



# Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society

Orthodontics    Oral Surgery  
General Dentistry    Prosthodontics  
Periodontics    Endodontics    Pediatric Dentistry

RALEIGH – WAKE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 2, SEPTEMBER 2010

[HTTP://WWW.RWCDDS.ORG/](http://www.rwcdds.org/)

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

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Thomas K. Buttler, D.D.S., M.S., **Executive Director**

### President's Message



#### Dr. Anthony L. Horalek

I send you well wishes and hope that you have been thriving in the summer heat as well as in this economy. Your Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society (RWCDs) is committed to providing you another line-up of outstanding continuing education (CE) and activities for the September, October, and November meetings. Our excellent Executive Board and your participation continue to be the driving forces to provide you with quality CE presentations, pertinent information through a bi-annually printed newsletter, an annually printed membership directory, and an up-to-date website.

The RWCDs continues to support several organizations within the community. These organizations include Wake Technical Community College to provide scholarships to the dental hygiene and dental assisting students, Wake Smiles, Missions of Mercy (MOM) events, and The POE Center for Health Education.

Our 2010 spring CE featured a January Legislative Night and dental school update with both dental school Deans and several Wake County Representatives and Senators in attendance. Dr. Ray Garrison spoke about dental sedation in February, Dr. Lyndon Cooper spoke on dental implants and prosthetics in March, Dr. Peter Leone spoke on sexually transmitted diseases in April, and Dr. Linda Levin spoke on external root resorption in May. Dr. Doug MacLeod also implemented a new online questionnaire that allows members to evaluate prior CE to provide important feedback.

### 2010 / 2011 CALENDAR

SEP	14 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board Meeting
	21 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE <b>Dr. John Olmsted</b> <b>Endodontic Diagnosis</b>
OCT	12 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	19 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
NOV	9 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	16 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
DEC		No scheduled meetings
JAN	11 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	18 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
FEB	8 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	15 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
MAR	8 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	15 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
APR	12 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	19 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE
MAY	10 <sup>th</sup>	Executive Board meeting
	17 <sup>th</sup>	General Members' meeting & CE

General Members' meetings are held at 6:15 p.m. at **North Ridge Country Club**, 6612 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. Social time begins at 6:15 p.m. with the buffet line opening at 6:45 p.m. The business meeting commences at 7:00 p.m. followed by a CE lecture.

We will kick off the fall September meeting with an endodontic presentation on diagnosis by Dr. John Olmsted, a former President of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE).

I can't say enough good things about the outstanding efforts and hard work of the Executive Board and Executive Director that run your Dental Society. One of our speakers in the spring commented that he thought the Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society was the most successful local dental society in the state. Eve, Jill, Ted, Shep, Doug, Scott, Craig, Shelley, and Thom (the glue). Please accept a heartfelt "thank you" for your ongoing efforts to keep this vibrant Society alive and well. This success has also been a result of our general members' participation through continued membership, financial support, and meeting attendance. Thank you so much for caring.

Anthony L. Horalek, D.D.S., M.S.

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### **Executive Director's Message**



**Dr. Thomas K. Buttler**

#### The Big Picture

Dentistry is a wonderful profession. For many it offers the possibility of owning and running a small business that provides a health service in a personal, small setting. Often, hard work, dedication and financial risk are rewarded. The typical Wake County dental practice is the anti-thesis of the "Big Box" store. "Independent" is a common personality trait exhibited by dentists. I view all of these things as positive.

But, among the positives there can be some negatives. Most dentists practice world can be described as confined, limited, and isolated. A dentist in solo or small group practice has a multitude of challenges, especially in Wake County, where the general level of resident education and expectations is higher than most areas of the US. He or she must not only be continually honing their clinical skills, but wear the many hats associated with operating a sophisticated business. Staff management, human resources, banking, accounting, regulation compliance, marketing, purchasing, inventory control, and IT utilization are areas that require attention, but were not part of the dental school curriculum.

Yes, a dentist's working environment can be constricting and all encompassing, possibly leading many to fall into a stagnant routine or rut. I contend that with all the demands inherent in the operation of a practice, a dentist is inclined to become narrowly focused and lose perspective on what is happening in dentistry outside of his/her office, i.e. the big picture. Losing perspective of the big picture is counterproductive to professional and personal growth.

Can the RWCDS serve as a window to improve myopia? Maybe. One of my goals as executive director is to be a force in the organization that gently pushes you out of your professional rut and brings you some stimulation, like fresh air to a marathoner closing in on mile 26.

