

the 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

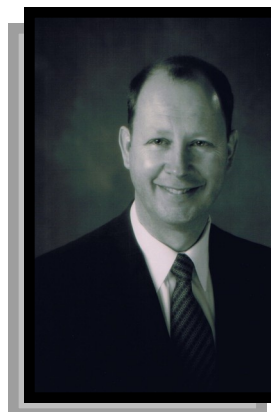
By Roy Thompson

Springtime is upon us and we can come out of our winter hibernation period. Renewed and refreshed, we find ourselves ready for challenges and opportunities as life carries us forward. The TN AGD moves forward likewise. Your Board made several decisions at its recent meeting in Nashville at the Interfaith Dental Clinic. I want to thank Dr. Rhonda Switzer, Director of the clinic, for allowing us to use their facility. Please pay close attention to the article by Steve Thaxton, TN AGD Secretary, summarizing our major actions from that meeting.

The final touches are being applied to ensure a successful fall annual meeting in Franklin. Again in this issue you will see details for that meeting but I am asking you to mark your calendars now for Friday and Saturday, August 19-20, 2011. Several states are looking at our meeting as a model for other AGD constituents and we are expecting several national officers at our meeting. Dr. Mike King, meeting director, is hard at work to make this a productive and valuable venue for our members. The speakers are Dr. Karl Koerner – Oral Surgery and Dr. Howard Farran – Management. Expect to be awed!

I also encourage you to attend the AGD National meeting in San Diego this July 25-30th. A lineup of top quality participation and lecture courses await you. The AGD always is in need of volunteers to act as room coordinators and monitors at this meeting. The 'course managers' get a reduction on course tuition to the course and have access to breakfast and lunch in the speakers hospitality area. You can serve as a course manager on more than one day or one course. Please contact Audra Rothermel, an AGD staff member in Chicago, for forms and information (1-888-243-3368) or e-mail her at audra.rothermel@agd.org. In San Diego please congratulate our latest Fellows (Dr. Jerald Bryant – Cookeville and Dr. Carol Montee – Clarksville) and our Masters (Dr. Debbie Wallace – Dover and Dr. Larry Farris – Springfield) and our latest Lifelong Learning and Service Recipient (Dr. Bob Elam) on each of their accomplishments.

Lastly, please keep in mind that in 2013 AGD national comes to Nashville for our annual meeting. We will be meeting at the Music City Convention Center that is presently under construction in downtown Nashville. It is scheduled for completion in Spring, 2013. The convention center hotel will be the newly constructed Omni Hotel. The local arrangements committee consisting of Anthony Martin, Tony Carroccia, Richard Dycus and myself are open to your ideas on speakers, keynote address ideas and venues for entertainment. Please send your ideas directly to me at wroyt@comcast.net.



Dr. Roy Thompson
TNAGD President

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Legislative Update

Roy Thompson, Legislative Chair

I recently sat down with Mark Greene, the TN AGD lobbyist, and reviewed the activity and outlook of bills relating to dentistry. A recap follows:

Fluoride – a bill that would require municipalities to notify their customers in the event they decide to discontinue fluoridation of the water supply is progressing through committee. This bill was worked last year and we continue to support passage.

Point of Origin – a bill that would require dentists to advise patients of any materials made outside of the United States was introduced last year but was not re-introduced in 2011. This bill is being pushed by an independent dental lab technician claiming that the materials in Chinese fabricated crowns is a danger to human health. No data substantiating this allegation has been produced and the sponsor, without sound scientific data, chose not to introduce the legislation.

Non-Covered Services – this is the dental associations primary legislation in 2011. It targets insurance carriers that attempt to control what the dentist can charge a patient even if the carrier does not cover the service. The example used involves a dentist providing cosmetic services or TMJ services on a patient that has no coverage for these services. In that instance it is the stance of the AGD and TDA that the patient and dentist should be able to enter a contractual agreement on the fees to be charged without the involvement of the insurance carrier. Some insurance carriers attempt to hold the dentist to a cut back fee even though the carrier has no coverage for that service. The AGD supports passage of this legislation that has passed in about 15 other states in the last year.

Hygiene related – a bill that specifies the services a dental hygienist performs and places it into statute has been introduced and passed out of committee. The bill would not adversely affect patient care and has not been opposed by any organization.

