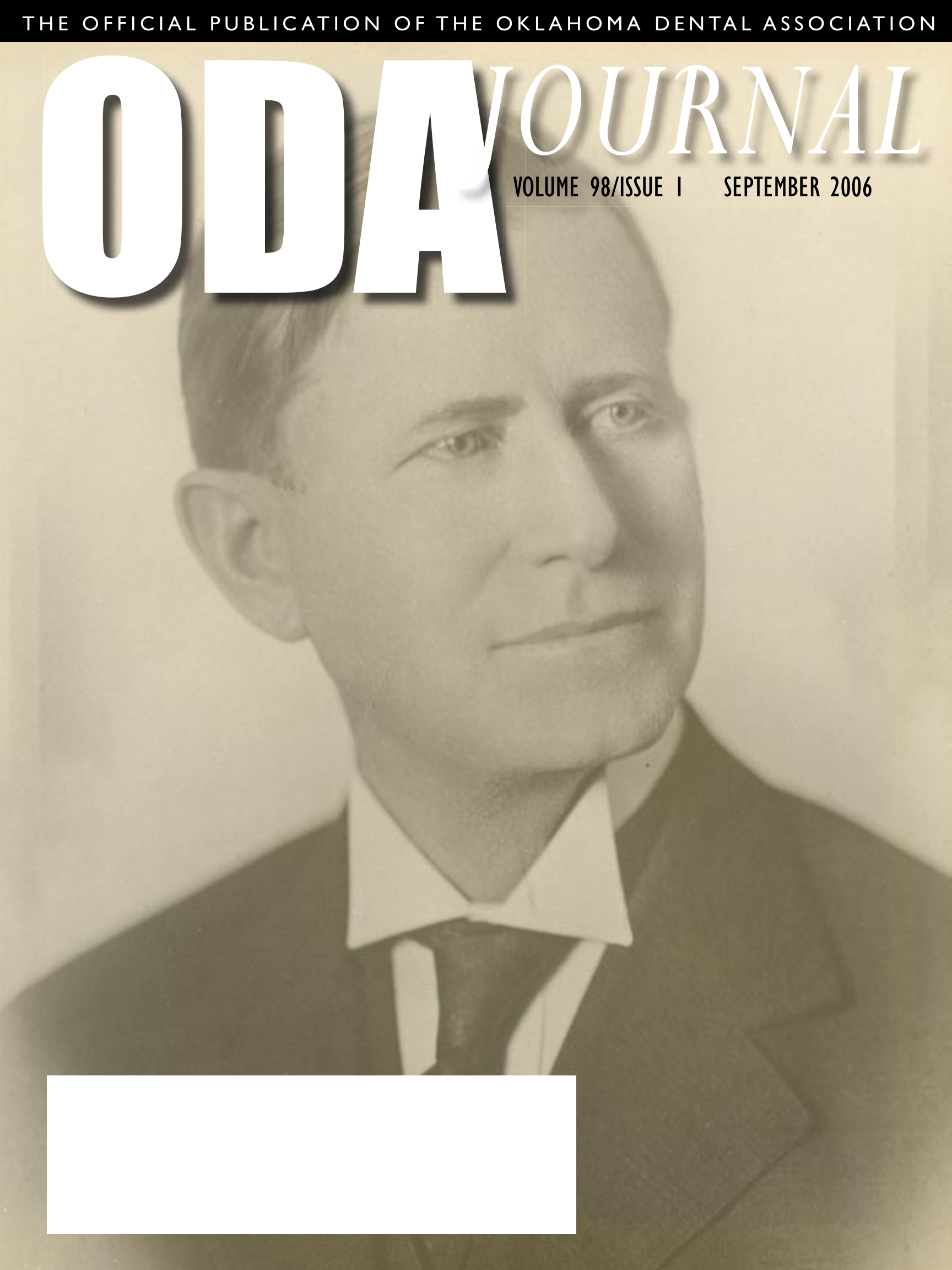


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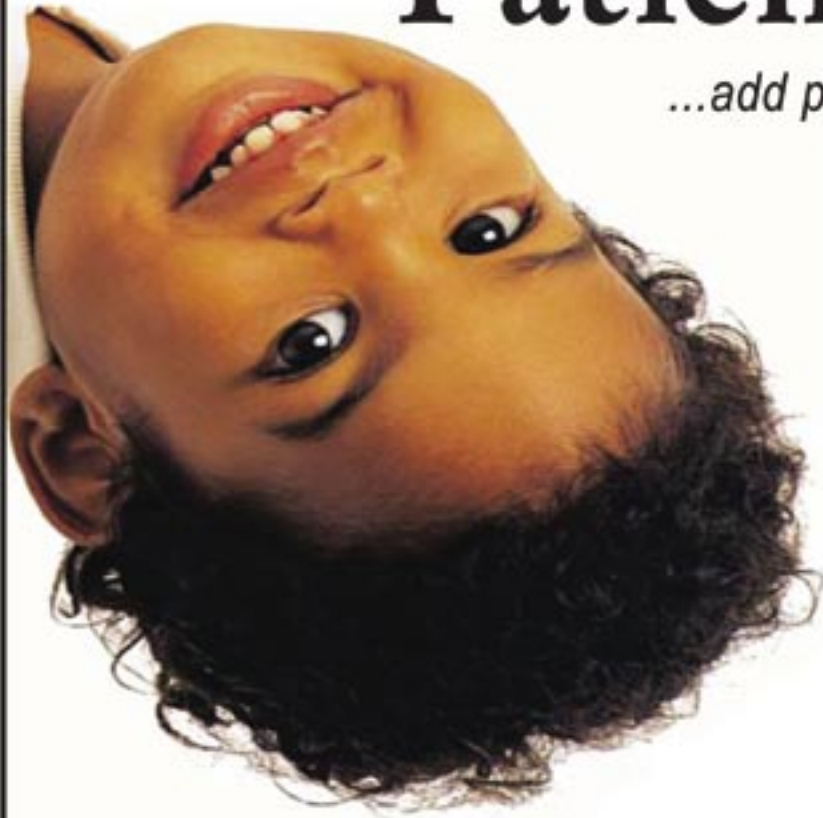
ODAJOURNAL

VOLUME 98/ISSUE 1 SEPTEMBER 2006



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1.5 Million Oklahomans have no access to employer-sponsored benefits!

At Delta Dental of Oklahoma, we're working to stem this trend with **Patient Direct™** - our recently introduced discount referral program designed specifically for individuals and families.

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Patient Direct™ from Delta Dental of Oklahoma. *It's a whole new way to look at dental!*

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INSIDE

SNAPSHOTS

pg. 9 Patient's Page:

This is an informational page designed to provide oral health information to your patients. Please feel free to photo copy this page and disseminate to your patients as you see fit. You will find a Patient's Page in each issue of your ODA Journal. We hope you find it useful. If you have ideas for future Patient's Pages, please email us at advertising@okda.org. - Your Editorial Board.

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Dr. Albert Bonnell Sr.,
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ADPAC MESSAGE

James S. Torchia, DDS

Report from the 12th District ADPAC Representative

The ADPAC summer meeting was held in Baltimore, MD. Highlights of major actions taken are as follows:

- Staff will prepare and distribute an informative dues stuffer explaining the difference between hard and soft dollar contributions to ADPAC. This would be a voluntary measure by the states to include this material in their annual dues mailings.
- Develop a campaign/leadership training school that would prepare member dentists running for local/national public offices. \$25,000-\$40,000 in soft dollars would be allocated for this project, with a progress report presented at the April 2007 meeting. Candidates for the training school will be selected by their constituent societies.
- Allocate up to \$80,000 in soft dollars to implement a grassroots training workshop. This amount would cover operating fees and other associated costs. States that have participated in the Partnership For Growth program would have first preference.
- Present three membership awards for: highest percentage of ADPAC members vs. ADA members; average dollars per member; and the most hard and/or soft dollars. The awards would be presented to the winning constituent society consisting of a plaque and a \$500 Visa gift card.
- A memorabilia auction conducted at the 2007 Washington Leadership Conference. It will be conducted by the American College of Dentists for one year to determine the effectiveness of the event. Dr. Triftshauer will be subcommittee chairman to discuss the types of gifts for auction.
- Fund the AADA breakfast/brunch during the Annual Session, as well as dental kits for distribution to members of Congress during the Washington Leadership Conference. The approved amount was \$15,000 from soft dollars.
- Fund a reception at the Committee on the New Dentist Conference up to \$20,000 for one year. The conference will take place in Portland, Oregon, June 21-22, 2007. The actual date of the reception is to be determined.
- Fund up to \$500 for the ASDA award. The award will go to the dental school with the highest percentage of ASDA/ADPAC members from August (ASDA Annual Session) to December 31, 2006.

