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UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day
Alumni Weekend 2014 Preview
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ON THE COVER:
Photos taken during UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day on October 9, 2013.
Greetings!
It is my hope that this note finds you well and enjoying a delightful fall season. As the days cool down and we anticipate the holidays to come, I expect that we all have much for which to be thankful. We are fortunate to have the freedom to practice our chosen profession with much less government and insurance intrusion than our medical colleagues. We were all blessed to have received a great education; with many opportunities for continuing education, both at the dental school and at our annual alumni meeting. And, we can be proud that our school continues to rank among the top in the nation, in no small part because of the dedication and generosity of our alumni.

It is with great pleasure that your alumni association has participated in several events honoring our students--the future of our profession. We helped sponsor the Senior Dinner, Honors Convocation and Graduation in the spring, and the White Coat Ceremony for entering freshmen in August. In addition, we sponsor an alumni luncheon each June in conjunction with the ALDA meeting in Perdido Key.

Access to care seems to be the hot topic these days as our country struggles with implementation and funding of the new insurance mandates. I am very excited that our school is being proactive in addressing access, and has just hosted the first UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day, which was a day of free dentistry for the underserved in the Birmingham area. Our school partnered with the nursing school, the Birmingham District Dental Society, and the Alabama Dental Association to provide care for more than 350 people. Five hundred plus volunteers spent their day in service! Such a positive event can only serve to remind the public that dentistry is very much a caring and noble profession. Thanks to everyone involved in this endeavor!

Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving. I look forward to seeing you at our next alumni meeting to be held in February at the new, improved Wynfrey Hotel!

Sincerely,

Carol B. Merkle, D.M.D
Mark your calendars now for 2014 Alumni Weekend! Alumni Weekend will be held February 6 - 9 at the newly renovated Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel. This will be a great opportunity to connect with former classmates, attend the President’s Reception and take part in continuing education courses. Class reunions will be held for graduation years ending in 4’s and 9’s and current dental students are busy planning their talent show. A few of the notable continuing education speakers scheduled for the weekend include Drs. Marty Nager, Ronni Schnell, Pamela Sims and Todd Snyder. 2014 Alumni Weekend is co-sponsored by the Hinman Dental Society. Make your hotel reservations now! To make reservations at the Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel, please call 1.800.233.1234 and ask for the School of Dentistry Alumni Rate of $146 per night, group discount code G-SDAA or go online hyattregencywynfrey.com. Registration materials will be mailed soon and online registration links will be open mid-November.
DEAN’S MESSAGE

This year we’ve turned our attention to two areas that are near and dear to our alumni - the student experience and the patient experience. Identified by our strategic planning committee as fundamental areas of importance, they seem at first glance to be areas of strength for the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. After all, we have terrific students and a wealth of patients. Of course, the goal of the strategic planning effort is to go from good to great, and no school can be considered great until the student and patient experiences have reached a level of strength that is comparable to its strengths in research, service and academic performance.

The conversation about innovation in education is often a lively debate about teaching methodologies, global learning, student readiness, class size, course load, and state funding. Most conversations about excellence and innovation in education reflect the perspective and agenda of the institution providing the educational services, rather than the voice and needs of the students it serves. While institutional leaders believe they have the students’ best interests at heart, we frequently miss the mark and give the students what we think they want and need. Our goal at the SOD is simply to give the students a voice in how to improve their experience through formal surveys, town-hall-style meetings, and open-ended questions on how to make it better. In response, they have provided a wealth of insight. A deep understanding of the student experience enables us to identify specific elements of the experience where investment in innovation is likely to yield the greatest return. The student dentists do not directly benefit from engaging in the process, but instead make the experience better for the classes that follow them. This is the basis for great alumni - making things better for the next generation.

The patient experience is a fundamental aspect of health care, and if it is not great we shortchange the patients and the students alike. As dentists, we undergo extensive education and training to provide the best care possible to our patients. Yet taking care of patient satisfaction has not been an emphasis in university-based oral health care. Shouldn’t student docs learn this while in school rather than after they leave?

