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# VOLUNTEER DENTIST

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*The Volunteer Dentist* is the official publication of the Tennessee Chapter of the Academy of General Dentistry. It is sent to all ADA members in the state of Tennessee and has a circulation of 2,200. The Tennessee Academy of General Dentistry does not necessarily endorse opinions or statements contained in articles published in this Newsletter. The editor believes that the contributing authors are sincere in their efforts to foster the interests and educational concepts of its readers.

## President's Perspective

By Leon Stanislov

It is with great humility that I follow in the steps of so many talented individuals that have held this office, not the least of which was Roy Thompson. Roy continues to be a great leader, mentor, and advocate for us all. I have much admiration for his accomplishments. Roy is working diligently heading up the Local Arrangement Committee for the AGD meeting in Nashville 2013. We are all very excited about this opportunity to shine once again before our Academy peers. Roy has been on the Annual Session Committee for the past couple of years making numerous trips, conference calls, and site reviews in preparation for the big event. Roy even flew with a special delegation including Nashville Mayor Karl Dean to Orlando to promote our local venue. In addition, Roy takes on many other behind the scenes tasks such as making sure our Universal Award Application is properly completed. His thoroughness helped insure that Tennessee won several awards at the last annual session in San Diego including the coveted Constituent of the Year. We also won Public Information, Continuing Education, and honorable mention for ACE. Congratulations to all in the TNAGD who worked hard to achieve this.

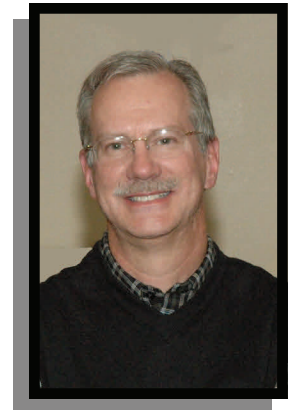
Another very fine leader has taken a new role as our Regional Director. Richard Dycus has had recognition by the national AGD for some time and now has the opportunity to really make a difference for our state, Region 6, and the national Academy. He is one of the most knowledgeable individuals I have ever met and is a superb asset to us all. I know Richard has his agenda already set including membership issues.

Kudos to Mike King for his success in organizing TNAGD annual session last August. He worked very hard on the revenue side and it paid off. Mike is striving to repeat and build on his accomplishments in 2012. A lot of hours were spent by many people preparing for that meeting. Thanks to you all!

Richard Dycus, Roy Thompson, and I represented you in San Diego as delegates this year. There was not a lot of contention but we successfully lobbied to change the format in 2013 to the traditional four day meeting. We believe this will help our attendance stay strong. Nashville set the bar a number of years ago at Opryland with a record that still stands. We will need the help of each and every one of you to make 2013 as successful.

We have a STAR (Strategic and Tactical and Assessment Review) slated for Friday March 30<sup>th</sup>. AGD Speaker of the House, Mark Donald is scheduled as one of the national leaders to facilitate the meeting. Mark is very sharp and we will, no doubt, learn from him as well as ourselves.

I could go on and there is much that could be said about the Tennessee Academy but I just want to thank all of you for the hard work, the inspiration you give me, and the bright future I know we will have. Your dedication to serve shines like few other regions.



**Dr. Leon Stanislov**  
**TNAGD President**

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# Auto-Renewal

Is your staff annoyed with all the invoices?  
Tired of getting dues reminders?

We have a simple solution: **Enroll now!**

Enroll in the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) [Membership Auto-Renewal Program](#) and you'll never receive another dues statement again!

It only takes a moment to enroll with your payment information. The AGD membership team will do the rest. After your enrollment is processed, you'll receive a receipt and be eligible for early payment rewards. In fact, all auto-renewal enrollees will be entered into a special drawing for an Apple iPad 2 in October. Your name also will be entered into every drawing held between now and Dec. 31, 2011!

Act now! Save yourself the hassle and time of mailing in your annual membership payments by enrolling in the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Auto-Renewal Program. The AGD is now offering an automatic membership payment option. The AGD Auto Renewal Program automatically renews your membership before it lapses each year. Enroll today as you pay for your 2011 membership, and you can take your 2011 membership renewal off your list of "to-dos!" Selecting the Auto-Renewal Program today will enroll you for 2012.

Thank you for all that you do to support AGD membership and oral health care for your patients.

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## **AGD 2012 Philadelphia**

### AGD Annual Meeting & Exhibits

[Registration opens January 2012](#)

Dates  
June 21 to 24, 2012



## Hard Hats in Nashville

On Friday, August 19, AGD President Howard Gamble and President Elect Jeff Cole were treated a VIP hardhat tour of the Music City Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. The AGD Annual Meeting Council chose Nashville for the site of the 2013 AGD Annual meeting to be held from June 26-30, 2013.

