## Bulletin



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**ASDA** Article

**Welcome New** 

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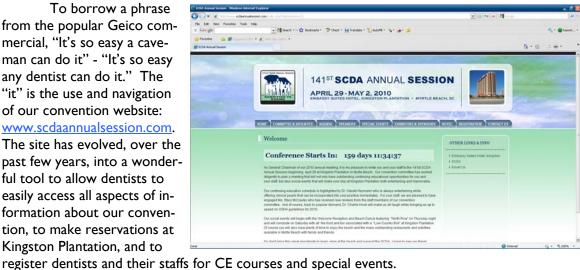
## **2010 Annual Session Website Is Up**

www.scdaannualsession.com is your link to outstanding CE, Kingston Plantation and the President's Low Country Boil.

To borrow a phrase from the popular Geico commercial, "It's so easy a caveman can do it" - "It's so easy any dentist can do it." The "it" is the use and navigation of our convention website: www.scdaannualsession.com.

The site has evolved, over the past few years, into a wonderful tool to allow dentists to easily access all aspects of information about our convention, to make reservations at Kingston Plantation, and to

being effective until March 27.



The website is now on-line and, although some of the information on our website will not be available until January, there is an abundance of information available now. The agenda for the meeting is accessible for your viewing and includes the daily schedule for our speakers and special events. Also available is a list of the current exhibitors and sponsors, some "wonderful" pictures of your president, convention committee and the leaders of affiliate organizations and information about Kingston Plantation and the special convention rates. Although registration for the convention will not be available until mid-January, room reservations at Kingston can be made now with special convention rates

The highlight of our social events this year will be the President's Low Country Boil. It provides a great opportunity to fellowship with friends while enjoying the Low Country fare in a casual atmosphere. So don't miss out on the fun! Make your plans and encourage your colleagues and staff to attend our annual session to be held April 30-May 2, 2010 and visit our website to register and make your reservations.

#### **House of Delegates**

Friday, December 4 • 10 am

Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC

1500 Broad River Road • Columbia SC 29210



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- Coverage cannot be provided on a retroactive basis if the request is made late and is available only to JUA dentists.

## SC GKAS Prepares For 9th Year!

#### By Phil Smith

The South Carolina "Give Kids A Smile" program has been an unequivocal success. SCDA premiered the first GKAS program in 2002. That first year volunteers at a few technical college clinics saw 340 patients. South Carolina dentists and all participants were pleased with the results. It was reported that approximately \$85,000 of donated dental care was delivered. My how the SCDA service programs have grown! In the past eight years the dental community has seen approximately 6536 patients and donated in excess of \$1.375 million.

Aside from the obvious dental project benefits, the GKAS program has contributed to the success of the award winning SC Children's Dental Health Month. GKAS has also served as a training ground of sorts for our first Dental Access Day for adults.

This year, the SCDA GKAS Program will be held on Friday, February 5, 2010. Help is needed for all of the various stations that make the day work! Dentists, assistants, hygienists, office staff and an assortment of general volunteers will be enrolled.

This year the organization will again be headed by Dr. Dana Parker. The state's districts will be more autonomous than in year's past. The program has continued to grow and the demands of the logistics have required GKAS organizers to rely more on the effort from a regional area. Therefore, each district, and possibly communities within the districts, will develop and staff their clinic sites. Larger communities will continue to utilize facility clinics like technical colleges or hospitals, while smaller towns may distribute to individual offices for care. What ever the path, the GKAS destination does not change. The end result is to see as many children with dental needs as possible.

Over the years, a number of dentists have "adopted" children seen in the GKAS program. Although most of the eligible children do not have insurance, some may be underinsured, they usually do not have dental office homes. So it might suit an office to participate by treating a child during regular office hours and donating the service.

All members of the dental team are asked to mark their calendars and participate in the ninth year of "Give Kids A Smile". Take the time, enroll your staff and friends, and give a smile to a child. Watch the e-mail notices or contact SCDA today to volunteer.