Data has shown that as the patients’ reported satisfaction with their experience increases there is a directly related improvement in clinical outcomes. A study that investigated HIV patients’ adherence to Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART) showed that patients who report having a high quality relationship with their providers were significantly more likely to adhere to HAART, and as a result, the HIV RNA levels were undetectable in their blood tests. Patients who have a more favorable dental experience will likely also be more engaged and adherent to the plan of care and have better care outcomes. And a better outcome of care for each patient is what we’re all about.

Our strategic planning initiatives are directed at bringing to life a vision where innovation and teamwork lead to excellence in our student and patient experiences. Treating patients and educating the next generation of clinical scholars are two key components of leading oral health care. And it’s a privilege to do both.

Best Wishes,

Michael S. Reddy, D.M.D., D.M.Sc
Dr. Peter Waite, Chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, received the Gies Educational Award in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. He was honored at the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Orlando, FL on October 9, 2013. In addition, he was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons in Washington, D.C. on October 6, 2013. These honors are a reflection of his great work and dedication to his patients, his students, and our school.

The University of Alabama Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Dr. Warren W. Arrasmith to the Dr. Thomas W. Jones Endowed Professorship in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery during its meeting on September 13, 2013. This is one of the few endowed professorships within the School of Dentistry and one of only two faculty endowments within the Department of OMS, the other being the Dr. Charles A. McCallum Chair. Dr. Arrasmith is similar to Dr. Jones in that both were in private practice and adjunctive teaching for more than twenty five years. This is a great honor for Dr. Arrasmith, the School of Dentistry, and the Department of OMS.
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

ASDA Community Outreach Project 2013

In 2013, UAB American Student Dental Association (ASDA) was awarded the "Taking Oral Hygiene Awareness to Rural & Underserved America" Chapter Event Grant from our national ASDA counterparts in Chicago, IL. This grant provided the chapter with resources to organize a community outreach project this year.

The UAB ASDA Community Outreach project for 2013 took place on August 17. The goal of this project was aimed at educating underprivileged children on oral hygiene. The project was a part of the Avondale Church of Christ’s “Back-2-School” Health Fair, which sought to reach children in the Birmingham Community who do not have access to health care.

ASDA’s goal was to instruct the participants on how to properly brush, floss, and maintain good oral hygiene. The students were able to achieve this through various “hands-on” activities and visuals that kept the kids engaged. The ASDA chapter grant resources were used for supplies and to provide “goodie bags” to the participants that included a toothbrush, paste, floss, instructional sheets, and pamphlets for the parents.
HOMECOMING WEEK 2013

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

School of Dentistry students enjoyed participating in several of UAB’s Homecoming activities throughout the week of October 27- November 2. The week started with a pumpkin carving competition sponsored by the School of Dentistry SGA and Oral Arts Dental Laboratories. On Tuesday, October 29, students, faculty, and staff gathered outside to cheer for the Homecoming Building Competition judges. The centerpiece of the School of Dentistry’s decorations was a banner created by the first year students representing UAB’s Homecoming theme “Unleash the Dragon.” A team of second year students participated in the annual Gurney Derby Competition on Wednesday, October 30. In keeping up with the School of Dentistry’s tradition, the team performed very well, coming in 2nd place barely missing the 1st place prize by .25 seconds. On Thursday, October 31, students enjoyed a pizza lunch celebrating Homecoming Week. The week’s festivities culminated with the third year and fourth year class presidents riding in the Homecoming Parade on Friday, November 1.
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Dr. Stephen Greene**, postdoctoral trainee in the Institute of Oral Health Research, has been awarded the Dr. Clifton O. Dummett and Lois Doyle Dummett Award by the Scholarship Committee of the National Dental Association Foundation. Colgate and the National Dental Association Foundation support the award, which is for $10,000. The grant is awarded each year to a student in the area of dentistry. Dr. Greene will continue his postdoctoral work with the Institute of Oral Health Research. Congratulations Dr. Greene!

