



Raleigh - Wake County Dental Society NEWSLETTER

www.RWCDS.org

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2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jim Martin, DMD, MS, **President**
 Meenal Patel, DMD, **President-Elect**
 Nahal Miller, DMD, **Secretary**
 Bob Kent, DDS, MS, **Treasurer**
 Cameron Cavola, DMD, MD, **Webmaster**
 Chauncy Nelson, DDS, MS, **Editor**
 Matthew Holman, DMD, **Member at Large**
 Marinee Lees, DDS, MS **Member at Large**
 Bill Scruggs, DDS, MS, **Past President**
 Dawn Harris, **Administrative Assistant**

2020 Winter / Spring calendar

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|----------|--|
| Jan 14th | Executive Board Meeting |
| 21st | General Members Mtg. Legislative night |
| Feb 11th | Executive Board Meeting |
| 18th | General Members Mtg. Dr. Bobby Collins "Oral Lesions for the Ages" |
| Mar 10th | Executive Board Meeting |
| 17th | General Members Mtg. Dr. Hunter Dawson "Comprehensive Diagnosis Tx Planning in the Digital Age" |
| Apr 14th | Executive Board Meeting |
| 21st | General Members Mtg. Dr. John Christensen "Management of Compromised Teeth in Growing Patients" |
| May 12th | Executive Board Meeting |
| 21st | Social - Lynwood Brewing Concern (East Whitaker Mill Location), Raleigh 630-930p |

General Members Meetings are held 6:15 p.m. at North Ridge Country Club, 6612 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, the 3rd Tuesday of each month. There are no meetings in June, July, August and December. Social time begins 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.

President's Message

Hope everyone has had a wonderful 2020 so far! My name is Jim Martin and I am honored to serve as the RWCDs's president in 2020. I would like to thank immediate past president Dr. Bill Scruggs and the rest of the executive board for their wonderful service this past year; without their efforts, this dental society could not function. It has been quite a year for our society, as we have witnessed many positives in regards to the activity and engagement of our members. We have been able to provide a very strong speaker lineup this past year, and our statistics show that this year's general members meetings have had the highest attendance in the last six years.

Additionally, we held what was certainly the most spirited and participative meeting this fall as Dean De Rossi visited our society to discuss the plans for a UNC dental facility in the county. As an executive board we were pleased to provide a conduit through which information could be passed between the dental community of Wake County and the Dean, and I was proud of our members for the vocal and passionate input that we provided.



Like most forms of organized dentistry, membership has been a challenge for the RWCDs, and we have seen membership slip slightly over the past few years. As our executive board reflected on this trend, we decided it was prudent to put together a member satisfaction survey to collect feedback from you all to assess for improvements that can be made. We appreciated your feedback and input, and we found there were several takeaway points from the survey:

1) *The vast majority of members originally heard about the RWCDs from a colleague.*

Word-of-mouth has been our best source of membership, and to preserve and strengthen our society, we ask that all members consider inviting your friends that are local dentists, referring doctors, etc., to join us for a meeting. To give prospective members a no-commitment trial, our policy is that prospective members can attend as guests with no charge for up to two meetings, and new doctors can attend meetings for free during the calendar year in which they graduated from dental school or residency.



President's Message *(continued)*

2) Members enjoy having CE at North Ridge Country Club, though the acoustics can be improved.

We are pleased to utilize NRCC's excellent facilities as a continuing home for our general member meetings; we have discussed the audio quality with the facility administration and we have been informed they plan to replace the entire system in the first quarter of this year.

3) Members prefer to receive RWCDs information by email.

We are continuing to grow our online presence with social media and a brand new website that recently launched, but we will continue to pass along information, announcements, and our revamped digital newsletter through the tried-and-true method of email.

4) Camaraderie is the most important part of membership for the majority of our members.

This is an affirmation of the one of the purposes of the RWCDs: to strengthen the interpersonal bonds of Wake County dentists through regular meetings and fellowship. To this end, we will be altering the spring meeting schedule to reflect a more camaraderie-focused meeting, with a spring social at Lynnwood Brewing Concern on Thursday, May 21 to replace our meeting at North Ridge Country Club. We have adjusted our speaker schedule to still provide 8 CEUs for 2020.

On behalf of the executive board we thank you for your participation in and support of the RWCDs and for the collegiality that you bring to our group. Please do not hesitate to approach me or email (President@RWCDs.org) if you have any questions or ideas, and I look forward to seeing you at a future meeting.



