

# Raleigh - Wake County Dental Society NEWSLETTER

[www.RWCDS.org](http://www.RWCDS.org)

Volume 22 | Number 2 | November 2021

## 2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meenal Patel, DMD, **President**  
 Matthew Holman, DMD, **President-Elect**  
 Nahal Miller, DMD, **Secretary**  
 Bob Kent, DDS, MS, **Treasurer**  
 Cameron Cavola, DMD, MD, **Webmaster**  
 Marineé Lees, DDS, MS, **Editor**  
 Chauncy Nelson, DDS, MS, **Member at Large**  
 Chris Vo, DDS, **Member at Large**  
 Jim Martin, DMD, MS, **Past President**  
 Kimberly Lee, **Administrative Assistant**

## 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Sept 21 Dr. Michael Webb- **"The Space Race: Primary vs. Permanent Teeth"**

Oct 26th Dr. Joseph Hummel **"Opioid Education Program"**

Nov 16th Dr. Glen Karunanayake **"The Cracked Tooth: Where do we go from here?"**

Dec 2nd **RWCDS Holiday Party** at Caffe Luna, more details to come!

Our in-person General Members Meetings have resumed and 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 6:30 p.m. The business meeting commences at 7:00 p.m. followed by a CE lecture. For those who want to attend virtually, a Zoom link will be provided.

## A few words from our Administrative Assistant:

*Hello RWCDS Members!*

*We hope you enjoyed your summer! We're excited to begin meeting again for the second half of 2021. Here are the excellent guest speakers and lectures you can look forward to for the Fall:*

*September 21- Dr. Michael Webb "The Space Race: Primary vs. Permanent Teeth"*

*October 26- Dr. Joseph Hummel "Opioid Education Program"*

*November 16- Dr. Glen Karunanayake "The Cracked Tooth: Where do we go from here?"*

*December- Holiday Party- Details Coming Soon*

*We will be offering an in-person option at North Ridge Country Club, as well as a virtual option via Zoom for these lectures. We hope you'll join us!*

*Any questions? Reach out to Kimberly at: [adminassistant@rwcds.org](mailto:adminassistant@rwcds.org)*



RALEIGH WAKE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

# HOLIDAY PARTY

# SAVE THE DATE

FROM 6-9PM ON **DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**  
 AT CAFFE LUNA IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH

## WELCOME to our NEWEST RWCDs MEMBERS

Dr. Ashley Gates	— Raleigh, NC —	<a href="mailto:angates@rocketmail.com">angates@rocketmail.com</a>
Dr. Kalynn Foster	— Durham, NC —	<a href="mailto:kalynnfooster@rocketmail.com">kalynnfooster@rocketmail.com</a>
Dr. Aakash Mehandru	— Raleigh, NC —	<a href="mailto:aakash@tarheelperio.com">aakash@tarheelperio.com</a>
Dr. Spencer Marsh	— Raleigh, NC —	<a href="mailto:spencermarshdds@gmail.com">spencermarshdds@gmail.com</a>
Dr. Aaron Roberts	— Cary, NC—	<a href="mailto:adrob2@gmail.com">adrob2@gmail.com</a>

Proposed Nominations for 2022 RWCDs Executive Board, to be voted on at our November 16th meeting:

*President - Matt Holman*

*Pres-Elect/Program Chair - Dr. Nelson*

*Treasurer - Dr. Bob Kent*

*Secretary - Dr. Nabal Miller*

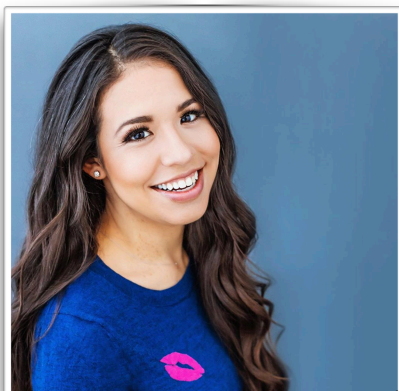
*Editor - Dr. Chris Vo*

*Webmaster - Dr. Cameron Cavola*

*Member-at-Large - Dr. Anthony Gragg*

*Member-at-Large - Dr. Aakash Mehandru*

## Editor's Note



As 2021 winds down, we reflect on both the challenges and opportunities this year has yielded. It is my hope that upon reflection of this year, you find there were more opportunities than challenges, and with every challenge, you met it with grace and came out on top.

2022 is right around the corner, and there's no better time to think about the year ahead and what exciting things are to come.

It has been a pleasure serving you as Editor of the RWCDs newsletter and I wish you all a blessed 2021 leading into 2022!

Dr. Marinee Lees

## An update from the charitable arm of RWCDs:

*From Sommer Wisner, RDH, BS*

- We want to thank Wake County Commissioners and The Deaconess Foundation for funding our PT DDS, enabling us continuity of care for 3 full days a week!
- Thank you to RWCDs and those that came and supported us at our 20th Anniversary Gala! A special thanks to Dr. Lane and his wife, Phyllis, for helping us raise \$63,000 due to their generous \$25,000 match!
- We are still looking for dentists to give their time in our daytime and evening clinics; if interested, please email: [sommer@wakesmiles.org](mailto:sommer@wakesmiles.org)





# Wake Smiles Gala

September 25, 2021

NC Museum of Natural Science



**\$80,425 raised!**

This funding will go directly into programs that help us extend our mission to improve lives of under-resourced adults through better oral health! Thank you to the Main Event Sponsor, Dr. Gary Oyster and to our Advocate Sponsor, Capital Oral & Facial Surgery. This event would not have been successful without all of our sponsors. We are so thankful!



