



CENTRAL FLORIDA
DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE
AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2025

USHER IN 2025 *on the* RIGHT FOOT



CFDDA Annual Meeting
May 2-3, 2025 • *See Pages 10 & 11*

THANK YOU, DENNIS HEAD!

The Florida Dental Association (FDA) would like to thank the FDA Services' (FDAS) Board of Directors, employees and clients for supporting organized dentistry. In the last 10 years, the sales of superior insurance products to dental practices have raised more than \$16 million in non-dues revenues, all while keeping malpractice insurance premiums lower than they were when FDAS started in 1989. The FDA encourages all Central Florida members to use Dennis Head for their practice insurance needs and continue to support organized dentistry.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Central Dentists Give More



Joseph P. Richardson,
D.M.D., M.S.
President

I recently wrote a narrative about the obligation of dentists to stay active in organizations that support and promote dentistry as an industry. Now, I want to expand on that narrative and suggest that not only do we have an imperative to protect our profession, we have a moral obligation to ensure our profession continues to protect the best interests of the people we serve. Recently, a prominent

political figure and our surgeon general both spoke on the misguided “dangers” of community water fluoridation. It is not the purpose of this commentary to refute and verbally roll my eyes at this notion; rather, I would like to take the opportunity to point out that dentists are truly special. It must be difficult for our opposition to explain why we as a profession fight for health policies that are financially outside our own best interests. Our brains function differently. We are special because at the end of the day ... we put the needs of our patients ahead of our own.

Remember your dental school interview and you were asked to describe why you wanted to be a dentist? I had the opportunity to be part of a dental school’s admissions committee, and I can tell you with utmost confidence that not a single person responded with an overwhelming, lifelong desire to work in the oral cavity. Most of us have an innate desire to utilize our own two hands to help people. Despite the generalization, I have found this to be true year after year. There are obviously many ways to give back or contribute to society. Today I am going to talk about the Super Bowl of charitable dental opportunities — **The Florida Mission of Mercy.**

The Florida Mission of Mercy (FLA-MOM) is the signature program sponsored by the Florida Dental Association Foundation and is the largest charitable dental clinic in Florida that serves between 1,500 and 2,000 patients in one weekend a year. The dentists in Florida work together to provide free care to any patient, with the goal of serving the underserved and uninsured in Florida.

The 2025 event marks the **TENTH** event in the state and has provided over \$17 million dollars in care and treated over 15,000 patients in the last decade. In addition to statistics above, the FLA-MOM partners with Florida Veterans Foundation and other statewide/ local organizations that prioritize treatment for veterans. I am proud as president of the Central District to bring the FLA-MOM event back to Central Florida. I have the honor of being the co-chair of this year’s Daytona Beach event with Dr. Bert Hughes. Dr. Hughes and I have combined almost 2 decades of experience organizing and participating with the Mission of Mercy since its inception. In addition, Central District dentists have donated their time, skill, and effort to help the program exceed year after year (despite the location in the State). We are **STRONG** as a component dental association and will continue to show patients that we give more than we take as a profession.

You will be shocked to find out that this event does not fund itself! Yes, that’s right, we need your time and your skill, but we also need your money! The Florida Mission of Mercy needs our dentist to **VOLUNTEER** and **DONATE** to be successful. In November of 2024, the executive council of the Central District Dental Association proposed, voted and unanimously approved a resolution for the CFDDA to match any donations made to the FLA-MOM by Central District dentists up to \$20,000! In the last decade, the Central District has been the most charitable of any of the other component organizations and continues to raise the bar for other components to fund this heartfelt event.

It is an unbelievable honor to serve as president of this organization and I will continue to lead by example and encourage all my closest colleagues to participate in their profession in and out of the oral cavity. Together, we can address and conquer all the challenges that come our way and continue to set an example statewide and nationally. I thank you all for your time and willingness to read this far. I hope to see you all at Mainland High School in Daytona Beach on March 21st and 22nd.

Sincerely,

Joe Richardson

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~ Mario Romero, DDS - Sarasota, Florida ”



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TRUSTEE REPORT



John Cordoba, DDS
At-Large Trustee

The Florida Dental Association (FDA) Board of Trustees convened at FDA headquarters in Tallahassee, December 6 and 7, 2024. The following are key issues that were discussed at the meeting:

2026 Florida Dental Convention:

The Board approved the program for the 2026 Florida Dental Convention, showcasing the forward-thinking efforts of the Committee on Continuing Education and Conventions.



Bertram Hughes, DMD
Component
Designated Trustee

Communities of Interest: After evaluating the “Communities of Interest” initiative launched in 2023, the Board decided to discontinue the program due to limited engagement. In its place, several task forces have been created to address key areas such as membership, new dentists, and public health insurance. Focus groups will be organized to explore strategies for enhancing member engagement. Also, when issues arise that need to be addressed, the FDA President will create

task forces. One example is fluoridation. The topic has arisen quickly, and a task force can be created to discuss the issue and create solutions.

