

# THE BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 5

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DENTAL SOCIETY OF  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



DSWP

Fall  
Edition

# THE BULLETIN

---

## EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD

**DR. CYNTHIA SCHULER**  
**DR. RAYMOND LANCIONE**

## DSWP OFFICERS

**DR. JOHN E. PAWLOWICZ**  
PRESIDENT

**DR. DENNIS A. ZABELSKY**  
PRESIDENT ELECT

**DR. JAME A. TAUBERG**  
VICE PRESIDENT

**DR. MICHAEL J. KORCH**  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

**DR. CYNTHIA L. SCHULER**  
SECRETARY

**DR. GREGORY MILLER**  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

**DR. MICHAEL J. GANS**  
TREASURER

**DR. HENRY J. BITAR, JR.**  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

**DR. MICHAEL J. GANS**  
PDA TRUSTEE

**DR. LINDA K. HIMMELBERGER**  
ADA TRUSTEE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>
ANNUAL SECRETARY REPORT
<b>2</b>
ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DSWP
<b>3</b>
IN MEMORIAM
<b>4</b>
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS REPORT NEW DENTIST COMMITTEE
<b>6</b>
<b>MEMORIAL TRIBUTE</b> DR. V. LYNNE COCHRAN, DMD, MBA
<b>9</b>
THE DENTAL VAULT
<b>10</b>
A PLEA TO THE MEMBERSHIP
<b>11</b>
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
<b>12</b>
<b>DSWP PAST PRESIDENTS</b> MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES
<b>14</b>
<b>THREE RIVERS DENTAL</b> CONFERENCE UPDATE
<b>16</b>
<b>IN HONOR OF</b> DR. R. DONALD HOFFMAN
<b>18</b>
<b>IN HONOR OF</b> DR. RAYMOND R. LANCIONE
<b>20</b>
<b>IN HONOR OF</b> DR. JAY R. WELLS, III
<b>22</b>
PDA WEBINARS
<b>24</b>
CLASSIFIEDS

**Annual Secretary Report/Dr. Cynthia L. Schuler:** The Elected Secretary is Chair of multiple committees of the DSWP such as the House Committee, Necrology, Dental Relief and Branch Societies. My normal duties include attending and recording all meetings as required by the Constitution and By-Laws. I am responsible for the day to day operations of the society at our office located at 900 Cedar Ave. In May of this year I was appointed as Acting Executive Director for the society as well. I am in the discovery process with this position. I want to thank all the Committee Chairs, Officers and Board for their unwavering support of all endeavors.

The Officers and Directors remain in challenge mode as COVID is still with us. Last year as reported we quickly adapted and began to meet virtually to carry on with our responsibilities to the membership. We worked and continue to work hand in hand with the PDA and ADA to bring you the most up to date resources and information available. We were extremely blessed to have Dr. James A. Tauberg, serving as the PDA President, during the most uncertain times of Covid for Dentistry. With his help the DSWP was able to distribute free face-shields to our members. Being fiscally responsible we again postponed our Three Rivers Dental Conference and have rescheduled it for November 3 and 4, 2022. We are planning a series of one day in person courses called "The DSWP Past Presidents Memorial Lecture Series" as the environment permits. During the past year we have lost some of our most invested Past Presidents- Dr. John L. Kautz, Dr. Stephen L. Kondis, Dr. William D. Schmidt and Dr. V Lynne Cochran. Their contributions and collegiality will be sorely missed.

I would like to thank my Assistant Secretary Dr. Gregory Miller for stepping up when called upon and to all the Officers and Directors for their continued support and encouragement. Thank you as well to all of you, our membership, for being in the trenches and serving our communities.



**ALL MEMBERS OF THE DENTAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PA  
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

**4:30 PM**

**RIVERS CASINO**

\*If you would like to attend please call the Dental Society at 412-321-5810

# Annual Reports of the DSWP 2020-21

**Budget and Finance Committee Report/Dr. Michael J. Gans Treasurer/Chair:** The Budget and Finance Committee had two meetings this year. Both were held virtually and resulted in delivering a balanced budget to the Board for the 2021 year. We will be upgrading the quickbooks to further streamline the budget as our current version has become outdated.

**Credentialing and Registration Committee/ Dr. Henry J Bitar:** As Chairman of the Registration and Credentialing Committees I want to thank those colleagues who helped me in the performance of those duties.

**House Committee/ Dr. Cynthia L. Schuler :** The House committee continues to meet virtually during 2020-21. There has been a lot of remodeling and maintenance ongoing in the building. After the departure of our long term second floor tenant a cleanup and much needed remodel of that apartment was completed. New leasing has been completed. The third floor tenant remains as is. The committee completed a review of current leases and rent levels.

Routine maintenances were completed inside and outside (clean up/shoveling and sidewalk safety) and 6 month necessities such as filter changes, fire extinguisher and pest control. The roof required gutter and roof repairs this year. This is always an arduous process with permitting before the Historic Review Commission and the City of Pittsburgh.

