

# Newsletter



June 2012

Vol.51 No.5

## June Annual Awards



Five Society members will be recognized at the Annual Awards Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at Maggiano's Little Italy. The Sterling V. Mead Award, the Society's highest award, Committee Member of the Year Award, Humanitarian of the Year Award, Foundation's Community Spirit Award and Special Recognition of the Year Award will be presented during the meeting. The former presidents of the Society will be also recognized. In addition, Dr. Ali R. Fassihi, Society president, will report on the Society year and Dr. Johanna Huijssoon will be installed as the 2012-2013 President.

The Awards Committee has chosen Dr. James Feldman as the recipient of the Sterling V. Mead Awards for outstanding achievement in dentistry. Dr. Feldman has been a member with the Society since 1984 and has held numerous leadership positions, including president from 2004-2005. He has been an alternate delegate to the ADA, served on the ADA Council on Annual Sessions and continues to contribute as a member or chairman of several current D.C. Dental Society committees.

Dr. Larry Crisafulli has been chosen Committee Member of the Year. Dr. Crisafulli has generously given his time and support to our dental society through his volunteerism with Give Kids a Smile, Newsletter Editor and serving on the Board of Directors. In addition, our dental society thanks Dr. Crisafulli for being the "relationship bridge" between Howard Dental School faculty and students.

Dr. Salvatore Selvaggio has been selected as recipient of the District of Columbia Dental Society Foundation's Community Spirit Award. This award recognizes Society members who donate time and expertise to the community that benefits patients and the underserved in Washington, DC. He has been in private practice since 1980, and has been a volunteer dentist at the Spanish Catholic Center since 1985. He is the past president of the Board of Directors of the Spanish Catholic Center, and is currently on its Advisory Board for the Archdiocese of Washington.

Dr. Eduardo Gerlein has been selected to receive the 2012 Humanitarian of the Year Award. Dr. Gerlein devotes his time and expertise to support health initiatives. His numerous charitable contributions include Autism Speaks Foundation, the Spanish Catholic Center Dental Clinic, DCDS Foundation, Give Kids a Smile, Food & Friends, and St. Ann's Orphanage. Dr. Gerlein continually makes a difference with his spirit of generosity globally and in our D.C. community.

Dr. C. Benson Clark is the recipient of the Special Recognition of the Year Award for his numerous contributions to dentistry as a pioneer in the field of implantology and his many years dedicated to teaching dental students and his fellow colleagues. Dr. Clark is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology. He continues to serve his community and his profession by sharing his knowledge and expertise.

The Awards meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception/ 6:30 p.m. Dinner/Awards Ceremony. Members are encouraged to utilize Maggiano's valet parking after 5:00 p.m. Additional parking is also available at Chevy Chase Pavilion. The Metro stop is Friendship Heights on the Red Line.

# The Members Speak

The results are in! The District of Columbia Dental Society members have responded to the monthly meeting survey. Overwhelmingly, the respondents feel that providing continuing education opportunities for the members is an important responsibility of the D.C. Dental Society. Just over 90% think that nine monthly meetings are about the right number; the respondents who disagreed think that there are too many meetings per year. The current format of a 1.5 hour lecture, followed by dinner, is thought to be the right format by 75% of the respondents, while 25% disagreed with most of those preferring longer lectures.

The comment portion of the survey provides the best insight into how our members would like to see the monthly meeting evolve. Following are several comments from the surveys, which I believe are representative of the majority of survey comments.

“I think regular monthly meetings help members obtain continuing education and provides a set time for members to interact. This not only helps gain knowledge on new topics related to dentistry, but helps maintain and develop relationships within the membership.”

“The quality of the speaker needs to be improved. Those selecting speakers should be well versed in and able to assemble a monthly meeting program. All speakers should have been heard by someone in the leadership before signing them up.”

“Two monthly meetings per year should have no speakers but be “open board meetings”. This would allow members to be more interested/involved.”

“There are so many places to get continuing education that there is a lot of competition with Society continuing education. I recommend three-hour lectures sometimes with better quality speakers.”

On behalf of the D.C. Dental Society board of directors, I would like to thank all who participated in the survey. Please know you have been heard.

Dr. Larry A. Crisafulli  
Editor

## District of Columbia Dental Society NEWSLETTER

The *Newsletter* is published monthly except April, July and August by the District of Columbia Dental Society.