2025 ADA House of Delegates: Multiple openings for the 2025 17th District Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates were announced. Members are encouraged to consider running for these positions.

Member/Non-Member Survey: The Board received an update on the recent survey, which closed at the end of November. A final report will be available soon. Some pertinent results include participation rates comparing older dentists to younger. There is a higher percentage of older dentists that are members than younger dentists and they tend to participate more. This could be an issue for the FDA as the older members retire. Most respondents were at least somewhat satisfied with the FDA. Also, most were likely to renew membership. The most important reason to be a member according to existing members is advocacy and support for the profession. The most common reason for non-members not to join is cost compared to benefit. The Board approved conducting focus groups to explore topics like member communication preferences in greater depth.

Fluoride Update: Dr. Johnny Johnson delivered a presentation on fluoride issues, with reference to comments from Florida’s Surgeon General. Members can find further details and a fact sheet on the FDA website at www.floridadental.org.

Central District Management Services: FDA Executive Director, Drew Eason, announced the Central District

leadership voted to have the FDA provide management services for the Central Florida District Dental Association (CFDDA) following Marlinde Fulton’s departure in June 2025.

Editor Advisory Committee: In June 2024, the FDA House of Delegates passed a resolution asking the FDA Editor to review the position of editor and bring forward a resolution regarding a possible associate editor position. Dr. Wunderlich, the current FDA Editor, proposed creating an Editor Advisory Committee with one member from each component in order to offer exposure to tasks associated with the Editor position and to help create content. Ultimately, this will help develop replacements for the Editor when the term is completed.

RFDA Proposal: Six years ago, a rules change was made by the Florida Board of Dentistry to allow Restorative Function Dental Auxiliaries. With proper training, dental assistants and hygienists can place restorations (but not prepare) teeth. However, due to Covid, the issue was put on the back burner and has not been advanced. The FDA may create a didactic portion and also use hygiene schools when they are not in session to facilitate training.

Healthy Dentist Program: Larry Darnell, FDA Director of Strategic Initiatives and Technology, provided an update on the FDA Healthy Dentist program. Beginning in January, the Member Assistance Program will offer members and their families 24/7 access to professional counseling services. (See page 13.)

Public Affairs Update: The Board received an update from Moore, the FDA’s public affairs consulting firm, on the FDA’s social media campaign promoting the importance of seeing an FDA dentist. Moore also reviewed significant media coverage on fluoride and continues to support leadership and members with media interview preparation on key issues.

Florida Mission of Mercy: The FDA Foundation and Central Florida District Dental Association will host the 2025 Florida Mission of Mercy in Daytona Beach on March 21-22. The Co-Chairs are Joe Richardson and Bert Hughes. Volunteer registration and hotel registration is now open, so please visit FLAMOM.ORG to sign up.

Florida Wellness: The FDA is starting a wellness program for its members. Under this program a member will be afforded a limited number of free mental health sessions, with extended care at a reduced rate. These sessions will obviously offer anonymity to participants, and help dental professionals receive some of the care they need.

ADA President Elect Campaign: Due to the use of technology, fundraising and the contraction of travel by all the ADA President Elect Candidates, the FDA will receive a refund of the monies it collected for the ADA President Elect election.

FDA Services: The FDAS has had another banner year. It

(Continued on page 14)

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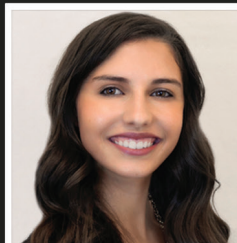
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FLORIDA BOARD OF DENTISTRY REPORT

Florida Board of Dentistry Meets in Gainesville

FDA Chief Legal Officer Casey Stoutamire

The Florida Board of Dentistry (BOD) met in Gainesville on Friday, November 15, 2024.

The Florida Dental Association (FDA) was represented by BOD Liaison **Dr. Steve Hochfelder** and Chief Legal Officer Casey Stoutamire. FDA Executive Director, Drew Eason, FDA Lobbyist, Brandon Edmonston and FDA Trustee, Dr. Bertram Hughes, were also in attendance. **Dr. Jim Haddix** and students from the University of Florida College of Dentistry and the Santa Fe Dental Hygiene and Assisting programs also attended.

BOD members present included: **Dr. Jose Mellado**, chair; **Dr. Nick White**, vice chair; **Dr. Claudio Miro**; hygiene members, Ms. Karyn Hill and Ms. Angela Johnson; and consumer members, Mr. Fabio Andrade and Mr. Ben Mirza. **Drs. Brad Cherry** and **Tom McCawley** were absent but excused. There are two open dental positions on the board. Unfortunately, this was Mr. Andrade's last meeting as he was elected to the Weston City Commission, which means there is also an open consumer position on the Board. The FDA thanks Mr. Andrade for his service and wishes him good luck in his future endeavors! This was also the first meeting for the new board executive director, Ms. Traci Zeh and the FDA looks forward to working with her.

