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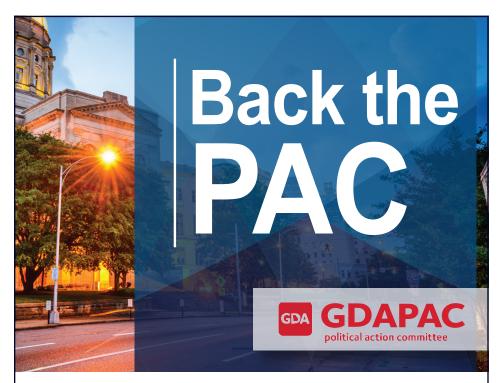
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The Georgia Dental Association Political Action Committee supports dentaland dental-friendly candidates regardless of party affiliations.

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UPCOMINGEVENTS



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- Many options for clinical and practice management CE
- Receptions, Social & Networking Events
- Sporting Events, Tours & Fun on the Beach
- Family Activities
- Kick-off Event with Keynote Speaker
- Exhibit Hall & Happy Hour Events
- Saturday Night Celebration

REACHUS

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Save the Date

GDA Fall Conference in Savannah

September 23-24, 2022

Andaz Hotel Savannah, GA

16 hours of CE available
For upcoming CE courses, visit gadental.org

House of Delegates Meeting Notice

Saturday, December 10, 2022 *Hotel Avalon, Alpharetta, GA*

Caucus lunches: Noon–12:45 pm HOD: 1:00 pm until conclusion of business



Dr. Basu Banstola has acquired the practice of Dr. Gary Heller in Tucker, Georgia.



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DR. GARY HELLER

TUCKER, GEORGIA



DR. JAMIE MITCHELL GDA Editor Phone: 706.202.9307 jamitchelldmd@bellsouth.net

Get ready to have an awesome time with family and friends at the GDA Convention! See page 32.

HAIKU-AMELIA ISLAND STYLE

Communication has been a part of life from the very beginning of time. One form, written word, comes in many forms from many different cultures and countries. The Japanese use a type of short poetry called Haiku, which consists of three phrases that contain a kireji, or cutting word, 17 phonetic units similar to syllables in a three line 5, 7, 5 pattern. Haiku originated as an opening part of a larger Japanese poem called renga. These haiku, written as an opening stanza, were known as hokku and over time writers began to write them as their own stand-alone poems. Haiku was given its current name by the Japanese writer Masaoka Shiki at the end of the 19th century.

The annual GDA Convention is just around the corner and instead of me droning on and on about how great it is (and by the way it is fabulous), I invited a few friends, colleagues and family members to help describe their thoughts and experiences from past conventions in the form of a haiku.

GDA meeting Family fun night brings many smiles Kumar taped to a door

Amelia Island Sand, sun, fun and GDA Mark your calendar

See the exhibits
Vacation with friends and family
Come get your CE
–Jamie Mitchell

What fun in the sun
Friends, family, and dentistry
United as one
-Amber Lawson

Grand fun in the sun
Waitin' all year to gather again
See you at the beach
-Chris Adkins

Vacation with sun and sand CE credits too Island time will pay off big -Suzy Mitchell

Cozy summer days
Nights under carnival lights
Childhood memories
-Matthew Mitchell

Yearly tradition
Lifelong friends brought together
Time to reconnect
–Matthew Mitchell

In common practice
A chance to gather fellows
Reflect together
-Matthew Mitchell

Walking through the booths Making sure to get everything My mom holds the bag –Laura Mitchell

As you can see, the annual meeting is a great way to combine a little bit of work consisting of a huge array of Continuing Education courses to catch, an exhibit hall to explore, and the House of Delegates assembly to attend, with a ton of fun to boot. The highlights include an amazing island with entertainment, shopping, a fabulous beach, golfing, fishing, family fun, and adult-only gatherings. The best part of this is the chance to meet and catch up with friends, family, peers, and even classmates. As a family man that has never missed this meeting, I assure you it's a great place to enjoy an amazing family experience. And the next best thing is that it's a tax write-off!

What are you waiting for? Take time to register ASAP, get it on your calendar and get ready to have an awesome time with family and friends! Come to Amelia Island, and find inspiration for your own haiku!

Cheers.

All the registration information is in this issue of the GDA Action.

Members making news and news for GDA members.

Legislative Receptions

District dental societies across Georgia have hosted legislative receptions in their districts. These legislative receptions give GDA member dentists a unique opportunity to thank their local lawmakers for their support of Georgia dentistry and the work they do beneath the Gold Dome to improve oral health across the state. They also serve to reinforce the relationships between member dentists and their local legislative delegation leading into the legislative session.



Representative Regina Lewis Ward poses with GDA Immediate Past President Dr. Annette Rainge at the Northern Dental District Society's legislative reception in November.





Dr. Annette Rainge Gives Augusta University Commencement Speech GDA Immediate Past President Dr. Annette Rainge delivered the commencement address on Friday, December 10 at Augusta University.



December 2021. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Spillers on his appointment to the board.



Opening Day

GDA members enjoyed passing out dental kits to members of the Georgia General Assembly for the opening day of the 2022 legislative session.





SEEN&HEARD



Welcome New Members!

The following members joined GDA

Desmond Foster Northern District

Gatlin Glover
Northern District

Vatsala Jajoo Northern District **Rinku Khullar** *Northwestern District*

Merissa Nelms Eastern District

Deise Oliveira

Eastern District

Julian Stewart
Northern District

Prathyusha Vadlamani Northern District

Anne Wetmore
Northern District

ry nth



Governor Kemp Proclaims February 2022 Children's Dental Health Month

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp showed his support of oral health by proclaiming February 2022 as Children's Dental Health Month in Georgia. Dentists throughout Georgia visited their local schools and hosted events to educate children on the importance of proper oral health.



Advocating for Georgia Dentistry

Dr. Jernigan and Dr. Patel attend a fundraiser on behalf of GDAPAC to show support for Governor Brian Kemp and all he has done for Georgia dentistry throughout his first term.

React less. Plan more.

Complimentary financial planning for GDA members



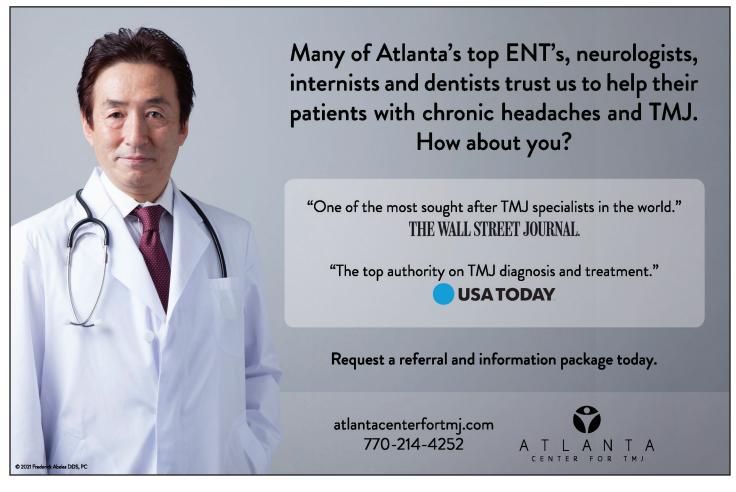
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Tools and tips to help you manage your business.

Choosing a Color Scheme for Your Dental Office



What's best for my practice? When it comes to decorating the interior of your dental practice, how important is color scheme?

It's very important. Whether you are remodeling your existing practice or opening a new one, choosing the right color design can have a positive effect.

There's no disputing the psychological impact of color. Colors have historical and cultural significance. They elicit emotional responses and influence behavior. Tranquil, relaxing combinations are known for producing cheerful calm. Bright, bold schemes will likely raise a patient's anxiety level. Though bright and bold may be exactly what you need for the staff areas, as that palette range can also invigorate and motivate.

According to Faber Birren, the father of applied color psychology, proper use of color in the workplace can improve

efficiency and relieve fatigue, as well as contribute to better visibility and a more cheerful mentality.

It's no wonder, then, that offices of all business types are opting for more color these days, eschewing common beige, gray and black for more dynamic color schemes specifically targeted for certain impacts.

So where do you start? How do you decide what colors work best for you and your practice?

Your own intuition is also a good starting point, as is input from your employees and other professionals. You may want to research the potential of color—and different color combinations—on the web.

For detailed musings on color, you may want to read "A Glimpse into the Meaning, Symbol & Psychology of Color," written by color consultant Kate Smith. The author, a certified color expert, describes the various responses people have to different colors based on research and historical significance. This can give you some insight into the colors you like, why you like them, and which ones are best applied to your dental practice.

When it comes to color in the health care profession, there are certain considerations to keep in mind. You don't want to be boring, but too much color stimulation is a bad thing.

