



New Cart from A-dec

A-dec has generously donated a new portable dental cart to the School of Dentistry and Doernbecher Children's Hospital for use in Doernbecher's operating rooms. The current dental cart in Doernbecher is less portable and dentists were limited to how many operating rooms could be used at any one time, says

Weston Heringer Jr., D.M.D., pediatric dentistry residency director. "The new cart will boost efficiency in treating children at Doernbecher," said Dr. Heringer. "It will allow us to run two operating rooms for dental care when needed. We are so appreciative of A-dec for its support of the School of Dentistry."

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Continuing Education Program Thriving

With its quiet operation in the basement of the School of Dentistry, the Kenneth R. Cantwell Continuing Dental Education Clinic is often a surprise resident, even for regulars in the building. But the 14-chair clinic is not only busy, sometimes seven days a week, it has a huge impact on the community, helping dental professionals — many of whom are OHSU alums -- to advance their knowledge, boost camaraderie, and improve patient care.

Dedicated in 1977 and remodeled in 1998, the continuing education clinic

celebrated its 30th year in 2007. The program is staffed by **Debbie Reaume**, who has been with the program for 21 years and became program manager this summer, and **Gail King**, clinic coordinator, who has been with the program for 12 years. In June, continuing education's longtime director, **John Smith**, Ph.D., retired. Dr. Smith continues to teach pharmacology courses for the continuing education program, as well as for dental students and residents at the School of Dentistry. *(continued on page two)*

Professor Brings Holiday Cheer to SOD

The beautiful Noble fir that was in the School of Dentistry clinic waiting room during December was grown, cut, and single-handedly delivered by **John Derbyshire**, D.D.S., assistant professor of periodontology. This was Dr. Derbyshire's eighth year of donating a holiday tree.

"For a long time, there were no trees and I thought the school needed a tree," said Dr. Derbyshire, who celebrates 32 years at the School of Dentistry this month.

For the past 21 years, Dr. Derbyshire (with late wife, Florence) has owned and operated Christmas Mountain Trees in the Bald Peak area of Hillsboro. Every year, from zero to 12,000 trees sell.

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Third-year periodontology resident Benjamin Russell, D.M.D. (left) and son Wyatt, 15 months, pick a Christmas tree while John Derbyshire, D.D.S., assistant professor of periodontology, looks on. (Photo Catherine Cabri).

Continuing Education

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Occasionally, the continuing education area is used by other School of Dentistry departments that need extra clinic chairs to see patients or additional meeting room space, and dental students on various rotations. In 2006-2007, there were 290 continuing dental education courses for 5,500 participants, resulting in 33,812 participation hours.



Debbie Reaume (left) is the Kenneth R. Cantwell continuing education clinic program manager. Gail King is the clinic coordinator. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

"We offer continuing education courses both on- and off-campus every month for dental professionals," said Debbie. "Dentists are required to log 40 hours of accredited continuing education every two years and dental hygienists must have 24 hours.

"We work closely with the Academy of General Dentistry," said Debbie. "This year, AGD will have nine different study clubs using our facilities: parenteral conscious sedation, endodontics, oral medicine, pediatrics, occlusion, esthetics, oral surgery, and orthodontics. In addition to our one- and two-day lecture courses, there are 29 study clubs that utilize the School of Dentistry's facilities.

"A lot of study clubs that meet here for lectures also utilize the clinic and lab spaces," said Debbie. "The study groups hire a speaker or mentor from the dental school or they bring someone in from the outside. They regularly bring in patients from their own offices so their

fellow members can learn and gain expertise."

According to Portland, Ore., dentist **Barry O. Evans**, D.M.D., who is the mentor of three Tucker Cast Gold study clubs and belongs to three other operating study clubs, "study clubs take time out of a busy practice schedule, but an operating study club where the dentist actually treats a patient under the supervision of a mentor, is the most efficient way to institute new techniques in an actual dental practice and to improve skills on a particular technique.

"I enjoy the camaraderie and association with other dentists interested in improving their ability to treat their patients," he said.