The board approved updates to the licensure applications for those applicants applying for licensure with scores from the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) licensure exam taken after October 1, 2011, which is when Florida moved away from a state licensure exam and started accepting the ADEX exam. As part of the application process, a dentist must show that they have been engaged in the full-time practice of dentistry in the state from which they are transferring. This update modifies how an applicant shows and how the board verifies the full-time practice requirement. As a reminder, this was the language the FDA and BOD staff worked on several years ago and that the legislature approved the last session.

During the August meeting, the board heard a request for a declaratory statement. The petitioner asked the board to clarify that a dentist with a health access dental license practicing within a health access setting includes the programs of the health access setting (as defined in Ch. 466.003(15)) and is not limited to practicing within a brick-and-mortar building of the health access setting. The board directed the board counsel to draft a statement that statutory language includes programs a health access setting provides in other locations and is not limited to a brick-and-mortar building. The health access setting license is tied to the particular setting/program and not a physical location. The board counsel brought the actual verbiage of the statement back to the board at this meeting, and it approved the declaratory statement.

During the report from the Council on Dental Hygiene, the board approved the proposed revision to the rule on Required

Sterilization and Disinfection Procedures so that it complies with OSHA and CDC guidelines. The rule, which is not yet effective and working through the rulemaking process, will now read:

64B5-25.003 Required Sterilization and Disinfection Procedures

1(a-f) no change

(2)(a) Surgical and other instruments that normally penetrate soft tissue or bone, including, but not limited to, forceps, scalpels, bone chisels, scalers, and surgical burs, must be sterilized after each use.

(b) Instruments that are not intended to penetrate oral soft tissue or bone, including, but not limited to, high speed dental handpieces, [slow-speed handpieces](#), [slow-speed motors](#), [air-polisher nozzles](#), [air-polisher body](#), contra-angles, [reusable](#) prophyl angles, amalgam condensers, plastic instruments, and burs, but that may come into contact with oral tissues must be sterilized after each use according to the manufacturer's instructions for use.

(c) However, if heat, steam under pressure, or chemical vapor sterilization of an instrument is not technically feasible, due to its size or composition, the instrument must undergo sterilization with a disinfectant/sterilant that destroys viruses and spores. Disinfectants must be registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a disinfectant/sterilant and must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with CDC Guidelines as defined and incorporated by reference in subsection 64B5-25.002(4), F.A.C.

(d) High speed dental handpieces, [slow-speed dental handpieces](#), [slow-speed motors](#), [air-polisher nozzles](#), [air-polisher body](#), slow speed dental sleeves, **and** contra-angles, **and reusable** prophyl angles must be sterilized after each use using a heat or heat with pressure or heat with chemical method. The method used must be capable of sterilization

In August, the board approved rules to implement SB 1600, licensure by endorsement. As a reminder, to be eligible for licensure by this method, a dentist will have to qualify based on all the requirements in the statute, which include practicing dentistry three of the previous four years before application, having no disciplinary history and not having any information reported to the National Practitioner Databank, passing a national licensure exam (this does not include a state-specific licensure exam) and passing the Florida Laws and Rules exam. Unfortunately, the statute does not require an applicant to graduate from a CODA-approved dental school, and since there is no statutory authority, the board could not promulgate a rule requiring this. However, the FDA

(Continued on page 14)

DENTISTRY HAS CHANGED OVER THE YEARS, OUR COMMITMENT HASN'T.

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FRESH STARTS AND BRIGHT SMILES



Dr. Vrinda Shah
Editor

As we welcome a new year, I extend warm wishes for a happy and prosperous 2025!

The Florida Dental Association (FDA) is

Together, we can navigate challenges, embrace change, and make 2025 a year of growth.

gearing up for an impactful year. The Florida Mission of Mercy

event is set to take place this spring, providing free dental care to thousands in need. The FDA is also championing legislative efforts to reduce regulatory burdens for dental practices and expand access to Medicaid dental benefits. As members, we have an incredible opportunity to engage in and amplify these initiatives while working to protect the health of our patients. A battle likely to emerge this year is public water fluoridation. We will need as many

dentists as possible to educate their local governing bodies as well as statewide at this year's FDA Dentists' Day on the Hill.

Balancing professional responsibilities with personal aspirations can feel daunting, but let this new year serve

as a reminder of the strength in our shared community. Together, we can navigate challenges, embrace change, and make 2025 a year of growth.

Thank you all for your dedication to dentistry and the impact you make every day. Let's approach this year with positivity, compassion, and a commitment to making a difference.