As always the insurance coverages were given an "Annual Review" to make sure proper considerations are given for our Historic Building including rental units, the DSWP offices and day to day operations.

In conclusion I would like to thank the committee for always being on standby as issues that require their input can pop up quickly. This has been a solid committee for the past many years.

**Necrology Committee/Dr. Cynthia L. Schuler:** The committee reports with a heavy heart the loss of our many treasured colleagues. Their service and dedication was a great reflection on our profession and the Dental Society itself. These fine Dentists will forever be in our hearts. We want their families to know and find comfort in that each one was appreciated. We hope they find comfort in knowing we were honored to have them as members.

IN MEMORIAM

- Dr. Dennis E. Borodaty University of Pittsburgh 1973**
- Dr. V. Lynne Cochran University of Pennsylvania 1978**
- Dr. Norman W. Demos University of Pittsburgh 1975**
- Dr. Rees C. Flannery Case Western Reserve 1967**
- Dr. Allan Gastfriend University of Pittsburgh 1959**
- Dr. Edward Gaydos University of Pittsburgh 1957**
- Dr. Richard A. Gobbie University of Pittsburgh 1957**
- Dr. Jennings F. Hylton University of Pittsburgh 1959**
- Dr. Morris Jacobson University of Pittsburgh 1946**
- Dr. Jeong-Seon J. Kim University of Pittsburgh 2013**
- Dr. Gerold E. Kolavic University of Pittsburgh 1962**
- Dr. Robert F. Kooser University of Pittsburgh 1968**
- Dr. Clark W. Lauver University of Pittsburgh 1959**
- Dr. David H. McKibben, Jr. University of Pittsburgh 1968**
- Dr. Donald R. Morrell University of Pittsburgh 1956**
- Dr. Donald J. Pipko University of Pittsburgh 1960**
- Dr. Donald C. Santora University of Pittsburgh 1962**
- Dr. Willian D. Schmidt University of Pittsburgh 1958**
- Dr. M. Alfred Seltman University of Pittsburgh 1956**
- Dr. Joseph E. Smith University of Pittsburgh 1960**
- Dr. Robert P. Smith University of Pittsburgh 1960**
- Dr. Timothy M. Spina University of Pittsburgh 1973**

---

**Dental Relief/ Dr. Cynthia L. Schuler:** We have seen much hardship in this year than previous years. A lot of colleagues have decided to close their doors and retire. I have seen a record number of retirement affidavits. As always in hardship cases due to illness we consider each case with respect and deference. Thank you to Dr. Henry Bitar as he assists me in considering every case with dignity and confidentiality.

**Constitution and Bylaws Committee/Jay R. Wells, III DDS, Chairman:** No business was brought forth to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee this year and therefore no meetings of this Committee were held.

**New Dentist Committee/Dr. Robert Hasselbach:** Annual report for the new dentist committee. Due to covid restrictions many events for the new dentist committee had to be postponed or held virtually. During the last year due to restrictions, new dentists were welcomed into the PDA through a virtual PDA signing event throughout all dental institutions across Pennsylvania. As of today, the class of 2022 joining the PDA will be held at the University of Pittsburgh in person, barring any new restrictions.

A list of new members to the PDA was provided by the NDC, which provided contact information for new district 10 members. A combination of handwritten letters and emails were sent to new members welcoming them to the PDA and providing contact information if they had questions.

The new dentist committee has met monthly to discuss a new Residency Ambassador Program, in which there are to be 20 ambassadors. Students interested in pursuing a residency program can reach out to these ambassadors to help with any questions regarding specific programs from the application process to how to evaluate a program to see if it may be a good fit for the student. The ambassadors would have access to the following to aid students:

- List of ADA/PDA member benefits that may be especially relevant to residents
- Sample email text/phone script the Ambassadors can use when contacting the residents
- Upcoming ADA and PDA event dates, including webinars and virtual CE
- Ambassadors will be added to a PDA Go message group and encouraged to discuss ideas and share feedback.

There is also discussion about creating a virtual dentist wellness event which may include topics and events such as virtual workout targeting shoulders and upper back; guided discussion on managing stress levels and avoiding burnout.

The next upcoming events for the new dentist include a CE event which will be a 2 hr course on "Botox" presented by Dr. Louis Malcmacher, which will be held on November 3 from 7:00-9:00pm. A live, in person event is scheduled in Las Vegas for SmileCon on October 11-13th.

A Community of Compassion  
**MISSION OF MERCY  
PITTSBURGH FREE  
DENTAL CLINIC**

 October 22 & 23, 2021

 David L. Lawrence  
Convention Center

Volunteer registration opens on June 1, 2021.

General information: [mompgh.org](http://mompgh.org)  
Sponsorship inquiries: [info@mompgh.org](mailto:info@mompgh.org)

**We are all in this together—and with your help we  
can make a difference!**



We've got your back.  
**Always.**

"Thank you, PDA, for all that you are doing during these challenging times."  
-Dr. Anne O'Day, Furlong, PA

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we responded with evidence-based guidance, resources and unwavering support to help you get back to work.