I'm pleased to say the 12th District has been very supportive of ADPAC. Please contact me concerning questions or requests.

D-Dent

Shirley Harris

D-DENT Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament a Great Success

D-DENT (Dentists for the Disabled and Elderly in Need of Treatment) held its annual Celebrity Golf Tournament June 30 at the Belmar Golf Club in Norman. Ninety-two (92) players participated in this fundraiser. The event was a great success, raising over \$20,000 to provide comprehensive dental care for Oklahomans who are either elderly or developmentally disabled and in financial need. Dr. J. Don Harris, D-DENT board member, chaired the event which was held in memory of Sgt. J. Brandon Harris. This year's Celebrity Chair was 2003 Heisman Trophy Winner, Jason White. Jason not only lent his name to the event, but also helped with publicity and put together his own team.

The day began with a lovely breakfast sponsored by Great Southwest Dental Labs, who also provided staff support for the event. Special thanks to Rhenda Atchison and her team for all of their hard work. After a hearty breakfast, teams hit the links with a celebrity golfer. This year's celebrities included: Jason White, Patty Zimmer, Sean O'Grady, Gary Marrs, J.D. Martin, Cary Blanchard,



First Place Team



Second Place Team



Third Place Team

Ricky Brady, Steve Collins, Kelly Phelps, Clendon Thomas, Uwe Von Schamann and Larry Pittman. As they played the beautiful course, the teams also got to spend one-on-one time with their celebrity. Therefore, everyone had a great time, regardless of how they actually played! When the score cards came in, it was the dentists who became the stars. Kickingbird Dental Team with Dr. Greg Brasher, Ricky Brady (former OU tight end), Mike Ford, Channing Graft and Shawn Linn took 1st place; Oxford Development Team with Derreck Swann, Ryan Aduddell, Kelsey Cline, and Bryan

Team with Derreck Swann, Ryan Aduddell, Kelsey Cline, and Bryan

Contd. on page 6

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**MEMBER PUBLICATION
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF DENTAL EDITORS**

calendar of events



SEPTEMBER

- SEPT 1** – ODA Offices Closed
- SEPT 4** – ODA Offices Closed
- SEPT 8** – ODF Mobile Dental Care Program - Ambassador Courts
- SEPT 9** – “SeptemberFest” at the Governor’s Mansion - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- SEPT 12** – OCDS Board Meeting - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - ODA Building
- SEPT 13**– Children’s Oral Health Coalition - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- SEPT 15**– ODF Fall Seminar - Oklahoma City
- SEPT 15**– Journal Editorial Board Meeting - 9:00 AM - ODA Building
- SEPT 15**– OAGD Meeting - ODA Building - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- SEPT 18** – Retired Dentists Lunch - 11:30 AM - ODA Building
- SEPT 19** – ODA Council on Membership & Membership Services Conference Call - 6:00 PM
- SEPT 22** – CORD Meeting - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - ODA Building
- SEPT 22** – Local Arrangements Committee Meeting - 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - ODA Building
- SEPT 23** – ADA 12th District Pre-Caucus - Dallas, TX
- SEPT 24** – ADA 12th District Pre-Caucus - Dallas, TX
- SEPT 27** – Central District Meeting - Red Lobster Norman
- SEPT 29** – ODF Mobile Dental Care Program - Ponca City



OCTOBER

- OCT 3** – BOT Conference Call - 5:30 PM
- OCT 6** – Local Arrangements Committee Meeting - 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - ODA Building
- OCT 6** – Council on Dental Care - 3:00 PM - ODA Building
- OCT 10** – OCDS Golf Tournament
- OCT 11** – Children’s Oral Health Coalition - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- OCT 13** – ODF Mobile Dental Care Program - Will Rogers Courts
- OCT 13** – Risk Management Seminar - Cole’s Garden - 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- OCT 14** – ODF Mobile Dental Care Program - Will Rogers Courts
- OCT 16** – ADA Annual Meeting - Las Vegas
- OCT 16** – Retired Dentists Lunch - 11:30 AM - ODA Building
- OCT 17** – ADA Annual Meeting - Las Vegas
- OCT 18** – ADA Annual Meeting - Las Vegas
- OCT 19** – ADA Annual Meeting - Las Vegas
- OCT 24** – OCDS Board Meeting - ODA Building - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- OCT 27** – Northwest District Meeting - Woodward
- OCT 27** – Digital Dental Office Work Group Meeting - ODA Building - 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
- OCT 27** – Tulsa County Dental Society New Dentist Night
- OCT 27** – Council on Technology & Electronic Communication Meeting - ODA Building - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- OCT 27** – Council on Dental Education/Public Information Meeting - ODA Building - 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Contd. from page 4

Reed took 2nd place honors, and the Comfort Dental Team with Dr. Kelly Brown, Dental students



Traci Myers, RDH with Steve Owen and Larry Myers

Nathan Brown and Jamie Repp, Taylor Collins and former OU Quarterback Steve Collins won 3rd place. They were all presented with beautiful trophies and have secured bragging rights until next year's tournament.

As the teams gathered for the awards luncheon, the banquet room looked like a page out of Who's Who in Oklahoma. Oklahoma politics was well represented with Vicki White-Rankin and Representative Thad Balkman, both of whom are health-care advocates. OU greats Steve Owens, Jason White, Uwe Von Schamann and Barry Switzer reminisced as Becky Switzer caught up with some friends. In a touching tribute, members from Sgt. Harris' unit participated in the tournament. His commanding officer, Cpt. Nicklas shared fond memories with Harris' parents, Dr. J. Don Harris and Shirley Harris.

A silent auction and raffle concluded the day's activities and included items ranging from sculptures to beautiful gift baskets. Popular items included a Heisman Trophy Players football (#1 of 500 limited Edition) signed by Jason White, Steve Owens and Billy Sims, boxing gloves signed by Sean

O'Grady, and another football signed by Tinker Owens and Steve Owens. From beginning to end, it was a successful event in every way. Shirley Harris, Executive Director,

commented, "This is the most money we've raised from a single event. We are so grateful to all of our players and sponsors who made this a great day!"

On another note, D-Dent would like to congratulate Dr. J. Don Harris for his lifetime achievement award presented by the Capitol Hill High School Athletic Achievement Association. More than 560 people were in attendance for this event at the Cowboy Hall of Fame. Dr. Harris' list of accomplishments was commendable and included over 40 years of service in our community focusing on the elderly and developmentally disabled. This is only one of many prestigious awards that Dr. Harris has received over his lifetime. We are very proud of his accomplishments!

D-DENT is a 501 c(3), not-for-profit organization serving all of Oklahoma. D-DENT is always looking for dentists who will volunteer their time to serve Oklahoma's citizens in need. D-DENT covers all lab costs and coordinates client care, allowing dentists to focus on providing services. For more information about D-DENT, please call (405)424-8092 or visit www.d-dentok.org.

TCDS

Jeff Parker, DDS

CONGRATULATIONS to the first place team Dr. Jim Yeats, Dr. Kyle Shannon, Dr. Geoff Sims and Paul Myers with Accutron Nitrous – big winners of our TCDS 5th Annual Molar Classic at Forest Ridge!

A great time was had by all with special thanks to the following sponsors: Peoples Bank, Patterson Dental Supply, Kerr Dental, Ivoclar-Vivadent, SDI, 3M/ESPE, VOCO, Bob Burke & Associates, Accutron Nitrous, Adec/W&H, Thompson Construction, Inc., HPSC, MBNA Practice Solutions, Dentsply Caulk, and those donating prizes: Flud Dental Lab, Premier Dental, SS White, and Zenith/DMG/Foremost.

