



M-OCDS News

MONMOUTH-OCEAN COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

A Component Society of The New Jersey Dental Association and
the American Dental Association

From the President

APRIL 2021

Spring has sprung! We can hear and see signs of the world waking from winter's interminable slumber. Let's use this new season to revitalize and recharge. Spring is a time of new beginnings, growth, and change. I think that we can all agree that change has been thrust upon us this year but let us not ignore the opportunity for new beginnings and growth amidst all the upheaval we have seen. Whether that be within your personal or professional lives, we should all take a moment to see if we can grow in our ability to serve and participate in something bigger than our own spheres.



M-OCDS has always had active and innovative members. Even during these trying times, we have had members take on new and challenging roles within organized dentistry. Dr John Feeney, a past president of our organization, is now the president of our State Board of Dentistry. Dr Elisa Velazquez, another past-president and current president of the NJAPD, has founded the NJ Hispanic Dental Association. I believe that they should be commended for their commitment to our profession, and their willingness to find new avenues to serve, should be an example to us all.

Although we are still socially distant as vaccine distribution increases, there have been excellent opportunities to connect and grow with our peers this month. Our monthly webinar, given by financial advisor Mark Murphy, was well attended and received. There have also been a series of excellent speakers on a variety of topics in this year's NJDA annual session! An additional opportunity is right around the corner. Our final webinar will be held on Tuesday, April 13th at 7pm. Mr. Bill Barrett and Mr. Dennis Alessi will be speaking in tandem about employment law issues for dentist during COVID-19. Unfortunately, due to an abundance of caution and our desire to keep all our members safe, our annual President's Dinner Dance, will have to be postponed for yet another year. But when it makes its return in 2022, I hope to see all of you there!

Our organization, and more importantly our members, have always seized the opportunity to grow, change, and start anew. I believe that is one of the reasons we have remained so strong regardless of the challenge at hand. Is there an opportunity where you could lend your talents and perspective? Please consider doing so because "What you focus on grows"; and I cannot think of anything more worthy than the profession we love.

Dr. Sally Guerrasio-Safari
M-OCDS President

Upcoming Events

TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7 PM
LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:00 PM
**"Employment Law Issues for
Dentists During Covid-19"**

William Barrett & Dennis Alessi

Free for MOCDS members & earn 2 CE credits!

LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

**"Infection Control & OSHA:
Before, During & After Covid-19"**

Dr. John Molinari

LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

Eileen Becker at (732) 869-5734

TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 7 PM
LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

**"Neck, Back & Beyond:
Evidenced Based Dental Ergonomics
& Fitness 101 for Dental Professionals"**

Dr. Bethany Valachi

LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

Eileen Becker at (732) 869-5734

**NOTE: Presidents Dinner Dance
has been cancelled for 2021**

Society web site: www.M-OCDS.org

It's now MOBILE ready for any device
Email Dr Mitchel Friedman if you only want
the newsletter via email: editor@M-OCDS.org

MOCDS TRUSTEE MEETING MINUTES March 2, 2021

Attendance: S. Albin, C. Andricsak, E. Boim, M. Friedman, M. Furlong, S. Guerrasio, R. Hersh, J. Jeffries-Bruno, Richard Isaacson, C. LaFalce, L. Ostrow, A. Seto, D. Shah, J. Soliman, T. Sniscak, M. Sones, A. Seto, L. Ostrow

Non-Trustees: Akriti Gupta, Brian Bosonac, Murphy Sieg

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Guerrasio-Safari at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held via ZOOM video conferencing due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19.

We do have a quorum.

Approval of the minutes from last meeting:

A motion was proposed to approve the minutes from the last trustee meeting on October 6, 2020 by Dr. Bruno, 2nd by Dr. Richard Isaacson. A call to vote was made and approval of the minutes passed.

President's Report (Dr. GUERRASIO-SAFARI):

Happy beginning of Spring everyone! I am looking forward to the second half of our year and the speakers we have scheduled.

- Mr. Mark Murphy will be our featured speaker for March. He is a very successful financial planner and will speak to our component about the financial effects that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the dental industry, and effective financial planning strategies for our profession at this time.

- We are currently interviewing new accounting firms. If anyone has a recommendation please let us know.

- The dinner committee is making some changes. Dr. Lauren Picciozzo will continue to head the planning for our annual dinner dance, but will no longer be able to assist in the dinner meetings. Dr. Julia Cintron is also stepping away after many years of service. Dr. Arianne Seto has graciously offered to step in and we are looking for a second volunteer.

- Dr. Gerald Cardinale, one of our longest serving state Senators, and a dental professional, has a passed away. He was a long-time champion of our profession and he will be missed.

- Our membership committee is sad to see Dr. Rob McTaggart move on and we would like to thank him for his many years leading in this area. I am happy to report that Dr. Brian Bosonac will be joining this committee to work with Dr. Tom Sniscak.

- Annual Session is upon us and as leaders in our society, it is important that we lead by example and Participate. This is a very challenging year, and we should do what we can to support the NJ DA's efforts

Vice President's Report (Dr. LaFalce):

Changes to Councils & Committees for 2021-22:

ADA Delegate: Dr. Dipika Shah. Alternate: Dr. Elisa Velasquez
NJDA Council on Membership: Dr. Tom Sniscak. Alternate: Dr. Brian Bosonac
NJDA Council on Peer Review: Dr. Mitchel Friedman

We are eliminating Council on Relief and Judicial Council.

MOCDS Committee on Membership:

Chair: Dr. Tom Sniscak. Vice Chair: Dr. Brian Bosonac

MOCDS Peer Review Committee:

Chair: Dr. Mitch Friedman Vice Chair: TBD

MOCDS Committee on General Membership & Education:

Chair: Dr. Ariana Seto.

*We would like to add a co-chair to this committee and are asking for volunteers

If there are any other changes to the councils and committees that I am not aware of, please let me know.

Dinner Meetings 2021-22:

I have signed the contract for Waterview Pavilion with the plan to have in person dinner meetings beginning in October.

I have also secured the contract for our AV company, CSAV.

BUDGET:

The EB met to discuss the budget and I have prepared it. I will send it separately for everyone's review prior to Tuesday's meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Dr. Sones):

All accounts are in good standing. Account balances will be made available during the trustee meeting. Our accountant, Kathryn Winthrop, sold her practice and we have been contacted by the gentleman that is taking over the accounting needs for her clients. I have been researching other accountants and have at least one additional quote for our accounting needs which will be presented at the trustee meeting. The accountant taking over for Kathryn Winthrop sent a letter stating that our fees for 2021 would remain the same but I would expect a significant increase for 2022 and am trying to plan accordingly and obtain additional professional quotes for similar services.

Dr. Guerrasio-Safari Motions to vote to maintain current CPA who took over for Kathryn Winthrop at the current offer for this year or explore other options. Vote to Keep current CPA passes by majority.

NJDA Trustee Report (Dr. Furlong):

Necrology-Dr. Elisa Velazquez. There have been 4 deaths recorded in the Office of the Association since November 18, 2020:

Atlantic-Cape May Robert Mohr

Monmouth-Ocean Donald Major

Thomas AJ Olivero

Union Walter Horn

ADA Member Value Survey-Steven Horne (ADA)

The survey response rate was 16% (3x the norm)

NJ has the highest results across the country, across the board for member value.

Most valued benefits were legal/advocacy, eblasts)

Local society levels are higher, which is expected because people feel the strongest ties with their local component.

NJDPAC-Dr. Mark Vitale

Dr. Giorgio DiVincenzo discussed how ADAPAC protects dentist's interests and does not support one particular party. Members should be careful with what they post on social media. Some things may be misinterpreted as "ADA views". Dr. Vitale pointed out that NJDAC and ADPAC are completely separate and they don't share money. Both support dentistry, but NJDPAC is state and local level, and ADPAC is national.

Thanks to NJDPAC dentists are considered essential and were in Phase IA of vaccinations. Other benefits include our ability to charge for PPE, the Disallow Bill, and the bill for patients to receive refunds for unused insurance benefits during shelter in place.

We must be aware that a dental therapist bill was introduced and we must have a voice in the conversation.

We are having an election in November; there will be new seats up for grabs in Senate and Assembly, and we need to be ready to support them.

This year is very important to boost our support. There are several fundraisers planned. PAC will be visiting each component.

Leaders should all be contributing to NJDPAC, and to ADAPAC

Membership

Concerns are decreased revenue due to more retired life members, more dues waivers, and increased non-renew rates for active members

We need to increase membership of women and specialists.

Overall numbers are good with all things considered. We will contact non-renews March-May.

Continuing Education

Component series January, February, April, and Annual Session in March with over 40 hours CE and all licensing requirements.

Every employer in NJ must provide anti-harassment training

If you have a PPP loan your payroll service should be able to help with forgiveness

Government and Public Affairs

Legislation introduced that would allow dentists to administer vaccines for flu, HPV, and any other disease that may cause a public health crisis. These will be limited to people over 18.

NJDA is a national leader in getting dentists and team vaccinated. The ADA invited NJDA to present our vaccination strategy.

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Insurance bills will resume activity in February or March. Carriers are opposed, but the Association of Dental Support Organizations support the bills too. We're working with the Department of Health to become authorized to administer vaccines (only dentists, not hygienists).

There are more vaccines coming to the market, and they all have different storage requirements. We may be able to administer in our offices later this year.

Annual Session-

Annual Session has over 40 CEUs to offer and all licensing requirements. You can carry 7 CEUs to the next period. The registration fee is only \$99 after \$100 voucher.

Executive Director Report-Art Meisel

SDC oral argument date should be March or April

Injectable Pharm oral argument date will be after SDC.

State Board Executive Director is being reassigned from that position so there will be a new person taking that position.

President Report- Mitch Weiner

Association Master Trust will be increasing member's rates (TBD). Rebates for 2019 are TBD.

State Board Report-Dr. DeSciscio

The website and licensing is improving. The Division of Consumer Affairs is coming up with an online application for licenses.

The American Academy of Sleep Apnea corresponded with our State Board about forming a sleep apnea committee.

We shall see how things go one we have our new State Board Executive Director.

Social Media-Dr. Velazquez

The champions of action from each component are in charge of getting their component more active. Each must first create a Facebook page, and some did Instagram. Then they can share NJDA info. Some specialties are also joining. We want to create more engagement for a viral effect.

New members want fast and easy, and we would rather them hear the information from us.

We are encouraging members to vaccinate.

The more people involved in social media, the better!

For CE events-Each component can create events and invite people

Financial-Mitch Weiner for Renee Arace.

Expenses are way down from 2020 so we have a large surplus.

Bank of America and Care Credit royalties are down.

Old Business-

Jeff Marmelstein reported on peer review. They are trying to improve mediation, improve communication, and keep it consistent.

Component trustees reported feedback from their components, and most comments were similar to ours at M-OCDS. Some felt it should be a member benefit, but more stated it should be a public service.

When I asked Art Meisel if offering peer review to members only could present a legal or ethical problem, he said that some states only offer it to members and there is no legal problem with doing that.

Peer review as a member benefit versus public service will be revisited in the April meeting.

New Business

Some feel that we are giving too much information to non-members. Some information should be restricted to members only. This will be discussed again.

Good and Welfare

The President's Dinner Dance for Tom Rossi is coming soon-announcements have been made

Amit Vora (Secretary) will be the first line officer of Asian descent.

We have 2 female officers, and the majority of the board is female.

COUNCILS:

Council on Annual Session (Dr. Andricsak):

Registration for the virtual meeting is open and registration is low. Please encourage all to register. It is \$199.00 for members with a \$100.00 purchasing credit. Essentially costing only \$99.00. Well worth the convenient CE. Registration is simple and it guides you right through any CE you might want to sign up for. It is much easier to decipher than the marketing materials which I found to be somewhat confusing (and I was part of the meetings!)

I forwarded marketing materials to all the officers and I believe the file was too large because I got an error message.

If any of the officers need this, I can resend one at a time. Let me know.

All the info is on the NJDA website under Annual session and marketplace.

Council on Dental Benefits (Dr. Safari):

DENTAL BENEFIT COUNCIL

A. NJDA Bylaw Review: Dr. Edward Tirpack

Dr. Tirpack has initiated a review and update of our council's description and mission as stated in the NJDA Bylaws. A subcommittee was formed to work on this agenda and will present the changes at our next meeting. This subcommittee will include Drs. Edward Tirpack, Richard Kahn, Kim Goldenbaum, Catherine Young, Mr. Art Meisel and Jennifer Mazzucca.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

A. Sleep Apnea Appliance-Art Meisel

There was an issue with an Aetna claim and a dentist submission for a sleep apnea appliance. The patient has Medicare Advantage Plan. The reimbursement level should have been established in your region by Medicare, not the fee that would otherwise be created by the carrier. The status of this is that Art is working on it with the ADA. The dentist is not participating in Aetna so there is no contractual agreement. Art will follow up and let the council know how this situation is resolved

B. New 2021 CDT Codes-Jennifer Mazzucca

Every member is encouraged to purchase the new 2021 CDT Code book. There are 28 new codes, 7 revised codes, 4 deleted codes and new codes for antigen and antibody testing.

