

# 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. 39 DECEMBER '00 NO. 10**

**DECEMBER 13 MEETING**

## *Dr. Janet Leigh to speak on infectious diseases*

"Infectious Disease in the Dental Office" is the title of the C.E. portion of NODA's general membership meeting Wednesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. in Auditorium A of the LSU Dental School.

The speaker will be Dr. Janet Leigh, formerly of England, now assistant professor of oral medicine and general dentistry at LSUSD.

Following the business meeting and lecture, there will be complimentary food and libations, plus the monthly drawing for a \$50 dues rebate.

All tickets will be retained for the full year's dues rebate drawn at the May 2001 meeting.

A native of Yorkshire, England, Dr. Leigh received her BDS from Guy's Hospital Dental School, University of London, and her DMD from the School of Dental Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania where she completed a graduate program in oral medicine.

She conducted a private dental practice for five years in England before coming to the U.S. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Dr. Leigh participates in faculty practice at LSU.



**DR. LEIGH**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., Jan. 17, 2001 – LSUSD – 7:00 pm  
"Update in Health Insurance"  
Mr. Bob Ellis

**NODA GENERAL/ELECTION MEETING & NEW MEMBER DINNER**  
Thurs., Feb. 15, 2001  
Carlone's Restaurant  
"TMJ Dysfunction"  
Dr. Shawky Mohammed

**LSUSD ALUMNI DAY & TABLE CLINIC COMPETITION**  
Fri., March 23, 2001 – LSUSD  
(Program to be Advised)

**NODA INSTALLATION DINNER**  
Sat., March 31, 2001 – 7:00 pm  
(Location to be Advised)  
Dr. Carol A. Stuckey

**NODA CRAWFISH BOIL**  
Fri., April 20, 2001 – 7:00 pm  
American Legion Home  
(RSVP required)

**NODA GENERAL MEETING**  
Wed., May 16, 2001 – LSUSD – 7:00 pm  
"Endodontia Update"  
Dr. Lisa Germain, DDS

**NEW ORLEANS DENTAL CONFERENCE**  
September 19 through 22, 2001  
"Flavor of the Future"  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center  
Website: [www.nodental.org](http://www.nodental.org)

## *Tuberculosis study requested*

Congressional auditors will launch a priority investigation of the public health capacity to control drug-resistant tuberculosis, a General Accounting Office spokeswoman said.

Republican Reps. Tom Biley (VA) and Fred Upton (MI) called on the GAO to "undertake a study of the U.S. efforts to control and eliminate TB and to focus specifically on efforts to control multi-drug resistant TB."

They asked congressional auditors to examine

- the use of federal resources to strengthen TB surveillance and improve laboratory capacity for identifying mycobacterial species and conducting real-time drug susceptibility testing;

- the effectiveness of state and federal efforts in targeting TB prevention and treatment services to hard-to-reach populations and groups at high risk for multi-drug-resistant TB;
- the history of White House budget requests and congressional appropriations since 1989 for TB prevention and control at the federal level.

The two lawmakers cited published news reports on the international spread of what they said are "lethal strains" of drug-resistant TB. Source: [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org), *ADA News Daily*, March 27, 2000.



## President's Message

by JAMES D. ROETHELE, DDS

### CONNECTING WITH PEOPLE

People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating and food on the floor."

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone.

Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched it all in silence. One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?"

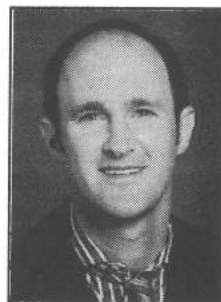
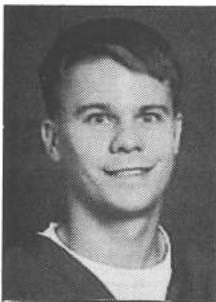
Jus as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food when you grow up."

The four-year-old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table.

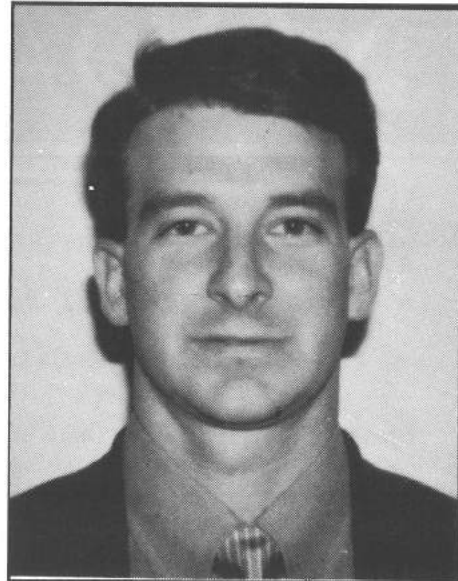
For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled. Children are remarkably perceptive. Their eyes ever observe, their ears ever listen, and their minds ever process the messages they absorb. If they see us patiently provide a happy home atmosphere for family members, they will imitate that attitude for the rest of their lives.