Dr. Evans said the Northwest has more operating study clubs and more varied study clubs (clubs teaching in any of the different aspects of dentistry) than anywhere else in the nation. "To my knowledge, the School of Dentistry's continuing education clinic is the only clinic in the country solely dedicated to continuing education of practicing dentists," he said. (The University of Washington recently closed their continuing education clinic to use it for specialty training).

Said School of Dentistry Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D., "The Pacific Northwest dental profession is extremely fortunate to have this facility available to support their continued learning."



Barry O. Evans, D.M.D. (right) talks with Steve Layne, D.M.D. '78, during their Monday afternoon study club. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

Pediatric Outreach to Portland Ninos

OHSU dental students recently held a screening camp for 80 children from Portland Ninos, according to **Prashant Gagneja**, D.D.S., chair of pediatric dentistry. Portland Ninos is a free educational program through Hacienda CDC that offers information on nutrition, dental hygiene, and safety to Spanish-speaking mothers. The children screened from Portland Ninos were taught good oral care habits, says fourth-year dental student **Elizabeth Palmer**, and the parents received information through presentations and one-on-one interaction with dental students. Children who needed dental care were referred to the Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic for comprehensive exams and care. This is one of the ways the School of Dentistry is proactively reaching out to underserved communities in Oregon.

New Faculty in SOD

Judah S. Garfinkle, D.M.D., M.S., is an adjunct assistant professor in the department of orthodontics and the director of craniofacial orthodontics for OHSU. Dr. Garfinkle received his doctor of dental medicine from Harvard School of Dental Medicine where he graduated cum laude. Dr. Garfinkle received his certificate in orthodontics from the University of Kentucky Dental School and a master's degree in orthodontics from the University of Kentucky Graduate School. He is in private practice in Portland, Ore.

Dental Student to Conference

Second-year dental student **Vicky Chen** recently attended the Hinman Student Research Symposium in Memphis, Tenn., a national meeting featuring oral and poster presentations of research studies by North American dental and graduate students. One student from each United States dental school is selected annually for a travel award to defray expenses of attending.

Professor Brings Cheer

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"This is a pretty simple business," said Dr. Derbyshire. "You plant the seeds, grow them up, and cut them down."

Dr. Derbyshire remembers years when the air above his tree farm hummed with the sound of helicopters he'd hired to help transport bundles of cut trees to waiting trucks that then delivered the trees to California and Arizona.

"It was expensive, but efficient," said Dr. Derbyshire. "The helicopter could get those trees down the hill and be back for more in 42 seconds."

Third-year periodontology resident **Benjamin Russell**, D.M.D., and son **Wyatt**, 15 months, were invited to Dr. Derbyshire's farm to pick a tree on a snowy day during the Thanksgiving holiday.

"Dr. Derbyshire followed us through the trees with a chainsaw and cut the tree down for us," said Dr. Russell. "As we were strolling through the tree farm, Wyatt knelt down in front of [a] little tree and started eating snow off the branches. Dr. Derbyshire thought it was funny and also cut that tree down just for Wyatt."

"Honestly, this is the best looking tree [a Noble fir] we've ever had."

Besides the School of Dentistry donation, Dr. Derbyshire also donated trees to a Hillsboro, Ore., high school fundraiser.

"He is so generous," said **Melissa Monner**, pre-doctoral clinic coordinator. "And very kind, too."

Dental Bites is the SOD's monthly internal newsletter. If you have a submission, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenge@ohsu.edu) by the 25th of the month prior to each monthly publication.

Service Excellence Initiative Underway at SOD

The School of Dentistry is beginning a push toward even better customer service, as part of OHSU's service excellence initiative. A new committee, the employee engagement committee, recently began to tackle projects to improve customer service within the School of Dentistry, says **Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., associate dean for clinical services.

"In 2006-2007, dental school patients surveyed indicated that 90 percent of their dental care was excellent or good," said Dr. Stewart. "Our patients also overwhelmingly said that the level of dental student supervision was acceptable. And in surveys of our graduating seniors patient care, customer service, cleanliness, and organization consistently get high marks.

"However, we think we can do even better."