## Thanks to our 2009 SCDA DAD project volunteers! Information on our 2010 project will be coming in the new year!



Kellie Ackerman Wilson Ackerman Benjamin Adams Rick Albenesius Renee Alewine Bonnie Alexander Teresita Alston Linda Altman Nicholas Amati Michael Ammons Charles Anderson Chris Andrews Barbara Ankerson Jason Annan Beniamin Areheart Elizabeth Armstrong **Edward Arnette** April Arrowood John Assey Joseph Atcheson Colleen Atkinson Gene Atkinson Andy Avillo Christopher Ayers Carol Baker Liz Baker Ron Banik Heather Barker Mark Barry Sheldon Bates Catherine Beattie Carrie Beatty Erin Beavers Giovanna Becker Michelle Bedell Nancy Beebe Robert Beebe Heather Behringer Lois Bell Karan Bellacicco Don Bellebaum Amine Bellil William Biggins Jaime Bishop Dana Blalock Teri Blanton **Todd Blevins** Adam Blumer Brooke Bode David Bodie Joseph Bonavilla Trina Borden Daren Elise Botero Diane Bouknight **Christopher Bowers** Anita Bracebridge Anne-Main Bradsher William Bragdon Danielle Branham Faye Brown

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Keith Lethco

Craig Little

Michele Litchfield

Bryan Patterson

Phil Smith

Janet Lorin Kathleen Luhdorff Mary Machowski Sarah Machowski Walter Machowski leannie Mackay Amanda Magyar William Malone Carolyn Mann Maria Marchant lames Marshall William Marshall Dennis Martin Katie Martin Mary Martin Crystal Masincupp Franklin Mason Carl Massey Joshua Massey Tracy Matthews Leslie Mattingly Jessica Mattison Charles Maxwell Justin McAbee James McClary Zelda McClintock Tim McConnell Lisa McCutcheon Perdetha McNeil Christy Meador Michelle Medlin lim Mercer Michael Metz Michael Miller Charles Miyaji Meagan Moore Lesha Morrison David Moss Marilyn Mullen Edward Murphy Peter Murphy Kathy Murrow Rocky Napier Amy Natoli Lester Neilson Wade Nichols Matthew Nimmich Michael Nimmich Caroline Norment Scott Oberg Jon Ohnezeit David Olson Catriona Oltmann Trevor O'Neil Kris O'Neill Marianne Orr **Emerson Overstreet** Meredith Papadea Nick Papadea Karen Paris Dana Parker Ed Parker Devon Parks Stephen Parks Jennifer Paschall Lori Paschall Robyn Paschall Shivani Patel

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**Website Development** - Identity Station is offering a discounted rate to all SCDA members for professionally designed custom websites. If you already have a website, they can help you market your practice by getting you listed among top ranking results on Google, MSN, Yahoo, etc.

<u>Credit Card Processing</u> – Through our member program, SCDA practices receive a protected low rate and payment options such as electronic checks and pin-based debit to assist in reducing fees.

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discounted for SCDA members) is the only expenditure for this comprehensive medical evacuation protection. **Patient Financing** - SCDA members can enroll for only \$20 with no monthly minimum use fee. Up to 350,000 patients per month visit CareCredit's online Doctor Locator, looking for a practice in their community offering the program. New 24-month No Interest plan.

<u>Precious Scrap Metal Refining</u> – Receive 90-97% of the value of your scrap metal plus an additional 5% bonus on the value of the entire shipment for SCDA members

Personal and Business Credit Cards - Just by making purchases with your South Carolina Dental Association Platinum Plus MasterCard credit card with WorldPoints rewards, you receive reward points you can use for travel (with no blackout dates), brand-name merchandise, gift cards from major retailers, and unlimited cash rewards.

Practice Loans and Financing - Offers financial products and services to the dental community. Products include financing for practice sales and acquisitions, new practice start-ups, commercial real estate, expansions, equipment, debt consolidation, and working capital. As an added benefit, South Carolina Dental Association members receive a 50% reduction in administrative fees.

"We on the SCDA Member Benefits Board are consistently reviewing the benefits we offer and the companies we work with to ensure that the highest quality and service are being presented to SCDA members. After all, the benefits that this group offers are the same products and services we ourselves use as fellow member dentists." Ed Parker, SCDA Member Benefits Group Chair













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## **Editorial Comments**

Comments appearing in this section are the renderings of the Editor or credited authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the SCDA. Letters are invited. Brevity is appreciated, and the Editor reserves the right to edit all communications. Letters may be emailed: <a href="mailto:philes48@aol.com">philes48@aol.com</a>, mailed to the SCDA office, or faxed to (803)359-3004.

