



DENTISTRY

SUMMER 2015

Dr. Carol Gomez Summerhayes watches Kristen Poole Sumrall, D4, run through a dental exercise.

PREMIER VISIT

ADA president-elect engages SOD faculty, students on profession's future

By Ruth Cummins

Many of the nation's 65 accredited dental programs are bigger – in campus size and in enrollment – than the University of Mississippi Medical Center's School of Dentistry.

But the president-elect of the premier national organization representing the profession's best interests made

it a priority this spring to visit UMMC, packing into her busy schedule a full day of meetings, tours and networking.

The message of Dr. Carol Gomez Summerhayes: The American Dental Association cares about those new to the profession and stands ready to keep them abreast of policy issues that will impact them after graduation.

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Gary W. Reeves, D.M.D.

Familiar face named 2015 Dental Friend of the Year

When it's said of a longtime employee that his or her name is synonymous with that of the institution for which he or she works, it's usually just good-natured hyperbole.

But for decades, School of Dentistry faculty and staff haven't been able to think of this place without

Agnes Triplett's name immediately springing to mind.

The "right-hand woman" for just about everyone who has occupied the seat of leadership in the school, Agnes has played an integral part in the inner workings of this place and knows more about the history of this school than just about anyone.

It is only fitting that, after 40 years of service, Agnes received the Dental Alumnus and Friend of the Year Award during the School of Dentistry Alumni and Friends Dinner April 24 at the Old Capitol Inn.

A graduate of Jackson State University, Agnes came to the School of Dentistry in its infancy – in fact, the building itself had not been completed when she joined the SOD staff on Feb. 7, 1974 as a secretary in the office of the first dean, Dr. Wallace V. Mann, Jr. Dr. Mann subsequently appointed her to administrative assistant/executive assistant in the dean's office, a position she has maintained ably and effectively throughout the tenures of five deans and three interim deans.

Agnes and her family share a devotion to the university and to this school that is rarely matched. She and her husband, Robert "Trip" Triplett, a courier in the Department of Family Medicine, have three children – two of whom work in the School of Dentistry.

Margo Carter is a business operations manager in the School of Dentistry and Robert Triplett III is a patient services coordinator in the Department of Advanced General Dentistry. The couple also has another daughter, Angela Gardner, and five grandchildren that range in age from 12-19: Kayla, Briana, Brandon, Justin and Alise.

Agnes' work ethic has no doubt been nourished and strengthened by her mother, Fannie Sanders-Palmer, who Agnes describes as her "mentor." Even now, Mrs. Sanders-Palmer continues to be quite a role model – she is still working part-time.

Few individuals have made such a lasting impact on those with whom they have worked than Agnes Triplett. But don't just take my word for it. Ask anyone you like in the school about Agnes, and you're liable to start a long conversation.

Here's a representative sample of comments from those who've known Agnes for quite some time.

"The honor of being named 'Friend of the Year' goes beyond that of Agnes' expertise in her job," says Dr. Buford O. "Butch" Gilbert, professor of endodontics and former interim dean of the school. "It recognizes who Agnes Triplett is as a person.

"She loves people. And so, importantly, she cares for each and every person. Time and again I have watched her go out of her way to help others, be it those of us who work at the school, our students or our patients. And in particular, those from outside the school who visit or in some way interface with our school.



Triplett is surrounded by her last four bosses, from left, Dr. Gary W. Reeves, Dr. James R. Hupp Jr., Dr. Buford O. "Butch" Gilbert and Dr. Willie J. Hill.

"How important it is to have that positive image of our school as they leave. Simply said, no one has represented our school better or more professionally than Agnes."

Doristeen Washington, education administrator in the Pediatric Hospital Dental Clinic and a longtime SOD staff member, describes Agnes as a true asset to the school.

"Who doesn't know Agnes Triplett? Regardless of the situation at hand, you can depend on her to have the skills and knowledge that enables her to do a job well done," Doristeen said. "Agnes is well-focused, committed, spontaneous, creative and dependable.

