

## GREETINGS!



**Tooley Towns, DDS**  
President JKOMSF



AND  
LSU OMS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Dear Colleagues:

I sincerely hope everyone is healthy and well and back to work. I have been in contact with my old office and I can see what OMS practitioners are going through to run your practice - so glad I am retired.

The board of directors had a good zoom conference meeting last month and several new developments have taken place. We voted to use some of the Foundation money to apply for matching funds from LSU. A **Super Chair** match is \$1.2 million from us and the state match is \$800,000. If these funds are awarded by the Board of Regents this would be the first ever **Super Chair** of \$2 million for LSU HSC.

The application to obtain matching funds, as explained by Dr. Kent, is very competitive. Release of our funds to LSU for the match will not take place until a well written proposal is submitted. A committee was formed to study the most ideal way to do this and then we will move forward. Hopefully this message will encourage some of our alumni to donate to the Foundation since their donation will be matched once a Super Chair is awarded. We have also made changes in the JKOMSF Board. We have added Dr. Arshad Kaleem and Dr. Steven Nelson to the BOD. We are pleased to have them join us on the Board and bring young blood to the organization. Arshad Kaleem DMD, MD is in full time academics/practice with the U. of Miami

Health System, Miami, Florida. A K completed his 6 year OMS Residency at LSU (2016).

This was followed by a Head & Neck Oncologic Surgery/Reconstruction Fellowship at Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland. Steve Nelson, DDS, MD finished his 6 year residency at LSU this June and will be joining my old private practice in Baton Rouge. The JKOMSF appreciates the service of 3 outgoing Board members, Rigo Cornejo, Lester Machado, and David Carlton. Rigo served admirably as JKOMSF Vice President for the first five years of JKOMSF, Lester funded and set up our

alumni dinner in San Diego at the National Annual AAOMS meeting, 2012 and as described below we all miss David Carlton, lost to us this year. New in this issue is the Section on LSU OMS **Historical Perspectives** created by Dr. Kent. You will enjoy Michael Kinnebrew's Epistle on early practice, his colleagues, and their H&P experience followed by Ronnie Marks memory on the H&P, "and this is the rest of the story". Everyone be safe and good luck for the rest of the year.

*Tooley*

*John N. Kent, DDS, FACD, FICD  
From Your Old Chief*

### Dear Colleagues

With the urging from Eric Geist and Dale Misiiek over 10 years ago, I started a JKOMSF Newsletter. History shows there were actually 3 LSU OMS Alumni letters, one generated by Randy Wilk in '04 and then 2 by Dale Misiiek 2006-10. They were the impetus behind formal JKOMSF newsletters that were started 8 months after the November 2009 founding of JKOMSF. Since that time the officers, committee leaders, and department heads have assisted me in the content of the Newsletters. They feature reports on JKOMSF goals and activities, LSU OMS department news, donor lists, news from the alumni, research and publication data, forthcoming Pearls and Review course announcements and reports from your JKOMSF Board.

There are now a total of 20 Newsletters, almost always biannual. Within this newsletter I have started a Section on **Historical Perspectives**. I am hopeful others will step forward with entertaining contributions of our History. Certainly, Mike Kinnebrew's epistle and Ronnie Mark's memory of our overdue H&P obtainment in OMS care of patients is a great beginning of **Historical**

**Perspectives**. We always hope to share LSU OMS news with all you. Our LSU OMS alumni and JKOMSF members are a team!!! We all contribute to the well-being of this team through your assistance with each other and financial support of JKOMSF on behalf of the LSU OMS department in New Orleans. Please remember we have all had the privilege of reaping the benefits of the LSU OMS training. It is truly our responsibility to pay it forward to benefit current and future LSU OMS residents. With budget cuts and increased costs of training, the JKOMSF needs your support now, more than ever. You can make a difference.

This letter has exciting and disappointing news. Under the leadership of our new Chair, Rob Laughlin, DMD, the department is making real progress within the OMS residency program itself and within the medical center. Unfortunately Rob's tasks are now multiple as Chancellor Hollier has made him Acting Dean of LSU School of Dentistry following the untimely very sad loss of Dean Henry Gremillion. Rob's report gives the department details, remarkable in these terrible Covid - 19 times in our lives. Thank you Rob.

*Jack*

**Robert Laughlin, DMD**  
**Interim Dean**  
**Office of the Dean**  
**Associate Professor, OMS Chairman**  
**Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

Greeting,

I hope this finds you and your families' safe and healthy.

We recently celebrated the graduation of Ryan Hinkle, Steven Nelson, Danielle Williams, Sami Alshehry and Sergei Kuznetsov. All have worked very hard over the course of their six tenure at LSU. My congratulations and wishes of great success goes out to each one as they begin their careers as LSU OMS trained practitioners.

The OMS Department will be opening an ambulatory surgical center on the second floor of the Copping Building on the School of Dentistry's campus. We anticipate AAACH accreditation by year end. The OMS Faculty Practice clinic will relocate to new space within the Copping Building within the next three months. The move will double the current clinic space.

We are in the final stages of completion for our new Baton Rouge OMS Clinic located in the Medical Plaza I building at Our Lady of the Lake. The new clinic will be equipped with 5 sedation suites and an ambulatory operating room.

After a long search, it gives me great pleasure to announce that Dale J. Misiek, DMD will be returning to the full-time faculty and resume his role as Residency Program Director some 20 years later.

Dr. Misiek brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and surgical skills to the department. His addition to the faculty and department is tremendous. Thank you Dr. Misiek for choosing to finish out your career with LSU-OMS.

Lastly, COVID has certainly been a large factor in all of our lives lately. Moving forward I hope you continue to take the necessary precautions to keep yourselves, your family and your patients safe. All the best to each and every one of you.

Godspeed,

*Rob*

Robert M. Laughlin, DMD  
Interim Dean  
Office of the Dean  
Associate Professor and Chairman  
Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

## On Behalf of the LSU OMS Alumni Association

Teresa Biggerstaff, DDS, MD  
President – LSUOMS Alumni Association

Dear Colleagues,

March 2020 I was officially selected as the new LSUOMS Alumni Association President who will continue to address and update the Alumni and Donors in regards to their dues and contributions. I would like to especially thank the following Alumni for their contributions in 2019/2020 to the Alumni Association, which, (in partnership with KLS Martin) gave personalized headlights to the 2019 and 2020 graduating LSU OMS Residents.