Special thanks to our past president, Dr. Bill Scruggs

Regards,

Dr. Jim Martin, DMD, MS

A FEW WORDS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Greetings! We're excited to begin 2020 and are looking forward to having you join us for the winter lectures. In May, the RWCDS is hosting a Social at Lynnwood Brewing Concern. The Social is a new event and one we hope you'll attend.

- Dawn Harris
adminassistant@rwcde.org



WELCOME to our NEWEST RWCDS MEMBERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dr. Alyssa Ricci | — Wake Forest, NC — | dr@gladwellorthodontics.com |
| Dr. Suzanna Baker | — Raleigh, NC — | drbaker@carolinapedo.com |
| Dr. Amanda Allen | — Raleigh, NC — | drallen@carolinapedo.com |
| Dr. Nicole LeCann | — Raleigh, NC — | nlecann@yahoo.com |
| Dr. Mary Lanier Zaytoun Berne | — Raleigh, NC — | drmarylanier@zaytounorthodontics.com |

Editor's Note



Welcome to a new decade and a new year! I wish everyone a happy and prosperous new year. This Winter/Spring we have great new speakers and a spring social. I would like to encourage each one of you to submit articles, opinions and photographs to the RWCDS related to dental and dental service issues that are important to our profession. It is your voice that is important to our profession and we all need to hear it. If you have a letter, photographs or a paper that you would like printed in the newsletter or posted on the website please contact the editor, or our webmaster Dr. Cameron Cavola. As always your input and participation into the process is needed and invaluable. If you have any comments, suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dr. Chauncy Nelson
nelortho@nc.rr.com

GENERAL UPDATES

UPDATE ON SMILEDIRECT LITIGATION

January's newsletter addressed a suit filed in 2018 by SmileDirect ("Smile") against the Georgia Board of Dentistry. Smile is one of many nationwide providers of "at-home clear aligner treatment."

As we explained in January, a Smile patient begins treatment by going to a local "ScanShop" where "technicians" perform digital scanning of the patient's oral cavity. Alternatively, the patient can order an at-home kit to take an impression of the patient's teeth. Smile contracts with licensed dentists to supervise the "doctor-directed at-home clear aligner treatment." Smile dentists use "teledentistry" to manage the patient's care.



The Georgia Board had adopted a regulation providing that only dental assistants could take digital scans for the fabrication of orthodontic appliances. As Smile uses "technicians" to take the scans, the regulation would have a direct impact on Smile operations.

Meanwhile, in late, 2018 Smile and one of Smile's supervising dentists filed suit against the Alabama Dental Board. The Board had sent a cease-and-desist letter complaining that Smile does not have a licensed dentist physically present at its facilities.

In April of this year, a federal court in the Alabama case denied motions by the Board that would have terminated the litigation. It allowed certain claims against individual Board members to proceed. Those claims sought to prevent the Board members from taking action against SmileDirect to enforce the requirement of having a licensed dentist on-site.

Later in May, a federal court in the Georgia case ruled that Smile's claims against Board members could proceed. As in the Alabama case, those claims sought to prevent Board members from taking enforcement action against Smile.

Meanwhile, according to the ADA, the New Jersey Dental Association and one of its members filed suit against Smile on January 28, 2019. That case is also pending.

It's too early to predict the final outcome of the Smile litigation. It is likely that other businesses will continue to challenge licensing board regulations in an effort to compete by providing cheaper health care services to the public. Clearly, the courts will carefully consider the potential danger posed to the public by such enterprises.

Thanks for reading. We will continue to keep you posted.

Patrice Walker

CLASSIFIEDS

DENTISTS

Dr. Ted Mayer - available to check hygiene can be contacted at 919 819-9400.

Dr. Harold J. Kear – available to substitute on a daily or weekly basis for vacations/days off to handle in-office emergencies and/or monitor dental hygiene; experienced, fully insured; and licensed. Resume and references available upon request. Phone 919-468-8293; email - hrlldkear@gmail.com.

Dr. Thom Buttler - available to check hygiene; please contact at 919-801-1167 and/or tkbuttler@gmail.com

Dr. Bill Wynne - If anyone is interested in selling their practice in the near future please contact me: 919-851-3716 office-919-469-0761 home.

MISCELLANEOUS

If you are interested in performing pro bono work for the Pretty in Pink Foundation for breast cancer please contact **Dr. Todd Engstrom** at 919-870-4443 or engstromorthodontics@gmail.com.

Commercial Real Estate Services

PR Commercial Properties, Inc.

Lloyd Rothschild, DDS/ Principle Broker

Buyer/Tenant Representation, Investment Real Estate, Consultation

Representing Dentists for their Commercial Real Estate Needs

919-787-0059, 919-264-5002 cell, lrrothschild@cs.com.

RWCDS PHOTOS





— UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN —

