

# DCDS connection

Official Publication of DCDS  
A tradition of integrity and care since 1908



## Mission Statement

Serving the professional  
needs of our members

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## 2024 SWDC Results

by Dr. Drew Vanderbrook, 2024 SWDC Chairperson

### Empowering Innovation and Productivity!

It's a wrap on another successful Southwest Dental Conference! The Conference not only achieved our goal of providing an enriching educational experience but also finished as a financial success for our society. This accomplishment is a testament to the collective effort and dedication of everyone involved.

First and foremost, I want to thank all of the attendees. Your enthusiasm, engagement, and commitment to improving yourself and your teams made this Conference truly exceptional. It is your presence that fuels the vibrancy of our sessions and workshops, creating an environment where knowledge and innovation thrive. Your willingness to learn, share, and grow with your peers underscores the spirit of our profession and inspires us to continuously strive for excellence.

I also want to thank our exhibitors. Your participation is invaluable, bringing the latest technologies, products, and services to us. The interactions between attendees and exhibitors fostered a dynamic exchange of ideas, ensuring that everyone left with new insights and tools to enhance their practices. Your support and investment in the Southwest Dental Conference play a crucial role in our ongoing success.

A special acknowledgment must go to our Silver Star Volunteers. Your dedication and hard work behind the scenes ensured the seamless execution of the Conference. Our Conference is known for its hospitality and that could not be done without each of you. Your commitment and generosity exemplify the collaborative spirit that makes our Conference so unique.

Finally, I extend my sincerest thanks to the Dallas County Dental Society staff. Your behind-the-scenes work in organizing and running the

meeting was nothing short of extraordinary. Your attention to detail, logistical prowess, and unwavering commitment ensured that every aspect of the Conference was executed flawlessly. Your efforts often go unnoticed, but they are the backbone of our success. We are deeply indebted to you for your hard work and dedication.

As we conclude this year's Conference, I am filled with optimism for the future. We look forward to building on this success and continuing to offer a platform for excellence in dental education and practice.

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to the 2024 Southwest Dental Conference. I eagerly anticipate welcoming you all back next year for another exciting and enriching Conference.



Dr. Drew Vanderbrook, Chairman of the 2024 SWDC, is shown here presenting a Chairman's cowboy hat to Dr. Gabby Dizon, who will chair next year's Conference. More photos from the SWDC can be found on page 12.

# The Write Stuff

Celeste Latham, DDS, President

## Fall into a New Routine



"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."  
— F. Scott Fitzgerald, "The Great Gatsby"

I always get excited when September rolls around. Fall means the start of

school, football, and eventually cooler weather here in North Texas. It is also a great time to recommit to your involvement with Dallas County Dental Society! With a successful 2024 Southwest Dental Conference in the books, let's carry that momentum into our September General Membership meeting on September 17.

Fall is the best time of the year to start new habits, join new groups, and meet new people. It's hard to believe, but we all spent twenty plus years of our lives starting a fresh new school year each fall full of possibility and promise. There was so much excitement over who you would meet, what your new classes would be like, and buying new clothes and new school supplies. Just remember starting high school, college, and dental school... with that new school year you could feel like a whole new person. No one ever feels that level of possibility on January 1st, when most of us traditionally think about change.

Take this opportunity of a fresh start and consider joining us for several activities this

coming year that will enhance your wellbeing. Our Membership Development Committee is busy planning activities and events that will make a positive contribution to your personal wellness. A book club and a health and wellness initiative are in the planning stages. Keep an eye out for information in the coming weeks.

If you haven't already, take the next step and get involved! Join a group or committee with Dallas County Dental Society. Please visit <https://www.dcds.org/member-center/committee-interest> to see the variety of roles available. We have many opportunities for you to make a contribution to DCDS: community based programs, legislative/governance involvement, peer/membership focused areas, helping with education, and leadership.

Rekindle that new school year feeling by making this the year you jump into something new with Dallas County Dental Society. Make plans to join us for all of our General Membership meetings and participate in one of many volunteer opportunities. When we all come together, each of us with that excitement of possibility, it can be life changing.

I have made some of my closest friends through DCDS activities and you just might too! I'm looking forward to a great year of continuing education, nurturing friendships and strengthening connections within our membership.



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**HALF PRICE DUES**

**A 50% discount of dues is eligible for new members who join mid-year or during the fourth quarter of the year, provided they have not paid dues in a previous year. Encourage your colleagues to join!**

# Impressions

Editorial by Simmi Patel, Editor

## Are you listening?



A few months ago, I was with a patient in one operatory and I happened to be listening to the student across the hall in another operatory. The patient was telling the student that she had

metastatic cancer of unknown origin and that she needed dentures. Obviously, it took the student some time to go through her medical history. Once he was finished, he began her exam. I heard him tell the patient that he was pretty sure Dr. Patel would want her maxillary torus palatinus and bilateral mandibular tori removed prior to making her dentures. Even though this case seemed like a slam dunk, it was not.

We weren't listening to the patient. She had a hard time telling the student that she did not want to die without teeth. After I examined the patient, I asked her and the student if it was ok if I made diagnostic casts and sent them to our lab to see if the tori needed to be removed. Both patient and student agreed to this simple task. Moreover, the patient left happy when I said that I would call her after I consulted with them. Low and behold, Kevin at the lab said, "No problem, we can make dentures for her without removing the tori." Ecstatic, I called the patient and delivered the great news. I am happy to say that the patient has a set of dentures and is doing well with them. She told me that she went to two dentists who refused to make dentures for her.

The act of listening and reading context clues is an art worth exploring further as dental providers. It can make or break your practice. I always tell our students that if you do not address your patient's chief complaint by the second appointment, they will not return to your practice. It seems simple, but listening is hard especially when you have patients waiting on you in other treatment rooms. So, I try to focus on the present. Once I enter the treatment room, I do not think about the patient I was just with or the one waiting for me next door. I try to listen to their concerns and reflect these issues back to ensure we are on the same page. For example, a patient states that they have had a filling done

by a previous provider and are having issues with it. I will simply reply, "I understand that you had a filling done by Dr. Iwanna Yankum two weeks ago and you have sensitivity to cold ever since it was placed." Then, I will use motivational interviewing skills that I learned while training as a tobacco cessation counselor. These skills help elicit change behaviors in our patients.

Motivational interviewing is important because it ensures that the patient can convey as much information as possible without interruption. The provider then rephrases what the patient states to reassure the patient that they are listening. After the patient has finished speaking, the provider then asks the patient permission to share information that may help them with their situation. The provider also makes suggestions on behavior modifications as well such as changing their routine so that they do not pass the convenience store to buy a Big Gulp on the way to work. This seems like a lot of work, but it is much easier to listen than spend most of the appointment talking and getting negative facial expressions back from the patient.

While the title of this article is probably a Coco Melon song, it is important to understand the art of listening to prevent miscommunication and subsequent patient disconnection. While I am listening to the patient, I try to put myself in their shoes. I will even reflect, "that must be uncomfortable" or something similar to express my empathy towards their circumstances. Oftentimes, we forget to acknowledge how a person is feeling. Furthermore, it is ok if you do not have the answers to all your patients' questions. Dentistry is always evolving and sometimes we must research questions and then get back with the patient. Make sure you follow through with what you say. If I tell a patient that I will call them in the evening to check on them, I make sure to take their phone number with me to follow through with my promise. These small steps help build practices and fortify patient relationships.

Sometimes, the front desk will ask me questions while I am working, and I cannot find a solution right away. At the end of my day, I always

**The act of listening and reading context clues is an art worth exploring further as dental providers. It can make or break your practice.**

practice introspection. I try to remember the things that went well that day and the areas that I can improve upon. This is the time where I brainstorm ideas. I write them down and then share them with my staff the next day. The staff and I discuss if the ideas are worth implementing or tossing. Keeping an open line of communication with your dental team is vital to the success of your practice. Asking for feedback on how you are doing as a provider, though humbling, is critical to the building of your character. If the staff tells me that I am not listening, I slow down and work on my listening skills. If they tell me that I am stressed and it is being reflected in my interaction with our patients, I try to take 3 deep breaths before entering the treatment room with a smile on my face. During my career, I must admit that the staff has trained me well on improving my character and behavior to handle the various personalities that come into our practice. I am not afraid to ask the staff for help when things are not going well. It is because of this symbiotic relationship that we enjoy our profession and being with each other.

Dentistry can be a challenging profession if we do not pay attention to our patients. Sometimes, it is hard to deal with the information communicated to us. For example, when the patient with metastatic cancer tells us she came to the appointment by herself. As dentists, we can get to know our patients well. They are like our families, and it is important that we listen to their concerns and take the time to find solutions as well. The most successful dental practices are built on trust and mutual respect with a sense of belonging.



# From The Hub

by Jane D. Evans, Executive Director

## Giving Back



*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill.*

My journey into volunteering began in high school as a "Candy Striper" at a local hospital, where I delivered flowers,

magazines, and read to patients. However, it was my first Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) event in 2004 that truly opened my eyes to the profound impact of volunteering. Since then, I have participated in 36 TMOM events, each offering a unique experience but sharing a common thread: the gratifying feeling of helping individuals who would otherwise lack access to dental care. For those of us who frequently volunteer at these events, it feels like being part of a family united by the shared goal of bringing smiles to those in need.

I encourage you to consider contributing to TMOM events or other initiatives supported by the DCDS Foundation. Opportunities to volunteer include Hope Smiles, Dentist with a Heart, Dental Tree/Meals on Wheels, Senior Smiles, Give Kids a Smile, or one of the many dental clinics in the DFW area. Keep an eye out for information on how to sign up for these upcoming events. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rosemary Martinez at [rosemary@dcds.org](mailto:rosemary@dcds.org) or to me at [jane@dcds.org](mailto:jane@dcds.org).