All my best,

Vrinda Shah

Dentists' Day on the Hill

SAVE THE DATE
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025

fda florida dental ASSOCIATION

Register now at floridadental.org/ddoh or scan the QR code!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Hotel Room Block at Hotel Duval

Dr. Howard L. Pranikoff Leadership/Educational Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Howard Pranikoff was an ardent supporter of organized dentistry and held many leadership positions throughout his years as an American Dental Association, Florida Dental Association, and Central Florida District Dental Association (CFDDA) member.

The CFDDA remembers and honors Dr. Pranikoff by establishing the Dr. Howard L. Pranikoff Leadership Educational Memorial Fund to provide leadership training to young members.

Contributions are now being accepted.

Please make check out to CFDDA, memo: HLP

Mail to:
CFDDA
800 North Mills Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803

» Scan to apply and view guidelines or go to www.cfdda.org



Young Members: See Dentists' Day on Hill ad on the left ... apply!

2025 CFDDA ANNUAL MEETING

A Meeting for Everyone – Dentists, Team Members, and Family!

FEATURED SPEAKERS

■ Friday, May 2, 2025



Dr. Mark Hyman - 2 CEUs
A lecture for all
"The Questions You Hate and the Answers You'll Love" A Guide for Dealing with Difficult Patients
"OH NO! Not that one again!" After all your training, and years of hard work and tremendous sacrifice-don't you just hate it when you get those heart wrenching questions and resistance to case acceptance over and over again?

Dr. Mark Hyman

Your team and you work so hard, and care so deeply, so why is it that often our patients don't ask for optimal care and enthusiastically accept our treatment plans?

- Learn the power of high impact new patient experience.
- Review ten questions you must ask of each new patient.
- Commit to obtaining the necessary evidence for predictable case presentations.
- Role-play with your team the most common questions you absolutely HATE to hear and learn the most predictable answers you'll LOVE to give them.

Get ready to laugh, learn, and get fired up for a dramatic improvement of your case acceptance and your enjoyment of your practice!

■ Saturday, May 3, 2025



Dr. Indraneel Bhattacharyya - 4 CEUs
Recommended for general dentists, specialists, RDHs

Dr. Indraneel Bhattacharyya

Oral Pre-Cancer and Cancer-Demystifying a Complex Disease
This course will cover the molecular and clinical characteristics of oral pre-malignancy and oral cancer taking the participants through the basic biologic and clinico-pathologic concepts of these very important and serious oral lesions.

The course will simplify the complex nature of oral cancer and precancer and highlight the major clinical variations and prognostic considerations for these lesions.

Autoimmune Diseases of the Oral Cavity and their Management

This course is intended to familiarize and re-orient participants to the more common array of autoimmune disorders that affect the oral cavity including entities such as aphthous ulcers, lichen planus and pemphigoid, etc. and unusual oral manifestations of immune diseases such as lupus, pemphigus, drug ulcers, sarcoidosis, angioedema, etc.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, participants should be able to:

- Recognize and understand oral precancer, especially the clinical features that have higher incidence of malignant conversion.
- Recognize and understand the complex nature of oral cancer and its myriad of presentations and the implications of this disease in regular dental practice.
- Understand the underlying pathogenesis, signs and symptoms of various autoimmune oral lesions.
- Recognize and understand the nuances of managing some of the autoimmune conditions affecting the oral mucosa.

Sunset by the Sea Reception

Friday, May 2, 2025 ■ 7:00 p.m.-8:15 p.m.

Enjoy the wonderful ocean breezes as you relax with your family, peers, and team members.

Drink, Food, Sounds ... a great way to end a busy week!

Location: Grand Event Lawn

Dentists: Visit the FDA Services, Inc. table in the exhibit area for an additional drink ticket!

Mini-Golf Under the Stars ... Compete with other dental offices or with your own work friends for glow in the dark mini golf – 9 holes of fun! Price includes a drink ticket, goody bag, and glow ball souvenir for all who register.

Friday, May 2, 2025, 8:30 p.m.

\$15/pp - Limited Space - Register Early!

HOST HOTEL - Hammock Beach Golf Resort & Spa



- Main Tower One Bedroom Oceanview - \$279.00/night
- Need a bigger room for your dental team/family?
 - Two Bedroom Resort View Villa - \$349.00/night
 - Three Bedroom Resort View Villa - \$419.00/night
- Free self-parking – Valet \$25.00
- **Room block expires 4/1/2025.**
- Contact the CFDDA office for other large room options.
- Want to reserve through the online link? cfddental@cfdda.org - Group Code: CFDD25



REGISTER EARLY!

Scan the QR code or go to: www.cfdda.org - annual meeting venue

CFDDA Members - FREE REGISTRATION
CFDDA Dental Team Members: \$25/each

OTHER SESSIONS

■ **Friday, May 2, 2025**

CFDDA Shorts - 3 CEUs
4 one hour mini-sessions.