C. Coordination of Benefits under ERISA-Art Meisel

We focus on a regulation pertaining to COB as issued by DOBI. The primary establishes what the fee is, and the secondary will pay the amount it would have paid if it were primary or the balance, whichever is lower. The problem that exists here is whether you are you dealing with an insured plan or a self-funded plan. Self-funded plans or government plans are not governed by state law. State law is preemptive. Some of these plans insist they are secondary. We will revisit this at our next meeting assuming there is more information

D. Insurance and Waived Copays

The State Board of Dentistry adopted a regulation saying it was a violation to engage in the undisclosed waiver of patient copayments and that disciplinary action could be taken against the dentist. It is not a problem, after the fact, not to collect an account. The issue is was this made after the fact or did one really intend to waive the copayment. Any questions, please call NJDA.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY: Jim Schulz

Dentists may be allowed to provide vaccinations for flu and HPV in their offices for adults. There is liability immunity for doctors administering vaccines. If your malpractice carrier is TDIC you are covered, if you have Med Pro, you need to inform the carrier that you are administering vaccines in your office. The Disallow Bill has passed, and it is moving forward. There will be an update at our next meeting.

MEDICAID AND ACCESS: Dr. Sidney Whitman

The ADA is working on Health Care Equity in terms of the workforce and access to care. The health policy and oral health must be discussed together. The ADA has been pushing Medicaid. In NJ, the most important issue is the contract and the state. Over 40% of the births in New Jersey in 2019 were to Medicaid families. About 22% of New Jerseyans are covered by Medicaid and a little more than 33% of the children are covered by Medicaid as well. There are less dentists taking Medicaid. You cannot be as efficient as you used to be before the pandemic. It is estimated that we are about at 76% of patient volume as compared to pre-covid levels so numbers are at 65%. Going to the OR is more difficult because higher reimbursement patients will have priority. Currently, the wait for OR cases at Rutgers is over a year. Many patients still use the ER for dental emergencies. The average treatment is dispensing opioids (not in NJ) at a cost

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of \$900.00 per ER visit.

NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Mark Vitale

Please read the attached article to the agenda, "Convergence is coming, putting the standalone dental market share in jeopardy." There is a possible Medicare dental benefit being contemplated. The ADA, for several years, has been debating over what to do if dental benefits became available through Medicare. The ADA needs to take a position on this. The 65 and older population in the US is over 49 million. Of these 49 million people, 37% have some form of dental coverage. Of the 37%, 26% is private dental coverage and 11% is public dental coverage. Of the private dental coverage, 86% have Medicare Part C, which is Medicare Advantage. As you know, Medicare Advantage has limited dental benefits, it is mostly medical. Of these seniors, 43% have visited the dentist over the course of a year. Dental visits varied on where the person lived and their income level. Most of the people who went to the dentist were above the federal poverty level 400% which is approximately \$69K/year. So, people with a combined income level of under \$69K/year were not going to the dentist at all. The ADA passed a resolution. This resolution states: The ADA supports the development of a policy on the federal, state, and local levels that support the fair, equitable and choice driven provision of dental care to promote improved health and wellbeing in elderly patients. In doing so, they are looking for legislation that would include dental benefits for adults age 65 and older in a taxpayer funded, public program such as Medicaid, CHIP, privately administered Medicare or other federal or state programs that the ADA supports. So, this is our wish list, but the reality of the situation is that this was not a concern so much before the presidential election when there was a balance of power in DC. There have been six bills sitting in Congress for several years that would introduce a full dental benefit into Medicare Part B at the cost of \$55 billion per year. Now that there is no longer a balance of power, the fear is that this topic will surface, and it will surface quickly. As a result, the ADA DC staff has already started to shop for various ideas on Capitol Hill to see where we stand and where we will be in the conversation. Obviously, we will have a seat at the table but now, how do we want to approach this.

Most dentists are not in favor of a full dental benefit in Medicare Part B for obvious reasons; reimbursement rates are low, administrative costs are high, one is subject to audits and the concept of signing a contract with the federal government is a concern for most practicing dentists. As a result, the ADA staff will be shopping some ideas. These ideas include:

1. Expand Medicaid to include all elderly that are 100% or lower on the federal poverty level.
2. Create a CHIP program for senior citizens.
3. Take Medicare Part C, the Medicare Advantage Plan and add more diversity to it so individuals could purchase it at various levels at their own cost.
4. Have to ADA create a program with private insurers and make it available to senior citizens at a reduced cost.

