



# SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

November 2010

Volume 5, Issue 9

## 2011 Officers Officially Voted In

Congratulations to the following doctors on their 2011 appointments.

- President:** Dr. Todd M. Angelo
- President Elect:** Dr. Matthew A. Zale
- Vice President:** Dr. Gary A. Kopesky
- Vice President:** Dr. Stephanie P. Hanyon
- Secretary:** Dr. J.R. Karam
- Treasurer:** Dr. Jessica A. Falk
- Bulletin Editor:** Dr. Fred J. Bonacci
- Board of Directors:** Dr. Amy B. Cravath, Dr. Alphonse J. Matrone, Dr. Kristin A. Paoli, Dr. Tom Hart
- Board of Governors:** Dr. Brian C. Kerr, Dr. Miriam C. O'Malley, Dr. Christopher J. Kotchick, Dr. Joseph T. Kelly, Jr., Dr. Mark A. Giallorenzi

## Don't Miss the Third District Meeting on 11/12

Be sure to attend the Third District's November 12th meeting at the Woodlands Inn and Resort.

The title of the day's presentation is "Oral Medicine: Updated Field Guide for the Oral Health Care Professional." The speaker is Thomas P. Sollecito, DMD, Chair and Professor-Clinician

Educator, Department of Oral Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

This course will review the more common oral mucosal diseases encountered in practice. The seminar will be presented in a case-based learning format and will focus on the latest in the diagnosis and treatment of oral mucosal disorders.

## October's Meeting

Special thanks to Dr. D. Scott Aldinger for the update on the ADA's Annual Session, as well as legislative issues surrounding dentistry.

For a more complete review of those issues, please see the article included in

this newsletter entitled "ADA/PDA News."

Thank you as well to all who attended, welcoming Dr. Aldinger and voting for our 2011 officers.

## January's Meeting

Mark your calendar for the first meeting of the New Year. It will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Radisson.

If you plan on attending, please contact Dr. Matthew A. Zale by calling 348-5300 or emailing gumdoctor06@yahoo.com.

## 2011 CE Courses

Registration for 2011 Continuing Education Courses is happening now. If you haven't received your flyer in the mail, contact Dr. Charles Potter at (570) 654-6745.

- Wednesday, 1/12/11,** "Geriatrics," Dr. Greg Folsy
- Wednesday, 2/16/11,** "Composite Bonding and Porcelain Review," Dr. Howard Strassler
- Wednesday, 3/16/11,** "Implants: The Restoration of and Mini-Implants," Dr. Steve Kukunas
- Wednesday, 4/6/11,** "Nutrition," Dr. Ken Etzel

## National Children's Dental Health Month

Because of our commitment and dedication to NCDHM, our society was featured in the May/June issue of the Pennsylvania Dental Journal. Along with color photos, the Journal highlighted the many activities we do throughout the month of February including McDonald's Days, the Children's Library presentation, and Timmy's Town educational hour.

Be a part of National Children's Dental Health Month in 2011. Co-Chairs Dr. Stephanie Hanyon and Dr. Jessica Falk are looking for doctors to assist in speaking at schools and giving away bags throughout the month of February. They're also looking for volunteers to assist with the special events planned.

If you can help, please email Stephanie at shanyondmd@live.com or Jessica at jessicafalk27@yahoo.com.



Dr. Stephanie Hanyon



Dr. Jessica Falk

# NEWS FROM THE ADA/PDA

All information submitted by Marisa Swarney, Director of Government Relation, PDA.

## HB 602: EFDA Scope of Practice

PDA was successful in passing HB 602 through the legislature this session, after four years of advocacy efforts made by lobbyists, staff and grassroots dentists.

HB 602, now Act 19, allows EFDAs to perform coronal polishing and fluoride applications and take impressions of teeth for athletic appliances. The State Board of Dentistry (SBOD) is promulgating regulations that, once approved, will likely require currently practicing EFDAs to complete a three-credit hour course on these expanded functions. These new functions will be integrated into the cur-

riculum for all EFDAs enrolled in educational programs. Newly graduated EFDAs will not need to take three continuing education credits to perform these additional duties.

The SBOD is finalizing its regulations and they will most likely take effect early next year. PDA advises members to wait for the regulations to take effect before allowing EFDAs to perform these extra duties. Stay tuned for more information in PDA's publications and on the website at [www.padental.org](http://www.padental.org).

## Support PADPAC in 2011

With the end of the year fast approaching, it is time to start planning ahead for 2011. President Dr. Spruill and the PADPAC board have been very busy working to solidify the dental profession as one of the prime players in state political arena. With a new year comes a brand new challenge. That challenge is to make our PAC one of the biggest and best the state has to offer, but we need your help. Everyday we battle on the front lines to protect you, and we are hopeful that you seize your opportunity to help us in return.

