

# NODA News

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Volume 29 | Number 2

Article 1

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1991

## NODA News February 1991

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### Recommended Citation

(1991) "NODA News February 1991," *NODA News*: Vol. 29: No. 2, Article 1.  
Available at: <https://commons.ada.org/noda-news/vol29/iss2/1>

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# News of Dental Activities

VOLUME XXIV

FEBRUARY 1991

NUMBER 2

## 'Welcome,' election set Feb. 20

The 1990 new members of the New Orleans Dental Association will be extended a formal "Welcome!" to organized dentistry by NODA president Dr. Darlene T. Bassett and LDA president Dr. William P. Walsh at a dinner in their honor at Smilie's Restaurant Plantation Room, 5725 Jefferson Highway, Harahan, Wednesday, February 20, 1991.

Cocktails will be available at 6:30 p.m. and the dinner meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Dr. Walsh, LDA president and honored guest, has graciously agreed to address our members, new and old, on membership in organized dentistry. His speech will be highlighted by an update of current happenings on the state and national levels that affect us all, and by how we in organized industry can influence those happenings.

Dr. Walsh is a graduate of the Loyola University School of Dentistry and is in general practice in Houma, La. He is a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, and a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry, the International College of Dentists, and the American College of Dentists.

He is also a past president of the Bayou District Dental Association, and has been a leader of organized dentistry for over 30 years.

Surely, Dr. Walsh would agree with what our own NODA president, Dr. Darlene Bassett, says, "What do I get out of membership? The more we put into it, the more we get out of it."

In line with Dr. Bassett's statement, during this meeting certificates of appreciation will be presented to those members who have "put a lot into" the New Orleans Dental Association in 1990.

Also, new officers for 1991, as presented by the nominating committee, will be elected at this February meeting. Please refer to the January 1991 issue of *NODA News* for the full slate of officers to be elected.

New members who have joined since February 1, 1990 will be complimentary guests of the association, *but must make*

(Continued on page 2)

### INSTALLATION DINNER MARCH 2

Dr. Michael Robichaux will be installed as NODA's 73rd president at the annual dinner Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. at English Turn Golf and Country Club.

This is always a gala event on the NODA

calendar as the new president, other officers and board members are formally installed.

Why not get together with a group of colleagues and spouses for an elegant evening of food, fun and friendship?

### *This is Your Invitation to a Great Evening*

*You are cordially invited*

*to the 72nd Annual Installation Dinner*

*New Orleans Dental Association*

*Saturday, March 2, 1991 • English Turn Golf and Country Club*

*Menu: Roasted Corn Soup with Crabmeat*

*Caesar Salad*

*Choice of: Tenderloin Tips with Burgundy Mushroom Sauce or . . .*

*Baked Fresh Fish with Lemon Herb Sauce or . . .*

*Baked Chicken with Oyster Dressing*

*Brabant Potatoes and Tomato Rockefeller*

*Profiteroles with Ice Cream and Chocolate Almond Sauce*

*Complimentary Wine, Red & White*

*Coffee*

*Cash Bar 7-8 p.m. • Dinner 8 p.m. • Combo & Dancing*

*Cost: \$30 per person Black Tie Optional*

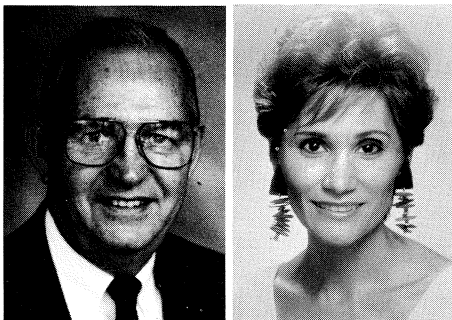
### RESERVATION FORM – NODA INSTALLATION DINNER DANCE

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the March 2 dinner dance at English Turn.

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (When sending check please indicate choice of entree. PLEASE RSVP BY FEBRUARY 19, 1991.)

Mail with your check to: NODA, 3101 W. Napoleon Ave., Suite 119, Metairie, LA 70001.

## 'Welcome,' election set Feb. 20



DR. WALSH

DR. BASSETT

### (Continued from page 1)

reservations. The cost to "Old" members will be \$20 for the full dinner with choice of entree: Filet Mignon or Trout Smilie (with crabmeat sauce).