"We love, respect and admire the work that she has done and continues to do. She is an inspiration to all of us. She's one of a kind. If you ever need to know what's going on, ask Agnes."

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Denita Wells, ambulatory operations manager in clinical affairs, calls Agnes a “devoted friend – both on the job and away from work.”

“Agnes is the one I bounce things off of when I’m not sure which direction to go in when making decisions at work, whether it be



Husband Robert “Tripp” Triplett and Agnes

dealing with a sensitive situation concerning students and staff or choosing a meal or theme for an SOD function,” Denita said. “Agnes has been there for me through the good and the bad.”

“Agnes has a commitment to the School


of Dentistry and is very passionate about the progression of the dental school,” said Dr. Wilhelmina F. O’Reilly, professor of pediatric dentistry and community oral health. “She is student- and faculty-friendly and always positive and upbeat.

“Agnes is also very detail-oriented. She is open-minded and listens, a very positive person. She is the person who knows everything about the School of Dentistry.”

Dr. Scott Gatewood, professor of endodontics, has known Agnes since he was a student in the School of Dentistry. Through the years, Scott says, “I probably have changed, but she remains the constant, stable professional that I met many years ago,”

“It is hard to over-emphasize how important Agnes is as a resource for contacts, process and conducting business in the School of Dentistry and UMMC as a whole,” Scott said. “At our last accreditation site visit, the chair of the site visit committee asked for some document in a meeting. Someone said, ‘You’ll need to check with Agnes about that.’

“He laughed and said, ‘From my experience, when someone goes by just one name, I’ve found the person I need to get things done.’”

That continues to be true in the School of Dentistry. We appreciate Agnes for everything she has done in her career, and we look forward to continuing the refrain for anyone who has questions about the school: “Just ask Agnes.” 

Gary W. Reeves, D.M.D.
Dean, School of Dentistry

Annual dental alumnus/friend award recipients through the years

The University of Mississippi Dental Alumnus/Friend of the Year Award honors a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry and the Dental Alumni Chapter. The Alumnus/Friend of the Year is one who enhances the image of the School of Dentistry as well as the dental profession through various activities that include community service, legislative activities, participation in organizations affecting dental practice and/or contributions to education and research.

All dental alumni and friends are eligible for consideration. From the nominations submitted, one is chosen each year by the DAF Committee and is honored at the annual Alumni and Friends Dinner.

Recipients of the Dental Alumnus/Friend of the Year Award include:

1993 – John Hembree	2001 – Hank Singley	2009 – Eleanor Gill
1994 – Norman C. Nelson	2002 – Perry McGinnis	2010 – Karen Crews
1995 – James Russell Dumas	2003 – Wallace Conerly	2011 – Dan Quon
1996 – Heber Simmons	2004 – Butch Gilbert	2012 – John Smith
1997 – Travis J. Taylor	2005 – Robert “Bob” Ragan	2013 – Harold Kolodney
1998 – Eric H. Rommerdale	2006 – Carey Johnston	2014 – David Duncan
1999 – Sigurds O. Krolls	2007 – David K. Curtis	2015 – Agnes Triplett
2000 – George May	2008 – Joseph S. Young	

Arrivals and Distinctions

The following faculty member has joined the School of Dentistry:



Heitzmann

Dr. Emily A. Dasinger Heitzmann, a private-practice pediatric dentist at Magnolia Family Dental Care in Ridgeland, has joined the Medical Center faculty as an assistant professor of pediatric dentistry.

After receiving the B.S. in chemistry from Millsaps College in 2003 and the M.A. in teaching from Belhaven College in 2004, Heitzmann earned

the D.M.D. in 2008 at UMMC, where she received her certificate in pediatric and special needs dentistry in 2010.

Heitzmann has accumulated more than three years of hospital dentistry and private-practice dentistry experience, having been an active member of Madison River Oaks Hospital since 2010 and an active staff member of Woman's Hospital since 2013.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, she also is an active member of several professional organizations, including the American Dental Association, the Mississippi Dental Association and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

SOD alumnus named to state College Board

Dr. John W. Starr, a 1984 graduate of the School of Dentistry, was appointed April 5 by Gov. Phil Bryant to serve on the state College Board.

