



# SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

November 2019

## Don't Miss the President's Holiday Dinner

Invitations are in the mail for our Holiday celebration honoring past presidents, Doctors Charles Scrimalli and Kurtis Wadsworth. The event is scheduled for Friday, December 13, 2019 at Posh in Scranton. If you haven't responded, please do so as soon as you can. We hope to see you there!



*Dr. Charles Scrimalli*



*Dr. Kurtis Wadsworth*

## 2020 CE Courses Reminder

Don't forget to reserve your spot at the 2020 CE courses. By doing so before December 31, 2019, you SAVE on registration! Go to [www.scrantondental.org/ce-courses/](http://www.scrantondental.org/ce-courses/) to register on line. You can pay there, too. Questions? Contact Dr. Joseph T. Kelly, Jr. at (570) 587-4787 or [drkellyjr@gmail.com](mailto:drkellyjr@gmail.com).

### **Wednesday, January 15, 2020**

- "Prevention and Management of Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office" John Brewer

### **Wednesday, February 12, 2020 -**

"Feel Good Dentistry: Enjoy Your Practice And Feel Better About Yourself And Your Work. A 'Sane' Approach To Esthetic Restorative Dentistry" Steven Weinberg

### **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

- "Geriatric Dentistry: The Fastest Growing Demographic in Dentistry" Lou Graham

### **Wednesday, April 1, 2020**

Morning - "Medically Complex Patients"

Afternoon - "Frequently Prescribed Medications" Tom Viola

## Upcoming Events

Be sure to clip and save the listing of our upcoming events inside this issue! Note that some of the meeting room locations at the University of Scranton have changed.

# Reserve for PDA Annual Meeting

Reserve your spot for Pennsylvania's Dental Meeting on Saturday, April 25, 2020 right here in our back yard! AAA Four-Diamond Mount Airy Casino Resort in the scenic Pocono Mountains is the location for this exciting event. There will be social events on Friday and Saturday evenings; an exhibit hall; plus Saturday CE Sessions on:

- Local Anesthesia
- The Science of Medical Marijuana
- Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting for Dental Professionals
- Pain Management Alternatives and Identification of Addiction

For more information, contact Rebecca Von Nieda at (800) 223-0016, ext. 117.



## Bills Introduced This Session:

### HB 564: Direct Pay legislation

In June 2019, PDA met with Rep. Pickett and her chief of staff to discuss moving HB 564 out of committee. They presented PDA with the idea that a law already exists that requires insurers to directly pay all providers, even those who do not participate

### New State Law Requires Use of Electronic Prescriptions

The Pennsylvania General Assembly passed HB 353 (now Act 96 of 2018), which requires health care providers to electronically prescribe all Schedule II-V controlled substances, except when they are directly dispensed or administered by the provider (other than pharmacists).

### HB 488: Dental Student Loan Forgiveness

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Luzerne) introduced HB 488, the Student Loan Forgiveness for Dentists Act, which creates a stand-alone loan repayment program for dentists. This program, administered by the Department of Health (DOH), would increase loan forgiveness up to \$200,000 for a three-year, full-time commitment in one of Pennsylvania's designated health professional shortage areas. If this law is enacted, general dentists and specialists who practice in areas and settings approved by DOH are eligible for student loan repayment. Currently, dentists enrolled in DOH's Primary Care Loan Repayment program are reimbursed up to \$100,000 for a two-year, full-time commitment. Student loan forgiveness is one of PDA's top legislative priorities this session.

At present, DOH officials determine how many slots are available to dentists based on need and number of applicants. The number of slots available increases or decreases based on how DOH allocates its funding to all primary care practitioners, including dentists. The facility in which the dentist is practicing must first be approved before he or she can apply for loan repayment.

### HB 994: School Screenings

Rep. Mindy Fee (R-Lancaster) introduced HB 994, that would give school districts more flexibility regarding the requirements of Section 1403 in the Public School Code to provide dental screenings and examinations to children entering kindergarten, third and seventh grades.

In addition to schools continuing to contract with dentists to provide examinations, HB 994 would allow them to employ public health dental hygiene practitioners (PHDHPs) to conduct screenings and refer children to dentists for follow-up care.

PDA worked with Rep. Fee and her staff to amend language in her original bill by making the distinction that dentists only may provide examinations to render diagnoses and to develop treatment plans, as delineated in regulations from the State Board of Dentistry. As per the scope of practice regulations for dental hygienists with a PHDHP permit, they may provide screenings and refer children to a dentist in the hopes that they become established in a dental home for continuity of care.

