DENTISTRY IN RUSSIA: An Indiana Perspective

By Robert Dickson

Many leaders in Russia seem to recognize the moral and spiritual void that exists after purging religion from their society for the past 70 years. In an effort to incorporate Biblical principles into health care practice, the Director of Public Health for the city of Nizhny Novgorod (formerly Gorky) invited representatives of the Christian Medical and Dental Society to present lectures in their area of specialization. Ron Blevins, an ENT from Indianapolis, and I responded to the call and arrived for a week’s stay after Thanksgiving in 1992.

Nizhny is a city of about 2 million people located approximately 350 miles east of Moscow along the Moscow–Siberia Highway. The city was closed to the west until a few years ago because of a high concentration of Soviet military-industrial complexes in the area. Ron was the first western physician to perform surgery in their 1500 bed university hospital and I may have been the first dentist to have professional "exchange" (lectures) in a structured situation.

My lectures were presented in a lone standing three story building in town that housed a dental "polyclinic". The presentations included sealants, sealed composite restorations, pulp treatment and restoration of traumatized teeth, and periodontics (at their request).

My first lecture began with an overview of my office and the nature of my practice. It seemed Divinely ordained to humble me in their eyes. First, the great American technology failed when my electrical current converter did not allow me to use my slide projector. They supplied a projector that held only two slides at a time. The discussion

1993 Biennial Meeting
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LOOK FOR THE REGISTRATION MATERIAL THAT ACCOMPANIED
OUR TREE
of office overhead included malpractice insurance which quickly degenerated into revealing treatment failures. However, all these things worked together for the best because, unknown to me at the time, I had instant credibility simply because I was an American dentist.

These incidents served to establish rapport with our very proud colleagues in Nizhny. It was encouraging to see their professional attitude as demonstrated by their attentiveness throughout the lectures and their depth of understanding by the questions they asked. They want to provide top quality care, it is just that the available equipment and technology is inadequate and they know it. For instance, during a clinical demonstration on sealants, there was no suction (the patients spit into an unplumbed bowl on a pedestal) and there was no water syringe. I used a device that looked like a turkey baster for rinsing. Compressed air and a curing light were available in one clinic, but the curing light was inoperable in another.

During the discussion of pulp treatment of injured anterior teeth, the question kept coming back through the translator: "What do you do about the granuloma?" (the periapical radiolucency). It finally occurred to me that their periapical radiolucencies in endodontically treated teeth do not heal. I informed them that we use a material called gutta percha. Their response? "Yes, we have heard of this". Most root canals are obturated with a paste material (ZOE base, I believe). But, as one of my going away gifts, I was given a very valuable item—a small box of silver points.

Most of the dentists were women and it would be difficult to support a family on their salary. I assumed that my host, Ischak Sakherov, was one of the better paid dentists in this major city; his salary was 15,000 rubles/month. At the current exchange rate that is $37.50. The services dentists provide seem out of proportion for their compensation. Taxi drivers are better paid.

Health care is socialized, although a handful of private dental offices are available. The charge for a filling in a private office is 400 rubles or $1.00. I asked why anyone would go to a private dentist and pay when they could go to the state-run polyclinic and receive free treatment; the answer, at the private offices they make appointments.

My host is the director of the polyclinic where the lectures were given. His wife, Naphisa, is also a dentist and teaches at the University dental school. Their 17 year old son, Ildar, is in his first year of dental school; their dental training is for five years after high school. Ildar was studying for a neuroanatomy exam during my stay. You remember the decussation of the pyramids, don't you???

I was a guest in the Sakherovs' apartment and ate meals with them. Their apartment building reminded me of a 20 story college dormitory. They had two bedrooms, a small kitchen and a small family/TV room. My host family very quickly and completely incorporated me into their lives; I felt immersed in their
culture by the end of the first day. The relationship I established with the family was the most heart-warming aspect of the trip.

One final thought as I contemplate the impact of this trip. It is a blessing to be able to read most of the significant dental literature in my native English. This gives me an awesome amount of potential in a global economy. Many of our colleagues around the world must either learn English or have the literature translated to keep current with research. What a tremendous advantage it is to clearly understand the predominant language of our profession.