A periodontist with offices in Columbus and Starkville, Starr will serve a nine-year term, pending Senate confirmation.

"Serving in this capacity, to better advance Mississippi and its future, is a way for me to give back for the opportunities afforded me by the public university system of Mississippi," Starr said in a news release from the governor's office.

Starr graduated from Mississippi State University before enrolling in the School of Dentistry.



Star

SCDA selects dentistry prof for service award

Dr. Ray Holder, professor of dentistry, Department of Ad-



Holder

vanced General Dentistry, received the Lawrence J. Chasko Distinguished Service Award from the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) at its annual meeting March 27, in Denver, Colorado.

The award recognizes an individual who demonstrates service to

SCDA in hospital dentistry that is far beyond the customary expectations of his or her elected or appointed position, and who has had noteworthy achievements at the local, regional or national level that support and promote the mission and goals of SCDA.

Holder was selected for embodying the finest qualities of character, dedication and ethical standards exemplified by Lawrence J. Chasko, a longtime SCDA supporter.

Longtime administrator calls it a career



Doristeen Washington addresses a roomful of well-wishers during her retirement ceremony April 30 in the School of Dentistry.

An education administrator in the Pediatric Hospital Dental Clinic, Washington served the SOD for 35 years.

Annual activities, events keep SOD faculty, students engaged

ASAD, SDHA's fair welcomes students, vendors



Students view hands-on displays during the 2015 Exhibit Fair, hosted by the American Student Dental Association and the Student Dental Hygienists Association Jan. 29 in the Norman C. Nelson Student Union. More than 20 vendors participated in the event.

D2s don new duds at White Coat Ceremony



Dr. Melinda Lucas helps second-year dentistry student Jennifer Bui into her new white coat during the School of Dentistry's White Coat Ceremony Feb. 27 in the UMMC Conference Center at the Jackson Medical Mall Thad Cochran Center.

Discovery on display at SOD's Research Day



Dr. Jason A. Griggs, associate dean for research, congratulates Nikita Thompson for her Research Day award.

Nikita Thompson, Bryant Salmon and Will Fontaine received awards for their respective poster presentations during the School of Dentistry's annual Research Day Feb. 24.

Thompson, who won the ADA/Dentsply Student Clinician Award, will represent Mississippi at the ADA Conference in Washington, D.C. with her poster, "Characteristics of Dentists Practicing in Urban, Large Rural, Small Rural and Isolated Areas of Mississippi." Thompson's mentor is Dr. Denise Krause. Salmon and Fontaine, who received the Hinman Student Research Award for their presentation, "Corrosion Resistance, Bioactivity and Wetting Angle Analyses of Anodized Titanium Surfaces for Potential Dental Implant Applications," will represent Mississippi at the Hinman Student Research Symposium in Memphis, Tennessee. Their mentors are Dr. Michael Roach and Dr. Scott Williamson.

Dr. Yu Zhang of the Department of Biomaterials and Biomimetics at New York University was the keynote speaker at Research Day.

Give Kids a Smile event teaches dental basics



Casey Elementary student Joshia Brown, 7, shows dental students Austin Holmes, left, and Adam Roye the proper way to brush teeth during of the annual Give Kids A Smile event at the School of Dentistry Feb. 16.

Summerhays: student, faculty, ADA-member collabora

Summerhays and other ADA representatives gathered at the School of Dentistry March 3 to answer students' questions and address concerns about a profession that the ADA, in a 2013 report, said is in the midst of a radical transition.

"We're trying to find the answers on how we can be more engaging with your generation," Summerhays, a dentist in San Diego, told students taking part in a town hall meeting with faculty and SOD administrators. "You're coming out at a time of change, and you have the opportunity to create it."

