

THE JUXTAPOSITION

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Dr. Kayleigh Eaves Temple, Editor

Steadiness in Times of Change

Candace Denison, DDS
President, ETDS

We've made it through yet another winter and spring is officially upon us! With spring comes changes in the leaves, grass, flowers, gardens—all the beautiful things we are blessed to enjoy here in East Texas. Unfortunately, all of that beauty comes with its downsides as well: pollen attacks, fevers, sicknesses and the like.

Not all change is good, but not all change is bad either. And that's just as true in dentistry.

Recently there have been many changes in the political and cultural world around our profession. Not sure about you, but I have been unsettled by several items that are out of my control: prices of supplies, lack of support from companies that are downsizing, patients having fear-based spending habits, people's fear of deportation, etc.

Just as every season comes with its blessings and hardships, dentistry will always leave us with something to love and something to lament. What we get to decide is whether our energy will be focused on what we can control or wasted on what we can't.

Even though there's a lot in dentistry we cannot control—our staff, our patients, legislation, government intervention, prices of materials, just to name a few—that simply makes it all the more important to focus on what we can control. Our mind, our ability to start each day thankful and grateful. Our ability to do the best we can no matter who is in the chair. Our ability to act with respect to one another, being a good example to our team members and colleagues. To love God, to love others, and take care of our families and ourselves.



And we're here to help.

Part of focusing on what you can control is taking advantage of the resources available to you. As a dental society, we hope to be one of those resources through CE courses, being a sounding board, and presenting opportunities to have community with one another.

Those of you who have been in the profession for a while know to how weather some uncertain storms. Thank you for your guidance and encouragement during these times. Those who are new to the profession, thank you for your enthusiasm and perspectives. Every one of us has something to offer, both to your patients and to your colleagues. So let's do our best not to let those opportunities pass us by.

We are in this together, and we hope to speak on your behalf if something is awry or disconcerting. May we as colleagues stick together and encourage one another while we navigate the changes coming our way. Thank you for being a part of this community and I look forward to seeing you at the coming continuing education events!

In Memoriam: Dr. Chris Freeman

1942-2024

Dr. David Bright & Dr. John Adcock

The East Texas Dental Society and the people of Tyler recently lost a great one...Chris Freeman was both a member and a leader of the East Texas Dental society throughout his 56 year career. He recently passed away on December 4, 2024 at home, surrounded by family, after a short illness. There is an excellent obituary in the Tyler Paper, which covers his four generations of family details. ([Click here to read the article.](#))

Chris was a lifelong student, never satisfied with what he had previously learned, and his curiosity would take him into many different areas of knowledge. In dentistry, he was on the leading edge in the transition from alloy based restorations to adhesive technology as well as incorporating laser use in the last 10 years. He was certainly a Renaissance Man, a person who is knowledgeable, educated, and proficient in a wide range of fields. While others would talk about their "research", meaning a few clicks on a google search, Chris would seek out the leading expert on a subject, read their books, then dive into the bibliography! He was always willing to share his knowledge and expertise with colleagues whether by presenting programs or one on one training in his office. You never wanted to casually ask him what he has been up to unless you had the time to hear the answer!

Chris began his dental career in the Navy for three years after graduating from Baylor College of Dentistry in 1968. After spending a year in their general dentistry residency program, he was assigned to a submarine tender where he befriended workers in the engine room as he developed an interest in learning to weld. Thirty years later, metal sculptures became a popular form of art, which stimulated Chris to become a talented welded metal artist with pieces of his work around East Texas including on the TJC campus.

Away from dentistry, Chris was an avid outdoorsman, with interests from hunting to horsemanship. An expert with both shotguns, where he was a level one instructor, to rifles, where he was able to make the elusive 1000 yard shot! He also raised and trained hunting dogs, and was actually a working cowboy. Paradoxically, he was an accomplished ballroom dancer, where he and his wife Shane won several competitions. Despite all his accomplishments, he was a very humble and generous man who enjoyed a joke and a laugh with friends and colleagues. When you were around Chris you were guaranteed a good time. He will be greatly missed.



TDA Updates

Dr. Wade Barker



It has been a busy 2025 so far for the Texas Dental Association. The TDA staff have vacated from the previous TDA headquarters at 1946 S. IH-35 due to TXDOT's expansion of IH-35 and are now working remotely with a shared meeting space / headquarters located in Southwest Austin at the 71X Suites. The demolition of the TDA building is underway and creates nostalgia for many members who have attended meetings there over previous decades since the building's construction in 1986.

