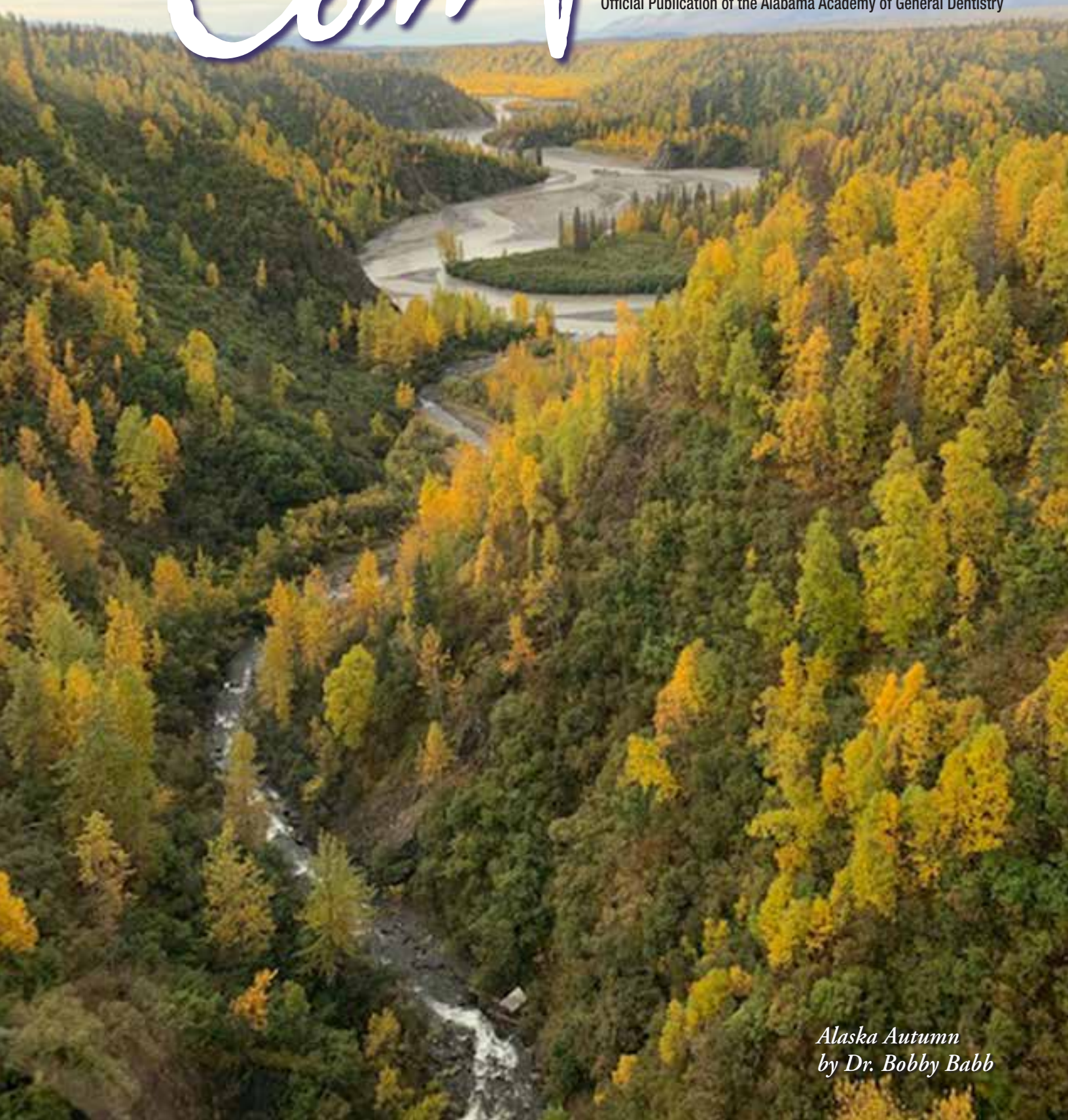




ALABAMA  
ACADEMY of  
GENERAL DENTISTRY FALL 2019

# Composite

Dedicated To The Concerns  
Of General Dentists In Alabama  
Official Publication of the Alabama Academy of General Dentistry



*Alaska Autumn*  
by Dr. Bobby Babb





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# Editor's Notes

Bill Chesser, DMD, MAGD

## AGD HOUSE OF DELEGATES, 2019

On November 8, 2019,, the AGD HOD meets in Chicago. This is the third year that AGD has chosen to hold the Scientific and the Governance meetings on different dates. When held at the same time, Governance participants could not earn CE, due to required attendance for official AGD business.

Time will tell if this was a good decision or not. Our Governance meeting is being held in a huge convention center outside of the city proper. If you are involved, and are trying to reach the venue from the assigned hotel, you may think you are crossing Rhode Island on foot!

