





# NEWSLETTER

June 2018, Vol. 64, No. 6



Dr. Carol Blake

# A Letter from the DC Dental Society President Carol Blake, DDS

Dear Colleagues,

As I write this letter to you, it is hard to believe that a year has passed since I assumed this office. Much has happened in our Society since last June so I would like to use this letter to reflect on my year as your president, as well as to look forward to the future.

As President, my driving focus has been on leading initiatives that will further the strategic priorities laid out by the leadership in 2016. First, to focus on increasing membership value by providing programs, services, and opportunities that will enable them to succeed and excel throughout their careers. Secondly, to adopt technology solutions that improve member communications, networking and education, and to provide resources that enable members to utilize the latest technologies in dentistry and practice management. Finally, to achieve financial stability by defining the term for our Society, scrutinizing products, services and expenses, and developing and investing in new ideas to increase revenue.

Central to all of our strategic objectives is a focus on attracting new members to the Society and identifying new programs and services that will be valued by them. Though the number of practicing dentists in the District has been increasing over the last few years, DCDS membership has, at best, remained flat. This is not a trend unique to our Society, but it is one that we are committed to addressing and changing.

One step that we took towards this end was conducting one-on-one interviews last fall with new DCDS members as well as non-member dentists to find out more about their interests and expectations from the Society. These interviews have been a very important factor in the updates being made to our 2018-2019 CE Program. We have also been much more diligent in making non-members aware of DCDS events, including the networking happy hours, and hope to make them a regular occurrence moving forward. (Continued on Page 2)

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I am also proud of the work that was accomplished to ensure the long-term financial health and viability of our Society. Last summer the board evaluated the Society's management model and partnership with SmithBucklin and reaffirmed the model was still the most optimal for the organization and worked with SmithBucklin to recalibrate our scope of services and lower fees for 2018. The board also approved a "breakeven" budget for 2018, as well as a new investment reserve policy which ensures the continued long-term growth of the reserves while at the same time providing annual income to support Society offerings. In addition, the policy sets a floor value for which the total reserves cannot fall below.

The 2017-2018 Monthly Meeting series was successful by several measures. Those of you who attended our meetings may have noticed that it was a bit harder to find a seat than in past years. No, we did not decrease the number of chairs. In fact, we actually had to increase them to account for the higher levels of attendance! In addition, we have been able to translate this increase in popularity into a boost to the Society's revenue in the form of sponsors and a higher number of non-member attendees. Finally, the Society was able to obtain a renewal of its ADA CERP certification for a full three years, which is the second-longest term that the ADA will grant. I would like to thank the Education Committee past-chair Dr. Adam Eskow as well as the rest of the committee for putting together such an engaging and fruitful CE program.

As much as I would like to use this space speaking only of our accomplishments, I would be remiss if I did not mention two disappointments that arose during my term as President. First, despite our best efforts, the new members that we attracted in the past year were not enough to offset the number of members who retired and left the Society. In fact, our year-over-year membership numbers in 2017 were slightly lower than 2016. However, I believe that the steps that we have taken in the past year will pay dividends in years to come in the form of higher membership numbers. These steps have included an emphasis on promoting DCDS events to member and non-member dentists, increased outreach to students at the Howard University College of Dentistry, and lowering the barriers to entry for new members by modifying our bylaws. We have already received a promising number of applications so far in 2018, and are working hard to ensure that this trend continues moving forward.

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For over 75 years, dentists in the Mid-Atlantic have trusted R.K Tongue Co. to safeguard their financial wellbeing and professional reputations. The D.C. Dental Society officially endorsed us in 1998 and every year since then to provide a comprehensive suite of insurance and financial services to its esteemed membership. We remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting your assets and your reputation.

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Another major disappointment for me was the absence of an annual meeting in 2018. After the Board decided not to proceed with a 2018 Mid-Atlantic Dental Meeting, I convened a small workgroup to explore the possibility of a one-day meeting in spring 2018. Though the group had some very exciting ideas, we decided that ultimately the meeting did not make sense for our Society this year.

