The Florida Dental Association (FDA) House of Delegates Annual Session was held June 9-11 at Orlando’s Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center. Sixteen resolutions were discussed and voted on during the meeting. The House approved resolutions to:

- Sunset outdated programs
- Increase member recruitment and retention programs with enhanced budgeting via $35,000 from ADA grant money and $15,000 from the FDA
- Increase ASDA participation on the Council on Communications, the Council on Membership and the Committee on the New Dentist
- Increase dues payment options
- Stagger FDA council and committee terms to maintain continuity
- Support the development of an Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) pilot project in two Florida counties, much like the ABCD program in Washington state
- Support the expansion of the early childhood caries prevention program
- Increase special needs dentistry programs
- Support national dental health education programs
- Change the ADA contract review program
- Extend an FDA faculty dues reduction to dentists serving as full-time faculty of an accredited dental hygiene school
- Support the amendment of a Florida Board of Dentistry rule that would increase remediable tasks delegable to a dental hygienist
- Approve the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget

The House referred a resolution to the Council on Dental Health to evaluate adding a dental examination to current medical guidelines that students are required to complete prior to starting the academic year in Florida schools.

Dr. Cesar Sabates of Coral Gables was installed as the new FDA president. His goals are to market to the public the importance of seeking care from an FDA dentist, to develop a strategic purchasing organization (buying club) so that FDA members may receive discounts from suppliers and to distinguish members and the dental profession by increasing collaboration with those outside the dental family who seek to change it. Dr. Sabates stated that members should stop chasing Pew’s tail, which generated a great deal of applause. He went on to assert that member dentists are the experts in dental care, know how it should be performed and should develop a game plan for success.

American Dental Association (ADA) President-elect Dr. Bill Calnon addressed the House regarding challenges facing the dental profession and ADA. Dr. Thad Morgan, chair of the Florida Board of Dentistry (BOD), reported on several BOD changes, including the governor’s recent signing of HB 1319, which results in the American Dental Licensing Exam (ADLEX) becoming the examination given for dental licensure in Florida.

After giving an ADA status report, 17th district trustee Dr. Sam Low announced his candidacy for ADA President elect. This will be formally declared at the ADA House of Delegates in Las Vegas this October. Florida has never had an ADA president; the timing is right for this change.

Dr. Jim Antoon, Rockledge, was awarded FDA Dentist of the Year and Dr. Alan Friedel, Aventura, was presented with the Schwartz Lifetime Service Award. NWDDA member Dr. David Russell, Fort Walton Beach, received an FDA Service Award for his many years of dedication to numerous areas of the FDA, including the Committee for the Florida National Dental Convention (FNDC), the Florida Dental Health Foundation board, the FDA House of Delegates NW delegation and the FLADPAC committee. NWDDA member Dr. Neil Torgerson, Tallahassee, was honored for over six years of FNDC committee chairmanship, leading FNDC to new heights in programs, exhibits and income generation.

The Northwest District was well-served by its attendees: Dr. Steve Bryan (chair), Dr. Howard Fisher (credentials), Dr. Greg Goodreau (alternate trustee), Dr. Reese Harrison, Dr. Randy Rigsby and Dr. David Russell, delegates; Dr. Kim Jernigan, FDA President-elect; Dr. Jolene Paramore, trustee; Dr. Neil Torgerson, FNDC chair; Dr. Jay Walton, FDHF president; and Mrs. Angel Estep, Executive Director.

The next HOD meeting will be held January 20-21, 2012 in Tampa.
The 2011 Legislative Session was one of thrills and chills as the Florida Dental Association (FDA)'s priority issues were both hot and icy cold, depending on which side of the capitol the bills were being heard, debated and voted on by legislators. After the final hankies were dropped and “sine die” was called, several bills of interest to dentistry made it to the governor’s desk.

CS/CS/HB 1319, submitted by Representative Gayle Harrell, R-Port St. Lucie, was originally written to create a 12-month, non-renewable temporary license for military spouses seeking Florida licensure in a health care field. The bill then became a vehicle for amendments that Representative Harrell graciously allowed the FDA to add. One amendment addresses the licensure exam process by looking at the American Dental Licensing Examination (ADLEX). Because ADLEX is identical to the current Florida clinical licensure exam, the amendment states that ADLEX should be the clinical licensure exam given in Florida. It also states that after October 1, 2011, out of state dentists who successfully pass ADLEX in any of the 27 states where it is given will be allowed to apply for Florida licensure within 365 days of their passage.