Reservations are a MUST. Please call the NODA office at 834-6449 before February 18 with your choice of entree. As always, Mona would appreciate pre-payment by mail to minimize the pre-meeting confusion. Thanks! Send checks to NODA Central Office, 3101 W. Napoleon Ave., Suite 119, Metairie, La. 70001.

This meeting is sponsored by The Medical Protective Company. Please thank Mr. Dale Weaver, their representative, for his company's support of our association.

### DR. QUINN IN TMJ POST

Dr. James H. Quinn participated as a faculty member at the Temporomandibular Joint Arthroscopy Fifth International Symposium December 2-5 in New York.

Dr. Quinn was also co-director of a lecture-laboratory advanced course in temporomandibular joint arthroscopic surgery, sponsored by the University of Miami Medical Center, November 29-30.

**NODA News is published every month with the exception of June, July and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Ads and news should be sent to Dr. Kristi Soileau, 3600 Prytania St., 55 Lister Court, New Orleans, LA 70115.**

**Dr. Soileau is editor and chairman of the NODA News Committee. Members are Drs. Joseph Asercion, Edwin Brown III, Ronald Carr, George Cerniglia, Frank Herbert and David DeGenova.**

## THE AMALGAM QUESTION: AN ADA RESPONSE

The CBS "60 Minutes" segment on dental amalgam has prompted questions regarding the ethics of removing dental amalgams upon patient request. The following commentary from the ADA Division of Legal Affairs addresses this issue.

Historically, dental caries has been the most widespread disease known to mankind. For over 150 years, dental amalgam has been the principal restorative material used to treat dental caries and restore patients to good oral health. As a result, many people today retain their natural dentition. Without the benefit of amalgam restorations, they would be partially or completely without their teeth.

Throughout its use, there has been considerable scientific study of amalgam and no documented evidence to support the contention that amalgam, or the mercury contained in amalgam, has any deleterious effect on the health or physical well-being of the millions of patients served throughout the world.

***"Any replacement of existing amalgam restorations would be both costly and impose considerable risk to otherwise healthy teeth. The ADA thus continues to believe that dental amalgam should remain available as a safe and effective treatment."***

The dental profession is committed to providing the best service to the public in a safe manner at a reasonable cost. At the present time, available alternative materials are either significantly more costly or have so far failed to demonstrate comparable strength, durability, or compatibility in the oral environment.

Banning dental amalgam would be financially advantageous to dental practitioners, since its replacement would necessitate the use of other, more costly materials and procedures. It also would be a disservice to those patients who would be denied the benefits of dental care because of prohibitive cost.

Any replacement of existing amalgam restorations would be both costly and impose considerable risk to otherwise healthy teeth. The ADA thus continues to believe that dental amalgam should remain available as a safe and effective treatment.

The dental profession is committed to continuous improvement in the delivery of oral health care. During the past 50 to 75 years when dental caries was extremely common, massive amounts of amalgam were used to restore teeth. During the early years, the mercury-to-alloy ratio of amalgam was in the range of eight parts of mercury to 5 parts of other materials, compared to its current formu-

lation of much less than 1:1.

During that period, because caries was so prevalent and technology was still in its infancy, cavity preparations were large and extensive amounts of amalgam were used in each preparation, with no evidence of deleterious effect on the health or physical well-being of patients.

Today, it is even less likely that any such effect would be seen. Dental decay has declined significantly, as evidenced by the fact that nearly half of Americans achieve the age of 17 without experiencing any dental caries.

Technology has improved as well; preparations are more conservative and alloys with much lower mercury content are now being used routinely. As a result, the amount of amalgam used today is but a fraction of that used as recently as 15 years ago.

The ADA has consistently supported research in the development of new materials that will equal or exceed the benefits of amalgam at a cost that will not be prohibitive to the

average person.

The ADA also has welcomed over the years the considerable research that has been done on dental amalgams. Overwhelmingly, this research has led the scientific community to support amalgam as a safe restorative material. The research currently creating interest and controversy has been found by the scientific community to have considerable shortcomings in methodology and to be totally inconclusive as to any detrimental health ramifications for humans.

The ADA will continue to support further scientific inquiry and welcomes the amalgam review planned by the Food and Drug Administration and the materials safety workshop scheduled by the National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR).