We're excited about the upcoming schedule of events that our Professional Development & Education Standing Committee and Activities Standing Committee have lined up. All of our evening meetings and all-day meetings will be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel.

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Evening Dinner/Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2006

Evening Dinner/Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 2006

New Dentists Party at Dr. Todd and Kelley Johnson's home

Sunday, November 5, 2006

Dental Family-Day Festival at Dr.

Kent and Jan Shacklett's home

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

Evening Dinner/Meeting

Friday, November 17, 2006

All-Day C.E. Program featuring

Dr. Stephen Buchanan with Dental Education Laboratories, Santa Barbara, CA

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Holiday/Casino Party at the Renaissance

Friday, January 26, 2007

All-Day C.E. Program featuring Dr. Michael Miller with REALITY Publishing Co., Houston, TX

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Evening Dinner/Meeting – Table Clinics & Elections

Friday, March 2, 2007

All-Day C.E. Program featuring Dr. Robert Lowe from Charlotte, NC

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Awards Banquet & Installation of Officers

Friday, June 8, 2007

8-Hour CE Program presented by local dentists in Tulsa

Friday, June 15, 2007

6th Annual TCDS Molar Open at Forest Ridge

We want to welcome New Members Dr. Will Farmer and Dr. Paul Wilkes!

Our Tulsa County dental community has lost one of "our finest", Dr. Ray Smith, Jr., who passed away from a sudden heart attack on May 27th. Dr. Smith was the driving force in The Optimist Club of Bixby's scholarship program and spent many hours in Bixby, Liberty and Glenpool high schools making these scholarships available to those students.



Dr. Beasley stands in front of the OKC Beautiful yard sign.

The ODA Making OKC Beautiful

The ODA was recently recognized by OKC Beautiful, a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the image and appearance of Oklahoma City. Each month they award one business and one residential owner with a Monthly Beautification Award in recognition of exemplary effort in beautifying their property.

The ODA was nominated by one of the OKC Beautiful Board members and was subsequently selected by the Beautification Committee as the commercial property award winner for July 2006. OKC Beautiful representatives visited the ODA, placing a recognition sign on our lawn the month of July, and taking photos of Dr. Lee Beasley, ODA Past President and Chair of the ODA Building Committee. The photos ran on the KWTW Channel 9 morning show and were published in the *MidCity Advocate* newspaper.

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DENTIST DAY AT THE CAPITOL FEBRUARY 7TH

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Alliance members meet at the ODA building to receive legislative gift kits and disbursement instructions. Transportation to the Capitol will be available that day and is sponsored by DENPAC.

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Come and go educational session and lunch at the ODA building to learn about legislative issues on the docket that may affect dentistry in Oklahoma. Lunch sponsored by DENPAC.

2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Dentists and Alliance members meet with legislators. Schedule an appointment with your legislator to meet during this time. Park at the ODA building and ride the shuttle bus to the Capitol.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

ODA Legislative Reception at the ODA Building - Hors d'oeuvres and drinks provided.

Your participation is imperative! Sixty legislators attended the 2006 Dentist Day at the Capitol reception and many districts were not represented by ODA members. The first question every Legislator asked was "Is there anyone here from my district?". **That answer needs to be YES!** A personal relationship with your State Representative and Senator is the most important step toward educating the legislature about our issues. **Don't sit back and assume others will be representing your district. YOU be the one!**

DENTIST DAY AT THE CAPITOL – COMMITMENT FORM

Attend all the events that day, or attend only what your schedule allows.

- Yes! I will attend all of the day's events
- Yes! I will attend only the educational session/lunch and meet with my legislators
- Yes! I will represent my district during the Legislative Reception, (\$10/person)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Contact your Legislator to make an appointment:

House of Representatives 405-521-2711 or 800-522-8502

Senate 405-521-5692

Find your legislators online at www.okda.org!

Return this form to the ODA by fax 405-848-8875



oklahoma dental
association

annual meeting
centennial celebration

april 26 - 29

DON'T MISS IT!





Oral Health Care for Older Patients

As we age, our mouth, teeth and gums go through many changes. Knowing what to expect and being prepared to deal with these changes can make all the difference in your oral health and lifestyle. Most people over 50 have experienced some form of gum (periodontal) disease and tooth-root decay. Many cavities occur around the edges of old fillings. That's why regular brushing with a fluoride toothpaste, regular flossing, adhering to an orally healthy & nutritious diet, and visiting your dentist regularly are more important than ever.

TALK TO YOUR DENTIST – tell your dentist about any health problems and medications you are taking to assure you receive the most appropriate dental treatments.

See your dentist at the first signs of:

- pain
- cavities
- pus between gums and teeth
- any mouth sore that bleeds easily and persists longer than two weeks
- a swelling, lump, rough spot, crust or small eroded area anywhere in or about the mouth or neck; white or red patches in the mouth or on the lips
- tenderness or numbness
- gums that are red, swollen, tender or bleed easily
- a change in the way your teeth fit together

CHANGES IN YOUR MOUTH...WHAT OLDER ADULTS SHOULD KNOW

- Teeth may seem to darken with age because changes in dentin (material beneath enamel) may cause teeth to appear slightly darker.
- Plaque (sticky, colorless layer of bacteria that causes cavities) may build up faster and in greater amounts.

- Teeth may become more dry and brittle, and are more likely to crack or break under normal chewing pressure.
- Years of chewing may wear down tooth enamel, and teeth may become more sensitive and prone to breakage.
- Gums may recede due to periodontal disease and brushing too forcefully. This increases the risk of tooth-root decay – a serious problem.
- Mouth dryness from reduced saliva flow is a side effect of many medications, but not a normal part of aging. Saliva rinses and protects the mouth and teeth, removing food and decay-causing acid.
- Old fillings may fracture or leak around the edges, allowing decay-causing bacteria to accumulate in the tiny crevices.
- Oral cancer occurs more frequently in older individuals. Oral cancer can affect the lips, gum tissues, cheek lining, tongue and the hard or soft palate.
- Be aware that poor diet, poor oral hygiene, medical diseases, some medications and treatments, and ill-fitting dentures or bridges can increase the chances for tooth decay and gum disease.
- Fluoride is just as important in preventing cavities in adults as in children. Use a fluoride toothpaste and drink plenty of fluoridated water.
- For dry mouth, your dentist might recommend sugar-free candy or gum to stimulate saliva flow. Artificial saliva or oral rinses may also be appropriate.

Keeping your natural teeth for a lifetime is largely up to you. Brush and floss your teeth VERY regularly, eat a balanced diet, and visit your dentist at least twice a year.

WE CAN'T DO IT

Many, many thanks to all who have helped get the Mobile Dental Care Program off to a healthy start. It is obvious Oklahoma's dental professionals have a heart for the underserved populations of our state. Together we CAN and WILL make a difference!

Warm regards,

Cari Ogden

Director of Mobile Dental Care Programs

Oklahoma Dental Foundation

Volunteer Dentists:

Dr. Justin Beasley
 Dr. Jeff Broerman
 Dr. Craig Buntmeyer
 Dr. Michael Chandler
 Dr. Ken Coy
 Dr. Thai-An Doan
 Dr. Kimberley Firey
 Dr. Richard Freeman
 Dr. Lisa Grimes
 Dr. Andrew Guthrie
 Dr. William Hodgson
 Dr. Steven Hogg
 Dr. Krista Jones
 Dr. Larson Keso
 Dr. Steve Kendrick
 Dr. Mitchell Kramer
 Dr. Karey Low
 Dr. John McDavid
 Dr. Alan Owen
 Dr. Lance Schmidt
 Dr. Rodney Shivers
 Dr. Jerry Smith
 Dr. Lindsay Smith
 Dr. Paul Sommer
 Dr. Scott Waugh
 Dr. Wavel Wells
 Dr. Daniel Wilguess
 Dr. Theresa White

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Lauri Proffitt
 Beverly Keeley

Volunteer Dental Students:

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 Andre Christensen
 Blaine Curtis
 Erika Dewar
 Heath Evans
 Michael Flint
 Alan Fortenberry
 Kristin Green
 Kendra Hammond
 Ben Humphrey
 Damon Johnson
 Brett Leemaster
 Jon Lindblom
 Alex McKinney
 Daniel McNair
 Golnaz Naghdi
 TJ Nugent
 Jay Peck
 Spencer Sautter
 Jared Smith
 Ali Torabi
 Katie Vandagriff
 Heath Whitfield

Volunteers-general

Linda Bell
 Karen Carrier
 Patricia Hobbs
 Tessa Ogden
 Diane Fields

Volunteer Dental Assistants:

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Dannell Collins
 Amber Lee Elliott
 Jennifer Harrell
 Christin Hitt
 Chelsea Holland
 Grace Holden
 Belinda Horak
 Ashley Jones
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WITHOUT YOU!