I would particularly like to highlight the Hopeful Smiles program, which many of our dentists have supported. This initiative partners with local dental professionals to provide essential restorative dental care to women in critical need. While our dentists generously donate their time and expertise, the Hopeful Smiles program covers the cost of materials. The support from our dental professionals has enabled many women to return to the workforce. Hopeful Smiles, along with Boots to Heels (for Veterans),

is a program under Attitudes & Attire, founded by Ms. Lyn Berman.

Many thanks to all who are already volunteering with these programs. Your dedication is truly appreciated.

*"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another." – Erma Bombeck*



Betty Hernandez and Dr. Bill Gerlach pose in back of their patient during a TMOM screening event.

## Attention! ADA Technology Upgrade Coming

The ADA is upgrading its technology to a modern system that will enable the ADA and Tripartite to deliver more value to our members through a more streamlined experience and enhanced services and support. From September 3–9, ADA will be moving from the old system to the new. You will still be able to log in to ADA websites to access resources, downloads and CE you may have already purchased. You may also place new online orders for ADA Store products and ADA webinars and online courses. You will also be able to view the DCDS website and DCDS events.

However, during this week, you will not be able to change your ADA/TDA/DCDS account information, receive new ADA products and services, register for new ADA events, or purchase ADA products.

As part of this upgrade, all ADA customers will be required to update their login credentials beginning September 10. On or after September 10, 2024, when you click "login" on [ADA.org](http://ADA.org), [TDA.org](http://TDA.org) or [DCDS.org](http://DCDS.org), you will see a new login screen and a prompt to login with your email address to reset your password. Your ADA member number will no longer be used for login. Instead, you will use your unique email address and password to access your ADA account. Note that the ADA will send you an email prompting you to change your password; you will use this email for your ADA username.

If you are ordering from ADA Store or ADA CE during the system transition time (September 3-9), please note the following:

- ADA Store orders: New online orders can be placed, but products will not start shipping until September 10. New e-books will not be accessible on [ebooks.ada.org](http://ebooks.ada.org) until September 10.
- CE courses (livestream and online) can be ordered from [CE.ada.org](http://CE.ada.org) and completed. Credits for courses completed during the transition will appear on your transcript. Previously purchased courses will still be accessible, and previously completed credits will still appear on your ADA transcript.
- Online registration for CE workshops will be paused during this time. However, credits for workshops previously taken will still appear on your transcript at [CE.ada.org](http://CE.ada.org).

If you try to log in with one or more email addresses that are not recognized, you can contact the Member Service Center for support at 312-440-2500 or [msc@ada.org](mailto:msc@ada.org). More information is available at <https://www.ada.org/ada-account-login-faq>.

# New Dentists

News and perspective from dentists under 10 years of practice



by Gabby Dizon, DDS

## The Future of Dentistry

In reflecting upon where the field of dentistry is going, I felt it was important to consider how far the profession has already progressed. The practice of dentistry has roots dating back to the earliest civilizations; evidence that mankind has continually placed value in the treatment and health of the oral cavity. We are presently in the era of Modern Dentistry, an era with a foundation built upon the principles of preventive and restorative dentistry. Modern Dentistry has an impressive history, considering that its startup days began in barber shops and eventually grew into its own space as a standalone profession, the dentistry we know today.

G.V. Black, the Father of Modern Operative Dentistry, was a pivotal figure in defining the way we practice dentistry today. While we have moved away from his theory of “Extension for Prevention,” we still preserve the spirit of his work of maintaining the natural dentition through the field of restorative dentistry. Decades of dedicated dental research and technological advances have allowed the field to progress towards preventive and proactive treatment with minimally invasive options. Ultimately, the advances in dental technology allow for more predictable treatment with higher rates of success as it allows for earlier, more comprehensive, and conclusive detection of pathology.

I am exceptionally optimistic about the future of dentistry. Dentistry has grown into a continuously changing and evolving profession, allowing treatment options to become increasingly minimally invasive, a tenet that would make G.V. Black proud. The field of dentistry is constantly moving forward with new developments in techniques and materials that are occurring at an exponential rate. Constant progression of the field of dentistry is a gift. With this gift comes the responsibility of current and future generations to continue this forward trend.

“Dentistry has grown into a continuously changing and evolving profession, allowing treatment options to become increasingly minimally invasive.”



Dental assistants who train through the DCDS Dental Assisting School know more than just the basics. They are specialized assistants who can take x-rays and perform CPR. They have foundational knowledge of nitrous oxide sedation and are HIPAA/ OSHA proficient. They are trained to work as part of a dental team.

DCDS member dentists are given the unique (and first) opportunity to hire new, fully trained dental assistants from each graduating class. For more information, please contact the Program Director, Angela Bush, at [info@dcdsdas.org](mailto:info@dcdsdas.org) or visit <https://www.dcds.org/dental-assisting-school>.