**Dr. Jennifer Bain** has won the prestigious Orban Award in Basic Science from the American Academy of Periodontology. Dr. Bain is a PhD candidate in the Pathobiology and Molecular Medicine Theme through Graduate Biomedical Sciences Program. She completed her advanced training in Periodontology in 2012.

Dr. Bain’s abstract was on “Enhancement of the Regenerative Potential of Commercially Available Bone Graft Using a Novel Technology to Anchor Bioactive Factors”. She conducted this research with her mentors Susan Bellis, PhD, professor in the Department of Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology, and Michael Reddy, DMD, DMSc, professor and dean of the School of Dentistry.

The American Academy of Periodontology received more than 100 written research abstracts for the competition nationwide. Eight were selected as finalists (four in basic science and four in clinical science) for the award. Finalists made oral presentations of their abstracts at the Academy’s annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA this September.

Dr. Bain plans to enter full-time academics in periodontology.

Congratulations Dr. Bain!

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The 2013 White Coat Ceremony was held on Thursday, August 1, at the Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center. The entering freshman class, consisting of 62 students, received their white coats.

Guest speakers included Dr. Carol Merkle, President of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association, and Dr. Bruce Ashendorf, representing the Hinman Dental Society Board of Trustees.

The White Coat Ceremony has been partially sponsored since the ceremony’s inception in 1999 by the Alabama Dental Alumni Association. The purpose of the ceremony is to welcome the incoming class to the profession by presenting them with their white coats and a School of Dentistry lapel pin and to address the importance of ethics, leadership, and professionalism in the field of dentistry.
DENTSPLY TULSA ENDODONTICS CLINIC GRAND OPENING

On October 11, 2013 UAB School of Dentistry faculty, donors and endodontic residents joined Dr. Paul Eleazer, Chair of the Department of Endodontics, and Dr. Joel Hearn, Chairman of the Excellence for Endodontics Campaign, to celebrate the grand opening of the DENTSPLY Tulsa Endodontics Clinic. The ceremony included a ribbon cutting and tours of the new facility.

The DENTSPLY Tulsa Endodontic Clinic at UAB was made possible by an initial $400,000 gift from DENTSPLY Tulsa Dental Specialties. An additional $600,000 was donated by School of Dentistry alumni.

“DENTSPLY’s gift gave us the momentum toward a new clinic, and through the kindness, generosity and vision of all of our alumni, we were able to raise the rest of the money needed to give us a modern clinic equipped with all of the latest technology,” said Dr. Eleazer.

“We pride ourselves on innovation — it’s one of our key values,” Dr. Michael Reddy, School of Dentistry Dean, said. “The clinic has every high-tech, high-touch offering that anyone could expect to find worldwide right now.”

The renovation includes larger resident rooms, six state-of-the-art treatment suites for D.M.D. students, and x-ray capability in the treatment areas. Major improvements have been made to the sterilization, inventory storage and auditing areas. Donor naming opportunities are still available. For more information please contact J. Scott Huffman, Executive Director of Development at (205) 934-3601 or shuffman@uab.edu
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

UAB DENTISTRY CARES COMMUNITY DAY CHARITY EVENT TREATS MORE THAN 350

More than 500 volunteers from the UAB School of Dentistry, the UAB School of Nursing, Cahaba Valley Health Care, and other local dentists, health agencies and companies cared for more than 350 people on October 9th as part of the first UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day.

The charitable event saw UAB’s volunteer team treat basic dental needs for low-income and underserved people in the Birmingham-area community at no cost. Treatments included cleanings, restorations and extractions.

“The bottom line is that this is a need for a large part of our population in this area, and we want to help make a positive impact and contribution to our community,” said Michael Reddy, DMD, D.M.Sc., dean of UAB’s School of Dentistry, one of the first schools of dentistry in the country to offers these kinds of services to underserved members of the community in a daylong, charitable event.