*Robert Hinkle, Dan Spagnoli, Kit Stein, Josef Zoldos, James Horner, Eric Geist, Mark Cox, John Provenzano, Richard Willis, Ronnie Marks, Sergio Vendetti, Rawleigh Fischer, Bart Farrell, Cameron Cavola, Rigo Cornejo, Jon Perenack, Tony Indovina, and Teresa Biggerstaff*

Also when paying your \$100 dues, you can pay via Venmo at <https://venmo.com/LSUOMSAlumni> or by mail at the following address below:

LSU OMS Alumni Association  
% Teresa Biggerstaff, DDS, MD  
[900 Old Winston Road](#)  
[Suite 204](#)  
[Kernersville, NC 27284](#)



*Teresa*

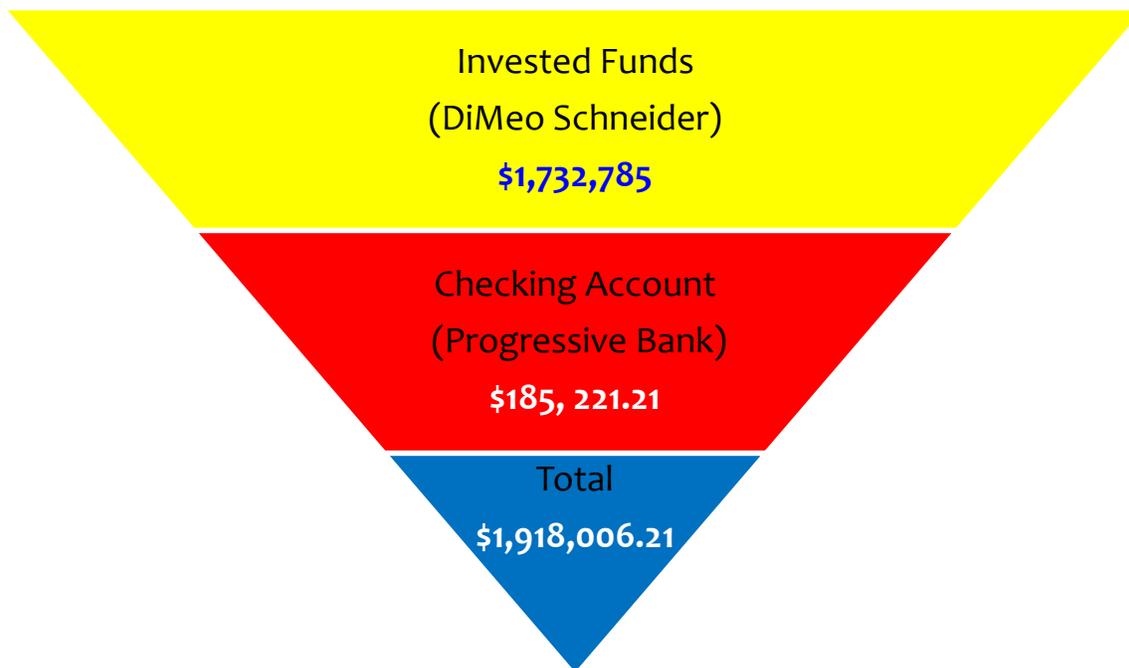


**Eric T. Geist, DDS, FACS**  
**JKOMSF**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

### Greetings from the Secretary/Treasurer

I hope that all of our donors are safe and have avoided the physical effects of the virus, even as most of us, including the foundation, have suffered from the economic effects of the virus. As you probably know, the JKOMSF recently contributed 25K to the Gremillion Chair in Orofacial Pain. We also made an additional \$2,500.00 donation to the chair in honor of Dr. Henry Gremillion's passing. Currently, we have a balance of \$1,732,785 with DiMeo Schneider and \$185, 221.21 in our checking account. We have 20 donors with outstanding pledges totaling \$176,382.00.

### Current JKOMSF balances are:



*Eric*

### LSU OMS Alumnus Profiles



**Edward J. Boos D.D.S.**  
**'76**

On a fateful day in July 1973 a wide-eyed recent graduate of the LSU School of Dentistry walked through the front doors of Charity Hospital on Tulane Ave. not entirely sure of what he had gotten himself into. That day proved to be the greatest decision that he

has ever made. That day just happened to be the “first day on the job” for the new chairman/director of the LSU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program, Dr. John N. Kent.

Beside the excellent trauma reputation, Dr. Kent initiated an emphasis on orthognathic surgery and enhanced the program’s international reputation. I feel that the training I received at “Big Charity” had prepared me well for my future career and private practice. One of my most memorable events was at a case presentation session being able to tell Dr. Kent that I had a Lefort III osteotomy case to present. His eyes could not hide his doubt but we ended up operating two weeks later. I will be forever grateful to my fellow residents, faculty and staff for the education, camaraderie and memories while at Mother Charity.

After I finished the program in 1976, I began my career by opening a practice in uptown New Orleans and then a second solo practice in Metairie one year later. I also signed up for a couple of half days a week at a group practice in the New Orleans CBD. After realizing that may be “spreading myself too thin” I closed my offices and joined a well-established group practice in Metairie. I immediately enjoyed the security, camaraderie and mentoring of two partners. Over the past 44 years I have been privileged to enjoy working with several partners and associates and was able to practice a broad scope of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

I would have to say that I particularly enjoyed orthognathic and temporomandibular joint arthroscopic procedures. Although I spent many 2am sessions in the trauma operating room I can’t say that I miss it. Now in the twilight of my professional career I have limited my scope to office based dentoalveolar procedures and turned the “big cases” over to my excellent and very competent partners, Dan Harris and Mo Ismail. It is extremely gratifying to know that my patient and referrals are in good hands when I finally “hang it up”.

Over the years my training and career has afforded me the opportunity to enjoy many different sports and pastimes. When I “wore a younger man’s clothes” I enjoyed yacht racing, glider flying and polo. You should have been there to witness my attempt to teach Drs. Kent and Farrell how to sail!! Now my leisure time is spent fly fishing, cooking and enjoying life in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

I have been blessed with two children, a daughter who lives in Baton Rouge and a son who is in Durango, Colorado. They are both doing well and make me very proud.

I have been very fortunate to have the love of my life, Melb, with me to travel and enjoy life for the past 18 years. We had been living in a boat house at West End in New Orleans and purchased a second home on beautiful Bayou La Croix in Bay St. Louis in 2014. With this arrangement I was able to continue to practice part time in Metairie and spend the weekends in the Bay. Unfortunately, we had a horrific fire at the boat house and lost it last Thanksgiving weekend forcing us to spend more time at our “retirement home” in Mississippi.

Things could be worse! Now I look forward to spending more time with Melb travelling, fishing and living the good life on the Coast.