NOW ENROLLING STUDENTS FOR SESSION STARTING OCTOBER 9

[www.dcdsdas.org](http://www.dcdsdas.org)



# DCDS Member's Message Board

## Upcoming Events

September 19 – General Membership Meeting: Denture Delight: Achieving Patient Approval and Delivering Successful Complete Dentures

September 19 – North Texas Giving Day: DCDS Foundation

November 6-8 – Dental Tree Program by DCDS Foundation

November 14 – General Membership Meeting: Metallosis and Peri-implantitis

**Register at [www.dcds.org/events](http://www.dcds.org/events)**



## Welcome New Members!

### General Practice

Rohini Agarwal

Robert Beville

Roxana Chavez

Phillip Claassen

Brian Clark

Michael Dang

Chloe Darko

Suvidha Dere

Josh Dickie

Simrin Gill

Niama Hagos

Duc Hanh Nguyen

Austin Huffman

Farbode Karimi

Joshua Klein

Janessa Mendence

Jorge Morillo

Sebastian Ocampo

Madeline Ritter

Aissar Sahori

Rajeswari Sankaranarayanan

Danielle Smith

Crystal Song

Burhanuddin Tambawala

Kathy Tran

Brandon Truong

Bhakti Vahewala

Claudia Vargas

### Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Daniel Sanovich

### Looking for a job?

**Have a position to fill in your office?**

**Want to sell or buy office space and office equipment?**

List it on the DCDS.org Job Bank/ Practice Sales! Members list for free (\$75/month for non-members.)

Email a brief summary (100 words or less, in paragraph format) of the post to: [rosemary@dcds.org](mailto:rosemary@dcds.org).



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## REACH OUT TO HELP ANOTHER DENTIST

Watching a colleague suffer and feeling helpless is difficult and heartbreaking. Dentists Concerned for Dentists is a 24-hour confidential alcohol and drug abuse hotline you can call for assistance.

Your phone call could be the lifesaving step for someone who is hoping and waiting.

- Founded exclusively to help dentists, hygienists, assistants and family members.
- No fees or charges.
- All contact is held in absolute confidentiality.

The Dentists Concerned for Dentists program provides a strictly confidential peer assistance program for health care professionals who struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. Please share this confidential hotline with your colleagues.

A confidential phone call may be the greatest gift a peer dentist, staff or family member could receive.

## DENTISTS CONCERNED FOR DENTISTS

24-hour Confidential Hotline  
**214-206-7496**

### HELP YOURSELF

If you're in crisis, there are options available to help you cope. You can call the above hotline at any time to speak to someone and get support. For confidential support available 24/7 for everyone in the United States, you can also call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

## Need Meeting Space?

As a member of the DCDS, you can take advantage of low member rates when renting the Society's Executive Office for your next meeting.

The Dr. O.V. Cartwright Reception Hall is perfect for registration and a pre-function gathering.

The Dr. Paul P. Taylor Executive Board Room can seat 14 around a large conference table.

The Dr. D. Lamar Byrd Auditorium is 1,650 square feet of meeting space that can seat up to 125.

Audio/visual equipment is also available.

DCDS facilities include free parking, free wifi, use of small kitchenette, and ability to bring in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

For more info, contact Ashley Hawkins at 972-386-5741 or email [info@dcds.org](mailto:info@dcds.org).



## DCDS Membership Benefits

Being a member of the associations that work to protect your profession is important to the success of a practice...pass along the benefits to your peers!

- Free registration to DCDS's annual Southwest Dental Conference
- Peer Review mediation service to reconcile complaints between patients and doctors
- Rent DCDS meeting facilities at special member rates
- Free or discounted continuing education via seminars & General Membership Meetings
- First opportunity to hire fully trained world-class assistants from DCDS Dental Assisting School
- Preprinted school excuse forms provided free of charge to dentists treating school-age children
- Confidential free notary public
- DCDS Connection, the bimonthly newsletter of Dallas County Dental Society (member advertising at reduced rates)
- Member mailing labels available for purchase
- Grassroots legislator contact program with state and national legislative representation
- License renewal reminders
- Networking/social opportunities with colleagues

DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by Texas Dental Association, including free entry to TDA TEXAS Meeting.

DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by American Dental Association, including photo directory and public referrals through Find-a-Dentist.

[www.dcds.org/membership](http://www.dcds.org/membership)

## TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS: Text DCDSMEMBERS to (833) 258-7645.

Have you ever wished you could receive reminders for DCDS meetings and events? Do you forget to put events/meetings on your calendar? DCDS implemented text messaging so you will not forget another meeting. Just sign up and you will be reminded of future meetings and events.



### Pro Bono Reporting

Dallas County Dental Society is interested in learning about the amount of pro bono care our members provide. The pro bono care you provide makes a positive impact on your patients' lives. It also makes a positive impact on DCDS' legislative efforts with the Texas Dental Association on your behalf. Please complete this form whenever you provide these services.

Opportunities to provide pro bono services can often be found on the DCDS Physician Website.

