle. I finally made out the blue-gray shape of a Cessna 172. It likely was the exact plane I’d soloed in 30 years ago.

We were about to take off, with zero visibility, in a dubious, overloaded plane. What could be worse?

The ground was soft and muddy from a night of rain, so it was impossible to land hard and run out long. The well-named elephant grass quickly wrapped around the wheel struts, bringing the plane to a stop just inside our circle of trampled grass.

“Better get in before it gets worse,” our leader commanded.

We were in a muddy field in the middle of Zimbabwe, surrounded by unseen animals and termite mounds the size of sport utility vehicles. We were about to take off, with zero visibility, in a dubious, overloaded plane. What could be worse?

The pelting rain pointed the direction of the wind and our departure. I could hear the dim, sporadic buzz of the stall-warning horn as the grass released its tangled grip and the airplane ached for altitude. The window was of no value – the view indicated we were wrapped in a bale of cotton – but the altimeter said our situation was improving. My new concern was flying into something, so I scanned the only thing I could see – the instrument panel.

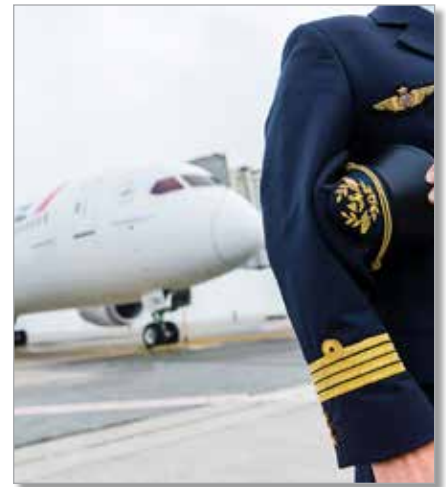
“Where’s the transponder? How do we keep from flying into other aircraft?” I quizzed.

“Don’t have one,” the pilot said, pointing to a cheese sandwich stuffed into a pigeonhole in the panel. “It’s no problem,” he continued. “Who else would be stupid enough to be flying around in this?”

This was our leader.

Every year the American Dental Association picks a new leader. The ADA delegation does not grope around in the dark picking its leader. It is a genuine grueling year-long campaign to elect the ADA President-elect. This person serves for one year and then graduates to become President of the ADA in their second year. As you might imagine this job is extremely challenging especially in the current environment. The Florida Dental Association has put up several very qualified candidates in years past, but this year I am proud to say that our own Dr. Cesar Sabates has been elected to this high office. Cesar is one of the most respected leaders from around the country and his leadership style is exactly what we need right now.

Gray hair no longer is the prerequisite. Experience always will be an asset. I have had the pleasure to work with Cesar on and off for twenty years. We need a leader like Dr. Sabates to pilot our plane so the ADA will not have to fly around in the fog.





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