Adult Emergency Care – this bill, a hold-over from 2010, was not introduced in 2011. The bill requires that public health dental clinics address adult emergency care and provide minimal emergency care as part of their service. This bill has a large fiscal implication and was not introduced.



Mark Greene
TN AGD Lobbyist

Getting Involved in a Click of the Mouse

CAPWIZ

By Richard Dycus

The AGD national office offers an easy, functional, efficient means to contact your legislators. The system, referred to as CAPWIZ, is an electronic system that embeds your legislator's name and address along with your name and address into a prewritten letter to address a specific legislative matter. The system resides within the AGD website.

Typically, you will receive an e-mail from the AGD requesting you contact your legislator about an issue. A link directly to CAPWIZ is embedded in the e-mail. Follow that link to the AGD website and within one or two clicks of your mouse the customized letter will be e-mailed to your legislator. The system links your address to the correct Congressman or Senator – you really don't have to have any political experience to get involved. CAPWIZ will allow you to customize the letter or add a personal note if you know your legislator more personally.

Remember when a legislator gets one letter from his constituency, it's still just a letter. When he receives 10 letters, it's an issue but when he receives 25 letters on an issue, it becomes a vote! When you get the next request from the AGD, take a minute and find how simple it is to share your opinion and make a difference.



SEXUAL OFFENDER, ELDER ABUSE REGISTRY CHECKS REQUIRED FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

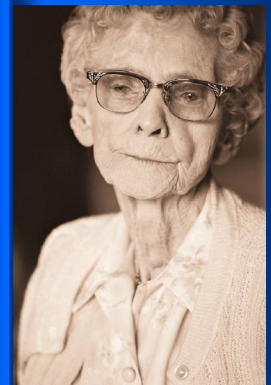
All NEW employees in a dental office, hired after October 1, who provide direct patient care must now undergo a "registry check" as required by recent Tennessee legislation. This includes a state by state look in any state which the individual has lived during the past seven years of the national sex offender public registry website including but not limited to the sexual offender registry maintained by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. A similar check must also be completed of the adult abuse registries maintained for any state in which the employee has lived in for the past seven years provided such registry exists. This includes the Department of Health's elder abuse registry. A person who shows up on one of these registries MAY NOT be employed in a direct patient care capacity.

Conducting such registry checks is relatively easy. Simply go to the Board of Dentistry webpage.

<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/dentistry/>

At the top of the page, under featured links, click on "Background Checks Required for Those Providing Patient Care" where you will find links to various registry sites. This process takes less than five minutes. A note concerning the registry checks should be included in the employee's personnel file.

This legislation applies to all health care provider professional practices and facilities, not just dentistry. As proposed by the Bureau of TennCare, this measure would have originally required a complete (and expensive) criminal background for all, not just new, employees. While the requirements have been dramatically reduced and liability protections added, TNAGD staff is working to with other provider groups to address problem areas by legislation next year.



Annual Meeting August 19 & 20, 2011

[Click here for online registration](#)

[Click here to download brochure](#)

Featuring:

Dr.Karl Koerner

Dr.Howard Farran

14 hours of CE

Team Oriented Courses

Hands on Participation Opportunity

Dental Assistant Nitrous & Radiology Certification

Tennessee Dentist of Year Award & Reception

Franklin Marriott & Cool Springs Conference Center

Franklin Marriott Cool Springs

615-261-6100

Identify yourself as part of the Tennessee Academy of General Dentistry to secure the meeting's group rate.



www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnacs-franklinmarriott-cool-springs/

Karl Koerner, DDS**Friday, August 19, 2011****Oral Surgery for the General Dentist:
Practical, Predictable, and More Efficient.***7 hours of CE - Code 311*

Dr. Koerner presents ideas and recommendations that will simplify oral surgery and broaden the range of surgery procedures performed in your office. Special emphasis is on difficult extractions, multiple extractions, and moderate impactions. Techniques are shared that will expedite the most stubborn extractions. Dr. Koerner will discuss how to prevent and/or treat common complications such as bleeding problems, sinus perforations, infection, paresthesia, and edema. He takes the hype and confusion out of aesthetic bone grafts for extraction sites. One part of his presentation shows surgical problems some dentists have had and how they should have been prevented or treated. In summary, Dr. Koerner clarifies current standards of care for surgery procedures common to general practice. This material definitely helps keep more surgery in-house.

**Howard Farran, DDS, MBA, MAGD****Saturday, August 20, 2011****Virtues of Profitable Dentistry***7 hours of CE - Code 550*

This course will provide the tools needed to help build a great, meaningful, and profitable dental office. Applying these tools provides the ultimate staffing formula to create high energy for performance under stress and still achieve daily goals. In addition, teaching how to control your account receivables with bonuses, how to separate the main business strategies of market differentiation, cost leadership, and target marketing so you can acutely focus your business while turning your patients into raving fans.



Upcoming TN Master Track Course

“The Best Pediatric and Orthodontic Course for Dentists”

April 28-May 1, 2011

Nashville, Tennessee

Presented by

Chris Baker, DMD

[Click here for registration brochure](#)

After practicing as a critical care Registered Nurse for 10 years, Dr. Baker earned her DMD from the University of Kentucky and her certificate in Pediatric Dentistry from the University of Connecticut. She also spent a year fellowship in Orthodontics at U. Conn. and served on the faculty in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics for seven years there. She then joined Dr. Walter Doyle in practice and in teaching seminars in Comprehensive Orthodontic and Craniofacial Orthopedics. Dr. Baker is an Assistant Professor both, in the University of Louisville Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, and at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry, and this year serves as the President of the American Orthodontic Society. Dr. Baker's passion is transforming lives. Teaching and working with doctors throughout the United States and internationally is a mission of love, and an opportunity for connection to, and through, the finest dental professionals in the world.



Coming this fall!!

Endo for the General Practitioner

Dr. Kit Weathers

Sept. 30- Oct 2, 2011

Nashville, TN

Secretary's Report

Steve Thaxton, DDS, MAGD
(A new feature article)

What's happening at TNAGD?

A lot of good things! Fourteen of your TNAGD members, your TNAGD Board of Directors, met in Nashville on February, 26. Following is a bullet list of the most important information for our members.

Last year's annual meeting (AnMeet 2010) was a success and we are going to continue to improve in AnMeet 2011 with nationally and internationally known speakers. TNAGD plans to make every AnMeet "the best CE and dental event of the year." Dr. Carl Misch (Implants) and Dr. Bill Blanchford (Office Management) were the primary speakers last year. Staff courses (Radiology) were also available.

AnMeet 2011 (August 19-20) at Franklin Cool Springs Marriott will feature Dr. Karl Korner (Oral Surgery for the GP) and Dr. Howard Farran (The Virtues of Profitable Dentistry). Dr. Korner will also provide a limited attendance hands on course on Saturday. [Register online at www.tnagd.org](http://www.tnagd.org).

The "Tennessee Dentist of the Year" nominations are in the process of being chosen from our nine districts. The "DOY" is chosen (secret ballot) by the Board of Directors and announced at a "Gala Dinner" with dancing on Friday night.

Our website is current, maintained and improved by Dr. Mike Garrett, DDS, MAGD.

Membership Chairman, Dr. Ron Bell, has been recruiting at most state meetings with a TNAGD booth and developing student members from all the dental schools in Tennessee. Renew you membership now to continue all the benefits of membership in AGD and TNAGD!

A "STAR VISIT" from the National AGD executives has been requested and is scheduled for 2012. This is an awesome "future focus" weekend program designed to help us focus and plan for the next five years. Believe me, TNAGD is already a "model constituency" in our membership category.

We donate money to the "national advocacy fund" (legislative issues that affect general dentists) and we are fortunate to have an excellent, very active legislative committee that keeps abreast of issues to "serve and protect us" in Tennessee. [See the Legislative Report in this newsletter](#).

We are financially strong and getting stronger. Dr. Mike King was our treasurer and is now our Vice President. Dr. Stan Montee is our new treasurer.

We have a goal to produce four online Newsletters per year (One of four printed and mailed to every member prior to our annual meeting.)

Mark Greene is our excellent lobbyist who works hand in hand with the TDA lobbyist in doing a great job of protecting all of us. **So please consider a donation to our PAC (Political Action Fund).**

The AGD national meeting is in San Diego, CA, July 28-31 and we have three delegates: President, Roy Thompson, President-Elect, Leon Stanislav (also the current President of the TDA) and Past President, Richard Dycus.