The dental meetings are meant to be a source of refreshment – and I am not referring to the food and beverage served - just the coming together in a social setting with your professional colleagues and renewing your friendships, striving to meet those attendees unfamiliar to you, hearing

an update on local and statewide dental news, or critical information on state and federal governmental issues affecting dentistry can aid in opening your eyes. By interacting with your colleagues, your vision will be less obstructed and your patients better served.

The meetings are but one spoke of the RWCDs wheel. Some of the society's longest standing, loyal, and active members are not regular meeting attendees, but they are very much a part of Team RWCDs. Some climb out of their dental foxholes and wave the flag of the RWCDs by engaging in activities such as serving as committee members, instructing at the Wake Tech Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting Programs, and volunteering at the Wake Smiles and NCDS Missions of Mercy (MOM) clinics.

The society utilizes its tools of email communication, the website ([www.rwcde.org](http://www.rwcde.org)) and the annual directory to bring information to you. The goal is to provide you with sufficient, easy to access resources and updated correspondence, causing you to occasionally remove your magnifying loops and substituting binoculars to see beyond the walls of your office. The RWCDs serves as the connecting link between Wake County dentists, the Wake County community, and the dental profession. Key elements for the society to be effective in these relationships are information exchange, calls to action, intercommunication, and unification.

- Information Exchange and Calls To Action – Keeping you in the loop with reminders, pertinent dental political information, calls for volunteers, etc.
- Intercommunication – Mine the treasure! RWCDs members are the best and brightest dentists in Wake County. Obviously, they have a commitment to the image of dentistry in Wake County. Interact with your co-interested colleagues whenever possible. Look to fellow RWCDs members for your treatment team line up. For general dentists, it is prudent to have more than one specialist on your depth chart. And, specialists, besides other specialists on your treatment team, add general practitioners to refer those patients you encounter that do not have a relationship with a dentist.
- Unification – Why? Dentists need to be of one voice in support of our profession against non-dentist commercial interests and ill-informed governmental agencies. Unfortunately, the frequency of attack is increasing. Many want to take away what you have worked hard to get without paying the same price. It is far better to have a unified front in place before the going gets tough rather than later. Later may be too late.

Take the time to look at the big picture as it relates to you as a dentist. It is important for your future and your profession's future. The RWCDs will assist you in this pursuit.

Respectfully,

Thomas K. Buttler, D.D.S., M.S.  
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#### **Editor's Notes**

I hope, as you receive this newsletter, Wake County is enjoying a respite from the brutal summer heat that we have all endured. On the following pages you will find information on several organizations, charities, and institutions that the RWCDs supports. Dr. Mayer encourages our members to volunteer dental services through two important venues that RWCDs supports. We also receive information from Department Heads of dental hygiene and assisting programs at Wake Tech. The RWCDs has provided support to both of these programs in recognition of the important role they play in our local dental practices. As always, please feel free to contact me with suggestions.

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## **Volunteering: Wake Smiles and NC Missions of Mercy (MOM)**

Volunteering provides a sense of satisfaction to ourselves and a sense of duty to our community of underserved. Your service highlights the continuing problem of access to dental care to the community, legislature and the leaders of North Carolina, and proves that our members make up a profession that truly cares.

Our RWCDS members provide outstanding dental care to our community and many of us also provide outstanding services to those less fortunate than ourselves. In North Carolina the problem of access to care has reached nearly epidemic proportions. More than one million of our fellow North Carolinians have no source for regular dental care. Wake Smiles and The North Carolina Missions of Mercy (NCMOM) offer dental treatment to those in financial need who have few or no other options for care. I would ask that each of us look into our hearts to provide dental care to the underserved by volunteering at our local Wake Smiles on Tuesday (and some Wednesday) evenings at 5:30 p.m. or at the upcoming NCMOM projects: September 17-18 in Gastonia, October 29-30 in Kill Devil Hills, or November 5-6 in Greensboro. Please see the RWCDS and North Carolina Dental Society websites for information.

According to the rules of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners (21 NCAC 16R .0106e), dentists shall receive up to two hours of continuing education credits per year for providing dental services on a volunteer basis at any state, city, or county operated site approved by the dental board. Credit will be given at a ratio of 1:5.

We are a caring health care profession. Together we can make a difference in the health and lives of the underserved.

Ted Mayer, D.D.S.  
[tedmdds@nc.rr.com](mailto:tedmdds@nc.rr.com)



Hundreds of volunteers, including Dentists, Assistants, and Hygienists treat patients at the MOM's Durham Project.

