

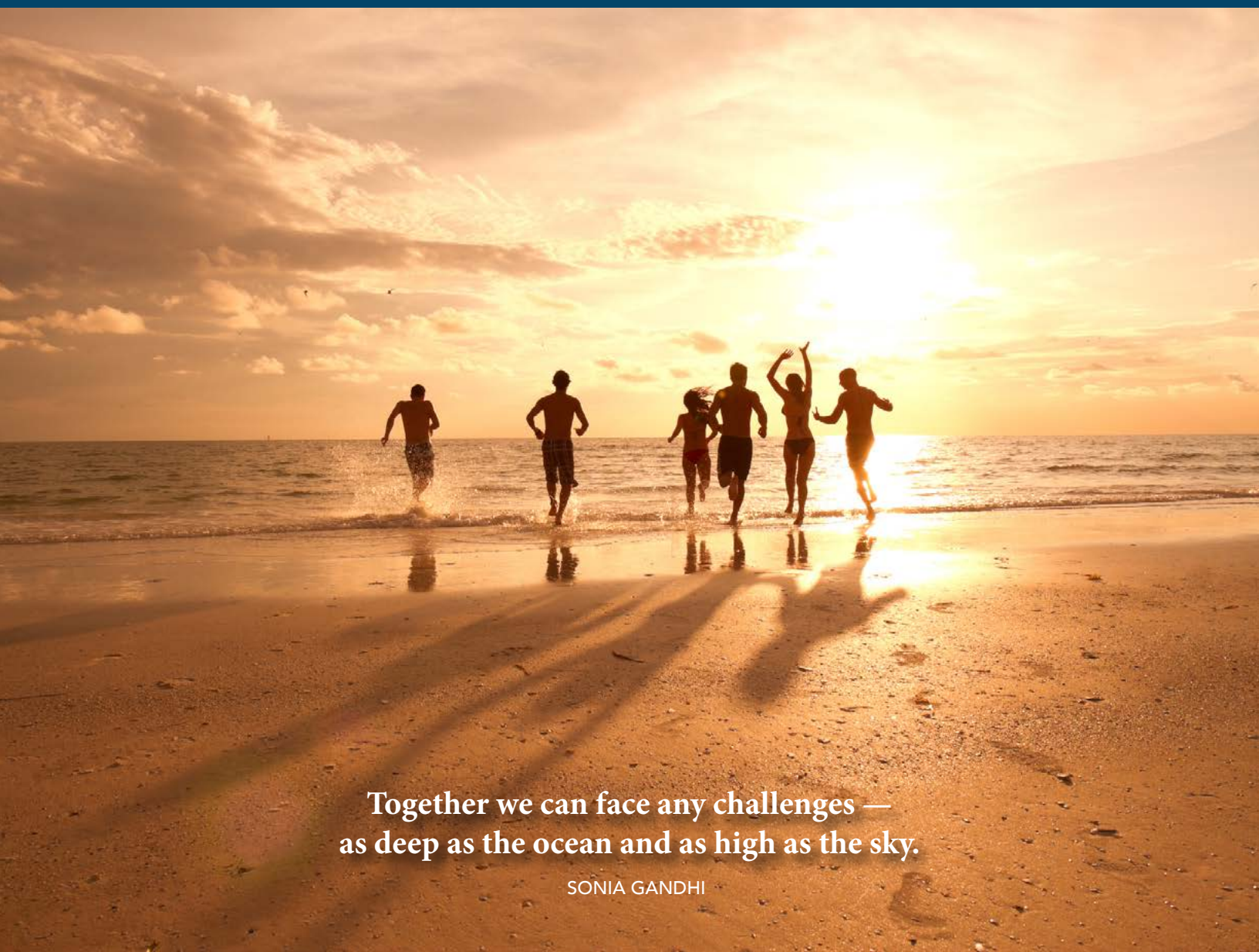


WEST COAST
DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE
AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

CHECKUP

West Coast District Dental Association News • Fall 2024



Together we can face any challenges —
as deep as the ocean and as high as the sky.

SONIA GANDHI

SERVICE

COMMITMENT

INTEGRITY

EXCELLENCE

IN THIS ISSUE: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • SUMMER MEETING PHOTOS • AFFILIATE MEETING SCHEDULES

Moving Through Change with Optimism

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT: Kristie Johnson, DMD



Greetings everyone!

It is an absolute honor to serve as your president this year, and more importantly, to know that this organization is filled with members that truly care about one another. Our part of Florida was incredibly impacted by both hurricanes. I experienced loss myself, and all the emotions — panic, devastation, and grief. But also profound gratitude for the friends and resources that gave me hope and restored my sense of optimism.

