

The PINNACLE



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President's Message



October 2022

Greetings, members of the College of Diplomates! For the College's 26th year as an organization, it has been quite the year of accomplishments. This past January, we hosted our second, all virtual Board Review Course followed in February and September by Mock Oral Sessions and our Premier CE and Family Event in Stowe, VT, in August. This was a unique and special Summer Conference where we officially celebrated the College's 25th anniversary! Our mission to support the journey of those seeking Board Certification and the unique CE requirements of our College Membership has never been stronger!

Special thanks to all those who continue to support the College through your membership. Also, I would like to express deep appreciation to the members who have volunteered their time as mentors, the key purpose of our organization. Sixteen Mock Oral Examiners came together twice this year to provide over 80 mock oral exam experiences! Way to go! A special shout out to Jeff Neal for all his hard work leading and developing the mentorship program. The Mock Oral Exam is a critical experience to those preparing for the ABE Oral Exam. If you have not volunteered your talent for the College yet, please consider doing so, as it is quite rewarding for both you and your mentee! There is need for one-on-one mentors, as well as for reviewers of written portfolios, besides the oral exams. Please see our website for information on how to volunteer.

Our Summer Conference at the Lodge at Spruce Peak, VT, deserves its own spotlight.

It was an amazing event on many levels. First, just being able to be in person again after four years was a special treat. It was so good to see everyone in person again. All those in attendance agreed that this was a world class CE event, coupled with the perfect environment for family engagement. The meeting marked the first time the College offered an additional hands-on event. Thank you, Bruno Azevedo, for your one-of-a-kind workshop on CBCT interpretation.

On Friday evening, we hosted our 25th Anniversary Jubilee Celebration Dinner! There, in the beautiful setting of the Spruce Peak Lodge, we were able to honor and acknowledge several of our founding members, including Lamar Hicks and Sandy Madison, in addition to other original key members of the organization. Past-President Pins were presented to those in attendance. Lamar Hicks gave a wonderful remembrance of the journey he had during the time this organization was being proposed, and the obstacles he had to navigate, leading us to where we are today. The College owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Hicks and all those who pushed hard for the founding of this great organization.

As I close this address, I must mention our plans for our first in-person Board Review Course and Scientific Update February 3-5 at the PACE Center in Houston, co-hosted by UTHSC, School of Dentistry. Mark your calendars for this important event. Attendance at Board Review Courses is an excellent way to fulfill your CE requirements for ABE Recertification, as well as to connect with many of our young future endodontists.

Thank you all, it is wonderful to be a part of this fine organization!

Kenneth J. Frick, DDS, MS,
President, College of Diplomates

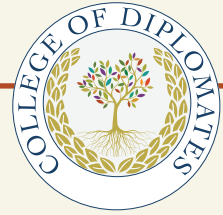


COD Summer Conference

Celebrating 25 years!

August 11-14, 2022

Spruce Peak Lodge, Stowe, Vermont



"I was so impressed by the organization and timetable of the meeting, the selection of the venue and the cutting edge quality of the presentations. It was an honor to share the dais with them, and the feedback from the audience during the Q&A was stimulating. The interaction didn't stop in the lecture hall, and many stimulating and thought-provoking discussions took place in the casual gathering and meal opportunities. I attribute this to the smaller size of the meeting and the collegial demeanor of the attendees; they are all diplomates and seem to take the life learning to heart.

Perhaps the best feature of the meeting was the family-centered atmosphere, and many of the attendees were there with their spouses and children. There were many activities either on-site or close by, and there was enough time set aside for everyone to enjoy themselves as a family. The organizers did an outstanding job and; even though this was my first meeting, it won't be my last!"

Stephen P. Niemczyk DMD



"As a General Dentist, I was impressed by the quality and scope of the presentations, and the excellent organization of time and facilities. The topics were bleeding edge, and the response from the attendees was collegial and refreshing to see. It was especially nice to see whole families in attendance at the functions and the on-site amenities; this is something I have not seen at the larger dental meetings I have attended over the years, and is a concept that is very attractive to anyone considering attending the Summer conferences in the future. The location was perfect, and I am looking forward to the next gathering of the diplomates in Colorado"

Jeannette Abboud-Niemczyk DMD, FAGD

"Having attend many of the COD summer conferences, the 2022 event was one of the best. Those who planned the meeting, even after having to postpone due to the pandemic, did a wonderful job. The venue was spectacular, the speakers were current, cutting edge, and the social gatherings and Friday evening dinner especially were beautifully done. Kudos to the planning committee!