1. "The Therapeutic Advantage of Bioactive Composites" – Dr. Arthur Tomaro, Shofu
2. 5 HIPAA Compliance Mistakes You Can't Afford to Make – Mr. Chris Wheaton, Abyde
3. Choosing a Practice Consultant – Dr. David Rice, IgniteDDS
4. Why to Refer? When to Refer? – Dr. Joseph Richardson (Periodontist), Dr. Demetrick LeCorn (Endodontist), Dr. Frank Lozano (Prosthodontist), Dr. Christopher Hambrook (Oral Surgery), Dr. Amir Akhavan (Orthodontist)

■ **Saturday, May 3, 2025**

CFDDA Shorts (Part II) - 2 CEUs
4 one hour mini-sessions.

1. Essential Technology for 2025 and Beyond – Dr. Mark Hyman, Digital Doc
2. Protecting Yourself Against Ransomware Attacks – Ms. Sue Griffin, Black Talon
3. Risk Management – Nichole M. Pieters, MS, RN, The Doctors Company
4. Financial Literacy – Jon Broska, Edward Jones

MEETING SCHEDULE

■ **Friday, May 2nd - All lectures run concurrently.**

- 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Badge Pick-up
- 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Light Breakfast
Meet our Vendors
- 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Lectures
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break/Visit Vendors
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lectures Continue
- 12:30 p.m. - 12:40 p.m. Visit Vendors
- 1:00 p.m. Fun in the Sun!
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Sunset by the Sea Reception
- 8:30 p.m. Mini-Golf Under the Stars

■ **Saturday, May 3rd - All lectures run concurrently.**

- 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Badge Pick-up
 - 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Light Breakfast
Meet our Vendors
 - 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Lectures
 - 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break/Visit Vendors
 - 10:35 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lectures Continue
 - 12:30 p.m. Fun in the Sun!
- CE Vouchers will be distributed at the conclusion of each lecture. The CFDDA reserves the right to revise the meeting schedule as needed.*

YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T PLAY!

Vendor Prize Drawings – Make sure to ask for a vendor visit sheet at the registration desk. Drawings will be held on Friday at 12:45 p.m. You must be present to win. More details at the meeting.

50/50 Raffle - \$10.00 per entry. This is a fundraiser for the Dr. Howard L. Pranikoff Leadership/Educational Memorial Scholarship. You do not have to be present to win. Drawing will be held on Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

ALSO:

Florida Dental Association

You Need Sleep! Dental Sleep Medicine Hands-On Experience

Speaker: Dr. Gy Yatros
 Limited to 30 attendees. A two day experience
 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. each day (Fri/Sat)
\$499.00 per FDA Member until 3/20/25. \$549.00 up to meeting.

Course Description: Dental Sleep Medicine is one of the fastest-growing areas of dentistry. This fast-paced course will provide an overview of snoring, OSA, sleep bruxism, and the untreated health ramifications of OSA. It will also raise your awareness of OSA and get your practices started in screening and testing their patients for OSA.

After a brief overview of the 4 Pillars of Dental Sleep Medicine, attendees will begin their hands-on experience in measuring the patient's range of motion, adjusting various sleep devices, taking the 3-D bite, reviewing Home Sleep Apnea Tests (HSATs), and

making morning repositioners. Each attendee will fit and leave with their own provisional sleep device and experience a level 4 HSAT while also having an opportunity to review their individual HSAT results.

Objectives:

- Understand Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) and why dentists should be involved in dental sleep medicine.
- Understand the 4 Pillars of Dental Sleep Medicine
- Learn OSA terminology so you can speak confidently with your medical colleagues
- Gain hands-on knowledge of the most common mandibular advancement devices
- Experience a level 4 Home Sleep Apnea Test (HSAT) and review your results
- Learn techniques for measuring the patient's range of motion
- Understand the concepts and participate in making an AM Aligner morning repositioning device
- Understand indications and experience fitting your own provisional mandibular advancement device

IMPORTANT DATES

January 18, 2025	FDA House of Delegates Orlando, FL
January 30, 2025	UF D3/D4 Event (CFDDA/FDA) Dave and Buster's - Gainesville, FL (See page 15.)
February 2025	Look for your CFDDA Annual Meeting Brochure in the mail! More meeting details will be provided!
March 21-22, 2025	Volunteer/Donate Florida Mission of Mercy Daytona Beach, FL
March 25, 2025	Dentists' Day on the Hill Tallahassee, FL
May 2-3, 2025	CFDDA ANNUAL MEETING HAMMOCK BEACH RESORT PALM COAST, FL
June 19-21, 2025	Florida Dental Convention Gaylord Palms – Orlando, FL

