



# The President's Message

Southeastern Society of Pediatric Dentistry Newsletter

SOUTHERN SMILES



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SSPD President  
Atlanta, Georgia

Groovin'...on a Sunday afternoon  
Really couldn't get away too soon  
I can't imagine anything that's better  
The world is ours whenever we're together...

I heard this by the Young Rascals a few days ago and it immediately took me back to my freshman year at Auburn University - Spring 1969. I had made it through the first two quarters of college! Remember how strange and different those first few months were...every day was something new! We were immersed and surrounded by change at a level most of us had never experienced before. The routine of the early morning alarm clock, walking to class, lunch, more classes, dinner and for some of us - studying at night...were the sum total of our days. Even with the routine of our schedules, new things, people, information, and ideas were around every corner, literally!

We followed our dreams, graduated from college and chose our futures. Some of you knew early that you wanted to be dentists. For others like me...enlightenment came later. Possibly this decision was a major change from what we had decided our future career would be when we were freshman.

So... a new path was chosen and followed. Four years later - WOW, here we were - DOCTORS!! We achieved this through perseverance, hard study, late nights, and completing the treatment plans for our patients and our clinical requirements. These treatment plans seemed to frequently change depending on the instructor in clinic that day. "Flexibility to change" became the operative words in the clinic (pun intended)! The good news is this propensity for change and variability prepared us well for our career as dentists. We as pediatric dentists chose to limit our patient pool to infants, toddlers, children, adolescents and patients with special health care needs. We are constantly evaluating, re-evaluating, and diagnosing treatments based on the patient, their age, their needs and our needs in order to deliver that treatment. We must be flexible in our methods while never compromising the quality of the care we deliver.

As I look back at the 30+ years since I received my DMD, dentistry has drastically changed. New technology has enabled us to diagnose decay much earlier allowing us to provide a more conservative approach in our treatment. Composite restorations and

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sealants have provided us treatment approaches that refuted the infamous "extension for prevention". What I do every day in my office is very different from what I learned in dental school. Once again the operative word is change - new technologies, new research, new insights - causing us to change our methods of patient care.

The great news is that all these changes we have seen in our profession enables us to provide a high quality of care more conservatively than ever. These better diagnostic tools, fluoridation, preventive care including sealants, excellent home care instructions and follow through, have truly allowed us to prevent dental decay in our patients. What a tremendous benefit for them and us!

Go to SSPD.org - send email to Kim Brooks through contact us and put "newsletter" in subject line to enter to win \$100 cash.

We can really individualize our care based on our patient's needs. If they need more frequent preventive appointments due to their high caries risk, we recommend them. If they are decay free, a low caries risk, and have excellent home care we can see them once a year instead of twice. We are able to make these decisions based on each patient's needs. However, our current model of providing dentistry to our patients is in jeopardy. There are 'powers that be' who want to change the way this care is delivered and by whom.

Exercise your right to express your opinion. If you want to keep on practicing the way you are currently doing without government mandates, doing what you know is in the best interest of those we care for - the children of this nation - then speak up!! Get involved in your dental organizations - at any level. Go talk with your state legislators as well as those at our national level. Speak with the parents of your patients and let them know what is going on with their right to choose who delivers the care to their child. Every voice; verbal or by voting, is going to be heard. Our right to practice dentistry as we currently do is in danger.

We know that quality care cannot be delivered any cheaper outside of the "Dental Home". The children of this country deserve the best care that can be provided - the type of care that we provide every day in our offices. Get informed and then inform others. Proposed changes in the delivery of dental care are not in the best interest of our patients - the children. Sometimes change is not the best way, but it will occur anyway. Let's try to direct the change so that the future is better. Get out there - because as Bob Dylan said "The times they are a changing"...

