

May 2015 Vol. 56 No. 5

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



the value of

Dear Colleagues,

the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in downtown Washington, DC. A reminder that volunteer registration for DC Dental Society members opens May 6 — two weeks before general registration — giving you first priority for CE courses, housing, special events and more. Members should have received an email from the ADA inviting you to volunteer and register. If you did not, please reach out to the DC Dental Society business Office at (202) 367-1163 or info@dcdental.org.

The DC Dental Society is proud to host this year's ADA Annual Meeting, November 5-10, at

Dr. Robert Emery

Due to the success of the Society's golf-outing last October, I am excited to announce its return on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at the Bretton Woods Golf Course in Germantown, MD. The net proceeds from this year's event will benefit the DC Dental Society Foundation which provides grants for dental education and dental care through community events. Registration for the event is now available <u>online</u>. In addition, we have numerous sponsorship opportunities available. Please reach out to the DC Dental Society business office if you have any questions regarding registration or sponsorship opportunities.

I'm happy to announce that the DC Dental Society was honored at last month's annual ADA Membership Recruitment and Retention Conference in Chicago, IL, and presented two awards recognizing the "Greatest Percentage of Women Dentists to Membership" and the "Greatest Percentage of Diverse Members to Membership" amongst the ADA constituent societies in our category. Special thanks go out to Past-President Dr. Paula Russo, Membership Committee Chair Dr. Chris Loukaitis (Continued on page 2)

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

and past and present Membership Committee members: Drs. Shawn Alex, Lindsay Friedman, Jonelle Grant, Donna Grant-Mills and Maya Oliver. It was their collective work over the past two years to actively recruit dentists into the Society that was the key driver in DCDS realizing these awards. Thank you and congratulations to you all.

I would like to invite all members to the next DC Dental Society happy hour occurring Tuesday, May 19th, 5:00 p.m., at the Elephant and Castle pub located at 900 19th Street, NW. Come meet colleagues in an informal setting. The first happy hour event the Society hosted in March was a huge success and we expect great attendance for this month's happy hour as well.

I also hope to see each of you on June 2nd, 5:00 p.m., for the annual Society Awards Dinner which will occur at the Westin Georgetown. Please note that the date of this year's Awards Dinner is different than what was included in the monthly meeting mailing labels sent out last summer.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on the Society's board should you have any questions.

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

Sincerely, R.W.

Robert W. Emery DDS
President, DC Dental Society

DCDS Mourns the Passing of Dr. Reginald Christian

Dr. Reginald Christian, age 90, of Silver Spring, MD passed away on Monday, April 6, 2015. Dr. Christian attended Howard University as an undergraduate and attended the School of Dentistry, graduating in 1950. Dr. Christian married his college sweetheart, the late Faye Yvonne Lee in 1950. He was a Veteran of US Army Dental Corps, serving 1956-1958. He became a US citizen after his Army service. For many years, he was a part time professor at Howard University. Dr. Christian is survived by his children James, Vera, John, and Yvonne; nieces, Dawn and Linda; grandchildren, Marci, Maya, Roger, and Megan; great grandchildren, Alexander, Charlotte, Christopher, and Caiden; and a host of family and friends. In lieu of flowers, his family has requested that donations be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Join us for the May Monthly Meeting

The next DC Dental Society monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12th at the Westin Georgetown and will feature Dr. Stephen Rosenstiel speaking on "The Scientific Basis of Dental Esthetics: Mini-Esthetics."

Members planning to attend the May meeting should RSVP <u>online</u>, by phone at (202) 367-1163, or via email at <u>info@dcdental.org</u> before noon on Tuesday, May 12th.

Presentation Topic

The Scientific Basis of Dental Esthetics: Mini-Esthetics

Schedule

5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Reception

5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Presentation

7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Reception

Location

Westin Georgetown 2350 M St NW Washington, DC 20037

*CE will be offered for the May Meeting

Dr. Stephen Rosenstiel



Register Now to Volunteer at the ADA Annual Meeting in DC

The ADA Committee on Local Arrangements (CLA) is excited to extend a special early registration opportunity to DC Dental Society members.

Volunteer registration for the 2015 ADA conference (November 5-10, 2015) is now open! We encourage you to visit http://www.dcdental.org/ada2015-cla.asp to register and select your preferred volunteering assignment today as spots will fill quickly. As a reminder, all volunteers will receive complimentary registration, free parking, and a certificate of participation.

New Member Spotlight

Oswald Cameron-Morales
Office: 202-462-1925
E-mail: ocamerondds@aol.com
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Mid-Atlantic P.A.N.D.A. "Train the Trainer"

Mid-Atlantic P.A.N.D.A. is looking for volunteer dentists to become trainers for their program. They will be holding a training session on Friday, November 13, 2015 at the Maryland State Dental Association in Columbia, MD from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Participants will be awarded seven continuing education credits. Those interested should download the registration form.