*Ed*



Michael and Becca 50th  
Wedding Anniversary



Boom Chamber Guitars  
& Strings, Inc. Restoring  
Vintage Guitars

### Michael C. Kinnebrew, DDS, MD

I was born—Henderson, Texas, January 1, 1945 (and no—I received no prizes—number 2 in the New Year’s Baby Column, after a young colleen). My education was living all over Texas, Southeastern New Mexico, also Tennessee and Kentucky (Oil Patch). I attended Stephen F. Austin State—Nacogdoches, Texas 1968 (BS) And Dental School—Baylor—Dallas, Texas—1972 (DDS). My Residency—Categorical internship in General Surgery--Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery—University Hospital and J. Hillis Miller Health Center –Jacksonville, Florida—1972-74. This was followed by OMS Residency —University of Connecticut Health Science Center—Hartford Hospitals—1974-1976 (and got out a little bit early, and on to Nacogdoches and Lufkin) Went in to Private Practice—Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery—Lufkin, Texas—1976-77 and then to University of Texas Health Science Center—Houston, 1977-1979 (MD). This was followed by teaching at LSU Medical Center Faculty—New Orleans and Shreveport and private practice—1979 to 1996 wherein Wilmington, North Carolina called me to private practice—1996 to present. My private practice sojourn in Texas and Louisiana is recounted in the Historical Perspective Section below, thank you.

I Married Rebecca Miller Davison—August, 1969 (about the time of Woodstock). We have Two Children--Scott Williams (Age 47) Rock star and Musical Savant — Abigail Davison Kinnebrew (Age 44) Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth Health System—Richmond -- School of Social Work, AND Two lovely grand-daughters current interest. After undergoing Complex Cervical Disc Surgery in 2012 (Herniation of C4 from all of those

long-ass surgical cases), I finally moved into a second love. Music! (Boom Chamber Guitars and Strings, Inc.--Restoring Vintage Guitars) --same skill and mind set as “MaxFac Surg “(even use a lot of my old instruments). BUT—wood and steel are a lot less forgiving than skin, muscle and Bone! Therefore, it helps immensely to have the skills of Dentistry—with the drilled-in discipline of “Plan your work—and work your plan” .... So I am told that I must comment on what my LSU experience years mean to me. How does one quantify his or her fountainhead? Every one of us is marked by those times.... WE had the blessing to have been a part of an emerging new specialty—with some damned fine educators and teachers who had lead in their times—and who continued to nurture the young specialty as our tailwind.

I had finally realized in residency that I wanted to teach—and of course continued learning fitted into that same set of handcuffs. So when it came about that, in the spring of 1979, Jack Kent picked me up at Louis Armstrong Airport—and we started talking non-stop about what the LSU program had been and where he and everybody else wanted to take it—I was hooked!

Yep! We were going after trauma, craniofacial and clefts, bone physiology and implants, and in time oncology and cosmetic surgery. And we had the people to do it with—Pete and Richard, Michael Zide, former residents and faculty of the program and a host of dynamic former and current residents, and local, attending Doctors, among related specialty colleagues.

What we “did not have” were people wearing six-guns to shore us up during some of the raging inter-specialty battles that reveled the OK Corral shootout. But Jack had set us up well politically—and that helped so much! And beyond that—we just did good work—on the local stage, nationally and inter-nationally.

Something else I realized along the way was that you can’t give birth to such an offspring (such as this program, or a given surgical technique), and not stay around to monitor your results. And the results that I have seen—have been awesome!

So—what does my time at LSU mean to me? I am so very proud to tell folks about LSU Medical Center and New Orleans. And often they will say—you mean you trained there? My response is that “I taught there”! And in so doing—all those good people trained me too.!

*Mike*



When you are tired of hearing about  
coronavirus

## Section on LSU OMS Historical Perspectives

**The Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons**

Michael C. Kinnebrew, DDS, MD

**My colleagues:**

Jack Kent and I spoke about the 2020 summer issue of the JKOMSf Alumni Newsletter; and we decided on a different tact. Rather than print yet another note of “Hey—here I am—this is what I’m doing, etc.”, we thought there may be some interest in a relatively unknown, historical part of the LSU Oral and Maxillofacial program, its development; and for that matter “Stones of Developmental History”. The resulting issue may be news to many, or not so well understood by others. Anyway—you might find it thought-provoking (after all—OMS folk have not been known to sit around on their duffs) ....

A comment on the specialty was delivered to me by Robert Alexander, (Parkland Memorial Hospital; University Hospital and University of Florida--Jacksonville). He said “it’s a specialty that offers work and ongoing learning to the depth of the entire human structure, and to the depth of the Doctor’s interest and the patient’s need”. “And I wouldn’t trade it—across the board—with any other specialty around....” However, the practice landscape had obviously changed a little—and the freedom to “do what you want” was found to be a bit different in East Texas, 1976. Short of shoot-outs, there came to be a few arrows being aimed at a back or two—and it is a complex history.

Getting started, then, I take the liberty to offer information on “the Nacogdoches (Texas) Oral Surgeons” and what might be considered as an addition to the looming groundswell within the specialty taking place in the mid-1970’s—and moving toward Zenith proportions. I heard Ronnie Marks mention the Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons (the only time I’ve heard it) a decade or so later in New Orleans. And I had been there, in Nacogdoches (Lufkin), Texas, at that time, as had also two colleagues—Alan Hubbard and Rick Hurst. I had been born near

Nacogdoches and attended University there also). Alan was from Garland, Texas. Rick was from Friona, a Panhandle-Texas town near Lubbock--and I asked one day just where the town was. Rick’s reply—it’s between

“Litter Barrel” and “Resume Speed”. If you’ve ever driven across Texas, you’ve seen the signs—over and over....

I now introduce Alan Hubbard, a wonderful friend of those times, and still. We had finished OMFS within six months of each other. I had trained in Jacksonville, Fla. and Hartford, Connecticut (In Jacksonville, right off the bat we were embattled-- because we called our department Oral AND MAXILLOFACIAL Surgery). Alan had trained in Houston at the UT Medical Center (Ed Hinds—Jack Kent—Bill Bell). At the Univ. of Florida--Jacksonville I had known Robert Alexander, Roger Hehn, and also Parker Mahan and Bill Proffit from Gainesville). And later, at the University of Conn., there were Randy James, Bob Gross, Larry Petersen, Mort Goldberg, Frank Jenkins, Gene Ireland.... Jack hired Randy for N O and Bob for Shreveport. I mentioned all the wealth of experience in our specialty only partly and that to underscore the fact that we just did not have the back-up of our national organization—at least on short notice, and to two young men just out of training who wanted to “perhaps try the strength of our training “(all the pep talks from the old farts); and also to do it on our own. Alan wanted to add that our individual moves to East Texas was because maybe “he just didn’t play well with others” and that I was brave—maybe dumb??? But I came to understand Roger Hehn’s earlier comment— “you know what it’s like to be out on the point when you are out there getting shelled”. Please read on.... Alan opened in Nacogdoches and I started in Lufkin— separated by twenty miles. We had met previously, finding quickly that we were friends – and even

more so as we found ourselves as the sole providers for Maxillofacial trauma and pathology (and more) for 90 miles surrounding. “Common Ground” was an understatement.

