

## President's Message



**Theodore A Tanabe DDS**  
SCOA President

I hope this edition of the SCOA Proceedings finds you healthy, happy, and ready to get together with members new and old for camaraderie and a spectacular continuing education program in San Diego in March. This is a new venue for us, and we expect it to be a perfect mix of elegance, fun, and family-friendly activities.

Because this is my first contribution to our newsletter, I want to express what an honor and privilege it is to be President of the SCOA. I was invited to join from the very start by the instructors who shaped my surgical career. I have seen this organization grow and become established by providing a quality product and also promoting fellowship. One of my main goals as President of the SCOA is to maintain the established high standards and to take the necessary steps to ensure that we thrive for years to come.

It is a rather daunting task to follow in the footsteps of Bob Huntington, Jack Lytle, Ross Prout, and George Gamboa. Luckily for me, all four of these gentlemen helped shape my career and hone my surgical skills. They have a wealth of knowledge and they all continue to offer their insight, wisdom, and support. Another stroke of good fortune for me is that the SCOA Board of Directors is filled with a wonderful mix of surgeons that will undoubtedly ensure excellence for the present and the future. And the SCOA would also not be the organization it is today without the consistent guidance of Ms Susan Smith, our dedicated Executive Director.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to encourage all of our members to attend the meeting in March. And since this meeting blends surgical and prosthodontic topics as well as our members' "Pearls of Wisdom," it touches on areas of interest to a wide variety of practitioners - perfect for inviting our restorative colleagues. I'm looking forward to seeing you in San Diego!

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### 2011 SPRING CONFERENCE

**Fri March 11-Sun March 13**  
Catamaran Hotel & Spa  
Mission Bay, San Diego

#### Presenters

Raymond J Melrose DDS  
Frank L Pavel DMD  
Graham L Simpson DDS  
With Six Pearls Presenters

Information Page 24 and Inserts



### 2011 FALL CONFERENCE

James D Ruskin DMD MD  
Information on Page 3

## Southern California Orofacial Academy

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## EDITOR'S CORNER

By Thomas H Birney DDS

I was presumptuous and premature in stating that my previous Editorial would be my final presentation.

My previous Editorial had a tragic ending following the extraction of a deciduous tooth on an 8-year-old by a young female generalist in the presence of a large undiagnosed arterio-venous defect which resulted in a massive uncontrolled bleed and a subsequent and resultant fatality. Since this report generated some interest by the readership, I will attempt to be fair and balanced and report a case done by a Board Certified OMS with an equally tragic result. Aside from the sad and morbid curiosity of these cases, it is my hope that something positive will be gained.

This case involves an 80-year-old lady who was brought to the OMS office for the removal of all remaining teeth and the insertion of a complete maxillary and complete mandibular denture. The patient underwent the usual pre-operative workup and this proved to be uneventful. In addition, with her daughter present she reviewed a video of the procedure and postoperative care to follow.

The procedure was performed under light general anesthesia and was accomplished uneventfully. The patient was transported to the recovery area when surgery was complete. In addition to the previously reviewed post-operative instruction film, she was given both verbal and written postoperative instructions in the presence of her daughter and caretaker.

A rolled-up gauze hemostatic pack was placed in the left and right posterior areas and the patient was instructed to bite and place firm pressure on the packs. The patient was discharged from the OMS office in the care of her daughter and caretaker. A short while later while at home sitting upright and watching TV, the patient experienced a coughing episode.

*Continued on Page 3*

*Dr. Birney, Continued from Page 2*

The patient was found to have a mouthful of blood and an attempt was made by the caretaker to evacuate the blood from her mouth.

At this point the sequence and history of events becomes murky. Clots and possibly some saturated gauze packs were manually removed and eventually both dentures were removed. The patient was becoming more agitated. The distress level was elevated as choking and coughing continued and breathing became increasing more difficult. The caretaker then called 911. The paramedics arrived and the patient was transported from her home to an urgent care facility.

Unsuccessful attempts were made to clear the airway and control bleeding. Breathing became more labored. It is uncertain at this point but intubation was attempted and in any event, it was not successful. One of the staff stated that there appeared to be a possible gauze blockage deep in the trachea. A decision was made by the staff to transport the patient to a facility where a bronchoscopy could be performed. No reference was made to a possible tracheotomy. The patient was being loaded into the ambulance in the driveway when she arrested. Attempts at resuscitation were not successful and the patient expired.