We do not know where this is going nor do we want our senior patients to ask if we take Medicare Part B and potentially have these patients leave our practice. Some believe that in-office dental plans are one of the alternatives we have to offer the elderly in lieu of a state plan. The ADA has partnered with Bento. Jim Schulz concurred that there will be a macrolevel health reform, "ACA 2.0 reform." In medicine, the Medicare fee has become the schedule to follow. We do not want this to happen in dentistry. Dentists in public health want this bill to go through. There needs to be a plan. NJ is a high cost state. There will be a real discussion to adding adult dental into the exchange; currently it is only pediatric dentistry. Medicare potentially getting a dental benefit will drive a private market reform. There will be 2 government programs putting dental in the middle. This is very important because a report was commissioned by the Santa Fe Group who is a major think tank in putting health care reform in a pragmatic way. They are looking for reform and it includes convergence of medical and dental. The significance of this is that dental only plans will go away.

DELTA UPDATE: Dr. Keith Libou

In 2021, Delta of NJ and CT will be covering 80% of the approved fee for cone beam scans. No narrative is needed, and it will not share frequency with radiographs. Scans will be acceptable for payments once per year for any use other than TMJ, e.g., endo or oral surgery. The approved fee is \$200 for 1-3 teeth and \$300 for the 0364 code. The only exception is the TMJ view. This view is

only payable once in a lifetime. For that view to be covered the plan must have it included in their clause. All of Delta's insured groups became effective for scans starting 1/1/21. All the self-funded groups were set up as an opt out for this benefit. All groups opted in except of one CT based group. These members should have their benefits starting in March. As always, confirm benefits. All Delta credentialing has moved to online.

HORIZON UPDATE: Dr. Joan Monaco via text to the council

Horizon extended their PPE reimbursement until the end of 2020 and they are working on approval for additional funds for the program in 2021.

FUTURE CODB DATES:

April 14, 2021 9 AM via Zoom
September 15, 2021 9 AM via Zoom
November 10, 2021 9 AM via Zoom

Council on Membership (Dr. Sniscak):
January 26, 2021 7pm

Attendance: Drs. Brett Handsman (Chair) (Union), Elisa Velazquez (Officer Liaison/Monmouth-Ocean), Mitch Weiner (NJDA President/Middlesex), Robert Martini (Bergen), Rui Seu (Central), Uju Mbamalu (Essex), Janhavi Rane (Mercer), Nima Mirmadjlessi (Middlesex), Tom Sniscak (Monmouth-Ocean), Michele Schultz-Robins (Rutgers Faculty), Gregory Rosenberg (Passaic), Frank Batastini (Southern) & Eric Weinberg (Union).

NJDA staff: Art Meisel, AnnMarie Varga, Bill Cook & Colleen Walkowitz
Membership Report:

- The 2020 Year End Summary was presented
- The March dues invoice was discussed with the Council. The mailing will be printed with the components return address and a letter from the component. More information about the letter to come by email.
- The 5 Things newsletter was discussed. This is sent to non-members on Friday afternoons. To date we have had 148 nonmembers convert to membership. A sample can be found by clicking on this link- <https://conta.cc/3plsq7W>
- The Component Speaker Series was discussed in regard to the final date being after the renewal deadline. Staff will make a plan to contact non-renewed members who register for the April 12 lecture to complete their renewal prior to that date.
- Middlesex reported a successful food drive and encouraged other components to consider doing one.

ADA Report:

- Component Dashboard: More information to follow from the ADA

Annual Session & Marketplace: As a reminder, registration is open. The virtual conference will be held the entire month of March. \$199 per person for members and their staff.

The next conference calls are scheduled for:
March 15 & May 17 beginning at 7pm

COMMITTEES:

Liaison for Meeting Vendors (Dr. Matt Sones):

We have three sponsors for our March dinner meeting: Bank of America, Newark Dental, and Zimmer Biomet. As we make the transition back to in-person meetings, we are hoping for the same level of interest from our previous sponsors. So, if there is anyone you think may be a good fit for a sponsorship, please pass along their contact info and I can reach out - thank you.

Committee on Communications (Dr. Friedman):

Newsletter issue for February disseminated via Constant Contact February 2nd.
Next newsletter will be April

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Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (Dr. Hersh):

As I reviewed the current M-OCDS CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS, I noted a number of items which require discussion and consensus in addition to those items recently identified by the M-OCDS Executive Board. The last complete re-draft of the M-OCDS CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS was about twenty years ago. In an effort to create the best governance document for our deliberations, it may be useful to examine and update all aspects of this material. Once the M-OCDS Board has considered the updated material, I plan to send the work product to the NJDA Speaker of the House, Dr. Ed Tirpack, in an effort to ensure that our revised document is consistent with accepted form and standards. I also plan to ask Mr. Art Meisel to review the document to ensure that all aspects of our governance guidelines meet accepted legal guidelines.