The ADA further strongly urges NIDR to fund the grant proposal pending for a major epidemiological study of humans with dental amalgams.

Based on the research and epidemiological evidence available to date, the ADA continues to support dental amalgam as a safe and effective restorative material and sees no cause for public concern about either existing or future amalgam restorations.

December, 1990

## Rossner Seminar set for Feb. 28

"There Ain't No Way Those Two Joints Can Cause All Those Symptoms" – The Differential Diagnosis of Craniomandibular Disorders is the intriguing title of the 1991 Charles W. Rossner, DDS Seminar Thursday, February 28 from 3-8:30 p.m. at the New Orleans Marriott.

Seminar leader will be Dr. Larry L. Tilley. He has been in private practice in Calhoun, GA since 1978 and in Atlanta since 1988. He is a founding member of the Atlanta Craniomandibular Society and a founding member of the American Academy of Head, Neck, Facial Pain and TMJ Orthopedics.

The seminar, sponsored by Touro Infirmary in cooperation with the LSU Dental School, is free but there is a \$29 charge for dinner. LSU is granting five hours of AGD credit.

The late Dr. Rossner, a NODA member, was a staff member at Touro for 50 years.

### NODA MEETINGS

February 20, 1991

New Member Dinner Meeting

Dr. Darlene Bassett, New Orleans Dental Association President

Dr. William Walsh, Louisiana Dental Association President

7:00 PM, Smilie's Restaurant Plantation Room

Sponsor: Medical Protective Company

March 2, 1991

President's Installation Dinner

Dr. Michael Robichaux

7:00 PM, English Turn Country Club

April 10, 1991

LSU School of Dentistry Student Table Clinics

Dr. Allan Rappold, Table Clinic Committee Chairman

7:00 PM, Vista Shores Club

April 19, 1991

Annual Crawfish Party

7:00 PM, American Legion Hall

May 15, 1991

"Pharmacology Update"

Dr. Joseph Moerschbaeher, Chairman, Pharmacology Department, LSUMC

Dr. Anthony Indovina, Oral Surgeon

7:00 PM, LSU School of Dentistry, Auditorium A

Sponsor: Paine Webber, Incorporated

### HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1991 DUES?

Important reminder: 1991 dues are payable now and can be paid by check, VISA or MasterCard. Call Mona at the Central Office, 834-6449, for further details.

A \$25 delinquent fee must accompany 1991 dues paid after January 31.

If you wish to take advantage of our Automatic Bank Draft program for the payment of 1992 dues, please call the Central Office for the appropriate form as soon as possible. If you join the plan in February, you have 11 months to pay 1992 dues.

### CHANGES MADE IN TAX LAWS

(From ADA Washington News Bulletin)

The 101st Congress made important changes in benefit and tax laws of interest to dentistry, many of them enacted Nov. 5 by President Bush as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1990, Public Law 101-508.

■ The law extends from Sept. 30 through Dec. 31, 1991 a tax **deduction for self-employed persons** for 25% of the costs of personal and family health insurance. The deduction expired Sept. 30 and was in danger of being lost in the process of negotiating a budget agreement. The Association supported retention of the partial deduction, which is important to many unincorporated dentists, and will push again in the next Congress for a permanent deduction for the total cost of health insurance purchased by the self-employed.

■ A new tax credit backed by the ADA and small business groups will allow dentists to write off 50% of expenses up to \$10,250 that are necessary to make dental offices more accessible to persons with disabilities. To make up for the revenue loss from a new credit, Congress lowered the current tax deduction for removal of architectural and transportation barriers from \$35,000 to \$15,000. Small business groups urged Congress to approve the tax credit to reduce costs of complying with the recently-enacted Americans with Disabilities Act which requires removal of barriers if it does not present an undue burden financially.

■ The ADA worked with a coalition of employer organizations in persuading

Congress to repeal the **Section 89** provision added to the tax code by the 1986 Tax Reform Act. Section 89 was intended to discourage employers from providing more generous benefits to higher-paid than to lower-paid employees. The business community objected to its complex, costly administrative requirements.

■ The ADA and specialty organizations will monitor implementation of a prohibition on tax deductions for "**cosmetic surgery or other similar procedures**" to determine any impact on dental procedures. Language added to the budget bill at the last minute and approved without hearings defines cosmetic surgery as "any procedure which is directed at improving the patient's appearance and does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body or prevent or treat illness or disease." Not affected are procedures "necessary to ameliorate a deformity arising from, or directly related to, a congenital abnormality, a personal injury resulting from an accident or trauma or disfiguring disease."

■ The Association testified in support of legislation to restore **deductions for interest on student loans**, but the legislation died and will have to be renewed in the next Congress. The 1986 tax reform act phased out these deductions. Taxpayers who itemize may deduct 10% of consumer interest costs this year, the last year for such deductions.

■ Congress balked at considering other tax revisions, including ADA proposal to allow a **full deduction for professional dues** and related expenses for employed dentists.

*Coming in March!*

## PRESIDENT'S INSTALLATION DINNER

Dr. Michael Robichaux, President  
Other Officers and Board Members

Saturday, March 2, 1991 7 p.m.

English Turn Golf and Country Club

See Reservation Form on Page One.

## DENTAL DATA

### OFFICE DECOR: HOW IMPORTANT?

Office decor may affect how patients perceive dentists, writes Christine Kerstetter in a recent issue of the Ohio Dental Association's *Focus* magazine.

Even before a new patient is greeted by the receptionist, he or she already has received several messages which will be used to form an opinion about the dentist's skill level.

Among the points in the Kerstetter article are the following:

- If reception area furnishings are circa 1950, patients may get the false impression that the dentist's knowledge also is at a circa 1950 level.
- It is not necessary that the dental office be a candidate for the *Better Homes and Gardens* cover page, but it should appeal to the type of patient most often seen.
- Dentists with pediatric patients should provide something for them, such as a smaller coatrack, chairs and tables and a few toys.
- If a dentist sees mostly adults, he or she should think of the reception area as the living room of a home.

The exterior of a dental office is important. Make sure the office street number and office sign are clearly visible.

- Some dental offices have bulletin boards that feature the pictures of their patients, notes from patients and drawings from child patients. Such a display makes patients feel as though they are part of a dental care family.

If it has been more than 10 years since the last remodeling, Kerstetter writes, it is time to consider a change. The office should not only be attractive, but also should convey a positive image of the dental practice. ■

### GEORGE HAD DENTAL PROBLEMS

When George Washington was elected president in 1790, he had only one tooth. Contrary to what some have written, Washington never had wooden teeth. His dentures were made of gold, ivory, hippopotamus tusk and human teeth. ■

### DENTAL SERVICES EXPECTED TO INCREASE

The need for most dental services is expected to increase over the next 30 years.

According to Dr. Chester Douglas, professor and chairman, department of dental care administration, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, "the evidence supporting an increased need for most dental services for the next 30 years is far stronger than predictions of a decline in the need for dentistry."

Documented trends point to increased usage by older adults, who are more knowledgeable about maintaining more of their natural dentition, new diagnostic treatment technologies, increased incidence of root caries, increased awareness of periodontal disease, and greater interest in esthetic dentistry.

While the caries rate for school-aged children has continued to drop, the most recent national data on adults (1985-1986) shows that decayed, missing and filled teeth for older adults has not declined and is apparently slightly higher for adults over 45 than their younger counterparts.

Several studies point to a greater need for dental services in the next century. Based on dental caries rates and population projections for the year 2000, an additional 52.8 million hours of dental services will be necessary for adult restorative dentistry compared to 1971-74.

This increase is three times the projected decrease in need for children's operative dentistry.

With the growing population of older adults, the partial retention of teeth and the decline in complete tooth loss, the projected need for fixed and removable prosthodontics will increase by 37 percent by the year 2000.

Increases in diagnostic services, preventive services, operative dentistry, orthodontics and endodontics also are anticipated. ■

### LEASING PROGRAM AIDS ADA MEMBERS

LeaseFirst, a nationwide equipment leasing company specializing in the medical and dental professions, recently has introduced a program exclusively for American Dental Association members.

Ronald Reame, executive vice president of LeaseFirst, says the dental equipment leasing program will enable young dentists, as well as those who have been in practice for some time, to obtain up to \$50,000 in new equipment through a simple application process.

