



SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

February 2009

Volume 4, Issue 2

Children's Dental Health Month

February, which signals the start of National Children's Dental Health Month, has arrived.

This year's events include Tooth Fairy Day at the Lackawanna County Children's Library on Sunday, February 1st, at 2:30 p.m. Also included is a gathering with Ronald McDonald at the Keyser Avenue McDonald's on Saturday, February 7th, from noon to 1:30 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in these NCDHM events, or would like to visit a school to present a dental awareness program, please contact Dr. Todd Angelo to make arrangements. He can be reached by calling 570-342-3556 or e-mailing at tma1843@yahoo.com.



The Tooth Fairy takes a moment to talk to an interested child at McDonald's during 2008's National Children's Dental Health Month.

Ben Shair Award Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Take your place among SDDS history by attending the 25th anniversary of the Dr. Bernard Shair Award.

This grand event will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at the Radisson. In addition to announcing this year's winner, we will also honor past recipients of this special honor.

The Ben Shair award is a cash gift funded by the SDDS and an endowment fund founded by the family of Dr. Bernard Shair (who passed away in 1982) and administered by the Scranton Area Foundation.

It is presented to a University of Scranton student who has been accept-

ed by a dental school and shows tremendous promise in the field of dentistry. The student is one who gives the greatest promise of a lifetime of service to dentistry and community—a lifetime of dedicated professionalism, humanitarian concerns and social welfare service, as exemplified by Dr. Shair.

Be sure to reserve your spot by calling, faxing or e-mailing Dr. Mark Giallorenzi (346-7301 – phone, 570-346-7575 – fax, or markgiallo@comcast.net – email). We look forward to seeing you there!

CE Courses

There is still room left to attend one of the upcoming Continuing Education Courses! For registration information, go to our website at www.scrantondental.org.

Wednesday, 2/18/09

"Drugs, Herbals, Nutraceuticals: New Issues for Dentistry", Dr. Richard Wynn

Wednesday, 3/11/09

"Neck, Back, and Beyond: Preventing Pain for Peak Productivity", Bethany Valachi, PT, MS, CEAS

Wednesday, 4/8/09

"Peridontics 2009 and Beyond", Dr. Tat F. Chiang

FREE COURSE IF YOU TAKE ALL FOUR:

Sat, 5/9/09, Bowser Memorial Lecture: "Substance Abuse", Pittsburgh, PA

PDA Legislative Update

A new legislative session has begun in Harrisburg with the new year, which makes this a great time to reflect on some of the legislative issues that Pennsylvania dentists faced in 2007 and 2008. It is also the best time to take a look at the ones that will be pursued in the current two-year legislative session.

The previous legislative session saw many "hot button" issues within the legislature of the Commonwealth and the current session will be no different. The following are just a handful of the past issues PDA's membership and lobbyists were successful in influencing:

- HB1257, which would expand EFDAs scope of practice, was moved through the House and will continue to be a topic for discussion.
- HB1649 was introduced, requiring the fluoridation of public drinking water and was lobbied extensively with legislators and the executive branch.
- Legislation regarding the use of dental amalgam was blocked, preventing undue hardships placed on dental professionals.
- SB246 regarding the ban of indoor smoking was passed in which PDA played a vital role.

- HB1898 was blocked which would have required patient brochures to be provided on mercury in dental amalgam statewide.

- HB494 was passed adding one dentist and one EFDA to the PA Board of Dentistry.

Overall, many positive steps were taken in protecting the interests of dental professionals practicing in the Commonwealth. However, now that a new legislative session is upon us we must strengthen our support and grassroots activism in the legislative process.

One can never do too much to assure that the voice of dentists is heard in Harrisburg. Membership and support within the structure of the PDA and PADPAC is the most effective way of assuring success in the legislative and regulatory process.

With the current legislative session only a few days old, PDA government relations staff and lobbyists have already begun the process of gaining support for dental legislation from our state representatives. Already in this session, over thirty pieces of legislation, having a direct affect on you as practicing dentist, are being monitored and will be continuously discussed at

the Capitol and at legislative fundraisers.

Some of the more pressing issues being monitored involve: Insurance coverage for general anesthesia, MCARE abatement, PHEAA dental student loan forgiveness, health care professional shortages, insurance accessibility, retroactive denial, assignment of benefits, and many more.

It's important that Pennsylvania dentists pay attention to these issues and watch for news coming from government relations representatives at PDA. It is also important to support PADPAC, which provides vital funding to impact PDA's legislative priorities.

When the time comes direct contact from practicing dentists to their state representatives is the best way to assure that dentists are not forgotten within the legislative process.

Please contact Matt DiLoreto (Government Relations Coordinator) at 717-232-5941 ext. 108 or mjd@padental.org with any questions you may have on current government relations issues or on PADPAC contributions.

Article submitted by Matt DiLoreto.

2009 Officers

President: Dr. Joseph T. Kelly Jr.
President Elect: Dr. Mark A. Giallorenzi
Vice President: Dr. Kristin A. Paoli
Vice President: Dr. P. Joseph Perrotti
Treasurer: Dr. Matthew A. Zale
Secretary: Dr. William H. Hitt
Bulletin Editor: Dr. Brian C. Kerr
Directors: Dr. Todd M. Angelo, Dr. Jessica Falk, Dr. Gary A. Kopesky, Dr. Bridget Z. Walsh
Delegates: Dr. Matthew A. Zale, Dr. Kenneth G. Miller, Dr. Frank A. DiNoia
Alternate Delegates: Dr. P. Joseph Perrotti, Dr. Christopher J. Kotchick, Dr. William P. Yeomans

Please consider participating in one or both of these National Children's Dental Health Month Community Events! See article on page one for more information.

February 1st 2:30 p.m. Children's Library (Scranton)

February 7th 12:00 p.m. Keyser Ave. McDonald's

Upcoming Events

CE Course	Inn at Nichols Village	February 18, 2009	8:00 a.m.
Board Meeting	Faccia Luna	February 23, 2009	6:30 p.m.
CE Course	Inn at Nichols Village	March 11, 2009	8:00 a.m.
General Meeting <i>Ben Shair Award Dinner</i>	Radisson	March 24, 2009	6:30 p.m.
Board Meeting	Faccia Luna	March 30, 2009	6:30 p.m.
CE Course	Inn at Nichols Village	April 8, 2009	8:00 a.m.
SDDS President's Dinner	Colonnade	April 11, 2009	TBA
PDA 142nd Annual Session	Hotel Hershey	April 23-26, 2009	8:00 a.m.
Board Meeting	Faccia Luna	April 27, 2009	6:30 p.m.
CE Course	Pittsburgh, PA	May 9, 2009	8:00 a.m.
Scr/W-B Yankees Game	PNC Park	May 15, 2009	6:00 p.m.
Golf Outing	SCC	June 2009	TBA
General Meeting <i>Father Pilarz, U of S President</i>	TBA	October 20, 2009	6:30 p.m.

Dr. Joseph T. Kelly Jr., President
 103 West Grove St.
 Clarks Summit, PA 18411
 Phone: 570-587-4787
 E-mail: jtkellydmd@comcast.net



Presorted
 First Class Mail
 US Postage
 PAID
 Scranton, Pa.
 Permit # 28