Amendments to this bill also include joint FDA/FDHA language from HB 225 by Representative Fred Costello to charge supervision levels for hygienists. This portion allows the placement of sealants and fluoride in health access settings like county health departments, community health centers and schools, without supervision of a dentist. It also allows for dental cleanings, but only after medical clearance by a dentist or physician. In this case, in order for an additional cleaning to take place, a comprehensive dental evaluation must be performed within 13 months. The FDA and FDHA have worked together for several years to establish language that addresses the access issue in a manner that will be effective and efficient while maintaining patient safety. HB 1319 was signed by Governor Scott on May 31, and will go into effect on October 1.

Another bill that made it through the process was CS/CS/CS/HB 479, introduced by Representative Mike Horner, R-Keswickmee. This bill requires that non-Florida licensed expert witnesses hold an active and valid license in another state or Canada. It also requires that these individuals receive a certificate from the Florida licensing board prior to testifying. This certificate does not allow the expert witness to practice, but it does allow discipline by licensing boards in the instance of fraudulant testimony. Efforts have been made to get this legislation out of both chambers for more than ten years, so this is a great victory for health care providers (over trial lawyers).

Filed by Representative Robert Schenck, R-Spring Hill, CS/HB 7107 and 7109 was passed on the last day of session. This bill addresses Medicaid reform in the form of managed care for all of Florida’s Medicaid enrollees. The federal government, however, must approve a waiver in order for this to occur. If approved, full implementation of Medicaid reform, without any caveats for dental care, will occur October 1, 2014.

CS/CS/HB 7095, also introduced by Representative Schenck, affects the 200 Florida dentists who are considered dispensing practitioners. According to this bill, these dentists can no longer dispense Schedule II or III controlled substances unless in conjunction with the performance of a surgical procedure that requires anesthesia. Patients are further limited to a 14-day supply after the procedure is performed. These dentists will be credentialed by drug wholesalers if they purchase Schedule II or III controlled substances, and must report to the database within seven days of dispensing a controlled substance. As outlined by this bill, dentists must use counterfeit-proof prescription pads for controlled substance prescriptions.

Additionally, dentists who treat chronic, non-malignant pain are required to designate themselves as a controlled substance prescribing practitioner on a forthcoming internet profile.

All dentists will be subject to strict discipline for improper prescribing. Passage of non-covered services legislation has been a main priority of the FDA for the last two legislative sessions. This year, Senate bill CS/SB 546, submitted by Representative Alan Hays, R-Umatilla, made it out of three of the four senate committees it was assigned to. HB 367 by Rep. Ed Hooper, R-Clearwater, made it out of one house committee, but was unable to make it on the agenda of the House of Representatives’ Insurance and Banking Subcommittee. This was despite significant contact by FDA dentists at Dentists’ Day on the Hill to Representative Bryan Nelson, chair of that committee, and a meeting with Speaker of the House Representative Dean Cannon, R-Orlando, by over one dozen FDA leaders. This will continue to be a focus in next year’s legislative agenda.

Many budget items passed the House and Senate that included dentistry, primarily one involving a $56 million increase in children’s dental services to dental providers, the first major increase in over twenty years. FAMU Crestview Center was allocated $1.5 million for operational staff, but there was no specific mention of dentistry in this item. Also approved was: $150,000 for the state’s fluoridation project; $250,000 for Gadsden County’s mobile health unit (which may include dentistry); $500,000 for Duval County’s mobile dental unit; $1.2 million for an MQA unlicensed activity unit; and $1.9 million for Nova Southeastern University’s assignment of medical, pharmacy and dental students to rotations in rural and underserved clinics. The governor has final authority to approve or veto any portion of the budget; whether these allocations will remain in the final budget remains to be seen.

2011 Legislators of the Year are Senator Alan Hays, R-Umatilla, and Representative Gayle Harrell, R-Port St. Lucie. Both were outstanding in their support of dentistry and deserve special gratitude for their efforts. Recipients of the Dr. Lew Earle Legislative Awards are Senator Thad Altman, R-Melbourne, Representative Ed Hooper, R-Clearwater, Representative Paige Kreegel, R-Punta Gorda and Representative Ari Porth, R-Coral Springs. Freshman Legislator of the Year award goes to Representative Fred Costello, R-Ormond Beach.