In October, your Region 19 Delegates met in Atlanta to discuss the Resolutions that will come before the HOD in November. In the past, your Region 19 has produced new Resolutions, as does any other AGD Region.

FYI, each Delegate is responsible for voting the way he or she feels about a particular Resolution. This vote may or may not reflect the opinions of the Region represented or the Board of Trustees recommendation.

In my opinion, this year's Resolutions are rather bland. Some concern omitting policies which still exist in old Bylaws, but are no longer pertinent to 21st Century concerns.

There may be two Resolutions offered this year which spark some interaction on the HOD floor. **Resolution 323 concerns allowing dental school students to serve as delegates, with voting privileges.**

I believe students should be allowed to attend the meeting, and every effort should be made to mentor them in AGD's role in serving the General Dentist. However, students are, by definition, heavily involved in their schooling in dentistry. I am not sure they are ready, nor do they have the extra time, to delve into resolution details. For this reason, I feel voting privileges should not be granted. (My opinion, no reflecting of ALAGD.)

**Resolution 304 deals with adding Trustees to the list of leaders who must not campaign on behalf of candidates seeking office in AGD. Adding Trustees to the prohibited classes of campaign participants will ensure efficient and accountable infrastructure in AGD's governance.**

**I would vote "Yes" on this Resolution, as I believe candidates should stand on their own merits and qualifications. However, the national BOT recommends Resolution 304 be defeated.**

**Tune in for our next "Alabama Composite" issue. I will report on the "exciting" outcome of the AGD Governance Meeting in Chicago.**



*Bill and Chris celebrate their 59th anniversary at Sandestin.*

# President's Message

Ross Isbel, DMD, MBA



As 2019 comes to a close, take the time to consider how far you have come. Remember what you've learned, what has challenged you, and most importantly WHO has been a guiding force in your growth. Take the time to acknowledge the team that



*Dr. Isbell conducts seminar on Managing Diabetes*

makes you into a better you. Your team probably includes your clinical team, your family and friends, and professional colleagues and mentors. This is a fulfilling profession, but it's not an easy one. You don't have to keep all the stress and anxiety of your work to yourself.

There are plenty of us out there that are always willing to talk or share ideas or suggestions. Be proud of the excellence you have in your clinical life, but always be humble enough to recognize the need for growth and support. If you don't feel like your roster of mentors or supporters is what you want it to be, spend some time reimagining your dreams and identify who can help you get there.

The basic tenets of the AGD as an organization are focused on facilitating the interaction of dentists to educate each other and enable excellence in practicing the dental arts. Just by fulfilling your basic membership requirements you have chosen to set yourself apart in pursuit of greatness. If you know of someone else in your area that you think shares your ideals, ask them if they have ever considered becoming an AGD dentist and invite them join us in searching for knowledge and best practices.

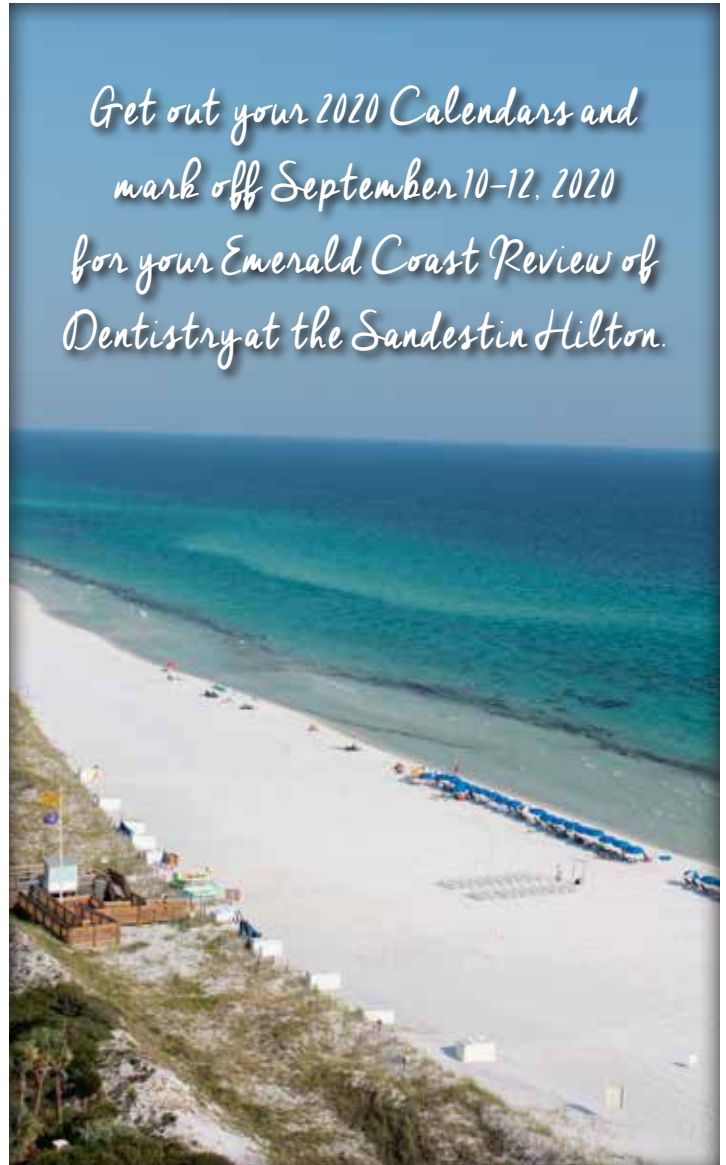
Thank you for your dedication to our profession and for another wonderful meeting in Destin! For the third year in a row, we had more attendees and

