



Arkansas Kansas Louisiana Mississippi Oklahoma

The Four Month Recall?

Tony L Guilbeau DDS MAGD

The Louisiana AGD and Region 12 have recovered from the national meeting we hosted in July. By most indications the meeting was quite a successful effort thanks to the efforts of a great team. From the great C.E. courses to the 5K Run to the excellent friendships we renewed, I think it was one of the best conferences I've seen.

LAGD President Kay Jordan DDS FAGD, Vice President Scott Kogler DDS MAGD, and Secretary/Treasurer John Portwood DDS MAGD led a team of volunteers to coordinate all the C.E. courses/speakers, social activities, and regional caucuses. This was the first meeting where the C.E. offerings and governance were separated to give the delegates an opportunity to attend the C.E. courses we offer. Time will tell if this separate format is worth the expanded time and effort required of our members.

Dr. Kogler did an amazing job of organizing all of the C. E. offerings; Dr. Jordan even found the

time and energy to host a pre-convention dinner party at her home. We owe these two individuals a huge amount of gratitude.

In conjunction with the meeting we elected board members for Region 12 which included Roddy Scarborough DMD (trustee) Tony L Guilbeau DDS (Regional Director), Cheryl Church DDS (Treasure), Steve Bates DDS (Secretary); and Greg Kilbane DDS (Editor).

We in Region 12 are looking forward to the AGD Leadership Conference. It will be held Nov. 18-21 in Chicago IL at the Marriot Renaissance Hotel. It will be an exciting gathering of 150-200 new and experienced leaders in our organization.

I look forward to our next Regional Spring Courses which will be hosted by Dr Ric Crowder and the Kansas AGD. It will be held in Overland Park, KS on April 28-29, 2011. This is an important event in that we decide how we will vote on various matters in the House of Delegates which we will attend in San Diego, CA in July 2011.

Region XII Meeting

The Region XII Meeting will be April 28th and April 29th, 2011 in Overland Park, KS at the Double Tree in Corporate Woods. The Regional Caucus will be Friday Morning.

There will also be Continuing Education provided Friday that runs in conjunction with our Regional Caucus.

Our guest speaker is Dr. Dennis McTigue. Dr. McTigue earned his D.D.S. and M.S. in Pediatric Dentistry from the University of Iowa.

Dr. McTigue served as Chair of the Department of Dentistry at Children's Hospital in New Orleans and chaired the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at The Ohio State University. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists. He is

currently a Director of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. He is past president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and of the Academy of Dentistry for the Handicapped. He has also been in private practice in pediatric dentistry for over thirty years.

Dr. McTigue's will discuss several of his clinical interest related to pediatric patients including Trauma, Behavioral Management, and Special Patient Needs with relationship to asthma, autism, and ADHD.

Our annual meeting was a success, Tony Guilbeau is the Region 12 Regional Director, our next annual meeting is December 10, Scott Kogler is our new incoming President, we continue to gain members and we are financially stable.

CE Opportunities

Dr. Mark Williams ~

Wow! It seems like 2010 has really flown by. As we enter the last quarter of 2010 we often get busy with the stuff that has finally caught up with us. In addition to the added pressure of the holiday seasons, the folks that are ready to do some form of insurance covered treatment before the end of the year, staff members that want additional time off, the stresses of choosing the right Christmas gifts, football season has more critical moments and deer season is starting soon!

It is time to plan end of the year meetings with the accountant, and all of a sudden many of us, very thoughtful, meticulous, and detail oriented dental professionals are shocked to realize that they are short on the CE hours required to maintain their license.

Well, the MSAGD is working on making sure that doesn't happen in 2011. We have 3 significant CE opportunities that you can put on your schedule for next year and you can do it right now!!

First, there is the CE and Ski in Breckenridge, CO March 12-15th. This is sure to be a fun, but maybe not relaxing for everyone, way to obtain CE hours. Call Roddy about registering for that.