Dr. Phil Smith, Editor

## Master Calendar

- Dec. 4 SCDA Board Meeting—Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC, 8 am
- Dec. 4 House of Delegates—Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC, 10 am
- Dec. 4 DenPAC Board Meeting— Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC, 12 pm
- Dec. 10- Hygiene Local Infiltration Anesthesia Course—MUSC
- Dec. 18 Children's Dental Health Month Meeting—EdVenture Children's Museum, 1-3 pm
- Dec. 24- SCDA Office Closed for Christ-28 mas
- Dec. 31- SCDA Office Closed for New Jan. I Years

Please visit <u>www.scda.org</u> for more events.

#### **History Repeats Itself?**

In the early 1970s there was a distress call made to the community of medical and dental schools. The government, in its wisdom, determined that there was a pending severe shortage of professionals. And so to resolve this crisis, programs and subsidies were initiated that were designed to increase the professional population.

At MUSC in 1972, dental students in the four year curriculum were surprised to learn that the following classes would be graduated in three years. However, in response to the change, dental students who had completed the first two years of study were allowed to petition the faculty to "fast track" their clinical requirements and benefit from an earlier graduation. Thus there were two graduating classes in 1973.

At the end of the day, the College received a flush of financial contributions, there was an extra increase in physicians and dentists entering the state, and the program was reversed in two years time. The predicted shortfall never actually amounted to a crisis. The four year curriculum was re-instated.

Fast forward to 2010. A new health initiative is expressing a full court press on the public. Professional students have seen their educational aid dwindle to under 6% of tuition due to loss of state funds from declining resources. And there is expected to be a shortfall of caregivers to support all of the new patients enrolled into the system as a result of the expanded insurance program. Sound familiar?

I expect the simple solution is to pump out more professionals or to develop other types of support personnel. And so as in the 1970's the common opinion is to increase the roll of care providers to assure that all of the public needs are met. Increased insurance coverage does equate to increased utilization, right? Not necessarily. Nor is the care better or more efficient. I won't even suspect that it is less costly. Just because an office is forced to charge lower fees to attract patients does not mean that there are "savings" in the system. Providers still pay the same in overhead, and more providers will simply share the burden of patient traffic, and likely fewer medical or dental offices will be available. Watch out for "Access to Care".

The Connecticut State Dental Association HOD recently passed support of a bill establishing an expanded tier of dental care providers, Dental Health Aide Therapist. In the resolution presented the CSDA stated, "Currently it is estimated that Connecticut has 600,000 to 800,000 residents in need of dental treatment and are without the ability to pay for services at usual and customary fees. With less than 3000 general dentists in Connecticut that would mean a minimum of 200+ additional non-paying or reduced fee patients per general practice dentist. Private practitioners are not seeing these patients." I would also state that at least half of these patients would not seek care. There is also no mention of other dentists participating. It would be unlikely that these individuals would not fall into Medicaid rolls and still have access to care.

I am not sure what to suggest to my readers, but the idea that "less is more" or that "common wisdom" is accurate when it comes to patient dynamics in my opinion is flawed. In a free care military system, still only 50% routinely seek care. In a work force model where dental techs provide a lot of the collateral care, the overhead is the same. In a world where more dentists or physicians than needed are treating patients, it might be no surprise that more care is done... possibly unnecessary care. Is it an appropriate comparison to the overabundance of attorneys, paralegals, internet contract services or self help legal books? Regretfully, the public is not guaranteed to receive better legal advice nor have greater access to counsel. And usually the attorneys that have all of the advertisements are not the representatives of the profession.

So my challenge is to my professional colleagues. Do the best for our patients and preserve integrity and control for the profession. Improve our accessibility, and assure that all patients have quality care. Protect patient rights and health and resist the pressure to expand productivity in exchange for autonomy. Be consistent with care. Mentor our new colleagues so they may have professional role models for quality practice success. Support organized dentistry by contribution and involvement.