A special thank you to the officers and Directors for recognizing and honoring the history of the organization and its past leaders. That was so special to all who helped get the College going. Having watched the COD transition from a "need" to a "dream" to a "reality" that meets its objectives and fulfills its mission admirably has been wonderful. Those going through the ABE certification process are so fortunate to have the resources available that the College offers.

Thanks to everyone who has and is participating in the College, helping our endodontic colleagues become Diplomates while maintaining and advancing our specialty. We are an amazing group. TEAM ENDO!

Dr. Sandra Madison DDS, MS

Past president and from the team who was involved in building the COD



"The Jubilee 25th anniversary of AAE College of Diplomates meeting in Stowe, Vermont, August 11-14, 2022, was an outstanding production of excellent continuing education; family activities for all ages; and a beautiful setting of comfortable summer weather. We registered our daughter, Courtney Olmsted MD, a general surgeon in the Stowe area, and daughter-in-law, Nancy Johnson PhD, to participate with the Friday evening Jubilee dinner. Courtney even recognized many Endo friends from her childhood and adult years of participating with THEA, Southern Endo, and AAE. Luv&Hugs, John&Frankie
Dr. John Olmsted DDS, MS



Save the Date for the Board Review Course



Dates:
February 3–5, 2023

Location:
UTHealth School of Dentistry
PACE Center
7500 Cambridge St., Suite 6152
Houston, TX 77054

Credits Earned:
In-person event, 20 credits

Speakers and Topics:

Inflammation and Immunology & Mechanisms and Management of Endodontic Pain

Dr. Asma Khan

Endodontic Microbiology

Dr. Anil Kishen

Evidence Based Endodontics

Dr. Amir Azarpazhooh

ABE Boardwalk

Dr. Melissa Drum

The Current Best Evidence for Endodontic Treatment Outcomes

Dr. Shimon Friedman

Trauma and Resorption

Dr. Rebeca Weisleder

Regenerative Endodontics & Vital Pulp Therapy

Dr. George Huang

Endodontic Surgery

Dr. Sam Kratchman

Preparing for the Oral exam

Dr. John Neal

Medically Complex Patient

Dr. Lauren Patton

Endodontic Radiology & Oral Pathology

Dr. Vijay Parashar

The Board Review Course and Scientific Update aids Candidates preparing for the American Board of Endodontics' certification examinations, Diplomates needing recertification credits and all dentists interested in endodontic continuing education credits. This course is conducted annually prior to the March board examinations and is jointly sponsored by the COD and an ADA-recognized endodontic program at a university in the United States. A series of speakers cover a wide spectrum of endodontic topics through live- lecture presentations.

At conclusion, participants should be able to:

- Gain insight into the pertinent content and process of endodontic Board Certification.
- Advance the specialty practice of endodontics and enhance oral health care for the public.
- Discuss topics that cover the full breadth of the endodontic specialty.



Treasurer's Report

10/26/2022

Balance: \$48, 234.18

The financial footing of the College of Diplomates remains solid. We have paid for our 2022 Summer Conference- the Silver Jubilee Celebration, decreasing our balance, however, this is our typical financial cycle. We are continuing to take in earnings through membership fees and now registration fees for our 13th Annual Board Review Course. Membership dues allow us to provide world class education for members, as well as mock oral and case review activities targeted at mentees. If you have not already done so please login on the COD website and pay your 2022 dues. Be sure to watch for announcements for 2023 dues as well. Thank you for your continued support of the College of Diplomates.

Geno Salazar,
Treasurer

Greetings to Our College of Diplomates Members!



I am pleased to announce what a wonderful year of mentoring the College of Diplomates have had. Our group of mentors continue to go above and beyond by selflessly volunteering their time to assist board-eligible candidates along their path towards achieving board certification. I would like to introduce the following mentors that joined our team in 2022: Dr. Rico Short, Dr. Mark Stevenson, Dr. Poorya Jalali, Dr. Amanda Tan, Dr. Yasi Ravandoust and Dr.

Jorge Vera-Rojas. Our mission would not be possible without the tireless efforts from these individuals.