Secondly, on Saturday, April 16th the MSAGD will sponsor a CE lecture associated with the UMC

Alumni and Friends weekend. We are extremely pleased and honored to have Dr. Bruce Small give that lecture. He is recognized world wide for excellence in dentistry and in July received the Albert L. Borish Award at the 2010 AGD Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

The third CE opportunity is August 12th when the MSAGD will have its annual meeting. We are still planning this meeting and we are looking to do this meeting in the Jackson area. I hope this will improve attendance, so please consider supporting this meeting...it just may keep you from being elected to an office in the state organization!!

Also, there are discussions to open a Mastertrac program at the UMC SOD. If you have an interest in pursuing the Mastership status in our organization, let Roddy know. This is a rewarding endeavor that requires effort and coordination and your MSAGD officers are committed to making this happen.

As an organization that has always supported CE, we want to create opportunities for Mississippi dentists to achieve advanced honors without leaving our state (well, except for the skiing...if there was a mountain with snow on it in Mississippi we would not plan a trip to Breckenridge!!!). I hope to see you at all of these events next year.

From the Editor

Dr. Greg Kilbane -

Over the last month I have started several editorials and discarded all of them. Writer's block is very frustrating. Something has been bothering me for some time and that is the lack of involvement of younger dentists in the stewardship of organized dentistry. I know that with the debt load that most young dentists have piled up, it is hard to justify time out of the office particularly spending that time in meetings.

I began my involvement locally in North-Central Minnesota in early 1972 by joining a Tri-County



Dental Society that met in Alexandria, MN. We met about six times a year in the evening and had dinner and a 1 to 3 hour CE program. We had a broad group of members and it was great to be included as a young dentist in the camaraderie that existed in this organization. The hour drive over and back with at least two if not the other three dentists from my small town was priceless. We were good friends and positively influenced each other in improving our skills and the care we provided to the community we served.

As is the way with most dental organizations, you get your feet on the ground and then they make you President. The Tri-County Dental Society gave me an avenue to pursue more CE. I brought in one

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From the Editor (cont.)

Continued from page 2

and two day CE programs that I did everything for and they were successful. At that time the only regular CE programs available that were not University sponsored were at the Minnesota Dental Association meeting in the Twin Cities once a year. There were not the varied speakers and topics that we see today. After three years of “running the show” in my outstate area, I was burnt out. However, thanks to my leadership success in the Tri-County, I was appointed to the MDA committee that accredited the dental assisting and dental hygiene programs in Minnesota. This was really interesting because the committee traveled within the state spending two days at a time evaluating the programs, making suggestions, and then followed up to see that they were complying.

Beginning with my move to Colorado in late 1976 and lasting for twenty years I concentrated on CE and local study group or district dental society leadership there, in Upstate New York and finally in Kansas.. About one third of that time I was an AGD member and in an AGD accredited study club. Returning to Kansas in 1993 I became more involved in KDA business as a district officer and a representative to the governing council of the KDA. It wasn't until 1997 that I returned to the AGD as a

director for the KAGD. Since that time I have served as CE director, Vice President, President, and Editor. Through these positions I have been involved with the Region 12 Board and have travelled within our Region of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Kansas. I have attended several annual AGD meetings and have served for 7 years on the Exam Committee for the national AGD. I attended three leadership Seminars in Chicago as well.

Yes, during all of this time between CE programs and governance I have been out of the office a lot of days. The wonderful things that are open to one who gets involved include expense paid travel and CE within the Region, to annual meetings and great leadership meetings with some of the finest people in dentistry. There are also many leadership positions that require travel to the AGD national headquarters. Again the people you meet are among the nicest and brightest. It is not all work and yet even the work involved is whatever you want to make of it. I am in the later years of my practice (although my staff says that I can't retire until I am at least 80), so I will continue to serve where I can because it yields results, is educational and above all FUN.

Louisiana

Scott C. Kogler DDS ~



The Louisiana AGD was happy to host the Annual AGD meeting in New Orleans in July with the help of Region 12. It was a great success for the AGD and the LAGD. The meeting went very smoothly and the reviews were very good.