## **President's Message**





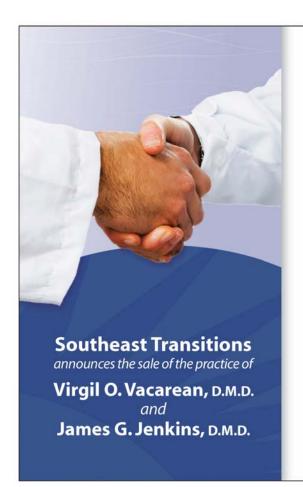
Dr. Charlie Maxwell President

"... take a step to get involved either at your district or at the state level in our association." Isaac D'Israeli wrote in 1834 ... "it is a wretched taste to be gratified with mediocrity when the excellent lies before us." This reminds me of the Native American fable of a young brave who discovered an eagle's egg that had fallen out of its nest. He looked up and saw the nest was too high for him to return the egg, so he hid it in the nest of a prairie chicken. When the egg hatched, the little eagle thought he was a prairie chicken. He lived like a prairie chicken, scratching for grubs and worms. His flying consisted of short bursts with a flurry of feathers and a thrashing of wings – just a few feet off the ground. One day, a few years later, the eagle looked up and saw a magnificent sight: an eagle soaring effortlessly in the heavens, taking full advantage of the wind currents. "That is so beautiful," the eagle said to a prairie chicken friend. "What is it?" "Why, that's an eagle," said the knowing friend, "the chief of birds; but forget about it because you could never be like that." So the eagle never gave it another thought and died thinking he was a prairie chicken.

So, I ask you to consider the questions I ask myself: Am I settling for less in life than I should? Am I truly an eagle with potential to soar, or a lowly prairie chicken destined to scratch for worms and grubs? How about our association and us as professionals? How do our patients perceive us? Are we as professionals continuing to sharpen our skills and continue our educations? Or, are we stuck in the rut of doing things the way we always have? It seems to me that no matter how far we have come there is always room for improvement. I think the greatest waste of our natural resources is the number of people who never achieve their potential. Too many people think they can't – and sure enough they won't. If you think you can, there's a good chance you will. Even making the effort to press on will empower you, making you feel better for the effort. My problem now is age. As we get a little older and our energy level is not what it used to be, we often adopt the attitude of "doing just enough to get by." We settle for less than our best and convince ourselves that authenticity, quality, sincerity, and giving our best are somewhat negotiable. We lower our once lofty goals and settle for what once would have been unthinkable.

So, how do we change? How can we soar? Breaking from mediocrity will not happen if we try to ease away from it with the speed of a slug. We must make a conscious decision for change to occur. We must take some decisive action that moves in a new direction. It may be as simple as taking a new CE course to learn a new procedure. Attend a district meeting and renew some friendships. Make a decision now to attend the SCDA Annual Session next May in Myrtle Beach. Or, take a step to get involved either at your district or at the state level in our association. Our association is only as good as its members. The leaders must have a vision to lead, but they need the membership to follow. Let's not allow mediocrity to be our cadence any longer. Let's all get involved, make a contribution, and see our association grow. We have a rich history and tradition. Let's all renew our commitment to the goals of our profession and this association to serve our patients with compassion and skill. We will renew some friendships with our fellow practitioners in the process. Let's press on towards the high calling of this profession and enjoy the journey along the way! Remember, life is a journey, not a destination.

'Til next time, Charlie



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### **Tech Talk**

By Christy J. Meador

#### **Membership Dues**

2010 dues are coming in steady. Just as a reminder...First deadline is **January 1, 2010**. Deadline to avoid a **20% Penalty** (SCDA portion) **is February 15, 2010**. Membership will lapse on **March 15, 2010**. If you have not received your 2010 invoice, please contact me so that I can see what we have on file. 800-327-2598 or <a href="mailto:meadorc@scda.org">meadorc@scda.org</a>

#### **ADA Membership Cards**

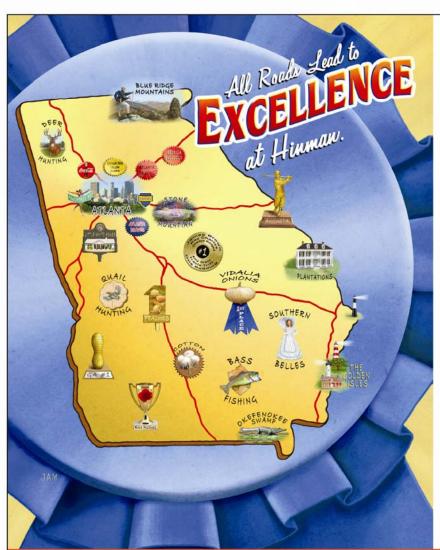
The ADA membership cards will be mailed out in January for those who have already paid their 2010 dues. Then a  $2^{nd}$  batch will follow in February and so on.

#### **SCDA** Website

We want your Christmas pictures, meetings, dinners, etc. This will be placed on our Photo Gallery of the SCDA website. Also, please notify us of any meetings you are having, they will be placed on the Calendar of Events tab of our website.

Remember, this is **your** web site. Please feel free to send me articles, photos, announcements, any other information for our website. Check out the **photo** gallery!