Summerhays' visit was part of her tour of dental schools in the ADA's fifth district, which encompasses Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Dr. Gary Reeves (D.M.D. '84), School of Dentistry dean and professor of care planning and restorative sciences, and Dr. Scott Gatewood (D.M.D. '84), professor of endodontics, were among the SOD faculty and administrators who led a building tour and arranged meetings between Summerhays, students and others at the school.

Also taking part in Summerhays' visit were Dr. Paula Stewart (D.M.D. '95), a dentist practicing in Jackson who serves as president of the Mississippi Dental Association; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (D.M.D. '93), president-elect of the Mississippi Dental Association and a practitioner in Newton; MDA executive director Connie Lane and her staff; and Alabama dentist Dr. Alvin Stevens, the fifth district representative.

Also part of the visit were Dr. James Russell Dumas, a Prentiss dentist who chairs the MDA's Council on Governmental Affairs, and dentists Dr. Mark Donald (D.M.D. '88) of Louisville and Dr. Roddy Scarbrough (D.M.D. '89) of Richton.



"My day visiting the school and faculty were very special," Summerhays said. "Dean Reeves supported the visit, which gave us the opportunity to show how the local, state and national dental societies work together to support dental students as they begin their careers in dentistry."

It's especially noteworthy that Summerhays chose to visit the SOD rather than bypassing it for larger campuses nationally, where she could have met with many more

students and faculty at one time, Lane said.

"The fact that the size of our school didn't matter to her – and she traveled all the way from California – was really significant," Lane said. "Because UMMC has a dental school, it's imperative that our school stays connected to what's going on in the profession."

That relationship with the ADA "creates a synergy for both institutions," Lane said. "The school teaches students how to be a dentist, but the ADA teaches them how to enhance their profession by keeping up with all of the data that is important for professionals."

"I think she was very impressed," Reeves said of Summerhays' visit. "Even though our facility is getting a little older, we maintain it well, and it has a lot of modern equipment. And since it's a small school, it's very intimate."

Stewart agreed.

"It's a true affirmation that the national organization does care about its dentists and dental students," she said of the visit. "We talk about the tripartite – the power of three – in organized dentistry. That's the national, state and local levels of the ADA."

"We are more powerful when we function as three."

Approximately 75 percent of Mississippi's licensed, practicing dentists – roughly 1,000 practitioners – are members of both the ADA and MDA, Lane said. Nationally, that percentage is only about 50 percent, Hollingsworth said.



The SOD accepts approximately 38 students each fall, all of them from Mississippi. All become members of the American Student Dental Association as first-year students. About half complete a residency after graduation, and approximately 75 percent of each graduating class ends up practicing in

their home state, Reeves said.

"In order to serve the public, you must have an organized voice to work with the governmental body whose laws affect how the public is treated," Reeves said. "The ADA is there to serve its members. She (Summerhays) considers our students their members."

"She wants to get their input and let them know she's there to work with them."

ADA and MDA leaders agree the biggest issues facing today's dental students include massive student loan debt that can approach \$250,000 per student for those who borrowed money, both as an undergraduate and as a dental student; and competition from what's called mid-level providers who offer some of the same services a dentist provides, often in underserved rural areas, but who are not dentists.



In May, 33 of the SOD graduates will depart with student loan debt. Their average amount owed: \$126,566.

"The ADA has been leading the charge to help students get lower interest rates on federal student loans so that once they go to dental school and then have to pay back their loans, they can still afford to live," Lane said. "It's unrealistic to expect someone to pay thousands of dollars for dental school, and then go to a

Education key to dynamic future

community where you know you won't make as much money."

Summerhays told UMMC students that even though they're still in school, they are legitimate voices in policy debates on issues such as student loan debt that affect the profession.

"It's about protecting your future, your licenses, your diplomas," she said.

ASDA members have power, Summerhays said.

"When they step up to the microphone, there's a hush," she said of previous testimony on national dental issues. "Whatever you have to say carries a lot more clout. You don't realize how much we want to hear from you."

Students, including Stephanie Rizzuto of Brookhaven, embraced Summerhays' message.

"When I found out how much policy affected my profession, I thought, 'I'm going to get involved,'" said Rizzuto, D2. "I just thought it was about unlocking my door every day to treat patients.