“Oral health care goes beyond a smile, and research shows that the infection and inflammation that can occur in the mouth affect our overall health,” Reddy said. “We’re privileged to do what we can today to help those in the community in need.”

On-site wellness activities, including blood pressure checks and oral cancer screenings, were made available to patients. School of Nursing students provided additional health care education to patients, reviewed medical histories and more. Each patient also received extensive entry and exit oral health care counseling.

“Our school has a saying that ‘to whom much is given much is required,’” said Conan Davis, DMD, chair of UAB Dentistry Cares and director of community collaborations. “We’ve been given skills, abilities and resources, and we want to give back to our community. We believe it is part of our duty.”

More than 250 people were expected for the daylong event, which began at 8 a.m. But more than 110 people had registered for care by 9 a.m., and the 250-person goal was surpassed by noon.

The School of Dentistry worked with Cahaba Valley Health Care, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing access to quality healthcare for the underserved, and One Roof, a networking and referral agency of service providers for homeless, to coordinate the event. Most of the patients came from homeless shelters in the Jefferson and Shelby County areas, but walk-ups also were accepted.

Other groups partnering with UAB included local dentists, Henry Schein Dental Supply, Oral Arts Dental Laboratories, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, the Alabama Dental Association, the Birmingham District Dental Society, Christ Health Center, Johnson and Johnson, Brasseler USA, and 3M ESPE Dental Products.

Dr. James Sanderson (Class of ’84) treats a patient at UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day.
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

UAB DENTISTRY HELPS ONE COUNTY FILL A PRESSING NEED FOR DENTAL CARE

UAB School of Dentistry alumnus and adjunct professor Dr. Timothy Smith (’12) practices and helps train UAB dental students in the Pine Apple Health Center. Since October 2012, Smith has had some additional help in Pine Apple from students at the School of Dentistry. The clinic is located in Wilcox County, AL, the nation’s poorest county.

The work is “eye-opening,” Smith says. “What do you do when you need to have all your teeth taken out and you don’t have insurance and you don’t have a job?” he says. The needs in Pine Apple are evident. “We’re meeting people at the end of the road for their teeth,” Smith says. Even though his prices are far below normal—he charges $25 for an extraction—many of his patients still can’t afford to get everything done. “I had a patient say, ‘I only have enough for one tooth—can I pay for the rest in pecans?’” Smith recalls. “I said, of course you can. Any time!” Gaining an understanding of these real-life dilemmas is vital training for UAB dental students, Smith adds. “I’m hoping they will think, ‘What can I do to make a difference?’”

UAB DENTISTRY OPENS A NEW DENTAL CLINIC TO CARE FOR UNDERSERVED CHILDREN

The UAB School of Dentistry has opened a new pediatric clinic to better serve patients with Medicaid and Alabama’s All Kids health insurance program and expand its annual Give Kids a Smile event to a year-round offering.

UAB Pediatric Dentistry at Cahaba Valley offers a variety of services, including cleanings, fillings, crowns and other restorative services. The clinic, located south of Birmingham off Valleydale Road in North Shelby County, is open Tuesdays and can accommodate 20 to 30 patients each day.

“We provide the highest quality children’s dental care, but many people can’t access us downtown,” said UAB pediatric dentist and clinic Director Stephen C. Mitchell, D.M.D. “We wanted to make the quality of UAB Dentistry accessible.”

