

THE JUXTAPOSITION

ISSUE 44: FALL 2024

Dr. Kayleigh Eaves Temple, Editor



President 's Letter

Transitions into the Next Year
Dr. Candice Denison

If you saw my name at the top of this newsletter and thought to yourself, “Who is that?” you are probably not the only one. I tend to be a quiet person by nature, loving the back row (and probably a corner if there is one). So when Dr. Delaine Daniels asked if I would step into a leadership role in the East Texas Dental Society, my first reaction was to laugh and think “Surely you could find someone else...”

This conversation occurred at the tail end of the first COVID year and colleagues, team members, family, friends, and patients were still trying to figure out life after months (that has since turned into years) of fear, worry, and pain. After praying about it, I said yes, not knowing that I would discover the amazing doctors that are your board members from whom I am fortunate enough to get to sit, listen, and learn.

With that being said, I may not have all the answers, but I know people who may. I may not be tech-savvy or have a wide network, but I know people who do. I may not be a loud, outgoing, or creative person, but I can be still, listen, and encourage.

So, for those of you out there who are making it day by day, I encourage you to reach out, seek one-another, learn from mistakes, and take one-another’s critiques in stride. Rejoice in the wins,

shake off the **losses**, do not give up, and CONNECT. You are not alone. As dentists, we can all learn from one another, encourage one another, and help one another.

As your President for the upcoming year, I will do my best to lead in a way that is helpful to all of us fortunate enough to get to practice in East Texas. Dentistry is hard. While its foundation is tried and true, with gold crowns and cast partials, our profession is constantly in transition with all the technology of “faster, smaller, better, quicker.” It’s beautiful in both capacities.

Learning all the technicalities of dentistry can be fun, challenging, and frustrating at times but, at the end of the day, it is the relationships that matter. Whether it’s the relationships with our patients, one another, or even just the person you see when you look in the mirror, dentistry is a gift that can impact lives in ways that go far beyond the office walls. So, let us enjoy it for as long as we can, and endeavor to keep our focus on the good days rather than the bad.

Thank you for allowing me to be your President. I look forward to getting to know more of you and, if there is any way we as a society can help, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here for you.



In Memory of Dr. Tom Smith

After a lengthy battle with failing health, Dr. Tom Smith passed away on May 29, 2023

Dr. Smith earned his DDS degree from The University of Texas Dental Branch in 1967. After serving three years in the United States Army, he completed a residency in periodontics at Baylor University College of Dentistry.

Tom began his practice in Longview in 1972. He began his involvement in organized dentistry and community service at the start of his dental career. He belonged to, the East Texas Dental Society, the Gregg County Dental Society, the

Southwest society of Periodontists, and the Land O'Pines Dental Study Club. He was also a member of the American Academy of Periodontology.

Tom was a member of the First Lutheran Church where he sang in the Chancel Choir and served on the committees, taught Bible Study Fellowship, and volunteered with youth activities. He was a Master Mason and a charter member of the Kiwanis Club, as well as many other community organizations.

I had the privilege of participating in the same office complex with Tom for forty-one years. We visited daily about our mutual patients. My patients always received excellent periodontal treatment at his hands.

Tom was liked and respected throughout Texas for his excellence as a clinician and his willingness to serve organized dentistry.

Tom is survived by his wife of 57 years, Susan Kay, and his sons, Todd and Sterling and their families. He is also survived by two brothers, Dr. David Smith and Dr. Mark Smith as well as many relatives throughout the USA.

Tom never missed a scheduled dental meeting was almost "never on time." He often quipped, "THIS IS THE EARLIEST I'VE EVER BEEN LATE!" He often quipped, "THIS IS THE EARLIEST I'VE EVER BEEN LATE!"

Dr. Bill Reagan





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Whether you are a general dentist or a specialist, politics affect your practice and ability to serve your patients. **If you practice dentistry in Texas, you can't afford to not be politically engaged.** DENPAC is the advocacy arm of the TDA. DENPAC provides a **powerful, united voice** to advocate for organized dentistry at the Texas Capitol. But DENPAC can't work without you.

