

# NODA News

## MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and maintain a cohesive organization that serves its membership by promoting the art, science, and professionalism of dentistry, and by communicating the value of oral health to the community.

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NO. 5

## YEAR'S DUES REBATE, COMPUTER EXHIBIT

# MILLENNIUM IS COMING, ARE YOU COMPUTER-READY?

## *On to Baton Rouge! Dentist Day at the Legislature*

Have you ever been to the Legislature? After all, this is where laws are made that we live under, including those that apply to dental practice.

Have you ever visited the Governor's Mansion? After all, you're a part-owner. And you can soon enjoy a reception there just for the dentists and their spouses.

It's all part of "Dentist Day at the Legislature" Wednesday, May 26 and you're invited! The bus, provided by NODA, leaves the Schwegmann's parking lot on Veterans at 10 a.m.

Dr. Randall Schaffer, chairman of the legislative committee, said food and libations will be provided by NODA going and coming on the bus.

Be sure to call Mona Whittington at 834-6449 if you will be attending. Take this opportunity to show your interest and support to our legislators.

## *Financial tape is available*

"Financially Arranged Dentistry with Cathy Jameson," an audio tape that addresses how to develop and present a written financial policy, is now available for free from CareCredit®.

Jameson is the president of Jameson Management, Inc., an international lecture and consulting business designed to increase productivity and profitability.

To receive a complimentary copy of the tape, call (800) 300-3046, ext. 519.

BY DR. CHRIS BROWN,  
(and the Scientific Committee)

The final meeting of the season for our NODA will be in the LSUSD Auditorium A at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19.

After completing our business meeting and congratulating ourselves for the outstanding lectures we were privy to, Dr. William Davenport (aka: Dr. Hard Drive) will provide a rousing lecture on the perils we may face as the millennium rolls over your computer's clock.

Several dental software companies have provided support for this meeting and will be around to show you what they have to offer us as we manage the maze of dental business.

As always attendance is rewarded with a one-hour CE credit and the usual libations after the lecture. Also, the free NODA dues giveaway will be made to the lucky attendee who is still awake when the names are drawn.

This drawing will be for the "Big Cahuna," the full year's dues rebate. Stubs turned in at the monthly meetings since September have been retained and will be "in the hat" for this drawing.

Lastly, a survey of suggested lecture topics for next year will be made so your wishes can be met. So, just make it your business to show up and grab all that your NODA has to offer. See you on the 19th!

## A LAGNIAPPE LECTURE

NODA has done it again! More bang for the dollar! Just when we said that our CE lecture series was ended, we got together with the department of prosthetics at LSUSD and will offer at NO FEE to all NODA members a two-



DR. DAVENPORT

hour CE program Tuesday, June 1 at 6 p.m. outlining a "practical approach to esthetic restorations."

Dr. Avishai Sadan has recruited Dr. Itzhak Shoher (not of Cajun descent) to take time out of his very busy schedule to visit our fair city and show us all a thing or two about fixed prosthetics.

Dr. Shoher trained at Tufts for a prosthetics degree and has nurtured his special interest in research with the introduction of over 30 patents in the field of restorative dentistry.

He is an active member of every important dental organization except the NRA and has published in the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* and *Quintessence of Dental Technology* most recently.

This is a great opportunity that has just been dumped into your lap; so, plan to attend on Tuesday, June 1 at LSUSD in Aud. A at 6 p.m. sharp.

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## President's Message

by GUY A. RIBANDO, DDS

It is a great honor to have been elected your president for the coming year. Let me begin by discussing three goals I would like NODA to pursue in the coming year.

### GOAL 1

I will propose to the officers and board that a sub-committee be set up within one of the 27 existing committees with a starting budget of a specific amount for volunteer dentists who give of their time and talent helping people in need outside of the United States.

The sub-committee would set up some simple rules to apply for the funds and/or supplies to aid them in their mission.

We will advertise the committee in *NODA News* to those dentists who would like to give supplies or instruments to be taken with the volunteer dentist. When he returns he can leave the supplies and instruments with a local dentist and in some cases doctor – compliments of NODA.

There are dentists who have dental supplies they no longer use. We will store these instruments, supplies and equipment for those dentists to take with them.

I, along with quite a few others here in N.O., have done volunteer work out of the country. I know this service will be a great help to the dentists who go out of their way to help the less fortunate in Third World countries.

