



April, 2016

Enough SAID

SAID holds Annual Symposium in New Orleans

By Bob Leonetti

On November 12th, 2015, President Jenifer Hew called to order the 50th annual session of **SAID**. The group has come a long way since its first meeting in Houston in 1966. At that time there was no organization that dealt with the issues involved in dental care for patients with disabilities in institutional settings. Dr. Gerald Bensberg convened that first **SAID** meeting to address the specific needs of this dedicated group of dental professionals and their patients. Fifty years later, that group is still active, still relevant and still meeting annually. In the interim, its members have written & updated a set of 15 educational modules designed to assist dental professionals in the care of patients with disabilities. It has also changed its name while maintaining its acronym. Formerly the *Southern Association of Institutional Dentists*, **SAID** has now become *Special Care Advocates in Dentistry* to reflect the changing, more diverse makeup of the organization. No longer just dentists, **SAID** includes among its members dental auxiliaries, manufacturers, physicians, administrators all with the common goal of improving both access to and quality of dental care for those with disabilities. No longer serving the needs of just institutional dentists, **SAID** has an increasing number of dental professionals that serve these clients in less traditional settings. Neither is the group exclusively Southern numbering among its members, people from all over the United States and Canada.

A special venue was sought for **SAID's** 50th anniversary and what could be more special than New Orleans Louisiana, hometown of **SAID's** 50th president, Jenifer Hew. Jen arranged a first rate scientific program along with some unique social activities that added up to one of **SAID's** most memorable meetings ever- a fit tribute to 50 years of contributions to dentistry!





The lectures began on Thursday morning with a fascinating talk on hypnotism by Dr. Toby Cheramie in which one of **SAID's** own members lost her exaggerated gag reflex forever. This was followed by an overview of periodontal disease and treatment by Dr. Jessica Owens. This was followed by a talk on Geriatrics by Dr. Daphne Ferguson



After lunch, there were lectures on



Oral Pathology and Drs. Molly Rosebush & Brisco respectively.



sedation by Dr. Stephen

After a short business meeting, attendees were transported for the President's reception to the Rock – N – Bowl, an iconic New Orleans entertainment venue. Jen Hew chose the Rock – N – Bowl because it combines bowling, music, dancing and of course eating NOLA style. What's not to like? Members universally reported what a great time they had.



Friday featured a comprehensive lecture on Orofacial Pain given by Dr. Dale Ehrlich. This was followed by lunch and two SAID staples; the review of the 2014 literature by Drs. Doug Veazey & Mannie Levi as well as Pearls moderated by our very own I-Man (Dr. David Itzkoff). On Friday evening, attendees enjoyed the delicacies of New Orleans as well as all the sparkle of the French Quarter. In a recent conversation with Jen Hew, she revealed that she is still getting feedback from the faculty about how much they enjoyed meeting and sharing their specialties with SAID members. And SAID members certainly enjoyed spending time in New Orleans. Everyone left happy and looking forward to the 2016 meeting in Savannah Georgia.



Don't forget your
pearls...



Not those pearls.....

....short (4-6 minutes)
bits of information,
products or techniques
that you think may be
a help to others. You
can present your pearl
on Friday afternoon.
You never know what
just might be an
inspiration to someone
else.

President's Letter

By Paul Kovalski



I am excited to invite you to our Annual SAID Conference, **November 9 - 11**, to be held in the "Hostess City of The South", Savannah, Georgia. When you will experience the sights and sounds, flavors and fragrances and Antebellum Southern Charm, you will agree with Travel + Leisure magazine rating this charming gem highest in *"Quality of Life and Visitor Experience"*.

A warm and hospitable climate awaits us with something for everyone. Savannah is a great walking city with most attractions close to our meeting. For your appetite numerous excellent restaurants provide a variety of tastes including barbeque, seafood, soul food, French, Low country and Old Southern Haute Cuisine. Centuries of multi-cultural influences are not only tasted but felt and you explore the Spanish Moss and Oak Tree lined sidewalks.



History abounds for any interest. Savannah became one of the richest Antebellum era seaports as you will discover walking along the waterfront of the Savannah



River. Religious tolerance is noted when you visit the magnificent Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Temple Mickve Israel, the First African Baptist Church and other houses of worship dating back to colonial times. The Revolutionary War patriot, Nathaniel Greene is buried here. The "Father of the American Calvary", Casmir Pulaski, gave his life here fighting for independence. And Fort Pulaski, a

National Park site, named in his honor saw action in the Civil War and greeted General Sherman on his infamous March to the Sea. Over 25 museums are available.

Savannah is also famous for its parks, greens, and cemeteries. Don't miss a trip to the haunting Bonaventure Cemetery, home of the "Bird Girl" statue. The gorgeous Forsyth Park Fountain is stunning and the Oaland Wildlife Center welcomes the nature lover. City Market abounds with local specialties to take home and an aesthetic experience will be found at the Jepsen Center Museum of Art. Please enjoy all the sights at your own pace, or take a carriage ride on the cobblestone streets or join an organized tour covering such themes as architecture, history, ghosts & cemeteries, and more.



Please join us this November in Savannah and find out why such movies as Forest Gump, Glory, The Longest Yard, and the haunting Midnight In the Garden Of Good & Evil were filmed here. You can also check: www.visitsavannah.com



Three SAID members Honored at 2015 Meeting

Since 2009, SAID has been honoring the Dental Auxiliary who has demonstrated dedication & loyalty to the organization. The award is named after deceased member Sarah Bradshaw and is presented to a SAID member Dental Auxiliary who has distinguished oneself in the field of Dentistry for Patients with Disabilities while making significant contributions toward the advancement of the mission of SAID which is “to improve the oral health of people with disabilities through service, education, and advocacy”. This year’s honoree was Betsy White. Betsy is a long-time SAID member and has worked extensively with Special needs patients both as a dental hygienist and as the Director of operations at Access Dental Care. Betsy has served SAID as secretary and is currently President-Elect.

In 2015, the Awards committee decided to inaugurate a new award honoring the Dentist member who “exemplifies the qualities to which all SAID members can aspire”. Recipients will be dedicated dentists who have distinguished themselves while serving patients with special needs in an institutional or other setting, will be members in good standing of SAID and have contributed to SAID by taking on organizational responsibilities helping to advance the mission of SAID. The award was named in honor of Dr. F. Thomas McIver who is one of SAID’s most tenured members and has served the organization in many capacities for many years-25 years as both Secretary and Treasurer. Tom was honored with a plaque celebrating the award being named for him. The first McIver Award winner was Dr. Joe Dicks, long-time SAID members who spearheaded the national Guidelines for Care for patients with Special Needs in the early eighties that gave dentists in institutional settings the support they needed to advocate for more resources for their patients. He was instrumental in development of the SAID modules, having a hand in the writing of nine of them. The awards committee will continue to present these two awards whenever a worthy candidate has been identified. If you have any potential nominees, please contact Bob Leonetti, Carolyn Fetter or David Itzkoff.



Bob Leonetti presents Tom McIver with a plaque commemorating the award named in his honor.



Joe Dicks talks about the past and future of SAID as he accepts the first ever F. Thomas McIver Award



Betsy White accepts the Sarah Bradshaw Award



Meet SAID's New Officers



From Left: Jen Hew-Immediate past President, Betsy White-President Elect, Risa Levy-Secretary, Paul Kovalski-President, & Frances McClure-Treasurer

Don't forget to bring a door prize from
your hometown to this year's seminar

November 9th-11th, 2016



At SAID, you always know what
you're going to get. Excellent C.E.,
camaraderie, and fun!

See y'all in Savannah!!