Don't miss the latest tools and guidance we're developing as the science evolves. Join the PDA, ADA and your district and local societies to get members-only resources that help keep our dental community and patients safe.

Join us! Contact PDA's membership department at [membership@padental.org](mailto:membership@padental.org) or (717) 234-5941 to request a dues quote.



## MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

In Loving Memory Of

# V. LYNNE COCHRAN, DMD, MBA

August 14, 1952 - August 16, 2021

By Dr. Donald E. Fetterolf & Dr. Raymond R. Lancione

There was an article written by the editor in a 2020 Issue of a Dental Society Bulletin titled "Memories of a Dental Career". The editor was V Lynne Cochran, D.M.D. She closed the article with the sentence: "Don't forget to enjoy your patients during your career because it's over too quickly". It ended too quickly for Dr. Cochran; she passed away peacefully on Monday, August 16, 2021 at Allegheny General Hospital.

She was born in Canonsburg, PA on August 14, 1952 and graduated from Fort Cherry High School in 1970. In 1974 she received an A.B. degree in Biology from Bryn Mawr



College and in 1978 a DMD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. She later earned an MBA from Waynesburg College. She practiced general dentistry in McDonald for 41 successful years.

Dr. Cochran was very active in her professional organizational involvement, with various teaching, publishing and public speaking activities in the field. She was Past President, Science Fair Chair, Registration Chair, Public Relations Committee member, Publications Chair, Board member and more with the Dental Society of Western PA. She was Editor of the *Bulletin of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania*. For the PDA, she was a Delegate to the Annual Session, 1990 Registration Chair and 1996-1997 Council on Communications & Public Relations. She also held office in her local Chartiers Valley Branch where she served a director. Dr. Cochran was a member of many other professional organizations such as the Academy of General Dentistry, the American Association of Women Dentists and highly regarded honorary organizations as the Pierre Fauchard Academy and the International College of Dentists. Dr. Cochran was the district dentist for the Fort Cherry School District. Her love of animals also resulted in her working closely with a local veterinarian to assist in the delivery of needed dental care to animals in need of her services.

In addition to her professional involvement, Dr. Cochran was able to make time to serve as a member on the board of The Medical Bureau of Pittsburgh, be a scholarship and admission committee interviewer for Bryn Mawr College and an anatomy instructor for Community College of Allegheny County.

She was always very generous in her support of all community organizations. Fluent in three languages, she loved to travel around in the U.S. and abroad, and was always a proud owner of her loving cocker spaniels. She will certainly be missed by all who were fortunate to know her. Our sympathy goes out to her family and especially to her husband of forty years, Donald E. Fetterolf MD.



Clym Environmental Services, LLC  
New Castle, PA 16101

**PRICING QUOTATION**

To: Dental Society of Western PA Members  
Date: Valid thru 2021  
From: Matthew Spady, Clym Environmental Services  
Package  
Subject: Compliance & Waste

---

**SPECIAL COMPLIANCE PACKAGE PRICING INCLUDES:**

**Written Safety Plans: (with Safety Binder)**

- Exposure Control Plan (required by Bloodborne Pathogens Standard)
- Hazard Communication Plan (required by HazCom Standard)
- Department Of Transportation Medical Waste Shipment Protocol (DOT)
- Emergency Action Plan (EAP)
- Radiation Protection
- Infection Control
- HIPAA
- Workplace Violence Prevention
- Respiratory Protection

**Annual Training: (in-house)**

- Bloodborne Pathogens Safety
- HAZCOM / GHS
- DOT
- Infection Control
- HIPAA
- X-ray
- CPR
- Child Abuse
- Respiratory Protection (N95)
- N95 Fit testing (certain fees may apply)
- Medical Emergencies in the dental setting

**Annual Services:**

- Annual Updates
- Safety Chat
- Mock OSHA Audit
- New hire training via zoom

SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICING \$1,500.00 per year  
(12 CE's awarded over a license period)  
Call today to set up a no obligation MOCK OSHA audit today: 724-924-0997

# THE DENTAL VAULT

---

## ARCHIVES OF THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

### Facts about the "Family" Sculpture in the Exterior West Court, ADA Headquarters Building



The Minnesota artist, Joseph O'Connell (1927-1995) was commissioned in 1964 to create a sculpture for the front of the ADA building. He was given a free hand to develop an appropriate themed sculpture for the west court.

O'Connell was known for his public and religious sculpture. For more information on his life and art see the book, *Divine Favor: The Art of Joseph O'Connell*, Colman O'Connell, editor, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1999.

Each figure is more than twice life size. The tallest figure in the group is approximately 15 feet tall. The entire sculpture is made of bronze. It weighs approximately 16,000 pounds. The largest figure in the group is approximately 8,000 pounds.