Apparently there was enough blame in this case to be spread around to all those involved. The OMS was criticized for sending the patient home with packs in her mouth that were not sufficiently protruding so that one could grasp them should removal be necessary. He also neglected to establish complete homeostasis. The daughter was given post-operative instructions but stated she was not told packs were placed. The caretaker was blamed for doing blind manual sweeps of the oral cavity at home with no prior experience of this procedure. The plaintiff attorney alleges that her blind sweeps resulted in pushing the gauze packs beyond the cords and deeper into the trachea. Emergency room personnel

were blamed for not immediately establishing a patent airway.

The downhill scenario started probably when proper hemostasis was not obtained. Secondly, gauze packs were placed that easily became saturated and then subsequently became dislodged. These two areas the OMS had control over and meticulous care and attention in these areas may have avoided the tragic disaster that followed. Other areas, although faulty and subject to criticism, probably were where there was little the OMS could have done to correct them.

This case is not presented to lay blame on any one individual involved in the care of this patient. It does show how rapidly things can deteriorate and quickly result in a tragedy. We all become the proverbial "Monday Morning Quarterback" and dispense our "What-ifs." Hopefully we will all do a reassessment of our emergency in-house procedures.

I appreciate the opportunity as Editor to share these few thoughts with you. I am honored to be a part of this great group of people.

*Written by Editor*

*Thomas H Birney DDS*

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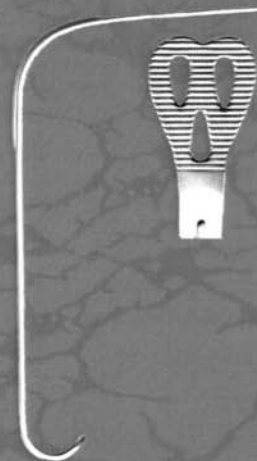
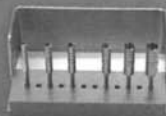
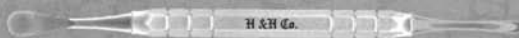
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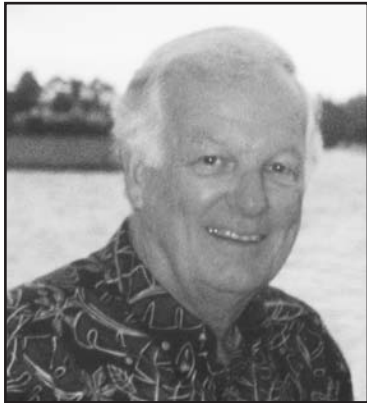


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## PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

By Robert E Huntington DDS  
SCOA Immediate Past President/Historian



“The future is now.” “The future is here.” “The future is yours.” All three phrases are somewhat trite truisms. But the quote I think fits best for this final editorial is “OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE.”

Admitting my plagiarism, the phrase “OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE” comes from the theme of the ADA’s current financial drive for educational funds. I use those four words here because I believe they best capsule my trilogy of musings about “Past, Present, and Future.” The illustrious history of the Southern California Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the current status of the Southern California Orofacial Academy have been documented in my past two president’s messages. Now it is time to look to the future and entrust SCOA into the care of a younger generation of bright, well-trained and enthusiastic oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

Professional organizations have always been about people...dedicated doctors, innovative leaders, hard-working staff, loyal exhibitors, and even our families, all of whom participate in our meetings and activities. We have many talented SCOA members as evidenced by their continuing education programs and their many “Pearls of Wisdom” presentations. Some of them have and will continue to assume leadership positions in SCOA, present Pearls, and have many future productive years in our specialty.

It is now a pleasure to offer a few words about the good people...the officers, directors, and staff who will carry on the legacy of SCSOMS and SCOA.

DR TED TANABE – Our new president is no stranger to leadership positions. Completing his various training and residency programs in 1997, Ted has been actively involved in numerous organizations. He is a past Director and President of the Southern California Academy of Oral Pathology, the Marsh Robinson Academy, the Whittier Dental Society, and currently is a member of the Continuing Education Committee of the California Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He has continued on the Attending Staff at Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center and was given an Outstanding Service Award for Part-Time Faculty for his many years of teaching at USC. Ted has long been a SCOA Director and served as treasurer the past two years. He is in private practice in Whittier.