The clinic staff includes UAB dental professionals, graduate dentists receiving specialty training and students in their third and fourth year of dental education.
In operating Alabama’s only retirement community-based dental clinic, the UAB School of Dentistry serves a growing population of people for whom getting dental care poses serious challenges. Dr. Lillian Mitchell and the dental students that work in the Fair Haven Retirement Community clinic in Birmingham provide services residents would otherwise have to leave the facility to receive, but leaving can be an impossible task for many of the clinic’s patients. The full-service clinic, which exists through a collaborative effort supported by Fair Haven Retirement Community, UAB School of Dentistry, a grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and Henry Schein Dental, provides radiographs, extractions, fillings, dentures, partial dentures and crowns. The clinic also repairs existing prostheses and is able to manage and maintain implants. Patients are not the only ones who benefit from the clinic. “Our students need to know how to take care of the older adult; one in four of their patients will be over the age of 65 in the next 20 to 30 years,” Mitchell said. “This clinic provides access to care for the complex older adult and serves as a wonderful oral health care learning environment for many health professions trainees, especially the dental students whose careers will be impacted by this cohort of patients.” “This population of older adults and their dental issues will stretch the skills of even the most seasoned practitioner,” Mitchell said. “Especially for patients with dementias or other issues, the students learn to think out of the box to get the job done every day they are in the clinic, and they go the extra mile in talking to them and helping make them comfortable while they are with us.”
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WE’VE GOT SPIRIT. YES WE DO!

I don’t remember the date, but it was sometime in the summer of 2011. Dr. Michael Reddy had just assumed the Dean’s position. He met with the entire school to give his assurances the UAB School of Dentistry would be back on top…and soon. Two years later and the results are amazing.

The positive announcements on grants and awards, the national rankings, and the accomplishments have been continuous. We have a sense of purpose, a mission, a vision, and a leader. The transformation to become the world’s greatest dental school will take several years to be sure, but the foundation and processes that have been forged will ensure the transformation will be completed.

Dr. Reddy leads by example. He has high standards for himself and all of us…from educational and clinical excellence, to self accountability to patient-centered care. Our attitude is that anything is possible if we rely on teamwork and work unselfishly toward our most important goals.

We are making a difference on so many levels. Case in point, the inaugural UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day, was a huge undertaking and success. Our School of Dentistry made oral healthcare more than relevant in the Birmingham area. It made a difference, serving more than 350 needy patients with free dental care. At the same time, it showed how our school could pull together more than 500 faculty, staff, and volunteers to demonstrate why UAB Dentistry is the leader in oral healthcare. That’s one major event. With such a successful outcome, we believe in the process. We believe in the strategic planning. We believe in doing what’s right for the “greater good”. We have hit our critical mass, and in business terms, when you reach your critical mass of everyone buying in, anything can be accomplished!

I would especially like to thank our practicing alumni who have become more involved. As one veteran leader in organized dentistry commented to me, “Our success depends on the School of Dentistry. Without the school, we have nothing. The school will not only play a prominent role in oral healthcare, but also in important policy decisions, in the future of UAB, and this state.” I implore our alumni to continue their involvement. Help us continue our transformation…through your generous contributions, or your clinical skills as an adjunct faculty member, or your position in organized dentistry. Remember your roots and remember just how special your school can be through your leadership and involvement.

Finally, recent tradition calls for me to predict the score of the annual Alabama vs. Auburn football game. The Tigers have found new life (and a defense) while the Tide follows its own ultra-successful process. This will be a hard fought game well into the fourth quarter. In the end, the final score will be:

Alabama 27       Auburn 19

Let me know your thoughts on this column and my prediction at shuffman@uab.edu!

Warmest Regards,

J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Exec. Dir. of Development and Alumni Relations
A MATCH MADE IN PERPETUITY

You’ve probably heard the expression “a match made in heaven”. Well, here’s a new twist that is almost as thought provoking and a little closer to home… “a match made in perpetuity”. Three years ago, the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association began allocating dollars to build an endowment to benefit the school. The first $25,000 investment formally established an endowed support fund. With an endowment, only a portion of the fund’s earnings can be spent, allowing the fund’s principal to grow. The fund can also grow through additional contributions or reinvested earnings. The Dean of the School of Dentistry determines how the fund is spent and where the impact may be greatest from year to year.

