

# NODA News

## MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and maintain a cohesive organization that serves to promote the art, science, and professionalism of dentistry, and to communicate the value of oral health to the community.

VOL. 35 SEPTEMBER '97 NO. 7

### MEETING SET ON STATE BOARD

There will be a special meeting to nominate a representative for the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry from the Fifth Electoral District (New Orleans) on Wednesday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held in Auditorium A at the LSU Dental School.

### FOOD, FUN, CAJUN COMEDY

## Staff appreciation dinner Sept. 18; 'Show 'em that you love 'em'

BY DR. CHRIS BROWN  
Scientific Program Chairman

It's time to tell our staff how much we appreciate their loyalty, support, expertise, and teamwork.

You can start by taking them ALL to dinner at the official NODA Staff Appreciation Dinner and Soiree, Thursday, September 18 at 7 p.m.

This year Chateau Estates Country Club will be the scene of the event. Chateau promises us a great menu.

Entertainment will come to us from the heart of Cajun country as comedian Johnny Hoffmann lectures us.

He won the Grand Champion Award at the 1992 International Cajun Joke-Telling Contest.

We are still able to offer this night of fun for only \$25 per person. Please call the NODA Central Office (834-6449) to reserve your team's table now. Don't be left out!

Here's the menu:

- Oyster and artichoke soup
- Mixed greens, house dressing
- Choice of three entrees:
  1. Chicken Clemenceau
  2. Grilled Tuna
  3. Veal Orleans w/crabmeat topping



### BIG NIGHT FOR THE STAFF

- Potatoes Lyonnaise
- Carrot, cauliflower, broccoli medley
- Praline Parfait

A cash bar will be available. Make checks to NODA and mail to 2121 N. Causeway, Suite 153, Metairie, LA 70001.

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## NODA LAUNCHES MENTOR PROGRAM

BY DR. GLENN DUBROC  
Mentor Committee Chairman

The responsibilities of a mentor will include: (1) being available to meet or speak with the new dentist when he/she needs you; (2) making contact by phone or in person with the new dentist at least once per month; (3) inviting and accompanying the new dentist to NODA general membership meetings; (4) being able to attend occasional mentor meetings to discuss strategies for improving the mentor program.

Once the mentor is paired with a new dentist, they will be able to set their own parameters for the mentor relationship, which will be for a minimum period of 2 years.

Criteria to serve as a mentor include: (1) a strong interest and desire to commit one's time to this endeavor; (2) a member in good

To further increase the value of organized dentistry to its members, the New Orleans Dental Association is forming a Mentor Program to increase the fellowship among dentists and to assist the new dentist to face the challenges of dentistry.

Each of us is aware of the pioneers in our profession who paved the way for dentistry to be the great profession it is today. Similarly, we can each reflect upon those individuals whom we consider to have influenced us the most with our career, our own special mentors.

In an effort to boost the value of membership in organized dentistry, we are actively recruiting dentists who wish to serve as mentors for new dentists trying to get their feet on the ground.

standing in NODA for at least 5 years; (3) an enthusiastic opinion on the future of dentistry.

Once selected as a mentor, a questionnaire will be sent to you so that we may pair you with someone who possesses similar interests, practice location, specialty, practice structure, hobbies, etc.

If you are interested, please send your name, address, and daytime phone number to: Mentor Committee, c/o Dr. Glenn Dubroc, 145 Robert E. Lee Blvd., Suite 404, New Orleans, LA 70124. You may also e-mail Dr. Dubroc at [ituth@aol.com](mailto:ituth@aol.com).

Thank you in advance for your interest in this rewarding program, sponsored by the New Orleans Dental Association.

## President's Message

by ANTHEA GROGONO, DDS

By the time you receive this edition of *NODA News*, the New Orleans Dental Conference will already be history, but as I write this message, Dr. Pat Eck and his tireless core committee are working hard to put the finishing touches on what promises to be an excellent conference with all the ingredients mixed to provide a meeting that includes both education and fun.

