



# SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

September 2018

## SDDS Donates

During a “thank you” pizza party hosted by the SDDS for the consumers and staff of The Arc on Friday, May 25, 2018, Doctors Joellen Drosinski and Michael Ratchford presented them with a check for \$500. This is the first of three donations to support The Arc for their continued dedication to assisting the SDDS with National Children’s Dental Health month.

“The Scranton District Dental Society is proud to be associated with and support The Arc. For 16 years, The Arc has partnered with us to stuff thousands of “goodie bags” filled with dental educational material, tooth brushes, tooth paste, and coupons for National Children’s Dental Health Month in February. The consumers of The Arc do such a fantastic job that we ask them to help year after year. Last year, they filled 8,000 bags!” states Ratchford, SDDS board member.

According to SDDS President Dr. Charles Scrimalli, “It is so good to come out to support such a worthwhile organization. Our member dentists love to serve our local community.”



*Seated: Lois Tucker and Shelly Campbell L to R Julieann Masters, Mira Drosinski, Dr. Joellen Drosinski, Erica Francis, Corey Martin, Dr. Michael Ratchford, and Paulie Golden.*

## Golf Tournament

In another effort to show support and thanksgiving to The Arc-NEPA, the SDDS donated proceeds from our annual golf tournament to the organization. Doctors Brendan Langan, J.R. Karam, Al Matrone, Charles Scrimalli, Sam Prisco, Megan Azar, Jessica Falk, and Tom Langan Jr. presented them with a check for \$1,750 during the close of the tournament at the Scranton County Club on June 20, 2018. This is the second of three donations to support The Arc for their continued dedication to assisting the SDDS with National Children’s Dental Health month.

“The Scranton District Dental Society’s tradition of raising funds through our annual golf tournament is one in which we are proud. The Arc has continually partnered with us during National Children’s Dental Health Month in February, assisting us in filling over 8,000 bags filled with dental supplies for the children of our community!” states Karam, Golf Committee co-chair.



*L to R: Brendan Langan, J.R. Karam, Al Matrone, Kelly Peters (Arc), Marie Devour (Tri-State Dental Society President), Charles Scrimalli (SDDS President), Pat Quinn (Arc), Sam Prisco, Megan Azar, Jessica Falk, and Tom Langan Jr.*

# Third District Dental Society

Submitted by Dr. Matthew Zale, Trustee

## **PDA Perks**

PDA Perks offers 10-30% discount of merchandise and equipment via many vendors to all PDA members. <https://www.pdaperkssupplies.com> or go to PDA Home page “slider” to register to save. PDA Perks Supplies is a marketplace where pre-selected dental manufacturers and manufacturer-authorized dealers offer a wide variety of dental supplies for sale to Pennsylvania Dental Association members. By leveraging the combined buying power of hundreds of PDA member dentists, PDA Perks Supplies vendors offer products for sale at significant discounts. PDA Perks Supplies is available exclusively to verified PDA members

## **PDA Action Alert**

Please take action on PDAs Alert for SB373 Assignment of Benefits to contact your legislator. Get a sample letter in the Library on the PDA's Social Network. ([padental.org](http://padental.org)-sign-in, select GROUPS-THIRD DISTRICT –LIBRARY-go to -AoB 373- sample letter).

Your participation in this process is essential to moving SB 373 through the House of Representatives and on to Governor Wolf for his signature. Please contact your Representative and request his or her support for SB 373, printer number 1287. It will only take a few minutes of your time to make a big investment in your practice. Ask your family, friends, office staff and colleagues to also contact their Representative. We provide talking points and a sample letter. Dr. Darlene Oleski is Chair of PDA's Government Relations Committee.

PADPAC appeal needs financial support for SB 373, Assignment of Benefits! Contact Dr. Zale at 570- 383-5300. Donations can be made online. Please use your personal account, not business account, for much needed “hard dollars.”

## **Third District Nominations**

Nominations are open for 3rd District offices of the Treasurer, Secretary, and President-Elect. Nomination for the

# News from the Third District

Trustee of the 3rd District to the PDA Board is also open. (FYI: Delegates to the ADA annual meeting and ADA Alternates have a statewide election, which is different from our district) Send all nominations to Matt Zale at [mattzale1@gmail.com](mailto:mattzale1@gmail.com). Please label subject as “Nomination.”

## **Annual Meeting**

Save the date for the annual meeting of the Third District of the PDA presenting “Sterilization/OSHA,” November 9, 2019 at Mohegan Sun Casino. Mandatory CE courses for radiology

and child abuse reporting will also be featured. A mailer has been sent, but if you have any questions, contact Dr. John Evans at (570) 779-1592 or Bob Albrect, of Muth and Mumma at 800 932-0584 x-1347.

The Annual meeting will also vote on the proposed By-Law changes in Library of Third District; posted since November 2017.

For a copy of Dr. Zale's full Trustee Report in the Library of the Third District, go to [padental.org](http://padental.org). Sign in and select GROUPS-THIRD DISTRICT –LIBRARY- Trustee Reports.

## PDA News Pennsylvania Dental Association

### **Bills Introduced This Session**

#### *Regulating Mail-Order Orthodontics*

Rep. Thomas Murt introduced legislation that would make it unlawful for dental technicians and dental labs to furnish orthodontic appliances unless a dentist has first examined the patient.

#### *Electronic Prescription for Controlled Substances*

Rep. Tedd Nesbit (R-Butler, Mercer) introduced HB 353, legislation that would require health care providers to use electronic prescriptions to prescribe controlled substances. There is an exemption for emergency situations. No prescription for a controlled substance in Schedule II could be refilled. For Schedule III or IV drugs no prescription could be filled or refilled more than six months after the date or be refilled more than five times after the date of the prescription, unless renewed by the provider. The prescription must be electronically transmitted to the pharmacy of

HB 353 has 22 cosponsors and is assigned to the House Health Committee for first consideration.

#### *Informed Consent*

A recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision will have a major impact on how physicians across the Commonwealth obtain informed consent from their patients. In *Shinal v. Toms*, 2017 WL 2653387 (Pa. June 20, 2017), the 4-3 Court ruled that

only physicians, not members of their staff, may obtain informed consent from patients before performing medical procedures.

The Court's decision is limited to the major medical procedures enumerated in the MCARE Act, which requires physicians to obtain informed consent when performing major medical procedures such as surgery, radiation, a blood transfusion, inserting a surgical device, and administering an experimental medication or device. 40 P.S. § 1303.504. The Court did not extend its ruling to require physicians, and not staff members, to obtain informed consent for routine or nonsurgical treatments.

This decision is now binding law across the Commonwealth, meaning that physicians who rely on their staff to obtain informed consent from patients for major medical procedures will need to change their practice so that patients are consenting to the physician who is performing the surgery. Critics to this decision claim that this will place an unnecessary burden on already overworked physicians. As the three justices who dissented from the majority noted, this “decision will have a far-reaching, negative impact on the manner in which physicians serve their patients. For fear of legal liability, physicians now must be involved with every aspect of informing their patients' consent, thus delaying seriously ill patients access to physicians and the critical services that they provide.”

Posted on June 30, 2017 | This entry was posted in Blog, Health Care Law, Litigation, Med Law Blog, Uncategorized

# President's Letter

Hello to all,

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. It's hard to believe how quickly the season seems to fly by. There are many upcoming issues and exciting events, which will hopefully inspire our membership's attention. The annual June golf outing was once again a huge success. We had perfect weather and a really fun day. Thanks to all who helped, especially our JR Karam and Fred Bonacci who have devoted a lot of time to grow this event into what it is today. And thank you to all of you who came out to play as well as our many sponsors. Together, we are making a huge difference in the lives of many by supporting ARC, a wonderful organization, and one of Scranton's hidden gems. Speaking of ARC, their upcoming festival will be held on Sunday, September 16th at the Waldorf Tiki Bar from 3-8 pm. This always is a fun kid- and family-friendly event, with lots of food, games, raffles, face painting, live music, featuring East Coast Trio and the Wanabees, and more. All our members and families are invited to attend. We will be presenting our donation of \$1000.00 at about 5:00pm with hopefully a photo op for



all SDDS members in attendance.

As fall approaches, organized dentistry has a lot happening. A new "PDA Perks" program has gotten underway which now offers our membership great savings on most dental products. I encourage you all to spread the word and take advantage of such a great service. I checked the site myself and found the online ordering process easy to use with significant savings.

Doctors Zale, Oleski, and Grossman recently attended the PDA leadership conference in York, and Darleen Oleski submitted a report to our board. SB 373, assignment of benefits, is a hot topic and we are now receiving resistance from insurance lobbyists as the issue approaches the House. Passage of this bill would legally require insurance companies to send payments directly to non-provider dentists given the patient's permission. The bill will be sent to the floor for a vote in early September. In late August, Dr. Oleski will be making phone calls to our SDDS members making them aware of when they need to contact their legislators. We'd like to encourage all to visit their legislators often, even for no particular reason, but to get to know them. They are home on break now. We will need all our doctors contacting legislators for passage of this bill. It would also be helpful to have our staff, family, and friends do the same. A

more detailed explanation of the bill and talking points are available on the PDA website.

I'd like our members to know that we have many people like Matt, Darleen, and Rich tirelessly working behind the scenes on our behalf and they all (too many to list here) certainly deserve a shout out of appreciation.

Please note that Pennsylvania Coalition of Oral Health (PCOH) will be making its appearance in Scranton on September 21st at 9 am at Benco dental. I suggest our members google PCOH, talk to our board members with your thoughts, and consider attending the meeting.