HB 994 was assigned to the House Education Committee for consideration. PDA, along with the PA Academy of General Dentistry and PA Dental Hygienists' Association, supports this measure to improve children's access to dental care.

## 2019 Officers

**Third District President**  
Dr. John Evans

**Third District Treasurer**  
Dr. Joseph Kelly

**Third District Secretary**  
Dr. Samantha Abod

**Third District Trustee**  
Dr. Matthew Zale

**President**  
Dr. Mary Grace Rizzo-Fryzel

**Pres-Elect**  
Dr. Sam Abod

**V.P.**  
Dr. Thomas Langan

**Treasurer**  
Dr. Jessica Falk

**Secretary**  
Dr. Megan Azar

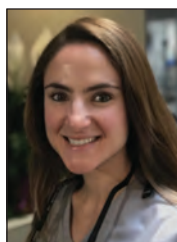
**Newsletter Editor**  
Dr. Thomas Langan

**Board of Directors:**  
Dr. Fred Bonacci  
Dr. Andrew Brown (JCC chair)  
Dr. JoEllen Drosinski  
Dr. Chris Kotchick  
Dr. Brendan Langan  
Dr. Al Matrone  
Dr. Kurt Wadsworth

# President's Letter

Hello Everyone,

As we bring 2019 to a close, I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to be your president. I would also like to thank this year's officers and the board, as well as past officers for all your help throughout the year. We had many fun and



*Dr. Mary Grace Rizzo-Fryzel*

exciting events, including but not limited to National Children's Dental Health Month, MOM-n-PA and the golf tournament. We gained new members and hope to continue to gain more. I am grateful to our members for everything they do for organized dentistry and the SDDS.

I wish the current president-elect, Dr. Samantha Abod and her board much success in 2020. Don't forget to attend the Presidents'

dinner honoring both Dr. Chuck Scrimalli and Dr. Kurt Wadsworth on December 13th, 2019.

You can now also check out our Facebook Page that we will use to post events, meetings, and other stuff regarding our organization. I hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday season!

Sincerely,  
Mary Grace

## Upcoming Events

<b>Third District Annual Meeting</b>	Mohegan Sun Casino	Nov 1, 2019	8:00 AM
<b>President's Dinner honoring Chuck Scrimalli &amp; Kurt Wadsworth</b>	Posh	Dec 13, 2019	6:30 PM
<b>Third District Board Meeting</b>	Westmoreland Club	Jan 15, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>Prevention and Management of Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office</i>	Radisson Hotel	Jan 15, 2020	8:00 AM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S DeNaples Center, Ballroom*	Jan 21, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>Feel Good Dentistry: Enjoy Your Practice and Feel Better About Yourself and Your Work</i>	Radisson Hotel	Feb 12, 2020	8:00 AM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S Brennan Hall, Rose Room*	Feb 18, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>Geriatric Dentistry: The Fastest Growing Demographic in Dentistry</i>	Radisson Hotel	March 11, 2020	8:00 AM
<b>Ben Shair/Todd Angelo Awards Dinner</b>	U of S DeNaples Center, Ballroom*	March 24, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>CE Course</b> <i>A.M. Medically Complex Patients P.M. Frequent Prescribed Medications</i>	Radisson Hotel	April 1, 2020	8:00 AM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S Brennan Hall, Rose Room*	April 21, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>PDA Annual Meeting</b>	Mt. Airy Resort & Casino	April 25, 2020	TBD
<b>MOM-n-PA</b>	Philadelphia	June 5 & 6, 2020	6:00 AM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S Brennan Hall, Rose Room*	Sept 22, 2020	6:30 PM
<b>General Meeting</b>	U of S Brennan Hall, Rose Room*	Oct 20, 2020	6:30 PM

\* NOTE change in location

# THANK YOU!!!

THANK YOU to all of our volunteers that made our 2019 WILKES-BARRE mission such a big success! Together, we donated over \$1,196,306.00 worth of dental services to the underserved!!

**OUR NEXT MISSION IS ON  
JUNE 5th AND 6th 2020  
AT THE LIACOURAS CENTER  
IN PHILADELPHIA !!!**  
1776 N Broad Street Philadelphia,  
PA 19121