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Register between December 1, 2009 & February 25, 2010 to take advantage of discounted pre-registration fees.

For more information or to register online, visit www.hinman.org or call 404-231-1663.

Lectures and Technical Exhibits are open Thursday through Saturday.

### FEATURED CLINICIANS

Dr. Charles Blair Finances/Insurance

Dr. John O. Burgess Dental Materials

Dr. Joe H. Camp Endodontics

Dr. Gerard J. Chiche Esthetics

**Dr. Gordon J. Christensen** Prosthodontics/New Trends

Mr. Bruce Christopher Motivation/Communication

Dr. Gary M. DeWood TMJ/Occlusion

Dr. Terry E. Donovan Worn Dentition Dr. Robert R. Edwab Oral Surgery

Dr. Lawrence F. Emmott Technology

**Dr. Jimmy B. Eubank** Esthetics/Crown & Bridge

**Dr. Gregory J. Folse** Complete Dentures

**Dr. Gerard Kugel**Porcelain Veneers & Restorative

Dr. Preston D. Miller, Jr. Periodontics

Dr. Carl E. Misch Implants

Dr. Linda C. Niessen Women's Issues/Geriatrics Dr. George Priest Implants

**Dr. Gregory L. Psaltis** Pediatric Dentistry

**Dr. David W. Pumphrey** Implants/Esthetics

**Dr. John A. Svirsky** Oral Pathology

**Dr. Dwight R. Weathers**Oral Pathology/Oral Medicine

Dr. Olya Zahrebelny Insurance Coding



THOMAS P. HINMAN DENTAL MEETING

### **Executive Director's Notes**



Mr. Phil Latham Executive Director

"Effective February 15, 2010, SCDHHS will only distribute remittance advices... electronically..."

#### Happenings at the SCDA

By now you have received your 2010 SCDA membership dues statements. The statement reflects the normal mandatory and several voluntary dues items. The SCDA will accept either a check or credit card for payment of dues. Also enclosed with your dues statement was a membership update sheet with contact information both SCDA and the ADA have on file. Please take the time to review this closely and if there have been changes, correct and send it back to us along with your dues payment. Having the correct contact information on file is essential to keep the membership informed.

Also by now, you should have received the SCDA Awards Brochure with the upcoming House of Delegates Agenda. Each year at the SCDA Annual Session the SCDA recognizes those nominated and voted upon to receive awards. The deadline for nominations is January 22, 2010. If you cannot find your copy just log onto <a href="www.scda.org">www.scda.org</a> and access the form.

The SCDA December House of Delegates is a very important meeting as updates are provided on the previous year's activities and plans are made for the new year. Please reserve December 4, 2009 and make plans to attend. Additional information and reports are posted at <a href="https://www.scda.org">www.scda.org</a>

Your SCDA continues to stay involved with Medicaid and as mentioned in the last Bulletin, additional changes will be coming when Doral takes over in April 2010. One very important change will begin February 15, 2010. The Department of Health and Human Services, who governs the Medicaid Dental Program, currently mails paper remittance packages to providers weekly.

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 15, 2010, SCDHHS WILL ONLY DISTRIBUTE REMITTANCE ADVICES AND ASSOCIATED ECFS ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE WEB TOOL. Providers are urged to use this new feature now so that any potential issues can be resolved prior to February 15, 2010.

Providers can elect to have their paper remittance advice discontinued prior to February 15, 2010 by calling 1-888-289-0709. Distributing remittance advices and associated ECFs through the Web Tool is a more cost-effective and secure manner for providers to receive this information. Also, providers will be able to access this information earlier. Paper remittance packages are mailed on Friday, which means that they are not available to providers until days later. Electronic remittance packages will be available no later than Friday.

Providers that currently use the Web Tool are able to access this new feature as of November 15, 2009. Providers that already have a Trading Partner Agreement (TPA) on file but are not current users of the Web Tool can contact the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Support Center at I-888-289-0709 to register for a Web Tool User ID.

All other users that do not have a TPA on file must complete and return the SC Medicaid TPA Enrollment Form to: SC Medicaid TPA, P.O. Box 17, Columbia, S.C. 29202.

The TPA outlines the requirement for electronic transfer of Protected Health Information (PHI) between SCDHHS and the provider. It can be accessed <a href="here">here</a> or by calling I-888-289-0709. Providers that are not sure if they have a TPA on file or have questions regarding the agreement, can contact the EDI Support Center at I-888-289-0709.

#### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

The SCDA staff wishes each of you and your families a wonderful holiday season. The SCDA office will be closed Thursday, December 24 through Monday, December 28 for Christmas and will be closed again Thursday, December 31 and Friday, December 1 for New Years. We will return on Monday, January 4 looking forward to serving you in 2010.

## SCDA Member Benefits Group By Mark K. Brown

#### **Out-of Network Providers Update**

As reported in my November e-gram, The Carolinas Healthcare System Physician Groups has decided to cancel its agreement with BlueCross/BlueShield of South Carolina (BCBSSC) effective November 22, 2009. The termination of this agreement translates to the following practices becoming out-of-network providers on and after November 22:

- <u>7 Practices in York County</u> Medical Associates of Fort Mill, Medical Associates of Rock Hill, Palmetto Pediatrics, Piedmont Gynecological and Obstetrical, Rock Hill Pediatric Associates, The Sanger Clinic and Shiland Family Medicine.
- I Practice in Lancaster County Barnett Family Practice
- I Practice in Chesterfield County Pageland Family Practice

Keep in mind that should you choose to receive services at these practices come November 22, you will incur larger out-of-pocket costs.

Members may be able to eligible to receive in-network benefits if they are already receiving treatment for an acute phase of a chronic condition that requires continuing care, but they would need to verify this first with BCBSSC by calling the number on the back of their ID card.

#### **Open Enrollment**

On another topic open enrollment time is upon us, so be sure to get any and all changes to your medical plan into the SCDA office by January 1, 2010. If you do not want to make any changes to your plan for the 2010 year, you need not complete any paperwork.

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### **Nomination Guidelines**

Please take time to carefully consider individuals who you feel are worthy of these awards. You may use this form to nominate a candidate for an award. Your nomination must be returned by January 22, 2010 to the SCDA office:

120 Stonemark Lane, Columbia SC 29210 or fax to 803-750-1644.

Upon review of the forms, the Board of Governors will make the final selections.



#### **Awards Program**

#### GEORGE P. HOFFMANN, JR., DISTINGUISHED DENTIST AWARD

This award is the premier and most prestigious award presented by the South Carolina Dental Association. It is to honor a member or former member for years of outstanding service to the SCDA, the dental profession, and the community. Nominees must have practiced dentistry in South Carolina for a minimum of ten years.

#### MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has demonstrated in recent years significant achievement in dentistry in the areas of professionalism, leadership, academics, research, or health care delivery.

#### JAMES B. EDWARDS CITIZENSHIP AWARD

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has served the citizens of South Carolina in a manner that reflects a positive image of dentistry. Areas of achievement include humanitarian and religious activities, civic affairs, community service, or cultural contributions.

#### NEW DENTIST AWARD

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has been in practice ten years or less or who is under forty years of age. The nominee must have demonstrated leadership qualities through service to dentistry.

#### DENTAL TEAM MEMBER AWARD

The nominee must be an assistant, hygienist, a front desk staff person, or a laboratory technician who is a dental team member in a private office. The nominee must be from an office of a South Carolina Dental Association member and the nomination must be made by a South Carolina Dental Association member. The criteria for evaluation include:

- The nominee demonstrates that he/she holds the profession of dentistry in the highest regard.
- The nominee has five or more years of experience in the dental field.
- The nominee promotes the interest and betterment of the profession through the team concept of dentistry.
- The nominee participates in community activities that bring credit to the dental profession.
- The nominee demonstrates enthusiasm for his/her work and creates innovative ideas about patient relations and managerial modifications that improve the delivery of patient care.

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

The nominee may be any individual who deserves recognition for special achievement or an extraordinary deed related or unrelated to dentistry. This award provides for special circumstances that do not conform to the other awards.



Category of Award

Name of No	ominee
His/Her Add	dress
qualification	ch typewritten sheets giving resume of nominee's ons for this award and include a brief statement of erson deserves to be considered for this award.
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### MUSC ASDA ESTABLISHES ETHICS CLUB

#### By Evan Smith

Wow....what a year it has been at the College of Dental Medicine: we welcomed 60 freshman dental students (the largest class yet), students participated in the DAD project, and most importantly opened a wonderful new clinical facility in honor of Dr. James B. Edwards. These are just a few of the very public and well know advances that have occurred at MUSC, but a lot has been going on behind the scenes as well. One of the main goals of this 2009-2010 school year has been to improve the ASDA chapter at MUSC. These advancements include making our ASDA chapter more of a central support structure for the students. This support structure comes in many forms but mostly brings a voice for the students to the faculty and allows for improving the student's exposure to aspects of dentistry of



dents to the faculty and allows for improving the student's exposure to aspects of dentistry not given to them in the classroom setting.

