



February 2013

National Children's Dental Health Month

Please note that the date for National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) has changed. Due to scheduling conflicts with the Wyoming Valley Mall, the event will be held on Saturday, February 16th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will be examining children, giving away goodie bags, hosting crafts, and taking photos with the Tooth Fairy.

We are in need of volunteers to perform complimentary dental exams that day. If anyone would like to help, please contact Dr. Sam Abod at (570) 287-8700. Also, donations of toys, dental floss, toothbrushes, or toothpaste would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made to the office of Dr. John Evans or to the Brace Place in Forty Fort.

We look forward to seeing you there!



February's Meeting

Join us on Monday, February 18, 2013 at Perugino's as the PDA and the Luzerne County Dental Society present featured speaker Thomas J. Weber, Esq. The topic is "Dental Office Compliance" and will cover a number of regulations including HIPAA, OSHA, DEP and DEA. PDA is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. PDA designates this activity for one (1) continuing education credit.

Thomas J. Weber, Esq., graduated cum laude from Dickinson Law School and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in 1990. Tom is Chair of Goldberg Katzman's Civil Litigation Department and a shareholder in the firm. Attorney Weber devotes a substantial amount of his practice representing the interests of healthcare professionals. He frequently lectures throughout the state on

legal/healthcare issues and has been published extensively on such matters. In addition, Tom serves as General Counsel to the Pennsylvania Dental Association and the Pennsylvania Dental Association Insurance Services, Inc.

As always, the dinner and lecture are complimentary for LCDS members. Please be sure to pre-register by contacting Dr. Ann McDonough at ammdmd@AOL.com.

NCDHM History

The annual observance of children's dental health began as a one-day event in Cleveland, Ohio on February 3, 1941 and a one-week event in Akron, Ohio during February 1941.

The American Dental Association held the first national observance of Children's Dental Health Day on February 8, 1949. The single day observance became a week-long event in 1955. In 1981, the program was extended to a month-long celebration known today as National Children's Dental Health Month.

Today, NCDHM is a nationwide program and its messages reach millions of people in communities across the country and at numerous armed service bases abroad. Local observances often include poster, coloring, and essay contests, health fairs, free dental screenings, museum exhibits, classroom presentations and dental office tours.

The theme for this year's campaign is "Get a Gold Medal Smile," featuring two sets of twins - Flossy and Buck McGrinn and Den and Gen Smiley.

Online Radiology CE

As a member benefit, PDA's Environmental Issues Committee has created an online CE course that can be used for office in-service training or presentations for component societies to ensure that member dentists and their staff are in compliance with Pennsylvania regulation, 25. Pa Code, Section 221.11 (b). The online course is available exclusively to PDA members and their non-dentist staff, and is worth two CE credits. To view the online course and quiz, visit www.padental.org/radiology.

MOM-n-PA

We need your help on May 31-June 1, 2013 at Liacouras Center, Philadelphia. Join your colleagues for the inaugural MOM-n-PA free dental mission in Philadelphia. Our goal is to treat 2,000 patients in just two days. Join us as we show the citizens of Pennsylvania as well as our legislators that dentistry has a heart! Go to www.mom-n-pa.com for more information.

We need your help:

- 200 dentists
- 200 assistants
- 150 hygienists
- 200 lab volunteers

2012 Legislative Victories **HB 1537 & SB 1144**

Prohibiting insurers from capping non-covered dental services

In October, Pennsylvania became the 27th state to pass legislation prohibiting insurers to cap non-covered dental services. This significant victory against the insurance industry illustrates the strength of organized dentistry in the legislative areas and signals an era in which we have taken a step toward leveling the playing field against insurance companies. For three years, our lobbyists, staff and members educated about the unfairness of this insurance practice and lobbied for its prohibition. We overcame strong opposition from the insurance carriers to garner support from key legislators from the House and Senate who championed our cause.

HB 532

Requiring insurers to cover general anesthesia for young children and patients with special needs

Collective efforts paid off. HB 532 unanimously passed the House of Representatives and Senate, then was signed into law by Governor

Corbett on July 5.

For more than a decade and seven legislative sessions, PDA poured a significant part of its advocacy resources into lobbying for legislation which requires all insurers to cover under their medical policies the costs associated with administering general anesthesia to children seven years of age and younger and patients of any age with developmental disabilities. PDA's lobbyists and staff worked with key members of the House Democratic and Republican caucuses to advance this legislation. Members routinely answered calls to action and contacted their legislators to request support for the bill. PDA also worked with organizations that advocate on behalf of Pennsylvanians with special needs.

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President's Letter

Hello LCDS Members,

Thank you to all members who braved the elements and joined us for our recent Monday night meeting; despite the weather, we all enjoyed a nice meal while Dr. Braun inspired discussion about the implications of systemic disease and dental treatment. The dangerous driving conditions influenced the board's decision to implement an "e-mail alert system." In the event of dangerous weather and anticipated poor driving conditions on the day of a general meeting, you will receive an e-mail message canceling said meeting and we will provide the date, time and location of the rescheduled meeting. You will receive this cancellation e-mail no later than 4:00 pm on the

original meeting date. We don't anticipate any future cancellations as we approach spring but we would like to be cautious and have this system in place for all future meeting dates.

Also, I would like to remind everyone that this is license renewal time and all renewals must be submitted by March 30, 2013. In an effort to assure that all members have their required 30 continuing education hours, we will be offering a day of CE events on March 22nd at Benco Dental. You will be receiving a detailed mailer closer to the event date. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to e-mail me at samabodmd@epix.net or call (570) 287-8700. I hope to see all of you



at our next general meeting which will be held on Monday, February 18, 2013 at 6:30 pm at Andy Perugino's restaurant in Luzerne.

Best Wishes,
Samantha Abod, DMD

Upcoming Events

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| NCDHM | Wyoming Valley Mall | Feb 16, 2013 | 10:00 AM |
| Board/General Meeting | Perugino's | Feb 18, 2013 | 6:00 PM |
| CE Course <i>Dr. Robert Obradovich</i> | Inn at Nichols Village | Feb. 27, 2013 | 8:00 AM |
| CE Course | Benco Dental | Mar. 22, 2013 | TBA |
| CE Course <i>Dr. Carl Driscoll</i> | Inn at Nichols Village | Mar. 27, 2013 | 8:00 AM |
| License Renewal Deadline | | Mar. 30, 2013 | |
| Board/General Meeting | Perugino's | April 15, 2013 | 6:00 PM |
| CE Course <i>Dr. Howard Glazer</i> | Inn at Nichols Village | April 17, 2013 | 8:00 AM |
| Knoebel's Day | Knoebel's | Aug. 17, 2013 | TBA |
| Board/General Meeting | Perugino's | Sept. 16, 2013 | 6:00 PM |
| CE Course | TBA | Oct. 18, 2013 | TBA |

www.luzernecountydental.org