The figures are done in a free-flowing style in modified abstract form. The sculpture is said to epitomize the family of man and reflect the concern for humankind that is involved in the practice of dentistry.

The artist made plaster models of the figures in a studio at the College of St. Benedict in Minnesota, rented especially for the project due to its size. The plaster models were later cut into pieces and then shipped to a foundry in Detroit, MI where the sections were cast in bronze and then welded together. The finished work was originally shipped to the ADA on a flatbed truck and installed in May, 1969.

The "lost-wax" technique was used to cast the plaster models in bronze whereby a mold is made in wax which is then incased in a heat proof substance. Molten bronze is then poured into the mold and the wax is melted out as it is replaced by the bronze.

The sculpture was originally located in a court yard on the west side of the front of the building to the right of the building's entrance. This was known as the War Memorial Court because it was dedicated to dentists killed in 20<sup>th</sup> century wars, the names of whom were carved on marble tablets located on the back wall of the court. The War Memorial Court, with the newly installed sculpture, was dedicated in a formal ceremony on August 14, 1969. The ceremony included a military honor guard, an invocation by the Archbishop of Chicago (Cardinal John Cody) and a bugler sounding taps.

In November 2006, the sculpture was removed and temporarily stored in a warehouse while a major renovation of the building's lobby was completed. The renovation enclosed the east and west courtyards of the building behind a glass wall. After the renovation was finished in April 2008, the sculpture was reinstalled in its current location in the front west exterior corner of the building, to the right of the entrance.

From time to time we will be including snippets of historical information. We welcome you to submit photos or articles from your vault that we may choose to publish in the Bulletin. Watch for yours!

## **A PLEA TO THE MEMBERSHIP:**

### **To all members of the DSWP**

Our volunteers and elected officers are getting increasingly overloaded with the duties placed upon them. We can use help from members in good standing in such positions as assistant Editor to help produce the Bi-monthly DSWP Bulletin and positions on DSWP Committees. To volunteer in some capacity please contact Dr. Cynthia Schuler at the DSWP office: 412-321-5810 or email

[threeriversdental@verizon.net](mailto:threeriversdental@verizon.net). For those of you who wish to apply for the Assistant Editors position please send a current resume or CV to : Attention Assistant Editor Position to the above DSWP email as well.

Thank you for your dedication,

DSWP Board of Directors





**Shamrock**  
Dental Company

*Your Handpiece Repair Specialists!*

Contact us today for a prepaid mailer!

187 Merlin Dr McMurray, PA 15317

Tel: 724.942.4188 Email: sdc9424188@comcast.net



Facebook.com/ShamrockDentalPA

- \* COMPETITIVE PRICING
- \* 24 - 48 HOUR TURNAROUND
- \* HASSLE-FREE WARRANTIES
- \* ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

We repair ALL brands of handpieces...

- HIGHSPEEDS
- SLOW SPEEDS
- ELECTRIC
- SURGICAL
- SCALERS
- NOSECONES/ATTACHMENTS



**Shamrock**  
Dental Company

Handpiece Sales & Repair Specialists

Est. 1996



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/MEMBER INPUT/COMMENTS

The Bulletin welcomes input from its members in various forms. This is your publication and forum. We welcome comments, opinions and even articles from the membership. Thank you for your input and support.

## DSWP Past Presidents Memorial Lecture Series

November 17, 2021  
Continuing Education

### ***Emerging Trends in the Diagnosis and Management of Oropharyngeal Cancer***

3 credits, 8:30 am - 11:30 am

While some think this is a rare cancer, mouth cancers will be newly diagnosed in about 132 new individuals each day in the US alone, and a person dies from oral cancer every hour of every day. The oropharynx is one of the most common sites of head and neck cancer in the United States. It is estimated that 11,000-13,000 new cases of oropharyngeal cancer are diagnosed in the United States each year. The vast majority of these tumors are squamous cell carcinoma, a cancer which arises from squamous epithelial cells which line the upper aerodigestive tract. Males are more than four times as likely as females to develop oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma (OPSCC), with an overall annual risk of 6.2 per 100,000 men compared to 1.4 cases per 100,000 women. Incidence in the U.S. is highest among white and black men, and lower among Hispanics, Native Americans and Asians/ Pacific Islanders. Despite decreasing rates of tobacco and alcohol use, the rates of oropharyngeal cancer have trended steadily upward for the last decade. This is primarily due to the increase in cancers related to infection with the human papilloma virus (HPV). The time lag between an oral HPV infection and the development of HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer is estimated at between 15 and 30 years. Unfortunately, at this time, the majority are found as late stage cancers, and this accounts for the very high death rate of about 43% at five years from diagnosis (for all stages and etiologies combined at time of diagnosis), and high treatment related morbidity in survivors. This course is designed to review the pathophysiology of oropharyngeal cancer and emerging trends in cancer management.