exhibitors while creating a fun and exciting atmosphere for over 80 hours of continuing education on clinical and practice management topics. If you missed out, set your calendars same time, same place, new and exciting lineup! September 10-12, 2020. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Ross Isbell, DMD, MBA  
President, ALAGD

*Get out your 2020 Calendars and mark off September 10-12, 2020 for your Emerald Coast Review of Dentistry at the Sandestin Hilton.*





# 46TH ANNUAL REVIEW OF DENTISTRY

The 2019 ALAGD Annual Meeting was held at the Sandestin Hotel September 4-7, and we are scheduled to be at the same venue next year. Almost all of the feedback concerning the Hilton has been positive, from dentists, guests, and exhibitors.

This year, the weather cooperated with us, in spite of Hurricane Dorian, churning up the East Coast of Florida while our meeting was being held.

President Ross Isbell can be proud of this meeting. His careful planning paid off in spades, with a broad spectrum of CE courses offered for both doctors and auxiliary staff members. **Endodontics, Implant Placement, Treatment of Aging Patients**—all these and many more subjects were on the crowded program.

Many of our older members have known Ross since he was born. What a pleasure it has been to watch him grow into a conscientious young general dentist. After graduating from UAB SOD, Ross did a GPR, and then earned an MBA, joining his Dad, Gordon Isbell, to practice in Gadsden, AL.

Dr. Isbell is the youngest ALAGD president ever to serve in this office, but his life experience served him well. When one of our Speakers was unable to fly to our meeting, due to closed airports in hurricane-hobbled Florida, Ross spent hours studying, then put together a Seminar on **“Managing Diabetes”**, delivering it himself with aplomb. Above and beyond the call, if you ask me!

ALAGD is fortunate to have many outstanding young dentists stepping up to become involved in our organization. Case in point: Dr. Derrick Mendez, our excellent president in 2018.

The Welcome Reception on Thursday night at the beach was well-attended. Unusual and tasty food selections, and mingling with old and new friends is always fun.

Our Exhibit Hall Party is always a highlight—FREE everything! Food, Beer, Wine, and Sodas for everyone, **Dr. Bob DeShazer filled his annual starring role in the ALAGD Big Giveaway.** With the help of **Dr. Mike Robinson**, he directed the drawing for wonderful prizes awarded to dentists, staff members, and exhibitors alike. Suspense mounted, and prize-values increased with each name called. You had to be present to win, so some missed their Golden Egg Opportunity, but those folks whose ship came in were thrilled!

Next year, **Dr. Kim Stiegler** is slated to be our esteemed president. He is already hard-at-it, working to produce an even better meeting. **If he asks for your help, step up!**

The ALAGD Board has voted to change the name of this meeting, so be watching for updates under its new name: The Emerald Coast Annual Review of Dentistry. This promotes a more regional view of our meeting.

Get out your **2020 Calendars**, and mark off **September 10-12, 2020**, for your **Emerald Coast Review of Dentistry** at the **Sandestin Hilton**. We need your complete support for our continued success.



*Drs. Ross and Gordon Isbell. Ross is the first ALAGD president whose father was also an ALAGD president.*



*We were happy to have our Region 19 Trustee, Dr. Glen Miller, (l) from North Carolina, and Region 19 Regional Director, Bill Burn, from South Carolina.*



*Gary Myers set up three of these displays for our meeting – a huge amount of work.*

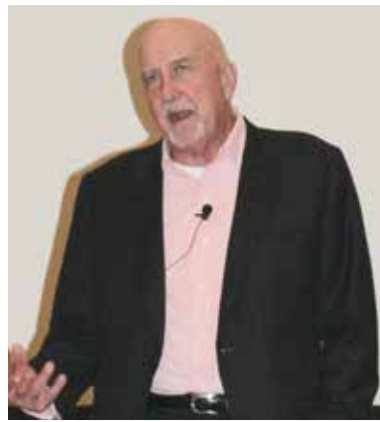


*Gary Myers, Executive Director, welcomes everyone to the beach reception. (Note the fans, it was very HOT!!)*