In 2011, the LAGD will be partnering with the LSU School of Dentistry to provide 6 courses during the year for attendees interested in Mastership credits. The lecture will be given at the dental school. The instructor will give a homework assignment. The attendee will present the completed homework assignment 3-6 months later. Upon completion of the assignment, double participation credit will be given. This should give Region 12 AGD dentists more access to Mastership courses. We will have a Laser Certification Course to be given at LSU School of Dentistry on Feb. 11-12, 2011. It will be a limited attendance hands-on course. Attendees will be able to be certified by the Academy of Laser Dentistry upon completion of the course.

Dr. Kay Jordan will step down as LAGD president in December. She did a wonderful job as LAGD president. She was one of the people that made the AGD meeting a great success this year. All the LAGD members would like to thank her for a job well done. Dr. Scott Kogler takes over in December for her as LAGD president. 2011 will be a great year for the LAGD.

What AGD is doing for you!

From your editors: Region 12 AGD members take note of these examples of the advocacy that the AGD is working on for YOU!! Let your non-AGD member friends know that the AGD is the ONLY clear voice for the General Dentist. They need to join now!"

ACTION SUMMARY

Academy of General Dentistry

Dental Practice Council

October 22-23, 2010

1. Constituent Engagement: Educating, engaging and enrolling constituent leaders and members in advocating on matters of great importance to the practice of dentistry has been an ongoing but critical challenge for a number of years. The council undertook the following actions, among others, to address this challenge:
 - a. Drafted key points of a constituent communication plan for the AGD Board;
 - b. Formed the council's Publication Subcommittee consisting of the chairpersons of each of the council's other subcommittees for the purpose of leading communications efforts on their respective subcommittee matters, with the other subcommittees being Third Party (Dental Benefits), Informatics, Access & Public Health, and Workforce; and
 - c. Resolved to produce both talking points and canned articles for easy access by constituent leaders, especially editors, for use in their own publications.

2. Access to Care: The council revisited the AGD's Access to Care White Paper and discussed how to address the dynamic nature of the ongoing considerations of the solutions of the white paper. To meet this objective, the council resolved that the DP and LGA Councils produce a **State of the Solutions Report** periodically, reporting on the status of adoption and results of the approximately 30 solutions listed in the AGD Access to Care White Paper.

3. Workforce: With numerous iterations of independent midlevel providers looming throughout the nation, the council took a fresh look at workforce issues:
 - a. The council met with the LGA Council for a presentation by Dr. Gary Oyster on the history of the dental workforce and on building positive relationships with legislators and other influential persons;
 - b. The LGA and Dental Practice Councils formed a joint LGA-DP Subcommittee on guidelines/parameters for expanded functions/duties of auxiliaries;
 - c. The council assigned a task force to investigate, among other things, telemetric dentistry, including its scope, levels of supervision, and impact on access;
 - d. The council resolved to produce workforce articles on domestic/foreign models and on the efficacy of EFDAs out of its Workforce Subcommittee's report; and
 - e. The council resolved to revisit AGD's workforce policies prior to its next meeting.

Other Issues: The council also reviewed and discussed numerous issues, including: dental benefits concerns, Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature, dental informatics, corporate dentistry, evidence-based dentistry, bisphenol A, fluoride, amalgam, Botox, dental tourism, teeth whitening, calcium phosphate, environmentally-sound practice ('green dentistry'), and tax reporting.