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The 2016 Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting Appeals to Full Dental Team



Dr. Said Mokhtarzadeh 2016 Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting General Chairman

As General Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting, I am proud to be part of the committee putting together next year's annual conference. The 2016 Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting will be held March 24 -26 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center and I encourage all of you to mark the dates in your calendar.

This premier dental conference attracts more than 3,000 dental professionals annually and the 2016 meeting promises to include something for every member of the dental team—dentists, hygienists, dental assistants and office staff.

Over the past several months the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting Committee has met regularly to put together an outstanding program which includes a three day commercial exhibition and extensive clinical sessions. Session topics will range from updates on restorative materials and techniques to eliminating stress in the work place. I encourage you to not only register yourself, but to register members of your dental team.

In addition to the commercial exhibition, the meeting will also include an exciting new addition, the inaugural DCDS General Practice Residency Fair and the Dental Hygiene Program Fair, which will appeal to dental students and professionals from around the country.

Our Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting continues to grow and has expanded from its original mission of providing education and networking to dentists, to providing opportunities to the entire spectrum of dental professionals. Here I must acknowledge the contributions of our fellow DCDS members who helped to make this broadly appealing program possible. Those members are: Drs. Luis Barr (Registered Clinic Chairman), Larry Bowers (Registered Clinic Co-Chairman), Carol Blake (Hands-On Workshops Chairman), Ladan Basiri (Hands-On Workshops Co-Chairman), David Spiegelman (Hands-On Workshops Co-Chairman), Katie Clark (Capsule Clinic Chairman), and Michael Pollowitz (Flash Clinic Chairman). These individuals, along with other members of the Mid-Atlantic Dental Committee, have worked hard to put together a strong program featuring speakers with national prominence.

To learn the latest information about the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting, I encourage you to visit the conference webpage www.midatlanticdental.org. Should you have any questions regarding the Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting or would simply like additional information, please don't hesitate to contact your DC Dental Society business office at (202) 367-1163 or via email at info@dcdental.org.



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Oral Cancer 5K Walk/Run for Awareness

The DC Dental Society Foundation was proud to sponsor the April 18th Oral Cancer Foundation's 5k Walk/Run held in memory of Peter McGee Hoffman. The event brought together many people from across the region to celebrate Peter's life and raise awareness for Oral Cancer. Attendees were not only able to participate in the 5K walk/run, but they also had the opportunity to receive a free oral cancer screening. To learn more about the work of the Oral Cancer Foundation, please visit www.oralcancerfoundation.org.





DCDS Participates in First ADA/ASDA Signing Day



DCDS hosted its inaugural ADA/ASDA National Signing Day Program at Howard University College of Dentistry last month. Signing Day is an exclusive event for graduating dental students that provides them with information on the value of membership in the American Dental Association and its local ADA constituent societies. Speakers included DCDS President-elect Dr. Julian Moiseiwitsch and Board member and Membership Committee Chair Dr. Chris Loukaitis.

DCDS Receives Two Membership Awards from ADA



The DC Dental Society was the recipient of two awards at the annual ADA Membership Recruitment and Retention Conference held last month in Chicago, IL. The awards were in recognition of state/component societies who have seen increases in key membership categories and who consistently strive to promote diversity within their membership.

DCDS was recognized in the following two categories:

- Greatest Percentage of Women Dentists to Membership
- Greatest Percentage of Diverse Members to Membership

Dr. Christos Loukaitis, DCDS Membership Committee Chairman, receives the awards bestowed upon DCDS from ADA President Dr. Maxine Feinberg



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Members in the News



Dr. Heyder and the ARTS team in Senegal



Dr. Guttenberg accepting the Samuel Capen Award

On April 5, 2015, DCDS member Dr. Gunther Heyder celebrated the successful completion of A Reason to Smile's inaugural trip. The organization, founded by Dr. Heyder in 2014, aims to alleviate the suffering caused by dental disease in regions of Africa with little or no access to dental care. The ARTS team, which included Dr. Heyder and five enthusiastic volunteers, traveled to six villages in northern Senegal, treating almost 700 patients by removing infected and broken teeth. Demonstrations in proper oral hygiene were held for all who visited the clinics as well as for a classroom of eager children in one of the villages. It was a life-changing experience, not only for the Senegalese people, most of whom had never seen a dentist, but also for the volunteers. Please visit www.africanreasontosmile.com to read more about the organization and to see pictures from the Senegal trip.

Dr. Steven Guttenberg accepted the University of Buffalo Alumni Association's highest honor, the Samuel P. Capen Award, during the association's annual awards ceremony on March 27.

A board-certified oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Washington, D.C., Dr. Guttenberg is president of the Washington Institute for Mouth, Face and Jaw Surgery.

