Our New President Dr. Tim Knight

UPCOMING COURSES AND EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
Monthly Meeting
Dr. Fayette Williams

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019
Annual Clay Shoot
Defender Outdoors Clay Sport Ranch

OCTOBER 8, 2019
Monthly Meeting
Ms. Jill Santiago, The Tappe Group

Register online @ www.fwdds.org
ON THE CALENDAR

2019

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & MEETINGS

September 10, 2019 Monthly Meeting
Dr. Fayette Williams

September 20, 2019 Annual Clay Shoot
Defender Outdoors Clay Sport Ranch

October 8, 2019 Monthly Meeting
Ms. Jill Santiago, The Tappe Group

November 12, 2019 Monthly Meeting
Ms. Diane Rhodes, TDA Senior Policy Manager

Did you know that if you come to just 5 monthly meetings, the FWDDS OSHA Course each January, and the all day CE Course each year, you will have met more than your CE requirements for the year without any travel expense? Plus, it is a good chance to network with your colleagues. Mark your calendars and plan to come!

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AT WWW.FWDDS.ORG

CALENDAR OF ADA AND TDA OPPORTUNITIES

September 5 – 9, 2019
ADA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA

Registration is now open at www.world-dental-congress.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Dr. Charles Rodgers
Dr. Adrienne Kebodeaux
Dr. Daniel Hammer
Dr. Jimmy Nguyen
Dr. Janet Stinson
Dr. Archana Lankkupali

Welcome to FWDDS!
We are thrilled to have you as new members. Please join us at our next monthly dinner meeting.

Top 5 Reasons to Become a Mentor in the FWDDS Mentorship Network:

1. You can share your insightful experiences and knowledge with others
2. You can grow your network and develop relationships with new dentists
3. You can improve coaching, communication, and leadership skills
4. You can exchange ideas and perspectives on issues that impact dentists
5. You will be making a contribution to protect the future of the profession

DO YOU WANT TO BE A MENTOR?
Congratulations!

Dr. Larry Spradley - 2019 recipient of TDA Gold Medal for Distinguished Service, TDA's highest honor.

Dr. Daniel Hammer
ADA 10 Under 10: Recognizing dentistry's brightest rising stars.

Gill Children’s Services
Certificate of Merit, for their mission to support underserved children in the Fort Worth community.
What have you done for me lately?
By Dr. Tim Knight

Twenty-five staff members working the phones with insurance companies, checking patient’s coverage, just to get you nineteen cents on the dollar. Man, am I glad I went into dentistry! Because that was my brother’s life in his Radiology group practice in Dallas. Every time I talked with him, my problems with dental insurance companies seems small in comparison to medicine’s problems.

But we can all see how that could happen. Dealing with dental insurance companies today is much worse than dealing with them 30 years ago. We see it every time we walk past our front desk or business office and see one of our team members, listening to the same elevator music from 30 years ago, while on hold for an hour just to check out a new patient’s coverage. Yes, it’s a game, one that none of us like playing.

So it’s actually exciting to update everyone on what the TDA has accomplished this past legislative session. Number one on my list is Insurance Reform. Representative Craig Goldman of Fort Worth brought a bill forward with the assistance of the TDA’s legislative team that does four main things:

1.) Dentists and patients will be able to access all of a patient’s dental benefit information through a free web portal. Welcome to the twenty first century.
2.) Dentists can tell the insurance companies how they want to be paid. No more Visa cards as payment, unless that’s your thing.
3.) A pre-authorization is actually a pre-authorization and no more fine print stating that this pre-authorization does not guarantee payment.
4.) Insurance companies cannot withhold payment to you because of an alleged “over payment” to another dentist.

Our next step is to get the ADA to look at this on a national level.

But wait, there’s more. Our community fluoridation bill passed requiring water providers to disclose to the state and its consumers at least sixty days before terminating water fluoridation. This will provide us time to educate their community of the importance of fluoridation.

There were also changes in the Controlled Substance legislation. This is an area that is changing constantly in response to a very difficult problem with prescription opioid misuse in Texas. Just a couple of items that caught my attention were:

1.) Starting Sept. 1, 2019 all Schedule II controlled substance prescriptions are limited to a ten day supply.
2.) Starting January 1, 2021, all Controlled substance prescribers are required to complete a two hour continuing education program yearly in the prescribing and monitoring of controlled substances. This has changed from once every three years.

The FWDDS had Dr. Jackie Plemons speak at a monthly meeting in 2018 to satisfy this
requirement, and we've got her coming back at the end of 2020. Our CE committee will continue to stay on top of this to help make it easier for you to meet this requirement.

3.) Starting January 1, 2021, all Schedule II controlled substance prescriptions, with certain exceptions, will be required to be submitted electronically to pharmacies. It looks like electronic prescriptions are here to stay, so you might want to discuss this with your IT or software representative.

In a related item, as on June 1, 2019, all versions of the Official Prescription Form for controlled substances issued prior to September 1, 2018 will no longer be valid. So if you have older triplicate forms that you haven’t sold on eBay (just kidding) and do not already use electronic prescriptions, you will need to order new forms from the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (www.pharmacy.texas.gov). Processing time may exceed 45 days.

Another bill delays the mandate for prescribers to check a patient’s Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) history before prescribing opioids, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or carisoprodol until March 1, 2020. It was set to begin on September 1, 2019. Because the Texas Legislature won’t meet again until January of 2021, this is probably the last postponement. So if you haven’t set up your PMP account with the Texas Pharmacy Board, you need to get started. Again, you can go to www.pharmacy.texas.gov.

Well, there’s way more that the TDA accomplished during the last legislative session, too much to list here. But the good news is that our new website for the FWDDS, which brings you this newsletter, also connects directly to our TDA website. There, you can find a link for The Root, which updates our dental legislation efforts. It will have a list summarizing the new legislative changes: from the state budget, to teledentistry, to the prescription monitoring program, to Medicaid, and more. So go there and see what areas affect your practice. And the upcoming October issue of the Texas Dental Journal will have a more complete list of our legislative changes.

In addition, starting at the end of this June, the TDA is beginning a series of podcasts (just ask your kids what a podcast is, I did). The first episode will be devoted to our recent legislative session. Diane Rhodes, LeeAnn Johnson and Jess Calvert from the TDA will be discussing recent actions taken by the Texas Legislature and the Texas State Board of Dental examiners. They will also discuss available TDA resources to help our members stay informed and comply with changes. With all the new changes that have come our way, I definitely plan to listen in. You should be getting a member email soon with more info about the podcast.

So yes, there have been lots of changes that affect our practice. Let us know what we can do at the FWDDS level to make these changes easier. And if you have questions, don’t hesitate to call the TDA or the Pharmacy Board for more detailed information.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.
Navigating the Balance: How Staying Connected Can Be Our Saving Grace

By Dr. Elizabeth Laborde

Last summer I was in my office where I work as an associate. It is a busy pediatric practice and we were in the midst of a bustling afternoon. I sat down to check a hygiene patient, and everything changed. I was almost 34 weeks pregnant and I realized something was wrong. I got up to call my doctor’s office and we decided I needed to go to the hospital. I let my office know I needed to leave through our intraoffice messaging system and left for the hospital. Before I knew it was driving myself to the hospital with my husband on speaker phone. I’ll never forget the heart in my throat feeling as I glanced at nearby Huguley Hospital and made the decision to try to get to Baylor in Fort Worth to my own doctor. We made it after what seemed like an eternity. I tossed my keys to the valet and got inside, where a kind woman took me by the hand and helped me get to where I needed to be. All of a sudden my husband was there, and my doctor, and soon after my daughter was born via stat c-section. We were all fine, so lucky, and I am forever grateful.

That day and that drive from my office forty minutes away was a big catalyst for me to start my own office in Fort Worth, closer to home and where I am involved in my community. I realized there would be other times I needed to get back home in a hurry. I currently have three children under 4 years old and there will be days that they need me unexpectedly. Also, the reality is that I have always wanted to be a practice owner. I am the oldest child and oldest grandchild. I’ve been bossing my cousins and sister around since 1984. There were many an impromptu family dance recital after I corralled both children and adults and made them participate and sit in an audience. I know that the weight of practice ownership is not easy. I am married to a solo practitioner/practice owner and I have no delusions about the effort and endurance it takes to run a business. However, practice ownership for me means not only practicing how I was trained and implementing new innovations as I see fit, but also living my life without asking permission. It means going to Muffins with Mom because I block off the schedule myself, and the ability to drop my children off at school and pick them up some days. It is practicing around the corner from my husband and meeting him for lunch. It is also enjoying the town where I live and treating members of our community. It is a million little things, both nuanced and overt. The biggest and most important to me though, is the connection and closeness to my family and friends.

The intention of this article was to comment on the balance that mothers like me try to achieve while working and raising a family. The reality is I am not so sure about a “balance.” As I mentioned, I have three small children, an extremely busy husband, I work full-time and I am starting a practice from scratch. I am on the board of the FWDDS and I am in a Spear Study Club. Personally and mercifully, I am not all of these things at every moment of the day. Well, aside from being a mother. If my children need me, they take priority. Although this doesn’t mean that I get to stay home every time a child is a little bit sick or is upset to see me leave in the morning. I still have to leave them in the care of trusted and loving individuals who can stand in for me while I go to work. I have spent many after-hours moments in pediatric urgent care or lunch hour at my pediatrician’s office doing the best I can to make sure my children are OK while working in the constructs of being an associate and making a living. I cannot remember the
last time I made dinner, and I am thankful for services like Meyer and Sage and places like Lettuce Cook so that my family can still have healthy meals. I am a regular at the Target Drive-up and the Central Market Curbside service. My mother, Mary, helps me on Tuesday nights so I can attend FWDDS meetings and my study club, and we have an amazing nanny, Kathryn, who helps to take care of us all.

My husband and I try to carve out some time in the evenings to check in. It is so easy to otherwise turn inward and shut the world out when we are so busy, to disconnect. So many times I just want to sit and watch Bravo, eat candy, and drink wine. I just want to shut the world out and be alone. It is extremely difficult and exhausting at times to physically and mentally manage everything that needs to be done on a daily basis. I will say that I feel immensely better when I just utter those words out loud to my husband at night or to a friend when we meet. Just to be heard lightens the load. I never regret taking the time to find those moments for my husband or try to text and connect with friends throughout the day. In the end, it is those moments that can be the encouragement we need, an answer to a question, a solution to a problem, or a laugh that lightens the heart.

Sometimes the last thing we want to do with a full load is add something else, like attending a FWDDS meeting, because it seems like something else we have to “do,” another task that will drain our finite energy. Quite to the contrary though, I have found these meetings to be a great way to connect much in the same way with our friends and colleagues. I have found it a place to meet existing friends and make new ones. When I attend meetings I see other doctors who are busy and successful and further along in their careers, and who have been where I am. Just seeing them is important to me. What is better is that I’ve never been denied a tidbit of advice or encouragement from these clinicians.

My personal experience with the FWDDS has been very nurturing and encouraging when I have needed it most. It is because of the FWDDS that I have had the opportunity to go to the State Capitol and address lawmakers about issues that will directly impact our profession. I do not think I would have had the courage to personally address a US Congressman at the TDA meeting and give him the parameters I need in order for him to have my support and the support of others like me if not for my leadership experience with this organization. The FWDDS has given me a voice to speak for working mothers and other women like me so that it can be a better ally and advocate. The strength of our organization comes from our connection and our membership. I would like to encourage anyone who is doing their best to balance the big and small aspects of work and home to attend a meeting or event and connect to our local organization, to make new friends, and feel heard. Ultimately, the FWDDS can be a kind hand that helps you get where you need to be, and in return, you strengthen the organization with your presence and support. I look forward to seeing you at our next event!
“ORAL CANCER: EVERYTHING THE DENTIST NEEDS TO KNOW”

- Identify the significance of oral cancer, its prevalence and overall survival.
- Describe the evaluation, workup, and treatment modalities for the oral cancer patient.
- Discuss the adjunctive oral cancer detection tools available and the indications and contraindications for their use.

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ 6PM
Tarrant County Medical Society Building

Dr. Fayette Williams

“THE POWER OF A PURPOSED TEAM”

- Learn practical steps to establish trust within a team
- Understand the pitfalls that can harm trust
- Develop a new understanding of accountability

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 @ 6PM
Tarrant County Medical Society Building

Jill Santiago, President of the Tappe Group

“IT’S YOUR DENTAL LICENSE, PROTECT IT”

- Texas Dental Practice Act and Texas State Board of Dental Examiners’ rules and regulations.
- Understanding the law and dental board regulations pertaining to such subjects as standard of care, emergency management, record keeping and allied dental team management.
- Comprehend and implement decision making as it applied to professional conduct.

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 @ 6PM
Tarrant County Medical Society Building

Diane Rhodes, Sr. Policy Manager @ TDA
Starting Fall of 2019, the Dental Hygienists and Office Staff are now Welcome to attend our Monthly Meetings and Continuing Education events for CE credit.

The dentist MUST attend for staff to be included.

Pricing for Monthly Meetings will be $16/per meeting. This includes dinner and the hour-long (1 CE credit) presentation.

Go to www.FWDDS.org to register

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October 18, 2019

PRICES GO UP AUGUST 1, 2019

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Installation of Officers

Mrs. Cathy Lutes, Dr. Russell Owens, Dr. Don Lutes and Mrs. Paula Owens

Dr. Elizabeth Laborde

Dr. John Boyd and Dr. Elizabeth Laborde

Dr. Eric Wear and his wife Amanda

Dr. John Boyd and Dr. Eric Wear
Dr. John Boyd presenting the 100 year old trophy to Dr. Tim Knight

Dr. John Boyd swearing in the new President, Dr. Tim Knight

Dr. Russell Dix, and his wife Karen, Dr. Nathan Flesher and his wife Becca

Mrs. Jean Boyd, wife of Dr. John Boyd and Mrs. Trina Morgan, wife of Dr. Davis Morgan

Gary Patterson, Head Football Coach @ TCU
The 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Dr. Joe Laborde, Dr. Elizabeth Laborde, Dr. Russell Dix, Dr. Eric Wear, Dr. Sarah Morris, Dr. Nathan Flesher, Dr. John Boyd, and Dr. Tim Knight
Mrs. Hollace Weiner, wife of Dr. Bruce Weiner, Dr. Justin Mund and his wife Stacey, and Dr. William Ruynon

Our 2019-2020 Board of Directors
Dr. Caitlin Flosi, Dr. Eric Wear, Dr. Russell Dix, Dr. Sarah Morris, Dr. John Boyd, Dr. Karen Neil, Dr. Elizabeth Laborde, Dr. Greg Scheideman, and Dr. Tim Knight
Distinguished Service Award
and Outstanding Service to the Dental Community

Dr. John Boyd and the honored guests

Dr. John Boyd presenting Dr. Dale Martin with his award

Dr. John Boyd surprising Mrs. Julia Martin with her award

Dr. Dale Martin
Dr. Dale Martin and Mrs. Julia Martin, the 2019 Award Recipients

Dr. Dale Martin thanking the society

Dr. Martin's award

The Martin Family - Dr. Dale Martin and his father Eddie, his wife Julia and their son Robert
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE ANNUAL CLAY SHOOT