# JANUARY 2011 CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE SCHEDULE

## "MONEY & MATERIALS"

### Friday, January 14th

**Continental Breakfast** ..... 7:30 - 8:30am  
Registration & check-in ..... 7:30 - 5:00pm  
Lecture ..... 8:30 - 10:00am

**Break** ..... 10:00 - 10:30am  
Lecture ..... 10:30 - Noon  
*Matthew Tuttle*

**Member's Business Meeting & Luncheon** ..... Noon - 1:30pm  
Lecture ..... 2:00 - 3:15pm  
*Matthew Tuttle*

**Break** ..... 3:15 - 3:45pm  
Lecture ..... 3:45 - 5:15pm  
*Matthew Tuttle*

### Saturday, January 15th

**Continental Breakfast** ..... 7:30 - 8:30am  
Lecture ..... 8:30 - 10:00am  
*Dr. Bill Waggoner*

**Break** ..... 10:00 - 10:30am  
Lecture ..... 10:30 - Noon  
*Dr. Bill Waggoner*

**Lunch** ..... Noon - 2:00pm  
Lecture ..... 2:00 - 3:15pm  
*Mike Cayes*

**Break** ..... 3:15 - 3:45pm  
Lecture ..... 3:45 - 5:15pm  
*Mike Cayes*

### Sunday, January 16th

**Continental Breakfast** ..... 7:30 - 8:30am  
Lecture ..... 8:30 - 10:00am  
*Dr. Bill Waggoner*

**Break** ..... 10:00 - 10:30am  
Lecture ..... 10:30 - Noon

Registration materials coming out soon.....  
Tuition \$575.00 Members  
\$295.00 Staff

AAPD CU credits pending

# Remembering



DR. FRANCIS J. DERMODY Dr. Francis J. Dermody, 70, died February 16, 2010 at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL. He was born in Pinehurst, North Carolina and spent his childhood in Manchester-By-The-Sea, Massachusetts. Frank moved to Florida in 1971 and finally found his "home" in Vero Beach in 1976. Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Lois Dermody; sons, Dr. F. Joseph (Veronica) Dermody, Jr. and Dr. Christopher M. (Dr. Rachelle) Dermody, all of Vero Beach; daughters, Dr. Pamela Dermody (John) Chnupa of Houston, TX, and Lynn M. Dermody of Manchester-By-The-Sea, MA; grandsons, Alex Dermody, Noah Dermody, Peyton Dermody, and Connor Chnupa; granddaughters, Grace Dermody, Kate Dermody, Erin Dermody, and Riley Chnupa; brother, Colonel (Ret.) Henry M. Dermody, Jr. of Centreville, MD; sisters, Joan E. MacGillivray of Belmont, MA, Maureen Dermody of Manchester-By-The-Sea, MA, and Marianne Seaver of Gloucester, MA; several nieces, nephews and cousins. Frank was predeceased by his parents, Henry M. & Evelyn K. Dermody. Dr. Dermody graduated from St. John's Preparatory School, Danvers, MA. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Northeastern University, Boston,

MA and a Doctorate of Dental Medicine from the University Of Pennsylvania School Of Dental Medicine, Philadelphia, PA. He also earned his Certificate of Pediatric Dentistry from Harvard University Children's Hospital Medical Center, Boston, MA. He served in the US Army Dental Corps where he was instrumental in establishing the first pediatric dental clinic within the United States Army in Fort Stewart, GA. Dr. Dermody was the first pediatric dentist in Vero Beach where he practiced for 35 years.

Dr. Dermody was a member of the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, the Florida Dental Association, Southeastern Society of Pediatric Dentistry, and the American College of Dentists, the Treasure Coast Dental Society, and the 100 Club. He was also a member of St. Helen Catholic Church, where he taught CCD, served as a Lecturer and Eucharistic Minister, made hospital and nursing home visits, served on the Parish Council, was a member of The Knights of Columbus, a member of the Bible Study Group, chaired the St. Helen Golf Tournament, was Harvest Festival Chairman, and a former Board Member of John Carroll High School and ARC. He donated his time to the Indian River County Health Department Dental Clinic for 32 years, the Vero Beach VNA Hospice House, the Head Start Coalition, the Baptist Mobile Dental Clinic, Jesse's Children in the Dominican Republic and Habitat for Humanity. With Frank's passing we suffer the loss a truly wonderful man. His dignity, intelligence, and compassion were known by all. We will remember the smile he had for everyone, his infectious laugh, and the endless stories and jokes that brightened our days. He led by example both in his personal and professional life by always striving to do the right thing. He worked hard to make the world a better place by generously sharing his time, talent, and treasure to further God's mission on earth. Frank was the beloved patriarch of a large and extended family and he encompassed any and all within his realm. He loved each and everyone dearly. His fatherly advice, direction, and care will be greatly missed as will the love he carried for his vast network of friends. Frank never met a stranger and if you met him once he was your friend for life. Frank had many titles in his life: father, husband, brother, uncle, doctor, and friend. But, if you asked him what his favorite title of all was, it would be that of "Grampy". While Frank would not have us mourn, we are saddened for our loss, but we rejoice that God now holds him in the palm of his hand. Visitation will be 5-8 PM on February 22, 2010 at St. Helen Catholic Church, Vero Beach. Funeral Mass will be 10:00 AM, February 23, 2010 at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Helen Catholic Church, 2000 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960 or to VNA Hospice, 1110 35th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32960. A guestbook may be signed at [www.strunkfuneralhome.com](http://www.strunkfuneralhome.com).