Finally, the FDA’s Champion for Dentistry award winner is Senator Joe Negron, R-Palm City, for his extended efforts in including a children’s dental Medicaid budget increase in a year of Medicaid reform and budget cuts.

The 2012 Session will be much earlier than usual due to redirecting Dentists’ Day on the Hill 2012 has a proposed date of February 1, 2012, so keep an eye on the FDA master calendar so you can plan to be there to make a difference for the FDA’s legislative agenda.
Dear Northwest District Members,

I am pleased and honored to be coming on board as president of the Northwest District Dental Association. This component does a great job of promoting and representing well organized dentistry in the state of Florida, and this year should be no different.

Due to redistricting, Florida’s legislative session will begin two months earlier, in January, 2012. As a result, campaigning has already begun. Now more than ever, it is imperative that we continue to support the voice of dentistry in Florida’s legislature through contributions to FLADPAC, the Florida Dental Association’s political-action committee. Your contribution to FLADPAC further ensures the support of pro-dental decision makers. Representation in the legislative process is by far one of the most important benefits of membership in the Northwest District Dental Association and Florida Dental Association.

Meanwhile, I encourage you all to attend the 2011 NWDDA Annual Meeting, scheduled August 12-13 at Bay Point in Panama City. There is a relevant and valuable line-up of course and workshop offerings for you and your staff. As always, meeting costs are extremely affordable, and top-notch CE is delivered each day of the annual meeting. A registration form is included in this newsletter, so be sure and send yours in today.

Again, I look forward to a productive and memorable year.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Kelly, DM-D

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**PROPOSED DENTAL SCHOOL RAISES QUESTIONS**

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in Tallahassee is in the process of developing a new dental school, the FAMU College of Dental Medicine. The vision statement is “to be nationally recognized for meeting the oral health needs of Florida and the nation through its clinical community-based dental education program.” Core values include excellence, quality and continuous improvement, compassion and caring, professionalism, commitment to creating new knowledge and expertise, scholarship and service, patient-centered care and service, personal and institutional integrity.

It is proposed that seventy students will take medical sciences and dental technique courses at FAMU in Tallahassee under the supervision of sixty full-time clinical faculty (45 on campus, 15 in community clinics). The third year of education will occur in a FAMU-operated clinic. The fourth year will be spent providing care in community-based safety net clinics and federally-qualified healthcare clinics (FQHC’s) to treat indigent patients. Students will be supervised and mentored by faculty that will include private practicing dentists from that community.

FAMU plans to seek state, federal and other funds to build five group practice clinics with eighteen operatories each. The clinics will be owned by FAMU but leased to community centers. One site will be in Tallahassee; another potential site is the new FAMU Pharmacy school building in Crestview. Other sites have not been selected but will be rural. The plan also includes General Dentistry residents (20 first year and 5 second year) and Pediatric Dentistry residents (6 per year for 2 years).

For the remainder of their education, dental students will be assigned to private practices throughout the panhandle, where they will gain experience with the real world of ethical private dental practice. They will treat patients of record within the private practice setting under direct supervision of a pre-screened Florida licensed dentist in that practice that has been selected to participate in the program. Patients will be treated on a fee for service basis. Production generated will remain in the facility or with the practitioner. FAMU will be responsible for student coverage and practitioner liability. While on rotations, students will have access to classes through distance learning.

Preferential access to a dental education will be given to students with disadvantaged backgrounds and from underserved panhandle communities. These students will be mentored in preparation for return to their communities to practice. To encourage this scenario, students will be incentivized through special scholarship programs and long term student loan forgiveness contracts.

The FAMU dental school will be looking for instructors from private practices of the panhandle. Partnerships will also be sought with private practicing dentists to participate in the new dental school at various levels.

This model has not been presented to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) yet, nor has it received funding. FAMU estimates the initial financial impact to be $332 million and the ongoing impact to be $117 million. The proposed timeline for the dental school is: submit for the proposal, September 2011; Board of Governor’s approval, November, 2011; Legislative approval, May/June 2012; residency programs begin, July 2014; and first class of dental students begins, August 2015.