ACTION SUMMARY

Academy of General Dentistry

Legislative & Governmental Affairs Council

October 22-23, 2010

1. The Legislative & Governmental Affairs (LGA) Council was honored to have the Dental Practice Council and many key leaders of the AGD present to hear **Dr. Gary Oyster discuss the evolution of the midlevel provider issue**. Dr. Oyster also recapped the shortcomings of some of several existing pilot programs as well as some of the challenges that these programs could present. **AGD remains committed to the position that a two-tiered dental care delivery system is detrimental to the public's well-being.**
2. The council met with Mr. Patrick O'Connor, president of AGD's new lobbying firm, Kent & O'Connor. Discussion focused on potential outcomes of the upcoming elections as well as **legislative and regulatory topics of particular interest to dentists, both as health care providers and as small business owners**. They reviewed the goals of the April 2011 **Government Relations Conference (to register, contact Cindy Nygren at cynthia.nygren@agd.org)** and stressed the need for attendees to be trained on lobbying locally since much activity, especially that which relates to the midlevel provider issue, will take place at the state level.
3. Members recommended that AGD send a **representative to testify at the FDA's hearing on amalgam** in December 2011. The council recommended former AGD President Dr. Vinny Mayher to deliver that testimony.
4. AGD will continue to pursue the acceptance of a renewed **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for Healthy People 2020**, which is expected to be released in December 2010.
5. The council will **continue to advocate for representation of general dentists on panels convened to address oral health matters**, such as the Institute of Medicine's Oral Health Initiative Report and their Oral Health Access Report. Preproduction reports on both topics are expected in the first half of 2011.
6. The council suggested that the Executive Committee review and officially **support the National Dental Association (NDA) Position Paper on Access to Care and Mid-Level Providers for Underserved Communities**.

The LGA council is committed to increasing the current level of communication about its efforts to represent general dentists since those actions support efforts to retain and recruit members. Some of the suggestions for increasing visibility included: enhanced photo coverage of council meetings and relevant conference: **building stronger partnerships with other constituent officers**, such as editors and PIOs, in order to promote and report on various issues and successes. The council **formed a subcommittee to recommend topics for future print and online articles**. Members also expressed interest in **working with Marketing to survey members**, assess their awareness and interests, and then to develop communications pieces that respond to those needs.

From the Editor: Access issues are hot in Kansas and I expect they are everywhere. The AGD White Paper On Access is another example of the work that the AGD is doing for General Dentists. See this:

More than 6 million days of bed disability, 12.7 million days of restricted activity, and 20.5 million days of lost work each year are the result of illnesses related to oral health. Yet, most oral health problems are preventable with a prevention model that includes: oral health literacy, sound hygiene, and preventive care available through the dental team concept.

To voice the concerns of general dentists against independent mid-level providers and to provide real workable solutions to solve the access to oral health care challenge, the AGD has developed and adopted an official policy on access to care.

Read the [access to dental care](http://www.agd.org/files/webuser/website/advocacy/accesstocarewhitepaper.pdf) AGD white paper titled, *Increasing Access to and Utilization of Oral Health Care Services*, now!

AGD, including your constituent, will use this policy to take further action with state boards, legislators, [dhttp://www.agd.org/files/webuser/website/advocacy/accesstocarewhitepaper.pdf](http://www.agd.org/files/webuser/website/advocacy/accesstocarewhitepaper.pdf)ental organizations, the public, and other communities of interest in the upcoming months to address access to dental care.

<http://www.agd.org/files/webuser/website/advocacy/accesstocarewhitepaper.pdf>

A Message from the Kansas AGD

This was the motto written on the wall of the Clinton for President Campaign headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1992. It was a reminder that the message that was to be preached at every opportunity was the economy as the source of our problems and its improvement the source of our salvation.

I have thought a lot about this over the past 18 months as I have had the privilege of serving as the President of the Kansas Academy of General Dentistry. I have thought about it because it has become my default excuse for all that ails my practice and the state of dentistry in general.

Why are new patient numbers down? - "It's the economy"

Why are cancellations up? - "It's the economy"

Why are credit lines tightening up? - "It's the economy"

Why are annual meeting numbers flat? - "It's the economy"

Why are outside interests attacking the dental profession? - "It's the economy"

Why are 3rd party payers trying to limit fees on non-covered services? - "It's the economy"

The list could go on and on and on. But at some point, doesn't it have to stop. At what point does a downturn in the economy become the new reality? At what point do I have to stop blaming and start acting?

