Spring is here! Although fall is my favorite time of year, I also love spring. I am getting itchy to plant flowers. We had our first thunderstorm last night. Aaahh….how relaxing to hear the rain. The trees are starting to bloom and the grass is getting green. I even have the windows open today as I sit and write this. Bring on spring!!!

Your IAGD Board of Directors have been hard at work. I’d like to thank Dr. Laila Buck for all her years of service, most recently as your president. After her time as President, she served as the treasurer. With new family commitments, Dr. Buck is unable to continue on the Board as of the first of the year. We are sorry to see her go but we are so grateful for the time she gave us to the IAGD Board. Thank you Dr. Buck!!!

Over the past 6 months, we have added new board members Drs. Chad Wagener, Carlin Lawhead and Rick Nelson. Thank you for your time and joining us on the Board.

We are excited to announce that the IAGD will be exhibiting this year at the IADDA meeting on May 3rd & 4th. We will be in booth #102. Stop by and see us.

The IAGD Mastertrack is in full swing! We just completed our 2nd weekend with Dr. Paul Hansen. The topic was Fixed Prosthodontics. This lecture/Mastertrack was held on March 8-10 in conjunction with our 2013 Annual Meeting. Once again, the weekend course was sold out. Reviews from the lecture and participation course were very good.

If you are interested in our Mastertrack program, we still have spots available.

Or you can attend the lecture only or a weekend at a time. Just a reminder, you do not need to have your Fellowship to either attend a Mastertrack course or be a part of the program. If you have any questions, give me a call. Our next Mastertrack weekend will be held jointly with the Nebraska AGD. We will hold this course in Omaha and the dates are October 11-13. This will be a combined weekend of Practice Management/Special Needs/Special Patient Care and Oral Path. A brochure should arrive in the mail in the next week or you can go to our Constituent page on the AGD’s website for more information.

One of the perks of being an IAGD member is my helping submitting your CE. I’ll be happy to work with you to get those credits submitted to national or if you have any transcript problems, please give me a call. Remember to be able to get AGD credit for a course, the provider must be an AGD PACE provider or an ADA CERP provider. If you belong to a group that isn’t either type of provider, let me know and we can send them a PACE provider application.

It’s hard to believe that I just celebrated my 2 year anniversary as your Executive Director! It’s been an amazing journey and we’ve come so far. AND the best is yet to come! Thank you to all our IAGD Board members, past and present for your commitment to this organization. Like I said, your Board of Directors is working very hard to make the IAGD the best association. We’ve committed to another all day strategic planning session in 2014. We are very excited about this and if you have an idea or suggestion, please contact our office.

I’ve said this before and I will say it again…..get involved! Your input is important and valuable. You have chosen to be a part of an elite organization, one where together we CAN make a difference. If you haven’t been to a meeting in a few years, I invite you to join us!

Please feel free to contact me at any time. You can reach me at 402-438-2321 or juliebergermoore@gmail.com.

Julie Berger-Moore
Executive Director, IAGD

Julie Berger-Moore, Executive Director
6331 Tanglewood Lane • Lincoln, NE 68516
(O/F) 402/438-2321 juliebergermoore@gmail.com
The IAGD Official Website!
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• Constituent Quick Facts.
• Feedback: “Give us your opinion.”

Editor, Jon L. Hardinger, DDS, MAGD

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Iowa AGD Experiences Growth

The Iowa Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) is experiencing a refreshing growth in attendance for its newly designed MasterTrack spring and fall classes. I have watched the Iowa AGD struggle through ups and downs over the past 30 years. But now, thanks to several key members, and the assistance of Executive Director Julie Berger-Moore, there is sustained interest among three groups—core Master Track students, constituent members who come to meetings, and doctors from across the country.

To name just a few of these key doctors and risk omitting someone would be a shame, but please look over our current list of Iowa AGD Board members and see that many of them have been with us many years. Personally, I think it was brilliant of Steve Burds, DDS, to put together our spring and fall offerings and combine them with the Master Track. Our previous course offerings were too frequent, and member attendance was sparse. To make the MasterTrack successful, the Iowa AGD needed a person who was well connected and experienced in the dental industry and dental education.