We would ask that the doctor, when he returns, write a short article about his experiences along with a photo or two to put in the *NODA News* and the *Times-Picayune*. We can use the good publicity for them as well as the dental profession.

### GOAL 2

Over the past nine or 10 years, I have been involved with the Legislative Committee mainly because of Ralph Dauterive. With Ralph's retirement, most of the political activity of NODA has fallen into my hands. I am now the

secretary/treasurer of Louisiana Dental Political Action Committee, LADPAC, for short. Dr. Randy Schaffer is the Chair for Legislative.

It is through this committee and LADPAC that NODA makes its positions known.

I was surprised to find out recently that less than 10% of our members contribute in any way to political action while the other eight component associations have a minimum of 30%; some give 100%!

This year I would like to have NODA increase our percentage by 25%. I plan to explain in detail in the coming months just what these contributions and participation do for our organization.

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"I am excited about  
the coming year for me  
and for you because  
I intend to get you  
excited about the future  
of NODA."

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"Dentist's Day" is one of the ways we are getting participation. It's getting better every year. I am proud of NODA's activity and I think that the other components are taking notice of what we do.

I'm excited about "Dentist's Day at the Legislature" coming up on May 26. This is a really fun day for us and it also gives us an opportunity to meet the people who represent us. It is at "Dentist's Day" that we let our legislators know how we feel about certain issues. Over the last two years participation has increased dramatically and it will be even better this year.

### GOAL 3

In 1961 when I entered dental school I didn't realize how far I would go in organized dentistry. As a student for four years I belonged to the Student ADA and have been a member of organized dentistry ever since.

We need to impress on new dentists getting out of school *just how important they are to us*. There is a need to impress on them that we need them in organized dentistry for in numbers there is strength. We must explain that they really have a year to be a member at no cost and then they can decide if they want to stay with us. And it is in that first year that we must show these people how valuable we older dentists can be to them.

Being a dentist involves *service* to our patients, *service* to our community and most important *service* to our profession. As we work in our profession we find many ways to do these services.

- We serve our patients by providing the best service possible.
- We serve our community to joining civic, fraternal and religious organizations.
- Some of us *seem* to neglect the service we owe our profession. I know because it took me over 20 years of being just a dues-paying member to get actively involved by chairing a committee on the state level.

We owe it to dentistry to keep it strong and free from outside interference that tends to weaken it and not to parcel out pieces of our profession to a less qualified group.

We, and in my case in particular, can see the future of dentistry in the younger dentists who are our sons and daughters and other relatives – and believe it or not – we'll probably see some of our grandchildren as dentists. I expect at least two or three out of 11.

I have heard that excitement breeds excitement and I believe it. I am excited about the coming year for me and for you because I intend to get you excited about the future of NODA. I look forward to starting a lot of projects for future presidents to continue.

Guy A. Ribando, DDS  
President

*NODA News* is published every month with the exception of June and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 5th 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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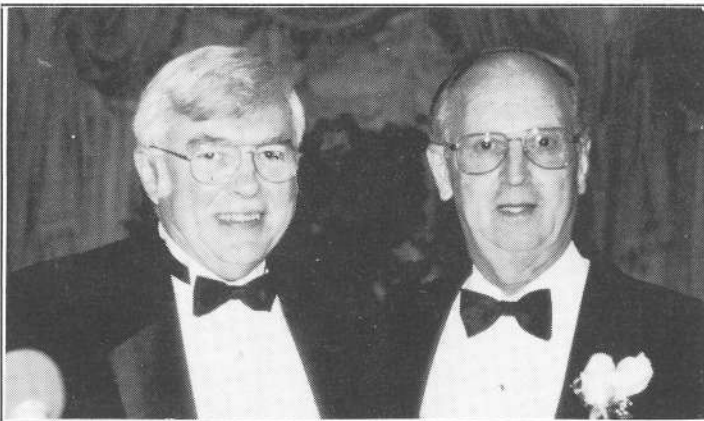
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President to President: Dr. Ken Schott, left, outgoing president, congratulates Dr. Guy A. Ribando, new NODA president, at the annual Installation Dinner at English Turn Golf and Country Club.



Mrs. F. Thomas Giacona accepts a bouquet from Dr. Schott for work done by the Alliance of NODA during the year.