The challenge as I see it is for organized dentistry to acclimate itself to the new reality, stop blaming the economy and start acting. We need organizations like the AGD because it provides a camaraderie that makes it feel less lonely. We need organizations like the AGD so that we can have another voice in influencing decisions made at the ADA. We need to work together as parties-of-interest to restrict outside parties from using the excuse of the economy as a means to reduce the role of the general dentist as the primary oral healthcare provider.

Thank you for your commitment to organized dentistry and, in particular to the Academy of General Dentistry! Thank you for not allowing the economy to change that commitment. Thank you to those who met us in Wichita for a great annual meeting. Thanks to the dedicated board members and officers for their commitment to this organization. The Kansas AGD is in great financial shape and we continue to hold our membership numbers steady, even in the face of stiff economic headwinds. As we put 2010 behind us I, for one, believe we can stop blaming the economy and get back to what has always been the motto of the general dentist: "It's the patients, stupid"

Have a very joyous Holiday season and a prosperous New Year. Be sure to join us in Kansas City in April for our Annual Meeting as we host delegates from Region 12 at their annual caucus.

Annual Meeting

The Kansas Academy of General Dentistry will be hosting its annual meeting April 29th, 2011 in Overland Park, KS at the Double Tree Hotel in Corporate Woods. We are very excited to have Dr. Dennis McTigue speak. Dr. McTigue earned his D.D.S. and M.S. in Pediatric Dentistry from the University of Iowa. Dr. McTigue served as Chair of the Department of Dentistry at

Children's Hospital in New Orleans and chaired the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at The Ohio State University. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists. He is currently a Director of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. He is past president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and of the Academy of Dentistry for the Handicapped.

He has also been in private practice in pediatric dentistry for over thirty years. Dr. McTigue's will discuss several of his clinical interest related to pediatric patients including Trauma, Behavioral Management, and Special Patient Needs with relationship to asthma, autism, and ADHD.

~ Ric Crowder -*President-elect*

Meeting Experience

Scott Rogers, DDS ~

Becoming involved with KAGD, has also allowed me to become more involved with the AGD. This past summer I attended the AGD Annual Meeting in New Orleans with my wife, Dr. Nicole Rogers, and our daughter Addison. I was not only there for the continuing education, but also as an alternate delegate for the AGD House of Delegates Meeting. The House of Delegates Meeting, which was my first one, was very interesting to see how the AGD installs their policies that had been worked on over the past year or more.

It was a great experience to start to understand the goals of the AGD, some problems facing our profession, and more importantly it gave me a chance to meet other AGD members. Attending the CE portion of the meeting also allowed me a chance to meet other AGD members.

The CE classes the AGD offered were excellent and there were several topics available. My first AGD Meeting was extremely worthwhile. While I was busy with the Delegates Meeting and classes, I also had time to enjoy the city with my family. I look forward to the 2011 Annual AGD Meeting in San Diego and hope to see you there.

Region 12 AGD members:

Please welcome the addition of Dr. Crystal Phillips from the OAGD as the new assistant editor for the Heartland GP. We will be going to an all online newsletter with the next issue and with her help we should navigate this in a more organized manner, at least for me.



Please e-mail me if you don't get an e-mail or hard copy of the newsletter and make sure that you keep a current e-mail address with the AGD as we use their lists exclusively. Any questions or comment, articles or announcements are always welcome. drkilbane@cox.net

Dr. Crystal Phillips is a native of Grove, Oklahoma. Dr. Phillips attended Oklahoma State University and obtained her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Dr. Phillips went on to attend Oklahoma University College of Dentistry where she earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 2005.

Upon graduation from dental school Dr. Phillips completed a one year General Practice Residency with the Veterans Administration Hospital in Oklahoma City. During her residency she became actively involved in the Academy of General Dentistry. In 2008 she was accepted as a member of the Oklahoma AGD board.