I am returning to Russia on May 28, 1993 for a two week stay; however, I have planned my lectures and clinical times differently for this visit based on the knowledge I now have about the available equipment and technologies in Nizhny.

Bob Dickson wearing a traditional Russian hat

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It is hard for me to believe that my two-year term as President of the IUPDAA is rapidly drawing to a close! This service opportunity has been the high point of my entire dental career. I regard my decision to pursue my pediatric dental post-doctoral training at Indiana as the most important professional choice of my life. Once again, I want to thank Paul Starkey for his hospitality, warmth and follow-up letter to me after I attended the "Breakfast with the Experts" at the 1970 ASDC/ADA meeting in Las Vegas. Believe me, I was overwhelmed to return home and receive a personal letter from Paul encouraging me to consider Indiana for my pedo training when I finished dental school at UOP in San Francisco in 1973 (at the time, I was only a sophomore dental student).

In order to continue our strong pediatric dental tradition at Indiana, we all must help Dave Avery attract the "best and the brightest" dental graduates to Indiana's pediatric dentistry post-doctoral program! My requests of you are two-fold: first, encourage the top senior pre-doctoral students and others to consider specializing in pediatric dentistry and second, strongly suggest that they include Indiana on their list of pedo programs. You may wish to write a personal letter of recommendation for a promising candidate to be sent to Dave Avery. Just as our nation's children represent the future of our country, so do high-quality pedo candidates represent the future of the pediatric dentistry post-doctoral program at Indiana! Please do for some deserving candidate what Paul Starkey did for me so many years ago. The time and effort you expend will be well worth it...I PROMISE.

As this is my last President's Column, I want to once again thank our SUPERB Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Hatcher, for her innumerable contributions to IUPDAA and to the Pediatric Dentistry Department at IUUSD. We are indeed blessed to have someone of Elizabeth's considerable talents and skills who is willing to provide consistent guidance and support for our organization and its leaders over a large number of years!
I also want to thank John Mink for planning an EXCELLENT meeting for the upcoming 4th of July Weekend. Dr. E. Preston Hicks will be presenting "Mixed Dentition Orthodontics" on July 2 and 3, 1993. Plenty of "free time" has been included in the program for family, fellowship, and recreation. Please contact Elizabeth if you need additional information.

Finally, I want to thank all of the officers and directors of IUPDAA for their efforts over the past two years. Also, Dave Avery, Paul Starkey and Ralph McDonald deserve special recognition for their many and varied contributions past, present and future. Thank you all for your substantial gifts to the McDonald Fund; the monies fill a very wide gap within the budget of the IU Pediatric Dentistry Department! There is still plenty of time to contribute before the end of the year.

Janet and I wish you well during 1993 and we hope to see you ALL in July in Indianapolis for our LARGEST IUPDAA Meeting in history! Peace and good health to you and your families.

Ronald B. Mack, President

ACCOLADES

Priscilla Johns Bond (Class of 1985) became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

Carol Jean Braun (Class of 1986) became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

Liam Convery (Class of 1967) was awarded Honorary Membership in the American Dental Association as a result of his work at Trinity College.

H. Raymond Klein (Class of 1964) was elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association.

Richard Malecz (Class of 1978) received his M.B.A. degree in Finance from Rutgers University in May 1992.

Chris C. Scures (Associate Member) is President-Elect of the American College of Dentists for 1992-93.

AVERY'S NOTES

A few months ago, our advanced education program in pediatric dentistry was evaluated through a comprehensive review of all aspects of the program. I want to share the results of this evaluation with you as an up-date on the status of our program. As you probably know, all recognized specialty training programs in dentistry must be evaluated every seven years. This process establishes the accreditation status of each program as determined by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Each advanced program is evaluated by an appointed expert (consultant) in the respective specialty who has no affiliation or other potential conflicts of interest with the program being evaluated. All pediatric dentistry programs are evaluated by the same set of standards which currently includes 130 specific criteria that the consultant must consider to judge the level of compliance to the standards that a program may have. This review process requires the consultant to complete a 34-page
questionnaire and narrative report which represents an in-depth review and evaluation of the program.

