

# FAPD NEWSLETTER

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## 2011-2012 FAPD EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINEES

- **President - Dr. Gary Myers**
- **Vice President - Dr. Nick White**
- **Sec./Treas. - Dr. Julie Russo**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Amazing. Wonderful. Incredible. Fantastic. Outstanding. There are a plethora of words to describe my two years as President of the FAPD, but the one that I feel best describes my time is *honored*. I am incredibly honored that the Academy saw enough in one of their "young" members to recommend him for the Executive Board. It has been a true privilege to represent the FAPD, and I hope that I have not done our members any disservice as their President. My goal during my tenure was simple; make sure the FAPD is in a better position when I am done with my term. My hope was to combine new ideas while bringing back some of the traditional staples of the FAPD so that our organization has something for everyone.

As I wrap up my time, I wanted to thank everyone that has helped me along the way. I appreciate the efforts of the Executive Board and the hard work of our esteemed Executive Director. Their tireless efforts have allowed the FAPD to get back on solid ground and given us a solid foundation for the future. I am also appreciative of the contributions of our members to the success of the FAPD. There are too many to name, but I did want to thank Drs. Nick White and Frank Sierra for their tremendous efforts with the BOD. A special thanks also goes out to the "Past Presidents" that have been a constant source of guidance and wisdom for me. I have learned a lot and sincerely thank all of

you for your contributions.

Now, let's get down to business! So much has been going on over the last year that can change the landscape of dentistry, both on the state and national level. If you have been considering getting involved with organized dentistry, **THE TIME IS NOW!** We need all the manpower we can get as there is power in numbers. There are so many issues on so many different fronts, that we need to make sure we have representation. I encourage you all to get involved so that we can protect our profession. In the newsletter, you will see updates on some of the issues that have involved pediatric dentistry. There have been significant discussions in the BOD regarding anesthesia, delegable duties, specialty licensure and a whole lot more. On a state level, there have also been dramatic changes in how dentists work with Medicaid. Keep reading to see what's been going on.

The FAPD has also gone through some rather dramatic changes as well. As we mentioned before, we have changed our dues structure and dues collection will now be done by the AAPD. As a reminder, your AAPD membership is contingent on membership in your state association. AAPD/FAPD dues statements will be sent out July 1, 2012 and we are hoping that this streamlined dues process will lead to increased membership and a future decrease in dues.



**Reza Ardalan, DMD**  
FAPD President

The Annual FAPD CE Course in Orlando was huge success as members were able to listen to a variety of topics from lasers to aesthetic crowns to sedation protocols. Those that attended were treated to a great day of camaraderie and affordable CE. Each year our Annual CE Course is getting bigger and better, so mark your calendars for this year's event on September 29, 2012!

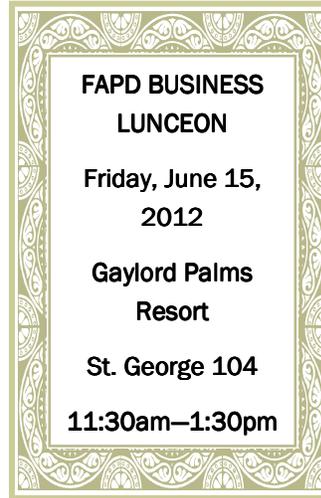
I'd also like to thank everyone that has given us feedback on the improvements to the website at [www.FAPD4Kids.org](http://www.FAPD4Kids.org). Log onto our site and check out the plethora of online CE in conjunction with the CSPD, check out the upcoming meetings, or learn how members can advertise their office website through the FAPD. Also, to receive updates on the FAPD, make sure to "Like" us on facebook.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

As a final reminder, I encourage all of our members to attend the annual FAPD Business Luncheon during the FNDC. Join us for some lively discussion on pediatric dental issues and enjoy a nice lunch while networking with your colleagues. The meeting will take place on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:30 in St. George 104. We would love to see all of you there!

