

# 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.

VOL. 40 JANUARY '01 NO. 1

## NODA gears up for National Children's Dental Health Month

February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

NODA, with the cooperation of the Alliance, will once again mount a major area-wide public information campaign to alert children and parents to the importance of lifetime dental care, beginning in the home.

"Sport a Winning Smile!" is this year's theme, capitalizing on the interest in the recent Olympics as well as football, basketball and other sports.

Chairman Dr. Kevin Lacour and committee are heading up NODA's program. It is one of the prime public service efforts of the Association.

NODA members traditionally join in through the "Adopt-a-School" program. Members are urged to call or write a school near their homes or offices and volunteer to make a talk to students.

Members can pick up a wealth of colorful posters and informational handouts by calling the NODA Central Office at 834-6449.

Supplementing the efforts by individual dentists is an extensive program of organized events. Those with definite dates at this writing include:

■ **Jan. 12, 9 a.m.** Annual Seminar for Teachers and School Nurses at LSU Dental School. Pediatric dentists and hygienists will speak. Door prizes and refreshments for participants.

■ **Feb. 2, 9 a.m.** Official Opening at Louisiana Children's Hospital.

■ **Feb. 12 & 13** – Alliance of NODA display and informational program for visiting children at LSU Dental School from 9:30-12:30 p.m.

■ **Feb. 20-22** – Repeat of Alliance program for additional children.

■ **Dental Health Booth at Lakeside Shopping Center.** (Date to be set.)

Many other activities and projects highlight the month-long effort.

These include "Dental Health Night" at a New Orleans Brass hockey game at the new New Orleans Arena. (Date to be set.) Happy Tooth, the larger than life-size figure, will appear at many events.

Spot announcements will appear on television stations and on the 40 screens of the Palace Theaters on both the East and West Banks.

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## NODA 2001 Leadership Candidates Announced

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. Carol Stuckey, president-elect, announced its candidates nominated for leadership positions open for election in 2001. Dr. Stuckey, who will assume the presidency, made the announcement at the general meeting Wednesday, December 13 at LSUSD.

Candidates are: 1st vice president, Dr. Glenn Dubroc; 2nd vice president, Dr. Melanie Andrews; secretary 2001/2002, Dr. David DeGenova; for Board of Governors 2001/2002/2003, Dr. Debra Arnold; for director to the LDA 2001/2002, Dr. Tom McCoy and for alternate delegate to the ADA, Dr. Anthea Grogono. Dr. Tom Giacoma will advance to president-elect; and Dr. Jim Roethele will serve as immediate past president.

Nominations of additional candidates for several of these positions were submitted to the

NODA Secretary, Dr. Mark Chaney, prior to the December meeting. Endorsed by Drs. Jim Roethele and Guy Ribando were Dr. David Hildebrandt for 1st vice president; Dr. George Cerniglia for Board of Governors 2001/2002/2003, and Dr. Mark Chaney for alternate delegate to the ADA.

Also endorsed for the position of alternate delegate to the ADA, was Dean Eric Hovland who was endorsed by Drs. Randy Green, Ron Mancuso and George Marse. After submission of the additional candidates, nominations were closed.

In keeping with NODA Bylaws, when more than one candidate is nominated for an office or board position, all candidates are given the opportunity to campaign for the desired position at the January general meeting to be held Wednesday, January 17 at 7 pm at LSUSD. So

(Continued on Page 6)

## Are you up-to-date on insurance?

Medical Savings Accounts will be the principal topic of NODA's general membership meeting Wednesday, January 17 at 7 p.m. in Auditorium A of the LSU Dental School.

W. Robert Ellis, executive vice-president and one of the owners of Gilsbar Inc., specialists in life and health insurance for professionals, will be the speaker.

Following the business meeting and lecture, there will be complimentary food and libations, plus the regular drawing for a \$50 rebate of the dues for some lucky member. All tickets are retained for the full year's dues rebate at the May meeting.

Bob Ellis, who has been with Gilsbar for 28 years, said medical savings accounts, known as MSA's, have been in existence since 1996. "They have picked up momentum in the last couple of years. Now 80% of our new medical sales are medical savings accounts," he added. Employees can also be covered.

Between the high deductibles and tax breaks, the savings to dentists can be between \$3,000 and \$5,000 in premiums and taxes.

Mr. Ellis said his presentation will cover an update on the health insurance marketplace, including managed care; benefit programs for employees, and MSA's.