The wise parent realizes that every day the building blocks are being laid for the child's future. Let's be wise builders and role models. "Lord, we ask not that you move the mountains, but that you give us the strength to climb them." Life is about people connecting with people, and making a positive difference. "Take care of yourself, . . . and those you love, . . . today, . . . and everyday!" Have a great holiday!

James D. Roethele, DDS, FAGD



**WINNERS:** Michael Dragon, left, and Sam Pulitzer, second-year and third-year LSUSD students, have received Grace Voigt Scholarships for leadership, high ethical standards, commitment to the dental profession, and concern for fellow students and patients. The school awards the scholarship in honor of the late Mrs. Grace Voigt, long-time director of student affairs.



DR. LACOUR

## Children's Dental Health Month coming up

Dr. Kevin Lacour has been appointed chairman of NODA's observance of National Children's Dental Health Month February 1-28.

His committee has been working for several months to plan a full schedule of events to call attention to the importance of lifetime dental care, beginning in the home.

Children's Dental Health Month was begun by the ADA more than a half-century ago and is conducted by component and constituent chapters throughout the nation.

First event in NODA's schedule will be a Teacher's Seminar January 12 at the LSU School of Dentistry to alert teachers, school nurses and day care workers to developments in dental care of children and to urge them to continue the month-long activities in the schools and other public places.

Official opening of NCDH Month will be February 5 at Louisiana Children's Hospital 9 a.m.-12 noon. More news on the observance and on NODA's events will be published in the January *NODA News*.

*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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EVERY DENTIST IS ASKED ABOUT THUMB SUCKING

## Here's a new approach

There is a new weapon against nocturnal digit sucking among preschool children, a habit that can result in anterior open bite, increased overjet, development of posterior crossbite and increased risk of trauma to maxillary incisors.

The solution is simple, says Dr. Steven M. Adair, chair of the department of pediatric dentistry, Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. Wrapping a child's elbow area from mid-forearm to mid-arm while a child is falling asleep is a simple appliance technique that can end the habit, writes Adair in an article in the November/December 1999 *Pediatric Dentistry*, journal of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

The child must want to discontinue thumb- or finger-sucking or it is unlikely the technique will be successful, Adair writes. Parents should purchase a 2-inch or 3-inch-thick Ace Bandage (costing about \$5 to \$6) and give it to the child to be kept in the bedroom. The child also will need a calendar covering about six weeks, adhesive stars, and colored pencils or crayons.

After children brush their teeth, they then bring the Ace Bandage to a parent without prompting. The bandage should be wrapped snugly (but not too tightly) on the arm used for the habit. The hand is not covered and the bandage should not impede blood flow.

Children will find they can still place the digit in the mouth. As they tire, however, the elasticity of the bandage will bring the hand away from the mouth. The next morning, the child should receive a star or check mark on the calendar. A second star is entered if the child believes he or she slept through the night without sucking the thumb. The program should be continued for at least six weeks.

Parents and dentists play an important role in the technique, Adair writes. Parents should not discourage digit-sucking habits during the day by commenting on it. Instead, they should praise children whenever they are not sucking a thumb.

### STUDY LAUNCHED ON DENTISTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Oregon Health Sciences University is conducting a qualitative investigation on the education and practice of dentists with disabilities.

OHSU invites such dentists to share the aspects of their education and profession that have been positive and/or negative in relation to their disability.

To participate, contact Jared Schultz, project coordinator, at 1-503-232-9154, ext. 128. Source: *ADA News*, March 20, 2000.

Parents can give children small rewards after 14 stars are earned during treatment. A member of the dental staff should call the child at a prearranged time weekly throughout the program to express interest in the progress and offer support and encouragement.

If parents believe the habit is broken, they should monitor the child for a week while falling asleep and again after the child has been asleep for a while. If satisfied the habit has been broken, parents may bestow a final, bigger reward to positively reinforce the behavior.

Adair says a success rate of about 60 percent has been achieved in children who want to end the habit and when calls from the dental office to the child are incorporated.

Because the program requires some office staff time to make telephone calls, it is appropriate to consider a modest fee to recover the expenses of conducting the program, which include the staff member's time to explain the program, telephoning the patient, printing/duplicating costs and other overhead expenses. Parents should be aware that the fee likely will not be covered by third-party payers. (From the ADA)



**WINNER:** Marlon Henderson, fourth-year dental student at the LSU School of Dentistry, won first place in the 2000 Student National Dental Association Table Clinic Competition in Washington, D.C., with "Sheer Bond Strength to Wet and Dry Dentin."