About a year ago, students at MUSC set out to start a student operated ethics and professionalism organization that would allow the students to be exposed to and discuss ethical dilemmas in an open unbiased forum. In the planning stages of this organization, we became aware of a similar club founded at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. Upon contacting this organization, it became apparent that we shared similar ideals and goals for student ethics. MUSC decided to become a local chapter of the Student Professionalism and Ethics Club (SPEC), thus allowing MUSC to take part in a national organization of students promoting ethics and professionalism.

I would like to take a moment to discuss the history of the SPEC program. SPEC was originally founded on March 26, 2007 at the University of Southern California School Of Dentistry. The goal of those founding members was to become more proactive in promoting dental ethics and professionalism at USC, as well as on a national level. The organization has been recognized and has gained support from the American College of Dentists, American Society of Dental Ethics and the ADA. National ASDA recently passed a resolution encouraging the establishment of organizations promoting ethics at all dental schools (organizations like SPEC). Currently, SPEC programs are present at about five dental schools nationwide and MUSC and UNC School of Dentistry make up two of the five

The mission statement of SPEC at MUSC is: "To promote lifelong thought and action in the arena of dental ethics by utilizing various activities and programs to foster an environment where ethical and professional behavior issues can be discussed in an open and unbiased forum." I believe that the most effective way to promote ethical and professional behavior is to have the students teach it to each other. I feel it is vital though to have a "Mentorship" program that would involve faculty of MUSC, practicing dentists and members of ACD and SCDA taking part in being a source of knowledge and guidance to the students.

The first meeting of SPEC was held at the end of this past October. It was estimated that about 80 of our 200 students were in attendance!!! At the first meeting, students had the opportunity to learn about SPEC and provide insight to topics they would like to see addressed in future meetings. The success of this organization will depend on students providing constant input on future topics. There is already a list of future topics to address or have guest speakers present.

I want to reiterate a fact about SPEC that I feel is very important....it is STUDENT FOUNDED and OPER-ATED. The fact that students want to pursue and learn more about this important topic in dentistry speaks volumes about the caliber of students present at MUSC College of Dental Medicine. We, at MUSC, are very fortunate to be able to become a local chapter of this national organization, thus allowing our chapter to become part of the for-front of the movement to spread ethics and professionalism to dental students all over the nation. MUSC students are very excited and eager to see where SPEC goes from here.

#### **SCDA Mission Statement**

The South Carolina Dental Association is an association of dentists organized to provide optimal oral health to all citizens in the State of South Carolina through the promotion and the improvement of the art and science of dentistry.

#### Rainbow over the new James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine at MUSC. Photos by Aleksey Zelenko, a freshman dental student.

## **Are You Retiring?**

### **Please Notify the SCDA!**

Call the SCDA office and ask for a retired affidavit so that you can continue to receive all the member benefits you've come to enjoy and expect, but at a quarter of the cost! You can also request a free copy of "Closing a Dental Practice" or click here to go to the SCDA's website to download a copy. Contact Christy Meador at 800-327-2598 or by emailing her at meadorc@scda.org.



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If you or someone you know needs help, contact the SCDA's Dental Assistance and Advocacy Committee: 800.327.2598

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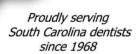


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### SCDA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The South Carolina Dental Association would like to recognize our new members. Twenty-six (26) dentists joined during the fall district meetings this year.

We're excited you've decided to be a part of organized dentistry. We invite you to take full advantage of the benefits that are offered.

#### **Central District**

Sylvester Adu Boahene Brantley W. Cope Logan B. Ebersold Sean T. Murdock Brian "Eddie" Rodgers Anna C. Stephens-Papps Meghan C. Wisikoski

#### **Coastal District**

Isabel G. Driggers Wendy S. Haefner Trevor N. O'Neil

#### **Pee Dee District**

Gabrielle F. Cannick Ashley Covington (transfer from Coastal) Elizabeth A. Uhrich "Thad" Houck Vincent Jr.