MR. ELLIS

## President's Message

by JAMES D. ROETHELE, DDS

### THOUGHTS ON DR. WIRTH'S 'CROSS OF LIFE'

I've learned that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become. I've learned that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

As I sit down to compose this article a TV program, "101 Things To Do Before You Die" is playing. It is showing remarkable places to visit and things to do that we all dream about. This is the perfect time to review the Dr. F. Harold Wirth lecture of the "Cross of Life".

#### family work + play worship

It is the balance of the priorities that make life worthwhile. We are all committed to taking care of our family and friends. Our patients and practices are taken care of best if we are relaxed by an adequate amount of recreation and rest.

Those of us who are involved with organized dentistry and the betterment of our profession should feel satisfaction because we are working hard to make this world a better place and making it easier for the members of our profession to provide for their practices, patients and families.

All this is possible through the Grace of God. I wake up every morning thankful for so many things in my life. I believe this is my heaven.

Bombarded by conflict in litigation, government, and poor attitudes all around us makes it difficult to stay focused on what is good in our lives. We don't have to look far to find a reason to smile. Just as Dr. Wirth repeated many times – take care of the patients and the money will take care of itself – I am comforted to be a give in a world of takers.

*Be Good.*

*James D. Roethle DDS, FAGD*

## Welcome New Members

Aldy, Melissa J.  
Anderson, Mark D.  
Bowens, Ezra, Jr.  
Cao, Lethus T.  
Causin, Chantal L.  
Cazaubon, Barry J.  
Cresson, Russell J.  
Cuartas, Pedro J.  
Delhomme, Guy M.  
Dumas, Jay C.  
Gallagher, Michael W.  
Graham, Jefferson D.  
Long, Henry A., Jr.  
Maestri, Jeffrey, M.  
Martin, Ambrose M.  
Melton, Kirk E.  
Mermilliod, David W.  
Nguyen, Bao-Loan T.  
Noe, Stephanie, A.  
Norton, Laurence T., III  
Owens, Kris W.  
Parker, Jayson D.  
Ribando, Guy An., III  
Richard Lionel, Jr., Jr.  
Shaw, Rhonda A.  
Wascom, Nicole  
Wexler, Scott H.

## Gum disease can pose risk of stroke

People with severe gum disease are at twice the risk of suffering a stroke as those with good oral health, University of Buffalo researchers concluded based on the first national, population-based study of periodontal disease and cerebrovascular disease.

"This is the first major study to look at this question," said lead author Tiejun Wu, MD, PhD, research assistant professor at the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.

"There have been a few other very limited studies, but the number of subjects was small and drawn from restricted populations."

"This study also looked at subgroups – men, women, blacks and non-blacks. Periodontal disease was associated with increased risk for

cerebrovascular disease in all groups."

The increased risk was found only for stroke caused by blocked arteries, the most common type of stroke. The researchers found no relationship between oral health status and stroke caused by hemorrhage inside the brain.

Periodontal disease is thought to increase the risk of stroke in much the same way it increases the risk of heart attack, Dr. Wu said. "Bacteria, endotoxins and other bacterial products from gum pockets enter the circulation and may promote an inflammatory response, causing cells to proliferate in the blood vessels and the liver to increase production of clotting factors."

"Several periodontal pathogens can also induce platelet aggregation and may promote

plaque formation that can cause blockages and clotting," he said.

The cohort for this study comprised 9,962 adults between the ages of 25 and 75 who took part in the first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, conducted from 1972-74 and its follow-up survey, which was completed in 1992.

Dr. Wu and colleagues compiled information on the occurrence of stroke among participants by checking hospital records and death certificates in the follow-up survey. They assessed the risk of cerebrovascular events as a whole and of hemorrhagic and non-hemorrhagic stroke.

Source: ADA.org, Today's News, October 27, 2000

*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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### SUPPLIES SOUGHT FOR NURSING HOMES

Dr. Jimmy Briggs, who has been calling on nursing homes for 23 years, has a request for his colleagues in NODA.

His elderly friends – he and colleagues now have 14 facilities – have an urgent need for dental supplies (toothbrushes, denture cups, poly grip, toothpaste, etc.) “anything I can give out at my nursing homes.”

Offices with supplies that want to donate can mail them to Dr. Briggs – “even boxes are easy to mail. They can drop them by my office, or, if the doctor’s office calls, I might even be able to pick them up myself,” says Dr. Briggs. “Believe me, these people really need and appreciate these items,” adds Dr. Briggs.

### DENTAL HEALTH MONTH (Continued from Page 1)

There will be proclamations by Governor Foster and Mayor Morial designating February as Children’s Dental Health Month. Other sponsorships are still in the arrangements stage at this writing.