Julie brought together the educational speaker and vendors for our spring meeting. Mind you, this was not just arm-twisting and begging vendors to come to another boring meeting where no one would stop to see their booth. Julie coordinated seven different vendors who not only showed up, but also were...
New AGD Executive Director

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) is pleased to announce that John A. Thorner, JD, CAE, is our new executive director/CEO.

John brings more than 25 years of association management experience to the AGD. We expect his expertise will bring the AGD to new heights.

John previously served as executive vice president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists in Park Ridge, Ill., where he grew membership by 14 percent and increased revenue by 58 percent during his four-and-a-half-year tenure. He also served as founding president of the Anesthesia Quality Institute, an organization dedicated to compiling patient safety data.

Earlier in his career, John served as executive director of the National Recreation and Park Association, the Optical Society, and the Air and Waste Management Association. He also served as general counsel and director of government affairs for the Water Environment Federation, and as a legislative and regulatory lobbyist for the national trade associations representing the paper and forest products industries.

“I am excited to join the AGD,” John says. “This is a strong organization, and I look forward to helping maximize its potential as a professional and educational society. Working with members and staff, we will strive to help our members perfect their practice of general dentistry.”

John received his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law, a Master of Science in journalism from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Arts in history/political science from Duke University.

He is a member of the American Society of Association Executives and previously served on that organization’s board of directors. He also is a member of the Association Forum of Chicagoland.

John and his wife, Judy, reside in River Forest, Ill. They have five daughters.

Please join me in welcoming John to the AGD!

Jeffrey M. Cole, DDS, MBA, FAGD
AGD President
On Friday, March 8, the Iowa Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) sponsored “Diagnosis and Restoration of the Dental Wear Patient,” presented by Paul Hansen, DDS. The course was the lecture portion of the MasterTrack program, which continued on through the weekend at the Des Moines office and teaching facility of Bob Margeas, DDS, FAGD. Dr. Hansen presented two parts of a five-part series in Friday’s lecture.

It was refreshing to meet Dr. Hansen, who discussed his farming background, travel experiences, and family during his presentation. In addition to slides of neatly landscaped houses in Germany, he showed us a photo of a tricycle taken in Vietnam to illustrate how the jaw operates and an image of a teeter-totter upon the grass plains of Nebraska to demonstrate a Class I lever. He presented the anatomical dissections of Terry Tanaka, DDS, and referenced “Management of Temporomandibular Disorders and Occlusion,” by Jeffrey P. Okeson, DMD, regarding posterior teeth taking a long axis load and anterior teeth that are not axially loaded.

He explained a history of occlusion and discussed the two main camps that developed after the 1950s: group function and canine guidance. Even with these philosophies, many reconstructions experienced continued wear, so the search continued. Today, Hansen talked about the continued use of BruxZir restorations, which have grown in prominence, replacing gold and the porcelain-fused-to-metal crowns. He said that some allergic reactions have occurred with rexillium iii and that there is a cross reactivity in 5 percent of those who are allergic to nickel with palladium. He also noted that BruxZirs are not known to wear opposing teeth, gold, or porcelain.

Dr. Hansen said that he consistently finds that condylar guidance does not dictate anterior guidance. If you find clinical anterior wear, he said, you will have a Class I lever in the posterior and find a balancing side contact on the opposite side of the tooth experiencing wear.

Regarding techniques, Dr. Hansen prepared handouts on taking alginate impressions and pouring them in stone; making multiple single-unit provisional restorations using an indirect technique; and patterns of abrasion, erosion, and attrition. He also distributed a paper called “Managing the Patient With a Worn Dentition” and mentioned “Toothwear: The ABC of the Worn Dentition,” by Drs. Farid Kahn and William George Young, as a favorite reference.