We were both well trained (Alan even a bit by the “Red Rooster” in Houston—ask old Kent). And we were no less aggressive than we were competent—doing our own H and P’s, and managing hospital care appropriately with our

medical colleagues.... Alan and I stood together at the Operating Table when we could—but there were office practices to attend also. And then the JCAH came to our individual (and shared) hospitals. And also came the dictum --“Dentists cannot perform History and Physical examinations”. Crestfallen was a good word for us then, which changed to livid as we attended one hospital--committee meeting after another—to no avail. And as we navigated one communication after another from “officials” in our own parent organization of “Oral Surgery”, Alan and I ran into a few too many Paper Tigers—good and concerned people surely, but still in large measure--Paper Tigers. That did change certainly—but we needed that change NOW!

Dr. Hubbard has graced us with a portion of his experience---it appears as he wrote it a few pages down. Likewise, you will find the offering of Dr. Rick Hurst, who took over from Alan and Me--and who had his share of the overwhelming load. Rick built the two practices into the powerhouse it is today. You’re gonna like these guys.

But right now, this writer is driven to add a bit more history. It bears mention that a good number of our medical colleagues offered to sign our History and Physical write-ups. At that point, though, what would have been the gain? And what professional friend would ask another professional friend to vouchsafe the former’s credibility by laying their own reputation--on the line--with a signature? ‘Better to ask that friend to lay out some money by a donation to your legal fund....

I must acknowledge another individual—Mr. Horace M. Cardwell, who was the administrator of Lufkin Memorial Hospital. After all the bloodletting began, Mr. Cardwell, at a staff meeting took the floor to vouchsafe the professional acumen and integrity of the Oral Surgeons who were refusing to submit themselves and their medical colleagues to the vagary of countersigned examinations. Mr. Cardwell’s comments, as I recount them, were “these men consider themselves as physicians, conduct themselves as physicians, and do good work as a well-trained and committed physician would be expected to do”. It is an important point that this man was soon to

ascend to president of the American Hospital Association. Mr. Cardwell figures strongly in the overall outcome of this story—he returns to the narrative a few paragraphs down.... And He did have broad shoulders that could be trusted.

We need to take a few sentences here to further develop a full picture of Nacogdoches and Lufkin, Texas. They were about forty miles west of San Augustine, Texas, the oldest city of the Spanish empire in the new world—and not much further away from Louisiana. As such they figured heavily into the Texans’ revolution against Mexico—think Alamo, and the Battle of San Jacinto.... All of the Louisiana Buffs might get a kick out of General Sam Houston (of the Texicans, you know) who sustained a cannon shot injury to his leg and was facing amputation. The Gen’l said Hell No! Get me back to New Orleans and they’ll save it. He went to Charity and they did! In 1836! You may now hoot!!!. That frontier spirit remained in East Texas—albeit with a patina of colleges, and industry, and agriculture. So much for the Tigers over in Red Stick—Geaux Longhorns!

In 1976, those East Texas cowboys and girls had found a way to get “toked up and coked up”, and ride their bulls and their pickup trucks, right into the emergency rooms of one of four hospitals. And it got to be routine that we could hear the ambulance siren every evening and know that one or both could expect, quite likely, an ER call. And not just for trauma, also for pathology, or other—one midnight I was in the Lufkin Memorial” ER and since I was the “only doc in the hospital” I got shoved into an arriving ambulance to deliver a baby (talk about scope of practice!). Anyway--the placid little kid and his multiparous Mom (who had been to that rodeo before) had arranged his own Lamaze delivery. A blanket was pulled back to disclose no problems with Mom—and a warm little healthy male lying quietly between protective legs and properly surveying the world just entered. Healthy APGAR indices for sure! And all the other players, ambulance crew, ER personnel, and Oral Surgeon were uplifted to have been there.... And there were other, similar experiences that both Alan and I encountered.

Now back to the story of the Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons. There was no way to solve the growing problem of the JCAH, and two upstart “Dentists” who would not back down. So, Dr. Hubbard and I, within 18 months, had departed and matriculated in Medical school.

At this point, I ask you to read Alan’s commentary on all of this as he experienced it. Alan will also introduce Rick Hurst, who donned the mantel of OMFS in that area of East Texas, and through a lot of hard work brought it all full

swing. Rick will have some commentary as to his experience with practice, and with John Helfrick joining the JCAH.

Dr. Hubbard: Hello Colleagues! This is Alan with “Page Two and the rest of the story (as Paul Harvey used to say (sorry if you know who I am talking about). Before I get all wound up, I would like to take the poetic freedom for a personal note. I have always cherished my relationship with Mike and my respect for him knows no limit. If this discussion is well received, then he deserves all the credit.... If it isn’t please blame me!!

Mike covered the History and Physical narrative well. The real wringer for me came in late 1977 or early 1978. The department of Health Education and Welfare did a survey of the Memorial Hospital in Nacogdoches. Their report to the hospital included the statement that “an Oral Surgeon could not ADMIT a patient to the hospital. It went on to say that “if the hospital continued to allow me to admit patients to the hospital that their Medicare funding “WOULD BE STOPPED”!

I will never forget the day that Dr. Bill Henderson, an internist and Chief of the Medical Staff, very apologetically told me the situation. None of this made any sense and I was crushed as I had a wonderful relationship with the medical staff and I was doing ALL of the Maxillofacial trauma in a substantial area.