Some of us are still experiencing the effects of these storms. If you are struggling emotionally, there are wellness and mental health resources available through the ADA. See the sidebar below for a QR code to access this member benefit. In addition, the FDA is launching a new mental health program in January. We will share information as soon as it is available. *Know that it is okay to need and ask for help.* One thing we know about Floridians is that we are resilient and together we can get through tough times.

Looking Toward the Year Ahead with Gratitude

Before getting into the exciting updates and future events, I'd like to take a moment to congratulate Dr. Lance Karp on a FANTASTIC 2023-2024 membership year!!! Dr. Karp is an incredible leader, a diligent worker and an expert listener. He spent countless hours deep diving on key issues, searching for solutions and pathways to improve our great organization. It has been such a pleasure working side-by-side with Dr. Karp. The immeasurable lessons and growing friendships are a huge part of his

brilliance. We look forward to his continued involvement with the WCCDA and beyond! Thank you, Dr. Karp — you crushed it!

Changes in Representation with the FDA House of Delegates

Exciting changes are happening with representation at the FDA! A change in allocation structure now allows for each affiliate component to send designated members to the House of Delegates based on membership numbers. The WCCDA will now send three delegates from our WCCDA line officers and two delegation chairs. In addition, any member in good standing can apply for positions as an at-large delegate and at-large alternate delegate. Both offer a great opportunity to have your voice heard and improve your involvement, with no experience necessary. Please reach out if you have questions about these changes. We are always looking for dedicated leaders to help run a successful delegation.

Winter Event Change – Take Over the Seas with the WCCDA

This year we are switching things up and substituted the winter meeting with a Disney cruise, Feb 14-17, 2025. Our goal is to offer an expanded opportunity for members and their families to spend time with other dental families in our district, while still offering the CE our members have come to depend on. There is no better time than time together. So far, over 30 cabins have been booked!! Cabin availability is limited, so please scan the QR code below if you are interested in joining us. In addition to the Disney cruise, members of the WCCDA are invited to join us for a sailing trip around the British Virgin Islands, May 31-June 7, 2025 for another water adventure paired with CE. You don't have to



be an experienced sailor to join us! Scan the QR codes for more info about both of these fun and educational trips.

New Member Recruitment Competition

The West Coast is fortunate to have a huge geographical range of members. New members and membership retention is the life blood of the organization. This spring we are hosting a new member recruitment event at both the north and south end of our district. Mark your calendar for February 1, 2025 and invite dental professionals in your area to join us at Top Golf for a friendly north-south competition. I challenge everyone to show up and bring a non-member colleague to whichever event is closest to you — and we will see who adds the most members!

On behalf of your WCCDA officers who have been working hard to plan our year, we look forward to seeing everyone at these events!

Kristie Johnson, DMD
WCCDA President

MORE INFO:

Learn more about the resources and events mentioned in Dr. Johnson's letter.

ADA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES



TOP GOLF MEMBER RECRUITMENT



WCCDA DISNEY CRUISE



WCCDA BVI SAILING TRIP



Help Needed to Replenish WCDDA Fund After Hurricanes

FROM THE EDITOR: James G. Wilson, DMD

As I sit down to write this, I'm reminded of the strength and resilience of our WCDDA community as our counties recover from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you — your families, your teams, and especially those hardest hit by the storms.

The West Coast Fund and the FDA Foundation's Emergency Disaster Grant program have provided critical support to dentists impacted by these hurricanes. These emergency grants address immediate personal needs such as food, water, shelter, clothing, and medications. Through the West Coast Fund, we distributed \$19,000 in grants to members. Due to overwhelming need, there is now a waitlist.

If you're able, please consider donating to the WCDDA Fund by scanning the QR code in the article below.

The FDA Foundation distributed \$124,500 in grants and now has a waitlist as well.

**The West Coast Fund distributed \$19,000 in grants to members.
FDA Foundation distributed \$124,500 in grants to members.
BOTH now have a waitlist.**

Donations can be made online at <https://fdafoundation.salsalabs.org/donate/index.html> (select "Disaster Fund") or by sending a check payable to the FDA Foundation at the address below.

FDA Foundation
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32309

Office Relocated After the Storm?

If you've had to relocate your office due to the storm, please remember to update your address with the Florida Board of Dentistry. The FDA can assist in this process—just call them at 800-877-9922, and they'll coordinate with the Board of Dentistry to update your license address as quickly as possible.

Additionally, if your temporary location

doesn't match your tax ID and you're submitting insurance claims, reach out to a plan supervisor, explain your situation, and that you are serving your patients post-hurricane. If you encounter any challenges, contact FDA's Director of Third-Party Payer and Professional Affairs, Casey Stoutamire, at (850) 350-7202. If you have insurance through FDA Services, they can guide you through filing claims for property damage and lost revenue.

For more resources, visit the FDA website: <https://www.floridadental.org/foundation/programs/disaster-resources>.

We've all learned a lot from these storms, and we'd love to hear your insights. If you have any tips to share, please reach out at admin@wcdental.org. Let's stay strong as we recover.

