

For Your Information . . .

Do you volunteer your time? We are occasionally criticized as a profession for not contributing to the less fortunate in our community. In fact, many of us donate our time and professional skills to help others, and your association would like specific examples of our members' contributions. Please contact Avie Goldstein by mail, email, or phone to give him a list of your contributions (examples: Yale New Haven Hospital, Hill Health, Columbus House, etc).

The NHDA is compiling the email addresses of its members to enhance communication: Please send your email address to Bruce Cha at cha@rootcanaldrs.com.

List your practice website address on the NHDA website: Forward your web domain address to cha@rootcanaldrs.com.

Is your dental assistant an Eli Whitney graduate?

The Eli Whitney Dental Assisting Program is marking their 40th anniversary. A celebration dinner will be held at Anthony's in New Haven on Thursday, March 21, 2002. If you are a graduate of the program, please call the school for more information at (203) 397-4031, ext. 344 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM.

Please send your comments or items of interest to:

Avie Goldstein – NHDA Secretary

Address: 419 Whalley Ave., New Haven, CT 06511

Phone: (203) 777-5385 – Fax: (203) 776-7233 – email: Goldstein@periodonticspc.com



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

New Haven Dental Association
Dr. Avrum R. Goldstein, Secretary
419 Whalley Avenue
New Haven, CT 06511

New Haven Dental Association NEWSBRIEF

A Bulletin For New Haven Dental Association Members

October 2001

Officers 2001 - 2002

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Dr. Dean G. Cloutier
Vice-President

Dr. Avrum R. Goldstein
Secretary

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NHDA WEBSITE
www.newhavendental.org

NOVEMBER MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2001

Digital Photography In Your Practice

with Dr. Martin Goldstein

Dr. Goldstein will present an overview of how and why he uses digital photography in his practice to not only enhance but also increase his cosmetic output. His discussion will include both hardware and software recommendations with an emphasis on low cost entry into this exciting field. Don't miss out on this opportunity to hear one of Connecticut's own.

New Haven Country Club

6:00 PM *Cocktails*

6:45 PM *Dinner*

7:30 PM *Program*

RSVP to Jerry Alexander — 782-0677

by Tuesday October 30, 2001.

You may mail your reservation and payment to his office at
129 York Street, New Haven, CT 06511

A **Buffet Dinner** will be served.

Cost will be **\$34** with a reservation and **\$38** without a reservation.
Members are welcome to attend the program portion at no charge.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DENTISTS SUE BLUE CROSS

Need I say more?

What a historic time for our association. Finally we have taken action to protect the rights of our patients and to help secure our ability to provide what dentists believe to be the best alternatives for treatment emphasizing ideal choice.

At the House of Delegates meeting in October, it was stated that the Connecticut State Dental Association has been saving funds for just such a lawsuit. The firm representing our interests, Killian, Donohue & Jaff, is treating our association fairly and honorably. Total fees to take this case to finality could range between \$100,000 and \$200,000. The firm agreed to accept \$50,000 per year until our financial obligation has been fulfilled. There is some hope that the American Dental Association may help us financially.

The attorneys stated that because we are not looking for money damages in this suit, judgement could be expected within a two year period.

I hope you all have read the "Summary of Allegations" enclosed in the letter from the CSDA. Note that this is a landmark case which is the first of its kind in the nation. I believe we have a unique opportunity to improve our public image as advocates for our patient's well being. I am proud of our members and hope that these actions will convince non-member dentists to see how as a unified body, we can be strong and committed.

I've had great feedback regarding Legislator Night. Attendance by our political representatives was the best in years. Our questions were thought provoking, stimulating, intelligent and broad in spectrum. I would especially like to thank Dr. Doug Rollins for his hard work in having the representatives in attendance. We gave them a great impression of our association and I thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Ron D'Andrea

Why Belong? Why Now?

by Avrum R. Goldstein D.M.D.

We live in difficult times.

A few months ago, most of us were focused on our immediate world, rather than the world at large. Our difficult times related more to the scarcity of dental auxiliaries and unreasonable or uncooperative insurance companies, rather than a direct threat to our families or friends. Our plans for future professional success were solely a product of our personal drive and fluctuations in the economy. Our strength came from confidence in our abilities and a commitment to our patients. For most, organized dentistry was an abstract convenience; the reasons for belonging, let alone actively participating, were often somewhat obscure.

We now live in a different world, filled with uncertainties and dangers which were beyond our imagination only a short time ago. The attacks on our way of life have created new fears and have challenged us as a society. As a result, we have become united as a people and have sought comfort and support from each other. Attendance in houses of worship has never been higher and we are spending more time with groups of friends or family members for strength and support.

I would like to suggest that there has never been a better time to become an active participant in your dental association. I have always enjoyed our dental society meetings, and have regularly attended them for 25 years. Beyond the pleasant social interaction, I enjoy being with fellow dentists who understand the frustrations and challenges I feel, and who can empathize with my concerns. From their understanding, I've gained comfort. From their friendship, I've gained strength.

While our world is uncertain, I feel it is important for us to stay focused on our patients, to strive for excellence at every opportunity, and to work hard each day to improve the dental health in our society. Actively participating in your dental association will help maintain this focus in a caring and supportive environment, and will bring you comfort and strength as a bonus. Come to meetings....you will feel better. You may even feel great.



***CSDA Brings Suit Against Anthem Blue Cross –
This action affects you!***

Attend your membership meetings to get the latest information.