I'm happy to announce that the DCDS will be holding a one-day annual meeting on Friday, March 29, 2019. This meeting will be focused on providing the opportunity for dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants to obtain all of the required CE courses for licensure in one day. We believe that this program will be a great benefit to our members.

I believe that the future of the DC Dental Society is very bright! It has been a great honor and pleasure to serve as your President, and I have enormous confidence in the abilities of incoming President Dr. Chris Loukaitis and our new leadership team to continue our good work in the next year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carol Blake, DDS

Carol a. 48h

### **Welcome New Members**



**Dr. Ali Nosrat** — Dr. Nosrat received both his DDS degree and his Masters degree in Endodontics from Tehran University of Medical Sciences in Iran. He practiced as an endodontist in Tehran for four years before coming to the United States and completing his second endodontic residency and Masters Degree in Oral Biology from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. Dr. Nosrat is a part-time Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and a part-time Lecturer in Endodontics at the Howard University College of Dentistry. He practices at Centreville Endodontics in Centreville, VA. Dr. Nosrat is joining as a metropolitan member.



**Dr. Prashant Verma** — Dr. Verma earned his DDS degree from Loma Linda University Dental School in California. After graduation, he practiced as a general dentist in San Francisco for two years before pursuing specialty training in Endodontics as well as a Masters Degree in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in Baltimore. Dr. Verma is a part-time Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, a staff member at University of Maryland Medical Center, and a part-time lecturer in Endodontics at the Howard University College of Dentistry. He practices at Centreville Endodontics in Centreville, VA. Dr. Verma is joining as a metropolitan member.

## **June Awards Dinner**

Last night, the DCDS held its annual Awards Dinner, honoring the recipients of this year's DCDS and DCDS Foundation Awards. Congratulations to all of the 2018 award recipients!



DCDS members enjoying a cocktail reception in the courtyard of the Westin Georgetown



Pictured left to right: Dr. Allen Robinson, Dr. Gary Kaihara, and Dr. Gael Delany



#### Sterling V. Mead Award: Dr. Eugene Giannini

Dr. Giannini has been a DCDS member for nearly 30 years with a long list of contributions to the Society and community. He has held several leadership positions, including President in 2006-2007, served on the DCDS Foundation Board, and successfully led numerous advocacy initiatives on behalf of the Society over the past decade to oppose legislation/regulations that would have negatively impacted the practice of dentistry in the District. Dr. Giannini is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Dentistry. He practices at Giannini and Gray Dental Partners in Northwest D.C. and resides with his family in D.C.'s Spring Valley neighborhood.



#### Committee Member of the Year Award: Dr. Ioana Bettios

As chair of the Membership Committee, Dr. Bettios has led several initiatives this past year aimed at reengaging current members and attracting new members to the Society. As a result of these activities, the Society has added nearly 50 new members to its rosters. Dr. Bettios is a professor and the current Chair of the Department of Prosthodontics at the Howard University College of Dentistry.



#### DCDS Foundation Community Spirit Award: Dr. Takeisha Presson

Dr. Presson is being recognized for her commitment to supporting the underserved in the District. She regularly holds service days at her Northeast clinic where she provides free dental services as well as warm meals and snack bags containing oral hygiene/education kits. She also is very active in her old neighborhood – Langston Terrace Public Housing Development – where she annually leads the Thanksgiving Food Basket giveaway that provides 150 needy families with Thanksgiving dinner, as well as coordinates the neighborhood's annual block party/health fair where she provides dental hygiene kits, dental/oral cancer screenings, and pro bono denture repair/

inspections to seniors. Dr. Presson received her undergraduate degree from Ohio Wesleyan University, and returned to Washington DC to begin her career in the world of dentistry as an office manager at the same Northeast office where she had become interested in dentistry as a child. Dr. Presson attended dental school at the Howard University School of Dentistry, and went on to complete a residency at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, where she provided care to the inpatient and outpatient population of the DC Department of Mental Health. Today, Dr. Presson practices at Dimples Dental Suite in Northeast Washington, DC.