- Orange, which used in restraint, can add a fun, whimsical, exciting touch to office décor. Yet, the same color can be overwhelming in large quantities. Pink (happy, youthful) and purple (sophisticated, powerful) are similar in this vein.
- Red (excitement, energy) is a warm color, but it may contribute to anxiety in a dental office setting because it raises body tension.
- Yellow (sunshine, cheer) is a similarly dominant color that can elicit tense reactions in large, bright quantities.
- Shades of blue and green tend to have a relaxing effect, but can be boring on their own.

The way we perceive color depends on variables such as hue, value, and texture.

Sky blue (calm) is considerably different than bright blue (energy). The same goes for red-purple (sensual) compared to blue-purple (spiritual).

There's a lot of color in color. Want to know more? The following websites and/or articles about color also provide interesting tips and offer different approaches to enhancing office space:

- ADA's Office Design resources
- · Empower Yourself with Color Psychology
- Psychology Today article "Positive Design—Color!"
- Office Color Schemes: The Psychology of Productivity
- Building or Refreshing Your Dental Practice: A Guide to
 Dental Office Design [ADA Catalog]. This dental office design
 book covers all the bases for building, renovating, or simply
 refreshing your space, with vibrant photos and insights from
 dental architects, design consultants, and practicing dentists.

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Helping you achieve personal and professional growth.

FINDINGSUCCESS Reducing Hand Pain

Dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants may experience hand pain in doing dental procedures. Hand pain may include throbbing, aching, altered sensation, stiffness, or diminished strength. Although pain in the hand can originate from problems in the arm, shoulder area, or neck, and from systemic diseases, pain that originates in the hand itself is frequently due to either osteoarthritis or tendonitis. As always, consult a physician for any persistent problem, but here is an overview of these common complaints.

Osteoarthritis is characterized by slight misalignment of finger and thumb joints, erosion of joint cartilage and eventual inflammation, swelling, and pain. The problem can occur in any of the finger joints, but is most common in the basal joint of the thumb and the distal joints of the fingers. The pain may be first noticed during physical activities such as gripping and maneuvering instruments, but can become persistent or episodic.

Tendonitis is characterized by inflammation of tendons and possible development of nodules on the tendons that impede smooth movement of the tendon through the tendon sheath. Pain and weakness may initially be experienced when gripping objects, as well as stiffness in flexing and extending the joint. Tendonitis may occur acutely or can become a chronic condition. The physical demands and the hand motions used in providing oral health care may aggravate tendonitis and osteoarthritis.

The following are examples of hand motions that may aggravate hand pain:

- Gripping instruments that have slim handles, such as periodontal probes, explorers, scalers, curettes, and endodontic files
- Gripping instruments tightly by pinching with the thumb and finger(s)
- Gripping instruments with static intensity for a long period of time. This can happen when doing procedures



that require precise, small movements, such as working in small areas, while trying to prevent injury to surrounding tissues

- Gripping vibrating instruments, such as a rotary hand piece, over a long period of time
- Lifting heavy objects or doing forceful movements with the finger(s), such as tooth extraction or using heavier instruments
- Doing procedures that require torqueing motions in the wrist and hand, such as cleaning root canals
- Doing procedures that require repetitive motion over a long period of time, such as scaling teeth
- Using the fingers while the wrist is held in a non-neutral position, especially a flexed position for a long period of time. This is most commonly done while scaling teeth

Below is a list of tips for lessening the physical demands on the hand:

• Use instruments that perform many of the functions the hand would ordinarily perform and so reduce movements of the hand; such instruments are those that swivel and reduce torque

- Use instruments that lessen the time the hand must be used, such as instruments that have variable and rapid speeds
- Use instruments that reduce stress on the hand, such as those that are vibration free, lightweight, and have enlarged handles
- Use instruments that improve access to the work area, such as instruments that provide bright or intense illumination, magnification, multiple spray ports
- Reduce the time spent doing the same task. For example, take a ten minute break at least once every hour from doing tasks requiring grip
- Use hand stabilizing techniques when doing precise hand tasks
- After completing a task that required intense grip, gently stretch the hand, especially the area between the thumb and first finger
- If pain continues to worsen, consider seeing a physician for a medical evaluation and treatment of the condition. A splint might provide support of the hand \(\begin{align*} \)

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GDA Member Seeks Statewide Office

Senator Lester Jackson, DDS Runs for Georgia Labor Commission

Dr. Lester Jackson graduated from dental school in 1985, and although he's grown a successful dental practice, he's also been a dedicated public servant for more than two decades. First serving in the Georgia House of Representatives then in the State Senate, Jackson is currently running for State Labor Commissioner.

"For the past 16 years, the Labor Commissioner's office has been dictating to us, not working for us," Jackson said. "If elected, I will work to change the perspective of the Labor Department from an unemployment office to a career center,



helping entrepreneurs in our state with training and grants, updating technology for faster claims, and having phone calls returned by a live person five days a week."

Jackson's plan for transforming the Labor Department is threefold: 1) accessibility; 2) job opportunities for entrepreneurs to earn a living wage; and 3) quick access to benefit claims.

"With 80% of businesses in Georgia owned by small business owners, the only way to help them grow is to invest time and energy in training and mentorship programs. My very first campaign focused on vocational education and training based on a mentoring program, during which I began as a basketball coach. I approached our local school board about starting a formal mentoring program in our schools, and they said if I could get funding for it, they would create the program. We worked together to make my vision become a reality, which eventually led to Savannah's first vocational school opening 12 years later. My commitment to helping people achieve their dreams and become good taxpaying citizens has never wavered since I developed that first mentoring program for the school basketball team—if elected as Labor Commissioner, I will bring that same dedication to the office," Jackson explained.

According to Jackson, Georgia's next Labor Commissioner faces tremendous challenges due to the ongoing pandemic, such as getting our state's payment backlog and delayed response to unemployment claims sorted out, re-opening Labor offices throughout the state, and making sure phone calls get answered from Georgians seeking help.

Jackson says he's running to promptly resolve delayed unemployment claims, fight to expand Medicaid, and modernize job training in Georgia.

"I believe that Georgia deserves better from our Department of Labor, and I know I can deliver better results as our next Labor Commissioner. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the lives of working Georgians upside down. From illness to job loss, thousands of us have spent the last two years struggling to make ends meet.

Jackson says that his experience, the relationships he's developed throughout the state throughout his years of service in the Georgia State Legislature, his commitment to innovative solutions, and his dedication to giving Georgians the tools they need to prosper are what distinguishes him from his opponents—and what will ultimately transform the Georgia Department of Labor if he is elected.

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in this article reflect the beliefs and opinions of the author and are not intended to be construed as the official position of the GDA.

Sen. Lester Jackson's Experience & Accomplishments:

- → Founded the nationally recognized Jackson Dental Center, which he runs with his wife, Dr. Lorna Jackson
- → Graduate of Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry
- → Member of the Pierre Fauchard Dental Society
- → Member of the Georgia Dental Association and the American Dental Association
- → Chairman of Senate Committee on Urban Affairs, dealing with controversial issues such as the Buckhead cityhood legislation
- → Vice Chairman of the Senate Caucus
- → More Democratic bills passed under his name than any other Senator in the past eight years
- → Authored legislation that strengthened the penalty for practicing dentistry without a license from a misdemeanor to a felony
- → Named "Legislator of the Year" by the Georgia Dental Association
- → Awarded "2021 Most Effective Legislator in the Georgia General Assembly" and nominated by James Magazine
- → As Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus, was instrumental in having a statue of Martin Luther King, Jr erected on state legislature grounds
- → Past Democratic National Committee member, appointed by President Obama
- → Past President of the State Democratic Party
- → Proud Navy veteran, having served our country honorably

2021 Year in Review GDA Strong!

The following speech was delivered to the GDA House of Delegates on November 13, 2021.

House of Delegates Speech of Frank J. Capaldo, GDA Executive Director/CEO

When January 2020 began, we all had great hopes and aspirations for our lives. You anticipated your practice would be thriving and the ride to the office would be ho-hum. Daily routines were taken for granted, such as the children advancing in school, temple on Saturday or church on Sunday, Sunday dinner with the family, college football, weddings to attend, and grandchildren to hug and kiss. Life as normal was taken for granted.

Nothing we ever imagined would keep us from earning a living practicing our chosen profession or taking care of our family and our staff. And then, Kaboom! The unimaginable happened!

Suddenly, we could not perform any of our normal, taken-for-granted, ho-hum routines like kiss our children or earn a living. We feared for our way of life because all around us was chaos and meanness with our national leaders making it worse. Instead of bringing us together, they were dividing us. Adding to our concerns, dentists were classified as non-essential health care workers.

