

New Haven Dental Association NEWSBRIEF

A BULLETIN FOR NEW HAVEN DENTAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

OCTOBER 2009

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Dr. Yiming King
Vice President

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NHDA Website
www.newhavendental.org

Legislative Night Thursday October 8, 2009

Please join us for the inaugural meeting of the 2009-10 season. The political aspect of Dentistry continues to increase in importance. Your attendance is vital as your local legislators and our organization come together for an informal evening of discussion to be held at the New Haven Country Club.

NHDA Schedule for 2009-2010

- October 8** Legislative Night
- November 5** Dr. Jon Meiers, UCONN will discuss composites, DVD CE will be offered
- December 3** Holiday Party at L'Orcio
- February 4** Dr. Monty MacNeil, Dean of UCONN will discuss trends in dental education, DVD CE will be offered
- March 4** Mr. Ted Lovejoy, Estate Planning, DVD CE will be offered
- April 8** Mr. Larry Peck, Developing and Maintaining a Positive Attitude
- May 13** Annual Meeting and Banquet

Cost: \$38 payable to the New Haven Dental Association

Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30

Dinner choices: Tenderloin of Beef w/ Bordelaise sauce
Grilled Salmon w/ Buerre Blanc sauce
Roasted Chicken w/ Red Wine Reduction sauce

**Please RSVP to Dr. Tam Le
at (203) 248-4080
or by email at wecare@hamdenfamilydental.com**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues:

Although I know that this was not the most ideal summer ever, I do hope that it was still an enjoyable and healthy one for you and your families and that you were able to break from practice and get some fun in. You may have noticed some changes taking place lately; leaves are changing (and even falling), there's a more crisp feeling in the air and football is back on your TV. As for me, this means that the NHDA is back in session and as always we'll be kicking off another banner year with Legislative night on October 8th. As we all know, this is truly the most important night of our calendar year as the political train of dentistry never stops chugging along. In just the past few years we've seen the amalgam issue come and go, the dental practice act get re-written and legislation regarding expanded function dental assistants and mid-level practitioners get kicked around the capitol. While the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP) died in the political process this year, I can assure you that the access issue is here to stay. And it should be. Let me explain.

Before I do, I must share with you a recent experience or epiphany I've had. Ask yourself, have you ever felt a little stale in practice sometimes? You know the same routine day after day after day. It can leave you feeling a little down sometimes. Well I've come to find that when this starts to happen to me I start looking for what got me into dentistry in the first place.....learning. Dentistry can be a constant journey of learning. So when I start to feel that staleness coming on I take a course, learn some new clinical technique or even buy a new gizmo for the office. Well this job of presidency forced me into an experience lately that was eye opening and most of all filled with learning. I attended a CSDA forum on school-based dental services. I heard from Hazel Harper, a dentist and public health policy advocate in Maryland who helped form the Deamonte Driver project. Deamonte was the 12 year old boy who died of a brain abscess that originated from a tooth infection. It is amazing how her team turned a tragedy into an enormously successful campaign of awareness and action of local dentists and high level government officials. I also heard from Linda Ferraro who conducted a basic screening survey on the caries rate and level of care of Head Start Children, Kindergarten students and Third Grade students. I learned: 1) low income children missed nearly 12 times as many school days due to dental problems compared to high income children. 2) poor dental health leads to learning deficiencies including speech development and poor concentrating abilities, reduced self esteem and systemic illnesses. 3) dental disease is more than 3 times as prevalent as asthma. 4) 60% of children in grade 3 did not have sealants. All of this has lead public health policy leaders in our profession to expand an already existing program - School Based Dental Care. The city of Hartford has had this policy for years and it's simple. If mom and dad can't bring junior to the dentist, bring the dentist to junior. The problem of course is funding, getting legislators on board and all parties agreeing on the most effective model of care. I suppose the reason I tell you this is two-fold: when you get involved in organized dentistry you'll learn something you never thought was happening in your field and it can be very refreshing. So as I've said, get involved. Secondly, school based care could be something you do someday to make a difference. So if you weren't planning on attending the legislative night, take a moment to re-consider and come learn about School Based Care and show your legislators the importance of this initiative.

Lastly, I'd like to let you know that your board has been hard at work this summer preparing for another year of excellence. Yiming King has organized a fantastic line up of speakers and we will, as we have in the past, provide for 3 of the 5 mandatory CE's. The holiday party has been arranged at L'Orcio due to its stellar success last year. We'll be incorporating a new aspect to the newsletter entitled "The President's Interview" to help with improving the lines of communication with the local-state level relationship. And finally, the board of trustee's has approved my request for a presidential limousine. If anyone needs a lift, let me know (just kidding!!).

Regards,

Barry

COMMITTEES

Annual Outing

Joseph Siracuse

Give Kids a Smile (GKAS)

Gary Rappaport

Gerald Alexander

CSDA Board of Governors Rep. (District IV)

Richmond Hung

Delegates to the CSDA HOD (8)

Barry Weiss

John Dean

Jeffrey Berkley

Richmond Hung

Gary Ross

Yiming King

Gerald Alexander

James Quigley

Alternate Delegates

Bruce Cha

John Plachtyna

Phil Harrington

Dental Caring

Henry Cohen

Ethics

John Dean

Mentoring

Gerald Alexander

Nominating

Gerald Alexander

Joseph Tagliarini

Richmond Hung

Peer Review Committee

John Dean – Chairman

Michael Brown

Rodney Steller

Robert Pantera

Phil Harrington

Alan Friedler

Joseph Gargano

Anthony Diogaurdi

Douglas Keck

David Pinkert

Richard Panagrossi

James Quigley

David Fantarella

John Plachtyna

Joseph Forrester

Stephen Malinconico

Program Committee

Richmond Hung

Barry Weiss

John Dean

Public Information Committee

Joseph Tagliarini

Gerald Alexander

Tom Duplinsky

Bruce Cha

Scholarship

Gerald Alexander – Chairperson

David Kusovitsky

Barry Weiss

Joseph Tagliarini

Sick and Visiting

Gary Ross

David Gibson

UNH Liason

Yiming King

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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