### ***Learning Objectives:***

- Identify the most common etiologies of oral cancer and its incidence within the population.
- Review the basic histology of the oral mucosa and the changes that occur with premalignant and malignant lesions and their patterns of occurrence.
- Review current treatment recommendations and clinical outcomes.
- Review the principles and the complications from radiotherapy.
- Discuss the developing role of immunotherapy in the management of late-stage tumors.



Registration for these courses takes place through the PDA website. Simply visit: [www.padental.org/calendar](http://www.padental.org/calendar) and scroll to the November 17 courses. Click and go from there!



# DSWP Past Presidents Memorial Lecture Series

November 17, 2021  
Continuing Education

## ***Epithelial Pathology from A to Z***

3 credits, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The history of clinical diagnosis began in earnest from the enlightened days of Hippocrates in ancient Greece but is far from perfect despite the enormous bounty of information made available by medical research including the sequencing of the human genome. The practice of diagnosis continues to be dominated by theories set down in the early 1900s. The word "diagnosis" is derived from Greek and it is literally translated "through knowledge." Diagnoses do not come about by "blinding flashes of brilliance" but instead are arrived at rather methodically through the systematic and disciplined application of knowledge.

This half-day presentation is designed to reacquaint the oral health care provider with common mucosal presentations. There is an axiomatic principle that governs clinical practice - "common things occur commonly." According to a recent study, there are a handful of relatively common oral mucosal presentations that comprise almost three-quarters of oral lesions for which patients seek consultation. This course will provide a review and clinical update of those commonly encountered pathologic entities as well as the deployment of the appropriate treatment algorithm. Clinical presentations from aphthae to zoster will be covered in an effort to improve the clinician's comfort level in diagnosing and managing these conditions.

### ***Learning objectives:***

- Expand your clinical diagnostic algorithm
- Correlate oral presentations with systemic possibilities
- Expand your treatment algorithm



### ***Presented by: Theresa Gonzales, DDS***

Dr. Gonzales was recently selected to serve as the Executive Director of the American College of Dentists. In 2013, she retired from the United States Army Dental Corps after a long and distinguished career in active federal service to this Nation. Dr. Gonzales has authored over fifty scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals and was the recipient of the International College of Dentists Award for Excellence in Research.

She has received the Order of Military Medical Merit and the Surgeon General's A designator for clinical excellence. She graduated with distinction from the United States Army War College in 2008. Theresa is also a Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology at the Medical University of South Carolina- James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine.



**UPDATE NOVEMBER 3 & 4, 2022**  
**SAVE THE DATE**



**Please ADJUST your calendars with the NEW DATES for the  
Three Rivers Dental Conference at the beautiful  
Nemacolin Woodlands Resort**

**Out of an abundance of caution the 2021 meeting will be  
replaced by a series of one day continuing education  
seminars that maybe virtual or in person as circumstances  
permit. Your safety and the safety off all attendees is our  
priority.**

# Ranier's Compounding Laboratory



Customized Medications to Enhance Dental Care!

## Working Together with Dentists and their Patients to Solve Medication Problems

- Lip balms for viral lesions
- Mouth rinses for aphthous ulcers
- Long-acting capsules for dry mouth
- Transdermal (topically applied) muscle relaxants/pain relievers for TMJ disorder
- Mouth rinses to stop oral bleeding during dental procedures for patients who take anticoagulants
- Mouthwashes for chemotherapy-induced stomatitis
- Dry socket preparations
- "Mucosal bandages" to cover ulcerated, infected, or tender areas on the oral mucosa (lining of the mouth)
- Lozenges that help to prevent gagging
- And many more unique preparations and novel delivery systems
- Sugar, preservative dye or lactose-free flavored to please

### Ranier's Compounding Laboratory

WE DELIVER ANYWHERE

1107 Lowry Ave., Suite A  
Jeannette, PA 15644

Open Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm • Sat. 10am-2pm

724-527-5533 • 1-800-588-0708  
Fax 724-527-2591 • 1-888-421-7299



186659P-420

# Dr. Fill-In®

## TEMPORARY DENTAL SERVICES

### "Dentists helping Dentists"

Our company provides a valuable two-sided service by:

- Credentialing and contracting locum tenens dentists
- Matching dental practices with highly qualified practitioners



Ph: 610-216-2899



Fax: 412-235-7200



faystricklin@doctorfillin.com



www.doctorfillin.com

## Honoring Dr. R. Donald Hoffman's Career

Over the course of his 45-year career, including 22 years in private practice in Penn Hills, R. Donald Hoffman, DMD, M.Ed., Ph.D., has worked with thousands of patients. His impact in the field has spread even further through his tenure at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, where he has played a pivotal role in the education and training of future dental professionals for more than four decades.

A University of Pittsburgh Dental School alumnus, Dr. Hoffman joined the Department of Restorative Dentistry at Pitt as a part-time instructor in 1972. He held numerous academic positions at the university including assistant professor, curriculum coordinator and associate professor before earning the title of associate professor emeritus in 2017. He served as special assistant to the dean for six years prior to retiring in 2017.