Through it all, GDA was the glue, the foundation, the one icon that held us together. Your association was the institution and haven built on a deep rock foundation that delivered on the promise to return you from non-essential to essential and then back to full practice.

Your GDA was there for you during the crisis and as we slowly exit it. That fact was apparent by our success in overcoming the major challenges of returning member dentists to full practice. Less obvious is the collateral benefits of that success associated with the simple joy of the ride to the office or seeing colleagues again by attending the annual meeting and everything in between.

Both the obvious major success, and the less obvious, are a testament to your courage and strength of character and the recognized importance of belonging to something bigger—your GDA Strong.

Never in doubt was that we would come out better at the other end. We had a plan and executed on the plan. Failure was not an option. I defend my conviction that because of the GDA, not one member—and in fact, not one dentist—in Georgia stood alone during this crisis.

Will all of our members learn from this crisis? Will they be better prepared? Will they focus on what is important and put aside pettiness or judging others without knowing them? Will everyone now work together to find common ground and to disagree without being contentiously disagreeable? Humans being humans with short memories, I am not certain. But I know one thing for certain that will remain constant—our GDA will stay laser focused on what is important and what matters most: helping all members succeed.

We will do so in the good times and especially during the challenging times by putting members first because that is the vocation and vow of great servant leaders. More importantly, we will do so as always with integrity, honor, trust, and duty. And by *all* members, we mean all walks of life. We will intentionally embrace the magnificent complexity that entails.

Churchill said, "Never give up, never give up, never give up." Your GDA did not give up. The leaders of the GDA put the pedal to the floor and rocketed through changes and decision-making 24/7, especially at the onset of COVID. We learned like never before the value of continuous communication with members because it was **imperative** to keep hope alive. The GDA was your port in the storm.

We instituted 24/7 continuous advocacy, continuous free CE, continuous services



FRANK J. CAPALDO GDA Executive Director

with deferred payment plans for business and health insurance. When no one else had supplies, your GDA had supplies. We not only kept members, we attracted new members.

Together in collaboration with a cohesive dedicated Board of Trustees, our talented outstanding professional staff, although short-handed, put their shoulders to this monumental task and succeeded.

For this Board of Trustees and volunteer leaders, I have nothing but sincere respect and consider them to be one of the best I have had the pleasure of serving with over my career. If leaders are forged in crisis, then the GDA's future is bright with leaders.

For my staff, during this once-in-a-millennium, life-changing crisis, they went well beyond the 24/7 call of duty and succeeded at excellence in their performance and accomplishments. They have my undying personal and professional gratitude and my promise that I will assist them in achieving their dreams, no matter their choice of the "road less taken"...thank you, Mr. Frost.



Although no one could foresee the onset of the COVID beast, our mantra of "GDA Strong" meant we were prepared for a big-time challenge. We built a financially strong foundation that allowed us to take care of members, our staff, and have a seat at the decision-making table (with the Governor, the legislators, and regulators).

Without that financial stability, without talented dedicated staff, without experienced management, and without a collaborative volunteer leadership, the focus and agility necessary to get every member dentist back to full time practice does not happen.

It did happen and GDA member dentists were the first dentists in the nation to go back to full practice and be re-categorized as essential because of our deliberate continuous advocacy. It happened because we had banked credibility and respect with the governor, legislators, and regulators. We had built a solid foundation of value and influence...clout!

Those solid foundations of membership, advocacy, governance improvements, financial stability, and member services that we have firmly established over the last eight years replaced the shifting sands of instability and insolvency, such that our association has kept progressing forward with continuous improvements and achievements measured by the fact that we surpassed every objective of our strategic plan in 2020 and now again in 2021. That is quite an achievement during the worst crisis of a lifetime!

I have mentioned a few of the successes in CE, PR, GDIS, advocacy, supplies, membership, and the convention. You heard from Dr. Rainge and will hear from others on our GDA accomplishments and you can always read and review the complete strategic plan in my report.

But I want to ask you a question, because I think I know what is still keeping you

"GDA is the best value proposition a dentist could invest in."

up at night: Can it happen again? Of course it can!

What form it takes the next time is the unknown. Will you as individual dentist owners and employees be better prepared or will some put their head back in the sand? Will I again get the calls from members that they do not have more than two weeks of reserves?

Maybe I am wrong about what keeps you awake, but I do not think so. I cannot tell you if the individual or the collective membership of the GDA will be any more prepared, but I can assure you of one thing for certain: YOUR GDA was prepared to weather, and did weather, this crisis.

Going forward **YOUR GDA** will be even stronger, and more prepared and the best reliable stronghold for Georgia dentists. GDA is the best value proposition a dentist could invest in.

Let me provide the best example of GDA membership value: GDA member dentists were the first dentists in the nation to go back to full practice, thanks to our advocacy and relationship with the Governor.

What was that worth to every dentist in Georgia? Let's assume a member paid an average of \$1,000 per year for GDA/ ADA dues for 20 years for a total of a \$20,000 investment over 20 years. Of which only half, or \$10K, would be GDA dues (we know it is less than that, but for this example we will estimate high). Do the math, because I assure you that your GDA repaid with interest your investment by returning you to full practice sooner rather than later. If you were not able to practice for a month or five months longer, you certainly would be losing more than \$20K in revenues, gross, net! In addition, GDA provided the 30-plus

free practice webinars that informed you how you could safely practice or obtain PPP monies or furlough employees. What a bargain!

Clearly, the GDA is the best reliable stronghold and the best value proposition. Together we need to make certain that legacy continues into the future. We must pass down and tell the story of how the GDA was prepared for a major crisis and how we overcame the crisis as an association of dentists. We must tell the story of what we did here so it is never forgotten!

We do that by not allowing the beast that keeps you up at night from taking over your life. Do not allow it to prevent you from staying involved and recruiting others to volunteer at the district, state, and national level. Tell them the story of how a strong GDA overcame the pandemic because if you only think of yourselves and focus solely on your practice, family, and security, the entire profession becomes less secure and the GDA less effective.

You, we, us must continue to be active and involved in organized dentistry and the GDA specifically to keep it strong. You must individually recruit new volunteers to serve and in doing so you will set the succession of leadership to continue the GDA Strong legacy we have built together.

The future is now and every day we can do better, be better, be kinder, more charitable, more patient, more forgiving, more tolerant, more hopeful, and most important, more loving!

Thank you and God bless!

Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021-2025)

Derived from the mission and vision statements, GDA's strategic plan identifies strategic priorities which direct the focus of the work of the association for the next five years. Under each objective are also key strategies for moving our priorities forward. These areas will turn GDA's mission and vision into specific measurable targets that are important to the current and future health of the association. GDA achieved or exceeded the goals and objectives in its 2016–2020 five-year strategic plan. Below is the new five-year plan, which continues and builds on our success of the past.

MEMBERSHIP

- Work to increase member engagement and participation
- Increase total GDA members by 2% by 2025
- Keep annual "non-renews" to under 200 members

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/ POLITICAL ACTION (PAC)

- Develop and implement annual legislative strategy and agenda
- Develop annual plan for strategic campaign involvement
- Continue utilizing contact dentists for immediate grassroots response at district level
- Develop and maintain relationships with other health industry coalitions on shared issues
- Expand/improve PAC fundraising (events and funding level)

HEALTH POLICY

- Be the premier, leading resource for data, information, and expertise on oral health for the state of Georgia
- Develop and implement GDA Action for Oral Health objectives and strategies (see plan at gadental.org/ dentalhealth)
- Ensure inclusion of oral health in statewide public/ community health planning and provision initiatives
- Monitor changes to Medicaid policy manuals and billing and communicate to members
- Keep GDA leadership and membership informed on health policyrelated activities

PR/MARKETING/ COMMUNICATIONS

- Utilize multiple communications channels to reach GDA members, keeping them up-todate on GDA initiatives and working to increase member engagement and participation
- Continue to be the PR/ media relations arm for the GDA and oral health community in Georgia
- Develop new ways to demonstrate the value of GDA membership
- Increase product/service usage and penetration by communicating the unique value of GDA products and services to our membership through existing and emerging marketing technologies









Mission Statement GDA's mission is to help GDA member dentists succeed.