DR DEAN LANG – Dean assumes the duties of Treasurer after several years as a Director, Arrangements Chairman and Program Chairman of SCOA. Dean has not only contacted and arranged great speakers for our Fall Implant Conferences and Annual Desert Meetings but he has presented advanced implant seminars for many professional groups around the country including our own SCOA. Dean has an impressive CV, is extremely articulate and is one reliable guy who gets the job done. Dean maintains a private practice in West Hills.

DR JOHN SCARAMELLA – New Program Chairman is John Scaramella who was the SCOA Editor for several years. John, pretty much on his own, initiated and arranged our first Advanced Cardiac Life Support course last year. He expended not only a lot of time and energy but also his own personal funds to bring it off successfully. Talk about dedication! John practices in the Newhall-Santa Clarita area and drives many miles to attend board

*Continued on Page 7*

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*Dr. Huntington, Continued from Page 5*

meetings. And on week nights no less. He is an important contributor to the Board discussions and SCOA activities.

DR JAMES JENSVOLD – Jim has long been a Director and has sought out, cajoled with and sustained important relationships with our exhibitors as Exhibits Chairman. He is also our indispensable webmaster as he coordinates the computer PowerPoint presentations of our speakers and he always seems to correct the most baffling computer glitches. His wry humor and cogent comments add considerably to every meeting. A hard worker for SCOA, Jim is in private practice in Woodland Hills.

DR FRANK L PAVEL – After his first Pearls presentation, Frank jumped right in as Pearls Chairman when he joined the Board. He continues to arrange Pearls presenters and has many great contacts in and out of the profession. Besides arranging the hotel accommodations for our Spring Meeting in San Diego, he will be the main speaker. An energetic and enthusiastic guy, Frank practices the full scope in two busy offices in the San Diego area. He takes time out of his office and has perhaps the longest travelling distance to attend board meetings. But he's always there!

DR BRIAN MUDD – Retired from the US Air Force Reserve where he obtained the rank of Colonel, Brian was active with SCSOMS some years ago where he worked with the SCPIE professional liability insurance program. He joined the SCOA early on and recently was a Pearls presenter at our Desert Conference. Brian is another member who drives a considerable distance from his Oceanside practice to attend board meetings and our Fall Conferences in Pasadena.

DR KEVIN LEW – From a family loaded with DDSs, MDs, and oral and maxillofacial surgeons, Kevin came on board several years ago. He has been our Residents Chairman and continues to help us stay

young and connected with the residents. He has been busy and successful in not only opening his new practice but in also producing a new baby girl (with considerable assistance from his wife!). Kevin's new office is in the Larchmont area of Los Angeles.

DR BACH LE – Just added to the board in October, 2010, Bach is gaining a national reputation as an astute implant surgeon and has lectured extensively, including a major presentation to SCOA just a few years ago. We welcome Bach to the Board and look forward to his expertise and contributions. Between teaching and presenting CE courses, Bach practices in East Whittier with special emphasis on implants.

DR RICK BERRIOS – Rick also graciously accepted appointment as a new Board member. Rick was a recent Pearl presenter and his talk was notable for his extensive review of the literature and the clinical correlations. Rick has practiced in Southern California for nearly two decades in an office in Huntington Beach and recently took over an active office in Costa Mesa. We welcome Rick's wisdom and experience.

DR ROBERT HALE – Though no longer a local boy, we continue to hear from our friend and former board member (now on the SCOA Advisory Committee), and long-time SCOA Editor Bob Hale, now known as Colonel Robert G Hale of the US Army Dental Corp. Col Hale left private practice in Southern California and returned to active duty after spending time treating war injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan. He has published extensively and has shown many cases of maxillofacial trauma at our SCOA meetings. He is currently Program Director of the OMS Residency at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Bob contributed much to SCOA (he designed our logo and named our newsletter, SCOA Proceedings) and still maintains contact despite the time and distance.

*Continued on Page 9*



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*Dr. Huntington, Continued from Page 7*

With the ever-increasing popularity of and attendance at our SCOA courses and conferences, several part-time staff members have become a necessity to aid our Executive Director, Susan Smith.