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## Alliance active in Dental Health Month

The Alliance of the New Orleans Dental Association, formerly the Auxiliary, has worked with NODA on National Children's Dental Health Month for half a century. Formerly the event was National Children's Dental Health Week. It was lengthened to a month several years ago.

The Alliance developed and had the costume made for Happy Tooth, the larger-than-life figure that is prominent in most NCDH Month educational and promotional projects.

Gwen (Mrs. Thomas) Giacona, Alliance president, is working closely with the NODA committee again. Vera (Mrs. George) Marse is a longtime stalwart, taking on just about any task needed from donning the Happy Tooth or Tooth Fairy costumes to arranging Children's Dental Health Night at the Brass hockey game.

A major educational project of the Alliance is its programs at LSU Dental School. Costume skits and games with dental health themes will be held for elementary school students Feb. 12-13 and 20-22. As always, they welcome help from other Alliance members.



VERA MARSE



GWEN GIACONA

## Adopt a School in February

Here's a way you can play a part in National Children's Dental Health Month.

Call a school near your office or home. Offer to give a talk on teeth, nutrition, dental accidents, etc. If they ask, suggest the second or third grade. (Some schools may want to combine a couple of grades, or even include the whole school.)

Call the NODA Central Office (834-6449) to learn where you can pick up a packet of posters or other material to leave at the school. You may know a detail man who might supply you with other material – maybe even toothbrushes to give away.

If you know someone in a Parents Club, there's another speaking opportunity, and for younger dentists, a possible practice builder.

## Local firms join in program

**Kentwood Water, Winn Dixie, LSUSD, Barbe's Dairy, Sheriff Charles Foti, Lakeside Shopping Center, Louisiana Children's Hospital, New Orleans Brass...**

These are some of the firms and organizations that assist NODA in its areawide sponsorship of National Children's Dental Health Month each February.

Kentwood prints thousands of coloring sheets on dental care distributed by teachers and visiting dentists. Winn-Dixie Stores each year has run a dental message from Dudley the Dinosaur in its advertising section. LSUSD cooperates in numerous ways, including hosting the annual Teacher's Seminar.

Barbe's Dairy prints a CDHM message on the side of its milk cartoons. Sheriff Foti features the program in a huge mural on the side of the building bordering the Expressway. Lakeside hosts a dental health presentation in the mall, and the New Orleans Brass annually has a Children's Dental Health Night at a hockey game.

NODA thanks one and all.

### LET US HAVE YOUR NEWS.

NODA News wants to hear from you. Births? Weddings? Honors and Awards?  
Opened a new office? Taken an associate? Retired? Written an article or book?

My news \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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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.

## Dr. Nasr: A big decision

In 1996 Dr. Hisham Nasr made a life-changing decision. After 21 years in study, research, and teaching, he decided to mainly focus his activity in private practice.

Since that decision, he has fashioned a growing practice specializing in periodontics with primary focus on restorative related esthetic surgical procedures and implants. He currently enjoys working at 2820 Napoleon Avenue, Suite 470, in uptown New Orleans.

How are things working out? Apparently very well. After working in several office locations in that area, the doctor is designing and equipping a brand new office at 337 Metairie Road in Old Metairie to open in 2001.

As a high school senior Dr. Nasr represented his native Egypt as a junior goodwill ambassador in upstate New York where international representatives spent a summer devoted to world peace and friendship. Ever since that 1977 visit, Dr. Nasr has maintained close friendships in the U.S. and has had a life-long dream to study in the country he held in the highest regard.

He came to the U.S. in 1991 to continue his Ph.D. research in implant surgery at the LSU department of periodontics. He later received his postgraduate certification in periodontics at LSUSD and joined the faculty in 1994.

Before coming to this country, Dr. Nasr was no stranger to U.S. dentistry. He graduated from Victoria College in 1978 as 1st in his class and valedictorian, and earned his DDS from Alexandria University (where the primarily U.S. trained faculty follows a combined ADA-European dental curriculum) in 1983 as No. 1 out of 228 graduates. Dr. Nasr also obtained his MS in oral surgery from Alexandria University in 1987, again as No. 1 graduate.

In addition to a number of recent publications, Dr. Nasr has lectured to the European

Academy of Esthetic Dentistry, American Academy of Periodontology, Scandinavian Dental Associations, the American Academy of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant conferences, and was the featured annual speaker at the European Association of Military Periodontists.