## REMEMBERING

Carole Sasnett  
(Dr. Richard Sasnett, Columbia SC)



Carol Beane Sasnett, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend, died peacefully Saturday, May 29, 2010, at her residence after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. Born in Columbia on February 11, 1942, she was a daughter of the late John Robert and Georgia Leah Beane. She attended the University of South Carolina and was a flight attendant for Delta Airlines. She was also an art teacher at A.C. Moore Elementary School in Columbia. A lifelong member of the Junior League of Columbia, she was a member of the Wisteria Garden Club and the William Capers chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. A devout Christian, she was a member of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

She is survived by her husband of 47 years, Dr. Richard Maxell Sasnett III; children, Richard Maxwell Sasnett IV and wife, Peyton, Cotesworth Pinckney Sasnett and wife, Melanie, Caroline Seabrook Sasnett Arrieta and husband, Brandon; grandchildren, Joyce Peyton Sasnett, Richard Maxwell Sasnett V, Alexandra Grey Cooke, Evalyn Neal Cooke, Brandon Maxwell Arrieta, Cotesworth Daniel Arrieta, Alexander Seabrook Arrieta, Leah Carolina Arrieta; sister-in-law, Molly Hughes and husband Roland; brother, John Robert Beane and wife, Marilyn and their daughters, Brandi and Ashley; dear friend, Dottie LaFitte.

The family would like to thank the many caring doctors, nurses and other health professionals who enabled her to live a longer and more comfortable life. We are also appreciative of her daily caregivers who became her good friends.

Funeral service were held Wednesday, June 2, 2010, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

Those wishing to honor and celebrate the life of Carol Beane Sasnett are encouraged to make donations to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research at [www.michaeljfox.org](http://www.michaeljfox.org).

## District III Trustee Report

The 2010 AAPD Annual Session was again a success and I want to commend the Headquarters staff for their efforts. These ladies and gentlemen work long hours and expend lots of energy behind the scenes during the meeting. The Chicago meeting set attendance records for number of members and overall attendees.

Some items of note from the Annual Session:

- The Council on Government Affairs amended the 2010 Legislative and Regulatory Priorities following the passage of health care reform by Congress this spring. <http://www.aapd.org/upload/news/2010/3963.pdf>
- The membership approved new and revised AAPD Policies and Guidelines during the General Assembly and these have been posted on the AAPD web site under "Reference Manual".
- The Board of Trustees approved funding for development of an Advanced Leadership Workshop and authorized matching funds for an endowment to support the Advanced Leadership Workshop.
- The Board of Trustees approved having speaker(s) from the Medicaid and SCHIP Dental Association participate in the 2011 AAPD Advocacy Forum during the Annual Session.
- The Council on Dental Benefit Programs held a workshop for representatives of the dental benefits industry in which we provided education on our policies and guidelines, as well as having an open discussion on issues and concerns our members are having with dental benefit plans.

I serve as Trustee Liaison to the AAPD Council on Dental Benefit Programs. Mary Essling is the AAPD Dental Benefits Manager and can be contacted at [messling@aapd.org](mailto:messling@aapd.org) with any issues regarding dental benefits coding. Mary and the CDBP are working on a new CDT Coding Manual that will be available in January 2011. Jennifer Hendershot, CDBP Past Chair, presented "Pediatric Case Studies" at the American Association of Dental Consultants Annual Session in May. Mary Essling and I also attended this meeting. In addition to providing education based upon policies and guidelines of the AAPD, the CDBP utilizes this as an opportunity to network with the dental benefits industry. If any state unit is interested in a coding/dental benefits workshop for their members, please contact Mary.