Legislative Day

On March 30 & April 1st over 1,000 member dentists and dental students visited the Capitol in Washington, DC to advocate for issues that affect oral health. On behalf of ETDS and TDA, our own Dr. Debrah Worsham attended lobby day. We thank Dr. Worsham for taking time out of her busy schedule to represent East Texas dentists' interests in DC.



President's Awards

The TDA President, Dr. McCandless, visited the ETDS at our April 4th meeting. She presented leadership awards to Dr. Madison Mack (ETDS President 2023-2024) and Dr. Candace Denison (ETDS President 2024-2025).



TDA Meeting 2025

The Texas Meeting was held in San Antonio May 8-10, 2025 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and featured over 250+ hours of CE from 53 speakers, 17 hands-on workshops, and 150+ exhibitors. The 2025 TDA House of Delegates was held in conjunction with the meeting with 134 delegates from our 26 Texas components including four delegates from ETDS and four student delegates from their respective dental schools. The House of Delegates is important to our society as it supreme governing body of our state society. This year's delegates from ETDS were Candice Denison (Tyler), Clayton Windham (Center), Forrest Gott (Lindale), and Wade Barker (Tyler).



“Walking Bleach Method”: A Conservative Approach to Anterior Tooth Discoloration

Dr. Madison Mack

Image 1



Image 2



Image 3



Image 4



Thirty-eight-year-old female was referred to the office for a single veneer, or potentially multiple veneers, to disguise the dark color present on tooth 8 (Image 1). The patient had experienced tooth trauma a few years back, and has noticed the tooth slowly getting darker over time. Patient is seeking the best option for restoring her smile with minimal intervention. During examination it was evident that tooth 8 was not root canal treated and calcification was present in the canal. The tooth was not reactive to thermal stimulation like neighboring teeth. The patient has minimal dental work, excellent gum and bone health, and is low caries risk.

Here are the potential treatment options that were presented to the patient:

1. Single unit veneer
2. Multiple veneers for ease of color blending and esthetics
3. Direct composite veneer
4. “Walking” internal bleaching with or without root canal

As a clinician, a single anterior veneer can be one of the more challenging treatments we provide to a patient with high esthetic standards. Financially, the patient would prefer not to do more veneers than necessary to achieve the desired outcome. With a minimally invasive approach always being preferred, I suggested the patient give internal bleaching a chance before exploring the need for veneers. The patient was enthusiastic about this alternative approach and wanted to proceed with this less expensive treatment option.

At the first appointment no anesthetic was used- it was important to know if this tooth, which was not root canal treated, would be sensitive during treatment or while the bleaching was occurring at home. Liquid rubber dam was used to isolate the area and an access hole, similar to an endo access, was performed. Patient reported zero sensitivity during access. The access was extended apically to the height of the discoloration on the facial, and darker internal dentin was removed. At this point Superoxyl (35% hydrogen peroxide) was used to clean the access thoroughly. The enamel surrounding the access was then etched. To start the internal bleaching process Sodium Perborate was mixed with Superoxyl to a thick paste like consistency. Foaming is likely to occur, so adding Superoxyl slowly is recommended. An amalgam carrier was used to transfer the paste into the cleaned access until the area was about 75% filled, leaving room for a thin layer of composite to seal the access. A cotton pellet was used to remove excess moisture from the paste and bond was placed on the enamel surrounding the access only and light cured, no bond was placed on the bleaching material mixture. A thin layer of flowable composite was injected to seal the material in and light cured. Bite was checked and adjusted as normal. Patient was scheduled for a one week recall to check progress.

The patient returned for her follow up appointment and reported no sensitivity and little noticeable difference at this point (Image 2). The above procedure was repeated and the patient was scheduled for another one week follow up.

Upon return, the patient was noticing a good bit of change but not a total match to the neighboring tooth yet (Image 3). The procedure was repeated once more and the patient was scheduled to return one week later.

At this follow up appointment we were all pleased with the progress and match to the other teeth (Image 4). A permanent filling was placed in the access hole using a bleach white composite. The patient was thrilled with the outcome, the minimally invasive and pain free treatment, and the minor costs involved.