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A VISION
The creation of the Dental Clinic at Beautiful Feet Ministries began with a phone call from the Pastor, Mike Myers. He had a vision to open a dental clinic much like what existed at Mission Arlington. A medical clinic had already been in service at Beautiful Feet for many years and dental pain was a common complaint. Mike requested Dr. Tom Howorth convert a 14 ft x 14 ft Sunday School room into a dental clinic. With the help of his wife, Lucia, a host of volunteers and especially with Roy Martinez of Martinez Dentalcraft donating all the used equipment at no cost, the clinic opened in 2002.

THE NEED
Dr. Tom Howorth didn’t always have a passion for helping the homeless. In fact, he “accidently” found that passion on a mission trip to Mexico.

FWDDS: What led to you to become involved with helping the homeless?
Dr. Tom Howorth: “A man from a remote part of Mexico opened my eyes to the need for pain relief for people who have no options for care. While on a mission trip, I was heading to a remote area in Mexico with my dental equipment and supplies in a backpack and a donkey to carry a lounge chair for the patients to sit in while I worked on them. As we were about to leave, we came across a man who had been walking for two days to get to our location because he heard that a dentist was coming. The man was in pain and was willing to do whatever was necessary to find relief. With the instruments packed up, I told the man I would be back in the morning to fly out and I would meet him up on the runway and take care of him. When delays in our hiking out occurred, I decided to unpack what I needed and help this patient. At first, he could not be found until we realized he had hiked up to sit on the runway for the rest of the day and that night awaiting my return. His gratitude and willingness to wait patiently touched my heart. I realized in that moment that God had blessed me with the skills to relieve pain. After I returned home to my practice on Monday morning, another patient galvanized my desire to help those who were less fortunate. That Monday started with a dental emergency and resulted in us running a few minutes late for our first appointed patient, which was unusual for us. After waiting a few minutes he made it known that he was unhappy and decided to leave and reschedule. What a contrast to Mexico where that patient was willing to wait all day and all night for help.

FWDDS: What is your primary mission?
“The newly renovated dental clinic’s primary mission at this time is pain relief. Currently the clinic is open on Friday mornings and performs only removals.”

FWDDS: What is your plan for the clinic and the services it offers to the community?
Dr. Tom Howorth: “Our vision is to have a clinic that is properly staffed with volunteer Dentists to meet the demand of the homeless community. To prevent overworking our volunteer Dentists, a limited number of patients are scheduled each Friday and most weeks we have a greater demand than we can service. The new clinic remodel has 4 complete operatories which will now allow 2 dentists to work together and have 2 chairs each, allowing us to double the number of patients we have been able to see in the past. We also want to expand the services that we currently offer to include partials and dentures. Many of our patients have teeth extracted to relieve the immediate pain but do not have good options to replace those teeth. Our new facility has the capability to add those new services. I’m proud of the fact that this new clinic, with its 4 operatories, is much like what you would see in a private practice. Patients are treated in clean, attractive, safe and up to date facilities. Being a person of faith, at the end of a busy Friday morning I am often reminded of the reference in the book of Matthew that “whatever you did for one of the least of these…. you did for me.” Having the skill and knowledge to help those in pain is a great blessing in my life. We would love to have other Oral Surgery Offices besides FORT WORTH ORAL SURGERY who would be willing to allow us to refer our more difficult cases for treatment on a no fee basis. I’m also hoping our local dentist’s will come help us take care of these people in need and use their skills. They will be blessed. It would be great if they wanted to bring their staff and let them be involved. What a great bonding and team building experience for them.”
The Beautiful Feet Ministries - Dental Clinic

If you are interested in volunteering for the Beautiful Feet Dental Clinic please contact Dr. Tom Howorth at 817-727-3434 or Lucia Howorth at 817-991-4571

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Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Presentation
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Lunch Break

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