First Name \*  Last Name \*

Email \*

**TOTAL PRO BONO HOURS BELOW**

**TOTAL PRO BONO HOURS BELOW**

This table must include reported hours

CASE #	Who referred patient to office?	Time spent delivering care?	Value of Treatment?
CASE 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CASE 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CASE 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## PRO BONO HOURS

Dallas County Dental Society is interested in learning about the amount of pro bono care our members provide. The pro bono care you provide makes a positive impact on your patients' lives. It also makes a positive impact on DCDS' legislative efforts with the Texas Dental Association on your behalf.

Please help our legislative efforts by completing this short Pro Bono Form on our website whenever you provide these services:

<https://www.dcds.org/member-center/pro-bono>



# Applause, Applause!



Congratulations to DCDS Members Dr. Brad Crump (left) and Dr. Larry Whiting, who have both been nominated by the Texas Academy of General Dentistry for Texas Dentist of the Year! The winner of this prestigious award will be announced by the TAGD on September 20, 2024.

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# 2024 Southwest Dental Conference

Thank you to all who attended and supported the Southwest Dental Conference!  
These photos and more from the Chairman's Dinner can be found by [clicking here](#).









**Thank You, 2024 Silver Stars:  
Our Ambassadors of the SWDC Conference!**



Susan Aten, DDS  
 Todd Baumann, DDS, MS  
 Mitra Bolouri, DDS  
 Stephanie Bowers, DDS  
 Tina Bui, DDS  
 Angela Bush, RDA  
 Linda Cheng, DDS  
 Brad Crump, DDS, MS  
 Noah Cruz, DDS  
 Jodi Danna, DDS  
 Rich Derksen, DMD  
 Sara Ehsani, DDS  
 Mayra Estrada, DDS  
 Laurie Fernandez  
 Denise Francisco, RDH  
 Gayle Glenn, DDS  
 Elizabeth Goldman, DDS

David Goydan, DDS  
 Greg Grave, DDS  
 Angie Hallmark, RDA  
 Cindy Harmon, RDH  
 Holly Hattaway, RDH  
 Laureli Hattaway  
 Shad Hattaway, DDS  
 Morganne Hawkins, RDA  
 Bob Hunsucker, DDS  
 Missy Jaynes, DDS, MS  
 Kathy Kasper, DDS  
 Thao Kim, RDH  
 Celeste Latham, DDS  
 Spencer Long, RDA  
 Kim McClure, RDH  
 Mac McDonald, DDS  
 Danette McNew, DDS

Vijaya Molli, DDS  
 Chelsea Moorman, RDH  
 Mike Neeley, DDS  
 Phuong Ngo, DDS  
 Marcella Parker, RDA  
 Simmi Patel, DDS  
 Michael Plunk, DDS  
 Quinlan Raichel  
 Michael Rainwater, DDS  
 Stacy Ray, RDA  
 Jim Reisman, DDS  
 Rachel Roberts, RDH  
 Jordan Schweitzer, DDS  
 Jeff Siebert, DDS  
 Carmen Smith, DDS  
 Steven Spivack, DDS  
 Audrey Stansbury, DDS

Mary Swift, DDS  
 Hanan Teklu  
 Sarah Tevis, DDS  
 Jon Vogel, DDS  
 Claude Williams Jr, DDS  
 Jon Williamson, DDS  
 Wayne Woods, DDS  
 Aisa Zamani, DDS





Thank you to our 2023-2024 Scientific Committee for searching out great clinicians!

- Dr. Drew Vanderbrook
- Dr. Gabby Dizon
- Dr. Thomas Schlieve
- Dr. Celeste Latham
- Dr. Andrew Read-Fuller
- Dr. Shad Hattaway
- Dr. Wendy Steger



A big THANK YOU to DCDS Members who shared their thought leadership by presenting!

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Celeste Abraham, DDS, MS    | Leif Stromberg, DDS  |
| Kerin Burdette, DDS         | John Wright, DDS, MS |
| Jacqueline Plemons, DDS, MS | Victoria Woo, DDS    |
| Randy Sanovich, DDS         |                      |



# Diversity + Inclusivity

by Mitra Bolouri, DDS  
Diversity and Inclusivity Committee Chairman

## Empowering Women in Dentistry



Several years ago, I volunteered as a session host at the Southwest Dental Conference for the first time. Although I had attended since my dental student days, this was my first time being part of the behind-

the-scenes action, so to speak. After checking attendees' badges as they entered the lecture hall, I started perusing the conference brochure I had picked up that morning. As I looked through the headshots of the various lecturers, I began to realize that I didn't see many women. After some quick math, I estimated that about 10% of the speakers were women, and only a couple of those female speakers were dentists.

I asked around to my female counterparts in both dentistry and medicine. Many of them said

they were less likely to attend a lecture series or conference where the vast majority, if not all, of the speakers were men. A quick Google search revealed that while dentistry is still overwhelmingly male-dominated, starting in 2018, more females than males have been entering dental school. The number of female dentists will only continue to grow.