The Alumni Association has now set its sights on something bigger… an endowed professorship. The fund has grown to more than $125,000 with proceeds from the Alumni Weekend raffle, additional Association contributions, and individual gifts. This year, the Executive Council voted to match up to $50,000 in contributions. Dr. Reddy and the Executive Council have agreed not to spend any of the funds, which will help it reach the lofty endowed professorship status of $500,000 even faster. Once the endowment reaches the $500,000 level, the earnings will be used to help support or supplement a faculty member’s salary.

Dr. Stanley Beard (’89) of Jackson, AL saw the match as the perfect opportunity to honor his father, Dr. Bobby Beard (’64). The elder Beard set up his practice in the small southwest Alabama town of Jackson after graduating from dental school. Stanley moved back to Jackson in 1989 to practice with his father. “The opportunity to practice with my dad afforded me many advantages,” said Stanley. “Entering an established practice with a large patient base, operating systems in place, and having only to slightly retool a couple of operatories provided a huge financial relief. Being able to confirm a diagnosis with someone having thirty plus years of dental experience was invaluable – he increased my confidence just by his presence.”

Even though they worked in the same office, Bobby encouraged Stanley to pursue different directions in the practice of dentistry, allowing them to provide the highest level of patient care.

Bobby Beard’s name is synonymous with Alabama dentistry. Before retiring, he was active in the School of Dentistry Alumni Association, ALDA, ADA, and the Board of Dental Examiners. He juggled his professional responsibilities in order to have a greater personal involvement in his children’s lives. He was a leader in local schools, civic clubs, and the First Baptist Church. “He lived dentistry until the day he actively retired because he loved dentistry,” said Stanley. Bobby still stops by the office on Tuesday’s to restore people with denture needs, and of course, visit with his son.

“I can’t think of a higher honor for a man who has dedicated his life to dentistry than to make this gift in his honor,” said Stanley. The opportunity to link the gift with the School of Dentistry Alumni Association and essentially double its rewards because of the funding match will benefit future generations. “My father did so many wonderful things for me through the years, which greatly blessed my life. Consequently, I hope this gift will benefit many students and uphold the legacy of a man I love – Dr. Bobby R. Beard – my father.”

Would you like to honor or memorialize someone while simultaneously doubling the size of your gift to the UAB School of Dentistry? The UASOD Alumni Association will match your contribution to the Alumni Assoc. Endowment. Please contact J. Scott Huffman, CFRE, at (205) 934-3601 or shuffman@uab.edu for more details, OR, make your check to the UASOD Alumni Assoc. Endowment Fund and mail c/o: J. Scott Huffman, SDB 214, 1720, 2nd Ave. S., Birmingham, AL 35294-0007.
Since 1948, the University of Alabama School of Dentistry has been recognized for excellence and innovation. To celebrate the 65th year, we are recognizing all donors who gift or pledge $5000 to any School of Dentistry fund. Your gift may be made in honor or memory of someone who influenced you. Our goal is to have 65 alumni or friends participate at this level in our 65th Year of Excellence.

Dean Joseph Volker
Dr. John D. Barnes, Mr. Matt Winstead of Oral Arts Dental Laboratories, and Dr. Gordon Isbell III at the Alabama Dental Association meeting in Orange Beach, AL in June.

Dr. Reddy talking with Dr. Kim Carr at the Alabama Dental Society Meeting in San Destin, FL in June.

Dr. Reddy and Scott Huffman with Dr. and Mrs. Bill King at the Alabama Academy of General Dentistry Meeting in San Destin, FL in August.

A young alumni event was held at Regions Field in August. More than fifty alumni, residents, student class officers and friends watched the Birmingham Barons win their game against the Tennessee Smokies.
BARRY LEE BOOTH, D.M.D. - PATRIOT

If you ever have the pleasure of visiting the Spanish Fort dental office of Dr. Barry Lee Booth (UAB School of Dentistry ‘66), you will realize immediately that this is no ordinary place. You will be struck by the plethora of photos lining the walls of the reception area and the operatories; photos of Dr. Booth’s early years as a dentist in Vietnam, trips he and his long time co-workers have taken to third world countries to deliver much needed dental care, office trips to New Orleans, Pass Christian and Bayou Le Baitre after Hurricane Katrina, fun trips to New York and Washington; but the photos that garner the most attention are those of the hundreds of veterans and active duty military. The walls convey a level of patriotism second to none.