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#### DCDS Foundation Humanitarian Award: Dr. Pirooz Zia

Dr. Zia is being recognized for his extensive work in support of refugees displaced by the Syrian Civil War. Dr. Zia and his wife sponsored a concert in October 2016 through UNICEF for the benefit of children displaced by the conflict that raised over \$25,000. In September 2017, Dr. Zia traveled with a team of dentists to Syrian refugee camps in Jordan, where he treated patients, trained local dentists, and left behind dental equipment that he himself had purchased. Dr. Zia practices at Chevy Chase Endodontics, and lives with his wife and two sons in Washington, DC.

A native of Iran, Dr. Zia received his dental degree from the University of London in 1991. After serving as a house surgeon at Guy's Hospital in London, Dr. Zia attended the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry at Boston University, where he received a master's degree in endodontics and a certificate of advanced graduate studies, also in endodontics

# **Board Elections Results**

Last night at the annual DCDS Awards Dinner, the membership held elections to fill three at-large positions on the DCDS Board of Directors. The three new Board members are:

- Dr. Kim Menhinick
- Dr. Maya Oliver
- Dr. Eugenia Prokopets

Thank you to Dr. Chad Jones, Dr. Aliya Kassam, and Dr. Armando Retana who also submitted themselves as candidates for these positions, and best of luck to our new Board Members!

# 2017 Annual Report

The DCDS Annual Report is now available on the DCDS website! This report, covers financial activity for the 2017 fiscal year (September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017). It also provides a summary of the Society's long term goals and objectives. To view the report, please click here.

# **2018 Educational Needs Assessment Survey Results**

As an ADA CERP Continuing Education Recognized Provider, the DC Dental Society is required to conduct a member educational needs assessment survey every year. The Education Committee uses the survey results and the monthly meeting evaluations to develop future education offerings.

This year, there was greater participation from younger dentists compared to last year (28% of survey respondents vs. 9% last year). Having a variety of dentists participate in the survey is very helpful, as needs change over the course of a dental career. The survey found:

- The topics of highest interest for dentists are: digital technology, failure case studies, implants, and current materials.
- The topics of least interest are: oral surgery coding, buying your first practice, and pediatric dentistry.
- Younger and mid-career dentists have a high interest in webinars.
- Younger and mid-career dentists attend the DCDS monthly meetings for the networking; senior dentists attend for the CE.
- The top reasons to get CE are to learn new techniques, enhance the practice for patients, licensure, and for younger dentists, networking.
- 58% of respondents attended over 25 hours of in-person CE within the past year.

Do you have ideas for topics? Contact Education Committee members, or suggest them on the monthly meeting evaluations, and we'll include your suggestion in the next survey!



Early Bird Pricing: \$395





To register, please visit:

http://straumanneducation.com/symposium/US.php



# **Announcing the 2018-2019 CE Program**

By Eugenia Prokopets, DDS, Education Committee Chair

The Education Committee has been hard at work developing the 2018-2019 CE program for next year. In order to do this, we take seriously the findings of the annual Educational Needs Assessment Survey and the topics that members suggest on the monthly meeting evaluations. We also take into consideration the DC Board of Dentistry licensing requirements.

Our promise to DCDS members is that if you come to most of the continuing education offered by the Society during a two-year licensing period, **you will have most of your licensing requirements met**. In addition, we strive to bring you exciting speakers with international and national reputations, who are on the cutting edge of the latest technologies and best practices in dentistry.

The continuing education program runs from September 2018 – May 2019. This year, we're implementing the following changes based on feedback from you.

- Moving the dinner hour up by an hour— no more distracting hunger pangs!
- Get more CE for your buck monthly meeting presentation will now offer 2.5 CE instead of 2.0 CE.
- Webinar options piloting lunchtime webinars on practice management topics during Spring 2019. Learn more about the business of dentistry right from your office!

Members have told us that the clinical topics they want the most are about digital technology, current materials, and implants. We will have all of those topics and more covered this next year and are currently in the process of finalizing the last speakers. Please save the dates on your calendar, and join us for another exciting year of DCDS continuing education.