Thank you to all the workers, especially Drs. Pat Eck, Lou Grush, Debbie Arnold and the entire core committee, and Mrs. Norma Ward for their selfless dedication.

### ■ COMMITTEES WORKING

During the summer our NODA committee chairs have also been hard at work organizing their committees and planning programs for this coming year. None of this would happen without our wonderful executive director, Mrs. Mona Whittington, who helps keep us on the right track. I am especially in need of this help and it is always forthcoming. Mona is ably assisted by Mrs. Alice Corkern. My sincere thanks to them both.

We have been able to help them a little in their work by finding some money in the budget to upgrade the computer system, so that some of the ongoing tasks should be a little easier in the future. They are both very pleased with the changes.

### ■ NODA IS SELECTED

One of the exciting things that has started to happen over the summer is that NODA has been selected as a component society to participate in the ADA Field Service Program for Dental Society Membership Recruitment and Retention.

We have already had one meeting of the NODA Leadership and Membership Task Force, which was conducted by Ms. Michele Bresler Howard who is an ADA Field Services Manager. The ADA is providing all funding for the costs associated with Ms. Howard's travel expenses to and from New Orleans, and is also going to provide considerable funds for some of the new activities that we will initiate in our efforts to recruit and retain members.

Nationally, dentists do extremely well when it comes to membership in the ADA: 72.9% of dentists are members compared with 48% of physicians who belong to the AMA.

### ■ NODA HAS GOOD RECORD

We therefore have a strong political voice and the ADA has been able to exert some signif-

icant influence and has achieved some important benefits for all dentists such as the relaxation of the OSHA regulations.

Statistically, NODA seems pretty healthy with 71.8% membership (at the end of 1996). However, just one year earlier we had 74.4% membership, so we are going in the wrong direction!

Nationally, in the last five years, there have been losses in every age, sex, race and ethnic group, but they have been steepest among women, the young and minorities. We will address all groups, but also specifically target the areas of greatest loss.

We welcome the support of you, our current members, and encourage you to become involved. The next meeting of the Task Force will be on Wednesday, October 8, 1997. Let us know if you would like to come. Thanks to Dr. Kevin Collins for initiating these efforts, and to both Dr. Collins and Dr. Glenn Dubroc for instigating the Mentor program. More of this elsewhere in this issue.

### ■ MEETING ON STATE BOARD

One more important item of news: Dr. Tom Giacona was elected to serve Dr. Vince Liberto's unexpired term as the New Orleans area representative to the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. This term will end shortly and a meeting to vote for our representative for the next term will be held on September 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the LSU School of Dentistry.

Our general membership meetings are beginning with the Staff Appreciation Dinner on September 18. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Anthea Grogono

### SELF-HELP TEST FOR CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME

Tap your fingers along the inside of the opposite wrist. If you feel a "pins and needles" sensation, you *may* have CTS. (Note: this test brings on symptoms in almost 50 percent of the people who have CTS and in about 6 percent of people who do not have it.)

Source: *Occupational Health & Safety magazine*, Vol. 64, No. 9

### TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN NODA NEWS

When you patronize our advertisers – and we hope you will – tell them you saw their ad in *NODA News*.

These loyal friends help defray the costs of this monthly publication. ■

### WE WANT YOUR NEWS

Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, gained an elective or appointive office, written an article, delivered a paper, or rendered unusual public service, please call or write Dr. Kristi Soileau, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115. Phone: 899-2255.

*NODA News* is published every month with the exception of June and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Ads and news should be sent to Dr. Kristi Soileau, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115.

*NODA News* is a publication of the New Orleans Dental Assn., 2121 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 153, Metairie, LA 70001. Phone (504) 834-6449.



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# MOLARTHON *Hygienists' fifth annual 5-K Run/Walk, Fun Run Oct. 12*

October is National Dental Hygienists Month, and the New Orleans Dental Hygienists Association is busy making plans for its fifth annual **Molarthon**, a 1-mile Fun Run/Walk and a 5-kilometer Run & Walk event to be held on Sunday, October 12 at Audubon Park (Magazine entrance).