KEY DATES:

WCDDA Member Recruitment Social
Top Golf, St. Pete and Fort Myers, FL —
February 1, 2025

WCDDA President's Trip Disney Cruise:
February 14-17, 2025

FDA Foundation Mission of Mercy
Daytona, FL — March 21-22, 2025

FDA Dentist's Day On the Hill
Tallahassee, FL — March 25, 2025

WCDDA President's Sailing Trip
B.V.I. — May 31–June 7, 2025

Florida Dental Convention
Orlando, FL: June 19-21, 2025

WCDDA 2025 Summer Meeting
Naples, FL August 22-24, 2025

ADA SmileCon
Washington, D.C. — October 23-25, 2025

Support Today, Prepare for Tomorrow: Help Replenish Our WCDDA Disaster Relief Funds

The recent hurricanes have shown us the importance of having emergency relief available when our community needs it most. Both the West Coast Fund and the FDA Foundation's Emergency Disaster Grant program provided critical support to many of our members this season. However, with the overwhelming response, our resources are now stretched thin.

To continue supporting those affected this year — and to ensure we're prepared for future disasters — we need your help to replenish these essential funds. Every contribution strengthens our ability to respond quickly and effectively, helping dentists get back on their feet and care for their patients in times of crisis. Your donation goes directly toward essential resources.

Please consider giving today to help build a reserve that can support our members through any challenges ahead.

Contributions to the WCDDA Fund can be made by scanning the QR code at right, or you can donate to the FDA Foundation Disaster Fund by visiting <https://fdafoundation.salsalabs.org/donate/index.html>.

Together, we can ensure that our community stays strong and prepared for the future. Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

**DONATE TO
WCDDA FUND**





PHOTOS & FUN • 2024 SUMMER MEETING





West Coast 2024 Summer Meeting at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

Our Summer Meeting was filled with moments we will never forget, including quality Continuing Education, camaraderie, and family fun. Thank you to everyone that came to the meeting and were part of this incredible experience!

Our officers had a successful planning session and set plans in place for the coming membership year.

Mark your calendars and plan on attending our Summer Meeting next year, August 22-24, 2025. Stay tuned for updates and registration details in our e-newsletter on the meeting plus more ways to connect with colleagues, learn, laugh, and make cherished memories!



2024-25 WCDDA OFFICERS

From left to right:

Dr. Lance Karp,
Immediate Past President

Dr. Robin Nguyen,
President-Elect

Dr. Stephanie Mazariegos,
First Vice President

Dr. Kristie Johnson,
President

Dr. Sanjie Jackson
Secretary

Dr. William Layman,
Treasurer

Dr. James Wilson,
Editor

West Coast District
Dental Association

Summer Meeting

August 22-24, 2025

THE RITZ-CARLTON
NAPLES, FLORIDA



Dr. Stephen Peirce: A Giver's Perspective

RECOGNIZED FOR HIS DEDICATION TO THE WCDDA DELEGATION

Dr. Stephen Peirce is a giver. After graduating from the LSU School of Dentistry in 1975, he gave four years of service to the United States Air Force Dental Corps while stationed in Japan. After settling in Bradenton, he continued giving to his community, his patients, and organized dentistry. "I think being involved with organized dentistry is every dentist's responsibility. We are a self-regulated profession that requires member participation and subsequent awareness of issues that can alter the way we practice dentistry. If we want to enjoy the fruits of our labor, we should be present."

He followed his own advice for decades as a dedicated leader of the FDA: "I served as delegate and alternate delegate for the Manatee County component. My most contributory activity was local recruitment. I also served as peer review chairperson for over 15 years, helping mitigate dentist/patient concerns by offering a path of communication and resolution."

As Dr. Peirce considers the future of dentistry—after his own retirement from his daily practice last year—he offers this advice for new dentists: "Take advantage of resources available through organized dentistry as soon as possible. Remember that someone has gone before you, and you can learn from colleagues." He says that building those connections with fellow dentists is a huge benefit of being a part of organized dentistry. "The relationships I have made with the outstanding leadership found in the

West Coast is what I value the most. The West Coast is unique in having the most capable, competent, clear-thinking and professional group of leaders in the state. That is what makes the West Coast the best coast!"

And thanks to one of his interests, Dr. Peirce has benefitted from a unique perspective of Florida's actual West Coast. "Among my many outside interests, flying was my passion. For me, to take flight, and leave all stress and preoccupation on the runway, climb into the blue sky, and look down on humanity and a beautiful planet cleansed my spirit, recharged the batteries and filled my cup for another day." This, he says, is vitally important for dentists. "The demands placed on a practitioner are numerous, and at times overwhelming. Outside interests and hobbies are absolutely necessary to strike a balance in our lives for health, sanity, and longevity. We must make time for our spouse, children, and family. Dental tunnel vision dulls our worldly and situational awareness and potentially molds a withdrawn and noncommunicative person."