VICKI HANES – Vicki is the wife of Dr Stan Hanes, a long-time oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Lake Tahoe. Stan and I were one year apart at the USC School of Dentistry so it was great to see Vicki and Stan start attending our Desert Conference in Palm Springs a few years ago. They live part-time in the desert. Susan says Vicki appeared at a desert conference ready to help, and has been indispensable at our meetings ever since.

JANE GLEASON – Susan and Jane have been friends since Menlo-Atherton High School in Northern California. Jane moved to La Jolla a few years ago and has been a valuable assistant. Susan says Jane learned the SCOA meeting routine quickly and is getting to know our members. Next time you see her at a meeting be sure to introduce yourself.

As a parting comment I feel compelled to address the following: Several years ago two officers of the Southern California Orofacial Academy met with two officers of the California Association of Oral and maxillofacial surgeons to discuss the possibilities of some sort of “cooperative reunification.” Given the history of the Northern and Southern California Societies, the vast geographical distances of California, and the concept that governance works most efficiently at the local level, further dialog on this subject stalled. I have long been disappointed to hear a few politicians suggest that SCOA was a “rebel group” and in competition with CALAOMS. We have consistently advocated support and membership in both CALAOMS and SCOA. Conversations and informal polling of our members reveal that most all support this concept and indicate exceptional satisfaction

with the SCOA objectives of camaraderie and continuing education on a more manageable local level. That is not to preclude any future dialog to negotiate an amicable, efficient organization that allows the vast number of oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the southern part of the state to manage their own continuing education courses and their own affairs with their own local headquarters and staff.

“OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE” are yours to do what you wish with them. “THE FUTURE IS YOURS.”

Thank you all for your continuing support and for our lasting friendships.

*Written by  
Bob Huntington*

1



2



3



1. SCOA Board Members present at Oct 20 Conference: Drs Bach Le, Joe Goodsell, Bob Fontanesi, Frank Pavel, Dean Lang, Tom Birney, Jim Jensvold, Jack Lytle, Bob Huntington, Ted Tanabe.
2. Outgoing SCOA President Dr Bob Huntington with Incoming SCOA President Dr Ted Tanabe.
3. Drs Craig Chan, Gary Chan, Bill Owen.



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## SCOA 2010 Fall Conference

By R Dean Lang DDS  
Past Program Chairman



Our Annual Fall Implant Conference was held at the Hilton Pasadena for the fourth year. Their International Ballroom has become popular with our presenters, doctors and exhibitors.

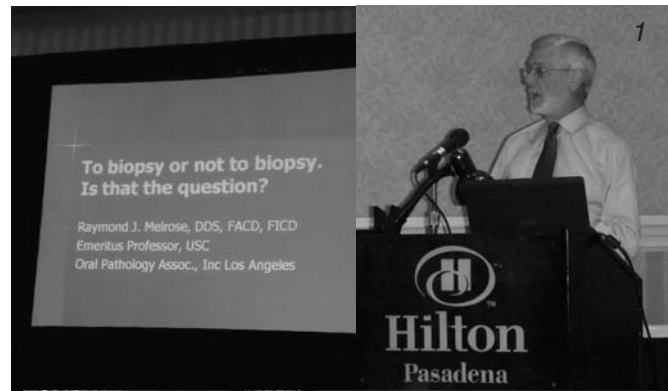
Dr Ray Melrose started the meeting with *To Biopsy or Not to Biopsy: Is That the Question?* Ray has agreed to present a short lesson on oral pathology at all of our meetings from now on, which we appreciate.

Dr Dennis Smiler continued the program with *Harvesting Stem Cells for Bone Graft Success*. Dennis discussed stem cell biology and function as it relates to osteogenesis and bone marrow aspirate.

Dr Alan Kaye presented *How You May Lose Your Profession if You Don't Protect Your Practice*. Alan's topics gave us all concern for our profession and what we do in our offices.

Dr Stewart Balikov presented *The Nuts & Bolts of Proper Record Keeping and Documentation*. Stewart reminded us how important it is to keep comprehensive patient documents and records.

Thanks to Vicki Hanes, Henrietta Romero, Patti Purdom, and Ruth Camardi who took care of this meeting in Susan's absence. Thanks to Vicki again for all the photos she took that day.



