

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WORD FROM DR SUMMER LERCH ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

Domestic Violence

1. Affects everyone: victims are 85% women and children, 15% men.
2. Women ages 18-24 are the mostly likely group victimized; the reporting of cases is on the rise for men.
3. \$5.8 Billion is spent annually on treatment, 4.1 Billion on direct medical/dental/mental healthcare.
4. There is a safe house in the greater New Haven area that helps survivors through anonymity, training, support and services.

I have been helping this group of people for a while and know we dentists can make a real difference in the vitality and well being of this population group; we too can help them turn their life around. Birmingham Health Care, who oversees New Haven and Ansonia Center for Domestic Violence Services, would like to set up a partnership with the New Haven Dental Society. Find out more at our upcoming meeting. Hope to see you there. Dr. Summer Lerch

Contributions may be made to the Fund for Dental Caring in c/o:

Dr. Henry Cohen
265 Church Street, Ste. 1003
New Haven, CT 06510
203-777-6461

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

New Haven Dental Association
Diana Hede, DDS
438 Jennifer Road
Fairfield, Ct. 06824

New Haven Dental Association NEWSBRIEF

A BULLETIN FOR NEW HAVEN DENTAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

JANUARY 2012

Officers 2011-2012

Dr. John Dean
President

Dr. Tam Le
Vice President

Dr. Diana Hede
Secretary

Dr. Jeff Berkley
Treasurer

Executive Committee

Dr. Yiming King

Dr. Barry Weiss

Board of Trustees

Dr. David Kusovitsky

Dr. Harold R. Horton

Dr. Morton Weyler

Dr. Sheldon H. Natkin

Dr. Ronald Delfini

NHDA Website
www.newhavendental.org

NEW HAVEN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Cathie Collier & Garrett Ludwig

THURSDAY, February 2, 2012

Eli's On Whitney

**2392 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT**

Cathie Collier from Patterson will discuss
"Getting your office ready for a visit from the DPH".
Garrett Ludwig from Diversified Design
Technologies, Inc. will discuss
the design and construction of healthcare
facilities that reflect
a professional image while stringently managing
the cost of development

PLUS

MANDATORY CE REQUIREMENT:

"Infection Control: That Thing You Do and Why You Do It"

This course is being held in conjunction with The CT State
Dental Association, a recognized ADA CERP Provider.
One hour of CE credit will be awarded.

**Cost: \$40 payable to the
New Haven Dental Association
Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30
Dinner Choices:
Beef, Chicken, Fish
Chef's Choice Vegetarian**

Please RSVP to Dr. Jeff Berkley by calling 203-937-7181
or by email at Jawdoctor@yahoo.com
by noon Thursday, Jan. 26th.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a way to end a year and start a new one..... a healthy baby boy; Alexander Stephen, 7 lbs 15 oz born at 3:15 AM on Christmas Eve morning. A new baby is such a gift, such a blessing..... And so much work. The Federal government has seen fit to grant Alex a Social Security card only 2-weeks after his birth. I guess they have a vested interest in knowing where the future taxpayers are. So why is it, again, that I am still battling some insurance companies for money they have owed me for over 6-months?

As I reflect upon a new year and a new life I cannot help but wonder how he will make his way in the world. Do I want him to follow his mother and me into dentistry? What about his older sister? Today more than half of the students in American dental schools are women. Does the profession offer different incentives based upon gender? Do those of you that have children, or mentor young people, want them to become dentists? Not an easy question with no easy answers.

I am friends with a 3rd generation general dentist from Massachusetts. There was nothing he ever wanted to be but a dentist, like his father and grandfather before him. All 3 were products of the same dental school! But there was certainly some pressure on him as he grew up to perform in school and uphold the family tradition. I am pleased to report that he is happy and satisfied with his career choice. He has found success and fulfillment practicing general dentistry and is very active in organized dentistry.

Then there was my family dentist when I was a teenager.... I can't say he really got me started thinking about dentistry; it was actually a classmate in college. His father was an Oral Surgeon and the two of them got me thinking about career options in healthcare. However, my family dentist was very kind allowing me to spend time observing at his office when I was home for school breaks. Word from my college advisor was that it looked good on applications to have had some "real life" contact with dentistry. What nobody had told me was that my dentist didn't like dentistry very much. He kept telling me how hard it was and asking if I really wanted to do it. He was about 40 years old and seemed to have a busy, successful practice in southeastern Massachusetts. Did he choose the wrong profession? Did the job get stale? I never found out but I went ahead to dental school anyway.

I hope to be able to help my children to become anything they want to be and I wouldn't discourage them from choosing dentistry. I'll tell them it was the right choice for me. Maybe if we all tried to give a little something back to dentistry, somehow make it better than when we started, it would be a profession we would all want our children to enter. And maybe, we would all like it better too. My best wishes to all for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. Remember, our next meeting at Eli's on Whitney on February 2, see you there.

Best Regards,

John

Mark Your Calendars

MARCH SPEAKER

The speaker at the March 1st meeting will be Dr. John Elefteriades presenting "A Discussion on Aortic Aneurysm". Location: Pine Orchard Country Club Branford CT in conjunction with the Shoreline Dental Association.

CONNECTICUT MISSION OF MERCY 2012

MOM will take place at the O'Neill Center Western Connecticut State University in Danbury on March 23-24! Sign up now on CSDA website!

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UP FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING:

In order to guide the board in its decision making on certain topics, we would like feedback from members in attendance. Present economic conditions dictate decisions be made with regard to meeting fees. Failed reservation fees, "here but not eating" fees, and complimentary dinners for interns and some guests.

THE GOLF OUTING LIVES AGAIN!

Dr. Doug Rollins has accepted the job of running it on two conditions:

- 1) It be renamed the "Joe Siracuse Open", and
- 2) He gets as many more years above the dirt as Joe has spent running the outing!

Again, the Board sends its sincerest gratitude to Joe for these many years of service, with equally sincere hopes that Doug doesn't screw it up.

Details to follow in the next newsletter...

ACTIVELY SEEKING NEXT YEARS NEW BOARD MEMBER

Please contact any board member if you are interested. It's not as much work as you think, you will make even better friends of your co-board members and it will look good in your obit someday, hopefully not soon!