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## Monthly Membership Meeting Reservation Form

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Maggiano's Little Italy  
5333 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Cocktail Reception

Dinner / Awards Ceremony

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Active / Life / Metropolitan Member (No charge)

Associate / Student Member (\$50.00)  Guest / Non-Member (\$50.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Return form by mail/fax/email to:

D.C. Dental Society 502 C Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002

Fax: (202) 546-1482 / Email: [info@dcdental.org](mailto:info@dcdental.org)

# Letter from the President

It is hard to believe that the year has gone by. This one, in particular was a very interesting and historic year. As you all know, since last May we have been without an executive director and to be honest, I had an apprehension on how the year would go. However, as the year progressed, I came to realize what a close and dedicated group of member volunteers we have and their willingness to do whatever it is I asked of them. I knew then I would have the necessary support to go through hurdles I would have to overcome during my term and here we are today...still standing strong and ready to start yet another year.

My immediate support team was the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. With their help and endless hours of work, our focus would remain in membership, to make sure the Society continues to advocate for its members while being fiscally responsible. Our treasurer, Dr. Robert Smyth and I worked endless hours last summer to formulate a budget and oversee a complete financial audit. As a result, I can assure you that the D.C. Dental Society today is in very good financial standing.

My second main target was the Nation's Capital Dental Meeting and to ensure its continued success. I am very grateful to the general chairman, Dr. Robert Emery, the Advisory Committee and our meeting planner, Mrs. Taryn Habberley, who worked very hard to put on a great and successful meeting. Meanwhile, Dr. Julian Moiseiwitsch, our General Chairman for the 2013 Nation's Capital Dental Meeting has already started to work on our meeting, setting up committees, creating a list of speakers and calling for volunteers. Unless you are part of the meeting planning, it is difficult to convey all the hard work, time and effort that flies below the radar, to put a three (3) day program together. This is the reason why we are always looking for volunteers in any capacity. Please consider getting involved. No matter what your time restrictions might be, there will always be an opportunity to participate. If interested, call the Society office or speak with anyone in leadership.

My gratitude also goes to Dr. Catherine Dietrich Pulse (and baby) who graciously accepted to be our monthly meeting program chairman. Creating a varied program to please all audiences is not an easy job. I am very grateful for her hard work. Thank you to Dr. Larry Crisafulli who has served for many years as editor of our monthly newsletter. His commitment and dedication is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank the DCDS Foundation, chaired by Dr. Sally Cram; for their efforts in a very successful year. Their team has taken the Foundation to the next level in becoming a strong arm of our Society. The development of the Wall of Wine, among others, has given an unprecedented financial strength that allows the Foundation to participate in many more programs. In addition, I would like to thank Dr. Cram for her efforts as the senior member of our ADA delegation. Dr. Cram, along with our delegation members - Drs. Patrick Grogan, Jim Richeson, Alan Singer, and our ADA Annual Sessions Council Member, Dr. Michael Blicher kept the "good face" of our Society at the national level through their dedication and commitment to our DCDS members.

On a local level, I want to thank the D.C. Board of Dentistry and chairman, Dr. Daniel Howard, for their continued invitations and allowing us to provide input during their open sessions. During this taxing year in particular, I want to thank Drs. Michael Griffiths, Patrick Grogan and Michael Blicher for their attendance at these meetings.

Last but not least, I want to recognize and thank Dr. Patrick Grogan, our immediate former president, for planning and conducting the 10th Annual Give Kids a Smile Day. Over 200 children from Chamberlain Elementary School were successfully treated I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the many dentist volunteers as well as Dean Leo Rouse, the Senior and Junior Students from Howard Dental School, their Faculty and all the administrators that coordinated the use of the clinic with providing dental care for the patients.

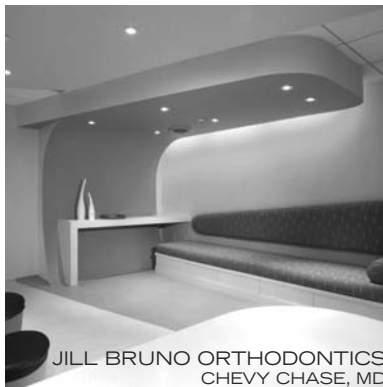
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I am most thankful to Dr. Patrick Grogan for his insight and perseverance as Chairman of the Executive Director Search Committee; a very difficult and lengthy job that I am sure no one wanted. Numerous meetings were held, requiring time out of their offices, their busy schedules and away from their families; all to accomplish one goal, finding our new Executive Director. I am pleased to say, the mission has been accomplished and our job has been done.

Taryn, Sharie and Audrey, I have so much to be thankful for. You have been attentive to all details, coordinating meetings and even taken me out of the dinosaur ages. I am now a regular user of my iPad, so I could be in constant communication and contact.

I can easily say it has been a team effort and taken an "army" to get the job done. So many volunteers that truly have their heart set into the Society and without them, it would not be possible to accomplish half of what we did. I am very grateful to all my colleagues and friends, who through thick and thin stuck it out with me. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the leader of this great organization. It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as your president. As the end gets closer, I can sense a bitter-sweet feeling but I leave with a great sense of accomplishment and personal gratification. I leave with the certainty that Dr. Johanna Huijssoon will continue leading this organization into what will be a new phase of the Dental Society.

Dr. Ali R. Fassihi  
President



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## Elections

Elections will take place at the June Awards Meeting, June 5, 2012 for the Foundation Board of Directors. The nominees for the four (4) available positions are:

Dr. John Drumm  
 Dr. Christos Loukaitis  
 Dr. Bernard McDermott  
 Dr. Alan Singer  
 Dr. Thomas Williams



## Golden Apple Award for New Dentist Leadership

The 2012 Golden Apple Award for New Dentist Leadership will be presented at the ADA's 26th New Dentist Conference, June 22-24, 2012 in Washington, D.C.

The ADA invites representatives from the Society to attend the Conference and participate in a full day of leadership programming which includes *Challenge Yourself as a Leader in the Office and Community* by keynote speaker, Mr. Bill Graham. Morning programming includes small group discussions with new dentists from across the country and *Grassroots Training - Are You in the Game for Dentistry?* Afternoon programming includes *How to Get Involved and Stay Involved*, *The Presidential Secret - Creating Great First Impressions and Lasting Doctor/Patient Relationships*, and *I Nominate You for Leader - Wrapping Your Head Around Parliamentary Procedure*. The leadership programming will conclude with ever-popular New Dentist Committee *Network Idea Exchange and Hot Topics: Ask Your ADA Leaders*. For complete conference information and to register, visit [www.ada.org/newdentistconf](http://www.ada.org/newdentistconf).

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# 2011 Continuing Education Awards

As part of the Annual Awards Dinner in June, the Society will present the Excellence in Continuing Education Award to members who have earned fifty (50) or more hours of continuing education in 2011. Congratulations to the following members for their achievement.

Society members should be aware that this is a preliminary list. Any member who is not listed below but has achieved 50 hours of continuing education should contact the Society office.

Dr. Kianoush Alem  
Dr. Luis Barr  
Dr. Howard Benson  
Dr. Maurice Conley, III  
Dr. Robert Conley, Jr.  
Dr. Sally Cram  
Dr. Robert Emery  
Dr. Tirdad Fattahi  
Dr. James Feldman  
Dr. Richard Giuliani  
Dr. Nelson Goodman  
Dr. Steven Guttenberg  
Dr. Alan Helig  
Dr. Steven Kaufman  
Dr. Suzanne Kim

Dr. Donald Kreuzer  
Dr. Andrew Lasky  
Dr. Rustin Levy  
Dr. Samuel Lievano  
Dr. Christos Loukaitis  
Dr. Aldino Maggiulli  
Dr. Despina Markogiannakis  
Dr. Alan Marx  
Dr. Donald Meyer  
Dr. Elias Misri  
Dr. Edward Mopsik  
Dr. Joel Nevins  
Dr. Angela Noguera  
Dr. Michael Pascal  
Dr. Russell Phillips  
Dr. Keith Progebin  
Dr. Jeffrey Pukatch  
Dr. James Richeson  
Dr. Richard Roen  
Dr. Paula Russo  
Dr. Joel Sendroff  
Dr. John Shefferman  
Dr. Robert Shub  
Dr. Robert Smyth  
Dr. David Spiegelman  
Dr. Neil Starr  
Dr. Michael Stiglitz  
Dr. Thomas Wall  
Dr. Benjamin Watkins, III

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# 2012 - 2013 Monthly Meeting Schedule

Following are the dates for the 2012 – 2013 monthly meetings. All meetings will be held at the Washington Marriott Hotel located at 1221 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW unless otherwise noted.

## 2012

Tuesday, September 11 - Renaissance Washington,  
DC Dupont Circle Hotel

Tuesday, October 9

Tuesday, November 13 - CPR Re-Certification

Tuesday, December 11

## 2013

Tuesday, January 8

Tuesday, February 12

Tuesday, April 9

Tuesday, May 14

Tuesday, June 4

# Congratulations New Life Members!!

Dr. Milton Bernard  
Dr. Maurice Conley, III  
Dr. Alphonzo Davidson, Sr.  
Dr. Daniel Deutsch  
Dr. Marc Doctors  
Dr. John Drumm  
Dr. John Flynn  
Dr. Nelson Goodman  
Dr. Kenneth Ingber  
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