Finally, as I conclude my term I would like to wish Dr. Gary Myers and the upcoming Executive Board

the best of luck during the upcoming years. Gary is a fantastic pediatric dentist who is always on the forefront of our profession, and the nominees to join him on the Board are intelligent, resourceful, hard working dentists. I have no doubt that the FAPD is in great hands and will continue to thrive under their leadership. I for one will continue to help the FAPD in any capacity that I am asked, and I encourage all of my colleagues to do the same. I thank you all for the tremendous opportunity to serve you!



## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE UPDATE

With major changes to Florida's health care policies awaiting implementation from last year's Session and gargantuan pieces of legislation needing to be passed this year – redistricting and personal injury protection reform – a moderate number of health care bills passed in 2012, virtually none of which directly impacted pediatric dentistry.

Florida is yet to implement the sweeping Medicaid reform bill from 2011 and is awaiting word from United States Supreme Court on

whether or not the American Medical Reform Act (Obama's health care bill) is constitutional.

Of greatest interest to pediatric dentistry is the fact that after seven long years, we have finally had the closing arguments in our lengthy federal challenge to Florida's inadequate reimbursement Medicaid fees. We have reason to feel optimistic and the judged has indicated an anticipated ruling by mid to late summer.

We anticipate that with the

federal rulings and elections behind, the 2013 legislative session should give us significant opportunities to advance the availability of dental care for all of Florida's children.

Throughout all of this protracted litigation, we have been visibly involved on behalf of pediatric dentistry and children's medical and dental needs. More than ever, legislators know who we are and what FAPD is all about, and once the federal court rules in favor of Florida's children, the legislature will have the daunting task of adequately funding Medicaid services for children.

Without our support of this litigation, that would not be about to happen. FAPD can be proud of the way it has represented pediatric dental needs and spoken up for Florida's children in the legislative and litigation arenas.

As always, I continue to be honored that I am your voice on capitol hill and I look forward to continuing to represent you in the future.

**FAPD Legislative Advocate**  
**John Grant**  
**Florida State Senator (Ret.)**  
**Attorney at Law**  
[John.Grant@johngrant.net](mailto:John.Grant@johngrant.net)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT DR. GARY MYERS

In looking ahead to the coming year as I am president of the FAPD, I realize I have some pretty big shoes to fill. Reza has done an amazing job for the last two years and I hope to work with the same

dedication and passion for pediatric dentistry in Florida that he has. I would like to ask for you, our members, to consider and provide input on what you would like our focus to be for the coming

year. From legislation and public policy to member benefits and CE, there are many things we can focus on to make our organization stronger and more influential for the kids of the state of

Florida. We welcome your thoughts and ideas. It is important. I can always be reached via email at [drgary@tooth2tooth.com](mailto:drgary@tooth2tooth.com). I look forward to hearing from you and serving as best I can.

## BOD UPDATE ON ANESTHESIA BY DR. NICK WHITE

Several notable events took place in the past twelve months concerning anesthesia.

There was talk of possibly eliminating in office IV anesthesia by outside providers due to the fact that many believed deep sedations were being done in offices that were not qualified or credentialed for this type of anesthesia. Several meetings were held with the FDA governmental affairs committees and Drs. Stone and Primosch were both present for conference calls regarding this issue. Dr. Stone presented overwhelming evidence supporting the safety of this particular type of anesthesia utilizing past studies and more recent ones drawing on research by Dr. Hector Villa. The FDA members each voiced their concerns and deferred back to the BOD for final ruling stating that this is a topic that requires a lot of input from qualified providers and their ultimate goal is to support whatever guidelines are established by national organizations as well as the BOD anesthesia committee. More meetings/conference calls are planned for the future.