## Wake Technical Community College Dental Assisting Program Update

**Twenty-one dental assisting students** will be completing their program requirements on July 12, 2010 and they are currently seeking employment within the Wake County area. This is the twentieth class of dental assisting students to graduate from Wake Technical Community College! The birth and success of this program has largely been due to the consistent support from the Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society and its members – **SO WE WANT TO GIVE A BIG SHOUT OUT TO RWCDS - “THANK YOU.”**

The Class of 2010 has completed over 350 hours of hands-on training during the past two semesters. Their spring semester clinical rotations were at the UNC School of Dentistry (multi-clinical areas) and Wake County Public Health Dental Clinic. The students are currently completing their private practice clinical rotations in numerous offices throughout Wake County. The students have gained valuable “real life” chair-side and patient care experience due to the support and participation of our affiliation sites.

Please keep in mind that Wake Technical Community College provides a free job placement service for our graduates. If you are interested in placing information concerning a position within your office on the WTCC website please visit the following website: <http://jobplacement.waketech.edu/emprequest.php>. Also you may contact Trudy Clark at [tsclark@waketech.edu](mailto:tsclark@waketech.edu) with any information you would like to have shared with our graduates.

The students had a graduation luncheon celebration on July 12<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society. The RWCDS also granted scholarships at the luncheon for academic excellence to students who achieved a 3.5 GPA or above. This special recognition day is made possible due to the generosity of the RWCDS.

Our program’s goal is to have the student “Job Market Ready” upon graduation. Upon graduating from an ADA accredited program a graduate is classified as a DAII by the NCSBDE. Currently, Wake Technical Community College is the only ADA accredited program in Wake County.

We highly recommend, when you interview a WTCC graduate that you request a copy of their WTCC diploma and copies of their Dental Assisting National Board certifications. Our graduates complete three exams administered by the Dental Assisting National Board (100% Pass Rate): ICE (Infection Control Exam), RHS (Radiation Health and Safety Exam), and the GC (General Chairside Exam). When all three exams are completed successfully, the candidate is awarded the **credential of CDA or Certified Dental Assistant**. Earning the CDA credential is above and beyond becoming a DA II. To learn more about Certified Dental Assistants refer to [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org).

Trudy Clark, Department Head  
Dental Assisting Program, Wake Technical Community College  
[tsclark@waketech.edu](mailto:tsclark@waketech.edu)



Wake Tech Dental Assistant Program Graduation luncheon celebrating the successful completion of the program. Scholastic Achievement Awards from the RWCDS were presented to three students. From left to right in the photo are Rachel Halula (3.7 GPA / \$150), Sharon Hartfield (3.5 GPA / \$100), Dr. Thom Buttler and Brookie Wall (3.9 GPA / \$200). In addition, the RWCDS paid for the luncheon food, decorations, and awarded plaques. Dr. Bobby Elliott provided roses for each graduate.

## **Raleigh Wake County Dental Society Dental Hygiene Program Update**

The Dental Hygiene Program at Wake Tech graduated nineteen students with an AAS degree in Dental Hygiene in May 2010 celebrated at a pinning ceremony on May 7, and graduation on May 23. Several awards were presented to the graduates at the pinning ceremony to include the **Scholarship Award which is sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake County Dental Society**. The student achieving the highest GPA in Dental Hygiene receives this scholarship, with a cash award presented. **This year Dr. Tony Horalek, Dr. Thom Butler, and Dr. Ted Mayer presented the award to Jeanne Barbee who graduated with a 3.667 GPA.** The class this year had a 100% pass rate on the first attempt for the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and we are awaiting results of the CITA exam. Congratulations to the Class of 2010.

In order to promote community dental health activities after graduation, a system has been developed in which students will have several opportunities to experience community activities during the program. We request that each student in the dental hygiene program commit between 30 to 52 hours of their time to some aspect of community activity approved by faculty over the course of two years. Many of our students go above and beyond this basic requirement, however, only one is awarded for their great works at the end of the second year. During the pinning ceremony one student, who has demonstrated outstanding service through community rotations, individual projects, and other voluntary service, is chosen by the entire faculty to receive the community award. The student, who wins this award from year-to-year, definitely deserves it. However, all of our students who unselfishly devote their time and themselves to the community, showing people they care by helping others, deserve to be acknowledged as well. This, in turn, is how the President's Volunteer Service award was introduced. This award was established in 2003 by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to recognize valuable contributions volunteers are making in the community and encourages more people to continue to serve. The award comes with a lapel pin, certificate, and a congratulatory letter from President Barack Obama. The award lapel pin received is based on different levels depending on your working as an individual or as a group. Group levels rank from Bronze (200-499 hrs.), Silver (500-999 hrs.), Gold (1000 hrs. and more), and Lifetime (4000 hours). The Wake Technical Community College Dental Hygiene program is proud to announce that, on May 7<sup>th</sup> the dental hygiene class of 2010, proudly received the second highest level of the President's award (silver) for their outstanding service to their community earning over 898 hours and 50 minutes of service.