"I always enjoyed working with students; it was rewarding to watch them develop and to see that proverbial lightbulb come on when they grasped a concept. It made it feel like what you were doing was worthwhile," he explained of the benefits of teaching.

While Dr. Hoffman's great-uncle was a dentist, he first came to the field on the advice of his father, a veterinarian/large animal practitioner. "He suggested I should have an inside job, and not something that required me to go from farm to farm," said Dr. Hoffman. "My father's uncle worked out of his home office in Carlisle, and that impressed him.

"Back then, you did what your parents told you to do, so I became a dentist, and I've never thought of being anything else," he added.

Even as a young dentist, Dr. Hoffman understood the importance of continuing education, so he sought out organizations that could contribute to his knowledge.

"I began taking part in organized dentistry back in 1972 when I graduated from dental school as a way of meeting people and exchanging ideas," said Dr. Hoffman. "In some ways, it's the same as joining Rotary or a golf league—it's a social thing. But it's also a great way to try to help the profession and to make things better for the next generation; you need to do your part."

Dr. Hoffman took this objective to heart, serving on numerous committees and in leadership roles including as treasurer and president of the Pennsylvania Dental Association; president of the

Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania and president and director of its East Suburban Branch; secretary/treasurer of the Pennsylvania Academy of General Dentistry and in the House of Delegates on the state and national level; and as regent for the International College of Dentists USA Section, District III.

While Dr. Hoffman still holds many of his memberships in professional and scientific societies, he no longer takes such an active role, believing that this responsibility should be left to those still in practice.

“While I still read the literature and follow what people are doing, I don’t want to be serving as a delegate or alternate because I don’t want to make decisions on policies that will impact practicing dentists when I’m no longer practicing,” he explained. “It’s like a driver’s license; you hate to give it up when you get old, but I did this for 45 years; I served my time.”

Over the years, Dr. Hoffman has seen a lot of things change in the industry, though not all for the better.

“Corporate dentistry is pushing independent dentistry the way of pharmacies; when corporations take over, mom-and-pop places can’t exist,” he said. “Single providers can’t compete on pricing and hours.

“Society is much more transient now, and there’s not as much loyalty to providers as there used to be,” he added. “When I was in practice, I treated the same patients, as well as their kids. With corporatization driving the field, people tend to go to different places instead of returning to the same practitioners.”

One of his hopes is that those entering the field will show the same work ethic that past generations have demonstrated, and will spend the time to learn the skills necessary to excel in the field. This includes taking part in organizational dentistry to promote the industry and to play a role in the future of the profession.

For his work in this area, the Pennsylvania Dental Association awarded Dr. Hoffman the 2021 Pennsylvania Dental Association Recognition Award, which is given to individuals whose achievements and high standards have aided and advanced the science and art of dentistry, and/or whose public life and activities have been of such a nature as to reflect great credit upon the health profession.

“I was surprised—I had planned to fade off into the sunset, and suddenly I’m being recognized,” he said. “Now that I’m retired, I believe that it’s time to pass the torch to the next generation and let them carry on.

“You can’t hang on forever, unless you’re like the people in Congress, running for a six-year term at the age of 87,” he said. “Somewhere along the line, you have to let go.”

**Vanessa Orr**

## Honoring Dr. Raymond R. Lancione's Career

Dr. Raymond Lancione has always known that he wanted to be a dentist, and despite retiring at age 87 in September 2019, he's still taking an active role in the industry, including serving as the oldest active board member of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania.

"If you look back at my high school yearbook in 1949, it quotes my ambition as dentistry. That sort of set the stage for the rest of my life," he said.

"I've always been creative and a Mr. Fix It, and that's what dentists do—we fix things," he continued. "I've always enjoyed working for and with people, and I think I was destined to be a caregiver."

Dr. Lancione, who had a thriving private practice in McDonald, PA, not only took care of generations of patients for more than 61 years, but also took on the care of his wife, Jessie, who suffered from frontal lobe dementia for more than a decade, and an aunt who came to live with him after his mother passed away. Despite this imposing time commitment, he still found ways to become involved in organized dentistry and in supporting and promoting the industry.

"My mentor, Dr. Kay F. Thompson, got me involved in organized dentistry many years ago because she felt it was important for dentists to be involved with groups that could work with the government on bills and legislation that not only helped dentists, but that served our patients and the public as well," Dr. Lancione explained.

"As I got older and my wife progressively became more ill, I was not able to do as much traveling, so I had to withdraw from a number of positions," he added. "But I still did my best to stay involved."

In addition to his current role on the dental society's board of directors, Dr. Lancione has served as the organization's past president and he still serves on its editorial review board. Other leadership roles including serving as a delegate to the American Dental Association's House of Delegates and as secretary, trustee and vice-president with the Pennsylvania Dental Association.

"I'm a life member of most organizations, and I remain pretty active, even if that's by Zoom," said Dr. Lancione, who adds that he is still a very active member of the Medical Bureau of



Pittsburgh as well as a life member of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Dental Medicine Alumni Council.