In 2009 Dr. Phillips became Oklahoma AGD Editor and in 2010 became the Oklahoma AGD Vice President. Dr. Phillips has attended multiple AGD Annual meetings and most recently participated in the 2010 AGD House of Delegates.

Dr. Phillips advocates strongly for the AGD because it provides quality CE, patient education resources, business resources, professional contacts and most importantly is a voice for the general dentist. Dr. Phillips currently practices general dentistry and is employed with the Cherokee Nation in Jay, Oklahoma.

Trustee Report

- As of August, 2011, AGD membership fees for full paying dues members is up \$12K over 2010 which is from 37 additional members. General Dentistry Online version is a more thorough/thicker version than the printed version. Plans to be brought to BOT at Winter 2011 board meeting for online media posting. AGD addressing the move that some of the “specialist” organizations are placing on their websites/printed material for their “expertise” within their specialty statements.
- AGD is working with AAPD (pediatric dentistry asso) to see if we both can come to similar policy on the midlevel provider issue. Preliminary discussion since the July BOT meeting has helped to gain clarity on the potential “hand holding” is still on going thru ADA Annual session last month in Orlando.
- AGD is recommending that each state attempt to provide an AGD presence at your state dental board meetings at least once per year. Other discussions about representation of
- AGD, I suggested that the AGD, as well as all local AGD constituents, remember that the dentists are the dues paying members of the organization & the docs should receive the full representation of our group. We are not in the business to harm the public.
- AGD BOT resolved that the principles in the Austin’s Group adopted Statement of Purpose consistent with existing AGD policy including the AGD White Paper on Access to Care.
- Formation of taskforce to see the potential for doing the outreach event as an ongoing project for the AGD at each annual meeting.
- Do not forget to share with all our dental colleagues the AGD White Paper & the AGD Position on Workforce Issues (both located on our home page at www.agd.org). These items are the answers to the discussion of workforce & patient care. Let’s not create a 2-tiered dental healthcare delivery system.

2010 AGD Annual Session Wrap-Up

Roddy Scarbrough ~

2010 AGD Annual Session was held here in Region 12 in the “Big Easy”, New Orleans. It was hot & humid as any summer is in NO. First, I want to thank Kay Jordan & all the Local Meeting Planning Committee members from Region 12 for all their work to make this meeting a success. The AGD was shown lots of Southern hospitality & tastee’ fare, especially compared to the usual spice of life for the visitors’ palates. Kay even went so far as to have a pre-meeting get together at her home. Let me say that was some great food. Kay showed off her Southern hospitality in a grand way.

This meeting was the first time that the governance & scientific sessions were separated. It made for a long week for those the had to participate on both sides of the session. As for our Region 12 participation throughout the week, our region had

a large number of hosts for the different speaker for the scientific session. The verdict is still out on how the change in session layout, by separating the governance & scientific session, improved attendance to the CE. The meeting planning staff at national is hoping that the AGD will draw more non-AGD members to the annual session by having the CE at & thru the weekend after the governance. This way the AGD can be seen as the premier CE sponsor for dentistry without the concern for guest dentist worrying about any potential concerns with the politics of the Academy.

This year the Academy, along with the AGD Foundation, sponsored an Outreach event at & with the LSU School of Dentistry during the annual session, Thursday July 8th. This Outreach event was similar to “MOM” or “DAD” projects that some of you may have already participated in within your local areas. The SOD

provided/volunteered the physical plant & even some of the dental students assisted with treatment prep. There was a sign-up for dentists & dental hygienists before arrival to Louisiana & the SOD so that these participants could be cleared thru the LA State Dental Board to be “licensed” for the 1 day of treatment at SOD only. This project was blessed by good participating dental teams & patients.

