



Society Honors 2015 Awards Recipients

Two Society members were recognized for their contributions to the Society and dental community at the Annual Awards Dinner held on June 2, 2015, at the Westin Georgetown. The DC Dental Society Foundation’s Humanitarian of the Year Award will be presented during the September 8, 2015 monthly meeting.

Sterling V. Mead Award

Dr. John Drumm received the Sterling V. Mead Award, the Society’s highest award in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the Society and the dental profession throughout his four-decade-long career. He is a former DC Dental Society President, past member of the ADA Council of Dental Practice and previous chair of the ADA Dentist Wellbeing Advisory Committee. Dr. Drumm currently serves as President of the DC Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), as well as Regional Director of AGD Region 5. He has been in private practice in DC for nearly 40 years with a long record of service to both the Society and community.



Committee Member of the Year Award

Dr. Maya Oliver was presented with the Committee Member of the Year Award in recognition of her service to the Society—playing a vital role in the Society’s efforts to engage new dentists. She is an orthodontic specialist practicing in the Palisades. Dr. Oliver is currently the chairperson of the DCDS New Dentist Subcommittee and a member of the DCDS Membership Committee.



(Continued on page 2)

DCDS Mourns the Passing of Dr. Jim Richeson



It is with deep regret that the DC Dental Society reports on

the unexpected passing of former DC Dental Society President, Dr. James “Jim” Richeson. Dr. Richeson was a devoted Society member who contributed greatly to the advancement of the organization. A former recipient of the Sterling V. Mead Award, Dr. Richeson served as the Society’s President from 1997-1998.

Dr. Richeson was a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Dentistry and served as a clinical instructor there from 1981-1986.

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Society Honors 2015 Awards Recipients

Humanitarian of the Year Award

Dr. Oswald Cameron-Morales is the recipient of the DCDS Foundation's Humanitarian of the Year Award. Over the past 20 years, he has provided general dental services to the Hispanic and Latino populations both in the District and abroad. Dr. Cameron-Morales is currently the President of the District's Hispanic Dental Association Chapter, the Dental Director for the Healing Hands Foundation, and an active member of the North East Regional Board of Examiners. He is a former member of Ecuadent Foundation and the DC Board of Dentistry.

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DCDS Mourns the Passing of Dr. Jim Richeson

He also served as President of the Georgetown University Alumni Club of Metropolitan Washington, D.C. in 1990 and was an active volunteer dentist with Catholic Charities since 1985.

Dr. Richeson was an active member of the AGD and received his Fellowship in 1986. He recently served as moderator for the AGD's first Oral Health Symposium, which took place on April 24, 2015, at AGD Headquarters in Chicago. Previously, Dr. Richeson had served on the AGD's first Oral Health Literacy Task Force. He also served as AGD treasurer (1998 to 2000), as well as Region 5 trustee. Dr. Richeson held many other positions in the organization, including course chair for the AGD 1995 Annual Meeting & Exhibits, and served as member of the AGD Annual Meeting Council, AGD Awards Committee, as well as on the Board of Directors for the AGD Foundation.

Dr. Richeson was also very active in the American Dental Association where he served as an ADA alternate delegate from 2001 to 2012. He also served as chair of the ADA Code Maintenance Committee in 2013 and took on the role of AGD representative to that committee in 2014.

He is survived by his wife, Anne "Nancy" C. Richeson, and daughter, Suzanne C. Richeson. You may share a message of support or a fond memory for his family to receive by signing Dr. Richeson's [guestbook](#).

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to:

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

Our Society's Vision Realized...



Dear Colleagues,

As my term as DC Dental Society President draws to a close, I'd like to review the many exciting things that we accomplished together, as a Society, over the past twelve months. These accomplishments were guided by our strategic plan, your board of directors and all the volunteers that made these changes possible.

Obviously, the biggest changes this past year were the naming of a new D.C. Dental Society Executive Director, the onboarding of a new staff team and the transition of the Society's administrative management from a standalone model to an association management company.

Dr. Robert Emery

Doug Fesler joined the Society in April 2014 as our interim executive director, assuming a permanent role in July. Doug possesses extensive experience managing nonprofit organizations. Doug listens to our members concerns and responds to the direction of your board of directors. He has been instrumental in our smooth transition this year. I have truly enjoyed working closely with Doug to realize our numerous accomplishments.

Moving the Society's operations into an association management model has given the DCDS the resources and staffing it needs to recast the organization for the future so that the Society may realize its mission for years to come. Of utmost importance, the new management structure gives the DCDS increased financial flexibility and security.

I also want to impress upon you how engaged your volunteer leadership has been this year to ensure that not only the transition went smoothly, but that member concerns and feedback were captured and discussed at the board-level. We might not have been able to please every member with each of our decisions this year, but I am certain that we always acted with the best interests of the Society, our membership and the future viability of the organization in mind.

One of our strategic priorities as an organization is to optimize opportunities to build our culture, our leadership and our identity. Membership engagement is at the heart of us accomplishing this objective. This past year there were numerous activities aimed at realizing this goal. First, with the assistance of the ADA, we developed a new Society logo and moved the Society to the ADA Aptify database system. The transition to the Aptify database means that ADA and DCDS now share the same data on its members which has resulted in a streamlining of operations. It also allows us to take membership dues payments online. *(Continued on page 4)*



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(Continued from page 3)

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

The revamped DCDS website will launch later this month. It will be a vast improvement compared to the current site and will be an integral component to the re-branding of both our Society and our Annual Meeting. We increased our communications to members about all Society events through my monthly president's letter, a reformatted member newsletter, more frequent email communications and most recently social media posts. We also made it a priority to obtain membership feedback through evaluations, and made it easier for members to volunteer for activities and respond to Society requests with the adoption of online forms. I hope that you all have appreciated the Society communications this year and the added convenience these changes sought to achieve.

To remain vibrant and successful, our Society must be able to attract active and engaged members to serve in volunteer leadership positions. This year we opened up the nominations process for open board and committee positions to make it easy for any member to nominate themselves or a deserving colleague for an open position via an online form. We also made additional efforts to encourage our new dentist colleagues (those out of dental school less than ten years) to nominate others or self-nominate. We were pleased with the number of online nominations received for open committee positions this year. Interest was strong, especially from new dentist members. In fact, 40 percent of this year's incoming committee members are new dentists.

The Society also piloted several new member outreach programs this year. Last October, we held a Society golf outing at Bretton Woods that attracted over 40 individuals and netted the Society more than \$5k in revenue. The Foundation in partnership with TD Bank has put together a series of workshops aimed at member dentists at different career stages. We also instituted regular member happy hours which have been extremely popular.

Outreach to dental students was also a priority this year. To this end, the Society participated in its first ADA National Signing Day, hosting a signing day event at Howard University in April. During ADA signing day, D4 students from around the country convene at their dental schools to formally enroll as ADA members. This year DCDS added 34 new DCDS members to our rosters during its signing day event. We are also co-hosting a panel discussion with the ADA at Howard University later this month targeted at all dental students that will convey the benefits of ADA/DCDS membership. The event will feature ADA President-Elect Dr. Carol Gomez Summerhays.

(Continued on page 5)



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(Continued from page 4)

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

Member volunteers were extremely busy this year with the annual NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo and Give-Kids-a-Smile Day activities occurring in close proximity to each other. Volunteers from DCDS, students from Howard University and pediatric residents from Children's National Medical Center conducted oral cancer screenings on over 800 people during the two-day NBC Health & Fitness Expo in January. Over 300 children signed up to participate in this year's Give-Kids-A-Smile Day program in February with over \$76k in free dental treatment provided. In addition, the Foundation provided financial support for the Oral Cancer Foundation 5K in Chevy Chase, Maryland. I want to thank all of you that participated in any of these activities. We couldn't have done it without you. The events were hectic, fun and personally rewarding.

The Public Policy Committee, led by Dr. Gene Giannini was extremely active during the previous session of the DC council that ended in December. Thanks to an investment from the ADA State Public Affairs grant program last year, the Society was able to engage a legislative advisor to aid us in engaging the DC government on two pieces of legislation that threatened dentists practicing in the district. First, we were successful in eliminating the mid-level provider language from the proposed Children's Oral Health Amendment Act. Second, we were able to prevent a Comprehensive Pediatric Dental Screening bill that would have introduced the role of patient navigators in the District from gaining traction. We should all be extremely appreciative of the work of Dr. Giannini and the Public Policy Committee.

The Society was able to obtain from the DC Board of Dentistry a no cost solution to the issue of temporary licenses for out-of-town dentists wishing to participate in this year's ADA Mission of Mercy Project occurring here in Washington DC in conjunction with the November ADA Annual Meeting. Our thanks go out to Dr. Sally Cram for taking the lead in engaging the DC Board of Dentistry to realize a solution to this issue.

One of my key objectives this year as president was to work with the board, Treasurer Dr. Ali Fassihi and the staff to get the Society's financial house in order. To this end, financial best practices were implemented, including full reporting of monthly financials to the DCDS board to ensure transparency, quarterly forecasting of income and expenses, and have an annual financial audit performed. (Continued on page 6)

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(Continued from page 5)

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

In addition, the leadership and Executive Director have been practicing judicious expense management to ensure that the Society is living within its means. Also, we engaged CBRE Real Estate to conduct a disposition analysis on the Society's property at 502 C St. NE to determine what made more financial sense for the organization – to sell or lease our former headquarters. The analysis revealed that in the current market, it was essentially a wash. The board decided to lease the property. The listing has been active since December with little interest thus far.

Our Annual Meeting is currently the largest dental meeting in the Mid-Atlantic region. However, recent trends have shown a gradual decline in attendance and revenue across all categories. Several steps have been taken this past year to lay the groundwork for renewing the annual meeting. First, last fall, SmithBucklin performed a market assessment of the Nation's Capital Dental Meeting. They conducted focus groups with past meeting attendees to support with data assumptions we had about the meeting, including its perceived value, target audiences, as well as recommendations on how to position the meeting in the future. Second, the board approved rebranding of the annual meeting starting in 2016 and changing the name of the meeting to the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting. Finally, the board adopted a new business model for the annual meeting starting with next year's meeting that provides regional state dental societies a financial incentive to participate in the meeting. The model is the same one that has been successful for the Yankee Dental Congress for many years.

With these changes, over the next several years, we as a Society will strive to achieve the following: 1) reverse the downward trajectory of meeting attendance by giving other dental societies a stake in the success of our meeting; 2) increase demand for exhibit and sponsorship opportunities for our meeting; 3) position the meeting as the premier dental event in the Mid-Atlantic region; 4) and increase the opportunities for attendees to network and begin to build stronger ties within the regional dental community.

As you can see, DCDS remains quite busy in its pursuit of realizing our strategic goals of providing support to members so that they may succeed and excel throughout their careers; optimizing opportunities to build our culture, our leadership, our identity and our financial reserves; shaping the future of our profession; and serving as a model for improving oral health literacy and outcomes. DCDS succeeds because it can count on an outstanding cadre of volunteer leaders and members, a highly trained and professional staff, and a culture of commitment to shared values.

As I prepare to pass the baton to my friend and colleague, incoming President Dr. Julian Moiseiwitsch, I take pride in saying that our Society is stronger and more vibrant than ever in pursuing its mission of promoting the growth of the dental profession in Washington, DC through educational programming, advocacy for our members, and raising the oral health literacy of our community. I thank you, the membership, for the opportunity to serve as your President this past year and leave the presidency confident that the groundwork is being laid for the continued growth and success of this great Society.

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

Sincerely,
R.W.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. W. Emery', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert W. Emery DDS,
President, DC Dental Society

Members Celebrate at June 2nd Awards Dinner

Last week's DC Dental Society Annual Awards Dinner gave members and invited guests the opportunity to celebrate this year's Society award recipients, as well as catch-up with one another prior to the summer break from regular monthly meetings. In addition to the awarding of the annual Society awards, outgoing President Dr. Robert Emery was recognized for his service and President-elect Dr. Julian Moiseiwitsch was installed as the 2015-2016 Society President.



DCDS Launches Two New Member Affinity Programs

The DCDS is pleased to announce the establishment of two new affinity programs for members to utilize.



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Employers: Are you in Compliance with the New DC Theft Act?

In light of the new DC Wage Theft Act, DC employers are required to provide each new and current employee with a written notice providing them with the statutorily required information about their wages. Employers should have provided each current employee with a notice **by Wednesday May 27, 2015**. DC employers must provide all new employees hired after the February 26, 2015 effective date with a notice at the time of hiring. Employers must retain copies of the notices signed and dated by each employee. They are also required to provide *new* notices to employees when any of the information contained in the notices changes. [View a summary of the statute](#). [Download a sample notice](#).

Recent Dental School Graduates Seek to Start Their Careers in DC

DCDS is pleased to provide graduates from CODA approved dental school or post-graduate program within the past three years that wish to practice in the District of Columbia with the opportunity to run a classified advertisement soliciting employment in the DCDS newsletter at no charge. Those interested in posting an advertisement in next month's DC Dental Society newsletter should contact the DC Dental Society Business Office at (202) 367-1163 or info@dcdental.org.

Manisha Chawla, DDS - I am seeking the position of an Associate dentist in DC Metro area. I have four years of clinical experience from India and I graduated from the International Dentist DDS Program at Howard University. I believe that my past experience has equipped me with the necessary clinical knowledge to provide high quality care in a time-efficient manner. Previously; I have treated a large number of patients at an established dental office and non-profit hospitals. This combination of diverse work environments has enabled me to develop proficiency in various dental procedures and maximize treatment outcomes. I can be contacted at (202) 207-6677 or (917) 349-5565 and by email at manishachawla16@gmail.com.

DCDS Mourns the Passing of Dr. Andrew Christopher

Dr. Andrew "Andy" Christopher passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 in McLean, VA. Dr. Christopher was a retired professor of Georgetown University's Department of Community Dentistry. He was a native of New York City where he received his Bachelor of Science from Manhattan College in 1943. He then attended Marquette University's School of Dentistry graduating in 1947.

After two years of private practice, Dr. Christopher was called to active duty and spent the next 26 years in the Army Dental Corps. After earning a Master's Degree in Hospital Administration from Baylor University, he was assigned to the Surgeon General's Office in Washington, D.C. His military career culminated as Assistant Staff Director of the Defense Medical Material Board where he monitored the purchase of all dental equipment and supplies for the Army, Navy, Air Force, and all other Federal agencies. While with the Department of Defense, Dr. Christopher lectured on preventive dentistry at nearby Georgetown University. Georgetown's dental school offered Dr. Christopher the challenge of founding a Department of Community Dentistry; he assumed the chairmanship in 1974. While chairman at Georgetown, he established dental health educational programs in the elementary schools of the District of Columbia and at the Lorton prison. Dr. Christopher also established a four chair clinic in a downtown soup kitchen where indigents could be treated gratis by senior students. He retired as a tenured associate professor after fourteen years in academe.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church. [Online condolences](#) and fond memories of Dr. Christopher may be offered to the family.

DCDS Mourns the Passing of Dr. Marcel Carmi

Dr. Marcel Carmi passed away on June 2nd. Born in Jerusalem, Palestine in 1927, he moved to the Washington D.C. area in 1956. He graduated from Georgetown University School of Dentistry and went on to serve on the faculty. He was a partner with the dental practice of Carmi and Knoll in Washington, DC. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Arlington Free Clinic's Oral Health Program, 2921 11th St., S., Arlington, VA 22204, www.arlingtonfreeclinic.org.

[Online condolences](#) and fond memories of Dr. Carmi may be offered to the family.

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Congratulations Incoming 2015-2016 Board and Committee Members

The DC Dental Society is pleased to announce its incoming 2015-2016 board officers, at-large board members and committee members. This year, none of the open board positions were contested. As a result, no run-off elections needed to occur. We were pleased with the number of online nominations received for open committee positions this year. Interest was strong, especially from new dentist members (less than 10 years since graduating from dental school). In fact, 40 percent of this year's incoming committee members are new dentists.

We are thankful to all of the candidates for their willingness to volunteer their time and efforts to benefit the Society.

Board Members

Dr. Thomas Sokoly, President-Elect
Dr. Carol Blake, Vice-President
Dr. Ladan Basiri, At-Large Board Member
Dr. Christos Loukaitis At-Large Board Member
Dr. Steven Price, At-Large Board Member
Dr. James Ryan, At-Large Board Member

Incoming Committee Members

Advisory Committee to the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting

Dr. Robert Tigani

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Dr. Babek Noohi

Education Committee

Dr. Jessica Rubin

Membership Benefits Committee

Dr. Kalisha Nelson

Dr. Laudan Izadi*

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Dr. Farah Assadipour

Dr. Erik Scheifele

Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting Committee

Dr. Larry Bowers

Dr. Kathryn Clark

Dr. Kim Menhinick

Dr. Michael Pollowitz

Dr. Selen Tolu

Membership Committee

Dr. Jonelle Grant

Professional Standards Committee

Dr. Johanna Huijssoon

Public Policy Committee

Dr. Patrick Grogan

Dr. Gunther Heyder

Strategic Planning Committee

Dr. Valerie Andrews



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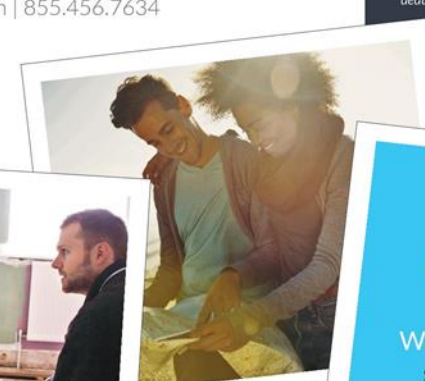
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Medicare Extends Deadline to Opt In/Out to June 1, 2016


The Center Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has extended to **June 1, 2016** the effective date by which dentists must either enroll or officially opted out of Medicare in order for prescriptions they write to be covered by Medicare Part D. This proposed rule would also require Part D plans to cover a "provisional supply" of up to 90 days of a medication prescribed by a doctor who has not enrolled or opted out. A Part D plan must notify the beneficiary in writing within three business days that the medication is being covered on a provisional basis because of the prescriber's current Medicare status. Part D plans must also make reasonable efforts to notify the prescriber. After covering the provisional supply and providing the notice to the beneficiary, the Part D plan will be required to reject future claims for the same medication for that beneficiary if the prescription is from the same prescriber.


CMS urges prescribers to submit their Medicare enrollment applications or opt out affidavits to their Medicare Administrative Contractors before January 1, 2016 to ensure that they are processed by the June 1, 2016 deadline.

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Congratulations 2014-2015 Excellence in Continuing Education Certificate Recipients

Sixteen members will receive Excellence in Continuing Education Certificates in recognition of earning fifty (50) or more hours of continuing education in 2014-2015. Congratulations to the following members for their achievement.

Dr. Armin Abron
Dr. Caroline Berman
Dr. Luis Barr
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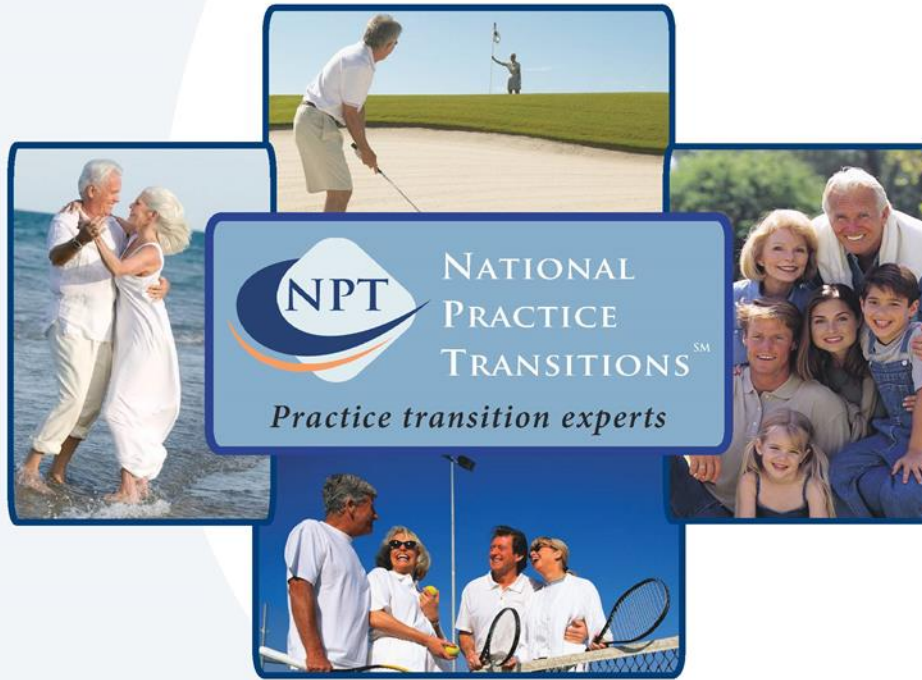
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