School of Dentistry Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D., said there are huge expectations for health providers. "Most of patients' expectations go beyond just dental skills," he said. "People have an expectation of how they'll be greeted, treated, and interacted with, and those expectations are incredibly important to manage.

"We have an opportunity to help welcome, assist, facilitate, and treat every single person in our building as a guest," said Dean Clinton. "Sometimes it is difficult. When people are hurt, frustrated, and scared, their behavior can deteriorate. But I don't believe anyone is intentionally angry, ornery, or mean; there is something else driving that behavior. Understanding is very important and this is a challenge we are going to work upon as a school."

Employee engagement committee members currently include: **Frank Stroud**, D.D.S., **Stacey Lomeli**, D.D.S., **Susan Grosse**, **Brandy Eurto**, **Andrea Williams**, **Craig Galloway**, **Lisa Thorsrud**, **Kelly Wiss**, **Sharon McKay**, **Stefani Sheldon**, **Aaron Tinkle**, and Dr. Stewart. Please contact any of the committee members to provide input and suggestions for projects.

SOD Class of 2010 to Receive White Coats January 11

Though dental students traditionally receive their white coat—signifying entry into the pre-doctoral clinic—between their second- and third-year of dental school, the School of Dentistry's group practice structure has brought first- and second-years into the clinic for patient care much sooner than before and they need their identifying white coats earlier in the curriculum. Therefore, second-year dental students will be "coated" Jan. 11 in the Old Library, says **Mark Mitchell**, M.S., associate dean for student services. The Class of 2011 likely will receive their white coats in a ceremony in July, says Mark.

"Health care providers should look like health care providers," said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. "I think it's important for myself and other health care providers to provide a standard and dress accordingly.

"We want to teach our dental students that patients' needs are ahead of everything else going on at the moment they step into the clinic," he said. "The white coat is a signal that those in the clinic are focused on patient care and not on their own personal issues. The group leaders have asked that sophomores be asked to demonstrate in clinic now that they have on their signal."

Holiday Sweater Fundraiser Nets Salvation Army Gifts

OHSU dental students scrapped their scrubs and donned festive holiday sweaters on Dec. 12 to raise money and gifts for the Salvation Army.

Dental students participating donated a minimum of \$2 to wear a holiday sweater into the clinic. Dental students, staff, and faculty also were asked to donate new and gently used clothing, toys, and blankets, said Dental Student Government President **Ian Tydeman**.

More than \$225 was raised for the Salvation Army, thanks to the dental students and faculty who participated. Piles of new and used clothes were collected, including five bags of new children's clothing donated by **John Lee**, D.D.S., director of operative dentistry.

The 'Fremont' group practice raised the most money and won a free breakfast at their Monday morning huddle. "All in all, good work by those who participated," said Tydeman.



Second-year dental students Amanda Tinkle (left) and Cyndi Lehnertz model their holiday sweaters, donned Dec. 12 to raise funds and donations for the Salvation Army. (Photo Jenna Wilkinson).



SOD staffers (from left) Kimberley Cummins, Vivian Koch, Barbara Lewis, and Stephanie Rink wait for their turn on the "stage" during the staff holiday skit performed during a potluck on Dec. 17. Earlier in the day, more than 100 School of Dentistry staff attended an OSHA in-service. Staff heard from school leadership about the state of the school, group practice progress, service excellence, computer security, and outcomes assessment, and those staff involved with patient care received training on blood-borne pathogens. There was also an Axiom workshop for those who use Axiom. (Photo Sydney Clevenger).

Care Coordinators Key to Group Practices

At the Dec. 17 all-staff OSHA in-service, the care coordinators assigned to each group practice were introduced and described as the "sparkplugs" within the overall group practice structure. The group practice structure is a new way to provide patient care and dental education in the pre-doctoral clinic and officially began in September.

Care coordinators help schedule admitting patients, provide recalls for dental students, coordinate first- and second-year activities, and monitor patient care. The current care coordinators are: **Elisha Reynolds** (Sellwood); **Stephanie Rink** (St. Johns); **Meridith Vetanen** (Steel); **Kate Boyle** (Hawthorne); **Allan Williams** (Fremont); and **Sarah Cinnamon** (Broadway).