

# The Pinnacle

Volume IX, Issue I  
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Spring/Summer 2005

## College of Diplomates of

The American Board of Endodontics  
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*The Pinnacle* is published in  
the Spring and Fall.

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## Happy Birthday College of Diplomates by Eddy Skidmore

The College will celebrate its tenth anniversary in the place where it all began - the Wyndham Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Texas. During the 1996 Annual Session of the AAE, a small group of interested Diplomates (Stu Fountain, Lamar Hicks, Lou (Luigi) Rossman, Tom Mork, Ed Strittmatter, Eric Rivera, Martha Proctor, Leif Bakland, A.C. "Ace" Goerig and others) established the initial charter of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics. The founders had a vision to create an organization whose mission would promote Diplomate status among the qualified endodontists and mentor candidates during the "Board Walk".

How are we doing after ten years? Our COD Secretary, Chuck Cunningham, recently wrote: "The following is a synopsis of the wide involvement of the College: encourage qualified endodontists to seek Board certification, provide mentors to candidates in the certification process when requested, provide printed material as study guides for candidates, provide a mentor's guide for mentors, sponsor ABE speakers at the Endodontic Review Courses (Loma Linda, Michigan, Einstein), provide a bi-annual summer continuing

education conference for members, maintain a website ([www.collegeofdiplomates.org](http://www.collegeofdiplomates.org)) for members and candidates with current information regarding the ABE and the certification process, publish a semi-annual newsletter *The Pinnacle* provide a complimentary one-year membership in the College to new Diplomates, sponsor the Louis I. Grossman Luncheon at AAE annual sessions to honor new Diplomates of the previous year and select a nationally known speaker for the luncheon, and award complimentary invitations to the Grossman luncheon for recent Diplomates (the honorees) of the preceding year, the AAE Executive Committee of the ABE Directors. " WOW!!! We have really come a long way in ten short years!

We have now over 600 Diplomate members. Each member, whether serving as a formal mentor or not, enables the college to achieve its mission with financial and professional support. The College has matured into an effective, professional and fiscally responsible group of caring Diplomates. The impact of 600 plus Diplomates on our profession is a positive one and I would like to encourage all members of the College to introduce themselves to other endodontists, especially the

recent graduates and current residents and tell them what we are about.

Stu Fountain is a great choice for speaker at the Louis I. Grossman Luncheon for 2005. Stu was heavily involved in the birth of the College and parented us through the early years. He served as our first president. His keynote address will describe the evolution of the College. Stu is rightfully proud of the achievement and maturation of the College and we are equally proud that he is one of the true icons of Endodontics. He is a wonderful and appropriate choice for our anniversary speaker.

A reminder: the ticket for the Grossman luncheon is not included in the general registration package and is purchased under the Additional Tickets section of your Registration Form. Please plan ahead to be a part of the 10th anniversary celebration of the COD as we honor our new Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics.

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### Officers 2004-2005

Dr. A. Eddy Skidmore	President
Dr. Fred Goodman	President-Elect
Dr. Charles Cunningham	Secretary
Dr. George Goodis	Treasurer
Dr. Debra Meadows	Director
Dr. Stephen Clark	Director
Dr. Joe Dovgan	Director
Dr. André Mickel	Director



## **Secretary's Spring Report** by Charles Cunningham

Other than the usual Secretary responsibilities, two significant issues have occupied our attention since the last report. The College would like to gain more recognition, or exposure, to the AAE membership. And, the Directors of the College wish to ascertain whether the College is accomplishing its mission.

The College took the initiative to address the first issue by a letter to the AAE requesting that the College of Diplomates be included in the AAE organizational makeup. The AAE's mission to the specialty deals with the art and science of Endodontics and the standard of patient care. Under the umbrella of the AAE, we have the AAE Foundation which stresses charitable and educational activities through support of research and teaching scholarships. The American Board of Endodontics is responsible for setting the standards and examining candidates for certification as Diplomates. The College of Diplomates has a significantly different role than these other organizations and that is a "service role". The primary mission of the College is to provide guidance and mentoring leadership to board candidates in the process of negotiating the three phases of the certification process. The membership totals over 600 Diplomates who support the College's mission either as active mentors to candidates or financially by their membership dues. In addition to sponsoring

educational opportunities, board review courses and ABE Director's visits to Advanced Specialty Educational Programs, the College also provides an international network of qualified and willing Diplomates to mentor candidates through the certification process. The College has matured to the point of being a strong, viable and fiscally sound organization and desires to partner with the AAE, ABE and Foundation in fostering the specialty.