Vision Statement Our vision is for Georgia to become a state with optimal oral health.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Continue to expand GDA's educational offerings for members and their staff utilizing the Education and Training Advisory Council to determine new focus areas for 2021–2025
- Continue to identify and implement new education and training opportunities for the dental team/ office staff
- Continue to improve and grow convention CE at the GDA Convention & Expo utilizing the Education and Training Advisory Council for planning
- Develop technology-based delivery systems for CE

GOVERNANCE

- The Board of Trustees will continue to review and refine the GDA governance structure making changes that improve the performance of the organization and ensure sustainability for the future
- Continue to recruit new GDA Leaders to ensure sustainability of the leadership pipeline for the future—goal is to increase the number of individuals participating in GDA leadership by 10% by 2025
- Continue to ensure programs, services, staff resources, committees, GDA Foundation, and GDA subsidiaries are aligned with the strategic plan
- Work with districts to implement resources GDA has developed to support district leadership and succession planning
- Work with districts to assess and recommend changes to their organizational documents ensuring alignment with GDA's revised governance structure
- Continue to offer leadership training programs to better equip GDA and district leaders

MEMBER PRODUCTS & SERVICES

- Provide superior member value through high quality products and services that meet member needs and achieve a high level of member satisfaction
- Develop business relationships and partnerships to offer additional products and services to members that are competitively priced and also achieve a reasonable return for GDA
- Consider new business opportunities
- Continually assess and refine products and services, eliminating those with low impact
- Continue seeking to increase knowledge of members' wants, needs, and issues

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/ ORGANIZATIONAL STABILITY

- Ensure the amount of dues as a percentage of total revenue will not exceed 30% by developing nondues revenue sources
- Set aside reserves not less than 50% of annual operating expenses
- Continue to establish internal reviews, security measures, and policies/ procedures
- Continue to implement annual incremental dues increases to ensure financial stability











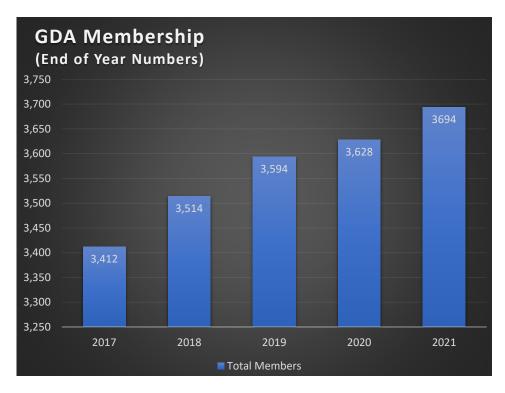
Recruitment and retention efforts continue to focus on engaging member dentists, welcoming dentists of all backgrounds and types. and creating meaningful programs to help dentists succeed in their practice.



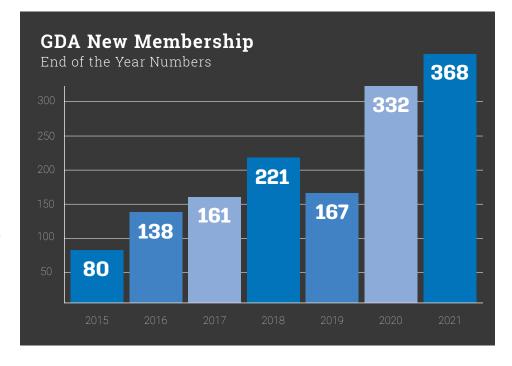
In 2021, the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force held two meetings, hosted a podcast, and developed a DEI Training Program through the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta. Additionally, the DEI Task force helped "bridge the gap" with a co-sponsored CE Summit in September with the Georgia Dental Society, Georgia Indian Dental Association, Georgia Persian Dental Society, and North Georgia Dental Society.

The Task Force also held a forum with various leaders of DSOs to see how the two could work together on various efforts, consistent with strategic plan goals set forth to improve the GDA's inclusiveness.

Some events at the Dental College of Georgia were shifted to a virtual platform due to COVID protocols, including a virtual transition day for graduating seniors in which 100% joined GDA. In the last quarter of the year, GDA was able to host two in person Lunch-and-Learns and the annual Take a Student to Dinner event.



66.3% of total dentists in GA are members



GDA recognized by ADA as one of only 11 states to see increase in membership in 2021.

Government Relations

2021 Legislative Session

GDA advocacy resulted in the following:

- → HB 112—Extension of limited legal liability for COVID-19 transmission claims against dentists [PASSED]: extends the sunset for the COVID-19 limited liability immunity law that GDA helped pass last year for healthcare providers and businessowners to July 14, 2022.
- → SB 80—Prior authorizations for medically necessary procedures
 [PASSED]: in instances when an insurer questions the medical necessity of a specific dental procedure, the patient's chosen dentist shall be provided an opportunity to discuss their request for prior authorization with a licensed dentist with similar training employed by the insurer before the insurer can issue an adverse determination. If prior authorization is granted, it will be good for a period of 45 days.
- → SB 5—Regulation of sedation performed in medispas [PASSED]: will require any providers performing conscious sedation in medispas to be licensed to practice dentistry or medicine and possess the requisite permits issued by the Board of Dentistry or Composite Medical Board. Will also require dental assistants performing phlebotomy and venipuncture procedures in a dental office to have board approved training.
- → HB 458—New CE requirements for dentists RE: legal ethics & professionalism [PASSED]: effective for the 2022–2023 renewal cycle, will require all GA-licensed dentists to obtain CE in legal ethics and professionalism in the practice of dentistry.

→ Annual Budget Items:

- » Secured a 3% increase for specific restorative dental Medicaid codes in the FY2022 budget.
- » Protected funding for rural dental student loan repayment program and GDA Donated Dental Services program.

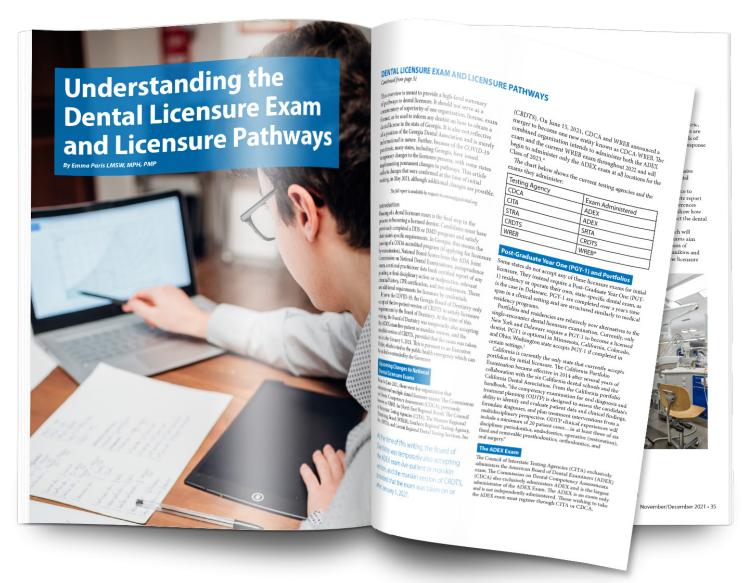




GDA's Health Policy Department worked on a number of initiatives in 2021, including:

- Created a comprehensive licensure overview
- → Creating an Adjunct Professorship Program in partnership with the Dental College of Georgia and Macon Bibb Health Department
- → Keeping members updated on changes with Georgia's Executive Orders
- → Reporting on changing OSHA guidelines and CDC recommendations
- → Staying informed on the impact of COVID-19
- → Answering members' general Health Policy and Board of Dentistry questions
- → Working with community partners to promote dental care to underserved communities and individuals





Public Relations/Marketing/Communications



GDA's "Healthy Mouths and More" podcast launched in 2021, along with the "GDA Minute," a monthly podcast featuring a summary of GDA news in Public relations and communications activities continue to keep GDA members informed, promote the profession, and encourage all Georgians to find a dentist and visit regularly.



Expanding our Reach through Social Media

2,000 1,000 201 2020 2021







Published seven issues of GDA Action in 2021, addressing topics from treating special needs patients and marketing to self-care strategies.





GDA continued to deliver CE to help our members succeed.

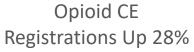


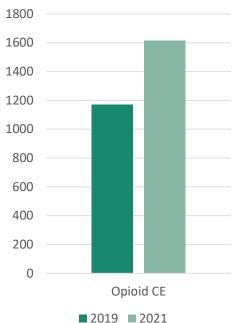
GDA Fall Webinar Series

1,572

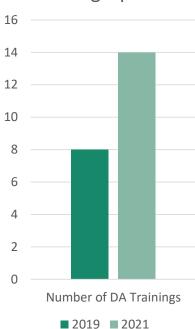
TOTAL REGISTRANTS

CE Participation Greatly Improved Since 2019

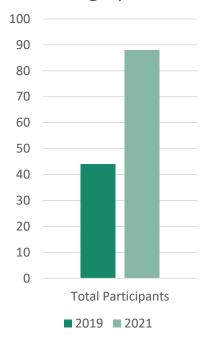




Dental Assistant Training Up 40%



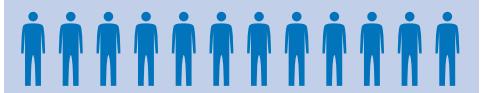
Radiation Safety Training Up 100%





GDA is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider.

ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry.