In an effort to maintain consistent form between the M-OCDS CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS and the NJDA CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS, I plan to use the NJDA document format when appropriate. This will serve two purposes. The first is that it may prevent our component from drafting an element which is in direct conflict with the dictates of the ADA and the NJDA. The second is that it may provide us with a guide to ensure that we have not omitted any important governance item.

Committee on Budget and Finance (Dr. Angowski):

All accounts are in good standing.

Budget was Created by Dr. Lafalce and presented for review.

Committee on Children's Dental Health (Dr. Jeffries-Bruno and Dr. Sones):

This year due to COVID restrictions we were unable to hold our annual fairs at the local malls. We did still hold the poster contest and opened it up to children Kindergarten through Eighth. We received many entries from Monmouth and Ocean counties and are in the process of selecting winning posters. Our objective was to promote oral health in children through a fun activity. We are hopeful to hold the traditional fairs next year.

NJ Dental Lifeline Network (formerly Donated Dental Services) (Dr. Feeney):

The New Jersey Donated Dental Service (DDS) Program has exceeded \$25 million of donated dental care.

The New Jersey Dental Lifeline Network (NJDLN)-DDS program has produced a total value of donated care to be \$25,001,022 since inception.

That the NJDLN exists is a tribute to the coalition of several volunteer administrators, providers, business leaders, philanthropic foundations, charitable organizations and government officials.

Of special note, MOCDS in 2018 was the inaugural NJDA component to dedicate financial assistance for critical administrative needs.

Back in the day, in 1988, The NJDA and The NJ Foundation of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities (NJFDPD), established the DDS program.

Dr. Jack Roemer of Princeton was the president of both the organizations and the uniting force. His leadership skills can best be qualified as a visionary grounded in human reality. What resulted was the amplification of the power of our profession to enhance the quality of life itself albeit restoring a patients self-esteem and dignity through a healthy smile.

In 2011 the NJFDPD changed its name to the New Jersey Dental Lifeline Network to better typify its care mission. It's DDS program provides comprehensive dental care for individuals who are disabled, elderly, young, medically at risk, have limited or no access to care and do not qualify for state or federal assistance. Attention is also given to the rapid increasing need for dental services among people who are awaiting chemotherapy, organ transplant, joint replacement and imminent cardiac surgery. As of the Fall 2018 an effort has included treatment for veterans who are aged, medically fragile or have special needs with limited federal assistance. All these patients could have fallen through the cracks of our modern day health care delivery system.

The DDS program was designed by dentists for dentists without disruption to

their normal routine. The volunteers utilize their own staff and equipment. A DDS administrator processes a patient's application at the state level and at national DLN headquarters in Denver, Colorado with regards to specific needs, medical conditions and financial status. There is also coordination of dental specialists, laboratories and patient transportation if needed. Treating doctors receive a pre-visit patient's profile to review and establish a treatment plan with the ultimate decision to participate or not.

Nationally, all fifty states participate which represents 15,000 dentists, 120,000 patients treated and have generated over \$380 million worth of donated treatment.

Truth be told, New Jersey is a national leader in numbers of doctors volunteering, 622 per capita of licensee and dollar amount generated (\$25million) for 9.025 patients treated. Additionally, NJ volunteer orthodontics (109) have treated 216 patients creating a total value of donated treatment exceeding \$1.2 million.

Benefactors who have supported the administrative existence of NJDLN-DDS program are: The New Jersey Dental Association assisting with recruiting, publicizing and fundraising. The Delta Dental NJ Foundation. The NJ Department of Human Services and The Miles Hodson Vernon Foundation. In the past The NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, The Colgate Palmolive Co. The Bodman Foundation, The Grotta Fund for Senior Care, The NJ Healthcare Foundation and The C. Northrop Pond and Althea Marder Pond Foundations have all been magnanimous. Although consistent funding has been a challenge the generosity of the present and past partners have created many avenues of access for the marginalized of our communities.

In closing our current standard of health care is the highest in the world. The NJDLN-DDS program attempts to bring that standard the disenfranchised of New Jersey.

If you already volunteer, thank you for your efforts.

If you don't participate, please consider doing so or call Mr. Shanda Bell at 800-829-4619 or www.dentallifeline.org for more information.

It was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt who said, "The true measure of our nation as a progressive democracy is not that we add to the accumulation of those that have much, but that we do enough for those that have little."