Additionally, he cited an interesting American Society of Dentistry for Children study (67:186-192) that indicated children who swish their daily soda will have a 25 times the normal incidence of decay—six times if they have more than one soda per day, three times if they drink fruit juice, and 11 times if they do not drink water.

Referencing a 2012 ADA News article, Dr. Hansen talked about the continued use of BruxZir restorations, which have grown in prominence, replacing gold and the porcelain-fused-to-metal crowns. He said that some allergic reactions have occurred with Rexillium III and that there is a cross reactivity in 5 percent of those who are allergic to nickel with palladium. He also noted that BruxZirs are not known to wear opposing teeth, gold, or porcelain.
It was interesting to hear about how Dr. Hansen met the celebrity PK Thomas, DSc, MD, as a young dentist and how Dr. Thomas placed three-quarter gold crowns on most of the teeth to achieve harmony. At that time, it seemed like a lot, but it makes sense in cases that cannot be equilibrated.

Dr. Hansen also spent time in the office of Bill McHorris, DDS, of Memphis, Tenn., who developed the leaf gauge that is still used today in determining centric relation and premature contacts. During his presentation, Dr. Hansen showed us many mounted cases placed in centric and described how they were used in finding not only premature contacts but also the extra vertical dimension needed for reconstructions.

At the end of the lecture, I asked Dr. Hansen about the future of digital images of mounted cases, and he said that his dental laboratory already has mounted cases virtually; getting the correct orientation for diagnosis and treatment is the key to their usefulness.

I wish to congratulate Dr. Hansen for keeping his audience the entire day while addressing a complicated subject. In addition to the lecture, we all enjoyed the afternoon door prizes—just about everyone seemed to win something.

Jon Hardinger, DDS, MAGD
Iowa AGD Editor

Door Prizes at the IAGD Spring Meeting

The IAGD and each vendor at the annual session of the Iowa Academy of General Dentistry contributed to door prizes drawn in the break of the afternoon session of the presentation by Dr. Hansen.

Richard Schumacher, DDS of Iowa City, IA: A $50 gift certificate from Regional Manager Rick Cacciatore of Patterson Dental.

Harry Koutroulakis, DMD from Lugoff, South Carolina: A Gift Bag from Representative Greg Slaymaker of Crest Oral B products.

Rick Nelson, DDS of Bettendorf, IA: A Sample of 3M products from Representative Carla Stallman of 3M.

Lindsey Meyer DDS of Manchester, IA: An IPod from Ralph Cook CEO, CDT of Precision Dental Designs.

Leigh Rasmussen, DDS of Pella, IA: A $25 gift certificate to the Olive Garden from the IAGD.

Mary Jo J-Strait, DDS of Mount Vernon, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Bed Bath and Beyond from the IAGD.

Craig Grandgenett, DDS of Ames, IA: A 25 gift certificate to Applebee’s from the IAGD.

Clint Ambroson, DDS of Clarinda, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Kohl’s from the IAGD.

Doug Recker, DDS of Hiawatha, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Starbucks from the IAGD.

Michelle Cook, DDS of Story City, IA: A $25 gift certificate to B & B Works from the IAGD

John Arend, DDS of Waterloo, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Panera from the IAGD.

Deb Oldham, DDS of Anamosa, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Red Robin from the IAGD.

Dan Pelc, DDS of Oelwein, IA: A $25 gift certificate to Macaroni Grill Or Chili’s from the IAGD.

Chad Wagener, DDS of Ankeny, IA: A Kindle Fire from the IAGD.

Jon Hardinger, DDS, MAGD
Iowa AGD Editor
Thousands of dental professionals will tune up their continuing education in Music City during the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) 2013 Annual Meeting & Exhibits, June 27 to 30, 2013, at the brand-new Music City Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

The event will offer more than a year’s worth of continuing education, with a global faculty of dental experts presenting lecture and participation courses on the hottest topics of the day. One of the highlights of this year’s educational program will be the opening session, “Death’s Acres: Life as a Forensic Anthropologist,” with keynote speaker William Bass III, PhD. A world-renowned forensic anthropologist, Dr. Bass is the founder of the Forensic Anthropology Center at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, also known as The Body Farm, and co-author of the best-selling Body Farm mystery novels.