A BOD anesthesia conference call took place May 7th. The committee overwhelmingly agreed that in office IV sedation utilizing licensed anesthesiologists for pediatric dentists was in fact a safer route of administration and voted unanimously to continue to allow the practice. However, some concern exists as to whether or not this should be allowed only for pediatric dentists or all practitioners holding a con-

scious sedation permit. Several discussions were held to try and interpret the law as to which way is "right". The current committee members feel that the law was originally written to mean only pediatric dentists, although the law does not specifically say this. They are determining whether or not they can change the current statute to mean that only pediatric dentists will be allowed to offer this type of sedation in the future.

The issue of separating pediatric sedation permits from conscious sedation permits was discussed and did gain some support. Current law states that anyone with a conscious sedation permit is automatically granted a pediatric conscious sedation permit. Several cases were presented where doctors barely met or did not meet current requirements for a conscious sedation permit and had no experience delivering sedation to children, yet under current law, once they finalized their requirements with two more adult cases, they would be legally permitted to sedate children. This is a potentially dangerous situation and hopefully can be clarified. It will be suggested to the BOD to allow current pediatric dentists to change their current conscious sedation permits to a new pediatric permit IF THIS CHANGE OCCURS. It may be some time before this happens. We are hopeful that this may give us the ability to start regulating and have more oversight over our own permit in the future.

The Committee **STRONGLY** feels that current offices utilizing outside anesthesia services be required to

maintain equipment consistent with the deep sedation/general anesthesia requirements as set forth in Florida statutes. What this means is that pediatric dentists will be required to buy and maintain EKG/pulse/ox/capnograph (end tidal CO2) monitors and all necessary emergency meds in their office regardless of whether or not their anesthesia provider brings their own equipment. Dr. Stone and Dr. Primosch and several others have voiced concerns over this. The anesthesia committee knows we disagree with this requirement but has moved forward in taking this to a full vote before the BOD. Anesthesia Board members include Dr. Gesek, Dr. Melzer and Dr. Stevens. All three voted unanimously for this requirement. Unfortunately this looks to be a new requirement for pediatric dentists. The Board is aware of our displeasure; however, the FAPD advisors to the anesthesia committee have no voting power/authority to block this. There is a large concern over cost of this equipment, especially when it will most likely not be used

since anesthesia providers bring their own equipment in for services. Several alternatives were mentioned in FDA meetings including registering anesthesia providers (anesthesiologists) with the state, and requiring pedo offices who utilize this to notify the Board. Another idea was to require the anesthesia providers maintain state certification and inspection of their equipment in accordance with current mobile anesthesia requirements for medicine. However, none of these ideas seem to appease the oral surgeons who are pushing this initiative. The committee also agreed to look at bringing in outside specialists during IV sedation. For example, if a pediatric dentist has a child under sedation, and wanted to bring in an endodontist for RCT, current law does not permit this. A letter of concern was sent to the BOD and received support during the meeting from both board members and advisors. Dr. Gesek is against it, but did agree to research the idea further after several committee members voiced support for the change.

### NEXT BOD MEETING

August 17, 2012

Peabody Orlando

9801 International Drive

Orlando, Florida 32819

(407) 345-4519

**CE/MEETING INFORMATION**

Lots of things will be happening over the next year involving the FAPD, and it all starts with our annual business luncheon on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:30 at the FNDC. Join us as we plan the future of the FAPD and help shape our profession.

Saturday, September 29, 2012 will be this year's Annual CE Course. We are planning another fantastic lineup with an emphasis

on practical uses of lasers in your office. It's going to be a great course, so don't miss out!

Our state will play host to the AAPD Annual Session on May 23-26, 2013 at the wonderful Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort. We plan on working very closely with the AAPD to ensure a spectacular meeting. Continue to check our website: [www.FAPD4Kids.org](http://www.FAPD4Kids.org) for more meeting information.