At this point I must mention one of my heroes in this life—Larry Walker, MD. Larry served in a MASH unit in Vietnam, went through the DeBakey Baylor College of Medicine General Surgery Program and I am told that he was the ONLY resident in Surgery that Kenneth Mattox MD (Madrocks Mattox.... Surgical Faculty and Chief at Ben Taub Hospital in Houston) ALWAYS treated with the utmost respect. Larry really wanted someone with our training to come to town and took a lot of his valuable time to show me around and introduced me to folks. When the “admitting edict” came down Larry personally came to me and said “I will admit anyone for you anytime, day or night! Still love that man! In the meantime, I called our Society in Chicago and told them “the story”. They said some suggestions or legal help. They said they no.... So, Larry Walker, MD of Houston admitted patients for me until I went to Medical School in Houston by the grace of God (really) and immeasurable help from another of my heroes, Jim Bertz, DDS, MD (faculty member at the

University of Texas Medical Branch in Houston and esteemed Oral Surgeon).

Dr. Rick Hurst, who is one or two of the finest men I have ever known, took over the practice and took it to a whole new level. Interestingly, the admitting issue went away and the JCAH reversed their antiquated position on us and our doing of our own H and P’s. Hallelujah!!! Take it away Rick, the ball is in your court.

Kinnebrew’s note—I think that the ball was well served from Alan’s side of the court. He has played the game fairly, and well.... So, I will now ask you to read the offering of the current leader and longest standing Nacogdoches Oral Surgeon—Dr. Rick Hurst....

My name is Rick Hurst and my part comes late in the story. Dr. Hubbard had invited me to practice with him in Nacogdoches, to begin work in July 1980. I agreed and we started the process but, in the meantime, Dr. Hubbard had returned to get a medical degree because of the difficulty he had encountered in doing his own History and Physicals for hospital admissions.

I applied for and received privileges to operate at all four local hospitals, two in Lufkin and two in Nacogdoches. No restrictions were placed on me by any of the hospitals regarding history and physicals or in the performance of any procedure within the scope of my practice. I attributed this to the immense respect, of the medical staff and the administrators, for Drs. Kinnebrew and Hubbard.

In Nacogdoches, Larry Walker, Baylor-trained general surgeon, and in Lufkin, Horace Cardwell—hospital administrator at Lufkin Memorial, were both encouraging and instrumental in obtaining this degree of freedom. And both men were vocal in their admiration of Dr. Kinnebrew and Dr. Hubbard.

Shortly after, George W. Bush was elected governor of Texas, and he placed key Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons onto the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. This corresponded to the time at which the AAOMS, through the guidance of Dr. John Helfrick and others, released the AAOMS Parameters of Care. The Parameters Document was ahead of its time in describing the full scope and guidelines for the practice of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery—and the Texas State Legislature in its writing of the Dental Practice Act used them in defining the scope of

OMS in Texas. This visionary document made most problems—from that time forward—essentially non-starters.

Gregory S. Tate, DDS/MD, joined my practice in 1999, and later we were joined in Nacogdoches by Brett S. Shirley DDS/MD. Both are outstanding surgeons, well-trained and capable on their own merit, but whose ability to practice in full-scope mode undoubtedly had some help from those who came before. And in addition — Dr. Shirley is fellowship-trained in Head and Neck Surgery, serves on the Tumor Board, and performs complex cancer and reconstructive surgery locally as well as John Peter Smith in Fort Worth and at LSU Shreveport.

Comment of Kinnebrew.... Dr. Rick Hurst is not a man to blow his own horn. But I would be remiss not to say that there could be no losers in a practice, or standing at (or lying upon) an operating table, with this man. And his personal values? Rick Hurst volunteered from private practice, and qualified to go and serve as a battlefield surgeon, in both Afghanistan and later in Iraq. Gravitas? Sure! Personal and spiritual strength? Most definitely! And no—Dr. Hurst is not crazy—just a really good man!!!!

Paging forward—Medical School was a good experience, and offered an opportunity for Lab Bench research as well as another concentrated study time in the medical arenas. One noteworthy period I spent was that in the microvascular lab. Under the direction of Howard Kaufman, MD, and Michael Minor, MD, both faculty in Neurosurgery, I researched and developed some techniques in carotid microsurgical anastomosis, and some free flap work. I brought a number of Oral Surgery colleagues to that lab. And not one of my colleagues failed an anastomosis--Lucky Rats. But I got a kick out of Jim Bertz's finishing comment after his sole and successful trial "not bad for a damned Dentist". The research work appeared as "Some Adjuncts for the Microvascular Lab" published in an early issue of the Journal of Micro Surgery (just as I joined the faculty at LSU OMFS in New Orleans).

An attempt was also made to get a microsurgical lab going in the Dental School Basement, but the lab could not survive inadequate manpower, inadequate funding, and a whole host of floods. I did make one attempt to do a Costochondral Mandibular graft at Hotel Dieu Hospital--but made the considered decision to convert to a standard free graft (the hospital needed a bit more preparation time on my part). And it does require considerable effort, investment, and staff training to support such a specialized surgical service, reliably. Anyway—we can still say that we were there--and we can welcome the fact that an up-

and going microvascular team now provides those services, comprehensively, from our department.

Hailing back to the JCAH—early on in my tenure at LSU, (having come on board in 1979) I was contacted by a field officer of that body. I've lost the name of the delightful thoracic surgeon who came --we met in the fifth-floor conference room. I remember well that he pointedly asked for information on H and P's being performed by qualified OMFS personnel. And he seemed receptive to what was easy for me to point out. He may have known something about us? For my part I merely revisited the training years, and the qualified experience of our residency programs—irrespective of degrees—and what these surgeons ultimately brought to the surgical and health-care arena.

Not long afterward the fences seemed to come down faster for us, as regarded H and P'S. I guess everybody's efforts gained more traction. I do offer, however, that Horace Cardwell was a central driver of this movement.... He may well have been instrumental in our own John Helfrick's appointment to the JCAH.... One more thing—I wouldn't have wanted Horace for an enemy, not by a long shot!

Horace Cardwell died in 1996. How I wish that I (we) could thank him now! I use the figurative expression again that he had broad shoulders, and also a good heart, and a good business head, as did so many friends along the road who also could be trusted.

Cardwell Utterances (this is my Lagniappe for all you frogs) ....

— “when you come to a place like Lufkin, there is nothing “fer ye or agin’ ye”, what comes of your coming is what you do with it.

(BUT—there was damn sure something agin’ Hubbard and Kinnebrew for a while there! But not for Hurst—that lucky sucker! He just made it look easy.... Not really—Rick worked himself hard, found himself staring into some large head and neck holes, and had his own and singular baptism of fire)

Horace added also, speaking at a medical staff meeting—the last I attended-- “Hell, Mike decided to take you on (the medical profession) in this battle. But he got to the point of no way to win, so he decided that he would go back to

Medical School— “if he couldn't whip ya—then he would just join ya”. (Loved that man—played tennis with him a few mornings) ....