ODA Today





Give Kids a Smile!®

Who: Many dentists across Oklahoma will take time from their practices to help underserved children who aren't getting the oral health care they need. Will you join us?

What: Give Kids A Smile!® is an annual one-day volunteer initiative to provide free educational, preventive and restorative services to children from low-income families.

When: February 2, 2007

Why: To provide oral care to disadvantaged children and teach them how to take care of their teeth. It will also provide you an opportunity to

educate the parents about the importance of regular visits to the dentist.

How: You can volunteer to participate in a number of ways:

- 1) Offer free educational, preventive and restorative services to children from low-income families in your practice on February 2, 2007.
- 2) Open your practice to allow other local dentists to provide services in your practice with you on February 2, 2007. We will direct volunteers to contact you.
- 3) Volunteer your services in another practice on February 2, 2007. We will put you together with dentists who are looking for help that day.
- 4) Make a donation to Give Kids A Smile! so other volunteer dentists will have help with the supplies they'll need on February 2, 2007.

The ODA will have a limited number of toothbrushes and toothpaste, etc., available to help you and special Give Kids A Smile!® t-shirts for the volunteers to wear that day. Return the form below by **December 31, 2007** to have priority.

To volunteer please complete the short form below and return it to:

Give Kids A Smile!®/Oklahoma Dental Association
 317 NE 13th Street
 Oklahoma City, OK 73104
 Or fax to: 405.848.8875

To learn more please visit www.okda.org or call Lynn Means at the ODA at 848.8873 or 800.876.8890; or email lmeans@okda.org

PLEASE TELL THE ODA WHAT YOU HAVE PLANNED!

Give Kids A Smile!® Volunteer Form

List full names of all participating dentists: _____

Name of your practice if different from above (for press release): _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail address _____

Please mark all that apply:

- YES! I am planning to participate in GKAS! in my office. Here is what I have planned:

- Please send me some supplies. I realize the ODA's inventory is limited.
- No, I do not need any supplies from the ODA.
- YES! I am planning to participate in GKAS! and would welcome a colleague from another office to participate in my office on February 2, 2007.
- YES! I want to participate in GKAS! and would like to volunteer in a colleague's office.
- YES! I would like to make a donation to the ODA to assist in purchasing GKAS! supplies. My check is enclosed. Make check payable to the ODA and send with this form.

Even if you participate in GKAS! every year, and do not need supplies or t-shirts, the ODA still wants to know about it! The ODA will send a press release to the hometown newspaper of every participating dentist and will list the names of all participating members in a future issue of the *ODA Journal*. Please take pictures of the activities that day and send them to us! Thank you for volunteering for Give Kids A Smile!®



CONGRATULATIONS
 to the recent
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 Lauren Avery-Miranda
 Neil Ayers
 Buddy Benson, Jr.
 Hannah Buso
 Trischa Clarke
 Irvin DeAtley
 Chase Dighton
 Calvin Doan
 Seth Evetts
 Anna Ferrell
 Cord Fitzgerald
 Lara Foerster
 Bert Franklin
 Leslie Genoff
 Trym Gibbons
 Natalie Frazier
 Brad Hall
 Neil Hasty
 Erin Heathcock
 Christina Henry
 Matt Holloman
 Colin Holman
 Doug Huber
 Jeremy Johnson
 Mark Kelly
 Charles Kidroske

Tim Kirby
 Jason Knapp
 Marti Lane
 Chance Lawless
 Kimberly Lewis
 Luke Lumpkin
 Eric Massad
 Jennifer Matousek-Ronck
 Kesa McConnell
 Chris Poore
 Adam Pottorff
 Shane Ragan
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 Amanda Sengel
 Kyle Serfoss
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ODA ANNUAL AWARDS

Do you have a colleague that should be recognized as Dentist of the Year? Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty with his/her charitable and community work? The ODA will be recognizing members during the 2007 Annual Meeting Opening Session for outstanding achievement in the following areas:

Dentist of the Year – the dentist selected as having made the greatest contribution to the advancement of dentistry in Oklahoma

Young Dentist of the Year – to recognize a new member who exhibits an active interest in organized dentistry and the image of the dental profession. Candidates for this nomination should be a member of organized dentistry for five years or less.

Thomas Jefferson Citizenship Award – a member dentist who has made significant contributions to community service and philanthropic works in the area of dentistry.

contd. on page 14

Oklahoma Dental Association AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE INFORMATION (please print clearly or type)

Name: _____ Award Nomination for:
 _____ Dentist of the Year
 Current Address: _____ _____ Young Dentist of the Year
 _____ Thomas Jefferson (Citizenship)
 City: _____ _____ Robert K. Wynne (Public Info)
 _____ Dan E. Brannin (Professionalism)
 State: _____ Zip: _____ _____ Richard T. Oliver (Legislative)

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ ODA Member Since: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Email: _____

NOMINATED BY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Fax: _____

NATIONAL, STATE &/or LOCAL POSITIONS HELD

Organization/offices held: (please use additional pages as necessary)	Year
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List all dental-related work experience in chronological order with dates: (please use additional pages as necessary)

Please attach letters of recommendation, references and other documentation as necessary.

Submitted by: _____ Signature: _____

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JANUARY 15, 2007

Please use a separate form for each award nomination. Photo copies of this original form will be accepted. A letter of nomination must accompany each nomination describing the nominee's accomplishments and other contributions.
Submit to: Oklahoma Dental Association, Attention: Member Awards, 317 NE 13th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Nominate someone TODAY!

Robert K. Wynne Public

Information Award – a member dentist who has worked to advance the knowledge of dentistry and dental health through public education and public relations efforts

Dan E. Brannin Professionalism

Award – the dentist selected as having made significant contributions to the advancement of the principles and practice of ethics and professionalism in dentistry

Richard T. Oliver Legislative Award – for outstanding effort and leadership in the Oklahoma Legislative process on behalf of the Oklahoma Dental Association

Nominations are now being accepted for 2007 ODA awards. **Nominations will be accepted until January 15, 2007.**

Use the Oklahoma Dental Association Awards Nomination Form below to nominate an ODA member for an award. One form per individual nomination please. Nominations are only valid if the entire form is completed. Additionally, a letter of nomination describing the nominee's accomplishments for the award must accompany the nomination form. Nominations are not valid without this letter of nomination. Please fax completed nomination forms to the ODA at 405.848.8875; or mail to the Oklahoma Dental Association, 317 NE 13th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104.



In preparation for the 2007 Annual Meeting, the Digital Dental Office work group met recently to see a completely digital practice. Drs. Pam Low, Ray Beddoe and Raymond Cohlmiya met with Dr. Jackson Sullivan, an Edmond Endodontist, and his staff. Dr. Sullivan runs a digital office and is shown here demonstrating his digital front-office software. Look for the Digital Dental Office in the 2007 Annual Meeting Exhibit Hall, April 27 & 28th. CE credit is available for those who "tour" the office.

ODA NEW MEMBERS

The Oklahoma Dental Association is pleased to welcome 18 new members to organized dentistry.