I would love to see more female dentists presenting at conferences and meetings. I think when you see someone who looks like you or has a shared background, it is easier to envision yourself in that position. Opportunities you didn't even know existed present themselves to you. Our new dentists, male or female, will see that they too can strive to attend the Southwest Dental Conference and other dental meetings not only as attendees but as presenters as well.

Besides helping to cultivate the next generation

of speakers, increasing diversity in our speaker lineup makes great business sense as well. As we see an increase in the diversity of dentists, we must find ways to entice them to become members of organized dentistry if we want to continue to see the tripartite flourish. We must find ways to appeal to all dentists, regardless of race, gender, or ethnicity.

Looking through this year's conference brochure, I have to applaud the work of Dr. Drew Vanderbrook and the DCDS Scientific Committee. Almost half of the speakers are women. Whether by design or by chance, Dr. Vanderbrook has done an excellent job of selecting speakers who mirror what is beginning to be the makeup of our profession. I'm excited to see what these outstanding women have to offer and hope to see more of them and their female colleagues in the coming years.

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# General Membership Meeting - September 2024

## Denture Delight: Achieving Patient Approval and Delivering Successful

### M. LEIF STROMBERG, DDS



Dr. Stromberg practices restorative dentistry in Dallas, Texas, at Preston Hollow Specialists. Highly respected amongst his peers, he was selected as a Texas Super Dentist from 2005 – 2017 in Texas Monthly Magazine. In 2022, he became a Texas Academy of General Dentistry (TAGD) Texas Dentist of the Year Award nominee. In 2023, he received his Fellowship from the International College of Dentists.

Dr. Stromberg is frequently solicited to present at dental conferences on techniques for predictably successful complete dentures and has written a textbook on the same topic. Dr. Stromberg served as a clinical assistant professor at Texas A&M University College of Dentistry from 2000 – 2005. He enjoys hiking and traveling during his free time.

Enhance your denture acceptance and delivery skills with this dynamic and focused course! Specifically targeting the crucial wax try-in and delivery appointments, this course emphasizes a systematic method for the dentist and patient to evaluate and approve the wax setup. Attendees will also learn techniques for the complete denture delivery appointment, including adjustments of the denture base for improved fit and precise occlusal refinement. This leads to enhanced predictability for successful denture delivery and delighted patients, applicable to all tissue-supported dentures, including digital, implant-retained, and traditional analog dentures.

Audience: Dentists  
 AGD Code: 610/670  
 CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific  
 CE Verification provided

#### Learning Objectives:

- Learn concepts and techniques that apply to all tissue-supported dentures, including digital, implant-retained, and traditional analog dentures
- Understand the essential steps for evaluating and approving the wax setup by both dentist and patient
- Master the art of denture adjustments using effective techniques
- Learn how to adjust the denture base and achieve precise occlusal refinement to improve overall denture success

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ACCESS. IF YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE YOUR VIEWING PREFERENCE AFTER REGISTRATION, PLEASE CALL THE DCDS OFFICE. REGISTER TODAY AT [WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS](http://WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS)**

DCDS Members	Free	Non-member dentist	\$95
DCDS Member staff	Free	Non-member staff	\$95
Dental Students	Free		

Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is September 10, 2024. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after September 10, 2024.



# SEPTEMBER 17

**6:00 PM IN-PERSON • 6:30 PM VIRTUAL • REGISTER TODAY AT [DCDS.ORG/EVENTS](http://DCDS.ORG/EVENTS)**

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY • DALLAS, TEXAS 75244 • 972-386-5741 • [INFO@DCDS.ORG](mailto:INFO@DCDS.ORG)

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# General Membership Meeting - November 2024

## Metallosis and Peri-implantitis

**TOM G. WILSON, JR., DDS**



Dr. Wilson is a board certified periodontist who has been a private practitioner of periodontics in Dallas since 1974. He has taught his innovative techniques to colleagues around the world and is the author of numerous professional publications and books on periodontics and implant dentistry. A Clinical Associate Professor at the University of TX Health Science Center at San Antonio Dental School and Baylor University College of Dentistry, Dr. Wilson has served as editor-in-chief of an international dental journal, been an Associate Editor for The Journal of Periodontology and is currently Editor in Chief for the journal Decisions in Dentistry.

Today most would agree that the etiology of dental implant failure is related to oral biofilm. At present, one group of scientists and clinicians feel that these bacteria are solely responsible for bone loss around the devices. However, there is strong evidence that particles and ions of titanium released into the surrounding tissues, a process termed Metallosis, can be responsible for bone loss around some dental implants. These findings are reinforced by similar responses found around failed metal on metal hip prosthesis. How to prevent Metallosis and deal with it, it occurs, will be the topic of this presentation.

Audience: Dentists  
 AGD Code: 690  
 CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific  
 CE Verification provided

### Learning Objectives:

- Understand Metallosis and its relation to inflammation around dental implants
- Learn how to reduce the probability of Metallosis occurring
- Discover how to treat an implant that has suffered from Metallosis

### ALSO JOINING US:

TDA President Dr. Georgeanne McCandless provides a brief update regarding the recent news, actions and changes at the Texas Dental Association.