For his contributions, Dr. Lancione has received numerous accolades, including the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Pierre Fauchard Academy, of which he is a fellow; the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine; and the Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Dental Association, among many others.

In addition to remaining involved in all aspects of the industry, Dr. Lancione believes in the importance of mentoring the younger generation as well.

"In dental school, you don't learn about many of the things that a practicing dentist faces—it takes an experienced dentist to share the types of issues that we are confronted with in practice," he explained. "That's why younger dentists need to join dental societies when they graduate—they can learn things that they'd never learn in school."

He adds that being on top of the latest issues is critical to running a successful practice, and that being part of an organized group can help those in practice glean this information.

He cites the pandemic as an example.

"One of the biggest challenges that dentists face today is the COVID crisis; not only have they had to revamp their practices to accommodate the restrictions placed upon them, they've also had to completely retool their practices in every aspect to accommodate the sterilization procedures they now need to use to practice safe dentistry," said Dr. Lancione.

While it's hard to imagine Dr. Lancione being anything but a dentist, he says that his early experience working as a hospital laboratory technician while working his way through dental school piqued his interest in other fields.

"I truly enjoyed the practice of dentistry—especially being in general practice, because I don't think I would have enjoyed doing just one specialty," he said. "But if I hadn't done that, I would have still been in the science field; at Pitt, I was originally a bacteriology major.

"I would have gone on to get my Ph.D. and done research or something of that sort," he added. "In some way or another, I'd still be a caregiver."

**Vanessa Orr**

## Honoring Dr. Jay R. Wells, III's Career

One of the biggest benefits of working in the dental industry is that it offers a wealth of different opportunities and areas in which to practice. For Dr. Jay R. Wells, III, this included a chance to ply his trade in the military, in private practice, in higher education and for the Department of Corrections—in addition to a second career as a state legislator.

“Back in seventh grade, we were asked to write reports on what we'd like to do when we got out of school, and I got to thinking about Dr. Gosnell, my dentist in Upper St. Clair, who treated me so nicely. I decided I might like to do that,” Dr. Wells explained.

“Later on, tests I took in school showed that I had high skills in certain areas that might make law a good career. I told my mom and dad, and my mother said, ‘You’re going to be a dentist,’” he laughed. “So that was that.”

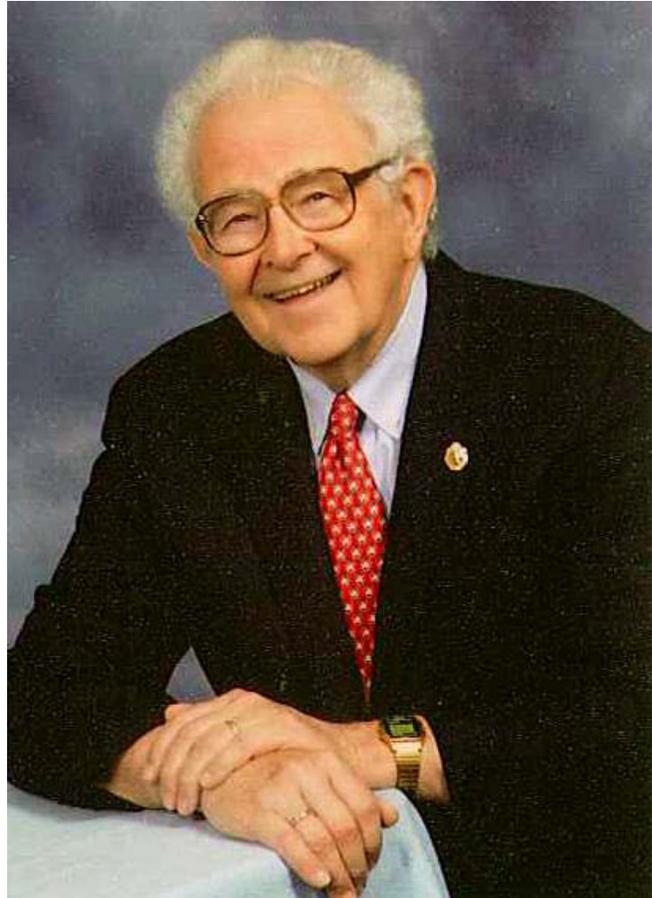
After earning his dental degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1965, Dr. Wells joined the U.S. Air Force Dental Corps, serving two years at Lackland AFB in San Antonio.

“I loved it there—it was a beautiful city with a great climate—but I always knew I'd come back to Bethel Park to open a practice,” he said of the office he opened in 1968.

In 1970, Dr. Wells decided to run for a position in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and he represented Bethel Park, South Park and Upper St. Clair for four years in that role. He also served as an instructor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine for 14 years while continuing to run his practice. In 1994, he opted to turn the office over to an associate, and became a staff dentist for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, working at SCI-Waynesburg and SCI-Fayette.

