

## President's Message

Greetings! It is bitter sweet to write this last president's message. I would like to thank those who have served on the board with me, every member of this organization, and those who have supported our great organization, our vendors and speakers. I appreciate the opportunity I have been given to lead this prestigious organization, and it gives me great pleasure to pass the torch to an exceptional leader, Dr. Jeff Scott. I know he will do an amazing job leading us through whatever hurdles we may face. I look forward to serving under him over the next year and will continue to serve the PCDA in whatever capacity I am needed.

I would like to leave you all with a story to reflect on life. A group of American school children were asked to list what they thought were the present "Seven Wonders of The World." Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

- |                           |                          |                        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Egypt's Great Pyramids | 4. Panama Canal          | 7. Great Wall of China |
| 2. Taj Mahal              | 5. Empire State Building |                        |
| 3. Grand Canyon           | 6. St. Peter's Basilica  |                        |

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The little girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there are so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help." The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the "Seven Wonders of The World" are:

- |             |             |            |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. To see   | 4. To taste | 7. To love |
| 2. To hear  | 5. To feel  |            |
| 3. To touch | 6. To laugh |            |

The room was so quiet you could hear a pin drop. The things we overlook as simple and ordinary and that we take for granted are truly wondrous.

A gentle reminder - that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.

I wish you all a wonderful summer!!!! Many thanks again!

**Dr. Rita Hurst**  
**PCDA President**  
Pinellas County Dental Association



**Dr. Rita Hurst**

- I. Rita Hurst, DMD**  
President and Delegate
- Jeff Scott, DMD**  
President-Elect and Delegate
- Gabriele Spinuso, DDS**  
Vice President & Alternate Delegate
- Kristie Johnson, DMD**  
Secretary & Alternate Delegate
- Brent Mayer, DMD**  
Council Chair-At-Large &  
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- Kenneth W. Grundset, DDS**  
Executive Treasurer
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- Gregory G. Langston, DMD**  
Delegate
- Amy F. Anderson, DMD**  
Delegate
- Sandra A. Worman, DDS**  
Immediate Past President  
and Alternate Delegate

## PCDA Central Office

P.O. Box 1833  
Brandon, FL 33509  
[www.smilepinellas.com](http://www.smilepinellas.com)  
[smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com)  
P: (727) 342-0374  
F: (727) 342-6842

# April Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018

**Time:** Social at 6:00pm/Business at 7:00pm

**Location:** The Club at TI  
400 Treasure Island Causeway  
Treasure Island, FL 33706

**Meeting:** Vendor Fair

**RSVP:** **REQUIRED** By April 2nd. If your RSVP changes and you need to cancel or attend at the last minute, please email [smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com).

Send RSVPs, team member names and dietary requests/restrictions to [smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com) or (727) 342-0374.

## VENDORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Advantage Technologies

Crest & Oral B

Dentsply Sirona

Digital Doc

GC America

Henry Schein

Hiossen

Philips Oral Healthcare (Sonicare & Zoom Whitening)

Pulpdent Corporation

Straumann

Tailored Financial Strategies of Raymond James

VOCO America

Wells Fargo

# Local News

## Lakewood Baseball Complex to be Renamed

St. Petersburg, FL (February 2018) - The Lakewood Baseball Complex was renamed the Dr. Reginald "Reggie" Ligon Baseball Complex on Saturday, March 3, at 12:30 p.m. in honor of Dr. Reginald Ligon, whose vibrant enthusiasm for his community and youth baseball will be remembered. The ceremony will take place at Lakewood Baseball Complex, 1201 58th Ave. S.

Dr. Ligon, a longtime resident of St. Petersburg, a dentist, a community leader and President of Bay Point Little League, passed away on August 20, 2017. He was heavily involved in the construction of the Bay Point Little League fields, located at Lake Vista Recreation Center and Lakewood High School, and spent many years leading the organization.

He was committed to providing more than just a fun game of baseball for the youth of St. Petersburg. He was committed to setting examples and teaching lessons of respect, humility, discipline, and perseverance through the game.

That devotion reached beyond youth sports. He was involved with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life campaign, the Community Alliance, the Johnnie Ruth Clarke Health Center, Leadership St. Pete, the Suncoasters of St. Petersburg and his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc.

The complex will be a reminder of Dr. Ligon's dedication to his community. For more information about the ceremony, contact the St. Petersburg Parks and Recreation Department at 727-893-7441.

## Other Important Dates

**WCDDA's President's Trip**  
April 21, 2018  
Scotland

**WCDDA's Summer Meeting**  
July 20-22, 2018  
JW Marriott, Marco Island



### Invite a Colleague!

Have you met a new dentist in the area? Invite them to our upcoming meeting on April 4, 2018 at the Club at TI. Potential members will have a great time and quickly learn the benefits of strong organized dentistry! It is important to keep our voices strong and loud so that our politicians have our best interests at heart.

### Become a Member

Please contact Kelsey at [smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com) for more information about attending a meeting or becoming a member. Membership applications may also be located online at [www.smilepinellas.org](http://www.smilepinellas.org).