Thank you

John E Feeney DDS

NJDLN-DDS program trustee emeritus

Old Business

1-Amending the Bylaws- Will be reviewed and brought to the NJDA for approval and continuity.

2-Executive Secretary- Volunteers and recommendations welcome. If the position cannot be filled it will be reviewed and voted to either keep or remove position completely.

New Business:

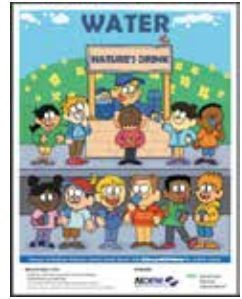
None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Soliman, D.M.D., M.D. Secretary

MOCDS Celebrates Children's Dental Health Month!



One of the most challenging obstacles we face on our quest for optimal oral health in children is promoting good home care habits. The month of February affords an opportunity to strike up our routine "oral hygiene" conversation and add a bit of a fun twist to our script. One source of "fun" is our annual poster contest which was open to all member dentists to promote within their practices. We included flyers and other oral hygiene promotional items on our M-OCDS webpage for our members to use with their patients. This year looked a little different and we adapted to our current normal by adjusting our format to "all virtual" submissions, and notifications over email. We also expanded the participating grade categories which in the past were only 4th-8th grade. By including Kindergarteners through 3rd graders we received more posters and realized these age groups must be included in the future! The posters were all so creative, well thought out and overwhelmingly parents included a note to say thank you and let us know how much fun the children had creating their designs. Most importantly, the task promoted thinking about good oral hygiene habits while imparting a bit of fun. We have shared some of our favorites below, which are sure to make you smile.

A Big Thank You to those who volunteered to help in organizing the poster contest and oral hygiene promotional items – you truly make Children's Dental Health Month a success!!!



1st Place First Grade Monmouth



1st Place Kindergarten Ocean



1st Place Fourth Grade Monmouth



1st Place Second Grade Monmouth



2nd Place Second Grade Monmouth



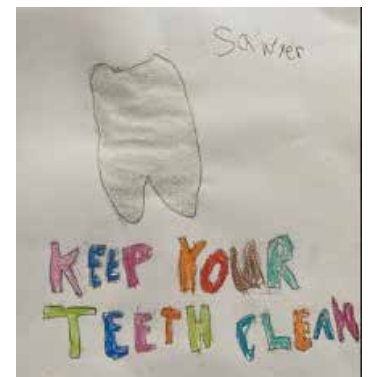
2nd Place First Grade Monmouth



2nd Place Fourth Grade Ocean



3rd Place Fourth Grade Ocean



1st Place Fifth Grade Monmouth



2nd Place Kindergarten Ocean



Best in Show 1st Grade Monmouth



Tie 2nd Place Second Grade Monmouth



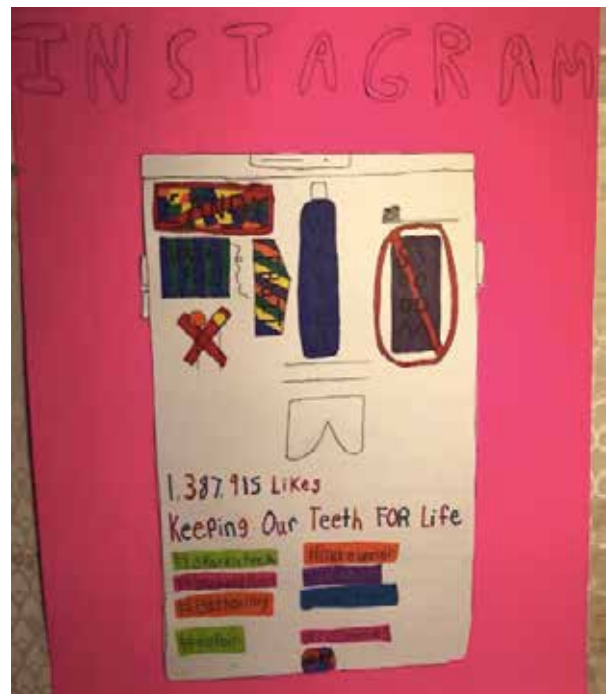
Best in Show Fourth Grade Ocean



1st Place Fifth Grade Monmouth



3rd Place First Grade Monmouth



Best in Show Seventh Grade Monmouth

THE JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
THE MONMOUTH-OCEAN COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

