

Midwestern Dentist

News and Views

Volume 99 • Issue 1
January 2023

February 10, 2023

Risk Management/Malpractice Lecture

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM • Adams Pointe Conference Center of Courtyard by Marriott
1400 NE Coronado Dr. • Blue Springs, MO 64014

Robert S. Thompson,
RT, JD, MBA, LLM(DR), AIC,
ARM, ARe, RPLU, CPCU
7 CE Credit Hours



Robert S. Thompson has a diverse background in law, medicine, professional liability insurance, and healthcare risk management. He is a radiology technologist who practiced for nearly 10 years at several hospitals. Robert's previous roles also include senior vice president of risk management and director of client education for two professional liability insurance companies.

Robert earned his bachelor's degree in business administration summa cum laude from *North Georgia State University*, his juris doctorate degree from the *University of Georgia School of Law*, a master of business administration degree from *Lincoln University*, and a master of laws degree in dispute resolution from the *University of Missouri School of Law*.

Robert's responsibilities include developing and delivering risk management and patient safety services to *MedPro*-insured dentists and national dental organizations.

Risk Management and Patient Safety Practices That Prevent and Control Dental Malpractice Claims

This claim-based educational program begins with an overview of the current dental malpractice claim environment, including claim data and issues specific to the states of Missouri and Kansas. Next we discuss the prominent risk management issues related to the frequency and severity of dental malpractice claims, including Informed consent, jousting, patient selection, patient and team communication, follow-up systems failures and adverse outcome disclosure. All of these topics have been indicated as claims drivers in the *MedPro* dental claim database.

Upon completion of this course, attendees will:

- Recognize the current trends in dental malpractice
- List three risk management issues related to dental malpractice
- Define jousting in dentistry

MedPro/MDIS is sponsoring this program.

HOCKEY GAME MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Friday, January 27th

Missouri Mavericks vs. Wheeling Nailers

5:30 Happy Hour (Location TBD)

7:05 Game

Cost: \$40/Person

(If you're a new dentist, inquire about a special promotion)

RSVP to Sam at 816.737.5353 or gkcds@att.net





Greater Kansas City Dental Society

Officers:

Dr. Katherine J. Oatman, President
816.524.7050 kjoatman@gmail.com
Dr. Douglas J. Cochran, President-Elect
816.436.2150 dkcochran83@gmail.com
Dr. Zachary L. Brown, Vice-President
816.561.1115 zlbypb@gmail.com
Dr. Sam E. Hayes, Secretary-Treasurer
816.333.1393 samhayesdds@yahoo.com
Dr. Garret T. Cochran, Immediate Past-President
816.436.2150 garret.cochran@gmail.com

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GKCDS Executive Director:

Sam Silvey 816.737.5353 gkcdds@att.net

GKCDS Professional Liaison:

James Parrott, DDS
816.942.4385 jlprtt106@gmail.com

MDA Trustee:

Dr. Wendy J. Weimer
816.877.0200 wendyweimer@yahoo.com

Editor: Sam Silvey

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The Greater Kansas City Dental Society is an ADA CERP recognized provider approved by the Missouri Dental Association. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. The Greater Kansas City Dental Society designates each activity for seven continuing education credits (with exception to the OSHA program, which is 3.5 education credits). Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to ADA CERP at www.ada.org/ceip.



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Upcoming Meetings

Greater Kansas City Dental Society:

January 13, 2023 – *Continuing Education Meeting*. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Dr. Timothy Caruso presents an ergonomics lecture. Adams Pointe Conference Center; Blue Springs, MO. \$235 per member dentist/\$320 for non-member dentist/\$65 per staff member, if paying for individual course. Program included in Season Underwriter subscription. RSVP to Sam at gkcds@att.net or 816.737.5353.

January 27, 2023 – *Missouri Mavericks Hockey Game Membership Event*. More details on front cover.

February 10, 2023 – *Continuing Education Meeting*. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Mr. Robert Thompson presents a malpractice lecture. Adams Pointe Conference Center; Blue Springs, MO. \$235 per member dentist/\$320 for non-member dentist/\$65 per staff member, if paying for individual course. Program included in Season Underwriter subscription. RSVP to Sam at gkcds@att.net or 816.737.5353.

Other Meetings:

February 1, 2023 – *National Children's Dental Health Month*. Free resources can be found at <https://www.ada.org/resources/community-initiatives/national-childrens-dental-health-month>

February 1, 2023 – *Virtual MDA Town Hall*. More details TBD. The Dental Day at the Capitol will follow this meeting on March 1st in Jefferson City, MO.

February 3, 2023 – *Give Kids a Smile*. Register your office for a day of giving at www.adafoundation.org.



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From the President . . .

Happy New Year! I hope you all were able to enjoy a wonderful, safe, and healthy holiday season in 2022 and are well on your way to a happy and prosperous 2023. I am honored to serve as the President of the *Greater Kansas City Dental Society* for this coming year and would love to introduce myself. I am Katie Oatman, and I am a general dentist practicing in Lee's Summit, MO. I also live in Lee's Summit with my husband, Ryan, and our two daughters, Madilyn and Zoey. I was blessed to purchase a practice in June 2019 from a dentist who had been a fantastic member of the dental community for many years, and what a crazy three years of practice ownership it has been! Between settling into a new practice, to the COVID closure in March 2020 and then adjusting to our "new normal," the last few years have certainly been a crash course in business ownership. I absolutely could not have made it through without the guidance of the selling doctor, which reminded me how important it is to have the support of our peers in our great profession. I believe many of us find that support among the members of our society, which is one of the many reasons I have continued to be a member.

I have been so lucky throughout my career to have had fantastic mentors, both in dentistry and in life. After attending the *AEGD* at *UMKC*, I had the great privilege of being an associate in a practice with a dentist who was incredibly willing to help me learn. One of the most amazing things she did for me was to bring me to my first *Greater KC Dental Society* meeting. Throughout my involvement in events at both the local and state level, I have heard countless stories about how many of our current local and state leadership were inspired to become involved by their own mentors. I sincerely hope that many of us can pay it forward and become that mentor for a new generation of dentists. The future of our society, and our profession, depends on it.

On an *ADA* level, much effort has been made recently to work on strategic forecasting to ensure we have a voice in the future of our profession. With new dentists graduating from dental school with heavy debt loads, many of these dentists are choosing to join DSOs rather than entering smaller private practices. With the many changes in the landscape of our profession, the *ADA* is seeking to find new ways to stay relevant and to continue to maintain a consistent market share. On a local level, I would love to hear all your input regarding new and different ways to move our society forward so we can ensure we are valuable resource for dentists now and in the future.

Additionally, our profession had a victory in the state of Massachusetts with the passage of a ballot measure

requiring dental insurance companies to spend at least 83% of premium dollars on patient care, rather than administrative costs, salaries, and profits. Carriers that do not meet this requirement will be required to refund the difference to covered individuals and groups. Now, hopefully many more states will use this victory as a jumping off point for bills of their own. The *ADA* provided great support toward making the passage of this ballot measure possible, which is one of the many ways they are working for us!

I am truly looking forward to serving as your president in 2023. Please don't hesitate to e-mail me at katieoatmandds@gmail.com with any comments, questions, concerns, or ideas you may have. Let's make this an amazing year!



Dr. Katie Oatman

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Meet the Prez: Dr. Katie Oatman

**Where did you receive your undergraduate degree?
What degree was it?**

I attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and majored in Business Administration.

When and where did you graduate dental school?

I attended the University of Nebraska Medical Center for dental school and graduated in 2013. I completed the AEGD and UMKC in 2014.

Favorite course in dental school? Fixed Pros

Where do you practice? Lee's Summit, MO

Specialty and services? General Dentistry

Family?

My husband Ryan and I have been married for 11 years. We have two daughters, Madilyn (9) and Zoey (5).

Hobbies?

At this point in my life, most of my free time revolves around taking my kids to their activities and watching them play sports! I also enjoy cheering on the Huskers, Royals, and Chiefs, and just spending time with family.

Volunteering?

I spend most of my time volunteering at PTA events for my kids.

Favorite food?

Probably pasta 😊

Favorite holiday?

Christmas! It was almost my favorite, but even more so since becoming a mom.

Most enjoyable thing about being a dentist?

I love the relationships we can build with our patients. It is so much fun to watch the families grow up before our eyes every time they come to visit.

If you had to describe yourself in one word, what would it be?

This is such a hard question! I hope to be very **approachable** during the course of this year.

Reason you are involved in the tripartite?

There are so many benefits! Advocacy, camaraderie, support of your peers, great CE, and being a part of moving the profession forward.

Anything else you'd like to tell us?

I am truly excited for this year! Please reach out to me with any comments or questions. I can't wait to hear from everyone!



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

December 9, 2022

The regular meeting of the *Greater Kansas City Dental Society* was called to order Friday, December 9, 2022 at *Grand Street Cafe* in Kansas City, MO by President, Dr. Garret Cochran. A quorum was present.

Dr. Cochran introduced the current officers and spouses including: himself, Dr. Katie Oatman and Mr. Ryan Oatman, Dr. Doug Cochran and Mrs. Kim Cochran, Dr. Sam Hayes and Mrs. Jeannene Hayes, and Mrs. Sam and Mr. Jason Silvey. He also introduced the President of the *MDA*, Dr. Jeremy Bowen, and his wife, Mrs. Christine Bowen.

Dr. Cochran had the *GKCDS/MDA* Past Presidents stand for recognition.

Dr. Cochran announced we have a great schedule of programs to enjoy in 2023. The next meeting is Friday, January 13th, 2023 at the *Adams Pointe Conference Center* in Blue Springs, MO and will feature Dr. Timothy Caruso presenting an ergonomics lecture.

Dr. Cochran asked if there were any more announcements. There were none.

Dr. Weimer honored new "Life Members" of the Association (as of 2023). The Life Member is an active member in good standing who has been an active member of the association for thirty (30) consecutive years or has a total of forty (40) years of active membership. Dr. Doug Cochran was present to receive his award. The other 2023 Life Membership recipients that could not attend include: Dr. Michael Berry, Dr. Robert Rechten Jr., Dr. Joan Walker, and Dr. Dewain Whitmore.

Dr. Katie Oatman gave a report of the Nominating Committee, providing the proposed slate of 2023 leadership as recommended by the committee. He had all the members who were in attendance stand when their names were called: President: Dr. Katie J. Oatman; President-Elect: Dr. Douglas J. Cochran; Vice-President: Dr. Zachary L. Brown; Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Samuel E. Hayes; Board of Directors (3 for 2023-2025): Dr. Aaron Bumann, Dr. Trent Finley, and Dr. Jared Gerhardt; *MDA* Delegates (4 for 2023-2025): Dr. Aaron Bumann, Dr. Erica Ketchem, Dr. Prabu Raman and Dr. Jackie Sloop; *ADA* Delegates for 2023: Dr. Prabu Raman and Dr. Connie L. White; for 2024: Dr. Prabu Raman and Dr. Connie L. White; *ADA* Alternate Delegates for 2023: Dr. Robert M. Tait and Dr. Wendy J. Weimer; for 2024: Dr. Garret T. Cochran and Dr. Wendy J. Weimer.

Dr. Cochran asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Therefore, Dr. Cochran called on Dr. Bowen to induct the new officers. Dr. Bowen called all 2023 officers up to the front and swore them in. 2023 Officers are: Dr. Katie J. Oatman —President; Dr. Douglas J. Cochran—President-Elect, Dr. Zachary L. Bowen—Vice-President, and Dr. Samuel E. Hayes—Secretary-Treasurer.

Dr. Bowen gave a short presentation regarding the *MDA* and its activities. Dr. Bowen presented Dr. G. Cochran with a President Commendation award.

Dr. G. Cochran gave a brief presentation.

Dr. G. Cochran presented Dr. Weimer with a *GKCDS* President plaque.

Dr. Cochran called for any old business or any new business.

As there was none, the meeting adjourned.

Here & Now

by Sam Silvey
Executive Director, GKCDs



New year, new you! Isn't that what we all hear around this time? I honestly happen to think I like who I am overall, and like all of you as well. So, not sure any of us need to be made 'anew' so to speak. However, I do see the value in considering reevaluation of my efforts, opinions and actions to make sure my short and long term goals are being pursued ultimately. And the beginning of the year is a good time I like to make sure I'm not "sweating the small stuff," because let's be honest, it's easy to do that. I hope you'll join me in this self-reflection and start your 2023 with a refreshed spirit, focused mind, and heart full of joy!

We have a fun membership social at the *Missouri Maverick's* hockey game the last Friday in January, on the 27th. We are planning on doing a group happy hour/dinner at a nearby restaurant before heading over to watch some pucks fly, so please join us for the fun! More details on the front cover!

The MDA has their legislative events coming up on the first of February and then the 1st of March. Feb 1st will be the virtual town hall where a Zoom meeting in the evening will be organized to outline important legislation pertinent to dentistry and will feature several important speakers including MDA staff, legislators and others. Then March 1st is when we will convene at the capitol building in Jefferson City and reach out in-person to your members of congress. Keep an eye out in your inboxes for more details on how to register!

I look forward to seeing many of you in the upcoming months and am grateful for another new year as your Executive Director.

Below and on the back cover are some photos from our recent December Holiday Social and Leadership Installation.



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December 9, 2022 - Grand Street Cafe, Kansas City, MO