Besides the old-timey country music playing in the background, the smiling faces of his staff and the uncanny way Dr. Booth has of making even the most nervous patient feel at ease, the ceaseless tribute to our nation’s heroes is ever present. Dr. Booth’s time in Vietnam is well represented with photos of villages and local children and many Vietnam veterans, some who are patients.

In addition to Vietnam veterans, there is another group of heroes Dr. Booth has worked tirelessly to recognize. Dr. Booth is the Veteran/Guardian director of Honor Flight South Alabama, a group whose mission since 2009 has been to fly WWII veterans to Washington, D.C. to see the memorial placed in their honor, to visit other veterans’ memorials and to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Since 2009, more than 950 WWII veterans have flown with Honor Flight South Alabama. In the Spring and Fall for a total of nine flights, Dr. Booth and the honor flight team, along with hundreds of volunteers, guardians and financial contributors have seen to it that every flight was a rousing success and that each veteran returned home to a well deserved “ticker tape parade” at the Mobile airport, and a day all would remember for the rest of their lives.

This summer the Mobile County Commission and the City of Mobile honored Dr. Booth and Honor Flight South Alabama. The Commission resolution written to recognize Dr. Booth read: “He has earned respect for...his willingness to help others and adhering to the highest standards of ethical conduct.”

But Booth wasn’t about to take all the credit himself. Wearing an American flag dress shirt, he addressed the ceremony attendees for almost ten minutes, singling out Veterans and Honor Flight South Alabama team members, and sharing anecdotes from years of honoring the Greatest Generation.

“Everybody came together from the same spot, our hearts, and we carried it to the same destination,” Booth said, “There is no way it wouldn’t have been successful.” The Honor Flight program is not an individual effort, Booth said, but “a communal project made up of talented individuals.” Individuals who know the sacrifice of those who wear and who have worn the “cloth of our nation” and who like Dr. Barry Lee Booth, are patriotic to the core.
Dr. Joel P. Hearn received the H. Moren Fuller Award from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association during the Annual Alabama Dental Alumni Luncheon on June 14, 2013.

On winning the award, Dr. Hearn said "The most satisfying part comes from interacting with the people, whether they’re patients, dental colleagues or our students. The School of Dentistry is very near and dear to me. It really is a labor of love."

The Fuller Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Alumni Association in recognition of outstanding contributions to the dental profession. The award is given occasionally when an individual’s contributions and outstanding achievements to the dental profession are judged by the Executive Council of the Alumni Association to be especially significant and deserving of this honor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Staci Gaffos was elected President of the American Academy of History of Dentistry during the Academy’s meeting in Vienna, Austria. If you have any interest in dental history, please contact Dr. Gaffos at 803.788.0360. He was recently inducted into the American College of Dentistry. He also serves on the Board of Visitors at the Medical University of South Carolina.

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Class of 1953
Belton Shaw "Steve" Stephens passed away at the age of 89 on December 12, 2012 at home in Anchorage, AK surrounded by the love and care of his family. By all accounts, Steve would agree that he had a wonderful and abundantly full life. He served in the Navy and the Marines as a Corsair pilot from 1942-1946. He served in the Air Force as a Dentist and an Oral Surgeon from 1946-1969. Retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel from the Air Force, he built a private dental practice, specializing in Oral Surgery in Anchorage from 1969 until he retired in 1990.