So—seeking an end to this “short missive”—John Neary, answering my request that he review this narrative (John had heard the “Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons story earlier) opined that the real question had not been raised and answered of “what did the Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons achieve”? And what exactly happened? My Bad! Here goes....

Alan and I came to the conclusion that the problem arose along with the rapidly advancing attitudes and technology of 1976 just overwhelmed the JCAH, the H E and W, and the home offices of Oral Surgery. “Bumbling Bureaucracy” comes to mind for the governmental bodies, as does “Instilled Hierocracy” for the OS offices and committees, (hasn’t it been forever thus?). And there may have been a bit of jealousy—of position or monies—along for the ride. I want to say that all of the above finally realized that they were LOSING GROUND in their reason for existing in the first place. ‘It was also PAST TIME that they get modern—and better. In other words, it was TIME FOR A CHANGE. The real winners in this fall-do-raw, then, were the people “within our ninety-mile radius” whom we were privileged to serve.

The gain for us also was our realization that we had strong friends in Medicine and Dentistry—who respected us and valued our work. The gain came further, beyond the immediate environs of Lufkin and Nacogdoches, when it was realized that it was time—no, past time, to stand and say NO—YOU CAN’T DO THAT, and if you don’t change, we are out of here! And then to be willing to walk away in order to ensure that the necessary changes were made in deed and not just by the spoken word.

It showed again as new welcome mats were placed at the doors of at least four hospitals, in Nacogdoches and Lufkin Texas. Thanks to Rick for what he has done with it.

Another quote, from Tom Zimmerman, MD, PHD ophthalmologist (think Timolol). Tom was a friend from first Jacksonville, as a fellow resident, and later as a fellow faculty member at LSUMC—in New Orleans, La. Tom said: If you work hard and do well—and cut a wide swath—some will hate for it. I guess we just have to work through that pettiness. And the people who were lagging but changed for us? They can only be appreciated. After all, those people do offer shoulders for some of us to

stand on—as we peer over the edge!!!! And those folks are winners too.

If there are any lasting questions about what happened to us in 1976, to bring about change—think about what happened to our specialty on a national stage. It literally exploded in advancement. And there was a myriad of “Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons “, by a different name, in other towns, states, and hospital districts—who drove the change. And BTW—there were NO LOSERS....

FINIS: This has been a real pleasure. My thanks to John Neary for his review, his comments and suggestions. I also had, early on, wanted to have David Carlton have a look—David’s residency group were marking their 4<sup>th</sup> year (and first to do so, and join the fray, when I came on board at LSUMC). But David has answered a higher calling—may he rest well.... And a bow to the real Nacogdoches Oral Surgeons by name, Alan and Rick--to whom I was bonded by blood and sweat, and heartache, and early grey hair--for leaping aboard, and for sharing this adventure with me.

BTW—Nacogdoches, Texas is sister city to Natchitoches, La. The legend goes that Chief Caddo bequeathed land for an empire to each of his twin sons, by name Nacogdoches and Natchitoches--Yada, Yada, Yada.... Nobody believes that story, but nobody knows a better one. So much for the legends of Nacogdoches—and for this opportunity to share some memories of our specialty....

**Thank you, Michael. Our LSU OMS Alumni are enlightened, entertained, and educated with your profound “old Texas English”. And now the rest of the H&P story, Jack Kent.**

From Ronnie Marks When I was in my first year at CHNO, we rotated on Internal Medicine to learn how to do H&PE’s. We would do our own H&PE, but then had to get a Tulane or LSU medical resident to sign off on it or do their own exam, a ridiculous and unnecessary pain. In private practice, it was the same. We put a lot of third molar cases in the hospital at that time. Almost all of these were anesthesia Class 1 patients, but we still had to get a clearance from the family physician. Good money I suppose! I had to do the same thing when I got called to the ER in the middle of the night and had to take the

patient to OR. This made me think, it's ok for me to do the same evaluation on patients every day in the office, especially those that were being sedated, but not ok to take the patient to the hospital and operate unless the patient had a scripted note from his family doc saying "Cleared for anesthesia". I had begun teaching 1 ½ days a month in the program in Shreveport and discussed the problem with Jack Gamble. I realized that the only way for OMS to get full admitting and H&PE privileges would require a law change of the dental practice acts. As a member of the LDA Board of Directors and heading toward the Presidency, it seemed necessary to get the LDA to sponsor the legislation. I went to the LDA legislative committee, chaired by Ross Denicola who has always been friendly to OMS. The committee and board of directors approved it in 1984.

Before any legislation could be presented to the state, it also had to be approved by the House of Delegates of the LDA. LSOMS member contacted LDA delegates and the bill was approved by the House at their annual meeting early in 1985. There were key members of the Louisiana legislature who were very dental friendly to myself and others. They happily carried the bill through the House.

The bill was first presented to the House Health and Welfare committee. Jack Gamble and Jack Kent were there to testify for the bill and represent both OMS programs. The bill passed the committee and was sent to the House of Representatives where Raymond Laborde handled it. From there it went to the Senate Health & Welfare committee where Senator Kelly presented it with essentially no opposition. *LaBorde and Kelly were patients of mine!!* The LDA had done its job. The bill was sent to Governor Edwards for his signature. When that bill was signed by the Governor in 1985, I knew we had finally won the war!! This photo shows the victory signature by the Governor.

#### §772. Anesthetics and prescriptions; patient histories and examinations

- A. (1) A licensed dentist may administer general and local anesthetics and prescribe drugs or medicines necessary or proper in the practice of his profession.  
 (2) A licensed druggist of this state may fill prescriptions of a licensed dentist of this state for any drug necessary to the practice of dentistry.

#### BILL TEXT

Addressing "Freedom of Choice" in his summer President's Message (LDA Journal, Summer 1985), Dr. Ronald Marks told his fellow LDA members, "This one piece of legislation literally affects the way that we will be practicing dentistry now and in the future." Bearing in mind the ramifications of such important legislation it seems appropriate that every Louisiana dentist see the exact text of the law:



Shown at the signing ceremony for Act 441 of 1985 (Freedom of Choice Legislation) are (from left to right) Senator Donald G. Kelly, author of the legislation; Dr. Ross J. DeNicola, Jr., Chairman, Legislative Committee, Louisiana Dental Association; Governor Edwin W. Edwards; Dr. Ronald B. Marks, President, Louisiana Dental Association, and Representative Raymond J. Laborde who handled the legislation in the House of Representatives.