Dean Costello of University of Pittsburgh Dental School will be holding an event for all our dentists on August 11th at Posh with cocktails at 5:30, and dinner at 6:00. All members are invited to attend.

Our new website is up and running thanks to all the hard work of Cindy Cox, Joe Kelly, and Bill Pilling (web host and designer). If you haven't checked it out yet, have a look at [www.scrantondental.org](http://www.scrantondental.org). I think you'll like it!

Please remember that we need your support and involvement to ensure that our profession remains strong and continues to have a voice. If you are looking for a way to become involved to support organized dentistry, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Sincerely,

Chuck Scrimalli, SDDS President

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## Board Minutes

*Submitted by Megan Azar*

A board meeting was held on August 1, 2018 at Country Club of Scranton. In attendance were Matt Zale, Jessica Falk, Tim McGurrian, Chuck Scrimalli, JR Karam, Eli Stavisky, Cindy Cox, Kurt Wadsworth, Mike Ratchford, Megan Azar, and Mary Grace Rizzo-Fryzel.

- The meeting was called to order.
- The initial discussion was on the topic of PCOH coming to area on September 21st. There was a discussion on what is the mission of this group and what is the PDA's and AGD's position on their agenda. Many in attendance agreed that they have some great ideas on some issues, but there remains some concern on their agenda for hygiene done outside of the traditional office. Suggestions were made for a smaller group to get together and get involved and prepare for the upcoming event.
- Treasurer report was presented by Jessica Falk.
- Chuck Scrimalli and Mary Grace Fryzel are working on the SDDS membership drive.

All are encouraged to call those dentists who have let memberships lapse and talk to them about the benefits of membership.

- The PDA is now offering up to 30% savings on dental supplies for members via the "PDA Perks" program.
- Mike Ratchford reported that minor changes are being made to the by-laws, which have not been updated since 2002.
- A motion was made and accepted to make a donation of \$1000 to the ARC on top of the \$2200 already donated this year. September 16, 2018 is the ARC's festival and a check will be presented at 5pm. All are encouraged to attend this nice event.
- The meeting was adjourned and a meeting of the PCOH taskforce was scheduled.

## General Meeting

Be sure to attend September's kick-off meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the University of Scranton's Rose Room in Brennan Hall. Cindy Olenwine will be presenting a brief talk on "insurance billing and coding." One CE credit will be

awarded to those attending this presentation.

As always, attendance at our general meetings is complimentary and includes the speaker, dinner, and pre-dinner cocktails. Please let Dr. Mary Grace Rizzo-Fryzel know that you're coming by calling her at 570-343-4472 or emailing at [maryg91@hotmail.com](mailto:maryg91@hotmail.com).

## Mom-n-PA

Plans are well underway for our district to host the 2019 Mom-n-PA event June 7 & 8 and we need your help! Hundreds of volunteers are needed (both dentists and lay persons). Won't you join us at our next organizational meeting? The date will be placed on our newly "renovated" website.

The MOM-n-PA mission is a large-scale dental clinic where dental treatment is provided at no cost to individuals who cannot afford dental care. Treatment is provided on a first-come, first-served basis and patients do not preregister.

For more information, contact Chris Kotchik at (570) 346-7301, Rich Grossman at (570) 283-0664 or go to [www.mom-n-pa.com](http://www.mom-n-pa.com).

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# Upcoming Events

<b>Board Meeting</b>	Scranton Country Club	Sept 4, 2018	7:30 PM
<b>ARC Festival</b>	Waldorf Park Tiki	Sept 16, 2018	3 – 8:00 PM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S – Brennan Hall	Sept 18, 2018	6:30 PM
<b>PCOH Meeting</b>	Benco Dental	Sept 21, 2018	9:00 AM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S – Brennan Hall	Oct 16, 2018	6:30 PM
<b>Third District Annual Mtg</b>	Mohegan Sun Casino	Nov 9, 2018	8:00 AM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>“Periodontics and Implant Dentistry in the 21st Century: A Paradigm Shift”</i>	Radisson Lack Station	Jan 16, 2019	8:00 AM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>“Evidence Based Analgesia for Dental Professionals; and Three Serious Adverse Drug Interactions That Every Dentist Should Know About”</i>	Radisson Lack Station	Feb 13, 2019	8:00 AM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>“Fixed Prosthetics: Mastering basic principles for success in ever-changing times – the dentist/lab continuum”</i>	Radisson Lack Station	March 13, 2019	8:00 AM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>“Treatment of the Anterior Fractured Tooth &amp; Posterior, Cervical and Incisal Composites”</i>	Radisson Lack Station	April 10, 2019	8:00 AM
<b>Mom-N-PA</b>	Mohegan Sun Arena	June 7- 8, 2019	8:00 AM