Upcoming CE Events



Friday, August 1, 2025

Location: The Mehling Center at Breckenridge Village
15062 County Road 1145 Tyler, TX 75704

Time: 8:30am - 12:30pm

CE Credits: 4

Ryan Walsh, DDS, MS

Endo 911 - Endo Emergencies for the GP Office

An endodontic emergency can be a stressful event...both for the patient and the clinician! This presentation will explore management tactics including diagnosis, establishing patient comfort and determining both palliative and definitive treatments. The presentation will also review the instrument and equipment needed for various procedures and a review of effective dental anesthesia.

For over a decade, Dr. Ryan M. Walsh has been educating dentists and endodontists to provide the highest level of evidence-based patient-centered endodontic care. Dr. Walsh is a board-certified endodontist and maintains a full-time private practice (limited to endodontics) in Keller, Texas.

As a board-certified endodontist, Dr. Walsh is abreast of the latest techniques in patient and clinical research focusing on bioceramic materials, resorption processes and treatment, irrigation techniques, and tooth cracks and fractures. Dr. Walsh has published multiple peer-reviewed journal articles and has presented to both national and international audiences. When not in private practice, Dr. Walsh maintains a faculty appointment at Texas A&M College of Dentistry in Dallas, TX, where he teaches endodontic residents and dental students the latest advances in endodontics.

Dr. Walsh is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics, a member of the American Association of Endodontists, American Dental Association, and Texas Dental Association. Dr. Walsh is the past president of the DFW Metroplex Endodontic Society and a founding board member of the Seattle Study Club of Fort Worth. Dr. Walsh has been voted "Top Dentist" for the past 10 years in the Fort Worth area.

Why is my tooth eating itself??!! The Battle with Resorption

We are diagnosing resorption twice as frequently today as we were 10 years ago, so "Why is my tooth eating itself?" How do we manage these teeth? Is extraction the only option? In this program, we will discuss the causes and complicating factors that make resorption challenging to diagnose and treat. We review the newest techniques and materials to effectively manage many of these cases.



Friday, October 24, 2025

Location: The Mehling Center at Breckenridge Village
15062 County Road 1145 Tyler, TX 75704

Time: 8:30am - 3pm

CE Credits: 6

Judy Kay Mausolf

Communication Solutions: Attitudes, Breakdowns & Conflict Resolution

Discover how to elevate your communication to a level that inspires open communication, prevents breakdowns, resolves conflict and builds trust and respect resulting in high performing team and patient relationships!

Learn the skills to communicate positively and effectively with different and even difficult personalities. Discover formats to hold positive, effective and efficient huddles and team meetings. Transform attitudes from toxic to tremendous and create a positive environment where everyone looks forward to coming to the office. Judy Kay, communications expert, will share how you can elevate the level of communication in your life!



Delivering W.O.W. Service - People will forget everything except how you made them feel!

Research shows that practices that build their office environment around serving the patient own and dominate the market. Customer service is often confusing, complex and vague! "I'm satisfied" means nothing in today's world. Set yourself apart from your colleagues: differentiate why *you and your office* and not the office down the street! Learn principles for strengthening communication skills, practice brand, and service standards. Illuminate the patient decision making processes to create lasting impressions and exceptional experiences. Inspire the entire team to deliver W.O.W. service with more passion and focus!

Friday, January 9, 2026

Location: Green Acres Crosswalk

1607 Troup Hwy, Tyler, TX 75701

Time: 8:30am - 12:30pm

CE Credits: 4

Eduardo Lorenzana, DDS, MS

Perio-Prosthetic Procedures to Optimize Dental Implant Esthetics: Risk Assessment, Clinical Applications, and Management of Complications

Successful surgical and restorative practices in general are well-versed in each other's disciplines in order to facilitate communication and deliver high-quality restorative treatment. So as the everyday world's expectations of implant-based reconstructions reflect our own desires for the illusion of what is natural, additional demands are placed on the restorative and surgical team's diagnostic and clinical skills. In the esthetic zone, the periodontal and peri-implant tissues are an intimate component of any implant-based reconstruction, since overall gingival display, soft tissue position and volume, and papilla quantity and quality can impact the implant fixture position as well as the overall esthetic outcome. Periodontal/oral plastic surgery has developed as a discipline within Periodontics to offer the surgical and restorative team a number of techniques to create and enhance implant soft tissue outcomes. However, this is not to say that these techniques exist in a vacuum of their own; in fact the Venn diagram of implant dentistry requires an overlapping familiarity with surgical, restorative, and laboratory concepts perhaps more accurately described as *perio-prosthetic* plastic surgery. This presentation will illustrate the "perio-prosthetic concept" as it is applied daily in our private practice community; from risk assessment, to clinical applications, to the management of complications.



