



# THOROUGHBRED

First Quarter 2015

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KENTUCKY ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY

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**WE WANT YOU!!!  
LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

## From the President...

Dear Colleagues,

I want to take a minute to thank you for your membership in the Kentucky Academy of General Dentistry. Membership in the AGD is more important now more than ever as our livelihood is attacked on multiple fronts to include some within our own profession. We have attacks coming from government and bureaucracy requiring you to do more and reimbursing you less. We have attacks from the insurance organizations. We have attacks from third party entities trying to bring in "mid-level" providers and /or dentists trained in foreign countries that do not meet CODA standards.

The AGD is the voice for the general dentist to our federal and state government as well as our voice to the ADA. The stronger our numbers the bigger our voice and the more likely we will be heard. Better than being a member; however, is being involved. It would be great if we could get some new members willing to serve on a board, committee, or etc. Of course, we recognize that time is the most precious commodity and if you don't have time to do that we'd ask that you just read through the e-mails from the AGD and when necessary send a quick e-mail or make a phone call to your senator or representative.

In order to protect our profession I think it's important to remember the words of Rudyard Kipling when he said "The strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack."

On behalf of the Kentucky Academy of General Dentistry I want to thank you again for your membership and encourage your involvement. Hope to see you at some of our upcoming courses.

Sincerely,

**Geoffrey S. Ball, DMD, FAGD**  
President, Kentucky Academy of General Dentistry

## An update on the KY Board of Dentistry...

Just some info about our Board of Dentistry. As the Kentucky Public Information Officer for AGD, I have been going to the meetings for some time. There are some changes which will affect all dentists in the state coming this year.

Starting in 2015 we will be asked to record our CE hours online with the Board. This system is not functional yet, but will be in the next few weeks. If you do not have a computer or don't wish to use one for recording your hours, it is my understanding that you can request a paper form to be in compliance. The reported reason for the change is to save money by not doing audits as the new computer system will show non-compliance. Fines will be issued automatically and drastically increase every two weeks. This system will also affect hygienists next year.

Our state AGD chapter is working with a computer group to have all of our sponsored classes automatically entered to the Kentucky Board.

The KY Board is electing 2 new officers for the coming term Please take the time to vote. Last year only 102 of 3000 eligible dentists voted. Voting will start later this month.

I will accept any request for info about our meetings, classes, or concerns about the KY Dental Board. I may not get the answer you want but I will do my best to get the right information.

**Thomas Kelly Tyre DMD FAGD PIO KY AGD Painsdoc@aol.com**

## ***AGD Master Spotlight***

Achieving mastership in the AGD is a highly esteemed and extremely respected achievement. We would like to spotlight some of our long standing masters and give a brief glimpse into their career. This month's spotlight is on Larry E. Hamlin, DMD.

Dr. Hamlin graduated from University of Kentucky College of Dentistry in 1972 and has been in practice in Owingsville, KY since 1974. He and his wife Susan have two sons and a daughter.

While in college as an undergrad, Dr. Hamlin says his family dentist started talking to him about dentistry. He was interested so he pursued a career in dentistry and the rest is history.

Dr. Hamlin says he first became aware of the AGD through an advertisement in a dental magazine and joined. He says the most valuable aspect of his membership was that the AGD provided him with a structured continuing education program to follow. Of all of the courses he's taken, he thinks the best course was "Safe and Effective Management of the Anxious Patient" presented by Dr. Daniel Becker.

The product or procedure that Dr. Hamlin says has had the greatest impact on his practice is adhesive dentistry and all the changes that have been brought about with it. And the area in which the biggest changes have occurred in dentistry is implant dentistry.

He adds that the biggest challenges facing the industry of dentistry today is dealing with the insurance industry.

We are proud to have so many AGD dentists in the state of Kentucky with long, successful and esteemed careers. Thank you Dr. Hamlin for your dedication to the field of General Dentistry and for sharing your career with us.

**At our December course, "Utilizing Lasers in a Periodontal Environment", Dr. Sam Low provided hands on instruction using diode lasers on pig jaws.**



**Would you like to be published? Show people how smart you really are? Be the envy of your study group? Please send your management or clinical pearl to Executive Director, Maegan Bennett for placement in our next newsletter.**

## AGD News and Media

Lauren Henderson, Academy of General Dentistry, 312.440.4974, [media@agd.org](mailto:media@agd.org)

### AGD Holds Leadership Development Symposium

**CHICAGO (Dec. 5, 2014)**—The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) held its 2014 Leadership Development Symposium Nov. 21 to 22, in Chicago. This symposium focused on providing leadership tools to new and up-and-coming AGD leaders, helping them to develop necessary skills such as volunteerism, professionalism, and collective effectiveness.

“It was a pleasure working with the AGD’s emerging leaders and helping them understand the AGD’s mission, as well as helping them to build their skills in responsibility, accountability, authority, teamwork, conflict management, written and oral communications, and ethical standards,” said AGD President W. Carter Brown, DMD, FAGD.

The symposium featured presentations from industry professionals on topics such as displaying dynamic leadership, identifying leadership styles, and improving communications skills.

“The goal of the symposium was to help constituent board members learn the true meaning of leadership, identify their strengths, and build their confidence as AGD leaders,” said John A. Olsen, DDS, MAGD, DICOI, AGD regional director and chairman of the Leadership Development Symposium.

The AGD plans to make leadership development a continuing priority.

### AGD Foundation to Focus on Oral Cancer

**CHICAGO (Oct. 6, 2014)**—The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the AGD, will focus on training dentists to screen for oral cancer.

“Over the next several years, we will focus our outreach and energy on various initiatives to fight oral cancer,” says Gerald J. Botko, DMD, MS, MAGD, FACD, president of the AGD Foundation Board of Directors. “We believe general dentists are the public’s first line of defense against this deadly disease.”

Oral cancer is particularly dangerous because it can go unnoticed in its preliminary stages. In many cases, however, dentists can identify its early signs and symptoms.

“The first step in fighting oral cancer is early detection, which includes semiannual visits to a general dentist,” Dr. Botko says. “By recognizing the disease in its preliminary stages, general dentists can help increase survival rates.”

Following a successful debut event during the AGD 2014 Annual Meeting & Exhibits in Detroit, the AGD Foundation says it will continue over the next several years to integrate free oral cancer screenings with oral health education for the public.

In addition to free oral cancer screenings, the AGD Foundation aims to provide AGD’s 39,000 members with free or low-cost continuing education on the latest oral cancer identification techniques. The AGD Foundation also plans to work with organizations, dental companies, and others who are invested in the cause. In order to make this happen, the AGD Foundation has initiated a major fundraising effort with AGD members and outside donors.



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### Continuing Education...

We are still building our CE calendar for 2015. Please watch your email and check [www.kyagd.org](http://www.kyagd.org) for calendar updates.

Make plans now for AGD 2015, the AGD's annual meeting. Join your colleagues at AGD 2015 at the Moscone West Convention Center in San Francisco. It's never too early to plan ahead for top-notch continuing education and innovative, fun events. Mark your calendar for AGD 2015 in San Francisco, June 18 to 21, 2015!



The KY-AGD annual meeting will be October 2nd and 3rd. Details are still being finalized so stay tuned!

### Next Board Meeting...

Our next board meeting will be Thursday March 5th following the KDA President's Reception.

All AGD members and potential members are welcome at all board meetings!

Times and dates of board meetings are subject to change. If you are interested in attending one of our meetings contact Maegan Bennett at [mbennett@agd.org](mailto:mbennett@agd.org) to verify the location, time and date.

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