Support from Dr Gremillion, dean of the SOD, to assist with finding the patient base for this large endeavor. Also I want to thank the Louisiana Dental Board. They worked with the AGD staff to “clear” all the licenses for professional liability coverage & local state dental board issues. There was even 1 of the LA Dental Board members as an Outreach provider. The final dollar amount of treatment has yet to be calculated but

we were able to see a large number of patients for treatment of operative, oral surgery, perio & dental hygiene needs. Live updates were provided to the HOD during the last day of governance. You can be extremely proud of the Outreach Event. The AGD & AGDF are planning for another event in San Diego. You will be hearing more about this Outreach event as we get plans finalized.

There were a few changes to the Constitution & Bylaws changes. First, the Canadian region was combined into Region 15-16 by Resolution 110 a & b. This will allow the eastern side of the country constituent(s) to assist the western side of the country get that constituent back up & going as a viable CE provider & constituent. The long-term goal of this resolution is to get both sides of Canada back to separate constituents as quickly as possible. As with many constituents, there is a leadership vacuum to move the AGD forward.

AGD PAC was debated in reference committee. "Due to the inroads" that the AGD has made with ADA, the HOD voted to not pursue an AGD PAC. The opposing view that was presented during the reference committee was what is the AGD going to do if the ADA follows thru with the Board resolution #8/midlevel provider at the October 2010 ADA Annual Session. As a follow-up to this discussion, the AGD HOD resolution #307 stated that the AGD is not in favor of any mid-level provider treating dental patients.

The AGD still strongly supports that the dentist is the dental team leader. Not supporting that any other "provider" of dental treatment of irreversible procedures. I believe that we dentist need to use the verbiage of "surgical/non-surgical" versus "reversible/irreversible" procedures. This discussion is already a public discussion. The public is the forum that this issue needs clarity. The difference between reversible/irreversible procedures is not clear to the

public. The public does understand surgical/non-surgical procedures. We are removing diseased body parts & restoring them to form & function. Check with your medical general surgeon/physician friends to see how they respond to what you do. This should be a great time for you to help the medical world appreciate what you do for the human situation.

Lastly, Region 12 had 20 Fellows & Masters this year. CONGRATS!!! to these doctors for your accomplishment. Oklahoma received honorable mention in the Membership category for their size. Congrats to Bob, Susan & the entire OKAGD. Great job. This is incentive for the rest of Region 12 Constituent to work toward these awards for 2011. You can go online to nominate your constituent &/or colleague for the AGD awards.

Region 12 has 2 new leaders, Trustee & Regional Director. Roddy Scarbrough was elected Trustee. Tony Guilbeau was elected Regional Director. Both are a 3 year term commitment.

Oklahoma Academy of General Dentistry

As we near the end of 2010 we reflect on the various activities of the Oklahoma AGD. The OAGD Annual Meeting was held in February. The meeting was a great success. Dr. Hal Stewart provided a presentation for full mouth rehabilitation with composite resin combining concepts of bioesthetics. In addition the OAGD held a fall participation course at the OU College of Dentistry in November. Again great CE was provided as Dr. Kevin Huff, MAGD presented an introductory course on the VELscope and provided an in depth review of the oral soft tissue exam.

We have appreciated the member support throughout the year, and as always the OAGD will continue to look for ways in which we can improve. It is important for members to be aware of the benefits

provided both at the national level and through the local constituents. The AGD website is an important tool to access patient education materials and monitor changes within the profession. It also provides opportunities for creation of office web sites and patient alert systems, access to high quality CE and management of those CE credits.

In 2011 the OAGD has plans to continue to work on those items that matter most to our valued members. As we move into the new-year we face many challenges as a profession. The Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) pilot programs continue to move forward. Amalgam is up for yet another FDA discussion to determine the future of the material. There continues to be much legisla-

tion in regards to the future of healthcare at both the national and state levels. In these changing times it is important to remember the AGD provides both a voice and a platform for the general dentist.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Oklahoma AGD Annual Meeting/CE Course is scheduled for February 25, 2011 and will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This event will feature Dr. W. Keith Thornton who will present CE review of the Thornton Adjustable Positioner (TAP). The TAP is a custom oral appliance worn while sleeping. Please view the constituent web site through www.AGD.org or visit www.OAGD.org for more information.

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