1. Dr Ray Melrose, Fall 2010 Presenter.
2. Dr Bob Huntington with Dr Dennis Smiler, Fall 2010 Presenter.
3. Dr Stewart Balikov, Fall 2010 Presenter, Dr Norm Fischer, Dr Alan Kaye, Fall 2010 Presenter, Dr Moris Aynechi.





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**Charles Stanley Phillips DDS**  
**June 20, 1914 - August 30, 2010**



Stan Phillips was the first oral surgeon I knew personally in Glendale. He returned home from "The War" in 1946 and opened his oral surgery practice on North Brand Blvd in Glendale and remained in practice until he retired in 1980. Joe Goodsell continued Stan's practice until recently when he handed it off to Mark Urata et al and the practice continues to this day at the North Brand location. By the time I was in High School, Stan was the best known "wisdom tooth remover" in Glendale.

Stan was Mister Glendale who seemingly knew everything and everybody in town. He was born in Eagle Rock but moved to Glendale at age two and went entirely through the Glendale School system, graduating from Glendale High in 1933, then Glendale College and finally on to USC Dental School where he graduated in 1941. He and Jane were married in September 1941 and Stan was employed teaching at the Dental School.

The Second World War broke out on December 7, 1941 and by February 1942 Stan was an Army Dentist. He was a highly regarded volunteer and was assigned to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington DC for training in oral surgery. He completed his year of training and was assigned to Woodrow

Wilson General Hospital in Staunton Virginia where he served as chief of oral surgery until his release from service in at the War's end.

When he returned to Glendale he was welcomed by the two Glendale oral surgeons, Roland Grubb and Lock Hales, who by virtue of age and community need had remained home during the War. My dad was practicing general dentistry in Glendale and I remember clearly him talking about the "fine young oral surgeon" who had just come home from the war and begun oral surgery practice. He was busy immediately and remained so for the next 35 years.

Stan is survived by his wife Jane, sons Stan Jr and Christopher, daughter Paige, eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren. In his younger years Stan was very athletic and always remained physically active. In 1954 he and Jane acquired the only ranchland left in Glendale and Verdugo Oaks Ranch is where they raised their family and entertained their many friends and associates. Stan was very active at Glendale Memorial Hospital and the medical staff held their annual staff picnic at Stan and Jane's wonderful ranch home for many years. Stan was well regarded by the medical community and served on the credentials committee at Glendale Memorial Hospital before his retirement.

Stan loved horses; he owned several over the years and rode frequently in the Verdugo Mountains surrounding his home. He participated in the De Anza trail ride from Riverside to the Mexican border for many years, often with his sons or other oral surgeons such as Sheldon Brockett of San Diego.

Stan was a strong supporter of USC football and had many stories about the early days of USC football when Howard Jones was coach and Marion Morrison (John Wayne) played for Glendale High and USC.

*Continued on Page 15*

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*Dr. Lytle, Continued from Page 13*

Stan was truly devoted to the Southern California Society of Oral Surgeons and was President in 1966. He delighted in telling stories about clinicians who came to speak who he had known during the War. He was a friend of Bob Shira who many of us knew and who Stan had invited to speak at our meetings on several occasions.

Stan was also technically skilled and used the "impactor" to remove bone around third molars and to produce a split. This handpiece-driven device utilized a spring mechanism that could be adjusted to produce variable force and it was a technique that Stan developed to perfection. He was always

ready to share his knowledge and expertise. He remained active in the affairs of oral and maxillofacial surgery following retirement and was a valued advisor in the formation of this organization (SCOA).

Stan made friends easily and remained a friend for life with his many colleagues in oral and maxillofacial surgery and in the Glendale community. His long and productive life had a very positive impact on his community, his profession, and most importantly on his friends and family. He was a friend and advisor who will truly be missed.