Dr. Lorenzana's experience in dentistry spans over 25 years so far, and he never tires of helping his patients improve their lives for the better. His focus on periodontal and dental implant procedures allows him to transform and revitalize smiles in long-lasting ways, helping those in need throughout the San Antonio community overcome serious disease, extensive tooth loss, and much more. In a way, Dr. Lorenzana was born into dentistry. His late paternal grandfather was a laboratory technician, and his late father, Dr. Rafael Lorenzana, was a prosthodontist who practiced in San Salvador, El Salvador. He also taught at Baylor College of Dentistry from 1982-1994 and had a private practice in Dallas from 1986-1994. Dr. Lorenzana worked there throughout his college and dental school years, seeing firsthand the positive effect that his father had on his patients day in and out. He rebuilt countless smiles, sometimes from scratch! Once Dr. Lorenzana was in dental school, he became friends with a periodontics resident who introduced him to specialty services like esthetic crown lengthening and dental implants. At that point in time, implants were only just beginning to become mainstream. Periodontics instantly captivated him because of the detail-oriented, plastic surgery-type of care, where millimeters matter and esthetics were a top priority. One of his mentors, Dr. Edward P. Allen of Dallas, always pushed him and his colleagues to view periodontal surgery as artwork just as much as science, which is an attitude that Dr. Lorenzana still brings into his practice every single day. Whether he's treating gummy smiles, covering exposed tooth roots, or replacing front teeth with dental implants, he views what he does as surgical artwork.

Friday, April 10, 2026

Location: Green Acres Crosswalk
1607 Troup Hwy, Tyler, TX 75701

Time: 8:30am - 3pm

CE Credits: 6

Dental Hygiene Symposium

Mia Geisinger, DDS, MS + Katrina Sanders, RDH

New for 2026! The Dental Hygiene Symposium is a premier event dedicated to advancing the field of dental hygiene, with valuable insights for the broader dental team, including dentists and dental assistants. This year's symposium centers on enhancing clinical excellence, evidence-based care, and interprofessional collaboration. Attendees will gain cutting-edge knowledge from renowned speakers, including Dr. Mia Geisinger, a board-certified periodontist and current president of the American Academy of Periodontology, and Katrina Sanders, RDH—widely known as the dental “Wine”gienist. Together, this expert duo will deliver an engaging and educational tag-team presentation blending clinical expertise with dynamic, relatable insights. Don't miss this exciting opportunity for world-class continuing education for your dental hygienist(s) and your whole dental team!



Mia L. Geisinger, DDS, MS is a Professor, Director of Advanced Education in Periodontology, and Acting Chair of the Department of Periodontology in the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Dr. Geisinger received her BS in Biology from Duke University, her DDS from Columbia University School of Dental Medicine, and her MS and Certificate in Periodontology and Implantology from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Geisinger is a Diplomate in the American Board of Periodontology and a Fellow in the International Team for Implantology, the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists. She has served as the President of the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation, as the Chair of the American Dental Association's Council on Scientific Affairs, as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Dental Association Science and Research Institute, and on multiple national and regional organized dentistry committees. She currently serves as the President-Elect and on numerous AAP and ADA committees and task forces. She has authored over 75 peer-reviewed publications and serves on the editorial board of several publications. Her research interests include periodontal and systemic disease interaction, implant dentistry in the periodontally compromised dentition, and novel treatment strategies for oral soft and hard tissue regeneration. She lectures nationally and internationally on topics in periodontology and oral healthcare.

Passionate about educating, empowering and instilling compassion within the industry, Katrina is a content expert in the oral-systemic link, the provision of preventive dental care, and various other topics. Katrina's zest for dental hygiene is infused throughout her content as she lectures on provocative topics while leaving participants with a call to action and an abundantly renewed sense of pride for their industry.