And like a pilot at the controls of a plane, he says dentists need to maintain control of their profession. They can best do that, he believes, through organized dentistry. "The profession should control its own destiny and not be manipulated by outside and internal special group agendas. This takes participation to accomplish true self-governance and to achieve collective goals."



West Coast is thankful to Dr. Pierce for his wisdom, his years of service to the profession, and for sharing his giving spirit with organized dentistry.

MORE ABOUT DR. PEIRCE

- Elected three times to the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority.
- Served as President of the Manatee Dental Society and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Manatee County.
- Enjoys fishing.
- Hopes to be remembered as an honest, caring, and compassionate dentist.



Sailing Trip
May 31-June 7, 2025



Thinking of selling your dental practice?



LET BUYERS COMPETE!

Do not fall into the trap of letting one buyer dictate the terms of the sale. Henry Schein is a leader in dental practice transitions, brokerage, and valuations. We are constantly working with a wide range of buyers, from private practitioners to mid-sized group practices, to larger DSOs.

We run an unparalleled process, which allows qualified buyers to compete for your practice while avoiding common pitfalls. This ensures your practice sells for top dollar to the right buyer - a dentist who will take care of your staff, your patients, and the legacy you've built.

Contact your local Transition Sales Consultant for a complimentary consultation:

Robert Primeau | 941-787-4097 | robert.primeau@henryschein.com



www.henryscheindpt.com

- PRACTICE SALES
- VALUATIONS
- TRANSITION PLANNING

© 2023 Henry Schein, Inc. No copying without permission. Not responsible for typographical errors.
"World's Most Ethical Companies" and "Ethisphere" names and marks are registered trademarks of Ethisphere LLC.

Licensed Florida Real Estate Broker | Henry Schein Financial Services, LLC

In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our beloved colleagues.

Richard G. Kimmel, DMD of Estero, Florida passed away on May 21, 2024

Gary A. Layton, DDS of Naples, Florida passed away on July 20, 2024

Kenneth A. Reinhold, DMD of Dunedin, FL passed away on June 17, 2024

Frank Albert Szot, DDS of Naples, FL passed away on July 13, 2024

Edmond F. Weglarz, DDS of Fort Myers, FL passed away on June 26, 2024

CHANGE OF PHONE, ADDRESS OR EMAIL?

Do you have changes in your practice status, address, phone, email, etc.? Please reach out to us at the WCDDA to update your records. Call (813) 654-2500 or write admin@wcdental.org.

Call for Nominations: WCDDA Awards – Honoring Excellence in Dentistry!

Do you know a colleague who has gone above and beyond in our profession? Now's the time to recognize their hard work and dedication! We are accepting nominations for four WCDDA awards, which will be presented at the 2025 Summer Meeting at the Ritz-Carlton in Naples.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

Kintsugi Award – Awarded to a member who exemplifies outstanding commitment and service to promoting the professional volunteerism in the field of dentistry.

The Daniel Bertoch Leadership Award – given to a young dentist, who has shown skills in leadership, had willingly served the WCDDA in a leadership role, and who displays a desire to take on an active role in improving the WCDDA.

Distinguished Service Award – given to a more tenured dentist who has performed outstanding service toward service toward the profession and the WCDDA.

Affiliate of The Year – given to the affiliate which has contributed the most toward improving the WCDDA whether it is by increasing membership numbers, or having the most volunteers, or supporting the ideas and activities and meeting of the WCDDA.

This is your chance to highlight the achievements of your affiliate, a colleague or even nominate yourself! Let's celebrate those who are making a difference in our field.

To submit a nomination, scan the QR code to complete the online form by May 1, 2025. For additional information or questions, please contact the WCDDA office at (813) 654-2500.



Disney Cruise
Feb 14-17, 2025





Step into Leadership: Nominate Yourself or a Colleague for WCDDA Secretary

NOMINATIONS DUE JAN 6, 2025

Are you ready to make an impact in the West Coast District Dental Association? Here's your chance to serve in a key leadership role! We are currently accepting nominations, including self-nominations—for the position of WCDDA Secretary. This position is the first step in an exciting path that includes advancing through leadership roles to become WCDDA President in four years, and then serving an additional year as Immediate Past President.

This is a unique opportunity to shape the future of our association, advocate for our members, and support the dental profession on a meaningful level. As Secretary, you'll work closely with an outstanding team of leaders and colleagues, contribute to the strategic direction of the WCDDA, and help guide initiatives that strengthen our association.



To submit a nomination, simply scan the QR code and complete the nomination form by **January 6, 2025**. For questions or to learn more about the role, please reach out to Lissette Zuknick at (813) 654-2500 or email lissette@wcdental.org. Elections will

be held at the Executive Cabinet Meeting on February 7, 2025, at the WCDDA central office in Brandon.