During 2022, our cadre of mentors managed to mentor 18 individual candidates for one or more of the three board examinations. In addition, our team successfully examined 40 candidates for two mock orals (80 exams total). These numbers have been steady for the past 3 years. Of the 18 candidates that were mentored in 2021, four are currently board certified and four others have successfully completed the written and oral examinations.

It is a true pleasure to witness our generous mentors come together and accomplish our annual goals. A special thank you to these individuals who have carried out individual mentoring this year: Dr. Eugene Salazar, Dr. Kristy Marker, Dr. Tawana Feimster, Dr. Priya Chand, Dr. Colleen Shull, Dr. Poorya Jalali, Dr. Rico Short, Dr. Sameer Jain and Dr. Mark Stevenson. One-on-one mentoring is time consuming as it involves multiple interactions with candidates often over a longer period of time. Another special thank you to these individuals who volunteered and executed one or both of our Virtual Mock Oral Exams held in February and September: Dr. Colleen Shull, Dr. Pierre Wohlgemuth, Dr. Susan Hinman, Dr. Kittima Boonsirisimsook, Dr. Kristy Marker, Dr. Sameer Jain, Dr. Ken Frick, Dr. Rebecca Weisleder, Dr. Eugene Salazar, Dr. Jan O'Dell, Dr. Andrea Lisell, Dr. Craig Schneider, Dr. Garry Myers, Dr. Priya Chand, Dr. Stuart Miller, Dr. Ron Taylor, Dr. Mark Stevenson, Dr. Poorya Jalali, Dr. Rico Short, Dr. Jorge Vera-Rojas, Dr. Amanda Tan and Dr. Tawana Feimster. It is amazing to assemble and observe 16 board-certified endodontists putting the time in to prepare the candidates for the rigors of the oral exam. Last but not least, a very heartfelt thank you to Ms. Aimee Rylko, the COD Executive Secretary for her time and efforts with everything she does to ensure these events run smoothly and effectively. Without her, there would be no event!

With the ever-growing number of board-eligible candidates seeking board certification, we continue to search for new mentors to join our team as we guide candidates through their journey of board certification. If you know of someone who

would fit our mission, please encourage them to reach out. He/she can apply to be a mentor (Case Portfolio and/or Mock Orals Mentor) by contacting Aimee Rylko at info@collegeofdiplomates.org or Dr. John J. Neal at endoddoc34@gmail.com.

By John “Jeff” Neal, DDS, MS

Chair of Mentoring, College of Diplomates

“The members of the College Of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics are very skilled; having the ultimate goal to help Endodontists succeed in board certification. It is a must to go through them for all those who want to challenge the ABE. I am very thankful for all the time and knowledge they provided.”

—Dr. Bilal Damlaj

“I had an opportunity to receive a mentor from the College of Diplomates. He gave me a structured schedule and clear methods to prepare for my oral examination. His feedback was very organized and useful which helped me prepare for the orals. Due to his guidance I was able to pass my oral examination on the first attempt. I had a wonderful experience. I can totally say that he is one of the best mentors one can have.”

—Dr. Meeta Bhatt, BE candidate

“Serving as a Mock Board examiner for several years, I have received countless testimonies from candidates who were grateful for the opportunity to take a Mock Board before taking their oral exams. They were convinced that taking the Mock Oral Exam helped them build their confidence, provided insight on what areas they needed to focus their study, and helped them become more familiar with the overall format of the exam. As a result, it was significantly impactful in helping them pass.”

—Dr. Ron Taylor, Mock Examiner

“As a Full time educator for several years, giving mock examinations has an inherent value in providing candidates with a better insight into the challenge of board certification. For all practical purposes it is an intervening phase that helps the candidates in acquiring additional knowledge that is important in their preparation. The examiner’s role is critical by developing an essential framework and format for the exams to simulate the ABE exam. A vital development we integrated in the format this past few years has been the feedback we provide onsite following each exam room that has tremendously impacted the candidates’ preparations. It helps them navigate and reflect on the areas of strength and weaknesses in their preparation and prepare accordingly. The candidates that have availed this opportunity, share yearly how crucial this exposure has been in strengthening their confidence. The testimonials received by examiners following the biannual mock exam further validates the importance of this experience in their successful journey to board certification.”

—Priya Chand, Mock Examiner



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