This year's event will benefit A CHILD'S WISH OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS, an organization which seeks to grant wishes for terminally ill children of the New Orleans area, and the educational fund of the New

Orleans Dental Hygienists Association.

Advance registration is available by calling 891-9999.

Pre-race activities and late registration start the morning of the event at 8 a.m. at the Magazine entrance to Audubon Park, with a Jazzercise Pre-Race Warm-Up at 8:15. The 1-Mile and 5-K events will take place at 8:30 and 9 a.m., respectively.

Official **Molarthon '97** t-shirts and VIP packages will be given to all registrants. After the event, a grand party will ensue with free

beer, drinks, fresh fruit and ice cream.

In addition to awards and prizes for top finishers, numerous prizes will be awarded at random, including weekends at local hotels and a host of other certificates from area merchants. For the children, Bippo the Hippo will be on hand.

To register, call Southern Runner at 891-9999 or meet at the Magazine entrance to Audubon Park, at 8 a.m. on the day of Molarthon '97, Sunday, October 12.

## *New FDA labels on fluoride toothpastes overstate danger – ADA*

The American Dental Association's Council on Scientific Affairs believes that one part of the warning now required on fluoride toothpastes by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) could unnecessarily frighten parents and children, and that the label greatly overstates any demonstrated or potential danger posed by fluoride toothpastes.

The label language, "If you accidentally swallow more than used for brushing, seek professional help or contact a poison control center immediately" is now required on all fluoride toothpastes. But the ADA, in a letter sent to the FDA last year, pointed out that a child could not absorb enough fluoride from toothpaste to cause a serious problem and that the excellent safety record on fluoride toothpaste argues against any unnecessary regulation.

Recent media coverage has focused attention on the safety of fluoride toothpastes, but the coverage has not revealed that the ADA limited the amount of fluoride allowed in ADA-Accepted toothpaste years ago for this reason.

In addition, back in 1991, the ADA began requiring that toothpaste manufacturers include the following language on all ADA-Accepted toothpastes: "Do not swallow. Use only a pea-sized amount for children under six. To prevent swallowing, children under six years of age should be supervised in the use of toothpaste." The new FDA labels are consistent with the ADA statements, with the exception of the poison control warning.

The ADA warning labels were required to help reduce the risk of mild fluorosis, which is a cosmetic defect noticeable as very light spots on permanent teeth and develops only while the teeth are still forming. Fluorosis only occurs when more than the optimal daily amount of fluoride is ingested.

Through its ADA Seal of Acceptance program, the toothpaste manufacturers must submit clinical data to the ADA in order to meet its guidelines on safety and effectiveness. Additionally, all products with the ADA Seal must submit the product's advertising and packaging for review so that consumers and dentists have assurance that the claims the product makes are supported by the clinical data.



## *Adhesive dentistry symposium Oct. 3-4*

A two-day symposium on "Adhesive Dentistry: State of the Art" will be given by Dr. John Olan Burgess October 3-4 at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel.

Dr. Burgess is chief of the LSUSD department of operative dentistry.

Registration fee is \$250 on or before September 1, \$350 after September 1 and on-site. Information and/or registration forms may be secured by calling: American Journal of Dentistry at (210) 493-9660.

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## New CDC guidelines on HIV exposure

Dr. James Briggs, Metairie member who is active in home care and nursing home dentistry and has developed and holds the patents for HIV home testing, calls attention to new CDC guidelines for fingerstick or exposure to HIV.

He cites an article in *Oral Care Report* which states: "It has been recommended that all dental care providers receive AZT prophylactically after high risk exposure to HIV."

The article states: "Importantly, receiving zidovudine (ZVD or AZT) after HIV exposure

provides protection reducing the risk of infection by about 79%."

Dr. Briggs writes: "The new guidelines state that in any meaningful exposure with needles, the situation be weighed and within 1-2 hours the healthcare provider should start AZT or some antiviral for 4 weeks."

"From what I surmise," writes Dr. Briggs, "in conversations with the CDC, future guidelines may state that those in risk of high exposure (dentists included) may want to keep a one

day supply of AZT on hand to start immediately on exposure and then have the necessary RX filled."