#### AN ACT

1514. Freedom of choice of dentist in health plans.  
 A. As used in this Section:

- B. (1) A licensed dentist may perform a patient history and examination in a hospital, provided that he has completed a physical evaluation program or course curriculum in an accredited medical or dental school teaching institution, is qualified as a board eligible or board certified oral or eligible or board certified oral or maxillofacial surgeon, and his credentials have been approved by the hospital medical staff and he has been approved by the hospital board to perform such procedures. All such patient histories and examinations shall be directly related or incident to any dentistry or oral or maxillofacial surgery procedures.  
 (2) Patients with known medical problems on admission or arising during hospitalization shall have appropriate medical consultation.

Acts 1985, No. 743, § 1.

## **OMS News Bits**

### ***Wes Emison, DDS, MD '83***

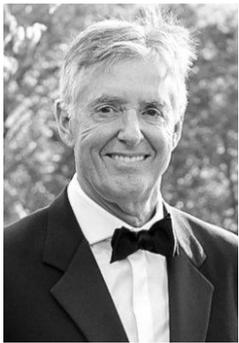
- 1) Mike's voluminous tome, as you know, is classic Kinnebrew. It is also a story that needs to be told as it is of important historical significance to our specialty and Mike was a true visionary who rocked a boat that needed rocking. I hope you are able to accommodate his generous verbiage somehow to preserve the flavor of East Texas. Mike used to tell me about this father, describing him as a "rough ridin' East Texas oil field Wildcatter". Photo is what I imagined.
- 2) Cathy and I became grandparents on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Bennett Ruth Emison born to our son John Bennett Emison and his wife Alison.



- 3) COVID-19: We closed up shop on March 13<sup>th</sup> and are just now about two weeks into seeing patients and doing surgery. A long time with no income to support a 3,000 square foot AAAASF accredited building with 10 employees. Now we are like a restaurant seating patrons three tables apart and I am wondering how long that business model can be sustained. My employees all came back to work but many of my colleagues have had employees quit or stay home due to fear of contacting the disease, child care issues, or for some they are making more money staying home collecting unemployment plus the \$600 a week bonus. Many unknowns still such as what happens when the back-log of cases is exhausted if the unemployment rate remains high. Will there be more stimulus packages from the government as we watch our state and federal debt skyrocket? And what happens when we finally have a COVID-19 vaccine and, as some surveys suggest, Anti-vaxxers account for 23% of our population? Should be interesting.



## In Memoriam, A Sorrowful May, 2020



**David Carlton, Jr, DDS** October 28, 1950 – May 6, 2020

David was the prize in 1978 at the beginning of our four-year LSU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. His patient care in Alexander and central Louisiana over 35 years is a testimony of excellence. He served as both a member and president of the Central Louisiana Dental Association, the Louisiana Dental Association, the Louisiana Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He published with me, helped me through difficult facial deformities, and amused us all as a frequent Master of Ceremonies, professionally and socially. His smile of engagement and relentless participation to help all of us was unbelievably infectious.

### Just a few of the many condolences

"Our heartfelt condolences fly out to Lynna and family. David was such an inspiration to all of us and the LSU alumni community. He was such a light of joy in all professional and social gatherings. Rest In Peace Dear David." Jack

"He was a fighter and his commitment to OMS & LSU was without peer. Hope & I will miss him and our prayers go out to his entire family." Ghali

"He was definitely one of the kindest surgeons that I have ever met. I will remember his sweet smile and his "always happy" demeanor. He was an example to us all!! Hugs to all."

Teresa

"We have lost a real force in OMS. His congeniality, his clinical acumen and his leadership were all significant factors in advancing our specialty in general and LSUOMS in particular. He was a difference maker." Eric

"David was just flat out a gentleman and first class individual. Always with a warm and kind disposition."

John P. Neary

David was one of my chief residents and for a guy(me) from the Midwest entering the culture shock Of New Orleans and Louisiana he made me free right at home and made transition to residency much easier for Me. I'm very grateful for all that he was to all of us and to our program! Herb

"I had the honor to spend a weekend with him at AAOMS in Chicago for the Leadership Conference. What a fun guy to be around! He will be missed." David Baughman

"Dave was indeed a "light of joy" amongst us. So well known for his joke telling, few are aware of the running joke of which started in 1980 when I arrived in New Orleans. Dave took me under his wing and was like a father to me during our residency training. For the ensuing 40 years, every time I would see Dave he would put his arm around my shoulder and say, "Son" to which I would respond, "Dad". We have lost a prince. Cathy and I send our love to Trey, Christi, and Lynna." Wes

"Dave was one of the best residents I have ever had the pleasure to work with. He was an outstanding individual, a good friend. He will be missed." Tony



**Henry Gremillion, DDS, MAGD**

October 15, 1951 – May 18, 2020

Henry Gremillion was a Dean's Dean. He was a Louisiana native and 1977 graduate of the LSU Health New Orleans School of Dentistry. Henry came home to lead his alma mater in 2008 and became the sixth dean since the founding of the LSU dental school, and was the only LSUSD alumnus to hold the position. His academic career in Facial Pain and TMJ disorders at Florida and LSU was without equal as he led and published with such regularity that his career is boundless with distinction and honorary awards.

Henry led to completion the first new permanent building at LSUSD since the school opened in 1972. The \$31 million, 64,899 square foot structure now named the Allen A. Copping Advanced Clinical Care and Research Building opened in 2018. LSU students now hone their skills in some of the most advanced preclinical labs in the country. Henry was incredibly prompt to assist and care for any dental task anywhere. That was his manor and it made him just as happy as the dental recipient.



**James R Peltier, DDS, FACD, FICD, PhD (Hon)**

September 15, 1930 – May 22, 2020

Jimmy Peltier has to rank in History as one of the most dedicated leaders for LSU Baton Rouge and Louisiana Dentistry and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. Jimmy enjoyed a remarkable career and family life. There were 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He was married to Ann Armstrong for 67 years. He was President of the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and a Founder of Louisiana Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Jimmy was the only person in Louisiana history to be Chairman of LSU Board of Supervisors, President of LSU Alumni, and President of LSU Foundation. He was a world famous authority on collection of Jade. Jimmy carried the Olympic torch through Thibodaux, Louisiana on its journey to Atlanta for the Summer Olympics of 1996. His wit and contagious humor covered a man of political savvy, intellect, and help to all, especially the handicapped and underprivileged.

We shared many wonderful gatherings at his home, his fishing boat, and travels. On one occasion when Jack Gamble and I were fishing with Jimmy, Jack hooked a Pelican and I snagged an oyster bed—I thought Jimmy would throw the two of us off the boat. Jimmy was the nominator that led to my Boyd Professorship appointment by the LSU Board of Supervisors in 1983 and I had the privilege of nominating Jimmy for a rare honorary degree, PhD, presented at LSU Baton Rouge spring commencement in 2008.

