



September 2013

September's Meeting – Complimentary Happy Hour “Ergonomics of the practicing Dentist”

Please join us for our first, fall, general meeting of the year on Monday, September 16th at Perugino's Restaurant. The board meeting begins at 6:00 PM, while the general meeting starts at 6:30 PM. Special sponsor of the evening, M & T Bank, will host a complimentary happy hour beginning at 6:30 PM. During that time, a M & T representative will provide a short 10-15 minute presentation that will contain some background on M & T Bank, including lending solutions tailored specifically to dentists. There will

also be a financial consultant there to give a brief overview of college savings plans.

Our main presenter will be Frank Yanik, DC, owner of a chiropractic practice and the Luzerne Wellness Center (in partnership with Changes Health and Fitness Center for Women and All Fitness Customized Training). Dr. Yanik will cover the below points during his informative talk:

- Reverse of the Cervical Lordosis (from excessive flexion)
- TMJ Syndrome Defined
- TMD Treatment

Dr. Yanik is a graduate of Bishop O'Reilly High School and studied at LCCC and The Catholic University of America. He possesses a Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Chiropractic Degree from Sherman College of Chiropractic and interned in the Sherman College Rehab Clinic.

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

Knoebels Day a Big Success!

Our second annual Knoebels Day was another great time. Several dentists and their families enjoyed a beautiful day filled with delicious food, great rides, and excellent company!

Photo to the right: Doctors Ann McDonough, Liz Joseph and families.

Photo to the far right: Dr. and Mrs. Frank Glushefski



Funding Restored for the Donated Dental Services Program in Pennsylvania

One of PDA's legislative priorities is to restore the state's funding in the Donated Dental Services (DDS) program. This program, which is administered by Dental Lifeline Network (DLN), facilitates care for patients who are elderly, disabled or medically compromised and unable to afford the cost of care. A restoration of funding would allow DLN to rehire two regional coordinators who screen patients, recruit volunteer dentists and labs and handle the administrative and logistical tasks for volunteers and patients.

As budget negotiations between the Administration and General Assembly came to a close at the end of June, PDA learned that its lobbying efforts paid off. Both parties agreed to insert language into the budget that requires "sufficient funding" of the DDS program. PDA confirmed with the Administration that it will provide the requested amount of \$150,000 that is needed to operate the program.

Our legislative victory was made possible through the efforts of volunteer members, spouses and dental students who attended Day on the Hill on June 4 and spoke to lawmakers and staff about the need to fund this important program!

Dental Practice Ownership

SBOD formed a committee to review and study issues related to practice ownership, including lay control of a dental practice, responsibility for maintenance of patient records and ownership

of mobile dental facilities. SBOD's concern is whether non-dental professionals are exercising any control over patient treatment decisions because they own a dental practice or mobile facility. SBOD also is questioning whether there are sufficient regulations in place governing the control of patient records when they are treated in multiple locations by a number of providers.

PDA's position on potential regulations is based on its House of Delegates policy stating that "... the health interests of patients are best protected when dental practices and other private facilities for the delivery of dental care are owned and controlled by dentists licensed in Pennsylvania." PDA firmly believes that mobile dental units should not replace existing dental homes and that private units should be owned by a licensed dentist and public units should employ a licensed dentist as its dental director. PDA also believes that the owner of a practice or mobile unit should maintain patient records according to current regulations, even if the individual is not a licensed dentist.

The committee sought comments from PDA and other stakeholders as part of its review. PDA will continue to monitor the committee's activities and provide comments should the SBOD introduce regulations on ownership issues.

Regulating Teeth Whitening as the Practice of Dentistry

Due to growing concerns about the preponderance of non-dental professionals offering teeth whitening services to the public, the SBOD drafted a policy statement that would effectively regulate teeth whitening services as the practice of

dentistry, to be administered by dental professionals only.

The SBOD's draft policy statement states that tooth whitening may be performed by a licensed dentist, or other qualified dental staff (under dentists' direct supervision). Tooth whitening is defined as any means or methods used to whiten or bleach teeth, or the dispensing of a tooth-whitening agent to another person. There is an exemption for those products that consumers can purchase over-the-counter.

PDA submitted comments in support of the SBOD's policy statement, believing that a dentist should examine anyone wishing to have a tooth whitening procedure prior to the procedure. PDA's position is that teeth whitening procedures, as well as the dispensing of teeth whitening agents, constitute the practice of dentistry and that only dentists are qualified to diagnose and identify potential risks and ramifications of applying teeth whitening agents on existing dental problems. PDA supports regulation of this practice so that only dental professionals are operating teeth whitening kiosks and clinics, or dispensing prescription-grade agents.

The SBOD does plan to finalize its policy statement for inclusion in the regulations that all licensees receive or can access.

However, due to a pending lawsuit in North Carolina, the SBOD will delay implementation of any regulations. This lawsuit, filed by the Federal Trade Commission against the North Carolina Dental Board, contends that the board violated restraint of trade laws by declaring teeth whitening services the sole practice of dentistry.

President's Letter

Hello LCDS members and welcome to Fall!

I hope all of you had a wonderful summer and as we look forward to a change in seasons we will resume LCDS events and continuing education. Thank you to all who came to Knoebels in August; we enjoyed a day filled with fun, food and rides! Dr. Frank Glushefski, Dr. Elizabeth Joseph, Dr. Ann McDonough, Dr. Brian Miller and Dr. Angela Resavage, along with their families, helped to make the day a great success and we hope to continue that tradition into the future!

The following is a schedule for the remainder of the year. September brings us to our last general meeting for 2013 and we will continue our focus on practitioner health and wellness. Dr. Frank Yanik is a specialist in chiropractic and rehabilitative medicine and he will discuss ergonomics for the practitioner, as well as pain management for our TMD patients.

Additionally, we are working on another 6 credit CE course at Benco Dental on Friday, October 18th beginning at 8 a.m.; details for the event will follow. The annual third district meeting will be held at the Woodlands Inn & Resort on Friday, November 15th. Finally, we



will finish the year with our President's Holiday Brunch which will be held at the Westmoreland Club on a Sunday, December 15th, beginning at 11 a.m. I hope all families will attend as it is a nice way to celebrate the end of a wonderful year!

Finally, I know there has been some delay in the receipt of the CE credits from our most recent course sponsored by Dentsply. Hopefully, all in attendance have received the proper documentation by now, but if you have any questions or still have not gotten your credits, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me.

Our September meeting will be held on Monday, the 16th at Andy Perugino's in Luzerne. The board

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meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by the start of our general meeting and a cocktail reception, sponsored by M&T Bank, at 6:30 p.m. As always, I look forward to seeing everyone there!

Best Wishes,
Samantha Abod, DMD

Upcoming Events

Board/General Meeting	Perugino's	Sept. 16, 2013	6:00 PM
CE Course	TBA	Oct. 18, 2013	8:00 AM
Third District Meeting	Woodland's	Nov 15, 2013	8:00 AM
President's Brunch	Westmoreland Club	Dec. 15, 2013	11:00 AM

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