The convention center, presently under construction, will open in February of 2013 in central downtown Nashville where dreams come true for aspiring country music artists. In a cacophony of welding, hammering, cement trucks and guitar playing, Dr. Gamble and Cole, along with Region 6 Trustee Connie White, Regional Director Richard Dycus and 2013 Local Arrangements Chair Roy Thompson, toured the four story complex where dentists will congregate for the AGD's annual CE extravaganza and governance activities.

The hardhat tour was done in conjunction with Dr. Gamble and Cole's attendance at the TN AGD Annual meeting in Nashville. After addressing the TN AGD and making award presentations during the membership luncheon, the group slipped away from the meeting to participate in the tour. "It was intriguing seeing the meeting rooms with steel girders and concrete and visualizing the final exhibit hall, registration areas and the buzz that accompanies an annual session," stated Dr. Thompson, the AGD's eyes and ears on the ground in Nashville. "To understand the coordination that must occur between all contractors on a project of this magnitude is beyond my grasp."

Additionally, the group toured several hotels in the area that will house delegates, alternates and attendees. The Country Music Hall of Fame, Schermerhorn Symphony Center and the Frist Center for Fine Arts are within two blocks of the convention center. The historic Hermitage Hotel and Union Station Hotel along with Music Row are all within a stone's throw of the convention center. The Ryman Auditorium original home of the Grand Ole Opry is located adjacent to the hotel being considered as the headquarters hotel for the meeting. Multiple restaurants, honky tonks and the Wild Horse Saloon line Broadway Avenue running through the center of downtown Nashville.



Nashville was the location of the AGD Annual Meeting in 2003. Nashville is within 500 miles of seventy-five percent of the population of the United States. The same percentage of the AGD membership is within an 8-10 hour drive. Nashville Southwest Airlines offers hub service into the International Airport.

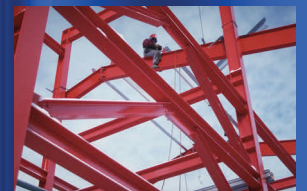
**Pictured L to R:**  
Richard Dycus,  
Regional Director

Dr. Connie White,  
AGD Trustee

Dr. Jeff Cole  
AGD President Elect

Dr. Howard Gamble,  
AGD President

Mr. Charles Starks,  
Nashville Convention  
Center Project Manager



HISTORICALLY COOL SINCE 1892

## Greetings from the Regional Director

*Richard W. Dycus, DDS, FAGD*  
Region 6 Director



First, I want to thank the TN AGD for giving me the opportunity to serve as Region 6 Director. The Regional Director's office is rotated between the four states in the Region, Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky, and West Virginia. I would not be here if it were not for the great leaders that came before me both from Tennessee and these other states.

Second, let me thank Dr. Connie White of Missouri for her service as Regional Director. Dr. White was elected Trustee of our Region and now serves in that position. I look forward to working with her for the growth of our region.

As your Regional Director it is my job to visit each state in the region and coordinate our efforts. We have already scheduled trips to Missouri and Kentucky. We are working on the details of the West Virginia visit.

The most important item of business in our region is the upcoming 2013 Annual Session in Nashville. This meeting in Nashville gives our region several excellent opportunities.

We want to promote the Fellowship Award. Many of you already have sufficient hours to get the award. All you lack is the examination. I encourage all of you to go ahead and take a review course and challenge the examination. Upon passing the exam you can complete your paperwork and be awarded the Fellowship at the convocation in Nashville in 2013. We would like to have many of you get that award in Nashville so that your families and office staff can participate in the convocation.

Log into the AGD.org site and go to this link <http://www.agd.org/awards/fellowshipexam/materials.asp> to find information about how to study for and take the exam. There are exam sites in Tennessee.

Additionally, some of you are close to finishing your Mastership. Push a little and get that done for the Nashville 2013 meeting. We want to have large award classes for Tennessee in 2013!!!!

Plan now to attend the AGD Annual Meeting in Nashville 2013. You can also take the review course and examination in Philadelphia June 21-24, 2012.

## Secretary's Report

Steve Thaxton, DDS, MAGD

# W

hat'a happening at TNAGD?

A lot is happening in our TNAGD! Below are a few points of information for our members.

AnMeet 2011 was a resounding success with two great international speakers: Dr. Karl Koerner on "Oral Surgery for the GP" had a great lecture on Friday and a fantastic participation course on Saturday, August 20. Dr. Howard Farran presented "Virtues of Profitable Dentistry" in his special and often risqué style. Both reviews were outstanding and no one nodded off. Great job by our AnMeet chairmann and President-elect Dr. Mike King!



The Tennessee Dentist of the Year was awarded to Dr. Jams G. Avery, DDS of Memphis. He was specially deserving of the award. The other district nominees were: Gary McCown, DDS, MAGD of Second District, Harold Lane, DDS, MAGD of the First District, W. Greg Moore, DDS of the Seventh District and Jerald Bryant, DDS of the Fourth District. Congratulations to all!

