Greetings fellow AGD members! As the holiday season arrives and we reflect back on the past calendar year, I’m reminded of why it’s great to be in the field of dentistry. Sure, we have our challenges, from mid-level providers to the uncertainty of the affordable health care bill, or a slow economy to insurance battles. However, all things considered, it’s a great time to be a dentist.

Never before have we had the armamentarium of materials available which we have today. Combine that with all the readily available and high quality instructional courses, and you’ll see there aren’t many challenges our patients face that we cannot correct with aesthetically pleasing and long lasting care.

However, to be able to provide that ‘aesthetically pleasing and long lasting’ care, we must continue to learn through high quality continuing education courses. A wise old dentist once said, “you don’t know what you don’t know,” and in the rapidly changing world of dental materials and placement techniques, if you fall behind the CE curve, that is never more true than it is today.

This is where the AGD comes in to play. The central theme of our organization is a career-long, or rather, a life-long, commitment to learning. High quality CE is imperative for us to be the dentist we all have the potential to become. In the AGD, that commitment to continuing education is honored and celebrated by acquiring Fellowships, Masterships, and LLC status.

Here in Nebraska, our first Masters class is getting ready to graduate and will receive their coveted title recognition of MAGD at the national meeting in Nashville this June. They should be celebrated for their accomplishment. Our second Masters class is well on its way. So, as the long winter months arrive, I would like to challenge all our members to take some time to catch up on your CE, because time spent learning is never time wasted. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Travis J. Antholz, DDS
Nebraska AGD President
JANUARY 2013

Editor’s Message

Natalie Fendrick, DDS

It’s hard to believe that the holidays have come and gone. I hope all of you had a great holiday season! Now that we are starting the New Year, let’s look back a little on last year…

We had a successful annual meeting in June in Lincoln with speakers Dr. Steve Wegner, Dr. Jeffrey Burns and Jason Scott on “Achieving Success in Esthetic Dentistry.” Also, we had a great October meeting in Omaha featuring the course “Update in Pediatrics Dentistry & Interceptive and Minor Orthodontics” given by Dr. Fred Margolis.

We were honored with numerous awards this year in Philadelphia at the AGD Annual Meeting including Constituent of the Year!

Our first NAGD Mastertrack class finished in October of 2012. We have 11 doctors who will graduate from our program. We began our 2nd Mastertrack class in June and it has grown to 18 participants!!

Dr. Tom St. Germain, Julie Berger-Moore, and myself talked to the senior dental students at UNMC. There was a great turnout not and we like to think it was to listen to us, but it was probably mostly because free lunch. We now have 25 more student members. We hope to set up a similar lunch with Creighton seniors.

Here’s to a successful New Year in the Nebraska AGD!
Members Honored

In 2012, we had 31 new members join the AGD. We’d like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Nebraska Academy of General Dentistry! Please be sure to welcome these new members at our next CE Course or meeting. Invite a non-member colleague or friend to join you at the next CE course. Give them an opportunity to see how the NAGD members are committed to lifelong learning! Welcome to the NAGD!!!

We’d also like to welcome the following student members to the NAGD!!

Michael Belling, DDS, Omaha
Diana Whittaker, DDS, Omaha
Katherine Kusek, DDS, Albion
Peter Harbert, DDS, Omaha
Trevor McGerr, DDS
Tom Nelsen, DDS, Holdrege
Amy Dietrich, DDS, Omaha
Tina Barger, DDS, Kearney
Anthony Fioretti, Student Member
Kaitlin Haag, DDS, Bartley
Jared Bolding, DDS, Omaha
Justin Weber, DDS, Omaha
Amy Vibeto, DDS, Omaha
Wendy Foster, DDS, Grand Island
Wesley Wright, DDS, Lincoln
Natalie Fendrick, DDS, Ponca
Kole Kugler, DDS, Kearney
Ashton Hecox, DDS Gothenburg
Kristen Schroeder, DDS, Lincoln
Moira Groh, DDS, North Bend
Scott White, DDS, Lincoln
Patrick Anderson, DDS, Lincoln
Cory Peterson, DDS, Papillion
Michael Augustine, DDS, Lincoln
Jared Schoettger, DDS, Lincoln
Matthew Kennedy, DDS, Omaha
Kristopher Hasstedt, DDS, Omaha
Jessica Wilberding, DDS, Omaha
Sarah Meyer, DDS, Omaha
Trent Buehler, DMD, Papillion
Michael Burwell, DDS, Columbus
Elizabeth White, DDS, Omaha

Congratulations to the following NAGD members who will celebrate their anniversaries in 2013!