*Written by John J Lytle DDS MD*



SCSOMS Past Presidents were honored on January 18, 1995. Seated from left: Frank Pavel DDS, Robert B Steiner DDS\*, S James Vamvas DDS\*, Sheldon I Brockett DDS, C Stanley Phillips DDS\*, Roger S Kingston DDS, Frank E Barbee DDS MS\*; Standing from left: Thomas A Seaton DDS\*, Robert W Thompson DDS, Ross W Prout DDS, Leland W Reeve DDS\*, Robert V Fontanesi DDS MS, John J Lytle MD DDS, Howard P Boller DDS, Charles R Petty DDS MS\*, Dennis-Duke R Yamashita DDS, W Howard Davis DDS, Leon Weissman DDS\*, Robert E Huntington DDS, Thomas H Birney DDS. (\*Deceased)

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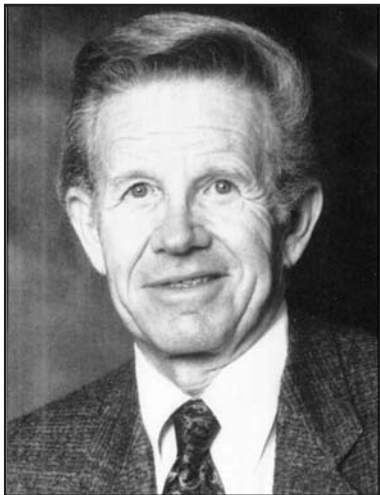
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**Seymour Morrow DDS**  
**October 14, 1923 - December 6, 2010**



Santa Monica, California -- Seymour Morrow DDS lost his four-year battle with pancreatic cancer on December 6, 2010 at the age of 87. A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, he is survived by his wife of 63 years, Donelda, two children and his six grandchildren.

Dr Morrow graduated from Los Angeles High School at the age of 16 and went on to attend UCLA where he was a member of the honor society and the Alpha Omega Fraternity. He completed his dental studies at USC where he again excelled, graduating with honors. He joined the Navy at the beginning of the Korean War as an officer. Assigned to a battleship, he served as the ship's dentist and mess officer.

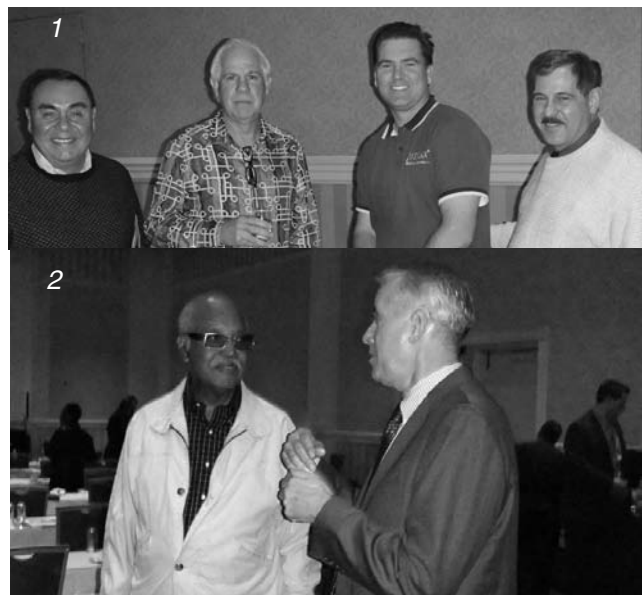
In 1948 he married and settled in the San Fernando Valley where he raised his family and ultimately established a thriving oral surgery practice. In 1968 he was joined in that practice by Robert Shuken, and later by Jeffrey Foltz in 1980. After more than 25 years, he chose to retire, pursuing other passions and devoting more time to family, faith, business, and tennis. The practice continues under the guidance of Drs Shuken and Foltz today, in the same location built by Dr Morrow.

He was a long-time member of SCOMS and an active participant in their tennis tournaments, the sport he loved the most. He was a respected member of the USC Oral Surgery Resident teaching staff, held in high esteem for his skill and talent while equally respected for his kind, gentle manner. He was the consummate professional who always took time to share his experience and wisdom with those he came to mentor over the years.

As his partners, we were continually impressed not only by his exceptional surgical skill, but by Seymour Morrow the man; his integrity, his love of family and his sense of community. He was compassionate with his patients and built his practice on a foundation of uncompromised standards of excellence. Our profession was indeed enriched by Seymour Morrow; the surgeon and the man. As a partner, a friend and a colleague, he will be missed.