# Tax Planning

Tax season is upon us. To assist with your 2017 personal and business taxes, I've included a handy flier summarizing the rates, limits, etc. attached to the body of the email. If you'd like the 2018 version once available, please email me at [greg.mitro@raymondjames.com](mailto:greg.mitro@raymondjames.com) or call my direct line at 813-202-1150.

Moving forward to 2018, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("TCJA") has presented some of the biggest changes we've seen in over 30 years, along with some unique opportunities. While still awaiting specific guidance from the IRS on these updates, many will certainly impact the business side of dentistry, and strategies should be implemented and applied right away as most became effective January 1st, 2018.

Regarding changes, here are some general ideas to focus on. Keep in mind these are not all of the changes, but are some that dentists in particular should monitor.

Retirement Planning – You may still have time to contribute to certain retirement vehicles for the 2017 tax year, depending on the type. This is one way to retroactively reduce your tax liability.

Meals and Entertainment – All will be looking closely at guidance surrounding the newly reduced benefit of M&E for business owners. This potentially impacts many situations including sporting events, referral appreciation events and gifts, etc.

Standard Deduction – For "Married Filing Jointly" taxpayers, the standard deduction has been increased to 24,000. This is approximately double the 2017 rate. Therefore, mortgage interest deduction may not be applicable, or at least as beneficial as in previous years. This also applies to charitable contributions, property taxes, etc. This is a great time to discuss liability consolidation or payoff analyses with your team of advisors.

Unreimbursed Business Expenses – These will generally no longer be deductible. Keep this in mind for any employees on your payroll, or for you if a W-2 employee.

College Savings – 529 plans had historically been only for qualified college expenses. New rules now allow for them to also be accessed for K-12 expenses. While it may not be ideal to switch strategies to pull money early, this flexibility does provide an added benefit if planned for properly. If you are already contributing to one or more 529 plans, be mindful of the share class you are purchasing since some share classes are more advantageous for earlier withdrawal and others are ideal for longer timeframes.

Planning – Now is the time to discuss these changes with your CPA and financial advisor. If you would like to discuss any of these ideas or others relating to your business, please reach out directly to me at [greg.mitro@raymondjames.com](mailto:greg.mitro@raymondjames.com) or 813-202-1150. I'm happy to help however I can.

## **GREG MITRO, MBA, AAMS**

Financial Advisor

Raymond James

100 N. Tampa Street, Suite 2400, Tampa, FL 33602

d: 813.202.1150 // c: 315.744.8140 // f: 866.522.9549

## **RAYMOND JAMES**

[www.raymondjames.com/mitro](http://www.raymondjames.com/mitro)

## DISCLOSURE:

*As with other investments, there are generally fees and expenses associated with participation in a 529 plan. There is also a risk that these plans may lose money or not perform well enough to cover college costs as anticipated. Most states offer their own 529 programs, which may provide advantages and benefits exclusively for their residents. Investors should consider before investing, whether the investor's or the designated beneficiary's home state offers any tax or other benefits only available for investments in their home state's 529 plans. Such benefits include financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors. The tax implications can vary significantly from state to state. Please note, changes in tax laws or regulations may occur at any time and could substantially impact your situation. Raymond James financial advisors do not render advice on tax or legal matters. You should discuss any tax or legal matters with the appropriate professional.*

## Worthy Websites

[www.smilepinellas.com](http://www.smilepinellas.com)

[www.keppinellasfluoridated.org](http://www.keppinellasfluoridated.org)

[www.wcdental.org](http://www.wcdental.org)

[www.floridadental.org](http://www.floridadental.org)

[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

[www.floridasdentistry.gov](http://www.floridasdentistry.gov)

**Direct all classified and ad inquiries to:**

PCDA/Kelsey Bulnes, CMP:  
[smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com) or (727) 342-0374

**CLASSIFIED:**

**New Graduate:** Soon to be new graduate from St. Petersburg seeking a full time associateship as a General Dentist in the Tampa Bay Area. The University of Florida has given me a solid educational and clinical foundation that I am excited to expand upon. I am looking forward to beginning my career and establishing myself as a clinician. Please contact me, Kelly Kidwell, at [kkidwell@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:kkidwell@dental.ufl.edu)

**Volunteers Needed:** Pinellas Technical College, St. Petersburg will be providing low cost dental care at our clinical facility to members of the community. We are asking for dentists to volunteer their time, 3 Fridays a month from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. Please call as soon as possible to schedule the Friday that will work for you to participate in our Community Dental Services Program. 727-893-2500, ext.2578 or ext.2573