"Exposures may well be a life or death decision – immediately – so all dentists should know of these new guidelines."

*Oral Care Report* stresses in its article that "every dental office should adopt a standard set of precautions based on the premise that all patients are potential carriers of a transmissible agent."

## Mark Your Calendar

**NODA STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT**  
Thurs., Sept. 18, 1997 – 7:00 p.m.  
Chateau Country Club – New Orleans  
Mr. John Hoffman, Cajun Comedian

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., Oct. 15, 1997 – LSUSD – 7:00 p.m.  
"Dental Therapeutics"  
Dr. Mark Barry

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., Nov. 19, 1997 – LSUSD – 7:00 p.m.  
"Root-Tips"  
Dr. Lisa Germain

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., Dec. 10, 1997 – LSUSD – 7:00 p.m.  
"Esthetics/Implants"  
Dr. Avishai Sadan

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., Jan. 21, 1998 – LSUSD – 7:00 p.m.  
"Pedo Update"  
Dr. Clifton Dummett

**NODA GENERAL/ELECTION MEETING  
NEW MEMBER DINNER**  
Wed., Feb. 18, 1998 – Carlone's Restaurant  
"Posterior Cosmetics"  
Dr. John Schwartz

**NODA INSTALLATION DINNER**  
Sat., March, 1998 – Dr. Ken Schott  
(Date, Time, & Location – To Be  
Announced)

**NODA CRAWFISH PARTY/DANCE**  
Fri., Apr. 17, 1998 – 7:00 p.m.  
American Legion Home  
Band – "Stan and the Grooves"

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., May 20, 1998 – LSUSD – 7:00 p.m.  
"Restorative Materials"  
Dr. John Burgess

**49th ANNUAL NEW ORLEANS'  
DENTAL CONFERENCE**  
Sept. 2-5, 1998  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center  
Dr. F. Thomas Giacona

**MIAMI MEETING**  
The 1998 Miami Winter Meeting & Dental Expo is being held on January 29-31, 1998 at the Hyatt Regency Miami. Thursday evening hosts a sunset cocktail party open to all.  
For further information call 305-667-3647. Outside Florida or in Canada call 1-800-344-5660.



## Orofacial pain subject of study

A recent study suggests the combination of diazepam and ibuprofen, or diazepam alone, is more efficacious than either ibuprofen or a placebo in the management of chronic orofacial muscle pain.

In the *Journal of Orofacial Pain*, Vol. 11 No. 2 1997, Elyse Singer, MD, and Raymond Dionne, DDS, PhD, report that Ibuprofen alone appeared to be ineffective in producing pain relief in the study sample.

Thirty-nine subjects with daily or near-daily orofacial pain of at least three months' duration participated. Patients were randomly allocated to one of four treatments: placebo, diazepam, ibuprofen, or the combination of diazepam and ibuprofen.

Singer and Dionne suggest the etiology of muscle pain may not be inflammatory in nature. The authors caution that the small sample size in the present study requires replication of their findings in a larger sample of patients.

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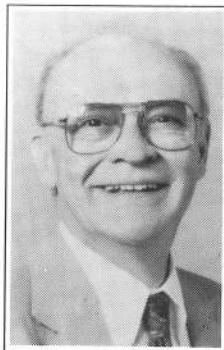
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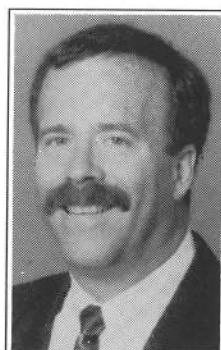
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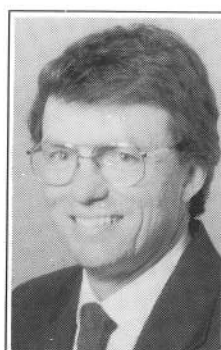
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DR. JEANSONNE



DR. BLOCK



DR. HOVLAND



DR. MOHAMED

• Dr. John Laird Shannon, NODA member and professor in the LSU School of Dentistry department of prosthodontics, has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his exemplary service as senior dental officer in the 2224th Medical Detachment, Detachment 5 Headquarters State Area Command, and as state dental surgeon for the Louisiana Army National Guard from 1992 to 1997.