"Dentists typically would be required to provide a financial statement and tax return," said Mr. Reame. With the ADA-

endorsed equipment leasing program, he says, member dentists who request leasing arrangements for up to \$50,000 worth of new equipment need not provide financial statements or tax returns with their applications.

Dentists must supply the following information: name, address, Social Security number, a description of equipment to be leased and the name of the company from which LeaseFirst will purchase the equipment.

LeaseFirst offers ADA members pricing at about 5 percent less than is offered to non-members. For example, a \$30,000 lease for 60 months would cost ADA members about \$630 a month, while non-members would pay about \$662 a month, said Mr. Reame.

The example represents a straight lease and does not reflect other options open to ADA members such as graduated payment plans, no money down and no payments for up to 120 days.

LeaseFirst provides lease financing for dental equipment, general office equipment, furniture, fixtures, computers and leasehold improvements.

For more information or for an application, contact LeaseFirst at (800) 543-5055. ■

### DENTISTS IN RESERVES

**NODA members called to active duty in the armed forces are eligible for a waiver of 1991 ADA, LDA and NODA dues because of financial hardship.**

**If you think you may be called up, it is possible to receive permission to pay dues later in the year, pending a possible activation at which time a full waiver would be granted.**

**Please call Mona Whittington, Executive Secretary, at the Central Office, 834-6449, if you feel you may qualify for a waiver or delay.**



**HONORARY CHAIRMAN SHERIFF CHARLES C. FOTI, JR., and a group of students from S.J. Peters Middle School want everybody to know that February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Join in with a visit to a school near your office.**

## *Dental Health Month is underway*

Criminal Sheriff Charles C. Foti, Jr. has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the local observance of National Children's Dental Health Month February 1-28, 1991.

Children's Dental Health Month is a major project of the American Dental Association and its constituent chapters. NODA has long devoted substantial resources and volunteer participation to the program.

Sheriff Foti is well known for his civic activities, devoting much interest and man and woman power at his command in the furtherance of public causes, from young people to senior citizens.

Two major hands-on dental exhibits highlight the local observance. A month-long exhibit at the Louisiana Children's Museum, 428 Julia St. in New Orleans invites children to walk into a "mouth" to brush and floss giant teeth, plan a nutritional meal, shake hands with "Happy Tooth," hear a recorded message from a lifelike dental hygienist mannekin and learn about lifetime dental care.

The permanent dental exhibit at the Freeport McMoRan Daily Living Science Center, 409 Williams Blvd. in Kenner's River-town, has been totally renovated. Children can visit a replica of a dental office, view videotapes on dental care, use an X-ray light panel, and enjoy a variety of educational material.

Hours at the Louisiana Children's Museum are 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Hours at the Kenner center are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sundays.

In addition to the exhibits, NCDHM chairman Dr. Sam Miano reminded that NODA

members are urged to contact schools near their offices or homes and volunteer to give a talk to elementary students. You will usually find the schools are very receptive to such overtures.

A citywide "brush-in" was scheduled February 1 for third grade students throughout the area. Free posters and other materials have



**THERE'S MAGIC IN  
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**CELEBRATE NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S DENTAL  
HEALTH MONTH,  
FEBRUARY 1991**

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been contributed by Crest. A seminar for school nurses and teachers was held January 25 at the LSU School of Dentistry. Dr. Gizelle Richard was chairman.

Members of the NODA Auxiliary played an active role in planning and staffing the Children's Museum exhibit. They are most experienced in dental health education.

## *Welcome, New Members*

The following dentists became active members of the New Orleans Dental Association in the period between February 1990 and February 1991. It is a pleasure to welcome them to the ranks of those working for the advancement and well-being of organized dentistry.