Friends from "way back," Dr. John Shea, left, presents NODA Honor Dentist Award to Dr. Clay Hunley, recently retired oral surgeon.



A smiling foursome, from left: Mrs. Frank Martello, Diane Ribando, wife of the new president; Dr. Frank Martello, and Dr. David DeGenova.



In from Washington, D.C. were NODA member Dr. Bob Barsley and wife, Gwen.

***NODA NEWS GOES TO THE  
INSTALLATION BANQUET***



The dinner was a happy occasion for the Ribando family.



## Hepatitis C treatment is approved by FDA

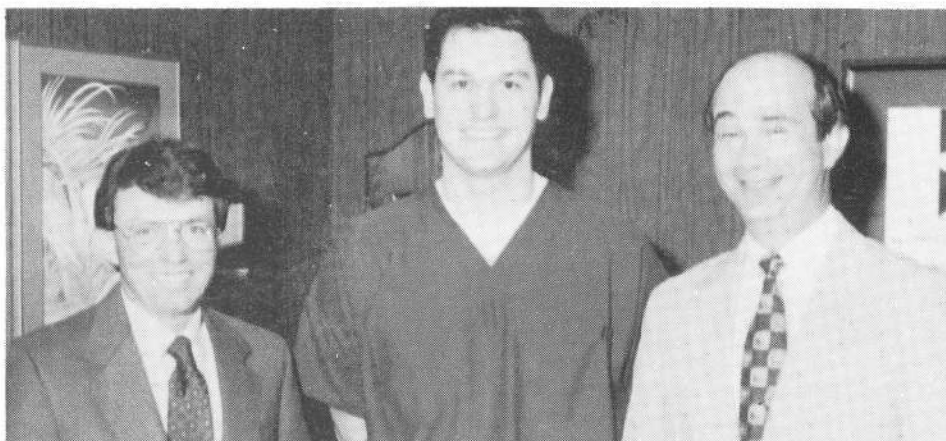
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of Rebetrone Combination Therapy to treat patients with chronic hepatitis C.

The treatment consists of Intron A (interferon alfa-2B recombinant for injection) and Rebetol (ribavirin) capsules. The combination had previously been approved only for those patients who relapsed following treatment with interferon alone.

The agency says that when patients receive the two therapies, levels of the hepatitis C virus in their blood appear to be more suppressed than when they receive only interferon. Still, it's unknown how the two treatments work together or whether they will delay the progression of liver disease.

The FDA says that signs of serious side effects – anemia and depression – should be closely monitored by physicians. Both Rebetol and Intron A have been found to cause death or structural malformations in the developing fetus in several animal species.

Female patients and female partners of male



Chris Robinson, center, fourth-year dental student at the LSU School of Dentistry, received from the Louisiana section of the Pierre Fauchard Academy its annual dental student scholarship award for his academic and clinical excellence and dedication to the advancement of dental literature. Left, with the recipient are Dr. Eric Hovland, LSUSD dean, and Dr. Frank Martello, chair of the academy's Louisiana section.

patients must not become pregnant during, and for six months after, the therapy.

Hepatitis is a blood-borne liver disease. An estimated four million people in the U.S. have chronic hepatitis C infection. In its chronic state, hepatitis C can lead to cirrhosis, liver cancer and liver failure.

Source: ADA ONLINE, ADA News Daily, Feb. 2, 1999.

**NODA NEWS accepts advertisements from a variety of sources, but makes no independent investigation or verification of any claim or statement contained in the advertisements. Inclusion of advertisements should not be interpreted as an endorsement by the New Orleans Dental Association or NODA NEWS.**

# It's Not What's in the Name, It's What's in the Plan!



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## NODA PROFILE

*NODA 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.

## A tradition of dentistry

To say there was a tradition of dentistry in the family of Dr. Harold F. Smith, Jr. is putting it mildly. Dr. Smith's father and three of his father's brothers were dentists!

With all those dentists around him, it was only natural when he was in high school for Harry Smith to say to himself, "I think I'll give it a try." He adds: "I'm glad I did."

Today Dr. Smith has a well-established practice at 4440 Chastant St. in Metairie in office facilities he shares with Dr. Richard Gallagher.