CHOICESM A National Practice Transitions, LLC Company

Sell Your Dental Practice with Choice Transitions

- ✓ Fees on Traditional Sales as Low as 3%
- ✓ Simple & Short-Term Contracts
- ✓ Commission Free Sales to DSOs
- ✓ Free Valuation

Over \$642,000,000 in Sales and Growing!

(877) 365-6786

www.choicetransitions.com

The Dan Bertoch Memorial Grant: Available to cover costs for attending 2025 Dentists' Day on the Hill

Are you considering attending the 2025 Dentists' Day on the Hill? Dr. Dan Bertoch devoted much time to advocacy for the dental profession. It is in his spirit that a Memorial Fund in Dan's name was established in 2011 to provide funding for a first-time attendee(s) to Dentists' Day on the Hill in Tallahassee. The grant can be used towards transportation to and from Tallahassee and accommodations at the host hotel.

SCAN TO APPLY FOR
DDOH GRANT



For questions regarding the WCDDA Fund or the Dan Bertoch Memorial Grant, contact the WCDDA Office at (813) 654-2500 or email: lissette@wcdental.org. Access the grant application by using this QR code.



Members of the WCDDA at the 2024 Dentists' Day on the Hill.



Dentists' Day_{on the} Hill

SAVE THE DATE

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025

 **florida dental
ASSOCIATION**



 **REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

Hotel Room Block at Hotel Duval

Register now at floridadental.org/ddoh
or scan the QR code!

Thinking About **Buying or Selling** a Dental Practice?

Contact us to find out why thousands of dentists have trusted us with the sale of their legacy. We have over **34 years** of experience, 12 state-wide local agents, and **over \$800 Million** in sales.



Greg Jones
Broker
Chief Executive Officer



J. Kenny Jones
Broker-Associate



Morcie Smith
West Coast



Michael Connor
Central Florida



Ricardo D'Avila
DSO Transactions



Dr. Jack Saxonhouse
Palm Beach County



Dr. Janice Luke
Palm Beach County



Dr. Tony Hodge
Treasure & Space Coast



Dr. Carlton Schwartz
FL Panhandle



Dr. Jerry Pyser
Southwest, FL



Mary Ann Serkin
Northeast, FL



Joe Booksh
Miami-Dade & Broward County



Kyle Pace
FL Panhandle



Samantha Jones
Accounting Director



Scott Davis
Administrative Manager



Dental Practice
Acquisitions



Dental Practice
Valuations



DSO Buy-Outs
& Transactions



Practice
Start-Ups



Commercial
Real Estate



Call Us Today! **877.335.0380**



To learn more about us or view our
listings for sale, visit our website!



www.Doctors-Choice.com | Info@Doctors-Choice.com

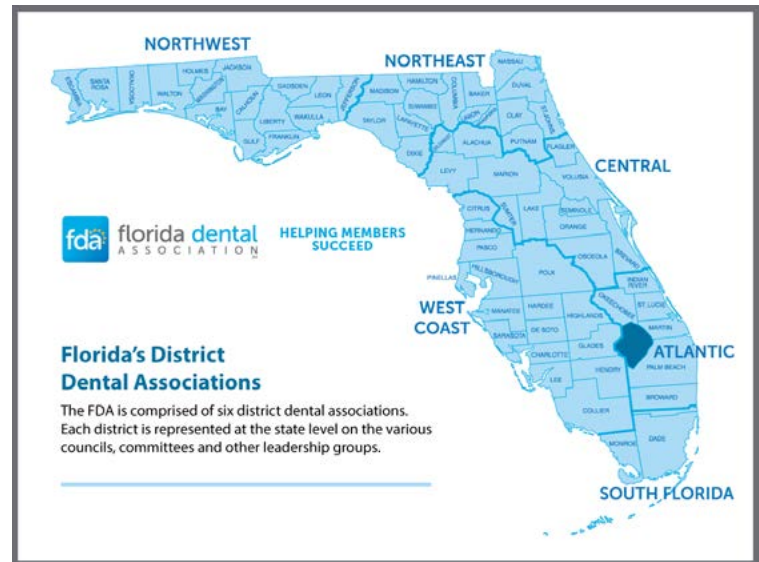
Get Together with your Affiliate Organization

Throughout the 13 counties in the WCDDA District, there are 11 Affiliates that meet regularly. Each of the county organizations are considered an affiliate of the West Coast District Dental Association (WCDDA), the Florida Dental Association (FDA) and the American Dental Association (ADA).

In addition to the ADA, FDA and WCDDA, the Affiliates are a great way to meet other dental professionals in your immediate area.

