

Welcome to the 2016 meeting of the Kentucky Association of Orthodontists

It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as your KAO president for 2015-2016 term and as a member of the board for the previous four years. It is hard to believe how quickly it has passed, though Jamie and I welcoming our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th children during these four years on the board has certainly made time fly. I believe we find our organization stronger than ever, and feel we have maintained our exceptional relationship and standing with the SAO and AAO. I am proud of the Board for their hard work in maintaining our great state organization. Many of you, our member constituents, have worked hard to build our organization to the level we are and I thank you for your continued efforts. I would like to personally thank all of the officers who have served with me and have made this year run smoothly: Michael Becht (President-Elect), William Engilman (Secretary-Treasurer), William Millay (Sr. Director), and Kristen George (Jr. Director). I would also like to thank Chris Howell (AAO Delegate), and Carrie Jennings (SAO Director). In addition I would like to recognize Greg & Gary Inman, Jerri Stull, and Thomas Baldwin for their previous and continued efforts to improve both our state and national organizations. We all take pride in Gary's ascension to the AAO Presidency. Our Kentucky Chapter of the Southern Association of the American Association of Orthodontists is strong, and these individuals and your continued support are to thank for it.

I hope through this meeting you are able to catch up with many of our great colleagues from across the State that we do not see often enough. I encourage you to catch up with representatives from our State Universities, and can spend time with our vendors whose participation and generosity allows us to have such wonderful venues and meetings, while they bring us insight into the new technologies their companies produce each year to improve both our and our patient's lives.

I am excited for you to hear my friend Dr. Andy Hayes speak. For those of you who have not had the pleasure of meeting Andy before, I believe you will enjoy his energy and passion for making simple orthodontics great. Dr. Hayes is graduate of Indiana University for both his DDS, MSD and certificate in orthodontics. He is an inventor and innovative thinker, holding multiple active patents pertaining to Class II correction devices, and has worked in conjunction with American Orthodontics to develop multiple versions of his "PowerScope" simplified orthodontic bite correcting appliance. Dr. Hayes currently practices in multiple locations in the St. Louis area, is a Clinical Instructor in the St. Louis University Department of Orthodontics and has presented lectures pertaining to Class II correction on 3 continents. He has authored multiple articles and serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of Orthotown Magazine. All of this while being a consummate family man raising four wonderful and rambunctious young boys! We welcome Andy to the Bluegrass State and look forward to hearing his energetic and insightful lectures once again.

Please remember to register for **the SAO meeting at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort on October 20-23, 2016**. Again a strong list of outstanding speakers, and the wonderful location of the Sandestin Resort. Should be a great meeting. I also encourage any member interested in becoming more involved to participate in the **SAO Leadership Program** and to speak with me or any board member. The program focuses on leadership skills and organization at the SAO level, and increasing knowledge about current issues facing our profession. I would also encourage everyone to attend the **AAO Professional Advocacy Conference** and participate in our professional advocacy and to understand better what we can accomplish through our organization and as individuals. Plans are also being developed for our 2017 annual meeting and we look forward seeing you all again next August. Look for more information on our website www.kaortho.org & through email to save the date! Thank you for your membership and efforts as a valued part of our state organization. Let's have a great meeting!

Sincerely,
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