Steven M. Deaton	1305 E Kirk St - PO Box 398	Hugo, OK	74743-0398
Evan Dale Clothier	611 N Broadway St, Ste B	Pittsburg, KS	66762-3991
Bobby J. Carmen	PO Box 6048	Norman, OK	73070-6048
Brookes Little	RR 1 Box 114	Garvin, OK	74736-9722
Joshua Carson Looney	RR 6 Box 840	Stilwell OK	74960-8703
Anthony Nguyen	2501 Edinburgh Dr	Edmond, OK	73013-9017
Dennis Harris	2424 N Milt Phillips Ave	Seminole, OK	74868-2350
Katherine Lawrence	1512 Glenwood Ave	Nichols Hills, OK	73116-5207
Jamie L. Guthrie	1119 Walnut Dr, Ste 3	Ardmore, OK	73401-2360
Paul W. Wilkes	6565 S Yale Ave, Ste 505	Tulsa, OK	74136-8306
Walter M. Davies Sr	PO Box 50099	Tulsa, OK	74150-0099
Mase Ramey	119 S Broadway St	Tecumseh, OK	74873-3205
Jamie Potts	218 Hanstrom Dr	Hutto, TX	78634-4369
Douglas Durst	4201 W Memorial Rd	Oklahoma City, OK	73134-1773
Loren D. Riggs	2612 NW 33rd St	Oklahoma City, OK	73112-7630
Robert B. Bryan II	4320 McAuley Blvd	Oklahoma City, OK	73120-8364
William Farmer	6801 E Admiral Pl	Tulsa, OK	74115-8707
Sidney Johnson	13348 NW 10th St	Yukon, OK	73099-4162

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SEPTEMBER 8-9, 2006
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WEEKEND 2

OCTOBER 13-14, 2006
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WEEKEND 3

NOVEMBER 10-11, 2006
Function / Treatment of Facial Pain

WEEKEND 4

JANUARY 12-13, 2007
Treatment of Complex Restorative Cases

WEEKEND 5

MARCH 16-17, 2007
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ODASCO NEWS YOU CAN USE!

OfficeMax®

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OfficeMax is pleased to be a product partner with the ODA offering an Office Supply discount program for group members. OfficeMax is a leader in the business supply industry. OfficeMax provides office supplies, paper, technology products and solutions, and furniture to large, medium and small businesses and consumers. OfficeMax customers are served by over 40,000 associates through direct sales, catalogs, the Internet and nearly 1000 retail stores in North America. OfficeMax specializes in providing customers with quality products and service solutions designed to help companies manage their office supply expense budgets with the highest level of productivity.

OfficeMax research shows that the average North American business will expend nearly \$350 per employee each year on

office supplies. Office products account for 70% of all supply transactions. The average company contacts their office supply provider as often as 100 times per year to place orders, inquire about order status, schedule returns and request specific product information. Recognizing that ODA members want their supply costs, OfficeMax offers the following tips to reduce time and money when ordering office supplies:

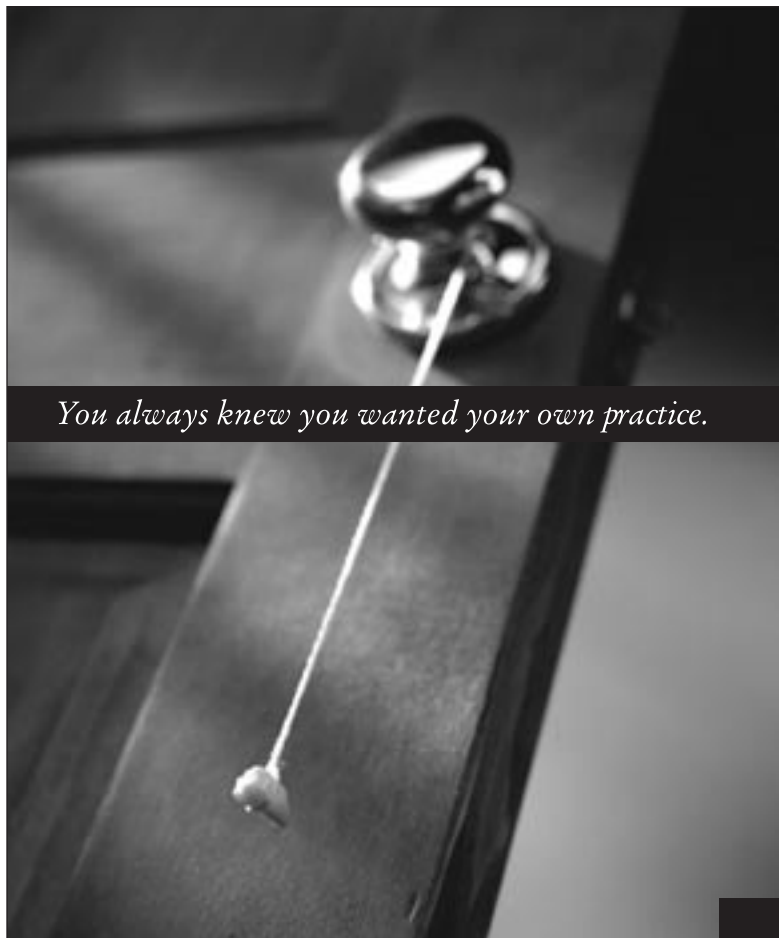
- Place orders through your contract office provider or a group buying cooperative that leverages volume discounts for your business supplies
- Look for overall cost savings on the normal 'basket' of supplies that you order instead of savings per item to enhance your productivity
- Order your products via the Internet and reduce the expense associated with employee's "running" to the office supply store for your support needs

- Ensure next day 'free' delivery of your products in order to remove the expense of having employees out of the office
- Monitor and control spending through the use of office supply usage reports in order to minimize inventory and maximize buying power
- Work with a supplier that will provide consistent products and service to all of your locations

By following these simple disciplines and guidelines, your organization can reduce the total cost of business supplies and time investment to enhance your bottom-line.

To further reduce costs, OfficeMax and ODA have teamed up to provide members with significant savings of up to 70% on office supplies, paper products, office furniture and technology equipment. For more information regarding the ODA program with OfficeMax, contact OfficeMax today at 1-877-633-2MAX or email them at partneradvantage@officemax.com. Be sure to mention that you are an ODA member!

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Happy Birthday ODA!

Put on your party hat! Blow out the candles! And launch into your best rendition of "Happy Birthday To You"! The Oklahoma Dental Association is celebrating its 100th year in 2007 and we cordially invite you to be a part of the celebration!

The ODA is celebrating an important milestone in 2007 – 100 years of representing the interests of the members of the dental profession and the patients we serve, 100 years of promoting the public health and health services in Oklahoma, and 100 years of quality service and work, all advancing the art and science of dentistry in Oklahoma.

2007 will be our biggest year yet – biggest year in membership, and definitely our biggest Annual Meeting, scheduled to take place April 26-29 in Oklahoma City. The 2007 ODA Annual Meeting will be the highlight of the ODA Centennial Celebration! The Oklahoma Dental Association Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dental laboratory technicians, and dental office staff in Oklahoma.

From April 26 through 29th, over 2,000 dentists and support personnel are expected to participate in continuing education, networking, and social events at the Renaissance Hotel and Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

**Mark Your Calendar for the ODA Centennial Meeting
April 26-29, 2007
Cox Convention Center – Downtown OKC**

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Registration information coming your way in February!

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**Renaissance Hotel
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TALLEY ASSUMES PRESIDENCY OF AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CRANIOFACIAL PAIN



Robert L. Talley, DDS, Norman, was recently installed as President of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain. Members of the organization devote a substantial portion of their practices to assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients who suffer from head, neck and facial pain; temporomandibular disorders (TMD); and sleep disorders. He will serve a two-year term. Dr. Talley is a Fellow of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Craniofacial Pain, American Board of Orofacial Pain, and the American Academy of Pain Management. Dr. Talley is also a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine. He is one of approximately 110 dentists across the country – and the only dentist in the state of Oklahoma – to achieve this certification. Dr. Talley has been a member of the ODA and ADA since 1972.