## Picture from the Past



The late Dr. Dave Hoffman and friends enlisted the help of an Audubon Zoo resident a few years ago to publicize National Children's Dental Health Month. Dental Health Month comes up February 1-28, 2001.

Looking Back

## How dentistry has changed

NODA News continues a series of reflections of seasoned dentists on changes in the profession.

BY FRANK L. HERBERT, DDS

After graduating from the dental school of Loyola University in 1948, and finishing one year of oral surgery training at Charity Hospital, I was notified by my draft board that they could not authorize the additional years necessary to complete my surgical training, so I joined the Navy Dental Corps. **Change #1** – young dental graduates of today do not have the draft hanging over their heads today to determine their futures.

**Change #2.** While I was in dental school and during the five years I served as a dentist in the Navy, the operating equipment of the time was a belt-driven handpiece that turned at a speed of 3 to 6,000 revolutions per minute. The only cutting tools available for insertion into the handpiece were latch-type steel burs and carborundum stones.

At this slow speed, the steel bur required lots of pressure to cut through tooth structure and inevitably turned blue from generated heat. The addition of resistors to the electric engine as well as large drive pulleys to the system revved the handpieces up to about 30,000 rpms and improved the cutting ability of the bur. However, this was still not fast enough to permit the use of carbide burs and diamond instruments.

Eventually, the air-driven Borden handpiece, developed by the Navy, increased handpiece speeds to about 100,000 rpms and facilitated the use of carbides and diamonds to revolutionize cavity preparation with less pulp damage. Progressive improvement of the air-driven handpiece led to the wonderful 300,000-plus rpm instruments of today.

Development of the air-driven handpiece facilitated **Change #3**, namely, the revolutionary concept of seated 4-handed dentistry. The collaborative efforts of dental innovators Dr. Elbert Thompson of Utah, who invented the high velocity oral evacuator; Dr. John Anderson of Illinois, developer of the contour dental chair, and Dr. Dave Hoffman of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who applied the ergonomically efficient principles of time and motion to patient care, made this revolutionary change from stand-up dentistry possible.

It was my good fortune to know these men personally through our mutual friend, the late, great Dr. F. Harold Wirth, and also to be the first Louisiana dentist enrolled in the "Four-handed Dentistry" course offered by the University of Alabama after their research in this area was complete.



DR. HERBERT

**Change #4.** During World War II, the Japanese held control of the waters of the Pacific in which the seaweed, kelp, grew. Because kelp was the source of the main ingredient of reversible hydrocolloid, accurate impression-taking was not possible, hence precise indirect technics for doing gold castings were a thing of the past.

Copper band impressions using modeling compound as the impression material were made of the abutment tooth preparations followed by plaster pick-up impressions of the copper bands in place. Because this was a very cumbersome and difficult technic to make a simple 3-unit bridge, you can guess that very little fixed bridgework was done during these years. A crash program to find a substitute for hydrocolloid ensued, and alginate impression material came upon the scene – a very primitive and very dimensionally unstable material! It was years before the alginate that we know today was perfected.

**Change #5.** When treating children with badly broken teeth, the restorative material of choice (nay, of necessity) for many years was copper amalgam. Despite its reddish ugly appearance, many broken down primary teeth were held together with copper amalgam until exfoliation occurred. The stainless steel crown did not appear on the scene until the 1950s when Dr. William P. Humphries, a Denver pedodontist, carved the dies from which the first "Rocky Mountain" steel crowns were fabricat-

ed. It was my privilege and pleasure to have learned the "tricks" of steel crown trimming, modification, and placement from Dr. Humphries himself.

Believe me, in the care of child patients, this was a fantastic change that improved my professional life since over 30 years of it involved the practice of pediatric dentistry. Another change in pediatric dentistry occurred with the acceptance of the social responsibility of recognizing and reporting child abuse by detecting certain injuries to the face, head, and mouth.

These are just a few of the changes in the practice of dentistry that occurred during my career as a dentist. I hope that considering them will make young dentists more appreciative of what the profession offers them today.

Dr. Herbert is a former president of NODA, general chairman of the Conference, and winner of NODA's Honor Dentist award. Nationally, he has served as president of the American Academy of Dental Practice Administration and the American Society of Dentistry for Children.



**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.

The late Dr. Rossner was a long-time staff member at Touro. The seminar is AGD sponsor approved (six lecture hours).

## NODA PROFILE

NODA News continues a series of profiles of members of all ages and various lengths of membership in the Association.