How wonderful that the JKOMSF selected James Peltier as Alumnus of the Year as described in the Winter JKOMSF Newsletter, 2020.

We will all miss these three giants of dentistry. As Chancellor Larry Hollier quotes, "*Do not cry because they are past! Smile, because they once were!*"

*John N. Kent, DDS, FACD, FICD*



**Garland "Jeff" Aycock, Jr., DDS**

June 19, 1927 – June 18, 2020

Jeff Aycock was a 1954 graduate of Loyola Dental School in 1954, practiced General Dentistry for 12 years and did his OMS training at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, finishing a 3-year residency in 1969. He practiced OMS in Houma, Louisiana for over 35 years. Jeff served on the board of commissioners Terrebonne Medical Center for 8 years. Jeff was an avid philanthropist and sportsman with a great sense of humor. Eric Geist credits Jeff for enticing and guiding him into a career in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

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RESIDENCY PROGRAM NEWS

**Congratulations to the LSU OMS Residents who finished this past June 2020**



**Alshehry,  
Sami  
BDS, PhD**



**Hinkle,  
Ryan  
DDS, MD**



**Kuznetsov,  
Sergei  
DDS, MD**



**Nelson,  
Steven  
DDS, MD**



**Williams,  
Danielle  
DMD, MD**

**2020 Graduating Chiefs:**

*Sami Alshehry BDS, PhD: Hometown Saudi Arabia – 2020-2021  
2021 Head and Neck Oncology & Reconstruction Fellowship – LSU OMS School of Dentistry*

*Ryan Hinkle, DDS, MD: Private Practice - Tyler Oral and Facial Surgery*

*Sergei Kuznetsov, DDS, MD: Private Practice - NYIOMS*

*Steven Nelson, DDS, MD: Private Practice – Baton Rouge Oral and Facial Surgery &  
Dental Implant Center*

*Danielle Williams, DMD, MD: Private Practice – Aspen Dental – South Central Florida*

**2020 Categorical Interns:**

*John Coburn, DDS: University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine*

*Cory Hatch, DDS: University of Iowa College of Dentistry*

*Karah McDaniel, DDS: University of Louisville School of Dentistry*

*Benjamin Salameh, DDS: University of Illinois at Chicago School of Dentistry*



**Coburn,  
John  
DDS**



**Hatch,  
Cory  
DDS**



**McDaniel,  
Karah  
DDS**



**Salameh,  
Benjamin  
DDS**

**Our New Chief OMS Residents who will finish in June 2021**



**Megison,  
Andrew  
DDS, MD**



**Murnan,  
Eric  
DDS, MD**



**Rowan,  
Brian  
DMD, MD**



**Zoccolilli,  
Michelle  
DDS, MD**



Mail to:  
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 Monroe, LA 71201  
 Attn: Peggy Reynolds



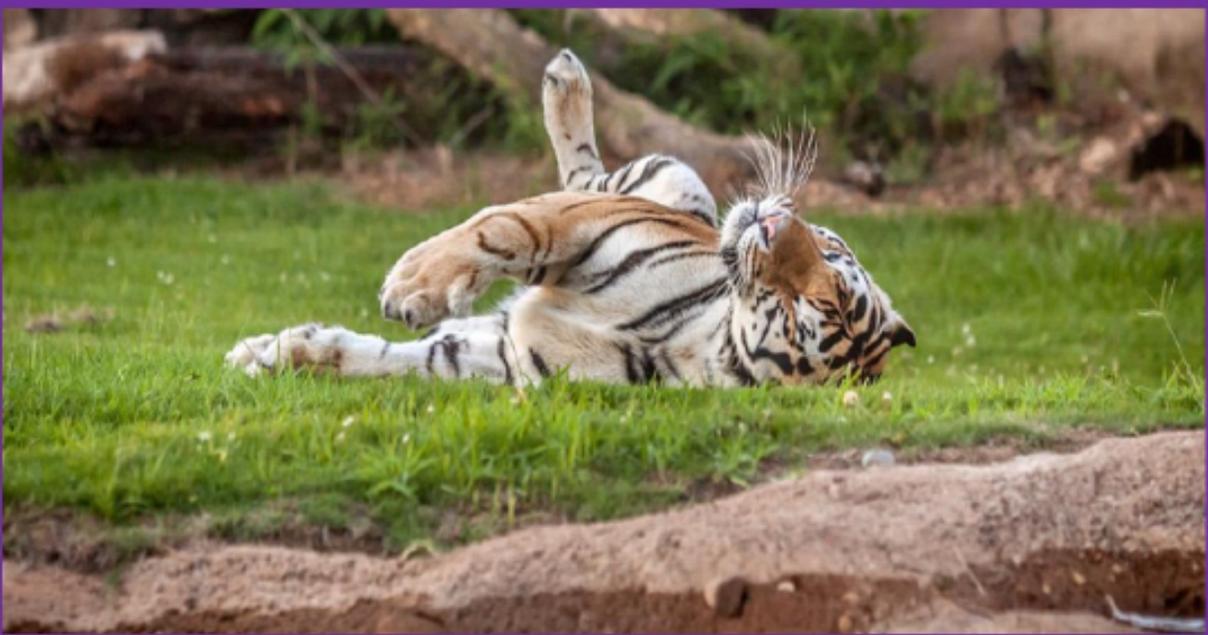
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FRIENDS	LESS THAN \$5,000

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*Here are the specifics:*

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- Gifts cannot be used to fund a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.
- Each donor may give up to \$100,000 per year.
- Gifts can be used to satisfy the donor's required minimum distribution.
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\_\_\_\_\_ (Office)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I have included the Jack Kent Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation in my will.

I plan to give a gift of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Life Insurance

\_\_\_\_\_ Property Estimated Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The gift transfer will occur at the time of my death or the death of my spouse, \_\_\_\_\_, in the event that I predecease my Spouse.

\_\_\_\_ The JKOMFS foundation is a nonprofit 501c corporation whose sole purpose is to promote the further education and support of the LSU OMS program, its trainees, and graduates. Legacy giving is an estate planning tool that many find helpful in reducing the tax burden on their survivors. If you are interested in how you might contribute and how contributing will help your family and future generations of LSU OMS residents, please return this form and a representative will contact you or send you written information on the details of this important estate planning too.

\_\_\_\_ I will send the JKOMSF a copy of the codicil or necessary modification to my will which describes my legacy gift

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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