Invest in DENPAC. It's Investing in You.

Are you ready to step up and invest in DENPAC today? Invest in DENPAC today to help elect state candidates who support organized dentistry! **SCAN TO JOIN NOW!**



Contributions or gifts to political action committees are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes. Contributions to the Texas Dental Association Political Action Committee are voluntary and may be used to support state candidates and office holders. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal, and the Texas Dental Association and its local component societies will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount or failure to make contributions. According to Texas state law, political action committees may only accept contributions from individuals, professional corporations, and professional associations. State law requires political action committees to request and make best efforts to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$100 in a calendar year.

PEER REVIEW: A Benefit of Membership



By Dr. Lynette Ogletree

Did you know?

Peer Review is accessible to you!

Peer review is an informal process where local dentists help resolve problems your patients may have with your care. It's not a court and it doesn't punish anyone. TDA Peer Review Committees are made up of volunteer dentists chosen for their skills and knowledge.

Matters accepted for Peer Review

- Appropriateness of Care: Did the dentist give the right treatment for your condition?
- Quality of Treatment: Was the treatment done correctly according to professional standards?

Matters not accepted for Peer Review

- Complaints that are not related to care quality or appropriateness.
- Complaints against non-member dentists.
- Payment or billing disputes.
- Customer service or staff behavior issues.
- Insurance disputes.
- Cases already in court.
- Complaints that have already been filed with the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

If you would like more information about this process or need to direct a patient where to file a complaint, email drogers@tda.org or call 512-443-3675, ext 153. At that time they will contact our local peer review committee. (This process helps keep our patients from going to the board first.)

Once the peer review committee has been called to investigate a case, this limits the patients options to file a complaint to the board.



Introducing

2024-2025 ETDS BOARD MEMBERS

President - Dr. Candice Denison

President-Elect - Dr. Wade Barker

Vice President - Dr. Aly Kennedy

Immediate Past President - Dr. Madison Mack

Secretary - Dr. Kayleigh Temple

Treasurer - Dr. Lynette Ogletree

Members at Large - Dr. Matt Grace, Dr. Caleb Rossall,
Dr. Zack Simons

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 10, 2025

Location: Green Acres Crosswalk

1607 Troup Hwy, Tyler, TX 75701

Speaker: Brian B. Nový, DDS



Offensive Dentistry: Let's face it, sitting through a lecture about dental caries or caries risk assessment isn't appealing (in fact it sounds downright boring). However, the science of clinical cariology is beginning to have an impact on restorative techniques and technology. Streptococcus mutans has more to fear than a rheostat, now that we're armed with salivary diagnostics and bioactive materials.

Nobody Caries: Sometimes it seems as though our patients don't grasp the basic concept of home care. Other times our patients with impeccable hygiene develop rampant decay and we feel helpless because we can't figure out what's going on. The mouth is a remarkable environment that cariologists are finally beginning to understand, and so can you. Come learn everything you didn't know about plaque and the amazing organisms that make the mouth a wonderful place to work.

Topic: Cariology

Time: 8:30-3:00 - Lunch included

CE Credits: 6

ETDS Member Dentists,
Please click the link below or scan the QR code to participate in our
survey regarding your CE needs.
Thank you!

MEMBER CE SURVEY - CLICK HERE!





CE Requirements for Texas Dentists

<https://easttexasdentalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CE-Requirements-for-Texas-Dentists-3-22-22.pdf>



CE Requirements for Texas Hygienists

<https://easttexasdentalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CE-Requirements-for-Texas-Hygienists.pdf>



CE Requirements for Texas Dental Assistants

<https://easttexasdentalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CE-Requirements-for-Texas-Registered-Assistants.pdf>



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6828 Weston Ct.
Tyler, TX 75703

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