



President's Message



Dentists Day on the Hill

As dentists, we have a significant responsibility to the public in order to improve their dental health. We also have a responsibility to protect the sanctity our profession and ability to practice both in the public interest and to the benefit of the advancement of dentistry.

If you have any questions about this event or how to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact me. Additionally, keep an eye on communications from the Florida Dental Association, as there are some significant issues related to supervision levels in dental hygiene that could affect your patients' safety!

To that end, it is necessary that we communicate with the public, as well as our government officials and lawmakers when any of these abilities and responsibilities comes under attack or is threatened.

Through organized dentistry, we have the strength in numbers to make our messages heard. One of the best opportunities to do that is through Dentists' Day on the Hill, which will be held this year in Tallahassee on April 3 and 4. This event, organized by the Florida Dental Association, allows you to directly interact and communicate with Florida state legislators and "hit home" the messages that we choose. I would like to encourage you to consider participating in DDOH 2017. This is a very rewarding experience - and it greatly benefits you and your patients! Register at:

<https://form.jotform.com/63326446108151>

If you cannot attend, I would encourage you to use these links to find your state senator and state representative and contact them directly with any issues that you feel affect your patients or your practice.

<http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/elected-officials/>

Yours in service,



Matthew T. Waite, DDS, MS
President

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

6:15 pm - Social (cash bar) 7:00 pm - Dinner/Meeting

Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club

1601 S MacDill Avenue, Tampa

Advanced Bone Grafting for Implant Site Development

Dr. Richard Rasmussen, III
Implant and Periodontal Therapy

The following name will be on the ballot for membership:

Dr. Roxann Russell-Aves

Members will also vote on the proposed slate of officers and delegates/alternates for 2017-18

Please RSVP by March 21 to 813-447-3452 or hcda@hcdafla.com.

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Welcome New Members

Three dentists were elected into HCDA membership at the January 24 general membership meeting. A warm welcome to these new members:

Dr. Konstantine Lagos
Dr. Nick Mann
Dr. Chad Waltz

Candidates for HCDA Executive Council Member

Two HCDA members are running for the position of 2017-18 Executive Council Member which puts them in line to become President of the association in six years. Members will choose one of the candidates at the March 28 meeting. Below is an introduction to both the candidates.

Dr. Joita Ghosh

Dr. Joita Ghosh is a graduate of New York University College of Dentistry where she received her DDS degree. She completed her Bachelors in Dental Surgery (BDS) from .BIDSH, Magadh University in India

She has completed several postgraduate programs in oral surgery, orthodontics, endodontics and dental implants as part of her continuing education. She loves to learn and give back to her patients and the community.



In addition to the Hillsborough County Dental Association, she is an active member of several dental organizations including the American Dental Association (ADA), Florida Dental Association (FDA), West Coast District Dental Association (WCDDA), Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), Seattle Study Club and International Implant Association. She currently serves on the Executive Council of Tampa Bay Academy of General Dentistry (TBAGD) as its treasurer.

Dr. Ghosh maintains a private practice in Carrollwood, Tampa. She is married to Ram her husband of 17 years and together they are raising their family of three beautiful girls.

Dr. Ghosh: "I believe that participation in organized dentistry brings better connectivity between the dental fraternity and serves to bridge the gap in the community. As an HCDA member, it has been a great experience in my personal and professional development and a valuable resource for networking and friendship. I feel it has helped enhance the quality of dentistry by de-mystifying the complexity of patient care. I can comfortably reach out to a specialist or a peer to discuss the best options whether it's regarding treatment for a patient or concerns about the changes in the dental field. I look forward to an exciting new year and wish to see more members participate."

Dr. Bryan Thatcher

Dr. Thatcher was raised in the Tampa Bay area. He attended Jesuit High School and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Florida. He graduated from the University of Florida with his dental degree and subsequently completed a UF AEGD residency in Seminole, FL where he currently serves as a Clinical Associate Professor. Dr. Thatcher is a partner at Jacobs and Thatcher Dentistry in Sun City Center. He is married to his wife Sarah, and together they have one son.



Dr. Thatcher: "I am proud to have been active with the HCDA since returning to Tampa five years ago. The association has been a valuable resource both personally and professionally. The allotted time for fellowship prior to the meetings has resulted in many friendships. The enhanced camaraderie, particularly with specialists, has opened lines of communication that have enhanced interdisciplinary patient care.

HCDA participation, not merely membership, is essential for professional development, and I would encourage increased involvement by my peers. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, millennials in 2015 became the largest working group, and in 2030, millennials will represent 75% of the workforce. As a millennial, I would like to see and will work towards an increased interest in the HCDA's 'millennial' involvement."

HCDA Election March 28

In addition to a new Executive Council Member for 2017-18, HCDA members will vote on other members of the Executive Council as well as the Delegates and Alternates to the FDA for 2017-18. Below are the names being proposed for the positions. Floor nominations will also be accepted.