12 Leadership GDA participants, representing 5 districts

Adoption of Policies and Procedures for Reviewing Alleged Violations of the GDA Member Conduct Policy

→ At the November 13, 2021 meeting, the HOD approved the proposed due process policies and procedures used to review alleged violations of the GDA's Member Conduct Policy.

Amendments to the GDA Bylaws and Policy Manual

→ In conjunction with the adoption of the policies and procedures for reviewing alleged violations of the GDA's Member Conduct Policy, the HOD also approved amendments to the GDA Bylaws and GDA Policy Manual where these policies and procedures will be incorporated.

District Leadership Conference Held November 13, 2021

→ Held annual Leadership Conference to assist in preparing incoming District Presidents/PEs for their roles in district leadership.

Board of Trustees Orientation Held November 12 and 13, 2021

→ Held yearly Board of Trustees (BOT) orientation to ensure that all members of the BOT are aware of their duties prior to serving on the BOT or starting a new year of their term as a GDA Trustee.

Task Force Final Report

→ In 2017, the HOD passed a resolution directing the GDA President to appoint a Task Force to evaluate the effectiveness and representation of the structure and bylaw changes in governance that were instituted by the HOD at that time, and was charged with monitoring and evaluating the changes to the GDA bylaws and reporting back to the July 2021 HOD. The Task Force presented their final report to the July 2021 HOD, therefore completing their charge.





Published "Get Involved" feature in Nov./Dec. *Action* featuring volunteer positions available at various levels of time commitment.

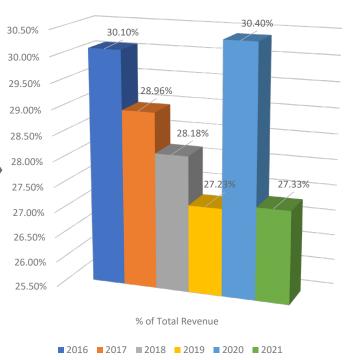
Financial Sustainability-2021

All reserve requirements will be met, exceeded, and, after tax planning contributions, will be forthcoming to GDA and the Foundation.

Dues as a Percent of Income The GDA is well under the strategic plan goal of 30%, at 27.33%.

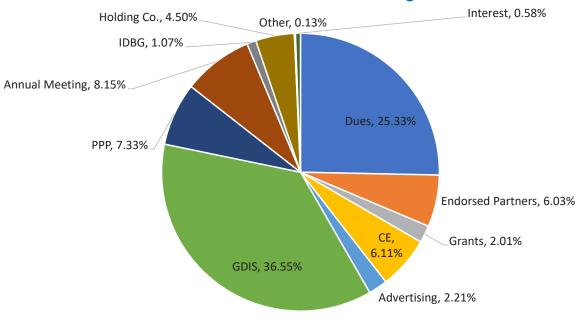
Non-Dues Revenue Growth Dues as a % of total Revenue

(all companies combined)



COVID impacted 2020. Most programs, such as the annual convention, were canceled.

2021 Income Contains PPP Forgiveness

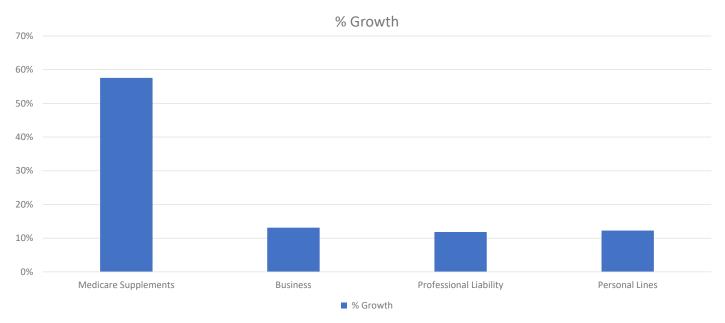


Financial Sustainability-GDIS

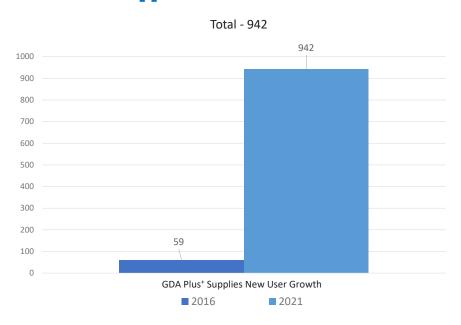
Health Insurance 2022 Renewal

- 6% Participant Growth
- 94% Retention

GDIS Business and Personal Lines vs 2021 Budget



GDA Plus⁺ Supplies Doubles Growth Since 2020



GDA Plus⁺ Supplies has grown to 942 users that have signed-up for better savings and service through 2021.



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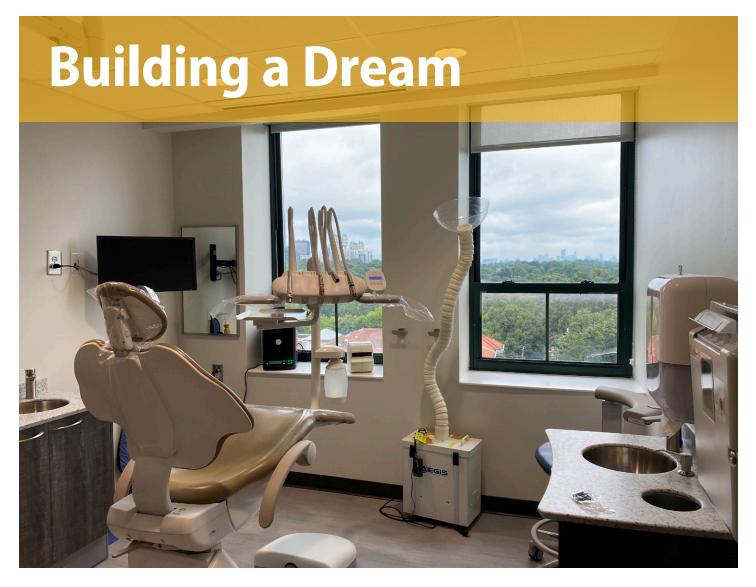
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- Buy/Sell Agreements
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- · Access to Accountants
- Exceptional Value

For Buyers

- · Buyer's Advisor
- Practice Valuations
- Equipment Life Cycle
- Market Evaluations
- Practice Recruitment
- Practice Transition Plans
- Buyer Pre-Qualification
- · Buyer Financing
- · Buy/Sell Agreements
- Access to Legal Teams
- · Access to Accountants
- Exceptional Value



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Grady's Dental Health Clinic

As a young dentist, Dr. David A. Reznik envisioned he would follow in his brother's footsteps as a general dentist and practice owner. He never expected the circumstances that would lead him to his passion and mission treating the HIV population and serving as the founder and director of the country's leading dental facility treating HIV/AIDS.

On July 9, 2021, Grady's newly renovated Oral Health Center at Ponce opened its doors to its first patient. For Dr. Reznik, who has been leading Grady's oral health services for nearly 30 years, the occasion signaled the realization of a long-held dream.

Helping Patients with HIV Access Dental Care

Dr. Reznik reflects on how he began treating patients with HIV. In the early

1980s, there was no training in dental school, and very little was known about the disease. Working as a dentist at his brother's practice, Dr. Reznik saw his first patient with HIV at a time when few dentists were willing to treat patients with the disease. "This patient had his teeth cleaned every six months," said Dr. Reznik. "But, no one would touch him once he was diagnosed with HIV," he said. Dr. Reznik saw the patient because he said it was the right thing to do. "Any form of discrimination doesn't sit right with me. People should be able to access oral health care." Word eventually got out that he would treat patients with HIV. "About half of my patients had HIV, but it was never an issue. I just wanted to be a dentist," he said.

A Leader and Champion on HIV Oral Health Care

By 1988, his passion for the mission was fueled when it became personal: his best friend from college was diagnosed with HIV. Dr. Reznik created a nonprofit, HIV Dental Alliance in 1997 to educate dentists on safely managing this patient population and assure access to high quality oral health care services for people living with HIV disease.

Dr. Reznik became known as a leader and champion, lecturing and publishing extensively on HIV, oral health, and access to care. From 2002–2007, he served as a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. In 2008, Dr. Reznik was honored at the Ryan White All Grantees meeting with the HRSA–HIV/AIDS Bureau Associate Administrator's Award for his years of

GRADY'S DENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

Continued from page 29

passion, dedication, commitment, and national leadership on HIV oral health care, and for serving as a champion for national health care provider education.

Over the years, Dr. Reznik has helped set up oral health programs throughout the United States for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (HAB) where he serves as a clinical site visitor for HAB oral health grantees. He also serves as Board President of The AIDS Institute, a national HIV/Hepatitis advocacy organization.

