

ROOT WORDS

Promoting just a little bit of knowledge...and a whole lot of Healthy Smiles

Mission Statement

To provide excellent endodontic care in a professional, friendly environment by a highly trained and motivated team!

We work to fulfill our mission by making patient care our #1 goal.

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Early Diagnosis is Key to Saving Cracked Teeth

Because people are living longer and more stressful lives, they are exposing their teeth to many more years of "crack" inducing habits, such as clenching, grinding, and chewing hard objects. These habits plus complex reconstructive procedures leave teeth more susceptible to cracks. Early diagnosis is the key to helping save cracked teeth. Diagnosis can be difficult due to vague pain on biting and/or the patient has trouble explaining the complaint.

The two most common complaints to look for are biting pain and thermal sensitivity, especially to cold. With pulpal involvement, there may be signs and symptoms of irresolvable pulpitis or necrosis. A crack extending onto the root surface will likely have a periodontal defect.

The cracked tooth treatment plan varies depending on the location and extent of the crack. If pain with chewing is the only symptom, a tight fitting band may confirm the diagnosis. If the banding resolves the pain with chewing, a full coverage restoration may keep the tooth pain free. Any thermal sensitivity usually indicates the pulp is involved and root

canal therapy is needed before reconstructing with a crown.

In all cases of cracked teeth, the patient should be fully informed that prognosis is unpredictable. In spite of treatment, some cracks may continue to progress and separate, resulting in loss of the tooth. A crown provides maximum protection, yet does not guarantee success in all cases.

Many cracked teeth can be saved with early diagnosis, appropriate endodontic therapy and full coverage restorations ■



Dr. Dayna Duke earned her D.D.S. from O.U., completing her endodontic specialty training at the VA Medical Center in Long Beach, California.

EA Walking for Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's is a devastating disease that impairs memory, reasoning, motor skills and the ability to take care of oneself. It is the biggest public health threat facing the nation today, impacting more than five million Americans, with someone developing Alzheimer's every 70 seconds. Add to this the number of family members who are the primary caregivers and the impact grows.

The **2010 Oklahoma City Memory Walk** is Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Bricktown Ballpark. *EA has formed a walk team, and we invite you to join us or make a financial contribution in support of our walkers.* Please contact **Susan Reiswig** at 748-6000 if you are interested in supporting this effort. You will join thousands of other Oklahomans who are walking to stop Alzheimer's disease ■

Save the Date for the EA Annual Seminar Nov. 12

Our featured speaker this year will be Rhonda Savage, DDS, talking about "The Key Essentials of a Successful Practice," focussing on teamwork and communications. **Both our referring doctor's and their staff are welcome to attend.** Note the date on your calendar!

Quality Patient Care in a Comfortable Environment

If you call our office very often and speak to someone working at the front desk, you have probably talked with Reneé.



Susan Reneé Boaldin
Business Assistant

One of her duties includes dealing with the insurance companies when extra attention is needed on a claim.

When she is not in the office she is spending time with her husband of two years, Trent.

Between the two of them, they have three daughters...Tiffany, Ashley and Victoria. Renee's hobbies include sewing, sailing and doing yard work, but what she cherishes the most is the time she gets to spend with her granddaughter, Serenity.

Staff Vitals

Susan Reneé Boaldin

Her real name is Susan Boaldin, but because we already have a well-known Susan (Reiswig) working here at Endodontic Associates, Susan #2 agreed to use her middle name (Reneé) to help cut down on the confusion.

Reneé, who has been part of the EA family since 2002, enjoys the fast pace in our office and says, "Every day is something new."

Bravo

■ Our own **Lee Beasley** was recently honored with the Distinguished Service Award from the OU College of Dentistry. In receiving the award, Dr. Beasley was recognized for his contributions to OUCOD and his continued involvement in alumni affairs. He is pictured here with Dean Steve Young and Dr. Susan Whiteneck.



Congratulations...August Lottery Winners



Amy Sloan
Dr. Andy McKamie's Office, Bethany



Larissa Pavlik
Dr. Bradley Trent's Office, Moore



Debbie Ozment, D.D.S.
Oklahoma City



Shannon Maile
Contemporary Family Dentistry
Newcastle



Sally Edwards
Dr. Thomas David's Office,
Oklahoma City

The lucky August winners won \$40 Chelino's gift cards, \$25 Harkin's gift cards and OK City Cards.

Please share this fun and helpful information with your staff by passing on *ROOT WORDS!* If you would like additional copies of this newsletter, please call Gina at Endodontic Associates, (405) 748-6000 or (800) 522-9609.