



SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

June 2008

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President's Dinner At Michaelangelo's

Our formal goodbye to 2007 President Dr. Miriam O'Malley occurred on Saturday, May 17th at Michaelangelo's Restaurant.

In a lovely garden affair, Dr. O'Malley presented the gavel to 2008 President Dr. Christopher Kotchick. PDA President Dr. Thomas W. Gamba, Dr. D. Scott Aldinger, Third District Trustee, and Dr. Kenneth G. Miller all made remarks during the evening's brief program.

Attendees enjoyed a lavish array of food ranging from roasted organic egg-plant caponata to wild blue lump crab salad with grilled flatbread, while they listened to the sounds of the Marko Marcinko jazz quartet. Cigars and cognac finished off the evening.

Congratulations, Dr. O'Malley, on a job well done.



2007 officers Dr. Matthew Zale, Dr. Mark Giallorenzi, Dr. Christopher Kotchick, Dr. Miriam O'Malley, Dr. Joe Kelly, and Dr. Kenneth Zenker.



Dr. Miriam O'Malley presents the gavel to Dr. Christopher Kotchick.



Dr. Thomas Gamba, PDA President, chats with current President Dr. Christopher Kotchick and Dr. Frank DiNoia.

Ben Shair Award Winner Announced

Ashley Gonsky, a senior at the University of Scranton, has been named the 2008 recipient of the prestigious Bernard Shair Memorial Award. The award is a \$5,000 cash gift funded by the SDDS and an endowment fund founded by the family of Dr. Bernard Shair (who passed away in 1982). Ashley will be graduating from the University of Scranton in May, 2008 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology, with an English Minor. She will then be attending University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine on a partial scholarship.

Ashley currently resides in Scranton, however, makes her home in Stroudsburg with her parents Mike and Jolene Gonsky, and brother, Michael. She serves as the Pre-Dental Representative for the Health Professionals Organization and plays intramural sports (soccer and softball) at the University. She is a member of the following honor societies: Beta, Beta, Beta; Sigma Tau Delta; and Health Professionals.

Ashley has worked in the offices of Valley Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (Doctors Stavisky, Giallorenzi and Kotchick) for the past two years as a



Dr. Eli Stavisky; Jeanne Bovard, Scranton Area Foundation; Ashley Gonsky, Bernard Shair Award Recipient; and Dr. Christopher Kotchick, SDDS President.

Dental Assistant. In the summer of 2007, she also served as Research Scholar for dentistry at the Lehigh Valley Hospital - Muhlenberg. Congratulations, Ashley.

From The President

It was nice to see many new faces at the President's Dinner this year, congratulations to Dr. O'Malley on her year as president. The baseball game outing was another great success. Thanks to Dr. Stephen Solfanelli and all those who helped out. Anyone interested in participating in the Lackawanna

Medical Society Health Fair at Nay Aug Park, please give me a call.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall for our general meetings.

Sincerely,
Chris

Dr. Gronsky Recognized

The SDDS would like to recognize Dr. Joseph Gronsky for his on-going commitment and dedication to heading and organizing our involvement in the Free Non-Sectarian Dental Clinic, part of Jewish Family Services.

Dr. Gronsky has been leading this worthwhile cause for the past nine years. According to Sheila Nudelman Abdo, Executive Director of Jewish Family Services, the SDDS contributed over \$58,993 worth of dental care for eligible Lackawanna County residents who are uninsured from July 2006 to June 2007. Reporting for the fiscal year 2007/2008, shows that the number is already at \$43,188. This number is low in reality, considering all procedures completed are not submitted by dentists.

Ms. Nudelman Abdo shared that eligibility for the program is determined through an agency application and screening process. Eligible patients must be residents of Lackawanna County for a minimum of six months and not privately insured or publicly insured through County assistance.

No doubt, countless people have been served by this program that began in 1920.

One grateful patient wrote:

I would really like to take this time to thank everyone at the center for all the dental work that I had done. I would never have been able to afford the work I had done if not for all of you. I would also like to thank you for the excellent dentist you sent me to.



Dr. Joseph Gronsky, recognized by the SDDS for his commitment to the community.

She is absolutely fantastic at her job. Once again thank you all very much...bless you all."

Thank you, Dr. Gronsky, and all those who participate in this community outreach. If anyone is interested in learning more about this program, please contact Dr. Gronsky at 570-342-2922.

Upcoming Events

Golf Tournament	CCS	June 18, 2008	TBA
Board Meeting	Faccia Luna	Aug 25, 2208	6:30 p.m.
General Meeting	Radisson	Sept 16, 2208	6:30 p.m.
General Meeting	Radisson	October 21, 2008	6:30 p.m.
ADA Annual Session	San Antonio, TX	October 16-21, 2008	8:00 p.m.
Third District Meeting	Woodlands	November 14, 2008	8:00 p.m.
PDA 142nd Annual Session	Hotel Hershey	April 23-26, 2009	8:00 p.m.

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