40 YEARS
Luke Matranga, DDS, MAGD, ABGD, Omaha

25 YEARS
James Gerner, DDS, FAGD, Omaha
Perry Rosenau, DDS, York
Steve Anderson, DDS, Grand Island

20 YEARS
Dean Cope, DDS, Cambridge
Gerald Gemar, DDS, Omaha
Jerry Remmenga, DDS, Lexington
Maryam Choobineh, DDS, Lincoln

15 YEARS
Janna Spahr, DDS, FAGD, Milford

10 YEARS
Judy Belitz, DDS FAGD, Omaha

5 YEARS
Dennis Martin, DDS, FAGD, Lincoln
Kendra Gosch, DDS, Omaha
Matthew Carter, DDS, Papillion
Nicholas Kanning, DDS, Omaha

Robert Bundy
Adam Anderson
Richard Carstens
Stephanie Cobb
Samantha Reischick
Nicole Lecci
Meghan Hungerford
Laura Schmadeke
Xuyen Doan
Thao Le
Stephen Johndreau
Laura Johnson
Jenna Hatfield
Jennifer Veurink
Taylor Coffin
Andrew Hibbert
Aaron Rumpca
Richard DuVall
Cole Christenson
Christopher Schultz
Kyle Beulke
Josanna Stephenson
Shayna Gard
Katherine Oatman
Ryan Boyd
Katherine Goodwin
Kate Wolford
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AGD Government Relations Activities • November 2012

Leadership Conference
The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) 2012 Leadership Conference, held on Nov. 16 and 17 at the Westin Chicago River North, featured four breakout sessions related to advocacy:

- **Protecting Your Patients Against Midlevel Providers**, presented by W. Carter Brown, DMD, FAGD, AGD vice president; Myron "Mike" J. Bromberg, DDS, Legislative & Governmental Affairs Council (LGA) chair; and Linda J. Edgar, DDS, MEd, MAGD, AGD president-elect. Independent midlevel providers—including dental health aide therapists, dental therapists, and community dental health coordinators—continue to seek inroads into the dental health care delivery system, even though they aren’t qualified to provide the caliber and type of dental care currently available through a licensed dentist. This session helped attendees understand the nuances of the midlevel provider issue, and taught them how could get involved and help educate their patients and the public.

- **Lobbying Fundamentals**, presented by Myron “Mike” J. Bromberg, DDS, LGA chair. Attendees learned the dos and don’ts of lobbying at the local, state, and national levels. This session included role-playing exercises designed to develop confidence and persuasive speaking skills, preparing participants to educate legislators about issues of interest to the dental profession.

- **Intervene and Stop a Legislative Crisis Before It Begins**, presented by Richard W. Dycus, DDS, MAGD, regional director for Region 6. In this session, leaders learned why every constituent needs members who monitor dental care and dental practice issues. Attendees also learned how to keep members informed about local legislation, how to boost member involvement, and when to take action.

- **Getting Checkbook Members Involved in Advocacy**, presented by Richard W. Dycus, DDS, MAGD, regional director for Region 6. On average, 2 percent of AGD members respond to action alerts issued in response to important federal or local legislation. Within their own communities, AGD members are respected for their commitment to patient care and recognized as community leaders who are dedicated to improving quality of life for not only their patients but also the community at large. During this session, leaders learned tips for getting their colleagues involved in advocacy efforts, as well as how to communicate with legislators and educate them on the issues important to the dental profession.

Highlights from these and other AGD 2012 Leadership Conference sessions will be available on the AGD website, www.agd.org.

**Political Action**
**Oregon**
On March 2, 2012, Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber signed Senate Bill 1580, a law that created new regional entities called coordinated care organizations (CCOs), health care systems that accept flat fees for all care delivered. In response, during October 2012, Advantage Dental Services CEO R. Mike Shritcliff, state Sen. Alan Bates, and state Rep. Tim Freeman filed a petition to keep dental care out of the state’s CCOs until 2017. This petition asks that CCOs contract directly with dental care organizations in order to provide dental care to their members and that these CCOs refrain from contracting with any other dentist, dental hygienist, or dental organization. The Oregon AGD submitted comments against the petition in November 2012.

**Iowa**
On Oct. 11, 2012, U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) visited the Des Moines office of Iowa AGD Legislative Chair Stephen R. Thies, DDS, to discuss the issues impacting general dentists today. Grassley, a former ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, previously conducted an investigation into abuses of the Medicaid system by corporate dental chains and spoke with Dr. Thies about this issue and its impact on general dentistry.

During the visit, Dr. Thies was able to provide Grassley with copies of the AGD’s two white papers, the “White Paper on Increasing Access to and Utilization of Oral Health Care Services,” and “Barriers and Solutions to Accessing Care.” Additionally, Dr. Thies explained the dental profession’s concern about the lack of access to quality care—provided by a trained dentist and dental team—that many Americans are experiencing. Dr. Thies also raised the issue of burdensome student loan debt, which often limits professional options for new dental graduates.

Dr. Thies originally met Grassley and his staff during both the 2011 and 2012 AGD Government Relations Conference, A Great Dentist Goes to Washington. As a previous attendee of this conference, Dr. Thies understood the importance of creating good relationships with local and national legislators, and invited Grassley to visit his practice following the 2012 conference.

Though Grassley was in Des Moines for other legislative activities, he was able to make time to stop by Dr. Thies’ office for a tour and some interaction with patients. Although he had been to dental offices for treatment, the senator said he had never before seen “behind-the-scenes” activities like sterilization and laboratory procedures.

To learn how you can become active at a local level like Dr. Thies, visit www.agd.org/issuesadvocacy.

**Washington**
Over the past year, the Washington Legislature has pressured the Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) to agree to a compromise regarding midlevel dental providers. The Legislature may pass a bill that would allow nondentist providers to perform extractions and preparations without the supervision of a dentist. Many members of the WSDA Board of Directors have said they would prefer an alternative model in which the midlevel dental provider would work under the direct supervision of a dentist in a federally qualified health center. This model would require midlevel dental providers to complete an expanded function dental assistant program or a dental hygiene program approved by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission.

AGD President-Elect Linda J. Edgar, DDS, MEd, MAGD, and American Student Dental Association leaders from the University of Washington have opposed this concept and called for individuals who perform irreversible procedures to have more education. The resolution to create the alternative midlevel model passed the WSDA House of Delegates (HOD) on Sept. 14, 2012, by a vote of 58-20, with two members abstaining, but it’s unclear whether the Legislature will accept this model. If this core principle is not met, WSDA will oppose any midlevel legislation.
Join us for a day filled with quality continuing education and much more! As an added benefit to being an NAGD member, you can attend the Friday lecture at a substantially reduced rate. $75 for 8 hours of quality CE... PRICELESS! We are excited that we will be having exhibits again, prize drawings and much more for you at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

The course will be held at The Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. The Friday lecture (June 7th) is part of our 3-day Mastertrack weekend. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Ash Kaushesh. He will be presenting on “Modern Technology and Practice of Dental Implantology”. (See registration/course information).

Registration begins at 7:15 a.m. and exhibits will open at 9:00 a.m. on June 7th and will be open throughout the day on Friday. We will have an extended lunch hour to give our participants a chance to visit the exhibits and have a relaxing lunch with colleagues. By visiting the exhibits, you will also have opportunities to win prizes!!! Lunch and breaks will be held in the exhibit area, another added bonus to visit your favorite supplier or lab!!

Ash Kaushesh, DDS, MAGD, MaCSD, DDOCS, DABOI/ID

He performs all clinical aspects of implant dentistry ranging from single unit implants to full mouth rehabilitation, bone regeneration, sinus grafts, and ridge augmentation in his private practice located in Lake Havasu City, AZ. He has placed and restored over 3,000 implants.

Dr. Kaushesh holds a Diplomate status through certification by the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant dentistry, a recognition held by less than 400 dentists and specialists. He has also been bestowed with awards of Master of the Academy of General Dentistry, Master of the College of Sedation in Dentistry and Diplomate of the Dental Organization of Conscious Sedation.

Dr. Kaushesh teaches one-on-one hands on courses in his private office in Arizona, and lectures internationally on Dental Implant Surgery and Prosthetics, Dental-Medical Pharmacology, Implant Practice Management, and IV Conscious Sedation. All proceeds from his teaching and consulting services are donated to orphanage charities around the world.

Lecture
Friday, June 7, 2013
(8 hours CE/AGD Implant Lecture Credit)

Modern Theory and Practice of Dental Implantology

Current trend in dental implant education lacks the background preparation, sometimes considered tedious to teach by many educators. Most courses may prepare a student for placing an implant in a dummy model but leave out critical information to avoid complications such as medical and pharmacological management, cone beam CT scan planning, ridge mapping, fluid and IV management, and management of medical emergencies that might occur during implant surgery.

Dr. Kaushesh geared and planned his courses to not only comprehensively teach doctors unfamiliar but interested in dental implantology and fill in the knowledge gaps and blanks of even experienced practitioners.

By attending this course the practitioners can expect to be competent and proficient in the following areas of dental Implantology:

1. Practitioners who attend the course will learn extensive management and prevention of medical emergencies in an dental implant practice. Complete protocols on management of patients who present with diabetes, cardiovascular complications and airway conditions will be discussed. A practitioner after attending the course will be competent in taking proper medical histories and scrutinize drug regimens our patients might be on. Practitioners will learn the “real story” behind bisphosphonate drugs and how to minimize risk of ONJ.

2. Practitioners will learn how to properly communicate with medical practitioners to obtain clearance for surgeries and maximize your implant success. The scenarios will be discussed when to have the medical doctors order and decipher blood tests such as Complete Metabolic profiles and HbA1c. You will be taught how to watch out for the most important lab values important in success and failure of dental implants.

“Modern Theory and Practice of Dental Implantology”

DR. ASH KAUSHESH is a graduate of Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine who completed his implant education at Loma Linda University, University of Southern California and the Misch International Implant Institute.

Exhibits Open at 9am! You won’t want to miss this meeting!
3. Practitioners will learn how to insert and maintain intravenous access for fluid control and maintain a “life line”. All medications that should be in your crash cart — that are commonly used in medical management of emergencies in your office will be discussed “hands on” such as Dextrose, Midazolam, Atropine, Ephedrine and Lidocaine. Airway management will be discussed extensively.

4. Planning tools that you need in order to place implants safely will be discussed such as Cone Beam CT Scan, Ridge mapping and role of bone density, quality and quantity in implant success.

5. Practitioners will learn how many implants to place and where in order to maximize biomechanical outcomes of their treatments. You will be taught how to select the proper implant for a case and how patient force factors affect implantology.

6. Practitioners will become proficient in suturing techniques and flap management.

7. Practitioners will learn how to place bone graft and membranes properly.

8. Practitioners will be given an introduction to sinus and block grafts.

9. Practitioners will learn how to use prefabricated and custom abutments for teeth and denture stability.

10. Practitioners will be taught how to take proper impressions for the implant crown and denture success.

11. Practitioners will learn how to manage implant complications such as premature exposure, bone loss and loss of connective attached tissue. Management of surgical and prosthetic complications will also be discussed in detail. Proper implant occlusion will be taught.

Hands on Training
Saturday and Sunday
June 8 & 9, 2013
(16 hrs. CE/AGD Implant Credit)

If you attend the entire weekend AND are an AGD member, you will receive 24 hours of Participation Credit in Implants. 24 additional hours of participation credit may be earned by presenting a clinical homework assignment after the course and presenting in October of 2013.

All of the objectives will be discussed in the lecture and will go through them in more detail in the hands on portion.

General Information
Friday, June 7, 2013
Lecture course held at the Cornhusker Marriott
333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln, NE
402.474.7474
7:15 a.m. — Registration Open
7:45 a.m. — Course Begins
11:45 – 1:15 p.m. — Extended Lunch Hour
(A chance to visit all the exhibitors!)
1:15 p.m. — Course Resumes
4 p.m. — Exhibits Close
5:15 p.m. — Course Adjourns
Coffee breaks and lunch will be provided in the exhibit area

Saturday, June 8
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Hands on Course
Held at UNMC College of Dentistry, Lincoln, NE

Sunday, June 9
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Hands on Course
Held at UNMC College of Dentistry, Lincoln, NE
The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) has found itself a new home.

Earlier this year, the organization purchased its own building in the West Loop neighborhood of Chicago, at 560 W. Lake St.

According to an editorial in the October issue of AGD Impact by AGD President Jeffrey M. Cole, DDS, MBA, FAGD, the AGD has operated out of a rented space since it was founded 60 years ago. The lease on the current AGD Headquarters, located in the American Dental Association (ADA) building at 211 E. Chicago St. in Chicago, expires in 2014.

The 560 W. Lake St. property was recommended by the Board of Trustees’ Real Estate Task Force, which was formed in 2007. The AGD settled on the property on Aug. 3, 2012, and the task force is working with AGD staff, as well as a team of interior designers, to plan a work space in the loft-style building.

The AGD will realize a positive cash flow of $500,000 seven years after the purchase date, Cole says, and those savings will help the organization fund its member services.

He says the move will also benefit the ADA, which can now secure a new tenant for the AGD’s current space at a higher rate.
February is National Children’s Dental Health Month

February, as many of you know is National Children’s Dental Health month. The Oral Fact sheets located on the AGD website, (http://www.agd.org) have many resources to help educate your patients not only on children’s oral health but topics from A to Z. Many questions or subjects that come up in conversation during the appointment are covered with a fact sheet. They are easy to find, print, and understand for your patient. They even come personalized which is in a way free marketing. I encourage you to utilize these to help promote good oral and overall health.
AGD Members Invited to Join SOSS Online Provider Directory

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Foundation works with Special Olympics Special Smiles® (SOSS) to provide dental screenings at Special Olympics events, as well as in-office dental care for athletes, their families, and their caregivers. As part of the program, the AGD Foundation identifies providers of primary dental care for Special Olympics athletes.

Join the SOSS online provider directory and become a resource for this underserved population by offering your name and contact information as a doctor who will provide dental care. You will not be asked to provide free dental care; the online directory simply offers Special Olympics athletes, their families, and their caregivers a list of dentists willing and able to treat athletes with intellectual disabilities. To date, more than 800 AGD members have added their names to the list of providers.

For more information, contact the AGD Foundation manager at 888.AGD.DENT (888.243.3368), ext. 4329, or foundation@agd.org.

The AGD Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charity; gifts to the AGD Foundation are fully deductible for United States federal income tax purposes, subject to the limitations placed on charitable gifts by the Internal Revenue Service. Be sure to check with your tax professional or attorney for specific allowable deductions in your state.

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Identity Theft on the Rise!

By Julie Berger-Moore

Identity theft continues to be one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States. It is important for consumers to recognize that identity theft is not just a financial crime. This crime varies widely, and can include financial identity theft (checking and/or credit card fraud), criminal identity theft, governmental identity theft, and medical identity theft.

Identity theft is a crime in which an imposter obtains key pieces of personal identifying information such as Social Security numbers and driver’s license numbers and uses them for their own personal gain. It can start with lost or stolen wallets, stolen mail, a data breach, computer virus, “phishing” scams, or paper documents thrown out by you or a business (dumpster diving). It can wreak havoc with your finances, credit history, and reputation — and can take time, money, and patience to resolve.

The Nebraska AGD endorses an ID Theft Program “ID Theft Assist” through Harold Diers & Company. As you open this edition of the NAGD newsletter please take a few moments to look over the ID Theft brochure insert. With ID Theft Assist, there is a better way to deal with the consequences of identity theft.

For more information please contact Harold Diers at 1-800-444-1330.
The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) gives general dentists a strong voice to protect your future and scope of practice, and we know how important that is these days.

Submit your AGD membership dues today so you can continue to take advantage of all the resources available exclusively to AGD members, such as:

• Online AGD continuing education (CE),
• Insurance Contract Analysis Services,
• CE tracking,
• High quality, continuing education on a state level, including the NAGD Mastertrack,
• Access to the digital edition of General Dentistry and, AGD Impact online,
• The new and improved NAGD newsletter,
• An extensive list of convenient continuing education (CE) through the AGD CE Database,
• And much, much more!

Renew your AGD membership today and continue to strengthen the voice of the general dentist.

Questions? Call the NAGD Office at 402.438.2321 or contact the AGD Membership Services Center at 888.AGD.DENT (888.243.3368) or membership@agd.org.