As a reminder, you can join PADPAC when you renew your dues at the end of

this year. For those who contributed in the past, remember you do have the option of contributing at a higher level. Let's make 2011 a successful year for the dental profession – contribute to PADPAC TODAY!

For more information about PADPAC, how you can join, or how you can contribute at a higher level, please contact Don Smith, government relations coordinator, at (800) 223-0016, ext. 108 or [dls@padental.org](mailto:dls@padental.org). To contribute online, follow this link:

[http://www.padental.org/am/Template.cfm?Section=Government\\_Relations&Template=/customsource/forms/padpacmembership.cfm](http://www.padental.org/am/Template.cfm?Section=Government_Relations&Template=/customsource/forms/padpacmembership.cfm).

## HB 2684: Requirements for Foreign-Trained Dentists Teaching in Dental Schools

At the request of the deans of Pennsylvania's three dental schools, PDA supported a legislative initiative to change the requirements under Act 160 for foreign-trained dentists who are faculty at the dental schools.

As it currently reads, Act 160 allows foreign-trained dentists to teach in a dental school or advanced dental education program for a maximum of four years.

Rep. Tony Payton (D-Philadelphia), introduced HB 2684 in September and it was fast-tracked to a public hearing before the House Professional Licensure Committee on September 23. Dr. Bernard

Dishler, trustee from PDA's Second District, testified on PDA's behalf in support of HB 2684 as it currently reads.

This legislation would allow foreign-trained dentists who have graduated from programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to apply for unlimited renewals of their teaching license until they have obtained their regular license from the SBOD. Those foreign-trained dentists who have not graduated from a CODA-accredited program must obtain their regular license from the SBOD within six years of teaching at a school (as opposed to the current four-year requirement).

## SB 1222: Prohibiting Insurers from Capping Non-covered Services

This year, PDA lead the charge to pass legislation that would prohibit insurers from capping those dental services they do not cover in their plans. Sen. Kim Ward (R-Westmoreland) introduced SB 1222 on PDA's behalf. Due to the grassroots efforts of members in their districts and during Day on the Hill at the Capitol on June 8, SB 1222 passed the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee and moved to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Most legislators seemed to understand the inherent unfairness of letting insurance companies dictate fees on services they have decided not to cover. However, a powerful insurance lobby confused the issue by convincing several legislators that the bill should include language that would prohibit dentists from charging their usual fee on covered services once the maximum allowance is met. PDA would not consider supporting such an amendment until it became apparent that Sen. Jake Corman (R-Centre), chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, would not bring the bill up for a vote until a compromise was reached. By the time this occurred, however, there were no more session days in the Senate in which to pass the bill. The session was cut short by the election and decision by Senate Leadership not to return before the end of the year.

This issue will remain at the forefront of PDA's legislative agenda for the 2011/12 session. We will stick with the original language that addresses capping of non-covered dental services, and only consider compromising on the maximum allowance issue if necessary, thinking that such a compromise would have a minimal impact on your practice due to the fact that only three to five percent of patients reach their maximum benefit in a given year.

Thirty-one states have filed non-covered services bills and sixteen states were successful in its passage. Stay tuned for more information and for "action alerts" as PDA tries to capitalize on the national momentum to pass a non-covered services bill through the General Assembly next year.

# Upcoming Events

|  |                        |                   |           |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 3rd District Meeting   | Woodlands              | November 12, 2010 | 8:00 a.m. |
| Board Meeting  | Jilly's                | December 6, 2010  | 6:30 p.m. |
| CE Course<br><i>"Geriatrics"</i>   | Inn at Nichols Village | January 12, 2011  | 8:30 a.m. |
| General Meeting  | TBA                    | January 18, 2011  | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board Meeting  | Jilly's                | January 31, 2011  | 6:30 p.m. |
| General Meeting  | TBA                    | February 15, 2011 | 6:30 p.m. |
| CE Course<br><i>"Composite Bonding<br/>and Porcelain Review"</i>         | Inn at Nichols Village | February 16, 2011 | 8:30 a.m. |
| Board Meeting  | Jilly's                | February 28, 2011 | 6:30 p.m. |
| General Meeting  | TBA                    | March 15, 2011    | 6:30 p.m. |
| CE Course<br><i>"Implants: The Restoration<br/>of and Mini-Implants"</i> | Inn at Nichols Village | March 16, 2011    | 8:30 a.m. |
| Board Meeting  | Jilly's                | March 28, 2011    | 6:30 p.m. |
| CE Course<br><i>"Nutrition"</i>  | Inn at Nichols Village | April 6, 2011     | 8:30 a.m. |
| President's Dinner   | Colonnade              | April 16, 2011    | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board Meeting  | Jilly's                | April 25, 2011    | 6:30 p.m. |



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