After Jesuit High came Loyola University, alma mater of his father and uncles, for pre-dent, followed by four years of dental school leading to his DDS in 1967.

A two-year stint in the Navy saw Dr. Smith serving as a dentist in a U.S. Marine Air Wing at Cherry Point, North Carolina.

Following his Navy service, Dr. Smith returned to New Orleans and opened a solo office in — where else in those days? — the Maison Blanche Building on Canal St. His father's office was right down the hall.

At his office in Metairie, Dr. Smith employs two part-time hygienists and three part-time office managers, working on a rotating basis. "They all know each other and communicate frequently," he says, "so it works out well." He doesn't use a dental assistant, preferring to work solo.

"I enjoy the actual work with patients," is the way he puts it.

The genial dentist comes across as a man happy in his life. He is married to a New Orleans girl, the former Bonnie Orr, whom he describes happily as "a gourmet cook."

They are the proud parents of two children, a son, Geoffrey, 24, a graduate student in the MBA program at Loyola, and a daughter, Sarah, 20, an undergraduate at Louisiana State where she is majoring in vocal performance.



DR. SMITH

He says Sarah has gotten him interested in opera and he attends operatic performances at Loyola and LSU.

He describes himself as "an avid gardener," an avocation he engages in at home as well as at a "getaway" cottage he and Bonnie have in Columbia, Mississippi, a town near Bogalusa. They also like to travel occasionally, he adds.

A longtime amateur photographer, Dr. Smith has purchased a digital camera. "I hope to incorporate it into the practice," he adds.

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#### ATTENTION FIRST DISTRICT DENTISTS

Dentists and spouses residing in the First Congressional District are urged to call Dr. Donald Toso and participate in Grassroots Political Activity.

The election campaign to replace Bob Livingston is presently being held and Dr. Toso, Grassroots Team Leader and 12th District ADPAC trustee, would like to establish a good working relationship with the new representative.

"We communicated with Bob and his staff on a regular basis, as did our staff in the ADA Washington office," commented Dr. Toso. "We need to mimic that relationship with the new representative."

Dr. Toso may be reached at 888-7967, 899-8383, or at home at 891-9817.

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CLINICAL DENTISTRY POSITION: THE

**Continuing Education Corner**

In an effort to keep you informed about available C.E. opportunities at the LSU School of Dentistry, this area will be devoted to informational updates.

DATE 1998	COURSE / TITLE			COST
May 11	"Esthetic Implant Restorations" w/Dr. Stephen M. Parel	03 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 95.00
			Auxiliary	\$ 75.00
May 21-22	"Biomechanics in Fixed Prosthodontics" (Preps and Impressions) w/Dr. John C. Kois	14 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 495.00
			Auxiliary	\$ 170.00
June 4-5	"Esthetic Review" with Drs. Jerry Chiche, Avishai Sadan, 07 cr. hrs. Jim Tomaszewski and Corky Willhite (Fri. only)	14 cr. hrs.	DDS 2-day	\$ 395.00
			DDS 1-day	\$ 195.00
June 12	"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries" w/Drs. Thunthy & Hubar	07 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary	\$ 95.00
			Auxiliary	\$ 120.00
July 9-11	"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant" a/k/a "EDDA" w/Ms. Dottie Austin	24 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary	\$ 120.00
				<b>SOLD OUT</b>
June 25-26	"Principles of Occlusion Series" w/Drs. Perry Hollebeak, Jim Guinn	42 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$2,495.00
July 30-31	and Ron Taylor *Prerequisite: Attendance on March 26-27.			
Aug. 27-28	"Functional Occlusion" w/Dr. John C. Kois	14 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 495.00
Sept. 24-25			Auxiliary	\$ 170.00
Sept. 24-26	"Local Anesthesia for the Dental Hygienist" w/Drs. Wood, Leigh, and Indovina	72 cr. hrs.	Hygienist	\$ 979.00
Oct. 29-31				
Dec. 10-12				

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school. Completion of a hospital-based General Practice Residency Program highly desirable. LSUMC is an EEO/AA employer. Nominations and curriculum vitae should be submitted to: Dr. John R. Ritchie, Chairman, General Dentistry Department, LSU School of Dentistry, Box 127, 1100 Florida Avenue, New Orleans, La. 70119-2799.

**NODA News**

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Kristi Soileau, David DeGenova, Editors

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