"It's not just about the skills we use every day."

"The face of dentistry is changing, and we're going to have to work to protect our profession by being involved" in the ADA, Hollingsworth said. "Dr. Summerhays talked about the things the ADA needs to know from students, and how the ADA can connect with them."

Joining the ADA, which counts 157,000-plus dentists as members, will be a boon to students as they embark on dental careers, said Austin Holmes, D3, from Meridian.

"Getting involved in the ADA will be a natural process for us in this room to know what we're facing in the future," Holmes told Summerhays as she and students took part in a roundtable discussion. "It's important for us to be involved, and important for you all to come here."

The ADA plays a role in preparing dentists for the realities of practice once they graduate.

"We have courses in the School of Dentistry on practice management," Reeves said. "While they're in school, they probably think it's too much. When they're in practice, they probably think we didn't provide enough."

The dentistry profession "as we've known it for many years, is evolving to be something different," Lane said. "For example, we've seen medicine get into a lot of combined practices, with it being more group-related than solo.

"Dentistry has mainly been solo practices, but we're looking at tremendous changes there down the road."

The need for more dentists to practice in rural areas, often meaning they'll make less money than in a big city, spurred the Mississippi Legislature in 2013 to create the Mississippi Rural Dentists Scholarship Program. That program, championed by the MDA, awards a handful of SOD students a \$35,000 scholarship if they agree to practice general dentistry in a rural area.



Rizzuto

What they're saying

School of Dentistry students share their opinions on the visit of American Dental Association president-elect Dr. Carol Gomez Summerhays:



Nida

"Dr. Summerhays discussed pressing issues important to dental students, such as student debt, mid-level providers and licensure exams. As a national leader of our profession, she provided great insight on the importance of becoming involved in organized dentistry."

— Suzanna Ellzey Nida, D4, Hattiesburg

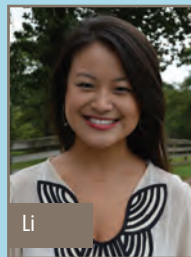
"I think an opportunity like the Q and A visit with Dr. Summerhays is vital in helping students realize some of the issues facing our profession, not only in our state, but throughout the nation. It also emphasizes the importance of being involved and having a voice in the decisions made on every level of organized dentistry.



Coats

"We are very grateful for the opportunity to speak with the leaders of our profession and get a chance to pick their brains."

— Jason Coats, D4, Starkville

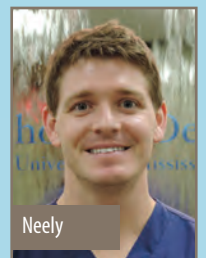


Li

"Dr. Summerhays spoke on the importance of organized dentistry and was able to highlight issues that will impact us as students and our professions. Her visit was important for our students because it actively involved us. To have questions answered by her personally reassures us, knowing that the ADA is addressing these issues and is always advocating for us."

— Alisha Li, D3, Philadelphia

"She showed the student body how important we are to them. We are the future of dentistry, and they value our opinion now, even as students.



Neely

"They want to know what we expect from them so they can make the changes to better the profession of dentistry for when we get out. The earlier we get involved, the more likely we will be involved later in our careers."

— Kyle Neely, D2, Florence

— Continued on page 8

In the face of that, Lane said, the profession is changing because more and more people simply aren't visiting a dentist.

"Just like people don't take care of themselves for diabetes or hypertension, they don't take care of their oral health," Lane said. "We've seen a decline in people taking the steps to go to a dentist.

"This next generation needs to carry the banner of how important oral health is."

It's not that there are too few dentists overall, Reeves said. Instead, they tend to be clustered in bigger cities, leaving rural areas in need.

"There's a national debate on access to (dental) care and the best ways to solve those issues," Reeves said. "Some states have already gone down the road to allow a different-type provider, one who is less trained than a dentist, to offer limited services, particularly in rural areas. That isn't a solution for every state."

Stewart said ADA members must think very strategically in resolving national issues facing the profession.