Dr. Gordon A. Bech  
Dr. Perry J. Booth III  
Dr. Daniel P. Bordes  
Dr. Hugh F. Bullard  
Dr. Ronald S. N. Chang  
Dr. Paul A. Clark  
Dr. Steven W. Collins  
Dr. Martin D. Davison  
Dr. H. Olin Desonier  
Dr. David W. George  
Dr. Sharon M. Gianbrone  
Dr. Guy G. Gipson  
Dr. Wynn Kapit  
Dr. Jeffrey A. Leeson  
Dr. Arturo J. Mendez

Dr. Michael A. McGraw  
Dr. Taryn L. Moore  
Dr. Bonnie M. Murphy  
Dr. Teresa L. Myers  
Dr. Patrick J. Nolan  
Dr. Stuart A. Pickens  
Dr. Francis T. Rene  
Dr. Daniel J. Richardson  
Dr. Jeffrey K. Roby  
Dr. Jack F. Rowley, Jr.  
Dr. John C. Schwartz  
Dr. Thomas P. Shopper  
Dr. Alvin J. Smith  
Dr. Peggy E. Walsh  
Dr. Morris D. White

## BULLETIN BOARD

**FOR RENT:** Met. area, 1-2 Adec-equipped operatories three days a week. \$130 a day. Call 888-9227.

**WANTED:** Part-time dental hygienist. Laplace area. Call 536-3455.

**RECEPTIONIST** for progressive dental office on the West Bank. Call 368-9545.

**DENTAL EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:** Several pump-style chairs and two stand-up style units excellent for young dentists' second operatory. Three dental cuspidors also for sale. Call 482-5900.

**RECENTLY RETIRED ORAL SURGEON.** Office furniture, desk, credenza, exec. chair, 3M copy machine, IBM Selectric typewriter, Whirlpool trash masher, instruments, Whip-Mix articulator, Emesco lab engine with ball bearing handpiece, etc. **FOR SALE.** Call 486-1880.

**FOR SALE:** Adec mobile cart, dry heat sterilizer, autoclave, ultrasonic cleaner, ledger card system with cards, recall card system, cold sterilization containers, denture flasks (3) and pressure pot. Call 833-6562.

**METAIRIE:** Associate wanted. Progressive practice seeks motivated associate interested in building a practice in comfortable surroundings. Please contact office at 831-6900.

**CHAYES VIRGINIA** saddle chair and base, Pelton Crane ceiling light, both like new, reasonable. Misc. desks, files, office equipment. Call Jim Clynes at 836-5371.



Suite 119  
3101 W. Napoleon Ave.  
Metairie, LA 70001  
834-6449

## Continuing Education Corner



*In an effort to keep the membership attuned to available C.E. opportunities at the L.S.U. School of Dentistry, this area will be devoted to informational updates.*

Friday,  
March 8

**LIVE TELESYMPOSIUM – WVUE STUDIOS – 9:45 A.M.-2:30 P.M.**  
“BRINGING PERIODONTAL SCIENCE TO THE DENTAL PRACTICE,”  
featuring nine of the most noted periodontal clinicians in the country. Be a part of this live telecast. Details to follow in separate flyer.

Saturday,  
March 23

Radiology Course for Dental Assistants. \$85.

Friday,  
April 26

LSU Alumni Day featuring Dr. Jackie Dzierzak.

Friday-Saturday,  
May 3-4

Hands-On Bleaching Workshop. Dr. Ron Lemon.  
(Jazz Fest Weekend).

Friday-Saturday,  
May 17-18

Third Annual Periodontal Surgery Hands-On Course.  
Drs. Cassingham, Broxon, Caudill and Evans.

Friday,  
June 7

“OSHA – Its Impact on Modern Day Dental Practice”  
Dr. Catherine Hebert.

January 9-  
June 5

Fifth Annual **Dental** Assistant Certification Review Course for Chairside Dental Assisting, Wednesday evenings, 6-9 p.m.  
Faculty: Dorothy Austin, Henrietta Frederick.

For information about these courses, call (504) 948-8584

**FOR SALE:** Two Chayes Virginia Ventura dental chairs; both chairs have been recently re-covered and work well. \$875 each. Call (504) 641-6607.

**SHARE OFFICE SPACE** and reduce overhead. Great for specialist. Modern prime location in Slidell. Call office at 646-4561 or 484-6321.

Members are welcome to submit classified ads to Bulletin Board. Send ad and check for \$25 per ad made out to NODA to: Dr. Kristi Soileau, 3600 Prytania St., 55 Lister Court, New Orleans, LA 70115.

### WE WANT YOUR NEWS

Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, written an article, delivered a paper, initiated or completed research, or rendered unusual public service, please call or write Dr. Kristi Soileau, 3600 Prytania St., 55 Lister Court, New Orleans, LA 70115. Phone: 899-2255.

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