Benefits of Being Part of Your Affiliate:

- Access to a valuable source of new patient referrals.
- Foster camaraderie and professional connections with fellow colleagues.
- Advocate at the grassroots level.
- Attend continuing education dinner meetings, and connect with dental industry suppliers.
- Participate in exclusive special events and expand your networking opportunities.
- Stay informed about the latest developments and trends impacting the dental profession.



Details on each Affiliate and their upcoming meeting dates appear below and continue on page 13. There is always something going on ... and many ways to get involved!

Upcoming Affiliate Meeting Dates and Contact Information

Collier County Dental Association

www.collierdentists.com

President: Dr. Chelsea Benza

CCDA Central office: 239-935-8277

Upcoming Meetings:

- January 16: Fluoride Update, Dr. Johnny Johnson
- February 20: Give Teeth a Chance: Guided Tissue Regeneration and Tooth Reimplantation, Dr. Eduardo DeCardona
- March 20: Domestic Violence, Sgt. Blake Rising and Detective Pilarski
- April 17: New Advances in RPF, Dr. Nathan Estrin
- May 2: The new A,B,C's of Local Anesthesia and Emergency Medicine, Dr. Stanley Malamed

Hernando County Dental Society

www.hernandocountysmiles.org

President: Dr. Nicholas Ressel

HCDS Central Office: 813-654-2500

Upcoming Hernando Meetings:

- January 9: Practice Management- The Secrets of Wealth Building and Financial Independence in Dentistry, Dr. James Pitts

- March 13: Dental Radiology, Dr. Andrew Pakchoian
- May 9: More information Coming

Hillsborough County Dental Association

www.hcdafla.com

President: Dr. Jimmy Wilson

HCDA Central office: 813-447-3452

Upcoming Meetings:

- January 21: Risk Management, Speaker Casey Stoutamire, Chief Legal Officer (FDA)
- March 25: Maintenance of Dental Implants, Dr. Greg Oxford
- May: End of the Year Party and Installation of Officers

Lee County Dental Society

www.leecountydentalsociety.com

President: Dr. Alexander Levine

LCDS Central Office: 239-936-9240

Upcoming Meetings:

- December 12: Holiday Social 6:30 – 9:30PM at The Landings – Helm Club
- January 9: Domestic Violence, Dr. Glori Enzor / Agent Thomas

- February 20: Physical Therapy and Dental Medicine, Dr. Erienne Blanchard
- March 27: Lab Communication, Digital Case Planning and Predictability Techniques, Tim Reynolds, Dental Ceramics, Inc.
- April 24: Dental-Medical Collaboration, Dr. Gina Pritchard and Lora Hooper, BSDH, RDH, EFDA
- May 2: The New A,B,C's of Local Anesthesia and Emergency Medicine, Dr. Stanley Malamed

Manatee Dental Society

www.manateedentalsociety.org

President: Dr. Michael Abraham

MDS Central Office: 941-677-8194

Upcoming Meetings:

- December 5: Holiday Party at Grove, Lakewood Ranch
- January 21: Oral Pathology, Dr. Neel Bhattacharyya
- March 18: Domestic Violence, Dr. Nicholas Grimaudo
- April 15: Responsible Opioid Prescribing for Dental Practices, Dr. Sharon Kelley
- May: Social Event



Your membership. Your benefits.

Thanks to the partnership of the ADA, state and local dental societies, we're watching our dentists excel, our profession advance, and our communities benefit.

And it all starts with you. Discover the ways your membership can empower you to thrive.

Your Profession, Your Voice.

ADA Member App

Explore career paths. Chat. Store CE transcripts. Connect. Mentor.

Advocacy and State Public Affairs (SPA) Program

Educate federal lawmakers to protect our profession. The SPA program supports Dental Insurance Reform with grants to state dental societies to help them advocate for laws that help our dentists and patients.

ADA Third Party Payer Concierge™

Questions? Navigating insurance claims? Get support.

Legal Support

Assistance with contract analysis, litigation and employment best practices.

ADA Career Services

Career guidance and resources for each step of your journey.

Licensure

Working to expand interstate operability via the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.

Dental Sound Bites™ Podcast

Created for dentists, by dentists, with real talk about dentistry's daily wins and sticky situations.

Continuing Education and SmileCon®

Cutting-edge, unique courses and the ultimate national event to improve care, grow your practice and more.

ADA Standards and Seal

The ADA sets standards for dentistry tools and products to ensure safety, reliability and efficacy for dentists and the public.

Career Center

Job alerts and current opportunities.

Leadership Opportunities

Get involved through community outreach, or serve on ADA Councils, Committees and Task Forces

Your Mind, Your Body.

Mental Health Support

Resource directories, tools to manage stress and access to crisis support.

Family Planning

Important considerations for practicing during pregnancy. FMLA standards. Workplace support.

Ergonomics

Techniques and tips for pain-free practice.

Your Life, Your Money.

Member Discounts

Save time and money with top-quality products and services for your practice and personal life.