"We don't think the need for a mid-level provider – to have a less-educated provider serve the population – is ever the answer. We want to serve the needs of Mississippi. That's our utmost concern.

"Access to care is more of the issue. We have to figure out a way to bring patients to us."


One of the reasons dentistry is often ranked as the nation's top profession is because organized dentistry reaches out to its members via the ADA, and the ADA offers its members plenty of professional development help through the state and local organizations, Stewart said.

It's noteworthy that Summerhays emphasized the importance of females in dentistry, Lane said.

"She's been part of that change, and we're seeing in our dental school over 50 percent of our students are female."

"I'm very encouraged. It's a great profession," Stewart said. "New dentists will have to be smart and lean on the ones who have gone before them."

Summerhays' key message to UMMC's dental students is this: "The ADA is here for you, from the moment you enter dental school, to help you achieve your dreams in whatever pathway in dentistry you choose.

"You are the leaders who will carry the torch of the profession and improve the health of the public in new ways." 



AGD president-elect lauds dentistry as 'health care that works'

By Bruce Coleman

Dr. Carol Summerhays wasn't the only leader of a national dental organization to tour the School of Dentistry March 3.

Dr. W. Mark Donald, a 1988 graduate of the School of Dentistry who completed a general practice residency at UMMC in 1989, is transitioning from president-elect to president of the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD).

A practicing dentist in Louisville, Donald is no stranger to leadership. The former Mississippi State University football squadman for two bowl games and class marshal for the SOD Class of 1988 has served in several elected or appointed positions for the Academy of General Dentistry; has served as an alternate delegate to the American Dental Association; has been appointed subcommittee chairman to the Governor's Oral Health Task Force, Secondary Disease; and has been appointed by the Mississippi Superintendent of Education to the Task Force on Vending Machines in Schools.

As president of the AGD, an organization he has been affiliated with and served for more than 25 years, Donald said he has an opportunity to help chart the course of the dental profession.

"The AGD is founded on continuing education for the general dentist," said Donald. "As an organization, we are studying what the future of dental continuing education will look like and working to make sure the AGD is on the cutting edge in this arena.

"Before the year ends, we will have an innovative program of continuing education for our membership. For me, this is an exciting adventure for the AGD."

A fellow in the American College of Dentists and a member of the distinguished Pierre Fauchard Academy, Donald also has set an organizational goal of advocacy for the general dentist.

"The AGD is the only organization that advocates exclusively



for the general dentist and the profession of general dentistry," he said. "This is so important for our profession. For a number of reasons, I believe that dentistry is health care that works, and that the general dentist is the backbone of the profession."


Despite his service to the profession on the national stage, Donald said he loves practicing in a small Mississippi town.

"I became a dentist because I wanted to help people with their oral health," he said. "Probably, some of the most needy are in rural Mississippi. As dentists, I believe we have a responsibility to help those with the most need.

"Just in the fact of getting someone out of pain, or restoring a tooth that they thought was hopeless, or bringing a smile to their face, we can impact the lives of people in so many ways. What other profession offers such awesome rewards day in and day out? It should make us look forward to going to our clinics and to have the opportunity to change a life that day."

It's a point of view that informs Donald's leadership style.

"I love this great profession and I have a desire to give back because it has afforded me and my family so much over the past 25 years," he said. "Every dentist should, at the very least, belong to organized dentistry. Even with my roles in organized dentistry, I want to go the extra mile and do the extra degree of effort. I believe that is what moves an organization from good to great.

"It does not happen by luck. It takes effort, drive, determination and passion." 

Dean to retire in fall; search committee to ID successor

Dr. Gary Reeves, dean of the School of Dentistry since 2012, has announced his retirement effective this fall.

A search committee formed by UMMC leadership will identify his successor.

A member of the Medical Center faculty for 30 years, Reeves earned his D.M.D. at UMMC in 1984 after serving four years in the U.S. Army. He had general practice residency training at UMMC and joined the faculty as an instructor in restorative dentistry in 1985.

He has served as professor of care planning and restorative sciences since 1996.

