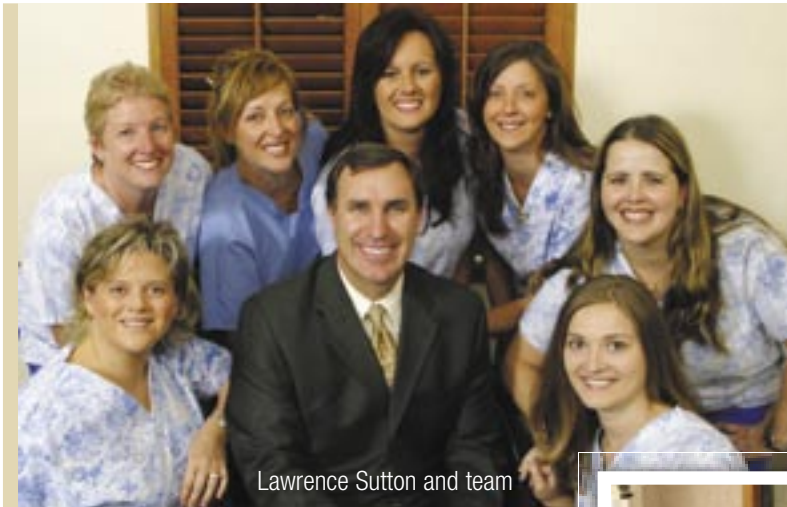


Back To The Roots

Lawrence Sutton, DDS, has impressive credentials, but perhaps the most important one is his dedication to his hometown's patients.

BY JACK MORIARITY



Lawrence Sutton and team

DR. LAWRENCE SUTTON isn't one to brag. He'll even point out that there are a great number of excellent dental practitioners here in Ocala. What does stand out is his enthusiasm for his profession and how much he cherishes his office and the patients that come to it." "Dr. Sutton received all his initial education right here in Marion County. He then graduated from nearby Rollins College, Creighton University School of Dentistry, and completed a post-graduate residency at the University of Florida/VAMC — including experience at the renowned Parker E. Mahan Facial Pain Center — before returning home to Ocala.

Nonetheless, Dr. Sutton doesn't rest on his laurels. He considers his education to be an ongoing endeavor, and continues to take extensive amounts of advanced education every year in order to stay current on the newest and best dental procedures, techniques and products. He has earned a prestigious Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry. Reflecting his strong interest in cosmetics, he is also a member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and a graduate of the Las Vegas Institute, the nation's premier cosmetic dentistry institute.

While this advanced training only enhances the cutting edge dentistry he provides, the warm, caring, friendly office environment he nurtures keeps patients coming back. His team's goal is to address each patient's individual wants and needs. Indeed, it is very important to Dr. Sutton that each patient is treated like a friend and each visit is a positive one.

With Dr. Sutton's roots here in Ocala, it only makes sense that he would establish his practice here. "Since I am from Ocala, a fair amount of my patients have known me most of my life. Because of this, I feel a stewardship to my patients that could not easily be replicated in a different location. It is imperative that my entire team always follow the golden rule."

Martica Ewers, a patient of Dr. Sutton's says, "All my friends go to Larry, and he's the dentist that my husband and I will go to for years to come."

Dr. Sutton's hospital-based residency equipped him with the fundamentals to assess and treat patients comprehensively early in his career. "In many cases there is a need for foundation building prior to doing the "extreme makeover." A

lot of what we do is not the "icing on the cake cosmetics," but building and maintaining form and function. It is well documented that all parts of the body need to be well maintained and cared for — wellness is what we are all about. However," Dr. Sutton admits, "when a patient wants a smile makeover, there is nothing more exciting for the whole office than to help that patient achieve a new smile."

While visiting the office during normal working hours, it was easy to see the commitment his team has to their patients and each other. Peggy Francis, Dr. Sutton's assistant for close to ten years, remarked, "This practice is so special because everyone really takes the time to help patients feel at ease, to discover their dental needs and to explain how we can help them achieve their goals. I try my best to inform our patients about the possibilities available today to create beautiful and healthy smiles."