2017-18 Executive Council

President—Dr. David Beach
President Elect—Dr. Mark Abomey
Vice President—Dr. Wendy Churchill
Secretary/Treasurer—Dr. Jan Cornelius
Past President—Dr. Matt Waite

2017-18 Elected Delegates

Dr. Reza Iranians
Dr. Beatriz Tote

2017-18 Elected Alternates

Dr. Clay McIntyre
Dr. Patrick Johnson
Dr. Craig Oldham
Dr. Rick Rasmussen III
New EC Member

Congratulations Terry Buckenheimer



Dr. Terry Buckenheimer received the West Coast District Dental Association Distinguished Service Award at the organization's annual meeting in February. This award is given to a member for outstanding service toward the dental profession and the WCDDA.

Dr. Buckenheimer served as President of the Hillsborough County Dental Research Clinic, the Hillsborough County Dental Association, West Coast District Dental Association and the Florida Dental Association. He has been a Board member of the FDA Foundation for over 25 years and spent two years as its President. He also served as a Trustee to the ADA for four years and on various ADA committees. Finally, Dr. Buckenheimer was and is a Board member of the ADA Foundation and the Dental Lifeline Network. He continues to give back to the profession by sharing his knowledge and passion with all of us.

Action Requested: BOD to Hold Public Hearing on Proposed Hygiene Rules

The Florida Dental Association (FDA), along with the Florida Association of Periodontists (FAP), the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) and several individual licensed dentists, filed a request for a public hearing with the Florida Board of Dentistry (BOD) on the proposed changes to the hygiene rules, which would move scaling and root planing and the placing of medicaments to general supervision (a dentist does not have to be in the office) from indirect supervision (a dentist must be in the office). We received notice from the BOD **that the public hearing on the hygiene rules will be held May 19** in Orlando at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando Airport.

So, what is the next step? We need all FDA members to send in written comments to the BOD stating why we oppose these changes. For your convenience, a template letter can be found at <http://floridadental.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=64336b7aeb02f48d37150cef5&id=6dc4a54c7c&e=5a2028e773>. However, please include specific instances on how these changes will impact your practice, jeopardize the safety of the public and scientific evidence on why these procedures should not be under general supervision. The proponents of these rule changes have stated that they have never heard of any adverse reactions occurring when these procedures are performed. Thus, information on patients who have been harmed by these procedures will be critical to our argument. For example, a hygienist can perform these procedures today as long as a dentist is in the office. So, if an adverse reaction happens, the dentist is available and is the one qualified to jump in when bleeding, etc. occurs.

Please send letters to:

Dr. Joseph Thomas, Chair, Florida Board of Dentistry
Department of Health
Board of Dentistry
4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin C-08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3258

Or you can email the letter to Dr. Thomas' attention at: Jennifer.wenhold@flhealth.gov.

Thank you for your help! If you have any questions, please contact Director of Third Party Payer and Professional Affairs Casey Stoutamire, Esq. at cstoutamire@floridadental.org or 850-350-7202.

Upcoming Events

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|--------------------------|--|
| March 24-25, 2017 | FLA-MOM, Pensacola |
| March 28, 2017 | Membership Meeting, Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club |
| April 3-4, 2017 | Dentists' Day on the Hill, Tallahassee |
| May 23, 2017 | Membership Meeting, Tampa Yacht Club |

Divas Hold Another Successful Event

The annual Hillsborough Divas in Dentistry event was held on March 4 at the Empress Tea Room in Tampa. Female dentists from greater Hillsborough County convened in order to network and hear an educational and inspirational presentation by Dr. Irene Marron-Tarrazzi 1st Vice President of the American Dental Association and a Miami periodontist.

Dr. Marron-Tarrazzi discussed the latest statistics on females in the dental profession, as well as the need for more female dentists to become involved in the leadership of county, district, state and American dental associations. She underscored that need by reporting that the number of female dentists in leadership positions in organized dentistry has remained at only 20% for the past 10 years, although the number of female dentists has grown significantly during that timeframe. She urged female dentists to enhance their leadership skills through negotiating and business management training and challenged the HCDA to offer leadership training for female dentists. Dr. Marron-Tarrazzi stressed the importance of finding mentors who can provide balance as a coach, a cheerleader and a challenger.

Dr. Marron-Tarrazzi discussed ADA's Institute for Diversity in Leadership which is designed to enhance the leadership skills of dentists who belong to racial, ethnic and/or gender backgrounds that have been traditionally underrepresented in leadership roles.

This event was sponsored by **Tailored Financial Strategies Team of Raymond James**. A very special thank you to **Drs. Wendy Churchill** and **Jan Cornelius** who put the program together and provided excellent leadership to HCDA members.



The Hillsborough County Dental Association is available to assist you Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To contact the HCDA: Phone: 813-447-3452 Email: hcda@hcdafla.com Website: hcdafla.com Michelle Stills, Executive Secretary

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The HCDA Newsletter is published five times a year in September, October, January, March and May. The Editor and staff organize, print and mail to membership. The position of the editor is elected by the Executive Council and does not have a specified term. The editorial staff holds the right to deny ads submitted for publishing. The newsletter may publish signed articles relating to all phases of dentistry, but assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by the contributors. Publication in this newsletter does not imply the Hillsborough County Dental Association endorses any products or services that are advertised. Views, editorials, news columns and/or articles are those of the authors and not necessarily of the editor, staff, or members of the Hillsborough County Dental Association.