Past President Honored as Distinguished Former Student



W. Scott Waugh, DDS, will be recognized by his alma mater, the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO), as a Distinguished Former Student, the university's highest honor bestowed upon alumni. Waugh will be honored during UCO's Homecoming on November 4, 2006. Waugh, who graduated in 1968 with a BS in Chemistry and Biology, went on to graduate from the Baylor College of Dentistry, and practices in Edmond. Each fall during Homecoming festivities, the UCO Alumni Association honors the university's most outstanding alumnus with the Distinguished Former Student Award. The award recognizes outstanding accomplishments in the categories of education, arts and sciences, business/professions, community service or University service. Dr. Waugh is being recognized in the area of business/professions, having served as president of the ODA and OCDS, ADA Delegate and Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judiciary Affairs member, Chair of the Oklahoma sections of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists, and inductee to the Pierre Fauchard Academy, just to name a few of his professional accomplishments. Past recipients of this award include Lieutenant Governor Mary Fallin and ODA Past President W. Lee Beasley, DDS. Dr. Waugh has been a member of the ODA and ADA since 1974.

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OKC Orthodontist Receives 'Most Prestigious' Award



Dr. Herbert A. Klontz, Oklahoma City, was recently bestowed the American Board of Orthodontics' highest recognition, the Albert H. Ketchum Memorial Award, during the ABO annual meeting in Las Vegas. For much of his 44-year career, Dr. Klontz has taught for

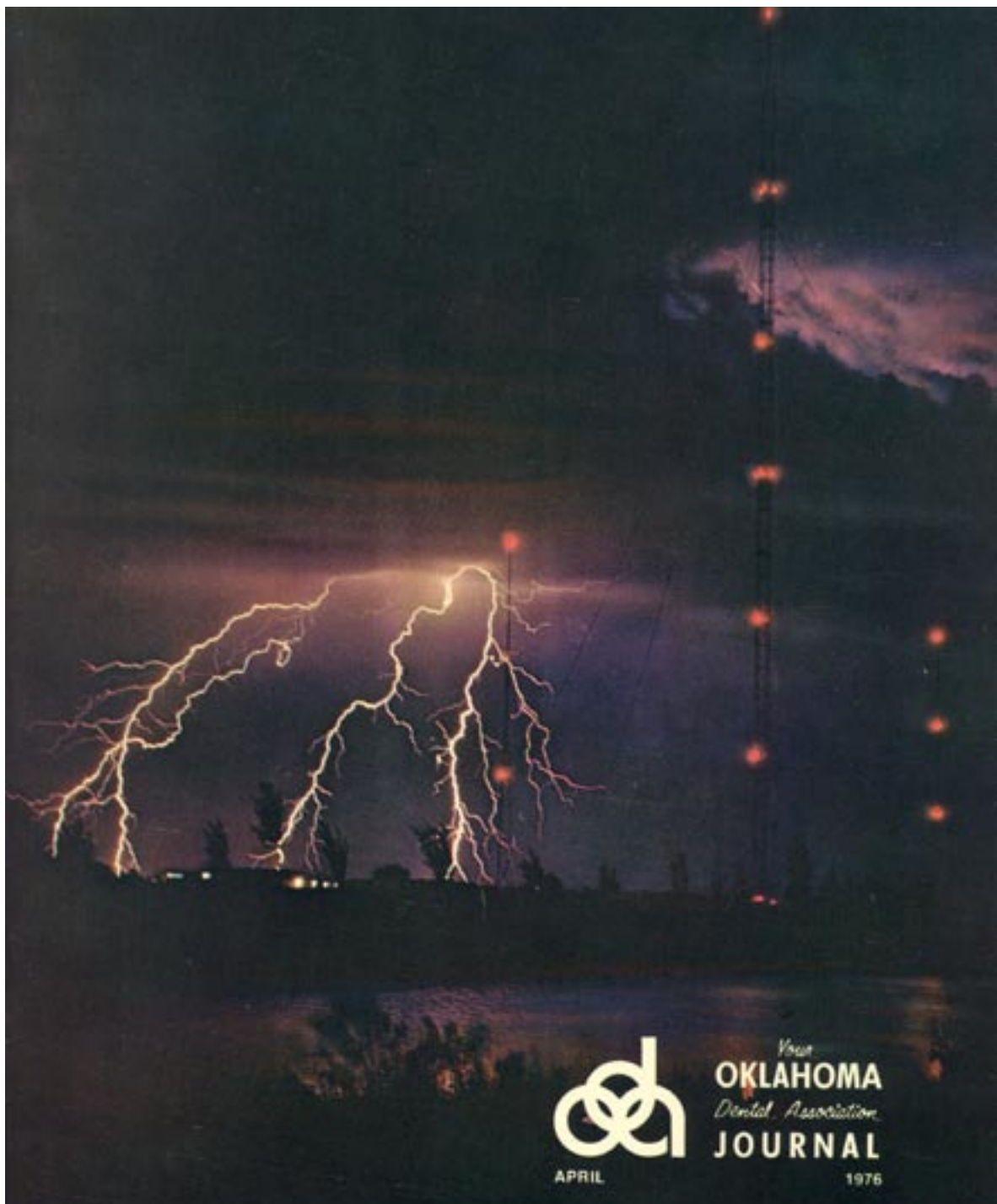
and directed the Charles H. Tweed International Foundation for Orthodontic Research and Education. The two-week course is offered twice a year with each session attended by an average of 75 practicing orthodontists and graduate students. He also serves as a part-time faculty at the OU College of Dentistry and devotes much of his time to treating indigent and foster children. Dr. Klontz has been a member of the ODA and ADA since 1961.

FEATURES



In the spirit of celebrating our 100th birthday, the *ODA Journal* has been featuring articles, trivia and advertisements from past Journals. Join us now as we rewind to the April 1976 issue of the Oklahoma Dental Association's *Journal*.

Features



THE DENTAL PROFESSION'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THIRD PARTY CARRIERS

Gary D. Gardner, D.D.S.
President-elect, Oklahoma Dental Association

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Gary D. Gardner, ODA President-elect gave the following address at an ADA meeting in Chicago, February 8, 1976. Compliments of his presentation called it to our attention. We reviewed it and think it worthy to be reprinted for our members to read.

UCR, cosmetic exclusions, table of allowances, deductible, peer review, preauthorization, prime carrier, consultant, procedure number, provider, purchaser—what strange words for dentists to be concerned with. It would seem from the preceding phrases that I could be addressing an insurance group instead of leaders within the dental profession. It is somewhat frightening how fast our world changes. Little did we know when we graduated from dental school that we would need to involve ourselves with such matters.

However, each of us knows that the era of third parties and prepayment for dental care has arrived. It is now critical how we as a professional group and individual practitioners handle the matter. We can treat the problem as the pessimistic shoe salesman who went to Central America and wrote to the home office, "Returning home immediately, no one here wears shoes." Or, we can treat the situation as the optimist who wrote back saying, "Send all sizes immediately, no one here wears shoes." Prepayment for dental care is good for the patient, and is good for the dentist. This may not be the most popular stance, but before I start hearing boos and hisses, let me explain.

I feel prepayment is good for the patient, if the carrier does not come between the doctor-patient relationship. I feel prepayment is good for the dentist, if he is permitted the freedom to charge his regular fee and alter that fee as economic conditions change. It is also necessary that he be permitted to carry out his own choice of treatment plan with the patient's acceptance.

In Oklahoma, we are just beginning to face the changes in third party relationships that California and other states have been confronting for years. When I consider the number of man hours our profession has spent on this important topic, third party, I wonder why we haven't accomplished more.

Have we lost sight that our role should be one of a health professional, and not of an insurance consultant?

Why should we as dentists be concerned with the benefit the patient receives from the insurance carrier? The employer and/or the patient pays the premium. The patient receives treatment from the dentist in which there is a fee for service. The dental profession should not be involved with any other party except the patient. We should not dictate to a privately owned insurance company how it handles its business, just as they had better not dictate to us on how we handle ours.

With the advance of third party, our relationship should be no different with our patient than it was before, except that now the patient is being assisted in his dental health expenses by prepayment. This allows a greater number of people to receive quality dentistry, which they may not have been willing or able to have before.