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DCDS Member staff	Free	Non-member staff	\$95
NTDS Members	Free	Dental Students	Free

Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is November 12, 2024. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after November 12, 2024.



# NOVEMBER 19

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# Texas A&M University College of Dentistry

By Caleb Vierkant; Photo by Steven Crow

## Texas A&M expands oral health programs with aid of Metrocrest grant

**W**ith the help of a \$120,000 grant from the Metrocrest Hospital Authority, Texas A&M College of Dentistry will open two new oral health programs in Farmers Branch and Carrollton this fall.

Dr. Amal Noureldin, clinical professor in public health sciences and director of the predoctoral program, is excited about the chance to serve these communities. Although the dental school has extensive oral health and educational programs, Noureldin said these districts are new to the program. The funding will help provide much-needed dental care in under-served areas and offer great training opportunities for students.

“We’ll have our faculty and students, both dental and dental hygiene, involved in this,” Noureldin said. “The programs will run for a year. We hope to continue them for several years, but the funding is only provided one year at a time.”

The project, “Empowering Smiles,” will provide oral health care to Farmers Branch and Carrollton in four approaches. Noureldin said they will provide screening and sealant clinics at elementary schools in these communities and will host oral health fairs where people can learn more about taking care of their teeth, as well as how oral health can impact overall health. Noureldin said they will also create a dental career education program, where community members and students can learn more about training opportunities in the field of dentistry.

“Our students get to learn how to deliver care and how to give back to their community,” she said. “There is a great need in these two communities. It’s why Metrocrest Hospital Authority provided this money. They were very excited about the proposal.”



A Texas A&M College of Dentistry employee unloads supplies at an elementary school sealant clinic.

The Metrocrest Hospital Authority was founded in 1975 to “create a quality health care environment for both providers and users,” according to its website. The entity aims to create partnerships that improve the health of the communities they serve, particularly when it comes to health access and education, prevention efforts, early detection and treatment programs. The Authority’s service area includes Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Addison, Coppell and surrounding areas.

MHA Chief Operating Officer Krista Weinstein said they are funding 20 different projects this year, totaling \$3.3 million. Many of these projects are with long-term partners, and she said she’s hopeful Texas A&M College of Dentistry will become one. MHA only offers funding in one-year cycles, allowing for an annual review of partner programs to ensure they are continuing to positively impact the community.

“We need an emphasis on oral health in all our communities,” Weinstein said. “Oral health plays into overall health. Unfortunately, in under-served areas, health isn’t always the top priority when you have to focus on rent and putting food on the table. ... We are so excited, and we expect this to be a long-term relationship between our two organizations.”



Texas A&M College of Dentistry (formerly Baylor College of Dentistry) in Dallas is a part of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Founded in 1905, the College of Dentistry is a nationally recognized center for oral health sciences education, research, specialized patient care and continuing dental education. Learn more at [dentistryinsider.tamhsc.edu](https://dentistryinsider.tamhsc.edu) or follow @TAMUdental.



# SKILLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS

DCDS Dental Assisting School proudly unveils its new Dental Assisting Skills Training Program, which will offer comprehensive training sessions led by expert instructors and conducted at the DCDS Executive Office. Participants must hold a current license issued by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners as an RDA, RDH, DDS, or DMD. Course fee includes all necessary PPE, supplies, and supplemental materials.

Designed to help you elevate dental care standards in your dental practices, this initiative underscores DCDS's commitment to continual education and excellence in the field. For registration and details, visit the DCDS website at [dcds.org/events](http://dcds.org/events) or email [angela@dcds.org](mailto:angela@dcds.org).

- **Basic Life Support/CPR:** Participants will meet the bi-annual TSBDE license renewal requirement for Basic Life Support/CPR through this CPR and AED program with the curriculum of the American Heart Association. Other times/dates can be offered upon request to accommodate your entire office. (AGD Code 142, 3 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Tuesday, October 15, 2024	9:00am – 12:00 pm	\$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	\$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Friday, November 1, 2024	9:00am – 12:00 pm	\$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	\$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Monday, December 9, 2024	9:00am – 12:00 pm	\$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	\$65 per Non-Member/Staff

- **Provisional Fabrication Skills Workshop:** Participants at all career stages will gain theoretical knowledge and practical experience in impression taking and temporary restoration techniques. (AGD Code 250, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 4:00pm – 8:00 pm \$125 per Participant

- **Radiographic Exposure Skills:** Participants will learn to assemble and position various film holding devices to obtain high-quality diagnostic radiographs, including mastering techniques such as paralleling, bisecting-the-angle, and proper patient positioning for panoramic radiographs. (AGD Code 010, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 8:00am – 12:00 pm \$75 per Participant  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 8:00am – 12:00 pm \$75 per Participant

