



A Letter from DC Dental Society President Robert W. Emery, DDS



Dr. Robert Emery

Dear Colleagues:

The DC Dental Society (DCDS) Monthly Meetings are a great opportunity for members to enjoy high quality, clinically relevant, CE-approved educational programming and network with colleagues. The monthly meetings are a key member benefit that for many is their primary contact with the Society.

In a time when many state and local dental societies have eliminated or reduced the frequency of such member programs, DCDS has been fortunate to have the means to continue its monthly meeting series. Putting on a regular, high quality education program requires the dedication of member volunteers, staff and significant financial resources. In fact, the 2013-2014 monthly meeting series cost the Society approximately \$125,000. The largest portion of the expenses (63 percent) went to cover food and beverage costs.

In its consideration of the 2014-2015 monthly meeting series, the leadership looked at ways that the Society could reduce monthly meeting-associated expenses while at the same time maintaining the high-quality educational program members have come to expect. First, the Education Committee, led by Dr. Said Mokhtarzadeh, put together an excellent program and negotiated favorable speaker honoraria that will result in a 40 percent reduction in speaker fees compared to last year. Next, the DCDS staff looked at ways in which we could lower our food and beverage costs. They also explored other meeting venues and the costs associated with moving from the Westin Georgetown, but found this option to be cost prohibited. Finally, they explored modifications to the monthly meeting format that replaced the dinner with a less expensive networking reception. A reception increases the opportunity for informal member interactions and reduces food and beverage expenses by nearly half. Expanding the opportunities for informal collegial interaction was an item the membership committee identified from recent surveys as a member priority. *(Continued on page 2)*

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A Letter from DC Dental Society President

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Last month's meeting was the first to incorporate the modified format. Evaluations were sent out to attendees and we received an impressive 50 percent response rate. 62% of the membership gave a favorable rating to the meeting and said it met their expectations. 74% of the membership said they would recommend a colleague attend the meeting. Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback. We're reading your comments and will continue to make improvements to the monthly meetings based on attendee feedback. In fact, as a result of your suggestions, the October 14th meeting will feature not only the pre-lecture networking reception, but additionally a dessert reception immediately after the lecture. This will allow those members who were unable to make the earlier reception the opportunity to catch-up with colleagues after the formal program.

The modifications to the monthly meeting were done out of financial necessity to ensure that this hallmark benefit of DCDS membership not only continues, but grows moving forward. To this end, I believe that our monthly meetings are wonderful opportunities to demonstrate to non-members what we at the DC Dental Society are all about—growth of the profession through education programming and camaraderie. I encourage each of you to attend our next monthly meeting on October 14th. Bring a colleague who isn't a member of the Society or even a member who hasn't attended a DCDS monthly meeting recently to witness firsthand the value of DCDS membership. As always, I encourage you to reach out to me or one of the other members of the leadership, and share your questions, concerns and ideas on how we can work together to improve the Society.

We are DCDS: passionate about our profession, our community, and our future!

Sincerely,
R.W.

Robert W. Emery DDS
President, DC Dental Society

DCDS Board Corner

The "DCDS Board Corner" is an opportunity for the board to address questions from the membership and provide an update on relevant issues impacting the Society. This month the board wishes to address questions around the CE for the September Monthly Meeting. Several members asked why they were given 1.5 hours of CE instead of the usual 2 hours that the Society has given out in the past.

The short answer is that the speaker only spoke for 1.5 hours and according to ADA CERP guidelines the amount of CE given must match the length of time the speaker presents, as well as fields Q & A. Following ADA CERP guidelines is imperative to ensure that DCDS stays in compliance and can continue to offer CE-approved educational content.

Have a question that you would like to see answered in an upcoming newsletter? E-mail DCDS at info@dcdental.org or call 202-367-1163.



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DC Dental Society September Meeting Recap



The September DC Dental Society meeting kicked off the 2014-2015 DCDS monthly meeting series. Over 130 individuals attended the event to network and hear Dr. Jim McKee's presentation titled: Occlusion and TMD: Current Concepts for the Specialist and General Dentist. A new meeting format was introduced at the September meeting.

DCDS October Meeting: Periodontal Perspective on the Worn Out Dentition



Dr. Dennis Thompson

The October monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, October 14th at the Westin Georgetown and will include a presentation from Dr. Dennis Thompson on the “Periodontal Perspective on the Worn Out Dentition.”

The networking reception will start promptly at 5pm and will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar.

Dr. Thompson’s presentation will begin at 6:15pm and will be followed by second networking reception that will feature coffee and desserts.

CE will be offered. Members are encouraged to invite a non-member colleague to the meeting. To register today call staff at 202-367-1163 or via email info@dcdental.org.