A survey of the successful candidates for Diplomate status has been distributed to the new Diplomates of the last five years. It has been nine years since the founding of the College and the governance and mission have been well delineated. It was felt that this five year period will give validity to the activities of the College. Many board eligible individuals successfully complete the written examination soon after graduation but can experience an extended pause when increasing professional and family responsibilities conflict with the submission of case history portfolios or preparation for the oral examination. Candidates have already demonstrated that they value Diplomates status but are becoming further removed from the encouragement of their program directors, the educational support of the university and adequate time to prepare. The College's goal is to fill this void. Recent Diplomates can provide signifi-

cant input to give direction to the mentoring program.

The survey will measure some of these factors and identify opportunities to encourage eligible candidates to complete the certification process. All candidates do not seek the services of the College due to lack of awareness of the College's mission or a candidate seeks mentoring on his/her own. The activities of the College along with a tremendous amount of study material available through our webpage need to be promoted to individuals either seeking certification or seeking information on the board process. It is necessary that the College's mission be well-known to all potential candidates and that mentoring is available for all that are interested. The survey will measure the candidate's knowledge of the offerings of the College.

### **Additional Tidbits:**

College membership certificates have been mailed to "Life" members as previously approved by the Board of Directors.

The site for the next College's Continuing Education Conference will be at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa outside Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dates are August 2-6, 2006. Please plan ahead.

**THE COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES  
of the American Board of Endodontics  
invites you to the  
Louis I. Grossman Luncheon  
Thursday, April 7, 2005  
12:00 noon - 1:30pm**

**Dr. Stuart Fountain, Past President of the AAE and a Founding member of the  
College of Diplomates  
By ticket only**

**Register on your AAE registration form**

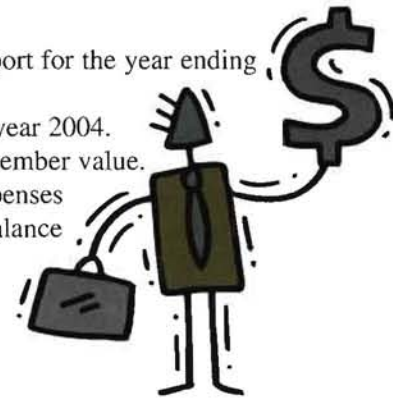
**NEW DIPLOMATES WILL BE RECOGNIZED**

# COD Treasurer's Report by Geroge Goodis

As the Treasurer of the College of Diplomates, I am pleased to present the financial report for the year ending 12/31/04.

The COD Board of Directors have reviewed and approved all the expenditures for the year 2004. Every line item allocation was based on the COD prioritizing each expense as it relates to member value.

In summary, the COD Summer Conference 2004 in Bachelor Gulch had significant expenses that were subsidized by the COD, to, again, provide member value. With an ending 2004 balance of \$109,522.68, the COD is in a strong financial position.



## College of Diplomates Financial Statement 12/31/2003 - 12/31/2004

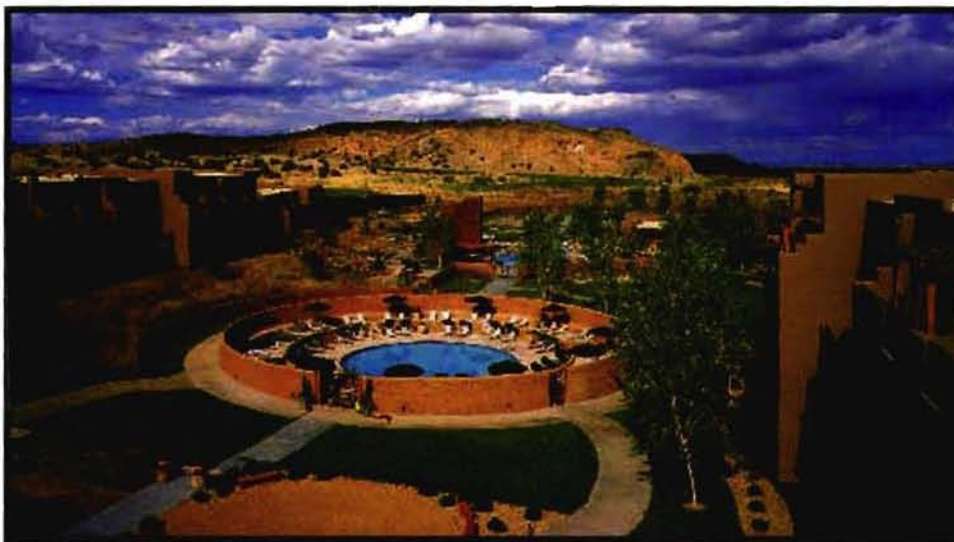
<b>Balance as of 12/31/2003</b> .....	<b>\$109,582.99</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>	
Membership Dues .....	\$36,380.00
Summer Conference Registration .....	\$47,835.00
Corporate Sponsorships .....	\$12,500.00
US Bank/First Star Bank .....	\$80.00
Community Bank - Interest/Transfer .....	\$437.37
<b>Total Revenue</b> .....	<b>\$97,232.37</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Accounting Fees .....	\$875.00
Board Review Course .....	\$1,800.88
Conference Calls .....	\$1,106.00
Grossman Lunch .....	\$2,526.75
The Pinnacle .....	\$4,323.20
Office Supplies .....	\$566.42
Postage .....	\$729.87
Registration Refunds .....	\$2,980.00
Secretaria Fees .....	\$4,480.00
Summer Conference .....	\$71,710.34
Telephone .....	\$224.35
Travel Grant .....	\$1,920.88
Website .....	\$1,043.99
Honorarium .....	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Expenses:</b> .....	<b>\$97,292.68</b>
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/2004</b> .....	<b>\$109,522.68</b>

## College of Diplomates Chooses Site for 2006 Meeting

**Save Your Dates Now!! August 2-6**

Near the Rio Grande and the Sandia mountains on the native American Pueblo of Santa Ana, lies the spectacular Tamaya Resort and Spa. It is impossible to comprehend what a truly special place this is until you have seen it. Located on over 500 acres of protected land, this is a perfect place for continuing education and rest and relaxation.

No setting could be more beautiful and tranquil. No area as rich in culture. And, no people as gracious and friendly as those who call the Pueblo of Santa Ana, or Tamaya home.....



*The Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa*

Whether you hike, horseback ride, relax by the pools or spend your days at the Tamaya mist spa, the twin warriors will look down from their perch on the mesa and favor you with cool, high desert breezes ... just as they do the golfers on their twin warriors championship course.

This oasis halfway between

Albuquerque and Santa Fe welcomes you with open arms.

*Leave your cares behind and come and experience Tamaya, a truly special place..... FRED GOODMAN*

## University of Michigan Course by George T. Goodis

The University of Michigan will be presenting the 18th Annual Review of the Biologic and Clinical Aspects of Endodontology on March 17 - 19, 2005 (Thursday through Saturday).

This symposium is an ideal review for candidates taking the American Board Examinations.

This conference provides an intensive review of the Biology and Related Scientific Foundations of Endodontology, while maintaining a strong clinical perspective.

International known speakers will present the latest information, supported by the best current and classic literature.

On Friday evening of the conference, the College of Diplomates will be hosting their traditional reception for all attendees and guest speakers.

Following the reception, the COD will introduce the visiting ADE Director, Dr. Keith Krell who will present his "Boardwalk on the Run" orientation. As he has done in the past two years, Dr. Krell will provide valuable information for the COD mentoring program.

If you need more information, please refer to website: [www.dent.umich.edu/con\\_ed](http://www.dent.umich.edu/con_ed)

## Mentoring Program Update by Andre K. Mickel

The COD remains active fielding questions from "future Diplomates" on how to best approach the Board Certification process. Attending the Board Walks given at each AAE Annual session by the ABE should be considered essential for anyone even considering the process. At these sessions one can receive the most up to date information ...directly from the ABE!

Additionally, the COD maintains a website with a literature review which may serve as an excellent starting place for those studying for the boards. I am personally available to answer questions regarding any aspect of the board process and can be reached at : [andre.mickel@case.edu](mailto:andre.mickel@case.edu).

The COD is here to help you in any way we can. We believe that anyone who wants to put forth an honorable effort can successfully "Negotiate " the narrow path to the Pinnacle of our profession...BOARD CERTIFIED DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ENDODONTICS.

*Thank you for allowing me to serve OUR profession!*

## ***The 21st Annual Review of Endodontics at Loma Linda***

by *Leif Bakland*


For the 21st time in as many years, a two day board preparation course was held at Loma Linda, California, September 19 and 20, 2004. It was attended by about 100 endodontic residents, faculty, ABE candidates, endodontists and a few general practitioners who enjoy keeping up with the biology of endodontics.

The faculty consisted of Dr. Alan Herford, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, who discussed orofacial infections; Dr. Karl Keiser, a faculty member from

the University of Texas, San Antonio, who shared his knowledge about the management of orofacial pain; Dr. James H. Simon, program director at the endodontic residency at the University of Southern California, who covered the topic of extra-radicular bacteria and viruses; Dr. Shahrokh Shabahang, a faculty member at LLU, who presented the latest update on endodontic microbiology and oral and systemic bacterial interactions; Dr. Henry Trowbridge, emeritus professor of pathology, University of Pennsylvania; who

described the intricacies of pulpal biology; and Dr. Leif K. Bakland, course director and professor at LLU, who completed the two days of seminars with one on vertical fractures of teeth.

The Loma Linda review was started over two decades ago by Drs. Bakland and Simon and has been a source of information for hundreds of ABE candidates over the years. Due to various factors the review program is not scheduled to be presented this year (2005).



**Annual Business Meeting of the  
College of Diplomates  
Thursday, April 7, 2005  
To be held following the  
Grossman Luncheon  
1:30 pm**



## ***College Supported Einstein Academic Review of Endodontology*** by *Lamar Hicks*

The 15th Annual Academic Review of Endodontology, sponsored by the I. B. Bender Division of Endodontics, Albert Einstein Medical Center, was held on October 1-3, 2004 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Philadelphia. For the eighth consecutive year, the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics sponsored an evening session at the Academic Review on preparing for the examinations of the American Board of Endodontics (ABE). Dr. Gary Hartwell, Chairman and Program Director of Endodontics at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and the Immediate Past President of the ABE presented almost two hours of material during an interactive session designed

to assist board candidates in preparing for the three phases of the certifying examinations. Ninety board candidates, residents, mentors and endodontic program faculty attended this informative College-supported seminar. At the end of the evening everyone enjoyed a sumptuous Sundae Bar sponsored by the College.

The overall course attendance of 202 was the second largest in the history of the Einstein Academic Review and included a record 106 endodontic residents and 8 full-time faculty members from 28 university or hospital-based programs. The resident/faculty registration represented 28 of the 52 (54%) endodontic specialty programs in the United States. In addition to the large contingent

from the endodontic education community, private practice and military endodontists from 28 states, Saudi Arabia and Spain came to hear 9 internationally known academicians, clinicians and researchers present the latest information from their respective clinical and basic science areas.

The 16th Annual Einstein Academic Review of Endodontology will be held on September 23-25, 2005 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Announcements for the course will appear in the *Journal of Endodontics* and mailed to all AAE members early in the summer.

## **Report on Graduate Endodontic Programs** by Steve Clark

**University of Connecticut  
School of Dental Medicine  
Farmington Connecticut  
Established 1971**

Programs Available: Endodontic Certificate combined with a Master of Dental Science degree Program (3 years), or combined with a Ph.D. degree in Biomedical Sciences (5 years plus).

Number of Residents: 3 per academic year.

Program Director: Dr Kamran Safavi, Professor of endodontics, received his endodontic certificate from Medical College of Virginia (1977), is a diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics (1984) and has been the director of the endodontic graduate program since 1978.

**University of Illinois at Chicago  
Chicago IL  
Enrolled first class in 1966**

Current class size is 6 per year (12 total); 24 month certificate program with optional M.S. in Oral Sciences (usually requires an additional 6 to 12 months)

Program director, Bradford R. Johnson, DDS, since September 1997, board certified in May 1998. Scholarly interests focus on clinical outcomes research and dental education. Dr. Johnson has served on several AAE committees; participated in manuscript review for JOE and OOOOE; National Board Test Construction Committee (Part II); CODA Endodontic site visit consultant; author or co-author of 15 articles in peer reviewed journals, one textbook chapter, and approximately 25 abstracts. Dr. Johnson is the immediate past president of the Illinois Association of Endodontists.

**Nova Southeastern University  
College of Dental Medicine  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.  
Established in 1998.**

It accepts 6 residents each year.

The certificate in endodontics is granted in a 2 year program and is designed to meet the formal educational standards of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. It will prepare the resident for successful completion of board certification by the American Board of Endodontics. The program also offers a 3 year Masters of Science with an emphasis tract in Endodontics. Each student will participate in a surgical rotation at one of the partner universities in Tlaxcala, Mexico, Barcelona, Spain, or Francisco Marroquin University in Guatemala.