**“INFECTION CONTROL AND OSHA:
BEFORE, DURING, AND
AFTER COVID-19”**

Presented by Dr. John Molinari

**LIVE
ZOOM
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, April 14, 2021 - from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the world to face a new normal. Delivery of health care has been significantly impacted as a result of SARS-CoV-2 emergence. This seminar will provide an update on COVID-19 along with discussion of occupational respiratory and bloodborne infection risks for dental health-care professionals. Reinforcement of standard precautions as a major component of effective infection control will be emphasized along with recent modifications necessitated by COVID-19 challenges. Current and emerging information pertaining to suggested PPE and air quality modifications will be considered, in light of recent findings and publications from the CDC, NIOSH, and OSHA. Hand hygiene, vaccinations, and other preventive measures (e.g., instrument reprocessing, disinfection, and dental water asepsis) provide additional frameworks for this presentation. When considered together, infectious disease challenges and prevention strategies will be used to reinforce the application of standard precautions during patient treatment. The most recent evidence-based information is also discussed to address certain issues where perceptions and misuse of infection control procedures and products are in conflict with scientific and clinical knowledge.

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants should be able to:

- Describe current science-based information pertaining to COVID-19
- Understand the most recent updates for CDC recommendations and OSHA requirements for infection control in dentistry
- Discuss governmental infection prevention modifications necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Understand the rationale for effective, hand hygiene procedures as fundamental components of an infection control program.
- Describe the challenges bloodborne and respiratory infections present to dental healthcare workers
- Comprehend the most current vaccination recommendations for dental personnel
- Describe recent technology advances and protocols for instrument treatment protocols and sterilization
- Understand how to effectively monitor reprocessing and sterilization procedures
- Describe the use of disposables and disinfectants used in environmental surface asepsis.
- Describe factors which can lead to dental unit waterline (DUWL) contamination.
- Comprehend practical strategies which can minimize DUWL contamination.

**LIVE
ZOOM
MEETING**

John A. Molinari, Ph.D.

Dr. Molinari earned a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Pittsburgh and subsequently worked as a faculty member in the School of Dental Medicine. He is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Detroit Mercy, where he served for 32 years in the School of Dentistry as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Director of Infection Control. Later, he was Infection Control Director for DENTAL ADVISOR where he was involved in research on newly developed infection-prevention technologies and products. He has published over 500 scientific articles, text chapters, and abstracts in the areas of microbiology and immunology, and lectures nationally and internationally on topics dealing with infectious diseases and infection control. He has also been a consultant for the CDC, ADA, and regional hospitals.

REGISTRATION FORM: Dr. John Molinari
Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:00 AM -- 3:30 PM

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BEFORE DURING AND AFTER COVID-19
Dr. John Molinari

Wednesday, May 5, 2021
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Dr. Bethany Valachi

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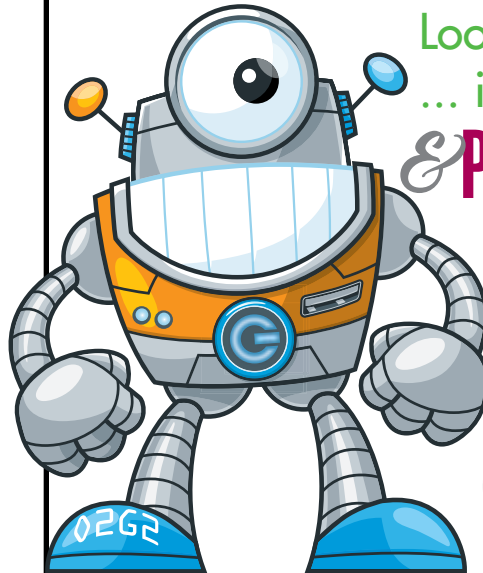


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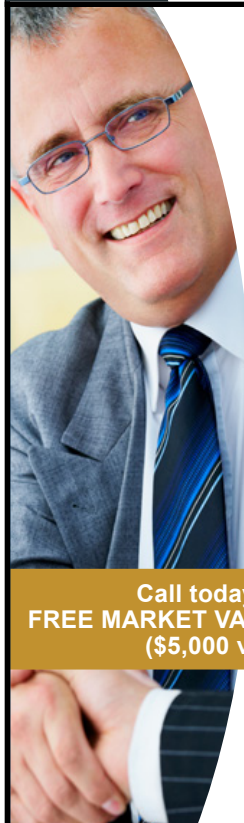
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The Monmouth-Ocean County Dental Society is not responsible for the articles or views of authors or contributions in these pages.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:00 PM

**“Employment Law Issues for
Dentists During Covid-19”**

William Barrett & Dennis Alessi

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LIVE VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING