President’s Message

Dr. Anthony L. Horalek

I am excited, yet humbled, to begin the 2010 year as the President of your Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society (RWCDS). This will be my fifth year as a member of the RWCDS Executive Board, having served 2005-2008 as the Editor, and 2009 as the Program Chair and President Elect. My experience on the Executive Board has been a very positive one, largely due to the quality and camaraderie of the other Executive Board Members, to include Past Presidents, Dr. Shelley Barker Olson (2009), Dr. Ashley Mann (2008), Dr. Frank Maness (2007), Dr. Chris Sheaffer (2006), and Dr. Craig Adams (2005). I can also attest that Dr. Thom Buttlar has worked tirelessly as your Executive Director for the RWCDS, since I have worked with him -- great job Thom! I personally thank Dr. Shelley Barker Olson for her contributions while on the Executive Board. She added a level of energy and enthusiasm that will be a challenge to emulate! Dr. Sheppard McKenzie continues to serve as Editor and please congratulate him on the April birth of his new baby son, Sheppard, when you see him!

2010 is scheduled for outstanding continuing education (CE). Our January 19th meeting kicks off with “Legislative Night with Dental School Update”. This meeting will host a list of dignitaries as speakers, to include Dean John Williams (UNC School of Dentistry) and Dean Jim Hupp (ECU School of Dentistry). Representatives and Senators of Wake County will also be attending. Spouses are invited to attend this meeting. Your active
Continued from Page 1
participation in the law-making process is necessary and more important than ever before in recent history. Changes are not being made just on the state level, but law-making trends are moving from state to state on a national level. I reiterate my feisty colleague, Dr. Gary Oyster, “Dentists who do not participate will lose their political clout”. It is necessary to take a pro-active rather than reactive role if you care about the regulations and laws that affect dentistry.

Lastly, I would like to reassure you that our activities as Executive Board Members during my tenure as your President will be in the best interests of the General Members. The cost versus benefit of your membership of the RWCDS yields a very high value that you will be hard-pressed to find anywhere in dentistry! Since 2005, the General Membership of the RWCDS has grown from 273 active members to 342 active members. The proof is in the results!

Please contact me with suggestions if there is anything we can do to improve our Dental Society.

Respectfully Yours,

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919.256.3996 (office)
Anthony.Horalek@gmail.com

Executive Director’s Message

Dr. Thomas K. Buttler

There is something going on in the marriage of the dental profession and the state legislatures that frightens me. If it frightens me as a dentist who is in the twilight of his career, it should scare the living daylights out of dentists who are a bit younger. What I am referring to is the rapidly increasing attacks on the independent practice of dentistry and our ability to be the gatekeepers of who can practice dentistry and in what capacity.

I feel certain that most of us rightfully believe that we have earned the privilege to practice dentistry by graduating from an American Dental Association (ADA) accredited dental school and passing both a national and state/regional dental exam. Also, I think most of us believe we should have some say in the standard of dental care (i.e., self-policing our profession) and who is qualified to practice the various aspects of dental care.

Well, it appears that nothing is etched in stone and my naïve assumptions do not hold water. The changes that have recently occurred and are occurring are mind-numbing, and the increasing pace of the incursions is breathtaking. The old adage, “Death by a Thousand Cuts” seems to apply here. It seems like there are some people who want to perform dental procedures without spending the years of school work, sacrifice, and training that traditionally licensed and trained dentists have spent.

In no way am I an expert on all that has transcended or is in the works. But, some examples come to mind such as California’s blessing on licensing dentists who have graduated from selected Mexican dental schools, New York’s automatic licensing of NY state trained dentists after the completion of some sort of a one-year post graduate training program, or Minnesota’s licensing of dentists who

Continued Page 3
demonstrate the ability to pass a knowledge-based test in lieu of a clinically-based examination. One could argue that at least these individuals have been trained in an ADA accredited dental school.

From my perspective the incursions that really get my attention are the movements to allow individuals to perform dental procedures (restorations, extractions, pulpotomies, etc.) that have not been accepted to a dental school, let alone attended a dental school. These programs, such as the Dental Hygienist Advanced Training (DHAT) initiatives that now exist in Alaska, Minnesota and Connecticut, simply require a year or so of advanced training for dental hygienists or assistants.

Think that this can’t happen in North Carolina? I suggest that you don’t bet on it. NC has the same state financial woes and/or dental care access issues similar to other states. How does this happen? Typically, it is driven by state legislatures looking for perceived inexpensive solutions to the bantered access to dental care issue. The sad truth is that you don’t get much say in this discussion just because you are a dentist. It takes more than that to be at the table.

NC dentists are most fortunate to have an unbelievable resource in Dr. Gary Oyster. Gary is tuned into national and state dental political action. He has worked tirelessly for years to educate us of the attacks on dentistry by non-dentists. He has walked the hallways of the legislature building and put the time in, morning, noon and night at political fundraisers on our behalf. How he finds time to run his busy practice remains a mystery. We owe him a lot and we should ever appreciate his selfless efforts. Dr. Alec Parker, the relatively new NCDS Executive Director, is also becoming a seasoned warrior on our side. Alec and Gary are both members of the RWCDS! We are fortunate to have them both close at hand.