#### **Piedmont District**

S. Michael Bozard Katie H. Bridges Roy R. Bryant, Jr. Richard A. Constantine Robert M. Fowler Michael E. Henderson Natalie J. Horton Scott C. Oberg Matthew A. Pray Virginia "June" Price Mary F. Ross William Swinderman

## Happy Holidays

from the SCDA Staff

Dearra

The SCDA office will be closed Thursday, December 24—Monday, December 28 And Thursday, December 31—Friday, January 1

## **Cutting Through The Red Tape: Infection Control & OSHA Update**

January 15, 2010 • 8:30 am-12:30 pm 4 CEUs

Midlands Technical College • Academic Center Auditorium

Speaker: Dr. John Molinari, Director of Infection Control, The Dental Advisor

#### This course includes:

- Infection control recommendations vs. OSHA regulations
- OSHA bloodborne pathogens standard
- Components of standard
- Bloodborne pathogens update
- Pos-exposure management protocols
- Hand hygiene
- Handwashing & Alcohol-based hand sanitizers
- Infection control techniques
- Personal protective equipment
- Instrument sterilization & reprocessing
- Environment surface asepsis
- Disposable covers
- Surface disinfectants—sprays vs. wipes
- Dental waterline asepsis

#### Dr. John Molinari

Dr. Molinari received a B.A. in Biology from St. Vincent College and a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. He is currently Director of Infection Control for THE DENTAL ADVISOR in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Previously, he was a full-time faculty member at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry for 32 years, where he served as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biomedical Sciences. He has published over 300 scientific articles, text chapters, and abstracts in the areas of microbiology and immunology, and lectures nationally and internationally on topics dealing with infectious diseases and infection control.

Fees:	Before 1/3/10	After 1/3/10
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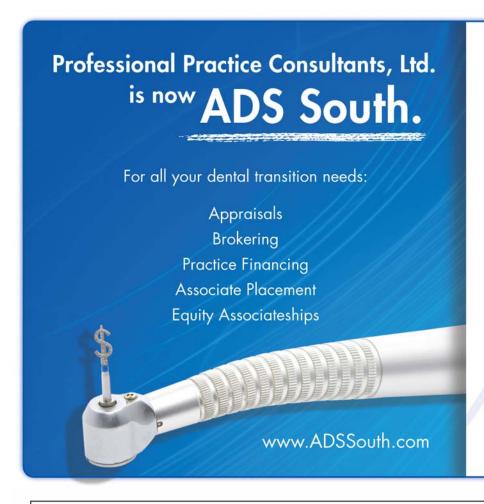
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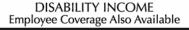


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COLUMBIA: Well established practice located in a great area for over 30 years. On track to collect \$1.5M in 2009. The facility has 12 operatories. This would be an excellent opportunity for a purchaser to move his or her practice into a larger facility. For more information please call 678-482-7305 or email robin @ southeasttransitions.com.

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Experienced expanded duty dental assistant. Must have excellent computer skills; put patient care FIRST; be a TEAM player. FLEXIBILITY is a must as well as the willingness to make changes. State of the art facility in North Myrtle Beach. Send your resume to 2188 Eastwoods Drive, Conway SC 29526. All resumes held with complete confidentiality.

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- Job Bank ads can be kept confidential if so desired. If you are interested in receiving information from or submitting information to the Job Bank, please call the SCDA office.
- If you have registered with us previously and have found work or filled your position, please let us know so that we can take your name out of our files.
- Contact: SCDA Bulletin, ATTN: Communications Coordinator, 120 Stonemark Lane, Columbia, SC 29210; call 800-327-2598; fax 803-750-1644; email <a href="mailto:haworthi@scda.org">haworthi@scda.org</a>

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Dental Assistant/Front Desk in Greenville. Energetic, self-starter looking to join our growing family practice in our brand new facility. We are willing to pay for your experience. Position involves both front desk and chairside assisting duties. Please email cover letter and resume to <a href="mailto:brage-don@charter.net">brage-don@charter.net</a> for a confidential interview.

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Dentist available statewide for short-term fill in work. Contact: <a href="mailto:johnmcgeary@hotmail.com">johnmcgeary@hotmail.com</a> or 803-240-1452.

General Dentist available statewide for locum tenens (short term fill-in work). 37+ years private practice, MUSC graduate, former member MUSC Board of Visitors. Call 843-729-8129.

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Conscientious, general dentist available on a short-term, as-needed basis. I am a 1990 MUSC graduate, Furman alumnus, and native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, who enjoys treating children and adults. Please contact Randy Johnson at 864-764-2951 or rjofsc@nctv.com.

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