Col. Shannon was cited for leadership, dedication to excellence, and commitment to accomplishing every mission.

• Billie G. Jeansonne, DDS, PhD, NODA member, has been appointed to the board of directors of the American Board of

Endodontics, the certifying board for endodontics. Dr. Jeansonne is associate professor and coordinator of postgraduate endodontics for the LSU School of Dentistry.

• Dr. Michael Block, NODA member and assistant dean for research at the LSU School of Dentistry, will receive the 1997 American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Committeeman of the Year Award at its annual conference in September.

• Dr. Eric J. Hovland, NODA member and dean of the LSU School of Dentistry, has been appointed to serve on the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American

Dental Association. The Commission on Dental Accreditation is responsible for the accreditation of all dental, advanced education, dental hygiene, and dental laboratory technology programs.

• Dr. Shawky Mohamed, professor in the LSU School of Dentistry department of prosthodontics, was nominated vice-president of the American Equilibration Society.



*“What do I say when my friends from dental school ask me what membership in organized dentistry can do for them? I tell them: ‘It depends on what you need right now.’”*



DR. LESLIE PARRO  
NODA MEMBER

*“And no matter what concerns they tell me they’re facing as new dentists, as an ADA member, I almost always feel confident telling them: ‘Yes — organized dentistry can help you with that.’ Even though my friends from dental school are in a variety of practice situations, we all share common goals — we want to provide the best care possible for our patients, to make good financial decisions that will keep our personal lives and careers on the right track, to meet colleagues who can give us good advice. Membership has helped me do all that.*

*“I know money is tight for new dentists — there’s no question about that. But I can honestly say that when I make out the check each year for my membership dues, I really do feel like I’m making an investment in my future.”*

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# INVESTIGATE



## CONFERENCE CORNER

### Moving to Convention Center in '98

As Dr. Anthea Grogono mentioned in her *President's Message* in July, the New Orleans Dental Conference is making a major move next year to the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Though still located in the heart of town, near the Hilton, Canal St. and French Quarter restaurants, the Convention Center makes possible a much larger Exhibit Hall, many more meeting rooms of various sizes, and the ability to accommodate much larger crowds.

Dr. F. Thomas Giacona is general chairman. He and his committee have already engaged some of the nation's top clinicians. The conference is scheduled for September 2, 3, 4, 5, 1998.

Watch for more news!

1999 will mark the 50th anniversary for the New Orleans Conference. A gala celebration is planned and – believe it or not – planning is already underway.

Dr. Melanie J. Andrews of Destrehan, LA will be general chairman.

Watch for next month's *NODA News* with photos and reports on the recent conference, the final event at the Hilton. It has been a long and happy relationship with the Hilton which will no doubt continue to house a large share of conference participants over the coming years.

## NODA PROFILE

*NOD News* continues a series of profiles of members of all ages and various lengths of membership in the Association. You may be next! Dentists are selected at random.

### Female dentist happy in her work

Women, a rarity in dentistry as recently as 10 years ago, are definitely blossoming out in the dental schools and in the profession.

Typical of the growing numbers of bright female practitioners is Dr. Stephanie Phillips who became an associate of Dr. Kathryn Sturm in the latter's strikingly attractive office at 6120 Magazine St. near Audubon Park.

In 1992 Dr. Phillips established her own practice in the same office while sharing overhead and a staff of 14. This year Dr. Sturm has taken on another female associate, Dr. Kathryn Philpott-Hill, as the progression goes on.

There were no dentists in Dr. Phillips' family, and she believes it was her admiration for her orthodontist, Dr. Ed Moise, that drew her towards the profession.

Her academic career began at Belmont Academy in Opelousas, moving on to LSU in Baton Rouge where she earned her associate degree in science and a BS in zoology. She entered the LSU School of Dentistry in 1985 and graduated in 1989.