*Written by*

*Robert Shuken DDS and Jeffrey Foltz DDS*



1. Dr Joe Anthony, Dr Ken Malone, Justin Swann, Xemax Surgical Products, Dr John Scaramella.

2. Drs Larry Hundley and Keith Hoffmann.



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**Frank M McCarthy BS DDS MD ScD (hon) FACD FICD**  
**August 27, 1924 - January 20, 2011**



We often speak of “giants” in dentistry and our specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Frank M “Cap” McCarthy truly belongs to that elite group of dentist physicians who made a lasting impact on our profession. He was the first and longest tenured director of outpatient dental general anesthesia at the Los Angeles County General Hospital, later known as the LA County/USC Medical Center. He was asked to start the program soon after he arrived in Southern California and joined the Adrian Hubbell DDS oral surgery practice in Long Beach.

He had attended the University of Pittsburgh for his undergraduate pre-doctoral education obtaining the BS in 1943, DDS in 1946 and his MD in 1949. He completed his medical internship at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh PA. When he finished his tour of duty in the U.S. Navy, including a year in Japan in 1952, he and Judy decided to head west to California. I’m sure Dr Hubbell was pleased to add this young oral surgeon to his burgeoning practice that at times daily completed more than 50 cases of dento-alveolar surgery under straight pentothal and later straight methohexital anesthesia.

It didn’t take Cap long to see opportunity in the Westchester area where he set up his own oral surgery practice which was an immediate success. He and Judy moved the family to Rolling Hills Estates where their two children, son Robert and daughter Lee were raised. In the early 70s Cap and Judy moved to a penthouse condominium on Orange Grove Avenue in Pasadena and Cap redirected his professional activities.

He retired from private practice in 1975 and became a full-time professor of physical diagnosis, outpatient sedation, office general anesthesia and emergency medicine. He had always been interested in academics and had more than 100 published articles in peer-reviewed journals. He was editor of the anesthesia section of the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial surgery from 1972 through 1981.

In addition, his popular 1965 Dental Clinics of North America Monograph on *Medical Emergencies in Dental Practice* went through three printings and was expanded in 1967 to the definitive text on *Emergencies in Dental Practice* which went through three editions and was published in six foreign editions over the subsequent 25 years.

Dean Bill Crawford appointed him Chairman of the Division of Surgical Sciences in 1977 and Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs. He continued to actively teach undergraduates and was recognized by the students as ‘Outstanding Teacher of the Year’ on multiple occasions. He was my boss during my tenure as Chairman of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at USC. Dr McCarthy retired to Pasadena in the mid-nineties where he and Judy resided until his recent hospitalization and passing.

*Continued on Page 21*

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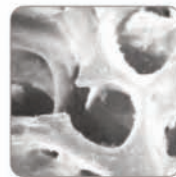


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*Frank M McCarthy, Continued from Page 19*

Judy McCarthy spotted Cap when she was an undergraduate at the University of Pittsburgh where she obtained her BA and MA in modern foreign languages. They married in November 1949 when Cap completed his fellowship at Georgetown under the tutelage of Gustav Kruger. Cap was always interested in automobiles and had a number of exotic cars, mainly Jaguars as I recall. Judy says Cap became interested in her not because of her striking appearance but because she had a Buick convertible. Her dad owned the Buick Agency in Sewickley Pennsylvania about 12 miles north of Pittsburgh where she was raised before attending "Pitt."

In 1958 Dr Charles Yoon and I entered the residency program and we heard Cap speak often and eloquently about outpatient ultralight general anesthesia, a term he had devised. We soon learned that as entering residents we would be "put to sleep" with pentothal to prepare us to honestly say to patients we had experienced outpatient general anesthesia. There was no arguing with Cap despite our reluctance to submit on our first visit to the outpatient clinic at LA County. We both were uneasy about undergoing unnecessary anesthesia but following successful emergence we were relieved and pleased with the experience. Cap was right.

He was a very active member of the Southern California Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and was president of that organization in 1974. He was the honoree of the SCOMS in 1977, an early recognition of his contributions to our society, oral and maxillofacial surgery and to anesthesia in dentistry. He was the prime force in making sure office evaluations occurred during his tenure and passed that responsibility on to me. We maintained a permanent file of our activities and all of the office evaluations that were conducted.