#### 2018-2019 CE Program Dates and Confirmed Speakers

Date	Topic	Format	Speaker	
Sept 11, 2018	Current Materials Update	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	Speaker TBA	
October 9, 2018	Improving Case Ac- ceptance: Moving Beyond Insurance Entitlement	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	Mark Murphy, DDS	
November 13, 2018	Clinical Topic TBD	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	Speaker TBA	
December 11, 2018	Oral Cancer Lesions	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	Kitrina Cordell, DDS	
January 8, 2019	Implant and Implant Restoration for the GD	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	George Priest, DMD	
February 12, 2019	Dental Practice Agree- ments	Webinar (1 CE)	Vebinar (1 CE)  John Murphy, Esq.	
March 12, 2019	Regeneration Options in Perio: When Do You Refer?	In-Person Meeting (2.5 CE)	Speaker TBA	
May 14, 2019	Transitions	Webinar (1 CE)	Speaker TBA	

# Save-the-Date: DCDS Spring Meeting is March 29, 2019

What will you be doing on Friday, March 29, 2019? We hope you will be joining your DCDS colleagues at Georgetown University Conference Center for the DCDS Spring Meeting! At this meeting, dentists can attend the four required continuing education courses for their DC license renewal in one day!

The DC Board of Dentistry has recently changed the required courses for license renewal for the current licensing period (January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019). This change impacts dentists, hygienists and dental assistants. At the Spring Meeting, the Society will provide in one day the four newly required courses for license renewal for you and your entire dental team. A summary of the new requirements is below.

#### 2018-2019 DC Licensing Renewal Requirements

Course	Dentists	Hygienists	Assistants
Infection Control (2 hrs.)	Required	Required	Required
LGBTQ Cultural Competency (2 hrs.)	Required	Required	Required
Ethics	2 hours	1 hour	Not Required
Abuse and Misuse of Prescription Drugs/	2 hours	Not Required	Not Required
Opioids			

So please mark your calendars for Friday, March 29, 2019. More information regarding the spring meeting will be available in the coming months with registration opening in January 2019.

# **DCDS Summer Happy Hour**

On Tuesday, July 10, the DC Dental Society will be hosting a networking happy hour at Mission Dupont from 5 PM until 7 PM. This event is intended to bring together DCDS members, interested non-members, and dental students for an opportunity to socialize and network. If you are a student looking to make connections in the dental community, a new member trying to meet more of your fellow DCDS members, or just someone who wants to share a drink with colleagues, this event is for you!

What: DCDS Networking Happy Hour

When: Tuesday, July 10, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Where Mission Dupont 1606 20th St. NW

Washington, DC, 20009

If you are interested in this event or future happy hours, please click here.



### **CMS Releases New Medicare Cards**

The ADA News (5/10) reported that over the next year, Medicare patients will receive cards with new numbers known as Medicare beneficiary identifiers, replacing the cards based on Social Security numbers. All cards using Social Security numbers will be replaced by April 2019.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recommends using the transition period to make sure your system can accept Medicare beneficiary identifiers and to make sure you use the MBI to bill as soon as you get a patient's new number.

For more information, visit cms.gov and click the "Medicare" tab at the top of the screen.

# **ADA Member Benefit: Chase Bank Processing**

Whether you accept payments at the front desk, on the phone, or online, Chase has the right solutions for your practice.

Special Offer: Sign up for payment processing and receive a complimentary Chip Card Terminal (a \$220 value)!



- Enjoy specially negotiated pricing for DCDS members
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On average, DCDS members can save over \$1,200 a year on processing costs when they switch to Chase. To get started with Chase, call 800.618.1666 or CLICK HERE for more information.