Dr. Kenneth Namerow is the program director and received his endodontic training at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 1972. He maintained a private endodontic practice in Ridgewood, NJ from 1972-2000. Dr. Namerow became a diplomate of the ABE in 1980 and was a Director of the AAE from 1995-1998. He began teaching at Nova Southeastern Univ. in 2000 where he holds the rank of Associate Professor. Dr. Namerow is a charter member of the College of Diplomates.

**Medical College of Georgia  
School of Dentistry  
Augusta, Georgia  
Established 1973**

24 month certificate program  
Number of residents: A total of 4 with 2 accepted each year.

Program director: Dr. Robert Loushine is Associate Professor and Program Director, Postgraduate Endodontics. Dr. Loushine graduated from the University of Minnesota in

1977 and practiced general dentistry for nine years before entering the US Army Endodontic Program. He received his certificate in 1988. He was granted Diplomate status by the American Board of Endodontists in 1990. From 1995 to 1997, Dr. Loushine was Director of the US Army Endodontic Residency Program at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

**University of Florida,  
Postgraduate Endodontic  
Program  
Gainesville, FL  
Established in 1992.**

Certificate / Master of Science-Project in Lieu of Thesis: 2 years 4 or 5 students (5 every other year). Frank J. Vertucci, D.M.D., is Professor, Chairman, and Director of Postgraduate Endodontics. Dr. Vertucci completed both his D.M.D. degree and specialty training in endodontics at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He holds board certification in endodontics (1983) and is a fellow of the American and International College of Dentists. He joined the Department of Endodontics at the University of Florida in 1975, was named department chairman in 1980, and became the director of the Postgraduate Endodontic Program in 1996. Dr. Vertucci has received the Teacher of the Year Award and Outstanding Clinical Professor Award in recognition of his teaching. An internationally known author and lecturer, he is currently researching the effects of new endodontic material and effect of calcium hydroxide and endosonics on canal disinfection and cleanliness.

*(continued on page 7)*

**Graduate Endodontic Programs - continued**  
from page 6))

### **US Army Dental Activity Fort Gordon in Augusta, GA**

The program is located in Tingay Dental Clinic, which also houses the US Army Prosthodontic and Periodontic Residency programs. The first graduation of residents from Fort Gordon was in 1984. The program is

24 months long with the residents taking didactic classes at the Medical College of Georgia. Residents can receive a master's degree from MCG upon successful completion of the additional requirements.

The program accepts four residents next year.

Dr. Anthony Joyce, program director, graduated from the Boyne School of Dental Science at

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska and completed his Endodontic residency training at the U.S. Army Endodontic

Residency program at Fort Gordon in 1997. He became board certified in November 2001 and has been program director since 2003.

## **From the Webmeister** by Joseph Dougan

### **Announcing the COD Forums**

Have you ever had a question while studying for the board and wanted to talk it over? Well now you can! Have you ever wanted to see some sample board questions submitted by various diplomates? Well now you can! The possibilities are endless and with our new forums you have the potential to interact with other candidates online in addition to moderators.

I remember when I was studying 10 years ago, I wanted discuss various answers to questions. How did I want to answer a particular question? The journey to becoming a diplomate is a long one filled with potential pitfalls. I encourage recent diplomates, educators, candidates, potential candidates, and those seeking knowledge to interact with each other on this very special forum.

It's all about content, come help us create the source for information on the road to diplomate status!



## **Greetings from the New Editor** by Debra Meadows

As Fred Goodman told you in the last issue of the newsletter, he has retired from this job only to move onto bigger responsibilities. He has entrusted me with the duty of "spreading the word" for the *College of Diplomates*. As he mentioned, I am from California. Actually, I am a third generation Californian which is a rarity in our state.

After completing an undergraduate degree from UCLA in Kinesiology, I went to dental school at UCSF. After graduation in 1984, I taught in the dental emergency room at UC and practiced general dentistry for 7 years. I completed the graduate endodontic program at Loma Linda in 1993 and finished my board certification in 1999. When I attended my first meeting of the *College of Diplomates* in Jackson I was caught up with sharing the vision of helping others with the board certification process.

Now that I have completed my first issue of *The Pinnacle*, I can appreciate the work Fred has done for the last three years. I hope I can live up to his reputation and expectations by bringing you all the news from the College. You can help by supporting the college and encouraging fellow endodontists to become diplomates.

I'm looking forward to upcoming issues of this newsletter and say "thank you for letting me serve."