TNAGD President, Roy Thompson, recently submitted our "Universal Award Application" to the AGD national office. We expect to win several national awards in San Diego, as we have in the past! (Thanks Roy!) This takes a massive amount of work by Roy and all of our Officers, Board members and Committee Chairmen.

Last of all, GET THIS: TNAGD will host the AGD National Meeting in Nashville on June 23-30, 2013. (We had the best ever attendance ever to a national meeting the last time!) We will need lots of help and more "course monitors" for this fantastic event again.



Your TNAGD Board of Directors at Work



Richard Dycus, Legislative Committee, Vice-Chairman



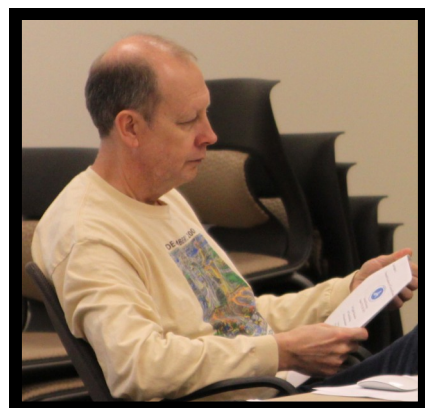
Walter Chitwood and Kathy Hall, at the board meeting



Ron Bell, Membership Chairman

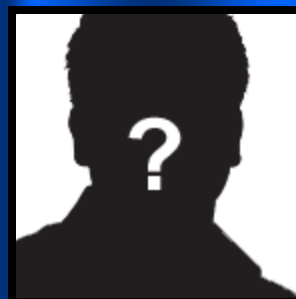


Mike King, Vice-President



Roy Thompson, President

Mike Garrett, Web Master and Leon Stanislav, President-Elect (and current President of the Tennessee Dental Association!)



We would like to see your picture here as a new board member!

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

GARY M. MCCOWN, DDS, MAGD

While driving home from our last board meeting in Nashville, I was thinking about how I first got involved in TNAGD. I joined the AGD in 1975, two years after my graduation from UTMCD mostly because they would keep track of my CE hours for me. Still, I considered my DDS an opportunity for more education.

I started going to TNAGD sponsored courses, learned about Fellowship and Mastership and made a personal commitment to a path of excellence as a general dentist. I did the hours of CE. I drove to Atlanta to take the Fellowship exam and I walked across the convocation stage and received my Fellowship in 1988.

I consider my participation in TNAGD's first Master Track in Nashville with a fantastic group of dentists my very best learning experience ever. It was a confidence inspiring five years! And much different from doing my Fellowship "on my own".

Early in that path, I got to know some of the TNAGD officers. We dentists are a strange bunch but I liked these guys!

That prompted me to just "show up" at a board meeting as an interested, non-voting member. That got me appointed to the board. A year later, I became the Chairman of Continuing Education for five years.

Subsequently, I was shoved up the executive committee ladder: Vice President, President-elect, and President. Now, here I am, the Editor of the TNADG Newsletter. (All that and five bucks will get you a cup of coffee.)

My point is that I was interested enough to just "show up". It has made me a much better, more educated and informed dentist and a better, much more confident servant of my patients.

Here is the punch line: We need new members, you young dentists, to get involved. You are the future of dentistry!

We will have a board meeting during the TDA "Music City Dental Conference" in Nashville.

So, just "show up". You will never regret it.



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Official Publication of the Tennessee
Academy of General Dentistry

**AGD Annual Meeting
San DieGO!
July 26-28 House of Delegates
July 28-31 Annual Meeting and Exhibits**

Call for Course Managers!

If you have never been to a national AGD meeting or you have never been to San Diego, this is your chance.

Receive discounts on registration and CE as a course manager. A course manager is an onsite liaison between the speaker and the AGD staff.

The benefits of being a course manager are:

- ⇒ Lecture credits for the course(s) you manage.
- ⇒ 50% discounts for participation courses.
- ⇒ Complimentary breakfast and lunch with the speaker on the day(s) of the course.
- ⇒ Opportunities to develop relationships with some of today's top speakers.

To Volunteer:

Fax a request for a "volunteer form" to Rich Santana at 312.440.0513. Your assignment must be confirmed before you register for the AGD annual meeting to qualify for discounts. Questions? E-mail the Education department at courses@agd.com.