I am extremely proud to announce that our program received a perfect score! The consultant did not find any deficiencies in our program as measured by the standards. The consultant did suggest that the clinical experience in the program be monitored and adjusted when indicated to ensure that the educational mission is not compromised by a reliance on students to fulfill institutional service obligations. The results of this evaluation provide documented proof that our program ranks among the overall best in the country and presumably the world. Does this mean that our program is flawless or that the faculty and staff can relax? Of course not, and we are not so naive as to believe it for one second! There will always be room for improvement in every aspect of our program; if we ever lose sight of this fact, we will no longer be ranked among the best. Our success and continuing improvement is directly related to the competence, dedication, diligence, and hard work of our faculty, staff, and alumni; and in these, we excel. My sincere thanks to all.

This will be my last report to you as Chairman of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Effective July 1, 1993, we will be merged into a larger department to be named Oral Facial Development. Our new department will be comprised of the current departments of Oral-Facial Genetics, Orthodontics, and Pediatric Dentistry. I hope you will be able to come back "home" to Indiana for our biennial meeting July 2 and 3, 1993, and see for yourself how we are preparing for the remainder of this decade and the 21st century.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership in the Alumni Association changes yearly through the addition of new active, associate, and honorary members; other members have changed their status to life membership. At present there are 224 members in the association: 161 active; 37 associate; 7 honorary; 13 life; and 6 student.

The following people became associate members in the past year:

Timothy Olinger, IU Graduate in 1985, Speciality training at the Medical University of South Carolina, Private Practice in Fort Wayne, IN
John C. Pfefferle, IU Graduate 1978, Speciality training at the University of North Carolina, Private Practice in Raleigh, NC
Sompit Dhummarungrong, Visiting Scholar in Pediatric Dentistry from Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand in 1992
Terri A. Winn, IU Graduate 1984, Speciality training at the University of Kentucky, Private Practice in Crawfordsville, IN

We are pleased to welcome these new members to the association and hope to see them in the Hospitality Suite in Kansas City.

Guthrie E. Carr (Class of 1955) retired from his private practice in Lafayette, Indiana effective September 1, 1992. Upon his retirement, his membership status changed from active to LIFE.
LOST MEMBERS

We have lost contact with some of our members, which has caused them to be placed in an inactive category. If you are in contact with any of these alumni, please let them know the Alumni Office is interested in re-establishing their membership. Anyone interested in changing their membership status should contact Elizabeth Hatcher at the address on the back of the newsletter.

Robert Aubuchon, Class of 1973
Nicholas Chelenza, Class of 1991
Tobias Derloshon, Class of 1986
David Ehrenreich, Associate Member
C. James Ellis, Class of 1976
Darryl Harris, Class of 1963
Richard Jennings, Class of 1956
William Johnson, Class of 1984
George Krull, Class of 1977
Michael Lerner, Class of 1969
Mark Loyer, Class of 1987
Robert Moore, Class of 1963
Daniel O'Brien, Class of 1973
Philip Walter, Class of 1974

GILMORE'S NOTES

There are many highlights for this academic year, with the major accomplishment being the visit last October of the team from the ADA Commission on Accreditation. An ad hoc faculty committee completed the written report last fall and is now busy preparing the final response to the visitors' list of recommendations and suggestions. At this time all of the accreditation documents are filed in the library for evaluation. A tremendous effort was made by numerous individuals on the faculty and staff. The experience was rewarding for the participants because they learned many important details about the school's programs. The final result was a professional evaluation by the team, which was very complimentary about our School of Dentistry.

The recommendations and suggestions made by the committee are being tended to by the faculty. They revolve around three focal points of the predoctoral curriculum: 1) assuring relevancy in the basic science subjects; 2) devising a comprehensive curriculum in which unnecessary duplication has been rooted out; and 3) enhancing scientific method and problem solving in dental student courses. The faculty has responded by working together in the undergraduate disciplines to organize a new curriculum that combines some of the clinical sciences to allow more time for basic science instruction. The undergraduate curriculum will be organized around six core units of instruction.

We are all proud of how our research program is reflected in changes to the dental school building. In the areas adjacent to the IUSD pediatric dentistry clinic, several new research facilities are in various stages of development. They will share an area of our building that houses such highly productive research programs as the bone research laboratory. As with that lab, some of the new programs will be networked with the schools of medicine, engineering and technology, and science, and all will be extremely busy with a wide variety of research projects. Sponsored research for the school last year topped $5 million, nearly doubling the figure from the previous year. We are grateful to have this enormous increase in faculty investigation.
There is reason to celebrate many of the accomplishments of the class of 1992: all of the graduates who took the licensing exam of the Indiana State Board of Examiners passed it. In addition, all of the students passed every section of Part II of the National Boards. There were only three dental schools in the country with this outstanding academic achievement.

All of us at the IU School of Dentistry are striving aggressively to build the quality of the school. Today, survival is contingent upon significant contributions in the areas of instruction and research by all who support the program. Writing a well defined, yet flexible strategic plan will be the most important document the faculty will create— it must be one that will prepare us for challenges far into the next century. Your support and interest, as with that of all IUSD's alumni, will be important as the school passes through this unique period of transition.

H. William Gilmore, Dean

FOND REMEMBRANCES

In 1992, the alumni association lost three colleagues due to untimely death; Michael E. Mann, David B. McClure and Kenneth D. Snawder. We contacted other alumni to request eulogies on each man and they follow.

Dr. Michael Earl Mann

By B. Charles Kerkhove

Michael Earl Mann, age 50, passed from this life at his home on Sunday, July 5, 1992. He was born September 25, 1941 in Kokomo. He married Pamela Hite on August 26, 1960. He is survived by his wife Pam, daughter Debbie Bowman, son Brett and three grandchildren.

Mike graduated from Indiana University in 1964 and from Indiana University School of Dentistry in 1968. He completed his Pediatric Dentistry training at Indiana with the Class of 1973.

Mike developed a fine practice on the southside of Indianapolis over the past eighteen years. He was well liked and served his community well. His practice has been taken over by his son, Brett, who completed his pediatric dentistry training at the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati.

Mike was a member of the Community Church of Greenwood where he and his family actively participated. Through the church he and Pam twice traveled to El Salvador where they served as part of a medical and dental team. These trips were an important part of Mike's life. He loved every part of helping others and spreading God's word to the people in the villages. Mike seemed to be a changed person after each trip. His walk with the Lord matured and his love for his Savior and those around him increased. He was planning to return to El Salvador in January, 1993. Mike was in his glory helping the underprivileged in the outback of El Salvador.

Mike was always the quiet leader, the one with wisdom beyond his years. He was slow to anger, quick to forgive, and his love for his family and their closeness was a model for many people.
Mike's family adored him. He was a wonderful father to his children. He always showed them the attention and love they needed as they grew up. To his wife, Pam, he will always be remembered as the most loving, caring, and faithful husband. He truly shared all of life's joys. God must have needed someone very special to call Mike home. If the world was made up of more like Mike, Hell just might freeze over.

Mike had many friends, but those closest to him were his family and his dental classmate, Jim Campi. Jim and Mike hunted and fished together. They both had purchased property in Montana with plans to build homes and retire in the mountains. Jim is building his home, but Mike's new home is not of this world.

Mike will be remembered for his honesty, thoughtfulness and his ethical standards. He is truly missed by his family and friends.

**Dr. David Boyd McClure**

By W. Bailey Davis

Services for David Boyd McClure were held August 3, 1992 in Phoenix, Arizona. Formerly of Anderson, Indiana, Dave was Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at Riley Dental Clinic. David B. McClure, "The Colonel", was our teacher, our mentor and a friend who made a significant difference in many lives; I know he did in mine.

Many associated with the School of Dentistry and Riley Dental Clinic today did not have an opportunity to know Dr. McClure and the important role he played in the advancement of pediatric dental education. He was truly Indiana's pioneer in clinical sedation. Dave shared his personal experiences and clinical expertise with us and coached us to overcome the anxieties associated with drug administration and to become comfortable with our responsibilities in the administration of premedication.