Annual meeting attendees also will have the chance to check out the latest innovations in dentistry at the exhibit hall and connect with colleagues at special networking events. On Saturday evening, the AGD will honor its new Fellows, Masters, and Lifelong Learning and Service Recognition recipients with the Presidential Concert: A Night at the Ryman Auditorium. Sponsored by the AGD Foundation, this intimate evening at the historic Nashville venue will feature a special musical guest, who will be announced this spring. Proceeds will benefit the Interfaith Dental Clinic, a nonprofit that delivers comprehensive dental care to low-income individuals in Middle Tennessee.

Those who register for the AGD 2013 Annual Meeting & Exhibits by April 26, 2013, will receive earlybird rates. For more information or to register, visit www.agd.org/nashville on the all new AGD website.
Dr. Hardinger on Lasers and More

My winter 2012 Seattle Study Club publication included an enthusiastic article from periodontist Michael Cohen, DDS, MSD, PS, on the use of the Millennium Laser and regeneration of lost attachment in chronic adult periodontal disease. This reignited a long-time interest of mine.

In 1989, I trained in Gore-TEX guided tissue regeneration and placed freeze-dried demineralized bone in periodontal pockets covered by a membrane, which delayed the time the epithelium could return to the healing site, allowing collagen to grow in first. Simply put, I understood that the laser was now doing something similar, selectively removing the epithelium and leaving the underlying connective tissue to repopulate the pocket and achieve reattachment.

Could a 60-year-old dentist do reattachment with a laser? Was this procedure something that would work in my hands regularly for most patients? I called Dr. Cohen and asked him about this, and he encouraged me to look into it—so I did.

I called the company and learned that Millennium is a proprietary technique and that introducing it into my practice would be a big commitment. The price for this special laser and the training would be more than $100,000. The company would help me get this achievement to laser light insights, and I am at a 6:30 mile at a 1 incline. I dedicate these 50 minutes every day to this, at least I can say my toe is feeling better than it has for years. My running readers out there can really appreciate that. I am striving for a treadmill running goal, and at present I am at a 5:30 mile at a 1 incline. I dedicate this achievement to laser light insights, and I await further insights for my practice.

I consulted the Iowa Dental Board, which is neutral on directing treatment to the pocket wall. I also talked to my cousin Dana Abraham, MD, a Little Rock, Ark., surgical oncologist who has used a laser, and asked her if it took off in her practice; she said it did not. One night at the YMCA, I asked ophthalmologist Brad Isaak, MD, about the lasers in his field, and he said that although they have a place, he still uses traditional methods for most cases. He also said lasers are very expensive and that a large number of cases are required to make their use worthwhile.

Several doctors I have consulted use the diode laser as an adjunct to their crown and bridge work, and to improve the access to the margin for better impressions. Sometimes I could really use a blood-controlled field for a subgingival margin. Presently, I am using a clay-like paste from 3M in the sulcus with a retraction cord, and this manages most cases. I still use a reversible hydrocolloid with a wet field, and by the second impression most bleeding is stopped by natural means.

Are you getting my drift that lasers are not for my practice? They still intrigue me, though, and I would like to close with my own personal experience with low-level light therapy. I have had a fungal infection under my toenail for 10 years, and this has been treated with two rounds of Lamisil. Recently I took home my old Spectrum 800 curing light and have been exposing my toenail to two minutes of light daily. The nail bed was significantly better within a month and is continuing to look better to this day.

So, if I did not get anything out of all this, at least I can say my toe is feeling better than it has for years. My running readers out there can really appreciate that. I am striving for a treadmill running goal, and at present I am at a 5:30 mile at a 1 incline. I dedicate this achievement to laser light insights, and I await further insights for my practice.

Jon Hardinger, DDS, MAGD
Iowa AGD Editor
Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the IAGD Board.