Building a Dream

In 1986, Grady's Infectious Disease Program opened up in a small corner of the hospital with one nurse practitioner and four patients. In 1993 Grady opened the Ponce De Leon Center, a comprehensive facility dedicated to treating advanced HIV/AIDS that presently manages approximately 6,000 patients. For many years, Dr. Reznik was the only dentist at the Ponce Oral Health Center. As the center grew, Reznik advocated for the expansion of the Oral Health Center. He credits Grady's leadership for the support and says the "This has been my heart and passion. It has driven me. I don't think I could have possibly had a more spectacular or gratifying career that made my family proud. I am grateful to do it all these years and to be a national model."

expansion would not have happened without it.

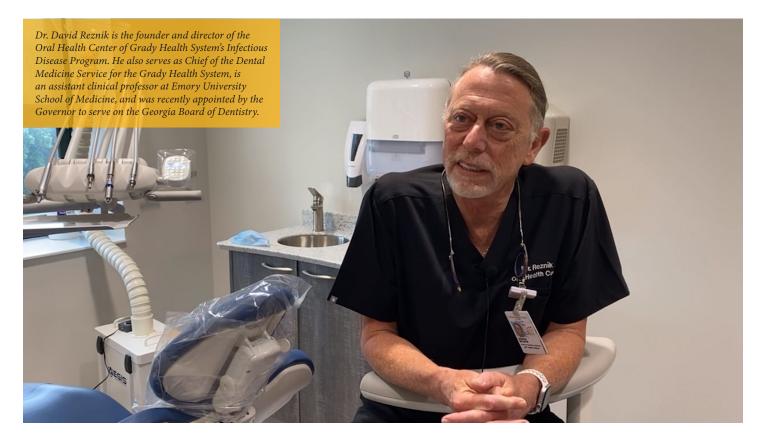
As the founder of the Grady Oral Health Center and a leading expert on HIV oral health care, Grady's leadership empowered Dr. Reznik to guide and oversee renovations to the clinic, which is now one of the country's largest and most comprehensive facilities dedicated to treating advanced HIV/AIDS.

Under his direction, the clinic features a crisp, modern design creating a patient-friendly environment. Moving the Oral Health Center from the building's lowest level to the top floor has created brightly lit spaces for optimum patient care and a setting that includes expansive views of the city skyline, he says. There are 12 procedure rooms—including three dedicated to dental hygiene. The latest panoramic X-ray equipment can also do CT scans. Negative pressure rooms

and three areas devoted to equipment sterilization are evidence of Dr. David Reznik's high standards when it comes to infection control.

The Oral Health Center's mission enabled Grady to partner with NYU Langone Dental Medicine and Ben Massell as an AEGD site. Eight dentists are currently enrolled in the postdoctoral program, which focuses on underserved populations that cannot afford dental care, including the Grady site that focuses on people with HIV.

A huge Diana Ross fan, Dr. Reznik refers to her new album entitled, Thank You. "That's what I would like to say... Thank you," says Reznik. "This has been my heart and passion. It has driven me. I don't think I could have had a more spectacular or gratifying career that made my family proud. I am grateful to do it all these years and to be a national model. "



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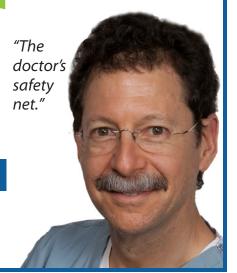
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ASDA STUDENT MEMBER \$50 \$25

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE \$322 \$222

ADA MEMBER—OUT OF STATE \$507 \$407

NON-MEMBER \$796 \$696

DENTAL TEAM MEMBER \$88 \$78

SPOUSES (Non-Dentist) \$62 \$52

CHILD 5-18 \$62 \$52

Children under 5 are free, but must be registered.

ADD-ON EVENTS

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS \$75

GDA FOUNDATION FUN RUN/WALK \$50 by 6/1/22, \$60 after Registration ends 6/24/22

FAMILY MEMBER/GUEST \$62 \$52

GOLF \$250

TENNIS \$65

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CONVENTION &EXPO

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- Receptions, social, and networking events
- Sporting events, tours, and fun on the beach
- Family activities
- Kick off event with keynote speaker
- Exhibit hall and happy hour events
- Saturday night celebration



GDA CONVENTION & EXPO

2022 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

12 – 3 pm ■ Registration Open, Magnolia Foyer

1 – 4 pm ■ Board of Trustees Meeting

6 − 9 pm President's Dinner (Invitation only)

THURSDAY, JULY 21

7 am − 7 pm Registration Open, Magnolia Foyer

7 – 7:45 am ■ District Caucus Breakfasts

8 am − 2 pm House of Delegates and Business Meeting

8 am − 5:15 pm CE Courses

2-4pm ■ ADA Delegation Meeting,

4−8 pm Exhibit Hall Open/ Welcome Reception

■ Bar opens at 4 pm Hors d'oeuvres from 5 – 7 pm

Door prizes at 4:30/6:30 pm and \$250 cash give-away and exhibitor drawings at 7:30 pm

5 – 8 pm ■ Dental College of Georgia Alumni **Reception** (Tickets outside exhibit hall)

FRIDAY, JULY 22

7 am − 6 pm Registration Open (Closed from 8 am-12 pm during kick-off breakfast)

8:15 – 11:15 am Children's Program & Breakfast (\$75)

8:30 – 11 am ■ Kickoff Breakfast and Award Presentation, Amelia Ballroom

12 − 2 pm ICD/ACD/PFA Joint Luncheon (Fellows only—\$65)

12 − 4:15 pm CE Courses

1:30 − 6 pm Exhibit Hall Open

■ Happy Hour 4 – 6 pm (Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beer, while supplies last)

Door prizes 3:30 – 4:30 pm, \$500 cash give-away and exhibitor drawings at 5:30 pm

2 – 3 pm ■ Government Affairs/GADPAC Meeting

3 – 4 pm ■ GDA Foundation Meeting

6−8 pm New Dentist/First Time Attendee Reception

SATURDAY, JULY 23

7 am − 12 pm Registration Open

8 am − 12:30 pm GADPAC Golf Tournament (\$250)

7:00 am − 9 am GDA Foundation Fun Run/Walk (\$50 by 6/1/22, \$60 after. Register by 6/24/22)

8 am − 5:15 pm CE Courses

9 – 11 am ■ Tennis Round Robin (\$65)

6 – 10 pm ■ Saturday Night Celebration

5:30 — 7:30 pm — Family Activities on the Lawn

6 − 7 pm — Dinner Buffet

7:30 — 10 pm — Kids Night

7:30 − 10 pm — GDA Lounge music and more

SUNDAY, JULY 24

11 am ■ Check-out

COLOR CODE

Exhibit Hall

■ General Events ■ GDA Leadership

Continuing Education

■ Ticketed/ Add-on Events Meetings



CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JULY 21

8 – 10 am DSO vs. CEO: Evaluating Your Career Options as an Associate Dentist

Ray Berk – Bank of America

10:15 – 11:15 am Update of Today's Volatile Markets

Harris Gignilliat – UBS

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Trends in the Business of Dentistry–

Ask the Experts

Stuart Oberman, Harris Gignilliat, Patrick

O'Rourke

1-3 pm Top 5 Mistakes Dental Offices Make

Submitting Claims—Understanding the

CDT Code, Dental Benefits

Dennis McHugh - ADA

3:15 – 5:15 pm Risk Management/Trends in Professional

Liability

Robert Thompson – MedPro

FRIDAY, JULY 22

12 – 2 pm Implant Prosthodontics:

Core Techniques for Fixed Restorations

Todd Schoenbaum, DDS, MS

General Legal Trends in Dentistry

Stuart Oberman

2:15 – 4:15 pm Introduction to Digital Dentistry

and 3D Printing

Matthew Yeung, DDS

Maximizing Effective Collections in

Dentistry

David Wiener

SATURDAY, JULY 23

8 – 10 am Rescue Treatment of Implants in the

Aesthetic Zone: Risks and Realities

Todd Schoenbaum, DDS, MS

Top Three Dental Insurance Trends

Impacting Your Income

Patrick O'Rourke

10:15 – 11:15 am Credentialing for Medical Billing

Key Performance Indicators

Dondra Edwards

10:15 am – 12:15 pm Advanced Concepts and Applications

for 3D Printing

Matthew Yeung, DDS

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Business Management: A Common

Sense Approach to Understanding Your

Key Performance Indicators

Dondra Edwards

1-3 pm Conflict Resolution Between

Partnerships and Associates

Kevin Little

1 – 5:15 pm Full Arch Restoration

Andrew Currie, DDS

3:15 – 5:15 pm Cybersecurity

Paul Murphy



GEORGIA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

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July 21-24, 2022 **Omni** Amelia

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Thank You to the 2022 GDA Convention Committee!