Many other well deserved awards and presentations were given and you can access this information plus more on our website at [www.tnagd.org](http://www.tnagd.org). New TNAGD officers and their contact information is also available.

TNAGD won three first place and one honorable mention in four categories at the national AGD meeting in San Diego, 2011. WOW! You should all be proud. A special thanks to Dr. Roy Thompson for his hours of work on the application.

Current and future legislative issues, like "mid-level providers", were discussed and plans made to protect general dentists by our lobbyist, Mark Greene. Legislative concerns are a critical area of direct impact to ALL Tennessee dentists, particularly general dentists and their patients.

Our STAR visit (Strategic and Tactical Assessment and Review) will be held March 30, 2012 in Nashville. This meeting will enable the TNAGD executive and committee members to plan how best to serve the TNAGD over the next five years. National AGD officers will lead this workshop. Get involved and be there!

The National AGD meeting will again be held in Nashville in 2013 and we are the hosts. We will need course managers and much more help before and during this exciting event. Please plan to volunteer. This will be a great opportunity for our members to both be involved and have access to world class continuing education courses.

TNAGD also has a great Master Track program which meets twice a year in Nashville. A hands-on course with homework and 42 hours of CE are available on subjects you can use in the office on Monday. See the web site for more details and registration information. There will also be a "live demonstration" implant course at UTMC in Knoxville on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Rose Lasorsa at 865-305-9191 to register.

TNAGD AnMeet 2012 will be held at the Franklin Marriott in August 2012 and will include another great speaker plus courses for staff members, good food and great company. Great stuff! Much more to follow, so be sure to stay tuned.

**EDITOR'S COMMENTS**

GARY M. MCCOWN, DDS, MAGD

Bill Hass, Jason Day, Adam Scott, Luke Donald, Matt Kuchar, Bubba Watson. No, these are not new members of the TNAGD. They are some of the "young guns" of the PGA Golf Tour. They are all age 33 or younger!

Some more familiar names: Phil Michelson, Steve Stricker and Vjay Sing are all over 40.

What does this have to do with TNAGD? I think we need some more young guns to sustain TNAGD into the future. Some (but not all) of us on the Executive Council are on the "Senior Tour". Not that we don't have our young rising stars. We do. But too few. We all spent a lot of time on the "Nationwide Tour" (College and Dental School) before we got to join the ranks of the pros.

I know. I have been on this soapbox ever since I became the editor of the TNAGD Newsletter but I can't help myself. I think it is important to promote the benefits of being a member of the AGD and more importantly for young dentists to take advantage of what the AGD has to offer. Yes, one can get almost all the CE credits needed to keep a state dental license current without leaving a keyboard but I believe that much is missed by not developing professional relationships and acquiring CE with a group of your peers.

I still personally believe that the years I spent with a group of dentists earning (not getting) my Masters was the most valuable experience I have had in my professional career. I have never felt unprepared for a day at the office since.

If you are a "Senior Tour" dentist, go visit a few young dentists in your community. Take them to lunch. Invite them for a round of golf. Tell them why you value your membership in the Tennessee Academy of General Dentistry.

We just had one of the best Annual Meetings in Franklin that I can remember and we have a lot more adventures coming up in the next two years. Our "Star Visit" will be held on March 30th in Nashville to strategically plan our next five years as a constituency with the help of AGD national officers. I think the last one we had about five years ago helped jump start us to the national prominence we received this year. (We won a national "Constituent of the Year" award for our membership size!)

We will have our usual great Master Track courses in the spring and fall next year, our first Friday in November CE course in Knoxville, plus another Annual Meeting in August where you can get your chemical dependency CE. Join us and meet all your bi-yearly CE requirements (except CPR) plus have a good time.

Best of all, we have less than two years to plan for the AGD Annual Meeting which is coming back to Nashville June 20-30, 2013. (The previous AGD meeting in Nashville still holds the record for the highest attendance at a National AGD meeting!) We plan to break our own record and we will need all the help we can get. And we need you young guns.

I volunteer to teach monthly at the University of Tennessee Medical Center Knoxville, Graduate Program in General Dentistry. All five of our residents this year are now members of the TNAGD. They get 250 hours of credit toward their fellowship in the AGD upon completion of their residency. They listen to what we have to say to promote AGD. They are young and bright. I hope they will become active in the AGD when they move up to the pro tour.

Invite someone who does not belong to AGD to join your foursome and tee it up with us!



Gary M. McCown, DDS,  
MAGD, LLSR  
2923 Alcoa Highway  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37920

865-579-3762 office  
865-577-5277 fax  
jethrobug@aol.com

**Official Publication of the Tennessee  
Academy of General Dentistry**