- Special thanks is extended to FAMU Dental School project leader Dr. Howard Bailit, Dr. Dan Henry and Dr. Jean Woo for information contributed to this article.

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

A Message From 2011-2012 NWDDA President, Dr. Elizabeth Kelly

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The 17th district delegation is pleased to announce the candidacy of Dr. Sam Low for ADA President-Elect. When elected, Dr. Low will serve a two-year term, culminating as ADA President in 2012-13. According to ADA campaign rules, we may only campaign for Dr. Low in the state of Florida until October 14, 2011. We are using this time to raise the necessary funds to support his campaign and build the team needed to succeed in 2012. Florida has never had an ADA President and we believe Sam will be the first!

**How would Florida benefit from an ADA President from Florida?**

- Florida's view and voice will have access like never before if Dr. Sam Low were ADA President.
- Florida's concerns will be championed by the leader of the ADA.
- Florida will have an extra vote on the ADA Board of Trustees.
- Florida dentists have the knowledge and experience necessary to have an influential voice. Sam Low can place our talented members in positions so that Florida can give the ADA our experience in these areas in these critical times.

**What does the ADA President do?**

- The ADA President is the official representative of the Association for governmental, civic, business and professional interactions.
- The ADA President makes numerous appointments of importance. All committees of the House of Delegates and the Board of Trustees, Trustee liaisons to councils and committees and task groups are appointed by the ADA President.
- The ADA President guides the agenda of the ADA.
- The ADA President-elect is a voting member of the Board; thereby Florida gets an extra vote, with 2 of 20, instead of 1 of 20 and an extra voice in the discussions that lead to votes.
- The ADA President is the spokesperson for the ADA.

- There are issues the ADA is facing—changes in licensure, dental education, increased numbers of dental schools, workforce and pressure to explore or implement alternative providers—that are acute in Florida.

**How has Sam Low served dentistry?**

- Alachua County Dental Society President
- Central District Dental Association President
- Florida Dental Association President, 2004-2005
- ADA Trustee, 17th district (Florida), 2008-2012

**What are Sam Low's qualifications?**

- Dr. Low is a dental educator and national continuing education speaker who provides dentists and auxiliary with information relevant to today's clinical practice.
- He has served as a researcher with over twenty publications and two patents, who relies on the scientific method of analysis to yield innovative results for the profession.
- Dr. Low is a clinician with over thirty years of active faculty practice.
- He is a true leader in organized dentistry with extensive leadership experience at all levels in the Florida Dental Association, the American Academy of Periodontology and the American Dental Association.

Sam Low is uniquely qualified to take a realistic and knowledge-based view from Florida's practicing dentists to the ADA. With his election, we could have a leader who wants to give dentists a brighter future. In Sam Low, Florida has the premier opportunity to have its first ever ADA President.

Your support is key to Dr. Low's candidacy becoming a reality. Many dentists from all over the state have already contributed to Sam's campaign fund, but we need Northwest dentists to help, too! Any contribution is gratefully accepted and appreciated. Please fill out the pledge card to the right and mail to:

Dr. Jolene Paramore  
2240 West 24th Street  
Panama City, FL 32405

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**SAM LOW FOR ADA PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Yes, I would like to contribute to the Sam Low for ADA President-elect Campaign

- $250
- $500
- $1,000
- Other $______

**Method of payment:**

- [ ] Cash
- [ ] Check (make payable to FDA, write “Low Campaign” in memo line)
- [ ] Credit Card (MasterCard or Visa only)

CC Number: ____________________________
Expiration Date: _______________________
Name on Card: _________________________
Signature: _____________________________
Today's Date: _________________________

Name: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________
City: ______________ ST: ______ Zip: ______
Phone: (_____) __________________________
Email: ________________________________
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Charles E. Broadway, DMD
Sold practice in June 2010

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### REGISTRANT INFORMATION

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### FEE INFORMATION

#### Register in ONLY one category below, A or B

#### A  Staff Registration Fees

This registration area is for assistants, hygienists, lab technicians and office personnel. Staff pays for each day separately, depending upon lectures/workshops chosen. Costs for lectures and workshops are listed below. **Choose from the**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY LECTURES (All day)</td>
<td>$45</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATURDAY Stewart AM Workshop</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATURDAY Stewart PM Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL ADA Member Dentist</td>
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<td>Active Military Dentist</td>
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<td>Out of State ADA Member Dentist</td>
<td>$260</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Member Dentist</td>
<td>$460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>no fee</td>
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**Friday Registration Fee** $________

**Saturday Lecture/Workshop Fee(s)** $________

**Golf Tournament Fee** $________

$95 covers afternoon of golf on Nicklaus Course Friday, green/cart fees, balls and a boxed lunch.