Dr. Steven Berwitz
Co-Chair

Dr. Jeff Capes *Co-Chair*

Dr. Zach Powell *GDA President*

Dr. Mike Pruett *CE/Clinical Program*

Dr. Melissa Durand *Kickoff Breakfast*

Dr. Greg Goggans *Awards Breakfast*

Dr. Peter Shatz *Awards Breakfast*

Dr. Donna Thomas-Moses

Awards Breakfast

Dr. Troy Schulman *Saturday Night*

Dr. Lincoln Fantaski *Exhibit Hall*

Dr. Heather McGee *Registration*

Dr. Hardy Gray *Children's Program*

Dr. Annette RaingeDoor Prizes

Dr. Celia DunnDoor Prizes

Dr. Ben Jernigan

Dr. Stuart Loos *Tennis*





INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORT THE PAC

Come tee off at the Oak Marsh Golf Course at the Omni to support dentistry under the Gold Dome! Have fun with your colleagues, play for a chance to win cash prizes and raise money for the Georgia Dental Association Political Action Committee (GDAPAC). Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Buy a few mulligans and join the fun!

GEORGIA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

CONVENTION & EXPO

July 21-24, 2022

Omni Amelia Island Resort
GDAconvention.com



WELCOME RECEPTION

Our Exhibit Hall opens with an energetic reception on Thursday night. Have a drink and enjoy a bite while mingling with the exhibitors and sponsors that make our meeting possible. Make sure to stay for door prize drawings and a \$250 cash giveaway!





NEW DENTIST/FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE/NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

On Friday, we invite new dentists, new GDA members, and first-time convention attendees to get to know some of your fellow dentists, GDA officers, and GDA staff over hors d'oeuvres and drinks. If you fit into one of these categories, plan to join us in the Oceanview Room and Terrace from 6 – 8 pm.





HAPPY HOUR

Back by popular demand! Happy hour in the Exhibit Hall on Friday from 4 – 6 pm. We'll draw for door prizes and a \$500 cash giveaway. Take advantage of this extra time to network and socialize with your colleagues! It's back by popular demand this year and new and improved. For those age 21 and up, we will have free beer (via keg until it runs out).



GDA FOUNDATION FUN RUN/WALK

Run, walk, skip, or stroll at the GDA Foundation Fun Run/Walk. The course will start and finish at the Omni Amelia Island Resort Convention Center. Enjoy a scenic run or walk meandering through the beautiful, tree-canopied resort. Proceeds support the GDA Foundation for Oral Health charitable and education programs.

Entry Fee

By June 1 – \$50 June 2–24 – \$60

Registration deadline

Please register by June 24, 2022

Day of Event Schedule

7 am – Registration Opens/T-Shirt Pickup 7:30 am – 5K Start 8 am – 1-Mile Start 8:30 am – Celebration

9 am – Event Ends





CALLING ALL TENNIS ENTHUSIASTS

Join us for a round robin tournament Saturday morning at the Omni tennis courts. These courts are set beneath a canopy of majestic live oaks and feature 23 Har-Tru fast-dry clay courts. Players of all skill levels are encouraged to join in, but players should be at least 12 years of age. Balls and water will be provided!



SATURDAY NIGHT CELEBRATION

We kick off our Saturday Night Celebration with family-friendly activities on the lawn: a DJ, face painting, a balloon artist, and more. Grab a bite from the dinner buffet from 6 – 7 pm while you enjoy the activities.

At 7:30 pm, we will have supervised kids activities so adults and teens can enjoy the GDA Lounge. Put your dancing shoes on and grab a cocktail and enjoy the vocal sounds of Yachty by Nature. The lounge will also feature a photo booth and late-night snacks.



GDIS Now Offering Modern Qualified Plans

An effective Qualified Plan design can provide business owners with the ability to dramatically reduce their current income taxes through large tax-deductible contributions. The Modern Qualified Plan can be even better by also efficiently funding assets that can ultimately provide for supplemental tax-free income and provide as a hedge against increases in tax rates in the future.

Who is a candidate for the Modern Oualified Plan?

Small highly successful business owners and professionals with less than 20 FTEs. Contributions are generally 5 times larger than is possible in a 401(k) Plan.

How to improve qualified plan outcomes for business owners?

By efficiently incorporating **Roth contributions and Life Insurance** business owners can improve qualified outcomes.

By adding life insurance to an existing or new cash balance plan you benefit from:

- Approximately 22% additional Deductible Contributions since funding both retirement and death benefits. (Increases current taxdeductible contributions and reduces current income tax.)
- Offers Self Completion for Family Security.







- Maximum Lump Sum Rollover to IRA is limited to same amount in a Pension Plan whether plan is funded with investments only or investments and life insurance (Code Section 415).

Work with your GDIS agent.

Call us at 770.395.0224 x129 or visit gdaplus.com for more information.





INCREASED TAX DEDUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR BUSINESS OWNERS!

Qualified Plan designs can provide business owners with the ability to dramatically reduce their income taxes through large tax-deductible contributions. If you are a business owner who needs a tax deduction for 2021 it's not too late!

Deadlines to adopt a new **De[ined Bene[it Pension, Cash Balance,** or **401k Pro[it Sharing Plan** have been **extended beyond December 31st, 2021.**

Tax Status	Filing Deadline	Plan Adoption Deadline
S-Corporation (or LLC taxed as S-Corp)	March 15	September 15
Partnership (or LLC taxed as a partnership)	March 15	September 15
C-Corporation (or LLC taxed as C-Corp)	April 15	October 15
Sole Proprietorship (or LLC taxed as sole prop)	April 15	October 15

If your business can use additional tax deductions

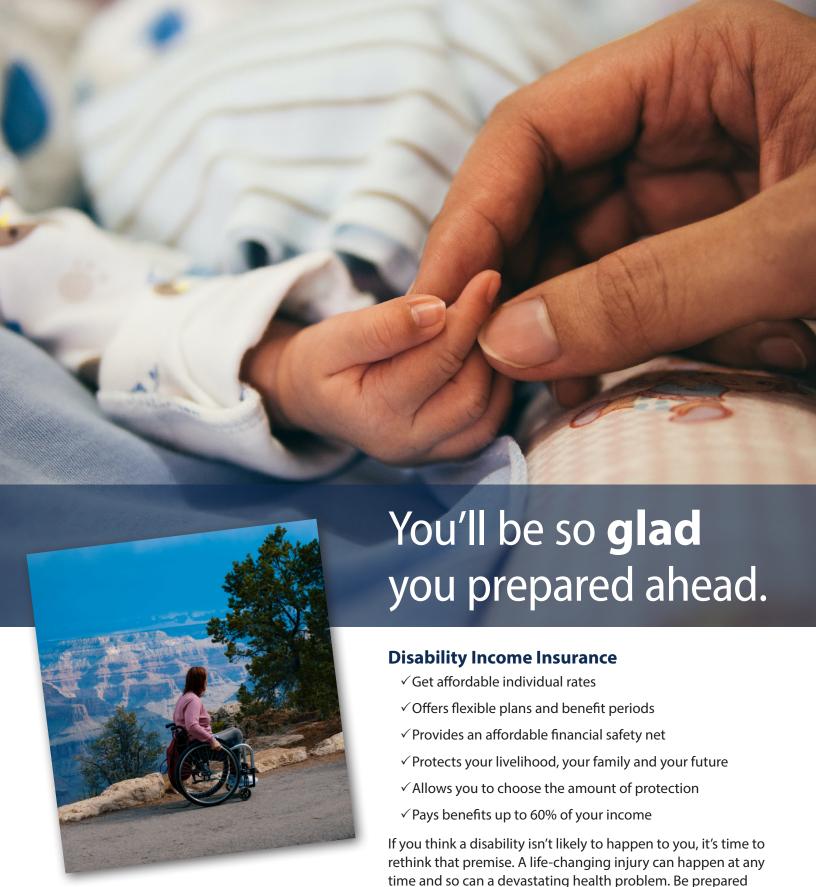
Call your GDIS agent today 770.395.0224 x.129











Request a private consultation by calling GDIS at 770.395.0224 x129.



with a life and disability policy.



License renewal was all about your education, now it's time to focus on your staff.

The Board of Dentistry requires dentists to obtain at least 40 hours of continuing education (CE) prior to re-licensure.

The pandemic made that problematic—shutting down in-person CE and causing dentists to work harder to find approved CE. But the labor and frenzy has passed and it's time to focus education efforts to those frontline workers that can make or break a practice—the staff.

On-Demand Training From Wherever

The GDA has one of the few Georgia Board of Dentistry approved curriculums for dental assistants seeking to expand their functions or perform coronal polishing, and the pandemic forced much of that training online. But what was born out of necessity is now a training program that can be started at any time and from anywhere you can get connected to the internet—with online courses that will start a path toward certification in four areas of expanded duties and coronal polishing.

