5. The orthodontic bracket according to claim 4, wherein the retaining member is selected from the group consisting of:

a. a labial hood;

b. a lingual ledge;

c. an end wall extending between a labial hood and a lingual ledge, and opposingly spaced from the body thereby enclosing at least a portion of the receiving area;

d. a c-shaped member; and

e. combinations thereof.

6. The orthodontic bracket according to claim 4, wherein mesial and distal portions of a labial free end of the clip prongs extend beyond the body and arch-wire slot and a ledge has been added as a separate artifact as mesial, the retaining member is selected from the group consisting of:

a) distal extensions from the body to provide a positive seat for the labial free end of the clip in the closed position;

b) extended mesial-distal ledges from the body have a cover that protects the mesial and distal edges of the labial free end of the clip in the closed position;

c) extended mesial-distal ledges from the body have enclosed pockets that protects the mesial, distal, and gingival edges of the labial free end of the clip in the closed position; and

d) extended mesial-distal ledges from the body have open pockets in the form of a "C-cup" that protects the gingival edges of the labial free end of the clip in the closed position.

7. The orthodontic bracket according to claim 4, wherein the retaining member includes a continuous channel extends in the gingival-occlusal direction through the lingual cavity and the lingual opening of the body to facilitate the cleaning of entrapped calculus / tartar.

8. The orthodontic bracket according to claim ~~5~~1~~7~~7, wherein the depth of the continuous channel that travels mesial-distally in the clip resting closed position has been reduced such that the smallest possible arch wire does not get entrapped during treatment.

9. The orthodontic bracket according to claim 1, wherein the archwire slot defines a lingually directed, mesially-distally extending curved portion or profile.

wherein the locking clip has two gingival potions that will be locked into different locking slots, which create different closed positions including and a passive locking position and an active locking position;

wherein the locking clip has two occlusal potions that insert mesially-distally between the occlusal tie-wings.

20. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket comprising:

a body having a pair of laterally spaced gingival tie wings and a pair of laterally spaced occlusal tie wings, the gingival and occlusal tie wings projecting from a labial surface of the body;

an arch wire slot extending mesially-distally across the body and between the gingival and occlusal tie wings to accommodate an archwire;

a locking mechanism on the mesial and distal ends of the bracket body designed as a gear rack; and

a locking clip with a mating gear rack of the locking mechanism to keep the clip closed.

21. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket according to claim 20, in which two independently operated clips on the mesial and distal edges of the bracket body can allow different expressions on the arch wire on each edge, in any combination.

22. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket clip according to claim 20, wherein each clip is adjustable to provide a passive arch wire engagement, an active arch wire engagement, or interactive arch wire engagement.

23. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket clip according to claim ~~53~~20, wherein a post is attached to the clip, which can be angled anywhere between 0 degrees to 90 degrees.

24. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket clip according to claim 20, wherein the body includes a gingivally-occlusally extending vertical slot.

25. A self-ligating orthodontic bracket clip according to claim 20, wherein a rounded stop on the opposite end of the gear rack allows a pivot motion to open the clip and prevents the clip from disengaging from the body.