**SUBTOTAL** $________

**Deduct $10 if registering by July 1** - $________

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** $________

#### B  General Registration Fees

This registration area is for all dentists and students for both days. Staff members who wish to register for Saturday workshops must register in category A (see left). **Choose one the following registrant types:**

<table>
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<th>Registrant Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>FL ADA Member Dentist</td>
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<td>$460</td>
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<td>Student</td>
<td>no fee</td>
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</table>

**Registration Fee (see above)** $________

**Golf Tournament Fee** $________

$95 covers afternoon of golf on Nicklaus Course Friday, green/cart fees, balls and a boxed lunch.

**SUBTOTAL** $________

**Deduct $10 if registering by July 1** - $________

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** $________

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

**CREDIT CARD # (Visa or MasterCard Only)**

Exp Date ______

Billing Address

City

ST

Zip

Auth #

Name on Card

Signature

Payment by CHECK payable to: NWDDA, 2910 Kerry Forest Parkway, D4-309, Tallahassee, FL 32309

Fax 850.391.9311   Email nwdda@nwdda.org
Connect with your patients, your staff and your potential by attending the 2011 NWDDA Annual Meeting at beautiful Bay Point Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Panama City Beach. A spectacular program will help you identify and bind with key concepts that will enhance your practice from the inside out.

Dr. Bruce Edelstein's Beyond Soft Tissue Management course is a must-see for any professional who includes soft tissue management in their practice. Dr. Edelstein will also lead The Art of Digital Photography, empowering and inspiring the dental team to diagnose, communicate and orchestrate simple or complex cases, thereby leading to dramatic practice growth. Also, Dr. Frank Serio examines The Oral Health-Whole Body Connection, focusing on periodontal disease as a chronic inflammatory process, one that can contribute to systemic inflammatory diseases.

At the 2011 NWDDA Annual Meeting, particular emphasis is placed on connecting with staff through course and workshop offerings by Dr. Debra Stewart. In her Friday courses, Pearls for the Dental Team: Work Smarter not Harder (Parts A & B), Dr. Stewart relates to dental team members by acknowledging that these individuals have delegated responsibilities that significantly affect office productivity and profitability. In Part A, attendees learn about recordkeeping, charts and coding, team building, organization, hygiene as a profit center and office marketing through team members. Vitamins, the 9 C's of cosmetic dentistry, barrier techniques and rubber dam placement are also covered. In Part B, the dental team learns about alginate impressions and pouring models and minor in-house denture and partial repairs. Dr. Stewart covers placement of retraction cords, hemostatic agents and products for gingival retraction. Attendees get hints on bleaching techniques and shade verification, and learn about fabrication of temporary crowns and bridges, composite mock ups for diastema closure and laminate veneers and porcelain polish without reglazing. Part B is a prerequisite for Dr. Stewart's workshops.

During Dental Potpourri: Essentials for the Dental Team Workshop, attendees get hands-on guidance with alginate impressions and minor in-house denture and partial repair, and work on making bleaching trays. Dr. Stewart explores applied placement of retraction cords, hemostatic agents and other product for gingival retraction for a good first impression. Meanwhile, participants in Temporary Crowns and Bridges Made Easy Workshop explore techniques in the fabrication of temporary crowns and bridges, in doing composite mock ups for diastema closure and laminate veneers, for shade verification and for writing lab prescriptions. Attendees explore hands-on the importance of contours and how to finish margins, how to adjust the occlusion, how to use glazes and polish temporaries and how to repair a temporary with flowable composite.

Be sure and pre-register by July 1, 2011 for an exclusive $10 registration discount. All registrations submitted after August 1, 2011 will incur a $25 late registration fee. Early registration ends August 8, 2011. Any one who would like to register after August 8 must do so on site. For a complete listing of cancellation policies and rooming information, please visit www.nwdda.org.