Reeves served with the Mississippi Army National Guard, Dental Corps, in Iraq in 2004. When Dr. Butch Gilbert stepped down as interim dean of the School of Dentistry in February 2010, Reeves agreed to serve as his replacement and was appointed dean of the school two years later.

During his tenure, Reeves has overseen renovations to



the state-of-the-art clinical laboratory on the fourth floor of the School of Dentistry building and directed the day-to-day functions of the Medical Center's robust dentistry educational enterprise. 🦷

Outstanding SOD faculty recognized at Hembree banquet



School of Dentistry faculty proudly display the awards they received for outstanding teaching ability as selected by SOD students following the John H. Hembree Honor Society Awards Banquet April 16.

Faculty showing their awards include Dr. Jennifer Bain, seated left, and Dr. Susan Warren, seated right, Dr. Yuefeng Lu, standing fifth from left, Dr. Butch Gilbert, standing sixth from left, Dr. Wayne Caswell, standing sixth from right, and Dr. William Boteler, standing fifth from right.

Student presenters include, standing from left, Bryant Salmon, D2; Ronald Young, D1; Will Umphlett, D3; Rebecca Wright, D3; Cole Collier, D4; Kely Jones McLaurin, D4; Stephanie Rizzuto, D2; and Christina Holy, D1.

Class Notes: highlighting news, events in the lives of SOD alumni

CLASS of '79

Richard B. Akin, chronologically the very first graduate of the School of Dentistry, is in private practice in Hazlehurst. He and his wife, Nancy, a 1973 graduate of the University of Mississippi, have three sons and three grandsons.

Akin serves as a City of Hazlehurst councilman and as deputy coroner for Copiah County.

After graduating in the School of Dentistry's first class, **Roger B. Parkes, D.M.D.**, went into a periodontics residency at the Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas and graduated in the fall of 1981. For two years he worked at Centro Europeo de Ortodoncia in Madrid, Spain, where he was the only American-trained periodontist. Parkes started his practice in Jackson in April 1983, which became Periodontal Associates of Jackson, PA in 1989 when he was joined by SOD graduate **Dr. R. Clarke Stewart**.



Parkes

For the last 25 years, Parkes and Stewart have been offering CE courses on dental implants to the dental community. They sponsor the Excellence in Periodontics event in the fall, which usually attracts 400-500 participants. Now in its 19th year, Excellence in Periodontics is the largest dental event in Mississippi.

Parkes has two children – Dr. K. B. Parkes, a 2009 graduate of the School of Dentistry, now a general dentist in Nashville, Tennessee, and Liza Jones, a yoga teacher in Yazoo City – and two grandchildren.

Alan B. Carr, D.M.D., has spent the last 16 years in an outpatient prosthodontic practice in Rochester, Minnesota, where he serves as chair of the Department of Dental Specialties at the Mayo Clinic.

CLASS of '80

CLASS of '81

Garry A. Bonner, D.M.D., F.A.G.D., retired from general dentistry in 2014. This year, the father of three and the grandfather of six will enter the M.P.H.

Program at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Hank Singley, D.M.D., is still in private practice in Meridian. ▶



CLASS of '83

Ed Wheeler, D.M.D., is still alive, active and practicing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He is pictured in this 1998 photo at far left, along with classmates, from left, **Joe McLaurin, D.M.D.**, **Martin Chaney, D.M.D.**, **Stephen Joe, D.M.D.**, **Tom Heering, D.M.D.**, **Scottye Lee, D.M.D.** and **Wade Bishop, D.M.D.**, at one of the first School of Dentistry Alumni Day events.

CLASS of '84

Barbara B. Mauldin, D.M.D., pictured with her husband, Dick, won first place in the Senior III Division's American Rhythm Novice Category at the National USA Dance competition in Baltimore, Maryland, March 26-29. The couple also placed fourth in the Most Styles Category and fifth in the Age Category at the competition. Mauldin was "very pleased to have scored so well against such worthy opponents."