We stand a great risk of losing the respect of our patients when we are uncooperative in filing and submitting dental insurance forms, or when we don't take the time to explain benefits to our patients. It is still important to have a clear and understood financial arrangement with our patients, just as we had before. Of course, these are added problems and they tend to drive us into isolation among

ourselves, but they certainly are not the only problems we face, so we should not expend all our energies in this one area.

I do not recommend an attitude of compromise; however, I feel it is critical that we cope with the issues facing us on an unemotional and rational basis.

I believe in private enterprise! I believe it far better to negotiate with a company which derives a profit from its services, just as we do, than it would be to negotiate with a socialized national health program written by and for the bureaucracy of government. Yes, the problem of prepayment is tremendous. If we let ourselves be considered the villain, we will lose just as surely as "Dallas" lost the Super Bowl.

I speak for unity within the profession! We must speak with one voice. A voice in which all segments of the profession, such as allied organizations, dental educators, state boards of examiners, component and constituent societies, and dental service corporations cooperate for the development of dentistry and not independent achievement for themselves.

There seems to be a great backlash within the membership toward dentistry's own creation, the dental service corporation.

The basic reasons for such feelings are numerous, but a few stand out. Why is Delta the only plan that requires a signed contract between the dentist and the plan? Why is there discrimination between those participating and those not participating? Why are we not allowed to collect the difference from a patient when a plan is based on the UCR concept?

I speak of unity, and there seems to be very little. We seem to be oblivious to the many social forces which effect our future. All segments of the economy, the public, the government and private sectors are awaiting a unified voice from dentistry. Today, our group can begin to pull together, to discuss and arrive at attitudes which will demonstrate that which is right and proper for our patients and for the profession of dentistry.

FUTURE STATE MEETING DATES

April 22-26	1977	Tulsa
April 21-26	1978	Oklahoma City
April 20-24	1979	Tulsa
April 25-29	1980	Oklahoma City



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Muskogee's First Dentist was Talented Singer as well

When Muskogee's first dentist, Dr. Albert Bonnell, arrived there in 1888, he quickly became involved in the community.

In fact, Dr. Bonnell's office in Muskogee was

the first dental practice in the entire Indian Territory, making him much in demand for his services. He proved popular also for his love of music and a great talent for singing.

Also arriving in Muskogee the same year was young Miss Bessie Weir, who had come to teach music at Harrell International Institute. Harrell Institute had been established in 1879 as an elementary school by the Methodist congregation which met in the Rock Church at Cherokee and Okmulgee. The school was later expanded to include high school. Many students who lived too far away to walk to school each day were boarded at the Rock Church parsonage.

Dr. Bonnell joined the Rock Church and began singing in the choir. It is probably here that he met Bessie Weir. They were married in 1896 and later had a son named Albert, Jr. The Bonnells were passionate about music and promoted musical events in Muskogee at every opportunity. Dr. Bonnell also played in Maddin's Mechanical Band, a private group made up mostly of employees at the Maddin Hardware Store.

The singing dentist must have been quite talented for, in addition to singing in the church choir for over 50 years, he also frequently was asked to solo at funerals. It's estimated that he sang at



more than 2,000 funerals over his lifetime. He was so dedicated to this ministry to the bereaved that he would not hesitate to close his dental office when it was necessary.

Young Albert Bonnell followed in his father's footsteps in so many ways. He too chose the practice of dentistry for his career and took over his father's office in Muskogee. Between them they had over 90 years of dental practice in the city. Like his father, he served as president of the Oklahoma State Dental Association, the first son of a former president to hold this position. The elder Dr. Bonnell also served as vice president of the American Dental Association and was appointed by Governor Charles Haskell to the State Dental Board.



Albert, Jr., followed his father's service on the Muskogee School Board. Albert, Sr., served 10 years on the school board, while Albert, Jr., served 15. They also both served on the Muskogee City Council for a number of years.

Article authored by Jonita Mullins and reprinted with the permission of the Muskogee Phoenix.

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Five Questions Dentists Should Ask About Their Money:



*Troy E. Jones,
CERTIFIED
FINANCIAL
PLANNER™
practitioner*

Question Three: “Do I Know and Understand My Numbers?”

Review: The
five questions
act as a guide.
They were
developed to

As a dentist, knowing your numbers is a little more tricky than for a regular citizen. The following questions help organize and simplify the financial planning process and improve the likelihood of success:

- Do I know where I stand with regard to: insurance needs, personal spending, income taxes, retirement needs, investments, and estate? (These are the six areas of a financial plan.)
- Do I know how my investments are performing and do I have a consolidated investment policy?
- Does my plan take maximum advantage of my status as a business owner?
- Do I get regular business reports that I understand and use to support my personal values?
- When do I want to retire and at what level?
- How much money do I personally spend each month?
- Do I track my personal spending?
- What is my current net worth? Is it increasing or decreasing?
- How do I consider/determine the value of my practice in my planning?
- What are the assumptions I use in making projections about my future?
- What estate planning documents do I have in place and are they current?
- Does my estate plan address the needs of the business for death, disability, retirement, and disagreement?
- Do my employee benefit plans support my significant personal needs at the most effective cost?
- Do I know where I stand relative to my goals?
- Do I have time to take care of my finances properly?
- Do I have the most tax effective business entity?

help apply the full range of planning resources to business owners' personal financial situations. Read the five questions and think deeply about them, and discuss them with your business partners and family. Your answers will help lead to a greater likelihood of financial success and life satisfaction.

The 5 Questions:

- 1) Who can I trust to help make money decisions?
- 2) What are my personal beliefs and values?
- 3) Do I know and understand my numbers?
- 4) How do the communities (family, neighborhood, practice, profession, culture, etc.) in which I live affect my financial decisions?
- 5) Am I familiar with the many different strategies, resources, products and laws available to implement my financial plan?

This month will focus on the most commonly discussed question: Do I know and understand my numbers? This is the easiest part of any financial plan. Past compilation of quantitative data from tax returns, financial statements and investment and insurance reports show that most dental business owners have the information but often lack context. They don't clearly understand how it all fits together or what it really means.

The most important question of the foregoing is "Do I track my personal spending?" This is one aspect over which you have the most control. Tracking spending also has the greatest overall impact on finances. It is just more complicated to segregate personal from business spending and make it meaningful.

Married dental business owners and their spouses must communicate regarding personal spending. It sounds like a no-brainer, but many couples don't discuss finances. Mutual agreement related to money helps lead to financial success and supports a long-term relationship. Additionally, a recent study suggests the cost of a divorce could be as high as \$100,000.

Observation:

There is no shortage of information, opinions, software and financial service providers out there, but not many that specialize in working with business owners, especially dentists. Each dental business is unique due to the personal values of the dentist. Today's businesses are more complex and require special tools and experience to make sense of the numbers on an ongoing basis. The only thing certain about the future is change and having the right numbers and confidence in them will ask decision making much easier.

Conclusion:

"Tell me what a person does with his money and I will tell you what he believes." the Reverend Gomes of The Harvard School of Theology said during a recent Financial Planning Association in Phoenix.

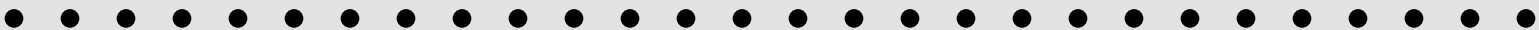
The next "The Five Questions" article will ask the following question: "How do the communities in which I live affect my decisions?" Issues such as the expectations of society on dentists will be addressed.

Troy E. Jones, a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner is the President and founder of Access Financial Resources, Inc., one of Oklahoma's oldest and largest independent financial planning firms (www.afraadvice.com). Troy has served on the 29,000-member board of the national Financial Planning Association (www.fpanet.org). He's also the past chairman of the Oklahoma State Association of Certified Financial Planners®, and the past President of the Central Oklahoma Society of Certified Financial Planners. He's served as an adjunct professor at Oklahoma City University. He currently teaches financial planning classes at the University of Oklahoma College of Family Medicine and College of Dentistry.

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The Health Professionals Program (HPP)

The Oklahoma State Medical Association has provided services to professionals with alcohol and chemical dependence since 1983. The Health Professionals Program (HPP) is an outreach program designed to support and monitor medical

and allied health professionals throughout Oklahoma who are experiencing difficulty with substance abuse.