Dave was an effective and dedicated teacher. His influence and efforts contributed to the strong foundation of Indiana's Pedodontist fame and success in the 1960's and 1970's. He rarely missed a Wednesday at Riley Hospital, leaving his busy practice in Anderson to share a day each week with his residents, interns, students and the faculty. Dave developed a special personal relationship with each one of his students; they could always put their confidence in him.

Dr. McClure was a leader in his community as well as the dental profession. The accomplishments and awards of this man are most impressive; he was very successful. However, I believe Dave would want us to remember him for his friendship and what he added to our lives. We were all members of the Colonel's extended family. Each of us have our own memories when Dave seemed often a father, brother, best friend or trusted colleague. He always took time to listen and care about our personal problems and concerns. A caring person would be the perfect description of the "Colonel". This special trait attracted men to Dave and gave him the credentials of a trusted, honest, caring friend and leader. He always put others before himself. Even during his long illness, he was eager to be sure his family and friends were okay and checked in on us frequently.

Dave is a Christian and lived by those principles. He was very much aware of his illness and took the opportunity these past years to strengthen his relationships with family and friends. We all witnessed his strength during the ordeal of his illness. We loved him and we miss him deeply.

Dave is survived by his wife Barbara; sons Craig, Jeffrey and Douglas McClure; stepsons Anthony, Michael and James Williams; stepdaughters Sylvia Kingston and
Laura Wells; sister Maria Tomes; brothers N.W. and Fred McClure; and several grandchildren.

Kenneth David Snawder

By Ronald A. Eichel and Harry E. Bopp

On August 9, 1992, our profession and the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni lost one of our very best. Ken Snawder (Class of 1969) finally yielded to his four–year battle with hepatic cancer. But, oh, what a fight! We surely loved, admired and respected Ken during the nearly twenty "healthy" years, but how our appreciation grew during the "tough" ones.

He took on his disease as intensely as he squared off with life; with energy, intelligence and relentlessness. This is the same way he approached his roles as pediatric dentist, teacher, writer, lecturer, husband, father, and friend.

Ken had an incredible ability to become immersed and expert in anything in which he was interested. In May of 1988, when he learned of his disease and the six month prognosis, he soon took control and guided his own regimen of treatment, often rejecting counsel of many prominent physicians. He literally traveled worldwide in his quest, often trying treatment modalities that would aid in future research. He amazed everyone with his courage and tenacity. To survive four years more than his prognosis was beyond anyone’s belief.

Ken’s contributions to pediatric dentistry were numerous and significant: His text "Handbook of Clinical Pedodontics" is used in teaching both specialists and generalists internationally. His lectures and articles in the United States and abroad brought much pride to Indiana University. His energy level and the magnitude of his involvement were truly admirable.

We loved his laugh; his wit; his stubbornness (the memories of all the late night "discussions" are treasured); his loyalty and his ability to verbalize his feelings as a friend. He was our first loss. Neither of us has known anyone like him. We miss him.

EDITORIAL

Reflections on Retirement
by Paul R. Starkey, Editor

The MCV Chrome Crown is the newsletter for the Medical College of Virginia Pediatric Dental Alumni. Edward S. Nacht is the editor of this fine publication and sends me a copy of each issue and I reciprocate with a copy of OUR TREE.

Some time ago, Dr. Nacht invited me to share my personal view regarding "retirement". I thought about it for a long while and then finally sent him the following comments.

First of all, it is obvious that one must be able to afford retirement. How much money does it take to retire? That depends upon the lifestyle one will want to pursue and that does not necessarily mean the lifestyle to which one has been accustomed. For some, that may be a more expensive one and for others, much less. TO EACH HIS OWN! Still, being financially sound is, of course, essential.
One must consider health insurance, perhaps long term health care, taxes on retirement monies not tax-paid previously, all other personal financial obligations AND the least predictable of all - the rising costs of living.

When should one retire? Some should not. As Ralph McDonald said when delivering the eulogy for Ralph Phillips, "He died with his boots on, so to speak". Ralph Phillips would not have had it any other way. If one WANTS it that way - great! TO EACH HIS OWN!