Class of 1955
Dr. Joel Walker Goldsby, III, died on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at the age of 85. He served as a Pharmacist Mate in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He graduated from Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science and then received his Master of Science in 1951 and Doctor of Dental Medicine in 1955 from the University of Alabama. After 5 years in dental practice in Mobile he returned to the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in Birmingham to accept a faculty position and graduate training in oral pathology. In 1968 he left his Associate Professorship to assume a public health position with the State of Alabama. He was appointed Director of Dental Public Health of Mobile County in which he served for 14 years. He was commissioned in the Army Dental Corps Reserves and served for 24 years retiring with the rank of Colonel.

Class of 1957
Dr. Roy Rachford Kracke, age 87, passed away on October 12, 2013. He served in the United States Army during WWII and graduated from the University of Alabama in June of 1952, afterward, he worked at Durr Surgical Supply in Montgomery. Dr. Kracke was the first dentist in Alabama to receive Certification from the American Board of Pedodontics to practice children’s dentistry. He played a vital role in bringing Fluoridation to Alabama.

Class of 1960
Dr. Edward Nelson Reed, age 78, of Gardendale passed away August 8, 2013. Dr. Reed was a graduate of Howard College (now Samford University) and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. He served as an officer in the U. S. Navy in San Francisco, CA. He was a long time member of Westwood Baptist Church, where he taught Sunday School for many years. In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials to Westwood Baptist Church, Forestdale, AL 205.798.3341.
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IN MEMORIUM

Class of 1962
Dr. Dudley F. Reed, 80, died Wednesday, September 4, 2013, at his residence in Birmingham, AL. Following graduation from Bessemer High School in 1950, he attended the Chicago Academy of Art. He later served in the U.S. Army from 1953-55, where he provided chemical training for troops at Fort Sill, OK. After his military service, he attended both the University of Alabama and Birmingham Southern, where he completed undergraduate studies sufficient to be accepted into dental school. He practiced dentistry in Homestead, Fla., from 1960-1967 and Birmingham from 1967-1970. Dr. Reed started his dental practice in Roanoke in October 1970 and settled in Woodland in 1973. He practiced dentistry in Roanoke for more than 35 years and continued to live in Woodland until June 2010 before he moved back to Birmingham.

Class of 1965
Col. Benson W. Peak, Retired DMD, age 75, of Northport, AL, died August 14, 2013, at Forest Manor Rehabilitation Center. Services were held 11 a.m. Saturday, August 17, 2013, at Memory Chapel Funeral Home. "Bud" was born on June 18, 1938 in Wetumpka, AL. He went to S.W. Mississippi Junior College for two years and then on to the University of Alabama for two years earning a degree in chemistry. He then attended UAB for four years at the school of dentistry specializing in crown and bridge. He later enlisted in the Army where he excelled and retired as a Colonel after 27 years of service. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, one of the nation’s highest peacetime military decorations.

Class of 1968
Dr. Everett M. Snow, 72, passed away on September 2, 2013. He graduated from Murphy High School, The University of Alabama and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. Everett began his dental practice in Greenville, AL in 1971. He was very active in his church and community. Everett served as president of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Greenville chapter of the Red Cross, the Greenville Country Club and the Greenville Rotary Club where he was named a Paul Harris Fellow. He loved his alma mater and served as President of the Butler County Alumni Association, on the University of Alabama National Alumni Association board of directors, and served on the University of Alabama’s President’s Cabinet. He was a faithful member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church for many years where he served on the vestry and as a lay reader since 1973.

University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association 2014 Dues Statement

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Questions about dues should be directed to Charlene Phillips at 205.975.1207 or charlene@uab.edu.
WHAT’S NEW

DentAlumni readers want to know what’s new in your life! If you have recently received a professional or civic award or honor, been involved in a community service project, taken on a professional or civic office, please let us know! Or if you have moved, started a new practice, been married, or had a child, your colleagues want to know. Use this form and mail us your news to: Alabama Dental Alumni Association, SDB 212, 1720 Second Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35294-0007 or fax to 205.934.9740 You can also email your news to charlene@uab.edu.

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