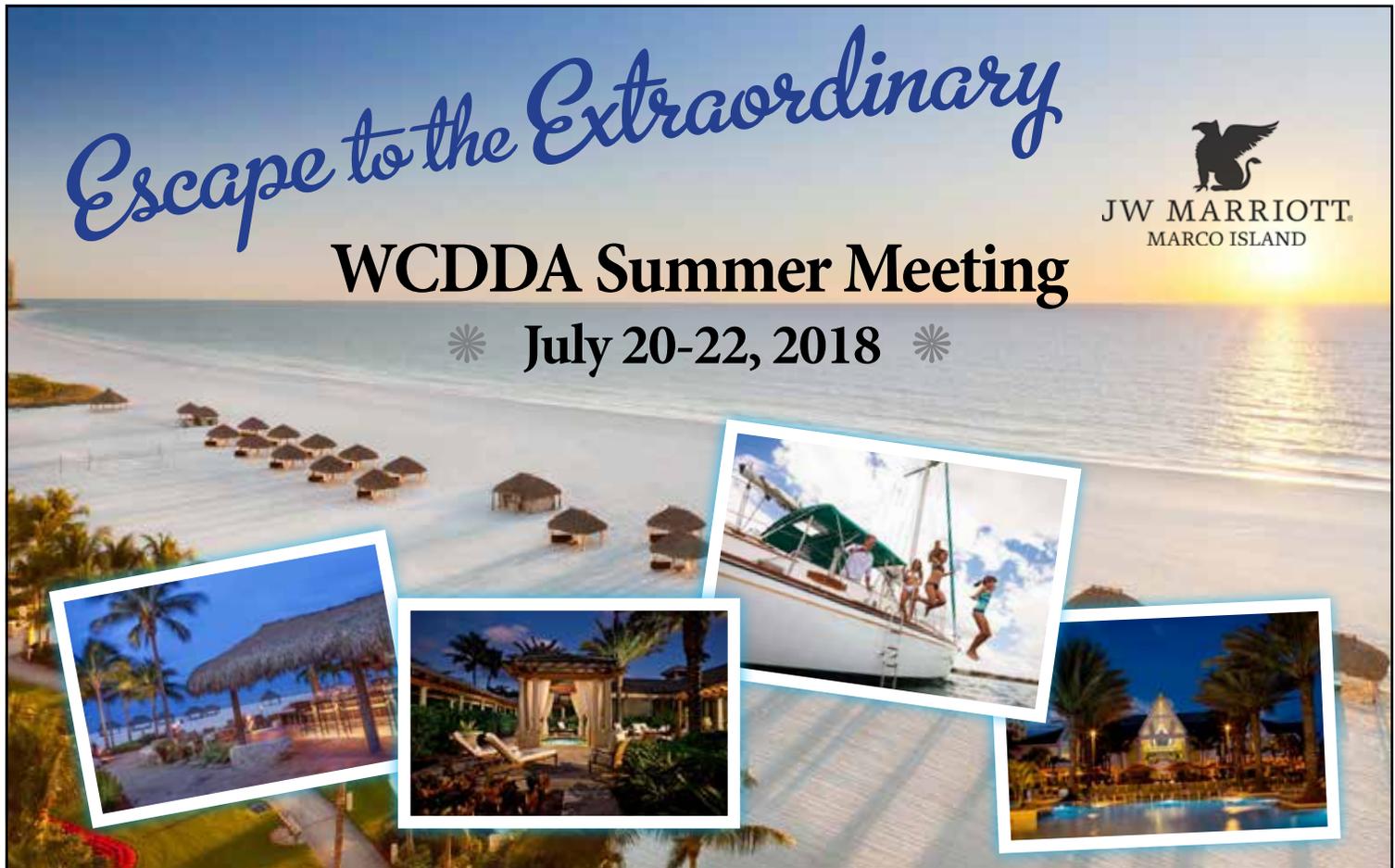
**Pro Bono:** Do you volunteer your time? Do you provide in-office pro-bono care to patients? Let PCDA know! Submit information to [smilepinellas@gmail.com](mailto:smilepinellas@gmail.com).



# MEMBERS ONLY! TOP 5 LEGAL RESOURCES

- DIRECTOR OF THIRD PARTY PAYER & PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS**  
 LOOKING FOR HELP in the complex arena of managed care? Contact Casey Stoutamire, Director of Third-party Payers and Professional Affairs: 800.877.9922; 850.681.3629; [cstoutamire@floridadental.org](mailto:cstoutamire@floridadental.org)
- YOU WANT ME TO SIGN WHAT?**  
 A Florida Dentist's Handbook on Managed-care Contracts is a comprehensive reference.
- HIPAA & FLORIDA PRIVACY LAW**  
 FDA members have a comprehensive collection of FREE forms that comply with federal and Florida law.
- FDA LEGAL FAQs**  
 The FDA website houses the answers prepared by the FDA's experienced legal counsel.
- ADA CONTRACT ANALYSIS SERVICE**  
 This service is available at no cost to FDA members. Simply call the FDA for this free service.

Find FDA legal resources online at: [www.floridadental.org/member-center/member-resources/legal-resources](http://www.floridadental.org/member-center/member-resources/legal-resources).



# Escape to the Extraordinary

**WCDDA Summer Meeting**

✧ July 20-22, 2018 ✧