He has served as editor and executive committee member of the International Association of Dental Students with publications by Quintessence International, and was a delegate to IADS meetings in Finland, Puerto Rico, England, USA, Singapore, and Italy.

When not working or teaching (he continues



DR. NASR

## Dues News

All members should have received their 2001 dues renewal forms which were mailed the last week in November. If you have not yet received your form, please call either Mona or Alice at the Central Office, and another form will be sent immediately. Remember, dues for the year, 2001 are due by January 1, and must be paid by March 31 to maintain membership in good standing.

Please review your form carefully and make any changes needed to insure all personal information is current and accurate. In addition, please review carefully the letter and request for gathering information on the website/roster form mailed with the dues renewal form. Both forms should be returned, with appropriate dues payment, to the NODA Central Office prior to the deadline dates.

Remember, if you have any questions call Mona or Alice at 834-6449 before you send in your forms.

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as faculty on the LSU Cosmetic Continuum) he enjoys collecting art, traveling, and you guessed it, "lecturing". He is fluent in Arabic, French, and English, and has improved his Spanish since getting married to Ana Margarita Saenz de Nasr, formerly of Guatemala. She too is a periodontist who trained at New York University and graduated from LSU's department of periodontics.

He credits his specialty for introducing him to his wife. The couple first met at the annual periodontics meeting in New York city. The duo like the New Orleans living "very much," especially the gourmet cuisine, and are looking forward to practicing together at their new office location.

### ROSSNER SEMINAR SET JANUARY 26

"Restorative Materials in the New Millennium" is the title of the 2001 Charles W. Rossner, DDS Seminar Friday, January 26 at the New Orleans Airport Hilton. Instructor will be Dr. Karl F. Leinfelder, DDS, MS.

The all-day seminar (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) is an annual project of the Touro Infirmary Foundation. Dr. Dov Glazer is committee chairman.



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**NOMINEES**

(Continued from Page 1)

plan now to attend this important meeting and listen to the candidates so you can make an informed decision.

Election of Candidates will take place at the Annual Election/New Member dinner meeting Thursday, February 15, 2001 at Carlone's Restaurant. Mark your calendar to attend and vote for the candidate of your choice! Election will be by written ballot listing all candidates nominated for each position.

**DUES NEWS**

(Continued from Page 5)

Also, there are several options for payment of current and future dues. Remember, we offer a convenient and painless way for paying your dues a year in advance - NODA's Automatic Bank Draft Program. Sign up by January 10, 2001 and a monthly installment will be deducted from the specified checking

**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	2001	COURSE / TITLE		TUITION
January 19-21		"Cosmetic Maxillofacial Surgery" w/Drs. Kent, Ghali, Stover, et alia	23 cr. hrs.	Call C.E. Office
February 2-3		"High Tech Continuum I" w/Dr. Barry Freyberg	14 cr. hrs.	DDS \$ 465.00 Aux. \$ 169.00
February 10		"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries" w/Drs. Thunthy & Hubar	07 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary \$ 120.00
February 16-18		"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant" a/k/a "EDDA" w/Dottie Austin, CDA, EDDA	24 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary \$ 369.00
February 14-18		"Perio Review Course" w/Dr. Raymond Yukna, et alia	40 cr. hrs. 24 cr. hrs.	5-day \$1,195.00 3-day \$ 895.00
February 17		"Oral Medicine Review for the General Practitioner" w/Dr. Michael Glick	07 cr. hrs.	DDS \$ 249.00 Aux. \$ 129.00
March 2-5		"Choosing The Box" w/Drs. Jimmy Eubank & Jeff Morley	25 cr. hrs.	DDS* \$3,950.00 Aux. \$ 350.00
				*DDS Fee includes one Auxiliary
March 9		"Extracting Dental Information from the Internet" w/Julie Schiavo, MLIS and Elizabeth Strother, MLS	02 cr. hrs. 9-11:00 a.m.	ALL \$ 35.00
March 23		Alumni Day Presentation w/Drs. Henry Gremillion, Jim Weir, and Corky Willhite	05 cr. hrs.	DDS* \$ 149.00 Hygienist* \$ 119.00 Aux. \$ 119.00

\*Reduced fee for LSUSD Alumni Members

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through December, 2001. By that time, projected dues for the year 2002 will then be paid in full!

You can continue "rolling over" in the program each year by completing an authorization form through the Central Office. Give it some thought. You'll never have to worry about paying your dues in a lump sum again! As always, call Mona or Alice at the Central Office for more details.

**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.

**NODA News**

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Kristi Soileau, David DeGenova, Editors

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