Was being a woman an obstacle in the large dental school?

"I must say I was treated fairly at LSU," she says. "Some had warned me of, shall we say, a chauvinistic attitude. But truthfully I didn't find that. I liked all my professors."

Her views are borne out by the fact that she was elected president of the C. Edmund Kells Society and a member of Delta Sigma Delta. She also worked part-time at night as a tele-

phone operator at the dental school "where I was able to study," she adds.

Dr. Phillips is a general dentist. She has a special interest in endodontics, but "I enjoy all aspects of dentistry," she says. "It's very gratifying to be able to free people from pain or to improve their smile and, through that often their whole personalities."

"Dentistry is a great field for women," she says. "In contrast to medicine there is less on-call and emergency work, leaving more time for children and family."

In Dr. Phillips' case family includes her one-year-old daughter Phoebe and a little sister or brother due in November.

Dr. Phillips' husband, Jim Fortenberry, is a sales representative for Bard Radiology, an international firm. Though busy folks, they have restored one uptown house and as the family grows are looking for a larger one. They are also antique buffs.

"I love working uptown because I love the historic architecture," says Dr. Phillips. Dr. Phillips belongs to the ADA, NODA, and LDA and is an associate on the staff of Touro Infirmary. She is also active in the New Orleans Dental Conference.

## Did You Know?

At the monthly NODA general membership meetings, there's money to be won.

In addition to the scientific presentation (good for a CE credit), NODA hc'ds a monthly drawing at each meeting with the winner receiving a \$50 rebate on his or her dues.

Tickets in the monthly drawings are retained and a grand drawing for a FULL YEAR'S DUES REBATE is held at the May meeting.





ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month, NODA's Board of Governors meets to map out plans and projects. Joining them are committee chairs, delegates to the LDA and ADA, and other officials. Attendees pay for their own dinners. General membership meetings are also held monthly, usually featuring a clinical presentation followed by complimentary refreshments. Any member may attend a board meeting with advance notice.



138<sup>th</sup> ADA Annual Session

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(Classified ads are \$25 each. Send ads and checks to Peggy or Devona in Dr. Kristi Soileau's office, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115.)

**Continuing Education Corner**

*In an effort to keep the membership attuned to available C.E. opportunities at the L.S.U. School of Dentistry, this area will be devoted to informational updates.*

DATE	COURSE / TITLE		COST
Sept. 19-20	"Removable Dentures - Full & Partial" w/John C. Kois, DMD, MSD	14 cr. hrs.	Dentist \$ 495.00 Auxiliary \$ 185.00
Sept. 20	"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries"	Sold Out	Auxiliary \$ 95.00
Sept. 26-27	"Cosmetic Dentistry for Pediatric Patients" w/Drs. Lemon, Willhite, Dummett, Musselman and Robert Mopper	14 cr. hrs. 07 cr. hrs.	Dentist \$ 395.00 <i>Friday Only Price</i> Dentist \$ 245.00 Auxiliary \$ 95.00
Oct. 4	"Advanced Radiology" w/Dr. Kavas Thunthy	07 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary \$ 145.00
Oct. 30-Nov. 1	"Basic Orthodontic Course I" w/Dr. Chris Rankine	21 cr. hrs.	Dentist \$ 895.00
Oct. 31-Nov. 2	"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant"	Sold Out	Auxiliary \$ 369.00
November 8-16	Oral Surgery/Cosmetic Surgery Review Course		*Call for additional info
November 21	"Crown & Bridge Update" w/Dr. Wm. C. Strupp, Jr.	07 cr. hrs.	Dentist \$ 295.00 Auxiliaries \$ 145.00
November 21	"Hygienist-A Clinical Team Approach" w/Alice F. Beehner, RDH, BS	07 cr. hrs.	Hygienist \$ 195.00
December 5	"LAST CHANCE COURSE I" What you didn't learn in Dental School, w/Dr. John Burgess, et alia	07 cr. hrs.	Dentist \$ 195.00 Auxiliary \$ 95.00
1998			
January 10	"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries"	07 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary \$ 120.00

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