

RDDS NEWS

SUMMER 2006 EDITION BRIAN RATHKE, DDS - EDITOR

RDDS OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007

The RDDS congratulates our new officers elected at our Education Series and Business Meeting this spring. Our new President, Dr. Wayne Olsen, has already greatly served our society by arranging speakers and handling the logistics of our ever increasing and improving CE events. Dr. John Gobetti's recent lecture on the "Management of the Burning Tongue Syndrome in our Aging Population" was well attended at our business meeting and this attendance is largely due to efforts of Wayne and his staff. This year's events are anticipated to be better than ever under his guidance. Dr. Kerry Kaysserian has been elected President-elect and brings his experience and political savvy to the position. He will be a welcome addition to the leadership of the RDDS. Returning officers are Dr. Scott Schulz as Secretary / Treasurer, Dr. Sara Bergsma as New Dentist Liaison, Dr. Rob Lovell as Trustee, and Dr. Brian Rathke as Editor. The RDDS could not be successful without the collective contributions made by these gracious members, so I'd like to say thank you to each of them for striving to better our society. The RDDS would also like to thank outgoing President Dr. Dan Cote for his leadership in the past year. Remember that it was Dr. Cote who initiated and organized our first "Clinical Pearls" event and worked hard to ensure the outstanding attendance that our events currently experience. Thank you Past-President Cote!

UPDATED NITROUS RULES FOR RDH's

For those of you who have questions as to what duties registered dental hygienists can and cannot perform regarding nitrous, here are the answers:

Registered dental hygienists who completed the prescribed training course and were trained **before May 1, 2006** can be delegated by their employing dentist to administer nitrous oxide / oxygen analgesia. **However, since May 1, 2006** hygienists have been required to complete the prescribed course and training and also pass the NERB nitrous examination at a Prometric Testing Center. Hygienists who took the prescribed course before May 1, 2006 date do not have to take the NERB exam.

The course and training qualifies a hygienist to apply the mask, adjust the proper level of concentrations for the patient being treated, monitor the patient appropriately as trained, and turn off the nitrous at the conclusion of the case (providing they do not exceed a level of 50 percent nitrous oxide and no other sedative agents have been used on or taken by the patient). In addition, the Michigan Board of Dentistry Rules state that a dentist does not have to be in the room, but must be on the premises and available in case of an

emergency or in case the concentration must necessarily go above 50 percent in order to treat the patient. In that case the doctor must then assume control of the nitrous case.

Further questions about nitrous oxide administration should be directed to the MDA's Caroline Ruddell at (800) 589-2632, ext. 423, or at cruddell@michigandental.org.

RDDS STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT

Mark your calendars now for Thursday, August 24th. This will be the night of our RDDS Dental Staff Appreciation Party, to be held at the Traverse City Yacht Club from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This will be an excellent opportunity to treat your staff to a nice night out with friends in a beautiful setting with great food and lots of fun. Watch the mail for further details and join us in showing our staffs just how much we appreciate them. This social event honors the people that we rely on every day in our practices, so invite your entire staff to indulge in this evening with colleagues on the shores of gorgeous West Grand Traverse Bay. See you there!!!

THE ARDIS SEMINAR

The Resort District Dental Society proudly heralds the First Annual Ardis Seminar, honoring the late Dr. Charles R. Ardis, a RDDS member and great contributor to the betterment of dentistry and our community. Our featured speaker will be Dr. John Kois presenting his lecture, "Diagnostically Driven Interdisciplinary Treatment Planning". The Ardis Seminar will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme on Friday, September 8th, 2006 from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

SEE THE NOTICE ON THE BACK PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND SIGN UP NOW!!! THIS WILL BE THE CE EVENT OF THE YEAR!!! DO NOT MISS IT!!!

THANKS FROM TOOTHVILLE

A belated thank you to all of those dentists, specialists, hygienists, and staff members that once again donated their time and efforts to make this year's Toothville event a success. In addition, I would like to thank Angela Purdy from Patterson Dental for her continued support and donations to this event. She donated (out of her own pocket) about 400 toothbrushes, 500 MDA brochures and informational text items, 300 kid's flossing aids, 150 pocket floss, 4 boxes of ACT, sand timers, patient wet wipes, cups, face paint, and she showed up to paint faces the whole day in a cute little apron that she made just for this occasion! Thank you, Angela!!!

SOLICITATIONS FOR CARDS

I recently received a request by a dental friend to help a sick child through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The premise was that a seriously ill child named Craig Sheldon wanted to be in the Guinness Book of World Records by obtaining the world's largest collection of business cards and I could help by sending him a business card and forwarding the letter on to additional businesses and asking them to repeat the process (chain letter). The person who sent it to me is a really big-hearted guy who is sincere in

everything he does to help the kids, so I hated to have to call him and let him know that it was a false request. As a matter of policy, the Make-A-Wish Foundation does not participate in chain letters or other direct solicitation wishes and each day, the Foundation receives hundreds of inquiries regarding chain letters claiming to be associated with it. In 1989, a then 9-year-old boy named Craig Shergold wanted to be recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records for receiving the most greeting cards. His wish was fulfilled by another wish-granting organization in 1990 after receiving more than 16 million cards. Craig is now a healthy college student, and he has requested an end to the mail. Mail that is received is forwarded to a recycling center. I love a story with a happy ending, but if you receive this or similar requests in the future, the Make-A-Wish foundation asks you to kindly disregard. Go to wish.org/home/chainletters.htm for any further information.