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 Presenter: Marvin A. Fier, DDS, FASDA, ABAD, FACD, FICD
 6 CE Credits | AGD Code: 780
 Date: Friday, November 14th

The Reality of the Art and Science of Forensic Dentistry
 Presenter: Laurence A. Dobrin*, DMD, FAAFS, FASDC
 *Chief Forensic Dentist for New York City
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Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy and Health Equity Festival Update

The DC Dental Society would like to thank those Society members who participated in the 2014 Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy and Health Equity Festival last month in College Park, Maryland. In a two day period, over 1,200 underserved residents were provided with free dental care. Held on an annual basis, the festival is sponsored by the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Maryland State Dental Association and corporate partners.

ADA Releases 2015 CDT Codes

The American Dental Association has released the 2015 CDT codes and the DC Dental Society encourages members to familiarize your staff with the new codes before January 1, 2015. CDT 2015, the only Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-recognized code set for dentistry, is designed for dental staff to use daily as a resource to code and document services accurately for claim submissions and dental records.

CDT 2015 contains:

- Revised implant section with eight new codes, four deleted codes and more than 10 revised codes
- New codes for post-operative visits, sealant repair, evaluation for deep sedation or general anesthesia and missed appointments
- Simplified table format for single and multi-surface restorations
- Reorganized maxillofacial section for quicker reference

Code changes include:

- Sixteen new procedure codes
- Fifty-two revised procedure codes
- Five deleted procedure codes

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ADA Member Benefits Program

The American Dental Association recently introduced the *ADA Morning Huddle*, a daily email that will provide members comprehensive coverage of the latest industry news, timely coverage of health and safety issues, as well as insurance updates and dental care trends.

ADA Morning Huddle will be produced in partnership with Bulletin Healthcare, the leading publisher of news briefings for the members of premier health care associations. For the best user experience, please add

morninghuddle@ada.bulletinhealthcare.com to your address book, and remember to view *ADA Morning Huddle* with the "images turned on."

If you wish to unsubscribe, simply click the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of the email. If you do not receive the email, please contact DC Dental Society staff at 202-367-1163 or via email at info@dcdental.org.

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Foundation Seeks Members to Serve as Mentors

The DCDS Foundation is looking for members to volunteer their time and serve as mentors to students from the Howard University College of Dentistry. It is the Foundation's goal to connect with the community and this mentorship program will accomplish that by showing local students how important organized dentistry is to private practice.

For details about this program, visit www.dcdentalfoundation.org/2.html. If you are interested in volunteering to be a mentor, please contact the DC Dental Society office at 202-547-7613 or via email at info@dcdental.org.

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Are Microbeads in Toothpaste Dangerous?

The issue of whether or not it's safe to use toothpaste containing microbeads (polyethylene) has been a hot topic in the news lately. On a recent Good Morning America segment, the ADA released the following statement, "According to the American Dental Association, clinically relevant dental health studies do not indicate that the ADA Seal should be removed from toothpastes that contain polyethylene microbeads. Products with the ADA Seal have been independently evaluated for safety and effectiveness by the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs." Procter & Gamble, the manufacturer of Crest Pro-Health (a toothpaste that currently contains microbeads), maintains that the ingredient is safe, but plans to remove microbeads from their toothpaste moving forward. The company stated, "While the ingredient in question is completely safe, approved for use in foods by the FDA and part of an enjoyable brushing experience for millions of consumers with no issues, we understand there is a growing preference for us to remove this ingredient. So we will. Crest will continue to provide consumers with effective and enjoyable products which are designed to their preferences." To read more about this issue, please [click here](#).



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Virginia Dental Association Meeting Update



DC Dental Society President Dr. Robert Emery attended the 2014 Virginia Dental Association meeting in Hot Springs, VA earlier this fall and was briefed on Virginia Dental Association updates and others news. The DC Dental Society values the opportunity to network with our Mid-Atlantic regional colleagues and strengthening our relationship.

(Photographed: *Right to Left*: VDA President Michael Link, DCDS Board President Dr. Robert Emery, and VDA Immediate Past President Dr. Ted Sherwin.)

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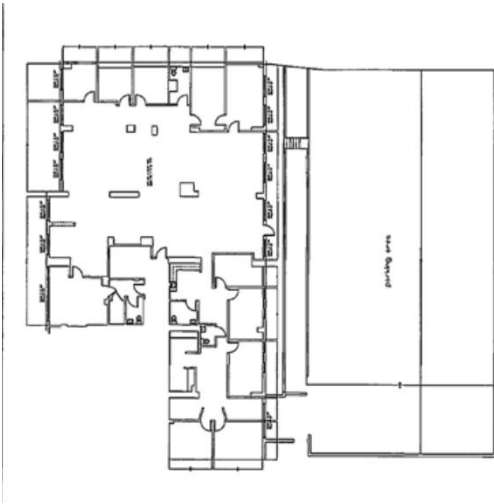
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