# Update on 2021's Children's Dental Health Awareness Day & Give Kids a Smile Day

*By Dr. Kavita Ghai, DDS, FAGD*

Dear RWCDS Members,

I want to inform you all that both events were a huge success this year. We had Children's Dental Health Awareness Day on Feb 6th, 2021 at the Poe Center. It was a Virtual event due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We provided 150 goody bags to children and Wake Tech dental assistant students helped assemble them. These were distributed to children & families who came the day before the event to pick them up from Poe Center so they could do the hands on activities from home. East Carolina dental students joined in remotely to explain to the families how to do the hands on activities that were in the goody bags and also answered any questions the parents or the kids had about their dental health. We did a virtual dental magic show by Dr. Orander that was also pod casted that day. Colgate joined in with us & the Poe Center in providing oral health education to the kids & their families along with providing additional goody bags for the kids. We had a total of around 50 families that zoomed in on that day for the event. We even had some international people join in too. As you can see we had a successful event!

Our second event was Give Kids A Smile Day that was held on Feb 20th, 2021 at the Wake Smiles Clinic in Raleigh. We had 5 Dentists volunteer their time (including me).

They were: Dr. Jenny Tu, Pedodontist  
Dr. Linda Shafik  
Dr. Richard Brooks, Pedodontist along with his son Henry  
Dr. David Olson, Pedodontist

They brought in their staff which was a great help. I really want to thank them for the awesome job they did by helping the children in need. We saw 25 kids and we provided dental services worth approximately \$11,868.

I do want to thank ALL the volunteers on the Wake Smiles Team, especially Sommer & her staff in helping out with the event.

Ameritas provided the grant to do this event and so whatever funds are left over after all the expenses are done are donated to Wake Smiles Clinic & Poe Center as a Thank You for helping host these events.

This was our 8th year of doing the events and I do want to thank RWCDS in supporting me as well.

Event dates next year are: **Saturday, February 5th, 2022** for Children's Dental Health Awareness Day at the Poe Center & **Saturday, February 19th, 2022** for GKAS at the Wake Smiles Clinic. Please keep these dates in mind to volunteer and help make both of these events a success.

Thank you all,  
Kavita Ghai, DDS, FAGD

# GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY

FEBRUARY 25, 2021







# *Pearls with Dr. Gary Oyster*

## A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATION KEEPING DENTISTRY RELEVANT

I had hoped when I was writing this update that we would be looking at the pandemic in the rearview mirror. Obviously, that's not the case. Despite the pandemic, legislation which affects dentistry at the state and national level continues to be introduced and passed.

In North Carolina, H.B. 144 and S.B. 146 have passed and been signed by the Governor. These bills establish standards for the practice of Teledentistry and authorize properly trained dental hygienists to administer local anesthetics under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. Senate bill 248 also passed, requiring insurance carriers to include additional information on health benefit plans identification cards.

Two bills were passed that are of concern. S.B. 146 orders the BODE to issue a license to any foreign trained dentist who holds a degree from a school accredited by the ADA commission on Dental Accreditation. Initially it will be an instructor license but later may become a general license. S.B. 228 provides for an exclusive provider benefits plan for patients signed up for the plan and no payments to any provider not signed up. Right now, this is for medical only but will dentistry be far behind? There are other bills we are monitoring; some we support and some we oppose. As of now, Dentistry is excluded from the Medicaid managed care mess and the Health Information Exchange requirement has been delayed until January 1, 2023. As most of you know, this HIE passed in 2015 and is burdensome for all dentists. We are the only state that has this requirement for state paid programs.

At the national level, the Medicare expansion to include universal dental coverage is being opposed by the ADA because coverage under part B of Medicare is problematic. Part B has limited funding, which is to be cut by 10% this year. Vision and hearing have also asked to be included. If Dentistry is included, the reimbursement rate may be worse than Medicaid. If Dentistry is to have Medicare coverage, we suggest limiting it to below 300% of the poverty level and creating a new part for dentistry so that the reimbursement rate will be adequate. McCarren-Ferguson Reform: The ADA continues to lobby the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission on the implementation of McCarren-Ferguson reform. H.R. 1916/S754 are asking for insurance coverage for craniofacial anomalies, like cleft lip and palate, to be covered by insurance carriers and not be considered cosmetic. H.R. 885 would allow for small businesses to receive a tax credit up to \$25,000 for PPE. H.R. 2160 would enable dentists with federal student loans to refinance every 6 months to take advantage of lower interest rates. These bills are working their way through congress. Other national issues such as interstate compacts, CDT code updates, APTIFY platform replacement and membership in the ADA are priority items.

I want to conclude this report by paraphrasing Teddy Roosevelt. It is not the critic who counts. There is no effort without error and shortcomings, as one strives to do deeds. Dentistry's state and national leaders are striving to keep Dentistry relevant. Bold and innovative ideas and strategies must be tried to fend off insurance carriers and state/ federal legislation from determining how you practice. No matter what your practice setting, we are all dentists and must be involved or we all will become irrelevant. For those of you who are ADA members, thank you. To those who are not members, please join and make the ADA better.

Gary





RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY  
919-673-9053

## NC DENTAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

THURSDAY, JUNE 3 FROM 5:30 PM  
TO 8:30 PM ET

BOWSTRING PIZZA AND BREWYARD  
1930 WAKE FOREST RD.  
RALEIGH, NC 27608





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## CLASSIFIEDS

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### 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.

*\*\*If you would like to submit a classified or miscellaneous ad, please email editor@rwcds.org*

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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 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](mailto:lrrothschild@cs.com).

— UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN —

