

**FLORIDA ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**  
**Winter 2009 Newsletter**

**From your President:**

Deborah and I send to each of you warm regards in this season of happiness. Please include the family of H. Raymond Klein in your prayers. Also, our thoughts are with Ed Nacht in a time he is dealing with his illness. My wife will not be able to call me "Chester" any longer as the "limp" shall soon be gone. I shall have a right hip replacement during the last week of January at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. During those few hours of the surgery, the torch shall pass to our Vice President, Natalie Carr. All I can tell you is not to get old.

As expressed in the report below, our recent CE course was well received by the participants. Thanks to Jim McIlwain, John Bazos, and Ken Rogers, it was a great success. Hopefully, the word will get around and we will have an even larger attendance next year.

There are many changes taking place in the Medicaid program administration in Tallahassee. I have a call in to the office to set up a meeting with them and the leaders of our Academy. The purpose of that meeting is to put a program together, which will create a positive relationship between the agency and the FAPD. I will keep you posted as to our progress.

Mark your calendar for Dentists Day on the Hill in Tallahassee scheduled for April 1, 2009. Representation from our Academy counts. Another project I feel we should undertake is to get a list of members and other pediatric dentist who can help in offices when one is out for medial and/ or other purposes. I have had an education in finding someone to help out while I am out. If anyone has any names, please let me know.

Again, I thank you for the privilege of letting me represent this great organization.

Respectfully submitted  
*Howard Schneider*

**From your Legislative Advocate:**

The elections are over. The legislature has organized and chosen leadership for the next two years. Committee meetings have begun. Few bills have been filed, so at this writing we do not know what, if any, bills may get filed that will have a direct impact on dentistry. What we do know is that just as

Florida's households are dealing with adverse economic times, so is the state.

After last year's session passed a budget for this fiscal year that contained drastic cuts, now mid-way through the fiscal year, recent revenue estimates indicate that the current budget is more than a billion dollars out of balance and the likelihood of a special budget cutting session is likely to take place and that will only deal with this year's budget.

When the regular session opens in March, the revenue estimates are even lower for the next fiscal year and more cuts will be necessary. When the economy experiences a recession like we are currently in, not only is revenue reduced, but the need for state social and other services is greater. This particularly will impact Medicaid, as more people without work will become eligible. Writing the budget will not be an easy process, but we will be there continuing our campaign for higher Medicaid reimbursement.

Meanwhile, our litigation to increase Medicaid fees is continuing and is on track. A number of depositions have been taken and the state is beginning to realize that they much take this matter seriously.

I continue to appreciate being FAPD's advocate in Tallahassee and look forward to working again this next year for improved dental healthcare for all of Florida's children.

Respectfully submitted  
*John Grant*

### **Fall CE Course Debriefing:**

The November continuing education course, entitled "Pearls by Young Guns" was held in Orlando at the Castle Doubletree Hotel. The presentations were made by members and two guest speakers, and were quite varied in content. Dr. Hector Vila spoke on the use of IV anesthesia in the office, and Ms. Christi

Adams spoke on the topic of Compassionate Employee Termination.

Participants had a great deal of interaction with speakers, so everyone benefited from the "Pearls". Originally scheduled for 9AM to 3PM, the session went overtime, lasting until after 5PM. The last two speakers will be held over until next year. Our fall continuing education course has not been held in recent years. The positive and enthusiastic response received insures we will schedule another course next fall. Details will follow in future newsletters and the website.

Respectfully  
*Jim McIlwain*

submitted

### **Future Continuing Dental Education Courses:**

**February 27** - *Practical Applications of Early Orthodontic Treatment and Hot Things I Like about Pediatric Dentistry*, Dr. Jeff Dean, McDonald Professor, Indiana University, Hilton Hotel, Gainesville

6 CEU, sponsored by PedoGators, contact [rprimosch@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:rprimosch@dental.ufl.edu).

**April 2-3 or 4-5** - *Pediatric Conscious Sedation and ACLS Training*, Gainesville, FL, sponsored by FAPD. See enclosed registration form

**Next Annual Business Luncheon Meeting:** FNDC Meeting, Orlando, FL, Friday June 19, 2009