# **Dental Assistant Supervised Practice**

Did you know that your dental assistants can begin working in your practice before they are officially registered? Last fall, the DC Board of Dentistry updated its guidelines to allow Level I and Level II Dental Assistants to work under the supervision of a DC licensed dentists for a period of 90 days while awaiting their registration. This will only be granted to assistants who meet the following criteria:

- The applicant must submit an application for a dental assistant registration to the Board.
- The supervised practice form must be approved by the Board before the applicant can begin supervised practice.
- The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the applicant has a current application pending before the Board.
- The applicant must complete the criminal background check procedures.
- The applicant must complete a 90 day supervised practice form including all necessary signatures.
- The supervised practice form must be returned to DOH in a sealed envelope and hand delivered to the Health Licensing Specialist.
- The supervisor is fully responsible for the supervised practice by the applicant.
- The supervisor may be subject to disciplinary action for any violation committed by the applicant.
- The supervised practice is limited to a period of 90 days from the date of approval by the Board and cannot be extended.
- The supervised practice is limited to the specific dentist and office address noted on the supervised practice form.

These conditions can all be found on page 8 of the fall 2017 DC Board of Dentistry Newsletter.

# **Before You Sign that Employment Agreement— Read This**



Finding a new job, especially a first job, can be a very exciting time. However, this excitement can sometimes lead people to accept a job without properly vetting the opportunity. Jeffrey Frum, senior associate general counsel for the ADA, recently spoke to dental students at the University of Illinois at Chicago about the key legal provisions in dental employments. The full video, along with the accompanying Guide handed out to attendees, are available to all ADA members <a href="here.">here</a>.

# **Dental Practice Success**

The Spring issue of the American Dental Association's Dental Practice Success is now available! In this issue you will find:

- The effect of student debt on practice ownership
- Three important tasks to tackle when opening a practice
- Instagram tips for your practice
- "Spring cleaning" tips to prepare for retirement.

These items and much more can be found in the full issue here.

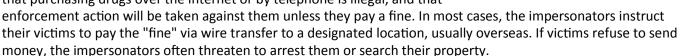
# NIH Launches "All of Us" Research Program

The Washington Post (5/1, Bernstein) reports that last month, the National Institutes of Health launched a new research program designed to develop personalized methods of prevention, treatment and care. This effort, announced by then-President Barack Obama in 2015, is aiming to enroll and collect the genetic data of 1 million people into the program. The program will also seek to bring in more underrepresented groups to clinical research, whose subjects have long been mostly white and male. To read the full article about this new effort, click here.

# **DEA Warns Public of Extortion Scam**

The Drug Enforcement Administration is warning the public about criminals posing as DEA Special Agents or other law enforcement personnel as part of an international extortion scheme. At least one DCDS member has already been targeted by this scheme, and we believe that others may be targeted in the future.

The criminals call the victims (who in most cases previously purchased drugs over the Internet or by telephone) and identify themselves as DEA agents or law enforcement officials from other agencies. The impersonators inform their victims that purchasing drugs over the internet or by telephone is illegal, and that



The public should be aware that no DEA agent will ever contact members of the public by telephone to demand money or any other form of payment. If you have been contacted by someone in a manner similar to the scenario described above, please fill out <a href="mailto:this form">this form</a>.



# **Membership Spotlight**

The DCDS Membership Committee is on a mission: help all members get to know each other better!

Any member can participate in the Member Spotlight by answering a <u>few brief questions</u> on-line. This month, we are highlighting Dr. Noura Moussa.



Name: Noura Moussa

**Dental School**: Howard University

Years in Practice: 6

Generalist or Specialist? Specialist, Prosthodontics

**DCDS Member Since**: 2013

Why I became a dentist: I love art and science

What DCDS means to me: Networking, learning, and experience

**Favorite Vacation Spot:** Egypt **Hobbies:** Arts and crafts, drawing

One thing people would be surprised to know about me: I am the mother of twins and a 10 year old.

# **Delany Received Caritas Lifetime Award**



Congratulations to DCDS member Dr. Gael M. Delany for receiving the Caritas Lifetime Achievement Award from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. in April.

Since 1987 Dr. Delany has provided pro bono dental services in his private practice as a member of the Archdiocesan HealthCare Network. Dr. Delany volunteers at both the Spanish Catholic Center in D.C. and the Dental Clinic at the Cardinal McCarrick Center in Wheaton, Maryland. He also served as Chair of the Spanish Catholic Center's 2010 Gala.