Detection of chemically dependent professionals is often delayed by their ability to protect job performance at the expense of every other dimension of their lives. Clinical studies suggest that the order in which compromise of function occurs is: Family, community, finances, spiritual and emotional health, physical health and, finally, job performance.

Because of the commitment to provide resources to Health Professionals in need, HPP employs a medical director and four part-time associate directors to administer the program. The Oklahoma Dental Association works closely with the Director, Associate Directors and staff of the HPP in making referrals and in assisting the professionals returning to practice.

Currently, the HPP has 17 dentists, one dental hygienist and one dental Student under contract for monitoring and support. There are fifteen males, and the average age is 39.

A cornerstone of the Health Professionals Program (HPP) is confidentiality. HPP recognizes the importance of respecting the privacy of those who come forward to seek help, and is committed to devoting its resources to protecting that privacy. **It is critical to HPP that professionals feel comfortable that the information they share in the context of HPP will remain confidential and will be protected to the full extent of the law.**

HPP services are provided at no cost. Services include expert consultation and intervention designed to encourage Health Professionals to seek help for substance abuse and behavioral concerns.

REFERRALS

When an individual contacts the HPP about a Health Professional or for personal consultation, the director or designated associate director assesses the situation and assists in guiding the individual. Participation with HPP is often voluntary and always confidential. HPP will strongly urge a professional who is ill to get help; and although HPP does not provide direct treatment, we will suggest specific

treatment options. We respond to the concerns of families, colleagues, and hospitals by providing coordinated interventions and referrals for treatment. In addition, HPP hosts a number of support group meetings open to all professionals including students and spouses. Our Medical Directors are strong advocates for the individuals with their respective licensing boards.

FUNDING

The HPP would like to thank the Oklahoma Dental Association for its continuous support throughout the years. The HPP receives funding from the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry, Oklahoma Dental Association, Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, Oklahoma State Medical Association, Oklahoma Board of Osteopathic Examiners, Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, Physicians Liability Insurance Company and several Hospitals and Medical Staffs.

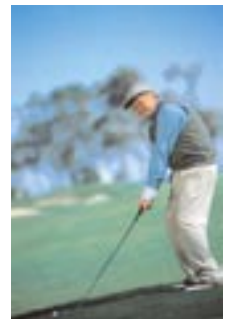
-Barbara Matthews
Health Professionals Program Director

The Health Professionals Program is supported by the ODA through the Recovery Fund (formerly known as the Well Being Fund). Each ODA member is asked to make a voluntary, annual donation of \$25.00. From that fund, the ODA makes a monthly contribution of \$1,400, for a total of \$16,800 per year. For more information on the Health Professionals Program, please contact Barbara Matthews at 405-843-9571 or email matthews@osmaonline.org.

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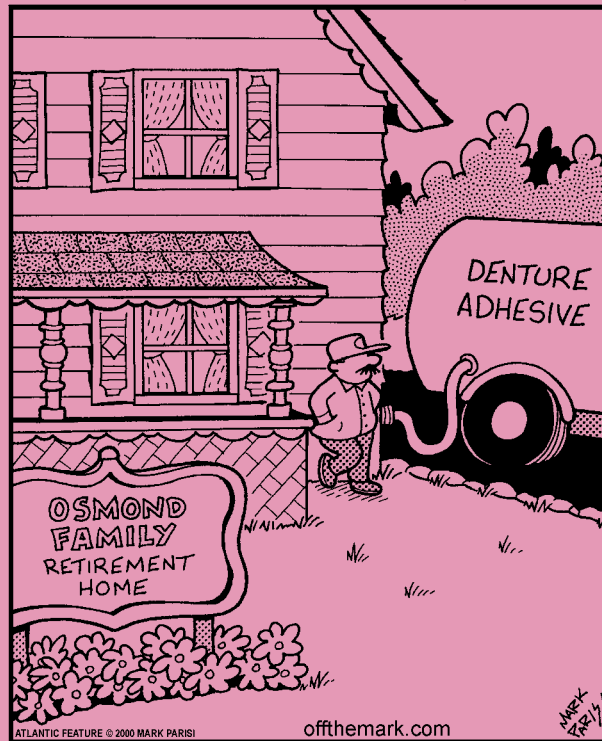
Buccal Pit Study Club #9

Word had spread quickly. Not only was an emergency meeting of the Buccal Pit Study Club unusual, but the location was not in the traditional back booth at the Longbranch. Wanda had spent the morning reluctantly cleaning out the “meeting room” in the basement in preparation for the initial demonstration of Dr. Ed’s new computer system. Evidently, computer wiz J.D. felt more working space was required for adequate installation and Wanda shot lethal looks at anyone within striking distance as she hauled out the numerous empty kegs and stacked them in the alley. A quick sweep and dusting, plus setting up tables and chairs, had her right back behind the bar to greet the first arrivals. She was also under strict instructions from J.D. not to let anyone downstairs until he had finished setting up, so the initial round was served bar side to club members. Dr. Ed made polite conversation with his colleagues, but it was evident to all that he had significant reservations as to the success of J.D.’s efforts.

The first sign that things might not turn out as hoped was the arrival of the yellow Ryder 18 wheeler. With J.D. in the cab, backing the rig up behind the Longbranch quickly became a crowd-drawing enterprise, and after numerous attempts, he managed to shoehorn the trailer between the stacked beer kegs and the door to the basement. By the time he got around to the back of the rig, the crowd had opened up the back doors and were busily carrying several large packing boxes into the meeting room. In short order, they had the truck emptied, all but for a large tarp-covered piece of apparatus sitting on a wooden loading pallet. The forklift from down at the lumberyard was pressed into service as J.D. gently lifted out the formidable looking bulk and set it down just outside the back door. Anticipation was high as he loosened the tarp and removed it with just enough flourish to elicit loud “Oohs” and “Aahs” from the crowd. What stood proudly before them was a huge Cray XT3 mainframe server J.D. had found at an online estate auction up in Seattle. Rumor had it that it once set in Bill Gates’ garage until he realized it wouldn’t fit into his new house. In no time, J.D. had the unit connected to several dozen pieces of assorted CPU’s, printers, scanners, monitors, keyboards and other unidentifiable computer hardware. Several smaller cables ran to unusual

looking playing card-sized items that were loosely described as digital x-ray sensors. Software was the latest Schein EasyPet 2007 program as Dr. Ed’s staff was already familiar with the earlier versions...extractions, however, were no longer entered as spaying and neutering after Maudy McGruder objected a little too loudly in Dr. Ed’s reception room. Power could have been a problem, but a cable was quickly run from the utility pole out back of the Longbranch, and connected with a few random sparks to the side of the server. Word was sent in to the bar that all was ready for the initial demonstration, so Dr. Ed finished his Guinness and led the study club downstairs to the meeting room.

off the mark .com by Mark Parisi



Cartoon copyrighted by Mark Parisi, printed with permission

What happened next depends on whom you believe. Newspaper headlines from several local dailies reported an unexplained power outage over a five-county area and the NBC affiliate station in Paris, Texas, went off the air for almost an hour. Streetlights flashed off and on and major appliances made strange noises that prompted the switchboard at the sheriff’s office to overload as frantic calls came in. The study club members all had different versions of the occurrence, but the underlying thread to their stories centered around a luminous fireball erupting out the back door of the meeting room as J.D. threw the power switch for the first time. Not

only was the expensive server toast, but the scorch marks extended along the back of the Longbranch and ruined the new paint job where the earlier biolaser damage had recently been repaired. Wanda was furious and proceeded to chase everyone out of her now redecorated meeting room waving the baseball bat she kept behind the bar for just such occasions. What Dr. Ed had to say when he finally caught up with J.D. is not known for sure, but shortly after their conversation the 18-wheeler was seen speeding out of town with the back doors flapping. It just wasn’t in the cards for a computer upgrade at Dr. Ed’s office anytime soon as a significant bank loan would be required to straighten things out. As he walked slowly back to his office he wondered if that little Commodore 23 could be rigged up to handle digital x-rays!

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