After being diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2010, **Janet Fisher, D.M.D.**, sold her practice in 2011. Selected "Woman of Distinction in Health" by the River City Business and Professional Women's Organization in 1999, she was voted "Vicksburg's Best Dentist" in 2008 in a poll conducted by the Vicksburg newspaper.

CLASS of '90

Although no longer practicing, in 2012 Fisher was named the Reader's Choice "Woman of the Year" in Vicksburg. She has participated in numerous fundraising activities to benefit the Vicksburg community and those diagnosed with cancer.

Fisher lives in a house built in 1872 by a niece of Jefferson Davis that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. She confirms that "we do have a ghost in the house!"

Her advice to all dentists is to be sure to have a good disability policy because "you never know what tomorrow will bring. Be prepared."

CLASS of '91



Jay E. Fandel, D.M.D., now practices with Concho Valley Family Dental in San Angelo, Texas.

Philip J. Evans, D.M.D., is a staff dentist with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

CLASS of '92

CLASS of '93

Rich Hill, D.M.D., is now living in Carrollton, where he is a practicing general dentist.

Mark A. Ellis, D.M.D., practices at Ellis Dental in Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Jeremy A. Hardy, D.M.D., is practicing at Robertsdale Dental Care in Robertsdale, Alabama. He and his wife, Hope, have two daughters – Elizabeth, 10, and Victoria, 8 – and are in the process of adopting their son, James, 3, from Bulgaria. James is named in honor of both of his grandfathers.



After being in private practice in Gulfport from 2002-06, James M. “Mickey” Finley, D.M.D., has been in private practice in Lafayette, Louisiana, for the last decade.

Clyde Musgrave, D.M.D., is a pediatric dentist in Southaven. He works with Dr. Jason Coleman in Southaven and Dr. Hayden Perkins in Oxford.



Curtis M. Bishop, D.M.D., and his wife, Tonya, have two children: Grayson, 7, and Chloe, 4. A 2011 graduate of the LSU School of Medicine and a 2014 graduate of the LSU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Program, Bishop practices at Hattiesburg Oral Surgery.



Robert Greg Wilson, D.M.D., and his wife, Tiffanie, D.M.D., both graduated from the School of Dentistry in 2004 and are partners in their own practice in El Paso, Texas, where they have lived since 2009. The couple has three children: Benjamin, 7, Madelyn, 6, and Samuel, 2.

Shelley Wilkerson Ellis, D.M.D., became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry in 2012. She and her husband, Todd, have one son, Hayes, who was born in 2013.

SOD event makes quite an Impression on potential students



Approximately 35 college students and one high school student attended the Student National Dental Association Chapter at the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s annual Impressions Day program March 26 at the School of Dentistry.

The students had the opportunity to interact with SOD faculty and students, tour the School of Dentistry, listen to presentations by SOD faculty and participate in hands-on pre-clinical simulations in the SOD lab.

University Medical Center
School of Dentistry
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in Partnership with Mississippi Dental Association presents

2015

Continuing Dental Education

Friday, July 24

Drugs in Dentistry Update 2015

Speaker: Dr. Richard Wynn

8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

UMMC Conference Center at the Jackson Medical Mall

6 Credit Hours

Friday, August 21

Risk Management Strategies to Reduce Dental Liability

Sponsor: Brown & Brown

Speaker: Richard Small, J.D.

8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Norman C. Nelson Student Union

3 Credit Hours

Friday, September 25

Team Success and Personality Matters

Speaker: Dr. Trey Weis

8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Norman C. Nelson Student Union

6 Credit Hours

Friday, November 13

Hands on Preparation for Porcelain Veneers and All Ceramic Crowns

Speaker: Dr. Gerard Chiche

8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. – Didactic Portion – 3.25 Credit Hours

1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. – Hands-on Portion – 3.75 Credit Hours

Morning Session: School of Health Related Professions-1B/SH198

Afternoon Session: School of Dentistry – Simulation Suite

7 Credit Hours

**COURSES DESIGNED FOR
THE ENTIRE DENTAL TEAM!**

For more information or to register, log on to: www.umc.edu/conted