Dr. Oyster continually preaches what we must do to have influence as a profession. It is a simple formula. A clear unified position + personal contact + donation of time + $ = political influence. I think you are kidding yourself if you think this problem is going to go away on its own. This is a wake-up call to you, especially the younger dentists, if you have a desire to practice in the manner you envisioned when you arrived at dentistry as a career. Yes, we are very busy with our profession and other pursuits. Hopefully we will devote enough time to this challenge to ensure our future as a profession.

New Year’s Resolutions

- Increased awareness of the dental related issues that are being considered by the NC legislature Please contact me to be included on the “Interested in Receiving Information on Dental Political Issues e-mail List”
- Contribute to the NC Dental Political Action Committee (PAC)
- Volunteer to work at one of the MOMS, DAD, Wake Smiles, and Give Kids Smile (GKAS) dental clinics. Legislators have been very impressed with dentists giving of their time to provide dental services to those in financial need.
- Attend a political fundraiser when the opportunity presents itself
- Stay in contact with your legislators. Make sure they know you and your positions.

Respectfully,

Thomas K. Buttler, D.D.S., M.S.
919.844.3009
Execcdirector@RWCDS.org
Editor’s Notes

Happy New Year! This is my second newsletter that I have published, and it is almost time to take the training wheels off. In this newsletter you will find ample information on current issues impacting the RWCDS. We kick off the New Year with “Legislative Night” on January 19th. As emphasized by Dr. Horalek and Dr. Buttler, the RWCDS needs to provide a united front to the North Carolina legislature, so that we can help protect our patients and our profession.

Finding extra time in our busy lives can be daunting, but some of you may have New Year’s resolutions to become more involved in your local dental community. This newsletter has multiple ideas for contributions of time, talent and treasure. Taking the time to attend Legislative Night in January and then nurturing relationships with your legislators is a great start. Also in this newsletter, opportunities are discussed to put your talent to good use by helping Wake Smiles, Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) day, and teaching radiology in the Wake Tech Assisting Program. Finally, your treasure can be put to good use by making a tax deductible donation to the RWCDS Foundation.

Please review the pictures throughout the newsletter, which highlight the quality continuing education provided in the Fall. Also, check out the 2010 calendar (first page) for upcoming speakers this Spring. Finally, please read the request for equipment for the Falcon Children’s Home under the Classifieds section on the last page of the newsletter.

As always, your feedback and submissions for the newsletter are welcome.

Sheppard McKenzie, D.D.S., M.S.
919.360.8450
sheppardmckenzie@gmail.com

RWCDS Foundation

The RWCDS Foundation is supported by the member dentists to promote dental education in our community. Thanks to your generous contributions, we have been instrumental in the development and the continued assistance of the Wake Technical Community College Department of Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting, the Wake County Dental Division’s Give Kids A Smile program, and the Poe Center For Health Education’s program. This includes the purchase of the hi-tech, state of the art, electronic Sheriff Tuffy Tooth. Your newly elected Foundation board members are Shelley Barker Olson, Eve Brown and Tony Horalek. Thom Buttler serves as the Foundation’s Executive Director and Jill Sonner serves as the Secretary.

As you are renewing your RWCDS 2010 dues, please include a personal check for the suggested $75 tax deductible contribution to the RWCDS Foundation. The Foundation and the recipients of the Foundation’s scholarships and grants thank you for your continued generosity.

Ted Mayer, DDS
tedmdds@nc.rr.com

Far Left: A packed house listens to CE in the Fall.

Dr. Glenn Reside gave an informative continuing education presentation on dental implant surgical complications on October 20th, 2009.
Dental Assisting Program Update

This is a little information about the current students in the Class of 2010. Twenty-seven students started the dental assisting program in the Fall of 2009. We have experienced a very successful Fall semester. Dr. Anthony Molina (prosthodontist in Raleigh, NC), Debbie Ridgeway, CDA, Wendy Kinlaw, CDA, Monica Pierce, CDA, and Brooke Grissom, CDA volunteered their time for a Provisional Crown Fabrication Day on November 6, 2009. Each student was able to fabricate two temporary crowns that will supplement their dental materials course requirements. We also had several students participate in the Heart Walk in order to earn professional development hours that are required to meet graduation criteria.

We need about eight volunteer dentists to cover our radiography patient days this Spring. All of the patient’s days will be on Friday this year. Sometimes we have had dentists spend the entire day, but this is totally up to the volunteer!

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<th>Shift #1 (9-12)</th>
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<td>Friday, April 23rd</td>
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<td>Friday, April 30th</td>
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<td>Friday, May 7th</td>
<td>FMS, BWs, PANS</td>
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If anyone is interested in volunteering their services please contact Dianne Keyser at dlkeyser@waketech.edu or 919-747-0028. The dentist will review the patient's completed health history, review the prescription for requested films, and will decide on which re-takes (if any) are necessary for the student to complete. It is a great time to interact with students!