Continuing in the program are 14 students who have finished the first year of the program and will enter the second year when classes resume August 16, 2010. The program has accepted 24 students into the fall semester for 2010 as well.

**Thank you for the continued support of the Dental Society. In the tough economic times we face, we may be seeking volunteers in the next year to assist with events such as the Mock Interviews and Mock CITA Exam, which are both organized in the spring to assist second year students in preparing for the licensure exams and future employment.** The course directors will contact you in the near future for assistance. Donations to the Foundation are always welcomed as well.

If you have employment opportunities for our graduates you can either e-mail the job description and contact information to Brenda Maddox (who will e-mail it on to graduates), or you can send it to the Wake Tech Job Placement office at <http://jobplacement.waketech.edu/listings.php>.

For more information on the program, please see the website at <http://dentalhygiene.waketech.edu> or contact Dental Hygiene Main Department – (919) 747-0126.

Brenda Maddox, RDH, MS  
Department Head  
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[bpmaddox@waketech.edu](mailto:bpmaddox@waketech.edu)



Dental hygiene graduate, Jeanne Barbee is presented an award from Dr. Thom Buttler, Dr. Tony Horalek, and Dr. Ted Mayer.

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### Wake Tech. Dental Hygiene Graduating Class of 2010



**Back Row:** Martha Mushandinga, Vica Bologescu, Dona Shelby, Michelle LaBerge, Stephanie Pate, Amanda Downs, Ginger Parker, Jeanne Barbee, Casey Eubanks, Brian Martin, Fran Sanders

**Front Row:** Lauren Rickman, Jess Gwinn, Heidi Sorensen, Sam Beasley, Tabitha Harrington, Lisa Wolfson, Jen Jones, Annette Abram

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Dr. Linda Levin gave a very informative CE lecture on external root resorption this spring.



Dr. Oyster extracts a tooth at the spring MOM's Project in Durham.



Dr. Rex Card with North Carolina Senator Neal Hunt and Associate Dean of Advancement for UNC School of Dentistry, Paul Gardner, during the RWCDs spring Legislative Night.



RWCDS President, Dr. Tony Horalek (center) with UNC School of Dentistry Dean, John Williams (left) and ECU School of Dental Medicine Dean, Jim Hupp (right) during January's dental school update meeting.



RWCDS Board Members, Drs. Eve Brown and Ted Mayer, pitch in with Executive Director, Dr. Thom Buttler, and others at the Poe Center to help assemble mailings for Teen Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Week to RWCDS members.

## *Classifieds*

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### **DENTISTS**

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**Dr. Thom Buttler** available to check hygiene can be contacted at email: [tkbuttler@yahoo.com](mailto:tkbuttler@yahoo.com)  
cell: 919-801-1167 or home 919-846-9650.

**Dr. Ralph Hawkins** available to check hygiene can be contacted at 919-467-1512.

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

Searching for **Long-Term Position in Dental Practice** as Associate, Partner, Buy-In or Buy-Out; Skilled and Comfortable with all types of dental care from simple to complex restorative as well as office management; Pankey Alumni; 21 years experience in General Practice as associate, owner, and locum tenens; available for Locum Tenens. Please send inquiries to [jasonbienia@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonbienia@yahoo.com) to discuss an opportunity that will help both of us.

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### **HELP WANTED**

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Seeking team-oriented **front desk person** to join our Holly Springs dental practice. (Dental office experience is a MUST.) We offer appreciation in addition to a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send resume via email ([kandacewall dental@att.net](mailto:kandacewall dental@att.net)) or fax (919-362-1638). Thank you. If you have any questions please call Kandace @ 919-362-1394.

Experienced **dental hygienist needed** for progressive prosthodontic practice. Current position is for three days a week. Must be dependable, motivated, self starter, and a team player. Please fax resume to 919-846-8012.

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### **MISCELLANEOUS**

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If you are interested in performing pro bono work for the Pretty in Pink Foundation for breast cancer, please contact **Dr. Todd Engstrom** at 870-7200 or [engstromorthodontics@gmail.com](mailto:engstromorthodontics@gmail.com).