The AAPD will hold an Advanced Legislative Workshop related to Mid-level Providers in September. The mid-level provider is likely to become a state issue and this workshop is designed to provide information and experience in working with legislators and dental boards at the local level.

The Headstart Dental Home Initiative continues and our district has launched programs in Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia during the first three years of this five year agreement. Contact your state leader (<http://www.aapd.org/members/headstart/regions.asp>) for more information on how you can become involved.

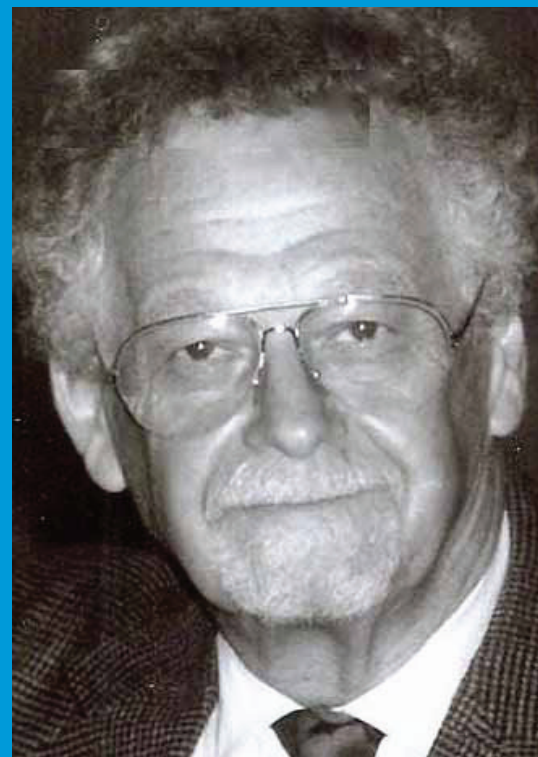
As it is summer, the AAPD dues statements should be arriving soon. Voluntary contributions are suggested to the AAPD PAC and Healthy Smiles Healthy Children Foundation. The HSHC Foundation uses this money in support of grants for access to care programs, oral health research and investment in future of pediatric dentistry through support of dental researchers. Money given to the PAC is used to support legislators who have shown a serious commitment to improving the oral health of children. Please note that it is preferable to have money given to the PAC come from your personal and not business account. Personal money (hard dollars) can be used directly in support of a candidate while business money (soft dollars) can only be used in support of the PAC. 2010 graduates who complete the membership application process to the AAPD and SSPD this year have no dues this year and will receive discounted dues next year.



**Tom Ison**  
**District III Trustee**

**Louisville, Kentucky**

**IN THE NEWS**  
**Theodore C. Levitas**



Ted received a PRESIDENTIAL CITATION from Special Care Dentistry Association on March 27, 2010. "Awarded to Dr. Theodore C. Levitas - who has shown a high level of excellence in assisting The Special Care Dentistry Association and the Patient Population with Special Needs."

Ted's management, treatment and care of Special Needs Patients is legendary. (\* in his 61st year of practice) He is Director of Special Care Dentistry for Handicapped and Medically Compromised Children at The Children's Dental Center of Atlanta

# The Last Word

By

**Howard S. Schneider, DDS MSD Editor**



Sometimes in life we cannot see the trees because the forest gets in the way. Thought the years I spotlighted many of our members for their contributions to pediatric dentistry. Thinking what I would like to write about for this edition of The Last word, I had a dream. We have a flower right in our own back yard. Who do you gets all the calls regarding SSPD business? Who do you think is in the background working to help with arrangements for our meetings? Who puts together our newsletter? Who gets our dues out? And on it goes. With poise and grace, this person remains in the background chucking alone. In the meantime we just expect it to be there for us. **BIG BELLS AND WHISTLES** go out to **KIM BROOKS**, our Executive Secretary. **That is one mans opinion, and, "That Is The Last Word."**

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