Member Insurance Options

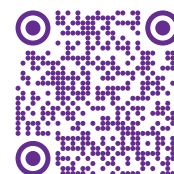
Access or get competitive rates, high-quality coverage for ADA tripartite members.



DR. CATHERINE MURPHY
member since 2007

DR. JAMES LEE
member since 2015

Learn more about benefits:
[ADA.org/membervalue](https://ada.org/membervalue)



© 2024 American Dental Association All rights reserved. Updated: 10/10/2024

Upcoming Affiliate Meeting Dates and Contact Information

Pasco County Dental Association

www.thepcda.com

President: Dr. Don Dau

Central Office: 813-654-2500

Upcoming Meetings:

- December 6: Holiday Party at Season's 52 in Tampa
- January 21: Oral Surgery, Dr. Shaun Young
- February 25: Oral Surgery, Dr. Sam Landrian
- April 1: Radiology, Dr. Andrew Pakchoian

Pinellas County Dental Association

www.smilepinellas.com

President: Dr. Ronak Shukla

PCDA Central Office: 727-342-0374

Upcoming Meetings:

- January 8: AI in Dentistry, Dr. Jason Watts
- March 5: Medical Errors, Dr. Nicholas Grimaudo
- April 13: Proper use of Legal Entities for Lawsuit protection and Tax Reduction

Polk County Dental Association

www.polkcountydental.com

President: Dr. Geoffrey Rintel

PCDA Central Office: 863-263-7610

Meetings are 3rd Tuesday of each month

Sarasota County Dental Association

www.scdaonline.com

President: Dr. Scott Roemer

Contact: 941-365-3388

Upcoming Meetings:

- December 14: Project Christmas Smile, Dr. Thomas Doan
- January 16: Update on Dermal Fillers & Neurotoxins, Tirbod Fattahi
- March 20: TBA, Dr. Naveed Sami
- April 24: TBA, Dr. Diana Tadros

Upper Pinellas County Dental Association

www.upcda.org

President: Dr. Scott Folino

UPCDA Central Office: 727-449-1232

Upcoming Meetings:

- December 6: Holiday Social
- January 15: Sleep Apnea, Dr. Joe Grimaudo
- February 19: Practical Pathways to Treatment of External Root Resorption, Dr. Raed Kasem
- March 19: Clinical Oral Pathology, Dr. Austin Belknap
- April 16: Lasers in Dentistry, Dr. Larry Lieberman

JOIN US
at
COUNTY
MEETING

When you get involved in
something meaningful,
you make your life count.

Paul Rogat Loeb



foundation
FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATION
TM

PRESENTS



A HIGHER STANDARD ... A HIGHER CALLING

FLORIDA MISSION OF MERCY

Florida Mission of Mercy (FLA-MOM) is the state's largest charitable dental clinic that provides care to any patient at no cost, with the goal of serving the underserved and uninsured in Florida – those who would otherwise go without care.

FLAMOM.ORG

**VOLUNTEER FOR
FLA-MOM 2025!**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Meet West Coast's Newest Officer: The Singing Dentist

Dr. Sanjie Jackson

Dr. Sanjie Jackson recently celebrated a significant anniversary—it's been 20 years since she sang her way to the top spot at the University of Florida's Gator Idol Competition. Nicknamed the "singing dentist" by writers at Gator Dentist Today, she still hasn't stopped. "I do currently still sing. I lead worship at church most every Sunday that I'm not traveling."

And what about when she's at her Dunedin practice? "As for singing to patients, that happens on a daily basis. Most days I don't even realize that I'm singing; they just tell me on their way out that they love the serenade that I gave them."

Breaking into song isn't one of Dr. Jackson's official duties as the West Coast District Dental Association's newest line officer, but she'll bring the same passion that she has for singing to her role as Secretary. "I am very excited to join the line at West Coast. The team that I'm working with are amazing people that are passionate about organized dentistry," Dr. Jackson is also excited about working for West Coast members. "It really is important for me to let every dentist know that they don't have to do this life of dentistry alone. Whether it's helping colleagues clean up after a storm, find qualified team members for their office, or even just helping them get relevant CE to become better leaders and dentists ... West Coast can really help colleagues feel like they have support."

Dr. Jackson understood the power of organized dentistry early in her dental studies. "I first became involved as a student joining the pre-dental ASDA. But it wasn't until I became an FDA member that I realized what the force in numbers of organized dentistry can do to help our profession. I have been a member of the ADA, FDA and West Coast for 17 years, and I believe community makes anything easier. Having colleagues that you can call friends and family has been integral in my growth and advancement as a dentist."

In that long ago Gator article, Dr. Jackson was very clear about her vision for her future. "I am definitely going to sing," she said, "I want to help my patients and entertain them at the same time, that's my goal."