Affiliate Corner

Alachua County Dental Association Meeting: Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 6PM, Topic: Domestic Violence, Best Western Gateway Grand. Contact: Dr. Cara Hill, alachuacountydental@gmail.com

Brevard County Dental Society Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2025, Speaker/Topic: Dr. Makles-“Medical Errors” Holiday Inn Viera. Contact: Kelly Millett, 321-636-1820, bcdssecretary@msn.com

Dental Society of Greater Orlando Meeting: Friday, January 31, 2025, 8AM-3PM, The Country Club of Orlando, Speakers/Topics: Wes Lyon-“Owe Less, Save More ...,” Megan Dowdell-“Healthy Communication/Emotional Intelligence” and a TBA Speaker! Contact: Sharon Hamilton, sharonhamilton@dsgo.org

Lake County Dental Association Meeting: Tuesday, March 14, 2025, 5:50PM-8PM. Zoom Meeting Speaker: Dr. Michael Ragan discussing FS 456 and its implication, and many other topics. Contact: Dr. Summer Young, 352-357-2564 dry@eustislakedental.com

Marion County Dental Association Meeting: Tuesday, March 18, 2025, Country Club of Ocala, 6:00PM Speaker/Lecture: TBA. For more info contact: Charlie Gill, 352-342-2421, charliedental2@gmail.com

Volusia-Flagler County Dental Association Meeting: Friday, February 7, 2025, Speaker: Dr. Ankur Gupta Lecture: “Turning Ordinary into Extraordinary” Time: TBA One Daytona Marriot, Daytona Beach. Contact: Dr. Darshan Patel, 386-316-9952, darshanp224@gmail.com

Don't belong to your local affiliate dental association? Contact any of the above to join and start networking with your peers close to your office/home.

VOLUNTEER FOR FLA-MOM 2025! YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



FLORIDA MISSION OF MERCY

Florida Mission of Mercy (FLA-MOM) is the state's largest charitable dental clinic that provides care to any patient at no cost, with the goal of serving the underserved and uninsured in Florida – those who would otherwise go without care.

FLAMOM.ORG

CFDDA MATCHING FUNDS

Be a part of something big!

In partnership with the FDA Foundation, the Central Florida District Dental Association (CFDDA) is hosting the 2025 Florida Mission of Mercy (FLA-MOM) in Daytona Beach on March 21-22 at Mainland High School. FLA-MOM is the largest charitable dental clinic in Florida, and the program has provided over \$17 million in donated care to more than 15,000 patients since its inception in 2014.

Each year FLA-MOM benefits from the financial support of FDA members. This year, there is an opportunity for Central Florida District dentists to **amplify your impact** by donating to the 2025 FLA-MOM. **CFDDA will match every dollar donated up to \$20,000!** Visit FLAMOM.ORG to make your donation, and please signify that you are a CFDDA member. The FDA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all contributions to FLA-MOM are tax deductible.

If you would like to volunteer at the 2025 FLA-MOM, please visit FLAMOM.ORG. Volunteer registration is now open.

Thank you.

Drs. Bertram Hughes and Joseph Richardson, Co-Chairs 2025 FLA-MOM

Life comes with challenges.
The FDA's Member Assistance Program is here to help.

Starting Jan. 1, 2025, FDA members have free, confidential access to AllOne Health's counseling and work/life services.

The Florida Dental Association's (FDA) Member Assistance Program (MAP) can help you reduce stress, improve mental health and make life easier by connecting you to the right information, resources and referrals.

All services are confidential and available to you and your household as an FDA member benefit. This includes access to short-term counseling and the wide range of services listed below:

Mental Health Sessions

Manage stress, anxiety and depression; resolve conflict, improve relationships and address personal issues. Choose from in-person sessions, video counseling or phone counseling.

Life Coaching

Reach personal and professional goals, manage life transitions, overcome obstacles, strengthen relationships and achieve greater balance.

Financial Consultation

Build financial wellness related to budgeting, buying a home, paying off debt, resolving general tax questions, preventing identity theft and saving for retirement or tuition.

Legal Referrals

Receive referrals for personal legal matters including estate planning, wills, real estate, bankruptcy, divorce, custody and more.

Work-Life Resources and Referrals

Obtain information and referrals when seeking childcare, adoption, special needs support, eldercare, housing, transportation, education and pet care.

Personal Assistant

Save time with referrals for travel and entertainment, professional services, cleaning services, home food delivery and managing everyday tasks.

Medical Advocacy

Get help navigating insurance, obtaining doctor referrals, securing medical equipment and planning for transitional care and discharge.

Member Portal

Access your benefits 24/7/365 through the member portal with online requests and chat options. Explore thousands of self-help tools and resources including articles, assessments, podcasts and resource locators.



No matter what the concern might be ... connect with AllOne Health. It is a great starting point to find appropriate resources, referrals, information and support. Simply pick up the phone and call: 800.788.8630 or login to www.encompass.us.com to access your services.