## Dr. Wascom: Become involved!



Dr. Wascom with wife Marlene, left, daughter Dr. Nicole Wascom and Dr. Eduardo Menendez.

"I love dentistry. It's the greatest of professions. I became involved late in organized dentistry. I regret I didn't start sooner."

Dr. Vance L. Wascom is very much involved in organized dentistry today. He is in his third year as a member of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.

The two main objectives of the state board are "to protect the public and to administer the licensing examination of dentists." He is delighted that "the state board for the first time will give a pre-graduation exam. It means that candidates will take the exam in March and have their licenses before they graduate."

He added: "This is going to be a wonderful thing for students, especially those who are in debt, perhaps have bought a practice or have sizable loans. They can go immediately to work."

It was in 1965 that Dr. Wascom began his own career as a practitioner. A native of Bogalusa, LA, he graduated from Bogalusa High in 1955. After three years in the Army, he took his pre-professional studies at the University of Southern Mississippi and Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe before entering Loyola Dental School where he earned his DDS in 1965.

He spent a year in Luling as an associate in the office of Dr. Freeman Heck, opening his own office in 1966. In 1967 he became a consultant at the Metropolitan Development Center in Belle Chasse where he today serves as director of dental services.

After 14 years in his first office, Dr. Wascom bought an old Kentucky Fried Chicken

outlet on the West Bank and renovated it into a modern dental office.

There he practices with his daughter, Dr. Nicole Wascom, and her husband, Dr. Eduardo Menendez, his associates who also work in Mandeville and Covington.

Dr. Wascom is married to the former Marlene Collins of New Orleans ("the best thing that ever happened to me"). She is his office manager. Other staff members include a dental hygienist, dental assistant and receptionist.

His son, Vance Wascom, lives in St. Paul, Minn., where he operates Tour Supply, Inc., providing equipment to touring bands.

When not in his office, the genial practitioner most often can be found working in the garden of his home in Lakeview.

Returning to his opening subject, Dr. Wascom's message to dentists is: "Get involved. The work of those who give of their time to NODA, the Conference and other projects is tremendous. Only by getting involved one's self can we appreciate what they do!"

### Anthony DiVincenti appointed by LSUSD

LSU School of Dentistry has appointed Anthony J. DiVincenti assistant dean of fiscal affairs. Prior to this appointment, he was a fiscal analyst for the LSU School of Medicine.

He has received the LSU School of Medicine Administrator of the Year Award and the LSU Health Sciences Center Pfizer Excellence Award in Research, Education, and Patient Care.

## Benefits That Count...

### ADA CONTINUING EDUCATION RESOURCES

To help members make confident CE choices, the ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) evaluates CE provider organizations in 14 aspects of quality and holds them accountable for maintaining high standards. In addition, twice each year, the ADA produces a *Continuing Education Course Listing* to aid dentists seeking information on CE activities. The listing is available free-of-charge in the members-only area of the Association's Web site ([www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)) or for purchase through the *ADA Catalog* (1-800-947-4746). For more information, call the Council on Dental Education and Licensure at ADA extension 2869.

1-800-621-8099

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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.

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Kristi Soileau, David DeGenova, Editors

**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	2000	COURSE / TITLE	TUITION
December 8		"Last Chance IV: What They Didn't Teach You In Dental School" w/Drs. Cade, Dederich, Shopper, Walker and Weir and R. Kay Corbin, RDH	DDS \$ 229.00 RDH \$ 149.00 Auxiliary \$ 95.00
December 8-10		"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant" a/k/a "EDDA" w/Dottie Austin, CDA, EDDA	Auxiliary \$ 369.00
December 9		"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries" w/Drs. Thunthy & Hubar	Auxiliary \$ 120.00

**2001**

January 12-14		"Continuum on Cosmetic Dentistry-Level I" w/Drs. Eubank, Mopper, Morley, Chiche Burgess, Lemon, Willhite, Levin & Mike Bellerino, CDT	DDS \$5,895.00 Aux. \$995.00*
February 9-11		"Cosmetic Maxillofacial Surgery" w/Drs. Kent, Ghali, Stover, et alia	*Covers all 3 Sessions Call C.E. Office
January 19-21		"High Tech Continuum I" w/Dr. Barry Freyberg	DDS \$ 465.00 Aux. \$ 169.00
February 2-3		"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries" w/Drs. Thunthy & Hubar	Auxiliary \$ 120.00
February 10		"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant" a/k/a "EDDA" w/Dottie Austin, CDA, EDDA	Auxiliary \$ 369.00
February 16-18		"Oral Medicine Review for the General Practitioner" w/Dr. Michael Glick	DDS \$ 249.00 Aux. \$ 129.00

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