- **Basic Orthodontic Skills Workshop:** Participants will acquire essential techniques such as untying, changing, and retying wires using o-rings and elastic chains, positioning patients, and maintaining a clean work area, as well as providing home care instructions for patients. (AGD Code 370, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Tuesday, November 11, 2024 8:00am – 12:00 pm \$75 per Participant  
Tuesday, December 17, 2024 4:00pm – 8:00 pm \$75 per Participant

All courses held at the DCDS Dental Assisting School, 13633 Omega Rd, Dallas, TX. 75244

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# Your DCDS Foundation at Work!

by Dr. Chi Trieu, DCDS Foundation President

## Giving Can Be So Easy

It's that time of the year to consider which organizations to support through North Texas Giving Day, and the DCDS Foundation would LOVE your support! North Texas Giving Day is the largest community-wide giving event in the nation and mobilizes non-profits and givers to create a lasting impact in their communities.

Early giving begins September 1st and runs until September 18th. The official NTGD is Thursday, September 19, 2024. Over the years, the Dallas County Dental Society Foundation has raised money to support TDA's Texas Mission of Mercy events in Dallas. We continue to support this event, and in addition, we are raising funds to support the Dental Tree Program, elementary school Tooth Talk programs and Senior Smile events, Back to School Fairs, Health Fairs, scholarships supporting Dental Public Health students, and creating new outreach programs.

Any donation is very appreciated. Your donations can assist the underserved in our community in these ways:

\$50 can supply a classroom of kids with oral hygiene kits and educational materials to improve their dental health.

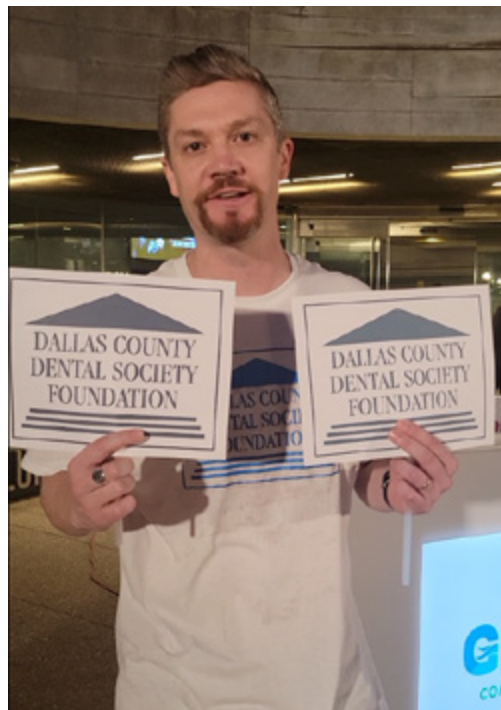
\$100 of dental supplies can provide over \$800 of dental services at our sponsored dental events.

\$250 can give a denture for an underserved Dallas County resident.

\$500 can fund oral hygiene kits and educational materials for an entire health fair.

\$1000 can provide a scholarship to a Dental Public Health student.

Please spread the word! Encourage your team members, your patients, your friends and family to consider supporting DCDS Foundation, too. Donations can be made through NTGD or directly on our website by visiting [dcdsfoundation.org](http://dcdsfoundation.org)!



Above: Dr. Shad Hattaway encourages all to support DCDS Foundation on North Texas Giving Day.

## Smiles through Service

If your love language is service, mark your calendars for November 6-8, 2024 for our second annual Dental Tree Program. The Dental Tree Program is a cooperative service event that encourages oral healthcare professionals to serve the most vulnerable populations in Dallas County in early November of each year.



Projects during these event days will include service work in your own practices or in association with a dental non-profit in need of volunteers. If you have not yet found your private practice "Dental Tree" patient, consider contacting [Attitudes and Attire](#) to start treatment for their Hopeful Smiles clients who are in need of your professional help.

This year, we will once again partner with Meals on Wheels/VNA to deliver dental kits to food insecure seniors in Dallas County and by providing dental volunteers for the Agape Clinic. Keep your eyes out as we have other partnerships in the works. A volunteer sign up will be available in early September.

As we move into the last few months of 2024, and the season of giving is upon us, Please support YOUR dental non-profit organization. Together, we can make a difference to the underserved in Dallas County through our donated funds, our donated time and donated services. It is always a good time to make a positive difference in someone's life!

## New DCDSF Board Members

Please join us in welcoming Drs. Sara Ehsani, Laura Rabe and Mary White, along with Ms. Nancy Cartwright, President of the Alliance of DCDS (at right) to the DCDS Foundation Board of Directors. We appreciate their time and servant hearts!



Dr. Sara Ehsani  
DIRECTOR



Dr. Laura Rabe  
DIRECTOR



Nancy Cartwright  
LIAISON TO THE DCDS ALLIANCE



Dr. Mary Swift  
DIRECTOR

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Mail-In Donations: If you're unable to drop off your items, they also accept mail-in donations. Please package your items securely and send them to Attitudes and Attire, 2050 N Stemmons Fwy, Mail Unit 102, Dallas, TX 75207.







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