Contact AllOne Health

800.788.8630

www.encompass.us.com

Code: fdamap



floridadental.org/healthy

Welcome!

September 21 2024 – November 20, 2024

We welcome the following new and returning members, and those who have transferred into the CFDDA area.

Thank you for your commitment to organized dentistry.

- Dr. Wazeer Alghamdi, Gainesville
- Dr. Ayoub Alzunaydi, Gainesville
- Dr. Elias Bogale, Gainesville
- Dr. Lan Hoang, Titusville
- Dr. Ghida Lawand, Gainesville
- Dr. David Leonard, Gainesville
- Dr. Priscilla Leung, Melbourne
- Dr. Stephanie Lewis, Ocala
- Dr. Matthew Lopez, Kissimmee
- Dr. Amina Mannan, Lake Mary
- Dr. Rifai Maya, Orlando
- Dr. Peter McPherson, Newberry
- Dr. Shamim Neduvanchery, Gainesville
- Dr. Helen Nguyen, Ocoee
- Dr. Nicholas Nivison, Gainesville
- Dr. Alex Parra Meneses, Orlando
- Dr. Kyrillos Raghīb, Apopka
- Dr. Andre Reis, Newberry
- Dr. Viviana Rodriguez Reyes, Lake Mary
- Dr Jonathan Sorsok, Gainesville
- Dr. Amreek Suri, Gainesville
- Dr. Husam Syed, Clermont
- Dr. Thomas Tamburello, Cocoa Beach
- Dr. Shaine Thomas, Wellington
- Dr. Gabriela Torres Rullan, Kissimmee
- Dr. Lindsey Vander Zalm, Winter Garden
- Dr. Kerollos Wissa, Ocoee
- Dr. Laura Word, Saint Cloud

In Memoriam



Dr. Michael Watkins, Orlando, a member for over 46 years, passed away on December 3, 2024.

Dr. Richard Lee Smith, Gainesville, a member for over 67 years, passed away on December 26, 2024.

Florida Board of Dentistry Report

(Continued from page 7)

plans to pursue legislation to resolve this issue during the 2025 legislative session. At this meeting, an attorney asked the board to consider defining the practice of dentistry to include years in residency. Thus, an applicant could use the previous years of residency to fulfill the practice requirement when applying under the MOBILE Act. The board counsel’s opinion is that no rules are needed on this topic and the board can take this up on a case-by-case basis. However, based on the board’s information discussion, it does not appear likely that this current board would include time in a residency in the definition of full-time practice of dentistry.

There were six disciplinary cases and one determination of waiver that included, among other things, incorrect implant placement, record-keeping violations and endodontic treatment. A theme in all of the cases was the need for proper communication between the dentist and the patient.

Finally, Dr. White was elected chair and Dr. Miro was elected vice chair for 2025. The FDA thanks Dr. Mellado for his service as chair and looks forward to working with Dr. White in the upcoming year. Also, during his chairman’s report, Dr. Mellado thanked the FDA representatives in the room. He mentioned he had recently received his American Dental Association Life Member pin and encouraged everyone to join organized dentistry.

It is much better to be a spectator than a participant in BOD disciplinary cases. The next BOD meeting is scheduled for **Friday, February 14, 2025** in West Palm Beach.

Trustee Report

(Continued from page 5)

continues to return profits to help keep members dues low. The agency was not adversely impacted by the storms and should be able to return a healthy donation to the FDA. Currently, it is writing 25% of its business outside of Florida.

Dental Volunteers needed: There are a number of areas where volunteers are needed. These include the Board of Dentistry, including a consumer position, FDA Audit committee and the aforementioned Editor Advisory committee.

Hygiene Handpiece Sterilization: The Board of Dentistry codified the rule to require sterilization of the entire hygiene handpiece, including the motor. This is in congruence with the CDC rule pertaining to hygiene handpieces.

Non-Dues Revenue Investment: The FDA Board has entered into an agreement with a Dental Investment group to gain access to private equity investment to help with the diversity of the FDA investment portfolio. This will help improve gains and increase the availability of non-dues revenue.

Respectfully,

Drs. John Cordoba and Bertram Hughes,
FDA Board of Trustees

New Year's Checklist

Resolve to get a head start on 2025!