**DUES CHANGE**

Just a reminder that starting July 1, 2012, annual dues for the FAPD will be paid in conjunction with AAPD dues. When you receive your 2012 AAPD dues statement, the FAPD dues will be assessed on the same invoice. Please note that the AAPD membership cycle runs from July - June, whereas, the FAPD billing cycle has always been January - December. Allowing the AAPD to assist us in dues

collection should allow us to reach more members and increase the organization's budget. As this occurs, we are optimistic that we may be able to reduce the dues amount in the upcoming years. As always, we thank you for your membership and support. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

**FAPD dues will now be collected along with AAPD dues beginning July 1, 2012. AAPD bylaws require that you also maintain membership in your State association.**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

There were several Legislative matters that were passed this session than can have an affect on our profession. SB 1040 was approved allowing dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia. In addition to needing 30 hours of clinical and 30 hours of didactic training, the patient must be non-sedated

and at least 18 years of age.

Many of you are already well aware of the problems with the roll-out of the managed care plans for Medicaid. With the assistance of Sen. Alan Hayes, the Legislature has approved proviso language that will allow dental providers to contract directly with the

state Medicaid office or with the managed care plan (Miami-Dade county is excluded). If approved by the Governor, the legislation will go into affect from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2013. In addition, the state has delayed the roll-out of the managed care program until further notice.



**Save the Date!!**

**2012 FAPD CE Course**

Saturday, September 29, 2012

Orlando, Florida

**2013 AAPD ANNUAL SESSION**

May 23-26, 2013

Orlando, Florida

WDW Swan Dolphin Resort

**Additional Dates to remember:**

March 22, 2013 PedoGator CE Course - Update on Dental Traumatology with Dr. Dennis McTigue, Gainesville, FL

April 4-7, 2013 SSPD Resort Meeting, San Destin, FL

April 18-21, 2013 Sedation/ACLS Recertification CE Course, Gainesville

**We are on the web!!**

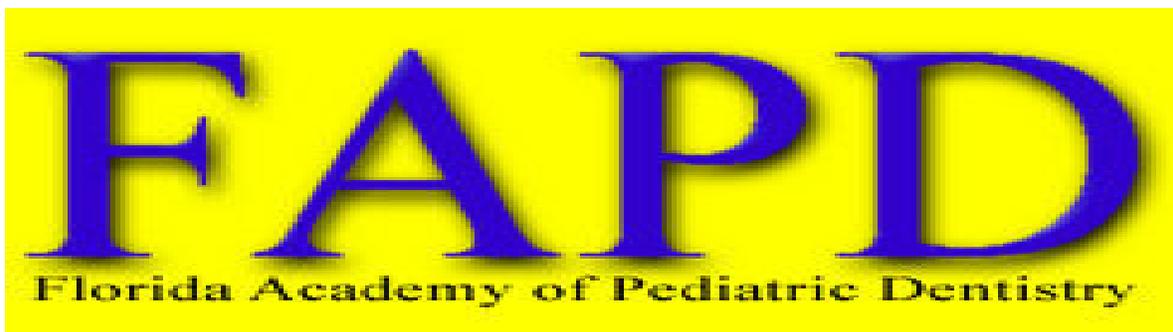
**[www.FAPD4Kids.org](http://www.FAPD4Kids.org)**

**FLORIDA ACADEMY OF  
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

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For any questions or comments, please  
contact FAPD President Dr. Reza Ardalan  
[RezaHeel@aol.com](mailto:RezaHeel@aol.com)

*The mission of the FAPD is to practice the art and science of Pediatric Dentistry and promote optimal health care for infants, children, and persons with special health care needs. The FAPD advocates professional development and continued education of the health professions and remains a liaison to other health caregivers and the public.*



**FAPD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

As the new Executive Board takes over this summer, they will be looking for interested individuals to join various committees. We highly encourage members to get involved and volunteer for a committee assignment. Whether you have years of experience or just finished your residency, there is a place for you with the FAPD!

**Like the newsletter?**

As always, your FAPD Executive Board is always open to new suggestions. Please feel free to contact us with any ideas.

Interested in getting involved? The FAPD is always looking for hard-working individuals to help out. Contact us for more information.