



SCRANTON DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

SDDS November/December 2020

SDDS Receives PDA's Top Presidential Citation

The Scranton District Dental Society is pleased to announce that through the dedicated efforts of our membership, we have been awarded the PDA Platinum and Palladium Presidential Citation.

The PDA recognizes district and local societies that support PDA's 2020-2023 Strategic Plan by completing certain activities. In 2020, the Citation also recognizes societies that provided their members with essential support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To qualify for the top level, Platinum, the SDDS achieved the specified number of goals in all four categories (Provide Value Offerings That Are Member-focused, Increase Member Engagement, Maintain End-of-Year Membership



Numbers, and Increase Leadership Development and Engagement).

To qualify for Palladium, the special 2020 category, societies must have achieved at least one task to support members in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The SDDS completed not one, but THREE.

"I'd like to take the opportunity to commend the commitment of our member volunteers who consistently exceed expectations. I am so proud to be part of this group of amazing people for achieving this prestigious award. Thanks, SDDS, for all you do for our community as well as our profession!" states Dr. Charles Scrimalli, Past President and PDA Membership Committee Co-Chair.

SDDS Hiring Campaign

To provide additional value to our members, the SDDS has embarked upon a "Hiring Campaign" utilizing our Facebook page and Facebook Jobs to attract

potential employees. The response has been better than expected and we are funneling interested applicants directly to those members looking for help.

If you are looking to hire for a particular position, send a message through our Facebook page (@scrantondental-

**WE'RE
HIRING!**

society) with the position, job description, and any other pertinent information. She will post on our public Page as well as create a job posting for Facebook Jobs.

Please note that the SDDS also maintains a private, member-only page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/178351179259711>) that features important member updates. If you are not a member, please go and request membership in this group.

2021 CE Courses Go Virtual

In an effort to keep all members safe, the 2021 CE Course offerings will be live, online (see below schedule). As is our tradition, if you register prior to December 14, 2020, you can take advantage of the discount! For more information and to register online, simply go to our website, www.scrantondental.org.

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

"Restorative Dentistry. Game Changes They Never Taught You in Dental School"

Dr. Marc Gottlieb

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

"Oral Pathology Review and Update" Dr. Kurt Summersgill

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

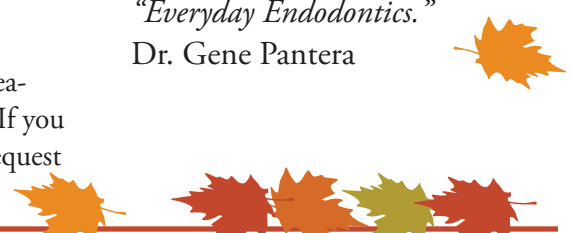
Morning session: "Infection Control In The Era of COVID-19: What Dental Practitioners Need to Know"

Afternoon session: "Risk Management & HIPAA Compliance in the Dental Office"
Dr. Lou DePaola

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

"Everyday Endodontics."

Dr. Gene Pantera



Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Dr. Megan Azar

Board Meeting of SDDS was held by Zoom conference on October 20, 2020 at 6pm.

Participants of board meeting: Megan Azar, Thomas Langan, Chuck Scrimalli, John Erhard, Jessica Falk, Martin Bifano, Matt Zale, Samantha Abod, Darlene Oleski, Cindy Cox, Kurt Wadsworth, and Joe Kelly.

Samantha Abod started the meeting with review of previous meetings minutes. A motion was made to accept minutes from 9/22/20 by Megan Azar and seconded by Thomas Langan.

Jessica Falk gave her treasury report stating that not much has changed. There are little to no expenses at this time. The SDDS has approximately 2.5 -3 years of expenses in reserves. A discussion of what to do with the \$5000 grant from the Scranton Area Foundation to be used for expenses incurred because of COVID-19. A decision was made to look into ordering thermal scanners for distribution.

Matt Zale reviewed CE through the University of Pittsburgh for the upcoming year. A survey showed interest. Doctors Kelly and Zale put the virtual-only series together. Chuck expressed frustration with membership and difference in member vs non-member rate. Suggestion was made to change the fees for next year's CE series.

Another member benefit was discussed: A CPR/Fingerprinting opportunity. Mark Miller is willing to provide 2-hour course and update for \$60 per person in January 2021. Joe Kelly said Benco Dental may be able to provide a conference room for the SDDS. Suggestion was made to use the Scranton Area Foundation grant for this course to offset the cost for members. Cindy Cox reports registra-

tion on our website could be used for this.

PDA report was given by Darlene Oleski. She urged all to participate in an upcoming survey from the PDA so that our delegates will have direction for next session. Darlene also reported what was discussed at ADA meeting. Testing and vaccination were the biggest topics of interest. Policies will be developed by the ADA that we can use in our states to help promote legislation.

Sam Abod raised a concern about the struggle to find quality employees for our offices. Cindy suggested she may be able to put something out on our public Facebook page for interested applicants.

Cindy Cox expressed her pride for our society after her submission of our application for the PDA Presidential Citation, which recognizes local societies for achieving specific goals. If approved, the SDDS has achieved goals in all categories including: increase member engagement, maintain membership numbers, increase leadership development, and provide valuable member-focused offerings, as well as a special category regarding response to COVID-19.


