

## **Organized Dentistry - The Cost of Doing Business**

Last year I was talking to one of our great local orthodontists about some of the demands on our busy lives as dentists. We were about to ask some local colleagues to support a pro-dentist candidate. It was something we took very seriously. This led to us talking about what is important to dentists.

High up on the list is protecting our profession. If there is a better way to do it than through organized Dentistry, no one has come up with it yet.

In the past few years many of us have done an "inventory" on unnecessary costs. It may be hard to justify a third car or an offshore boat, but the Florida Dental Association is one of the few organizations that are looking out for your right to practice. Every year there are interests that try to chip away at our autonomy. Because of your support, we have the resources to fight back. You also give our representatives in Tallahassee political clout when they can cite the high percentage of dentists that are members of the FDA. I can never say enough about our colleagues that put so much time in on our behalf.

This year the Central Florida District Dental Association will have our own member, Dr Larry Nissen as FDA President. High on his agenda is attracting and retaining members. Please help us by recruiting a colleague. There are also many avenues to get involved, I know my professional life is so much fuller since I was swept up into a leadership role. It all started by attending Dentists Day on the Hill.

I want to be the first to invite you to our Central Florida District Dental Association meeting on April 29-30, 2011 at the World Golf Village in St Augustine. We have worked hard to find a venue that has something for everyone. Beaches, shopping, historical sites, IMAX Theatre, fine dining, and of course several great golf courses will be available to supplement a great meeting. Dr Howard Farran who founded Dental Town will be talking about practice management and everything else under the sun pertaining to dentistry. He is extremely entertaining and everyone will take home many "pearls". The following day R. Bryan Bell DDS, MD will be talking about the recognition and treatment of oral cancer and other topics. Both speakers are internationally renowned and we are fortunate to have such a dynamic line up. There are many other exciting functions to look for as the date draws closer.

I look forward to a fun and exciting year as your President of the Central District Dental Association. I am always available to my fellow dentists and I may be contacted by my cell phone 352 274 2518 or email [Larry@SuttonDentistry.com](mailto:Larry@SuttonDentistry.com).

***Larry Sutton, DMD***  
***President***