Send in your registration form today! Simply fax it to NWDDA headquarters at 850.391.9311, or mail it to the address on the form.
Bay Dental Society

The Bay Dental Society has been active in 2011! In addition to regular affiliate meetings, a study club has been formed. In March, the study club meeting was about implant restoration, and in April, the meeting featured oral cancer screening with hands-on demonstrations by local ENT physician Dr. Quong Tran. The next Bay Dental Society meeting is June 28 at Bonefish Grill Panama City where the FAMU project managers are on the agenda. The 2011 Give Kids a Smile screening event was held Friday, February 4 at the Gulf Coast College Dental Clinic. Eighty students were screened and then assigned to volunteer dentists’ offices for treatment. Bay Dental Society has been well-served by its 2010-2011 President, Dr. Scott Heitzmann, and is looking forward to another great year. Bay Dental Society’s 2011-2012 officers include Dr. Tara Griffin, President; Dr. Eric Berry, Vice President; and Dr. Reese Harrison, Treasurer. Dr. Robert Pierce is a new member of the Bay Dental Society.

Escambia-Santa Rosa County Dental Association

In February, the Escambia-Santa Rosa County Dental Association held a CE presentation, featuring Catherine Flaitz, DDS, MS, in conjunction with Big Bend Area Health Education Center (AHEC). The focus of Dr. Flaitz’ presentation was oral disease and HPV. At Escambia-Santa Rosa’s Give Kids a Smile event, 200 volunteers, including 17 dentists, 10 hygienists and 60 hygiene students, saw 340 patients. Volunteers completed approximately $130,000 in dentistry, including extractions, fillings, sealants, cleanings and several root canals.

Escambia-Santa Rosa’s 2011-2012 officers include Dr. Thomas Lyons, President; Dr. Mark Braxton, Vice President; Dr. Jay Boatwright, Treasurer; and Dr. Chad Callahan, Program Chair. The next meeting of the Escambia-Santa Rosa affiliate will be held September 12 at 6:00 pm at McGuire’s Irish Pub.

Leon County Dental Association

The Leon County Dental Association (LCDA) was fortunate to have Dr. Cohen from the University of Florida present an Oral Pathology course. The Leon affiliate held their third yearly joint meeting with the Capital Medial Society (CMS), where many dental related entities were represented; the topic was dermatology. Leon members also participated with CMS on their We Care fundraiser. The We Care Network has created its own group, the We Care Dental section, comprised of Leon County Dental Association members. It continues to grow and more colleagues are donating their time to care for those in need. The next LCDA meeting will be held Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 6:00 pm at Georgio’s Restaurant in Tallahassee.

The topic of this meeting will be saliva and saliva testing. The Leon affiliate congratulates Dr. Neil Torgerson for seventeen years on the FNDC committee, and chairmanship for the past six years. He will be joining the ADA Council on Annual Sessions this October representing the 17th District. Leon member Dr. William McFatter has opened a new “green” facility, earning Platinum LEED certification. The building actually sells power back to the grid, and, in cooperation with EarthSteps, has been instrumental in helping the Grady Electric Membership Corporation institute its new net metering system. The 2011-2012 slate of officers for the Leon affiliate are Dr. Susan M. Byrne, President; Dr. Tyler Baldock, Vice President; and Dr. Mike Hartley, Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Marcia Lopez is a new member in the Leon County Dental Association.

Okaloosa-Walton Dental Association

The Okaloosa-Walton Dental Association was again a part of the 3rd Annual Veteran’s Stand Down in October 2010, where a wide range of treatment was provided, totaling over $28,000 worth of services. Okaloosa-Walton’s Give Kids a Smile event was coordinated with the Northwest Florida Dental Assisting program. Ninety five children were treated and later treated in private offices. Generous donations were made to Fresh Start for families in Ft. Walton Beach, and to tornado relief victims in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The Okaloosa-Walton affiliate thanks Kris and Heath Deason for their tireless efforts.

Regular meetings of the Okaloosa-Walton Dental Association start back in September at Pandora’s Restaurant. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Okaloosa-Walton affiliate officers for 2011-2012 include Dr. John Cash, President; Dr. Peter Bayer, Vice President; and Dr. Danielle Grimes, Treasurer.

Life Membership with FDA means that a Florida licensed dentist has been a member of FDA for 35 years (does not have to be consecutive), and has reached 65 years of age. 
Retired Life Membership is for anyone that has achieved these benchmarks and has also retired from dentistry.
Dues for Retired Life Members are completely FREE.
If you qualify or know someone that qualifies for Retired Life status, why not maintain that membership? Increased NWDDA member numbers mean the Northwest District has more of a stake in making decisions that affect organized dentistry.
Contact NWDDA headquarters at 850.391.9310 or nwdda@nwdda.org for more details.
For those of you interested in an international humanitarian dental mission trip to a location with facilities that are well lit, ventilated, stocked and equipped, keep reading. Panama City dentist Dr. Gary L. Weitekamp and staff treated a population of children from a large orphanage in Guatemala City in September, 2010. Dr. Weitekamp, along with assistant Veronica Moog and hygienist Angie Veno, treated children ages 6-15 in conditions in a perfect “preventive” practice.

Most caries treated was pit and fissure type, and calculus was tenacious and plentiful. For these patients, flowable resin flowed like water and fluoride varnish was used liberally. A full time volunteer dentist coordinated the children’s care. As these 360 boys and girls are being brought under control, there should continue to be an adequate supply of needy patients as consideration is being given to enrolling other orphanages for similar treatment.

The trip was a “short” one, with five days of treatment, two days of travel and three days of visiting sites of interest. There is easy travel to the ruins of Tikal, the shopping stalls of Chichicastenango and the old colonial capitol of Antigua.

Anyone who would like to try some mission work in a relatively safe environment, please contact Dr. Weitekamp via email at weitepc@yahoo.com.

A well-equipped and air-conditioned clinic in Guatemala City

Assistant Veronica Moog (seated, l) a dental student from a local dental school (standing), Dr. Gary Weitekamp (seated, r) and hygienist Angie Veno (background)
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2011 FLORIDA NATIONAL DENTAL CONVENTION

Good times and business are both shared at FDA's annual convention

FDA President Dr. Cesar Sabates address the 2011 House of Delegates, with FDA line officers looking on

Dr. John Seasholtz, Tallahassee, won the FDHF chance drawing for a two-year lease on a 2011 Infiniti G37, which also had an available cash prize option

Dr. Terence Barnes, Crestview, won the second place drawing for the Infiniti G37, and received a $500 cash prize

NWDDA Member and FDHF President Dr. Jay Walton emceed the Silent Auction, which benefits the Florida Dental Health Foundation

FDA line officers (l-r) Dr. Cesar Sabates, President; Dr. Kim Jernigan, President-elect; Dr. Larry Nissen, Immediate Past President; Dr. Terry Buckenheimer, First Vice President; Dr. Rick Stevenson, Second Vice President

Casino Royale Night was held in conjunction with the silent auction, where attendees enjoyed an evening of Texas hold 'em poker, craps, roulette and blackjack

Deleg ate Dr. David Russell listens intently to House business while doing double time as an FNDC committee member

Dr. James “Eddie” Martin, Pensacola, won the drawing for a free meeting registration to the 2011 NWDDA Annual Meeting

Twice each year, members of the FDA House of Delegates vote on resolutions brought forward by the Board of Trustees
ONLINE CE AVAILABLE AT www.nwdda.org

The NWDDA website, www.nwdda.org, offers many benefits to members, the latest being one of the Florida mandatory CE courses in electronic format. NWDDA partnered with the Linda Harvey Group in Jacksonville to make Preventing Medical Errors available via an electronic format. The course is in a PDF, so registrants may print it out or read it on the computer. The post test, course evaluation and CE certificate are provided online, offering immediate feedback and the ability to print the CE certificate right away.

A link will appear on the NWDDA main page, directing users to the course on Linda’s website. The course cost is a mere $25, a small portion of which benefits the Northwest District. NWDDA members and staff are encouraged to take advantage of the latest technology and this course.

You may recall that Linda spoke at the 2010 NWDDA Annual Meeting on infection control/OSHA and Preventing Medical Errors. NWDDA is pleased to partner with Linda on this endeavor as well. Be sure to take advantage of this quick, easy and affordable opportunity. NWDDA will not be offering this course at the 2011 NWDDA Annual Meeting, so instead, NWDDA is bringing this course to you!