Membership benefits and suggestions for future were discussed. Tom Langan expressed concern that non-members and some members may not even understand the value of becoming a member. Anyone interested in membership meeting should contact Chuck Scrimalli.

Joe Kelly thanked Cindy for her tireless work.

Next board meeting is scheduled for 11/17/20 at 6:30pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Scrimalli, seconded by Tom Langan.

Join Our Zoom Board & General Meeting

Attend our next meeting by jumping  on ZOOM Tuesday, November 17th at 6:30 PM. Here is the information:

Time: Nov 17, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86097962630?pwd=Y1FOVXRLVXJwcUg1RnVSYUlhbzQ1dz09>

Meeting ID: 860 9796 2630

Passcode: 324868

Celebrating Our Members!

Sincere congratulations to the following member dentists who have achieved these milestones in their careers!

40 years

Dr. Thomas A. Dell'Aglio
Dr. Kenneth G. Miller
Dr. W. Michael Umerich

30 years

Dr. Pierre P. Germain
Dr. David M. Hazzouri
Dr. Stephen M. Rebar

20 years

Dr. Gary A. Kopesky, IV
Dr. Christopher J. Kotchick
Dr. Nancy E. Willis

15 years

Dr. Joseph R. Karam
Dr. Erica A. Lesniak-Burns
Dr. Megan D. Martino
Dr. Michael M. Salvia

10 years

Dr. Justin L. Burns

5 years

Dr. William J. Dempsey
Dr. Brendan A. Langan

President's Letter

Congratulations SDDS! Your continued hard work and support has yielded wonderful and well-deserved honors from the PDA in the form of platinum and palladium citations! This pandemic year certainly was not one I would have chosen for my term as your president. Despite the tough times, I can't help but think of the progress we have made together and the friendships that have grown; this is where I find VALUE and GRATITUDE!



Dr. Samantha Abod

The true message of my final letter is that I hope YOU can find value and gratitude in your tripartite membership of the ADA, PDA and Scranton District Dental Society. My sincere wish is for you to find the benefits of your membership to be so fulfilling that you will continue a life-long relationship with organized dentistry. Our board and many long-term members have been working hard to create some normalcy and continued successful practice during a world-wide health crisis and we have been striving to create a schedule of future events that will promote an even more prosperous year ahead.

In 2020 SDDS members have worked to achieve the following:

1. We were able to provide free continuing education courses and general monthly meetings via a secure ZOOM platform.

2. Our Government Relations committee has worked hard on our behalf and has kept us informed of updates to legislation important to our practices. We have called and drafted letters to our local legislators to highlight the value of the work

our practices perform every day and the many safety measures in place to protect our patients and our staff.

3. We have provided needed PPE and will offer additional needed armamentarium to keep member dental offices functioning at the highest level with a grant we received from the Scranton Area Foundation.

4. We have recently put together a Facebook campaign to bring employees and employers in the dental field together.

5. Many members have joined the PDA Go app discussions and forums to stay current with recommended guidelines and regulations.

6. We have created and updated websites for both the Scranton District and the Third District so that all Dental Society information can be available at the click of a mouse.

<https://www.thirddistrictdentalsociety.org/> <https://www.scrantondental.org/>

We have polled our members and we will be providing a mix of socially responsible in-person and on-line events for 2021. We are currently working on organizing small group CPR certification sessions and a potential fingerprinting event to facilitate background checks for compliance with child abuse act 31 prior to licensure renewal in March 2021.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page, websites, e-mail correspondence and the PDA Go app for all updates regarding society life! We look forward to working very hard for you in the new year and we are grateful for your support and understanding through all of the uncertainty of this past year. It has been a true honor and pleasure to serve as your president and I wish you all the best in the years to come!

Stay well friends,
Sam

Membership Has Its Benefits

Being a member of the PDA, Third District, and Scranton District Dental Societies has always had its privileges, but being a member during these last few weeks has proven invaluable. Throughout this time, our local leaders have provided FREE Continuing Education courses, weekly ZOOM meetings, special edition newsletters, and a forum to communicate and share information about the latest developments.

If you know someone who is not a member, please encourage him or her to join through the PDA and start attending our online opportunities. For more information, check out our member benefits at <https://www.scrantondental.org/about-the-sdds/membership/>

COVID Member Benefits

- Weekly Meetings Via Zoom during COVID to keep membership updated
- Free CE courses via Zoom during COVID
- April 8th CE
- COVID-19- Using Science to Separate Fact from Fiction (1CE)
- April 27th CE
- Common Insurance Claim Mistakes (1CE)
- May 4th CE
- Multidisciplinary Treatment of Extreme Cases (1CE)
- May 9th face shield distribution for free
- Letter to state representatives for PPE supplies

Member Benefits

- Monthly General Meeting with dinner and cocktails
- SDDS Golf Tournament at the Scranton Country Club, with Dinner and cocktails
- Presidents Reception
- CE Educational events organized and set up throughout the year

Upcoming Events

Board/General Meeting	ZOOM	November 17, 2020	6:30 PM
Third District Meeting	ZOOM	November 18, 2020	7:00 PM
Third District CE <i>Medical Marijuana & OSHA</i>	TBA	May 14, 2021	TBA

Board Members & Officers Needed

Looking for a way to share best practices and help your dental community succeed? Become a board member today! 2021 board positions are available! Please contact Sam Abod if you are interested (abod@qmaortho.com or 570-342-3556).