As a Knight of Malta, Dr. Delany has been involved in the SHARE Food Network since 1995. This organization, jointly supported by the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and Catholic Charities, distributes food to church groups and Catholic parishes for those in need of affordable and nutritious meals. As former Chairman of the SHARE Board, he chaired a Task Force that reorganized the program in 2011.



# Remembering Dr. Raymond Kielich

DCDS was recently informed of the passing of retired Life Member, Dr. Raymond Kielich in February. Born in Buffalo, NY, Dr. Kielich enrolled in dental school so that he could serve in the US Navy as a dentist during World War II. Following his service, Dr. Kielich opened a pediatric dentistry practice while serving as Director of Dental Surgery for Buffalo Children's Hospital. He then moved to Washington, DC where he became a member of the DCDS and served as Director of Dental Training at Children's Hospital National Medical Center. Always an inventor and advocate of innovative technology, Dr.

Kielich used parts from his wife's steam iron to invent one of the earliest water spray dental drills, which is now in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution. His full obituary may be found <a href="here">here</a>. The DCDS mourns the passing of Dr. Kielich. and sends condolences to his friends and family.



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# Summer Vacation Tips from AHI Travel— A Member Benefit

AHI Travel strives to create small-group programs that enrich lives and provide transformative experiences by connecting you with the people, places and cultures of the world. Their innovative land and cruise programs focus on a strong educational component across dozens of countries on five continents and their carefully planned itineraries cater to a variety of preferences and needs. Plus, group travel is an excellent way to explore the world with like-minded travelers and experience the ease and security of traveling with an expert.

Prepare for your adventure by following a few safety and packing suggestions:

- Before leaving, send electronic copies of your passport, health insurance card, tickets, immunization record, travel insurance and visas to your email account.
- Schedule a physical to guarantee you are healthy enough to travel abroad and learn about any health concerns of your destination.
- 3. Place over-the-counter medications in your carry-on bag and pack an assortment of layers to accommodate for fluctuating temperatures.
- 4. Overseas, carry a business card from your hotel so the information is on hand and keep your electronics and valuables to a minimum while sightseeing.

A few simple steps can help ensure you have a safe and comfortable travel experience. DCDS members receive an early booking discount of \$250 per person when booking a trip through AHI. Visit <a href="mailto:ada.ahitravel.com">ada.ahitravel.com</a> or call 844.205.1171.

# **Classifieds**

#### **Dental Transition Consultant**

DENTIST. Consulting firm seeking Practice Transition Consultant nationwide. Immediate need in D.C., MD, VA. Full Training and support. Unlimited earning potential. careers@paragon.us.com 866-898-1867.

Contact Berdj Feredijan at 973-476-8660 or <a href="mailto:berdj@paragon.us.com">berdj@paragon.us.com</a>.

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#### General Dental Practice for Sale in Washington, DC

Established 27 years ago; two operatories; located at street level in busy commercial area. Two blocks from Columbia Heights Metro Station. Paperless, Digital Radiography, EagleSoft System. Perfect for community oriented General Dentist. \$275k sale price.

Contact Dr. Oswald Cameron at 202-462-1925 or ocamerondds@aol.com.

#### **Maine Opportunity**

Opportunity to transition into a 50% equity partnership in a large, highly profitable general practice 50 minutes from Portland, Maine. The practice is dedicated to outstanding customer service and dental excellence.

Contact Marci Jouver at 207-784-1577 or mjouver@taylorbrookdental.com.

#### Temporary Dentist Needed 4 days/week October 22-November 30

Dentist Needed 4 days/week (Monday-Thursday) to fill in on Maternity Leave from October 22-November 30. Please send your resume and contact information.

Contact Dr. Kari Barnes at 909-496-3151 or kariogenic@gmail.com

### **Advertise with DCDS**

Classified ads in the DCDS Newsletter are easy. Simply submit your ad through the online form. We will then send you an invoice. Payment must be received prior to the publication date.

#### **Deadlines:**

The Newsletter is usually distributed on the first Wednesday of every month. Ads are due to the Society two weeks prior to the publication date.