The speaker at the school's 2014 commencement, Dr. Guttenberg is a past recipient of the District of Columbia Dental Society's prestigious Sterling V. Mead Award. He is a senior attending surgeon and teaching staff member at the Washington Hospital Center. He also is a diplomate of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists and immediate past president of the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Study: Periodontal Disease Could Lead to Erectile Dysfunction

Men's Health (4/21, Austin) reports that preliminary research conducted in Taiwan found that "men with erectile dysfunction (ED) were 79 percent more likely to have been diagnosed with chronic periodontal disease (CPD)" than males without ED. Men's Health urology advisor Larry Lipshultz, MD, explained that CPD leads to chronic inflammation that can damage the lining of blood vessels and "result in impaired blood flow." Sally J. Cram, DDS, a consumer advisor for the American Dental Association, said, "Most people who have [periodontal] disease don't feel pain until it is in the advanced stages, so be sure to see your dentist if you experience red swollen gums, bleeding gums when brushing, bad breath, loose teeth, and receding gums." If the disease is caught before it becomes advanced, treatment "can be as simple as a few deep cleanings from your dentist. If it's discovered later on, you might require gum surgery to reduce the pockets and restore some of the bone loss," according to Cram.

<u>Supreme Court Rules Health Care Providers Lack Standing</u> <u>to Challenge Medicaid Rates</u>

The Association is "disappointed" in the U.S. Supreme Court's March 31 ruling that health care providers do not have standing to bring a lawsuit challenging inadequate Medicaid reimbursement rates based on a state's failure to meet Medicaid's equal access requirement, the ADA said in a statement.

"This ruling creates yet another hurdle for advocates of Medicaid reform," said ADA President Dr. Maxine Feinberg. "Dentists and physicians continue to vigorously advocate for improvements to state Medicaid programs. Oral health is vital to overall health, especially for chronic diseases such as diabetes, and yet most states allocate just two percent or less of their Medicaid budgets for dental services. The Supreme Court decision results in one less recourse for health care providers seeking to hold states accountable to federal mandates.

The ADA Division of Legal Affairs provided the following analysis of the ruling in the Armstrong v. Exceptional Child Care Center case that health care providers do not have standing to compel a state to raise Medicaid reimbursement rates alleged to be inadequate under the Medicaid Act.

The case arose when an Idaho health care provider sought a federal court injunction to require the state to increase its rates consistent with the stated intent of the Medicaid Act to provide access to quality care and medical services, "at least to the extent that such care and services are available to the general public in the [relevant] geographic area."

The ADA, American Medical Association and other health care associations filed an amicus brief in support of the health care provider, arguing that Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution, the clause making federal law the supreme law of the land, created a private right of action that permitted the plaintiffs to seek the requested relief. The court ruled, however, that the plaintiffs did not have standing to pursue their action and held that the only "corrective" remedy provided under the Act was the power of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to withhold federal Medicaid money from Idaho.

The broad language used by the court on the private remedy issue raises the question as to whether Medicaid patients will still have the right to challenge state underfunding of Medicaid programs, though potential claimants may argue that the court's ruling is not binding precedent as to that particular issue.

A PDF version of the court's opinion is posted under "recent decisions" at scotusblog.com. For more information, see the Jan. 16, 2015, report, ADA supports court brief, profoundly interested, on the ADA News page at ADA.org.

DC Dental Society Awards Dinner June 2nd

The Annual DC Dental Society Awards dinner will be held on June 2nd, 5:00 p.m., at the Westin Georgetown. Please note that the date of this year's Awards Dinner is different than what was included in the monthly meeting mailing labels sent out last summer.



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ADA Applauds USPHS Final Recommendation on Optimal Fluoride Level in Drinking Water

The American Dental Association (ADA) commends the Department of Health and Human Services for announcing the U.S. Public Health Service final recommendation for the optimal level of fluoride in community water systems. The agency's recommended ratio of fluoride to water, newly calibrated at 0.7 parts per million, results from years of scientifically rigorous analysis of the amount of fluoride people receive from all sources. The new recommendation will help ensure an effective level of fluoride to reduce the incidence of tooth decay, while minimizing the risk of cosmetic fluorosis in the general population.

"Water fluoridation is effective and safe," said ADA President Dr. Maxine Feinberg. "It has now been 70 years since Grand Rapids, Michigan became the first US city to begin adding fluoride to its water system. Since then, decades of studies and the experience of tens of millions of people have affirmed that water fluoridation helps prevent cavities in both children and adults. Today's announcement is based on solid science."

The Association strongly urges communities that already are doing so to continue fluoridating water at the levels the government recommends. People who live in the dwindling number of non-fluoridated communities should help educate their state and local officials about the need to fluoridate. They also should talk to their dentists about other ways to ensure that they are receiving the right amount of fluoride, through such means as supplements or topical applications. *Continued on page 13*

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ADA Applauds USPHS Final Recommendation on Optimal Fluoride Level in Drinking Water

"Dentistry is proud of its record in preventing disease," said Dr. Feinberg. "The <u>ADA and other science-based</u> <u>health organizations</u> in the U.S. and around the world understand that community water <u>fluoridation</u> is one of the most effective and least costly ways to do so."

"The recommended level is now officially set at 0.7 parts per million, but the health benefits have not changed, and neither has the ADA's commitment to bringing optimally fluoridated water to the greatest possible number of people."

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