Their Gain is Your Gain

In addition to scoring points by demonstrably contributing to their careers, getting your dental assistants certified in expanded duties and coronal polishing will help your practice's bottom line—an excellent return from an inexpensive investment. According to a recent ADA survey, having an Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA) on staff helped dentists:

• Use time more efficiently—92.1% of respondents.

- See more patients daily—67.5%.
- Increase capacity to treat patients in managed care programs—36.3%.
- Lower overall operating expenses—34.1%.
- Increase capacity to treat patients covered by Medicaid, Medicare, Children's Health Insurance Program, or another public assistance program—27.9%.

92.1%

of respondents use time more efficiently with an Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA) on staff

Functions most frequently performed by EFDAs included:

- Coronal polishing—53.7%.
- Monitoring nitrous oxide—50.2%.
- Applying pit and fissure sealants—49.6%.

The Time is Now—Enroll Your Staff Today

Your 40 hours of CE was an investment in yourself, but now is the time to make that investment to more greatly benefit the practice. A happy, productive staff is a great asset and the foundation of a more healthy and prosperous practice. Enroll your dental assistants today. Visit gadental.org and look for the education tab or call 404.636.7553 x131.



Enrolling Now for Skills Assessments

(required for certification)



Saturday, April 16, 2022



Columbus Technical College



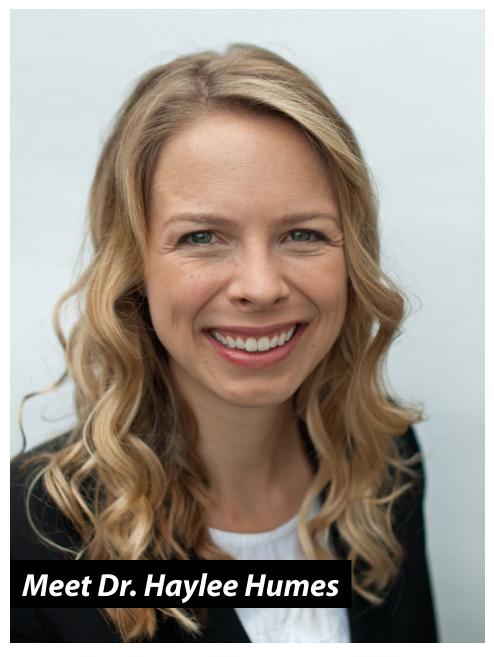
Saturday, June 3, 2022



Athens Technical College

For upcoming CE courses, visit gadental.org/CE.

GDAMEMBERPROFILE











When and how did you become a GDA member?

I worked as a dental assistant prior to attending dental school, and the doctor was very involved in the GDA. He would always introduce me to people in leadership and keep me up-to-date with all the important things the GDA was doing at the time. The experience taught me how important being a member of the GDA is, and I joined as soon as I started dental school.

Why is being part of a professional group important?

Professional groups are essential as a way to connect with the legislature and regulators to the benefit of our patients and profession. Professional groups are also an important avenue to stay connected with each other and get to know other practitioners at all different stages of their careers. Meetings, CE, leadership opportunities, lobbying, and networking are all extremely important to our success and the health of our patients.

What is the single most important thing, in your opinion, GDA can do to help members?

In light of COVID-19, the GDA has helped disseminate quality information, helping source PPE, and working with regulators to make sure we have the right amount of requirements. The GDA was very helpful during office closures as well as when planning to reopen safely. The GDA is always working to help our profession, but

in times of change and crisis you can really see all of the ways they help us.

What advice would you give to an aspiring dental student?

Shadow as much as you can to make sure the job is right for you. Once in dental school, don't take the easy road—choose procedures and clubs that will expand your understanding and give you experiences in as many things as possible.

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

I wanted to be a ballerina or an astronaut, of course. When I was slightly older, I wanted to be a veterinarian because I love animals. However, I soon realized that I needed a much happier profession.

What was your first job?

Tutoring middle school, high school, college athletes, SAT, MCAT, LSAT, DAT, GRE... the list goes on!

Why did you decide to become a dentist?

I decided to become a dentist after college. My mother, a hygienist, had always encouraged me to look at dentistry, but I never took the advice seriously. After UGA, I attended law school, but I began to realize that the law was not the right fit for me. I was even told by a federal judge that I "smiled too much to be successful in this field." In thinking about my next steps, I wanted a really positive career in healthcare. I finally considered dentistry

and found it to be the perfect intersection of art and healthcare. I shadowed as much as I could, fell in love with the day-to-day experience, left grad school, and worked as a dental assistant while I got my application for dental school together. I believe my detour into law school helped me in dental school and residency because I knew I had thoughtfully chosen to be there. I am so thankful that I get to spend my days getting to know my patients and helping them be really proud of their smiles.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

With all of the extra spare time I've had lately, I've gotten back into painting, reading, and baking. Normally, I love spending time with family and friends, traveling, and finding new restaurants to try.

What is your all-time dream vacation?

Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji! Or Southeast Asia! Or Patagonia! I have a very long list of dream vacations.

Without saying, "I am a dentist," what would you say if someone asked what you do?

I help people build their confidence during a really important point in their lives. I hopefully bring them smiles while that happens, too.

GDACLASSIFIEDS

DENTIST AVAILABLE

DENTIST (TEMP FILL IN). Current GA, FL, AL licenses. 27 years in solo practice. Also, group, faculty, civilian mission trip, and military practice experience. DEA# and insured staff, friendly. Email drglassdmd@yahoo.com or call Richard Glass, DMD at 770.656.5269/770.380.7487. "Have licenses, will travel."

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ASSOCIATE DENTIST with sign-on-bonus. Our office is seeking a highly motivated professional that is comfortable working with children. This is a great opportunity to practice in a pediatric dental/orthodontic environment. We believe in a high level of patient and parent education and making sure that children have an excellent dental experience at each visit. Our office is an upscale and modern office with a happy, motivated, multi-skilled team. We offer a team motivated working environment and a competitive salary. Candidate must have excellent communication skills, be enthusiastic and motivated. To apply please email CV to pediatricdentistjob@gmail.com. Looking forward to welcoming you to our team.

PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR an associate and/or future partner for a general dentist in a 40+ year established private practice in Northeast Atlanta. Our practice is well established and built on a solid reputation in the community. We average 60+ comprehensive NP exams and 100+ NP calls a month. Our focus is quality care in a comfortable environment and we strive to positively impact our patients, team members and our local community. Looking for a person who values quality, is patient focused, driven, enjoys serving others and is a high achiever that wants to grow professionally as well as personally. Ideally, we'd love to expand our current service offering to include surgical procedures so that we can be sure our patients are receiving the same quality of care they know and trust. We offer a full benefits package for all full-time team members and would like to take care of you as well! Please send resumes to topatlantadentist@gmail.com.

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DO YOUR PATIENTS SUFFER FROM ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS

EAR

Ear pain • Ringing in ears
Dizziness • Vertigo

J۸۱

Clicking, popping jaw joints Pain in cheek • Limited opening

NECK

Lack of mobility/stiffness Neck Pain • Tired/sore muscles Arm/finger numbness



HEAD PAIN

Forehead • Temples Migraine-type • Sinus-type

EYES

Pain behind eye • Blood-shot eyes • Sensitive to light

TEETH

Clenching/grinding at night Looseness & soreness of back teeth

If your patients have any of these symptoms and are not responding to treatments, they may be suffering from a TMJ disorder. Problems within the jaw can produce a myriad of symptoms that, at first glance, might appear to be totally unrelated to the temporomandibular complex. Our dedicated team of professionals have years of training and are happy to assist you in the diagnosis and treatment of possible craniomandibular/temporomandibular disorders.



Manoj Maggan, DDS

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Help us achieve our vision of a future where every person can attain a healthy mouth with your tax-deductible gift to GDAF.

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Contributing professional services, printing, merchandise, product donations, or ad space helps off-set our costs and those of our community partners.

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A Tribute Gift allows you to recognize someone dear to you, whether memorializing the passing of an individual or celebrating a new birth, graduation, or any special occasion.

GIFTS OF STOCK

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RETIREMENT ASSETS

Donate part or all of your unused retirement assets, such as your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pension or other tax-deferred plan.

PLANNED GIFTS

Support GDAF in a meaningful way while leaving a legacy to be remembered by future generations.

AMAZON SMILE

Donate .5% of your eligible purchases from Amazon to the nonprofit of your choice. Support the GDA Foundation for Oral Health by shopping online: smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3194544.



Contact the GDA office or visit us at gadental.org/foundation.

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Contact GDA Dental Recovery Network Director Jane Walter at 404.376.5987, or email her at jwgda@aol.com.

GDA_s

A program of the Georgia Dental Association.

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