For me, in retrospect, I would do just as I have done. I was tired. I enjoyed every minute of my professional life and there is nothing I would rather have done. However, from the time I began school at the age of 4-1/2 years, I devoted my entire life to my personal education, my profession and to teaching. At the age of 16, when most of my peers were still enjoying a rather carefree mode of living, I entered college and dental school, graduating as the youngest of my class at 23. Twenty-seven months were spent in military service followed by private general practice, the private practice of pediatric dentistry, simultaneous part-time teaching and private practice, and finally, nearly a quarter century in full-time education. I really WAS tired by the time I retired!

As a group of professionals, we are rather limited in our experiences outside the world of dentistry. Most of us have been too busy to relax and participate in other activities. There is a peace that has come to me in my retirement lifestyle. My personal sources of pleasure include fishing, reading, fishing, woodworking, fishing, bird watching, ocean watching, mushroom hunting, real carpentering (like building a garage), etc., puttering around in the garage fixing things - whether they need it or not - crabbing, seal, whale and surfer watching, some traveling and, oh yes, did I mention fishing?

The demands that all of us experience in professional life for me are now in the past. My years in the dental profession were most rewarding. Not only did dentistry satisfy my basic need to make a sound contribution to humanity, it also provided me a sound financial status to afford the opportunity to make a choice of whether or not to retire. I, too, want to "die with my boots on", but I wear a different pair of boots now. I remain active physically and, I like to believe, mentally active also and free of stress.

Sadly, I lost Arlene several years ago, but I have remarried and Mary Ellen and I are very happily sharing our "golden years".

Do I miss dentistry? Of course I do! I spent many years in preparation and practice and still could be providing health care for children. Sometimes a little guilt creeps into my thoughts when I think about that...but it passes quickly, because, for me, retirement is great!...and I feel that I have earned it, and I am enjoying it to the fullest. I wish for all of you such a blessing...but TO EACH HIS OWN!!!

**BETTY KALYVAS RETIRES**

After 15 years of continuous service to Riley Dental clinic, Betty Kalyvas reached the significant milestone of retirement on February 26, 1993.

Betty was hired by Charles Poland (Class of 1972) on February 28, 1978 as the front desk receptionist in Clinic II. She then became the patient representative. During some of these years she also functioned as the clinic supervisor. Betty
served her last four years at Riley Dental Clinic as administrative assistant to the director, James Weddell (Class of 1976). Betty has always said her greatest pleasures at Riley Dental Clinic came from assisting needy patients and she treated them with loving care and affection.

We will all remember Betty for some of her quotes such as: "Treat others as you would like to be treated" and "Do the best you can and appreciate your job." Many of our postgraduate students also will remember Betty for her warmth, sensitivity and great cooking.

Many will remember that Betty longed for a grandchild for many years. Finally, her wish came true on April 8, 1992 when she was blessed with a grandson named Alexander. Betty's desire for traveling has increased significantly since the birth of Alexander in California and she lights up at even the thought of going there.

Betty's retirement plans include playing golf as often as the weather permits and spending more time with her family. She has a married son (Jim) in California, a married son (Tim) in Connecticut, and a daughter (Marika) in Indianapolis. Betty and Bob, her husband of 40 years, live in Brownsburg, Indiana. You can write to her at 601 Eaglecrest Drive, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

A WORD ABOUT OUR RESIDENTS

The following individuals will be completing their postdoctoral training in pediatric dentistry at Indiana on June 30, 1993:

Anthony L. Minutillo - Private Practice in Long Grove, Illinois
P. Todd Rose - Private Practice in Beckley, West Virginia
Sonya L. Wu-Ng - Private Practice in Oahu, Hawaii

The second year class beginning on July 1, 1993 is composed of:

Nora N. Tleel - Marquette University - 1992
Holly D. Wentz - Indiana University - 1992

Holly is the second student in the joint pediatric dentistry/orthodontic training program. She will spend the first two years of the four-year program in pediatric dentistry.

The incoming class will be:
Bret M. Jerger - Indiana University - 1993
Kelli R. Lucia - Indiana University - 1992
Matthew D. Pate - Indiana University - 1993

We wish all of them the best of luck in their future endeavors and look forward to seeing them at alumni gatherings!
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HOSPITALITY SUITE
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May 28-31, 1993
Westin Hotel Crown Center in Kansas City