Also, if you have any patients that would benefit from having the opportunity to have FREE RADIOGRAPHS completed on them - contact Dianne Keyser for an appointment. We know many patients have lost their insurance, so this FREE DAY of dental radiographs may be beneficial for some patients.

Trudy Clark, Department Head
Dental Assisting Program, Wake Technical Community College
tsclark@waketech.edu

Wake Smiles

The Wake Smiles Clinic is alive and well. Recently we have had several new volunteer dentists come to work on Tuesday nights. Most nights we now have two or three dentist volunteers, however we can always use more! Many of our volunteers have received thank you e-mails from Hilsy Kruger who did an outstanding job as interim coordinator. We are continuing our Fridays with Dr. Giles Willis as our contract dentist. Giles is doing more comprehensive care including some dentures on patients who have had extractions at the clinic. Our new part-time coordinator is Jorge Arriagada who has volunteered a lot at the clinic in the past and will be a real asset to Wake Smiles. Some practices are finding that they like to provide care for the under-served in their own offices, so that they have access to familiar materials and equipment. The Wake Smiles Board continues to meet about once a month and is always trying to keep the flagship afloat and get more boats into the water. Wake Smiles will also host Give Kids A Smile at the New Bern Ridge Clinic on February 6, 2010 and more volunteers are needed. Contact one of the Wake Smiles volunteer coordinator at Wakesmiles@yahoo.com or a Board member to get more information about how you can help our community's under-served.

Drs. Gary Oyster and Bob Hollowell
Policies of the Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society

Please read and adhere to RWCDS Policies

I. Regarding Non-RWCDS Members Attending RWCDS General Meetings:

   A. Trained dentists who are eligible for RWCDS membership and are not recent dental school graduates or specialty program graduates may attend two meetings at no expense before incurring a billing for the meeting cost.

   B. Dentist guest of members who have no possibility of future RWCDS membership are welcome to attend meetings 1) when accompanied by a member host and the meeting expense is reimbursed to the RWCDS or 2) invited by the Executive Board.

   C. Recent dental school graduates or specialty program graduates may attend meetings expense free for the remainder of the calendar year in which they graduate.

   D. Dental students may attend meetings expense free when accompanied by a member host. Attendance is limited to two visits per calendar year.

   E. RWCDS members may invite trained dentists and dental students to meetings as their guest without prior Executive Board approval. At its discretion, the Executive Board can deny access to meeting by any non-RWCDS member. The Executive Board prior to the date of the meeting must approve potential guests who are not trained dentists or dental students for admittance. Requests need to be made at least two days prior to the meeting date.

II. Regarding Use of RWCDS Owned Equipment

   The RWCDS will not loan or rent RWCDS owned equipment to non-RWCDS entities.

III. Regarding The RWCDS Endorsing Commercial Interests

   The Executive Board will not entertain solicitation by commercial vendors for endorsement of services, materials, insurance products or equipment to the membership.
Classifieds

DENTISTS

Dr. Ted Mayer available to check hygiene can be contacted at 919.846.6815

Dr. Casey Kiefer seeks full-time employment as a dental associate. Training includes UNC DDS class of 2009 and 2009-2010 UNC Hospitals GPR residency. Dr. Kiefer is available for employment starting July 2010 and can be reached at 309.781.4087 or CMKiefer8@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

Dentist needed for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for established dental office on North Raleigh/Wakefield area. Applicant will check hygiene and perform simple restorative procedures, endodontics, oral surgery and emergencies. Must be comfortable with diagnosis of patient treatment. If interested, please email resume to hstallings@wakefielddoctors.com.

Dental Assistant II needed for established state of the art dental office in North Raleigh/Wakefield area. MUST BE DAII. Candidate must have thorough experience with CEREC, basic restorative, simple extractions, and be comfortable working with children as well as adults. Must be energetic, loyal and a team player. PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS AD UNLESS YOU POSSESS ALL OF THESE QUALITIES. Send resume and salary requirements to hstallings@wakefielddoctors.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

PR Commercial Properties, Inc. Lloyd Rothschild, DDS, Principle Broker buyer/tenant representation for the dentist, lease negotiations, investment real estate, consultation, and lease reviews for practice purchases. 919.787.0059 office, 919.787.9975 fax, 919-264-5002 mobile, lrothschild@cs.com e-mail

Equipment needed for dental operatory at Falcon Children’s Home in Falcon, NC. I am in the process of putting together a dental operatory. I will take care of the dental needs there as long as I am physically able to (probably 25 years). I am getting the equipment wherever I can. One local dentist is giving a Panorex, Dr. Del Kinlaw an autoclave, Benco Dental has offered help, and I have purchased a chair, unit, stools, amalgamator, and curing light etc. from e-bay. I am in the process of forming 501c3 to offer a tax no. for donations of equipment. **Items needed:** Air compressor, lathe, model trimmer, rolling cabinet, intraoral x-ray, and whatever -- all would be appreciated! Please contact Dr. Don Taylor at donw@grill57.com.