It is well known that the office anesthesia evaluation program and the training of surgical anesthesia assistants was initiated by Cap who served first as anesthesia chairman for the SCSOMS and later, in 1972, as chairman of the American Society of Oral

Surgeons anesthesia committee. Cap was an exceptional oral and maxillofacial surgeon who is fondly remembered by those who were taught by him and worked with him over his exceptional career. He was a forceful advocate for the formation of the Southern California Orofacial Academy and served on the Board from 2002 until he was no longer able to attend. He was our honoree in 2007. We will miss his guidance and friendship that we enjoyed for more than fifty years.

*Written by  
John J Lytle MD DDS*



1. SCOA Staff: Vicki Hanes, Patti Purdom, Ruth Camardi, Henrietta Romero.

2. Scott Price, Brady & Associates, Drs Stan Hanes and Ted Tanabe.

3. Drs Michael Jensen, Loretta Gilmore, Marv Jensen.



**AB 2637 for DSA Course**  
**By John M Scaramella DDS**  
**Course Director**

**Dental Sedation Assistant Pilot Course**

The CDA collaborated with the Dental Assisting Alliance, representatives from general practice, and all recognized dental specialties to strengthen the career path for dental assistants. Six years (2002-2008) of public, legislative, and regulatory work was completed in response to the evaluation of the dental assisting structure.

**AB 2637**

SB 1546 was the original legislation enacted in 2004. This law was sunsetted and replaced by AB 2637 which establishes the DSA and the ROA.

**DSA Permit**

This permit creates a clear entry point and career ladder for the dental assisting profession by offering additional training and permits for specialized duties. The permit provides for expanded functions for the current core categories DA, RDA, RDAEF. Two add-on permits for those who wish to perform certain specialty-specific duties are for Orthodontic and OMS/Periodontics.

**Eligibility Requirements for Licensure**

Twelve months of work experience as a DA (may commence study after six months of employment); California Dental Practice Act, Infection Control and BLS courses; 110 hours of DBC-approved course education: Didactic (40 hours); Laboratory and Pre-clinical (hands-on) (32 hours); Clinical (involving patient treatment) (38 hours); Written examination administered by the DBC.

**Dental Sedation Assistant Provisions**

The DSA expands opportunities within dental assisting without changing dentists' fundamental oversight responsibilities; The dentist holding the general anesthesia or conscious sedation permit is required to be at the patient's chair side to make all anesthesia decisions and to instruct and verify the permitted DA's actions.

**Dental Practice Act**

Under the Business and Professions Code 1750.5: Persons holding a DSA permit may perform the following duties under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist or other licensed health care professional authorized to administer conscious sedation or general anesthesia in the dental office.

**DSA Licensed Duties**

Monitor patients undergoing conscious sedation or general anesthesia utilizing data from non-invasive instrumentation such as pulse oximeters, electrocardiograms, capnography, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration rate monitoring devices; *Evaluation of the condition of a sedated patient shall remain the responsibility of the dentist or other licensed health care professional authorized to administer CS or GA, who shall be at the patient's chair side while CS or GA is being administered;* Drug identification and draw, limited to identification of appropriate medications, ampule and vial preparation, and withdrawing drugs of correct amount *as verified by the supervising licensed dentist;* Removal of Intravenous lines; Add drugs, medications, and fluids to intravenous lines using a syringe, *provided that a supervising licensed dentist is present at the patient's chair side,* limited to determining patency of intravenous line, selection of injection port, syringe insertion into injection port, occlusion of intravenous line and blood aspiration, line release and injection of drugs for appropriate time interval; **The exception to this duty is that the INITIAL DOSE of a drug or medication shall be administered by the supervising licensed dentist;** The duties listed above may not be performed in any other setting than a dental office or clinic.

**Dental Sedation Assistant**

The educational requirements for the DSA permit ensure that the permitted assistant is familiar with the environment of an office delivering ambulatory conscious sedation and general anesthesia. This brings a more educated assistant into the dental surgery environment.

**Thanks to SCOA Spring 2011  
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**March 11-13  
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***In Memoriam***



*Since SCOA started in 2001:*

*Bob Steiner 2001  
Frank Barbee 2001  
Helen Brockett 2002  
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Jeffrey Pulver 2010  
Stan Phillips 2010  
Seymour Morrow 2010  
Cap McCarthy 2011*

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