- Renew your membership to the ADA, FDA, and CFDDA – it’s easy, go to www.floridadental.org
- Register for the CFDDA Annual Meeting – Member dentists attend for free! See pages 10-11
- Make your hotel reservation for the CFDDA Annual Meeting sooner than later! See page 10
- Volunteer for FLA Mission of Mercy March 21-22, 2025, Daytona Beach – See page 14 www.floridadental.org

You Have Questions
We Have Answers

D3 D4

JAN 2025 EVENT

A PANEL DISCUSSION FOR D3s AND D4s ABOUT PRACTICING DENTISTRY IN THE REAL WORLD

Thursday, January 30, 2025
Dental Tower | Room D3-3
Panel 5:00pm-6:00pm

RSVP BY JANUARY 20
www.surveymonkey.com/r/3HMSPYK

AFTER THE DISCUSSION:

Reception 6:30pm-9:00pm
Dave & Buster's
@ Celebration Pointe
3025 SW 45th St., Gainesville

florida dental ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL FLORIDA DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

PANELIST:
DR. RAMZY LOTFI
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA 2016

PANELIST:
DR. MORGAN KUBIS
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA 2020

PANELIST:
DR. CARSON SMITH
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA 2022

PANELIST:
DR. PAIGE NICHOLSON
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA 2024

MODERATED BY:
MR. GREG GRUBER
FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATION
CO/CFD

You are Invited! The plans are made, the panel is in place, and you are invited to join the University of Florida D3 and D4 dental students on Thursday, January 30, 2025, 6:30PM, at Dave and Buster's in Gainesville. We need you to come out and promote membership to organized dentistry and to answer any questions on practicing "out there." You may find your future associate! RSVP to cfidental@cfdda.org

THE OFFICIAL MEETING OF THE

SAVE THE DATE!

florida dental
ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION

JUNE 19-21, 2025

POLISH YOUR PERSPECTIVE

ORLANDO
GAYLORD PALMS RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER

CLASSIFIED ADS

■ Associate Needed

ASSOCIATE NEEDED. General dentist needed in a well-established solo small town practice. Enjoy providing quality care for patients in a non-corporate fee for service setting. Opportunity to acquire practice as owner moves toward retirement. Inquire at: myers10925@bellsouth.net

INTERESTED IN PURCHASING: I am a young super-GP, looking to transition from associateship to being a practice owner near Orlando and suburbs. I will be interested in purchasing your practice or joining as a partner/cost-sharing basis. If you are retiring, slowing down, or considering moving out of central Florida, please let me know. I am very friendly, adaptable, and fun to work with. I am good at all surgical, endo, resto, and Invisalign procedures. I average 70-90k production a month in a busy office. If you have the right practice for me, please send a text to: 1-689-237-5364 and we can connect. Thank you.

EXPERIENCED DENTIST, WILL TRAVEL: Sick leave, maternity leave, vacation, or death, I will cover your general or pediatric practice. Call Robert Zoch, DMD, MAGD at 512-517-2826, or email: drzoch@yahoo.com.

■ Central Florida

CENTRAL FL: Looking for a dental specialist wanting to share office space (sublease) with an established orthodontists as a new practice or 2nd location. Turn-key operation, without capital investment of starting from scratch. Serious inquiries only. dryurkiewicz@gmail.com

DENTAL OFFICE FOR LEASE IN ORLANDO: Immaculately maintained 2,500 sq ft dental office with five operatories and marble flooring, ideal for a general or specialty practice. Prime location at 2718 N. Orange Ave, directly across from Advent Hospital and minutes from the Princeton/I-4 exit, offering ample parking. Fully built-out and equipped, this office is ready for you to start a new practice or add an additional location. Available starting April 1, 2025. Price: \$285,000. Assumable lease. \$3,950/month. For photos, visit our web site at www.garygcookdds.com/pages/DentalOfficeforLease.pdf and contact us at DentalOfficeforLease@garygcookdds.com to arrange a private tour.

■ Gainesville, North Central Florida

FOR LEASE-GAINESVILLE, FL: Dental Office for lease or sale off coveted NW 43rd Street. There are three spacious operatories, fully plumbed with cabinetry, and room for a fourth. The office is 1334SF with designated lab and sterilization area. Perfect for a satellite, start-up, or specialist. Please e-mail: gnvdentalpractice@gmail.com

Interested in placing a classified?
Contact the CFDDA office at cfidental@cfdda.org.
Next newsletter: April 2025



CENTRAL FLORIDA DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

800 North Mills Avenue • Orlando, Florida 32803

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Register Early for CFDDA Annual Meeting!

CFDDA OFFICERS

- Dr. Joseph Richardson, *President*
- Dr. Gregory Chace, *President Elect*
- Dr. Christopher Hambrook, *First Vice President*
- Dr. Kathryn Miller, *Second Vice President*
- Dr. Monique Belin, *Secretary*
- Dr. Roderick MacIntyre, *Immediate Past President*
- Dr. Wade Winker, *Treasurer*
- Marlinda Fulton, *Executive Director*

Visit www.CFDDA.org

VISION: Central Florida’s Advocate for Oral Health.

MISSION: Helping All Members Succeed.

1,695* Members Strong

*As of Fonteva/Salesforce Data 12-26-24.

January, February, March 2025

Dr. Vrinda Shah, Editor

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