*Dr. Katie Powell (L) talks with Bill Burn (Region 19 Regional Director). Dr. Powell is a Pediatric Oral Surgeon. Her seminar dealt with the Opioid Crisis and Pediatric Oral Pathology.*



*Dr. Tom Dudney, is a UAB graduate (1977) and practices in Birmingham. An outstanding speaker on Diagnosis, Treatment Options, and Smile Design.*



*Ms. Leann Keefer makes a point as she delivers a seminar for us on Infection Control.*



*Harold and Toni Neumier. Toni was ALAGD President 3 years ago.*



*Friends of many years, (L-R) Gary Myers, Chris Chesser, Nick Russo.*

*Beautiful weather for our beach reception.*





# 46TH ANNUAL REVIEW OF DENTISTRY



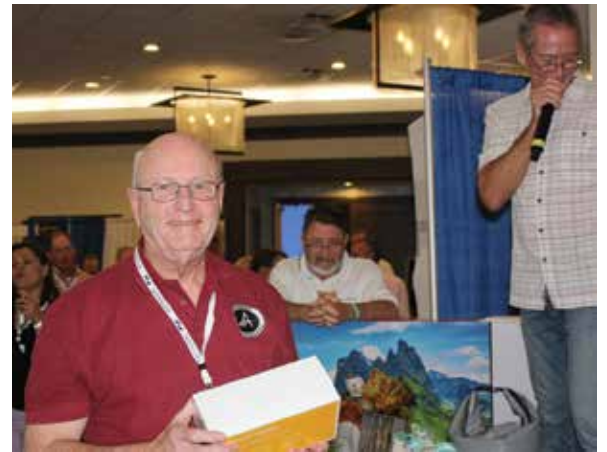
*President Ross congratulates Immediate Past President, Derrick Mendez, for an his outstanding presidential year.*



*President Ross Isbell conducts the ALAGD board meeting. Region 19 Trustee, Glen Miller attended the meeting.*



*Exhibit hall party! Always a fun event. Bob Deshazer handles this one well. Here Lisa Stiegler is thrilled at winning a great prize!*



*Guess who actually won a door prize!! This never happens. A Google home device.*



*Exhibitor wins 50" TV*



*Charles Betts wins the big TV!! (Grand Prize)*

# MASTER TRACK PROGRAM

**GREAT NEWS:** ALAGD now has a Master Track Program for any members who desire to work toward the MAGD award.

The Program is being led by Dr. Wendy Holder, of Alexander City, AL. Wendy received her MAGD this past year, and is eager to help other dentists with this program.

Protocol for the Master Track courses has three primary components:

1. Classroom session
2. A homework assignment to be completed independently by participants in their practices, with their own patients
3. Presentation, critique, and evaluation of the homework, with the Master Track Instructor

Master Track Instructors are carefully selected, based on peer recommendations and professional experience.

This program consists of a four-year opportunity to earn 600 hours needed, beyond Fellowship, to complete Mastership in the AGD.

Please read information needed to sign up for MasterTrack® (in the box below):



Dr. Wendy Holder

*“MasterTrack® changed the way I practice. It is hard to incorporate new techniques into the daily routine, but with the class assignments, it is a must. The next thing you know, the change is standard procedure and your patients will benefit.*

*Having the opportunity to talk with an instructor about new materials (rather than a vendor) influenced several changes that ultimately improved the level of service I provide to my patients.*

*Hands-on skills from the classroom are applied by taking the concepts and technique back to your office.”*

– Wendy Holder, DMD, MAGD

## Program Calendar

- Alabama MasterTrack® will meet 6 times per year on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- Our Kick-Off Weekend will be held at the Alabama AGD Annual Meeting, September 5-7, 2019 at the Hilton Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort Destin, Florida.

## Additional Meeting Locations:

- February - University of Alabama Alumni Meeting
- June - Alabama Dental Association Meeting
- Three weekend sessions in Birmingham area, location(s) TBD.
- MasterTrack® Program Fees do not include UAB Alumni, ALDA or ALAGD Meeting Registration Fees.

## Limited Class Size

Program Fees: Total program cost = \$18,000

- 1st year fees = \$6,000 due by September 30th, 2019
- 2nd year fees = \$4,500 payable in quarterly payments of each \$1,125, due in Jan 2020
- 3rd year fees = \$3,750 payable in quarterly payments of each \$937.50
- 4th year fees = \$3,750 payable in quarterly payments of each \$937.50

Program Fee includes DSLR camera kit with camera, macro lens, ring flash, retractors and mirrors for required case photography (purchased at a discount group rate).

Expert photographer Mark Caceres, DMD, MAGD will instruct MasterTrack® participants in clinical photography techniques as part of the curriculum.



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