A goal—among many—that she's achieved by working hard, staying involved in organized dentistry, and keeping a song in her heart."

STUDENTS

Gator Idol

UF dental student sings her way to top spot as dental diva

BY ADRIANNA RODRIGUEZ

Brushing off last-minute jitters, University of Florida dental student Sanjie Jackson, 23, the "singing dentist," flashed her bright smile and pearly whites as she sang her way to first place in the 2004 Gator Idol competition. Jackson was one of three finalists — selected from a field of 40 contestants — to battle it out to become the Gator Idol winner during the University of Florida's annual Midnight Madness event Oct. 8 at the O'Connell Center.

Jackson, a sophomore in the College of Dentistry, entered the contest at the urging of her classmates. Busy with school, she enlisted the help of friends and fellow students to choose songs and wardrobe for the three-part competition.

Jackson was amazed when UF Basketball head coaches Billy Donovan and Carolyn Peck chose her as the winner of the \$1,000 Gator Idol prize during the final held at the huge student pep rally celebrating the start of basketball season.



20 GATOR DENTIST TODAY | WINTER 2005

"When they said my name I honestly was astonished," said Jackson.

Not Jackson's sister, Versan, a UF pre-med student. She was there, cheering Jackson to the finish, along with 35 second- and third-year dental students waving "UFCD loves Sanjie Jackson" signs. Faculty member Nicholas J. Grimaudo, D.M.D., Ph.D., was also in the stands

cheering in support of the college's dental diva.

Singing is nothing new for Jackson. It plays a very important role in her life and her studies, she said. For Jackson, singing

"I want to help my patients and entertain them at the same time, that's my goal."

maintains her good mood and helps put others around her in a happy state as well. "I really do sing

all the time," Jackson said.

"It makes me so at peace and I think it does the same for my fellow classmates." She describes her classmates as a good support system and second family.

Jackson, who began undergrad pre-law at the University of Central Florida and later switched

to microbiology, says dentistry was the perfect choice of profession for her because dentistry is all about people. A genial and optimistic person, she's always looking for opportunities to help others and feels strongly that dentistry is the best way to accomplish that goal.

After graduation she plans to practice general dentistry. Jackson said she is eager to treat the whole family and have a practice where she can get to know her patients.

But don't expect her to give up singing any time soon. "I want to help my patients and entertain them at the same time, that's my goal," said Jackson.

Jackson wants to be known as the singing dentist and said she'll carry singing with her into her career. She'd like to record a few CDs after college to play in her dental office and give to her classmates to do the same. Her goal is to uplift people and she said she will always encourage her patients to sing along, too.

"No matter what I do I am definitely going to sing," Jackson said. "While I'm working on the patients, I'll be singing."



MORE ABOUT DR. JACKSON

- Switched from pre-law at UCF and graduated with a degree in microbiology
- Best part of her career? Seeing how she's been able to grow and adapt.
- What she admires about her dental team? How they treat patients like family.
- Her advice for young dentists: Use their affiliate dental associations to meet colleagues that can mentor them. "Community is where it's at."
- She received \$1,000 for her Gator Idol win.

DR. SANJIE JACKSON



WEST COAST
DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE
AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

1114 Kyle Wood Lane
Brandon, FL 33511
wcdental.org
(813) 654-2500
admin@wcdental.org

Editor

James G. Wilson, DMD

Co-Editor

Stephanie Mazariegos, DMD

Executive Director

Lisette Zuknick

Director of Operations

Kelsey Bulnes

Director of Client Services

Jodi Hook

**Membership, Meetings & Logistics
Manager**

Briana Sweet

Publication Design

Amy Metz

MISSION:

Helping Members Succeed

VALUES:

Service, Commitment, Integrity,
Excellence

CULTURE:

The Reliable Resource for Dentists

The WCDDA Newsletter is published two times a year, in the Fall and the Spring. The Editor of the association and staff organize, print and mail to membership. The position of the editor is elected by the Executive Cabinet and does not have a specified term. The editorial staff holds the right to deny ads submitted for publishing. The newsletter may publish signed articles relating to all phases of dentistry, but assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by the contributors. Publication in this newsletter does not imply the West Coast District Dental Association endorses any products or services that are advertised. Views, editorials, news columns and/or articles are those of the author's and not necessarily of the editor, staff, or members of the West Coast District Dental Association.

REGISTER TODAY • WE MISS YOU • REGISTER TODAY • BRING A COLLEAGUE • REGISTER TODAY • JOIN US

SWING INTO MEMBERSHIP

A TOP GOLF EVENT

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

WCDDA Golf & Social from 1-4pm

TWO LOCATIONS:

Top Golf St Pete & Top Golf Fort Myers



REGISTER TODAY! Let's see who can bring the most new members – St. Pete or Fort Myers!

Scan for details and to register. **SPACE IS LIMITED!** Join the fun and meet new colleagues!