“I've always liked having a lot of people around, and unfortunately, that kind of interaction is limited in a small practice. In the prison system, you have corrections officers, nurses, physicians, administrators—I got a lot of enjoyment working with so many different people,” he explained of the position he held until 2006.

Dr. Wells' outgoing nature made him a natural to participate in organized dentistry, which gave him the opportunity to meet and network with peers and to have a say in issues that affect the industry. He has held numerous leadership roles in dental associations during his career, including



serving as president of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania and as a delegate to the House of Delegates for both the Pennsylvania Dental Association and the American Dental Association (ADA).

In 2021, Dr. Wells' service was recognized with the Pennsylvania Dental Association's Distinguished Service award.

"Oh my goodness, you could have blown me over when I heard," he laughed. "I was so amazed—it just came out of the blue. I am so thankful to everyone who did that on my behalf."

The doctor is not resting on his laurels, however. He still serves on the Pennsylvania Dental Association's Government Relations Committee and on the board of directors of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania. He is also an alternate for the ADA's upcoming annual meeting in Las Vegas.

"There's strength in numbers; the more people join, the stronger the profession becomes," Dr. Wells explained of his willingness to serve. "It's especially important to speak as one voice when dealing with government organizations.

"Not only that, but membership in these organizations gives dentists access to all of their publications as well as continuing education so that they can stay up-to-date and improve their knowledge and techniques," he added.

He noted that advances in science alone require dentists to stay on top of things, as do the challenges facing the profession today.

"I think the biggest issue is non-dentists who are able to exert such inordinately strong influence over dentistry, such as insurance carriers or third-party payors," he said. "They have no concept of the amount of time and effort it takes to treat patients during various procedures, nor of the amount of overhead that it takes to have all of the staff required including hygienists, assistants, office managers and lab technicians.

"Even as inflation continues, they want to reduce the amount that dentists are reimbursed for procedures, which is totally unfair to practitioners, and there has to be something done to control these insurance companies who currently have the upper hand," he continued. "They have millions of dollars to use for lobbying to offset the efforts of dentists to improve the quality of care for patients."

He added that this is why it's so important for dentists to get involved in their local, state and national dental organizations.

"It's your profession, and if you want the best for it and for your patients, that's the way to do it," he said. "The goal is always to make tomorrow better than yesterday, so organize and work together for the betterment of all. Don't be that person who joins an organization while in school, then goes into your office and is never seen again."

**Vanessa Orr**

## **PDA Webinars Available**

Virtual gatherings and informative webinars have become a big part of things during the pandemic. PDA has provided numerous virtual programs, and you can find all of the recorded webinars, including the Leadership e-Series “Bridging the Info Gap” programs, on the PDA Go mobile app. On the app, go to Resources and find the Webinars folder containing a single interactive document. You can also find webinars on PDA’s website, on the Membership tab, by scrolling down and clicking on Webinars to visit the page with all available recordings.



Save up to  
**25%**  
when you purchase  
commercial & personal  
insurance through PDAIS.\*

**PDAIS**  
Pennsylvania Dental Association  
Insurance Services

PDAIS.com | (877) 732-4748



## Put the pliers down, let the pros do their job.

Some brokers just send you the candidate  
and leave all the heavy work to you -  
*Would your patient pull their own teeth?*

Trust your practice sale to an *experienced  
full service broker* who has had hundreds  
of practice sales.



(877) 365-6786  
choicetransitions.com



## Considering selling to a DSO? Don't, until you read this.

“

Choice walked me through the process, presented the best offers, and made the experience much less stressful by handling all the negotiations. In the end, I received more for my practice than I ever expected. The best part is that Choice provided all the consultation and services to me without charging any fees! If you are considering selling to a DSO, I highly recommend you contact Choice instead of directly contacting the DSOs.

”

**Commission free. DSO Choice.**

(877) 365-6786 • choicetransitions.com



## CLASSIFIED ADS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

### BUYING OR SELLING A PRACTICE? NEED AN ASSOCIATE? LOOKING FOR A NEW POSITION? NEED A VALUATION?



While United Dental Brokers of America (UDBA) conducts business throughout the USA, it is headquartered in Pittsburgh. UDBA has sold practices ranging from \$200K to \$7.5 million along with placing associates throughout the country. **Please call us for an absolutely-free consultation.** UDBA is a firm with a National Reach, but a Personal Touch!  
**Bob Septak (412) 931-1040, [bob@udba.biz](mailto:bob@udba.biz) – [www.udba.biz](http://www.udba.biz)**

**WANTED: A good home for two dental units in good condition**, manufactured by Forest Affordable Excellence, Hillsboro, OR and purchased ten years ago from Patterson Dental. Made for a dentist who works standing but could be adapted for someone who sits to work. If interested, contact Bonnie Kautz 724.478.4576

---

## ADVERTISING POLICY

**Classified:** Members – a minimum charge of \$40 for the first 35 words. Non-Members – a minimum charge of \$50 for the first 35 words – fifty cents for each additional word. \$10 for a Box number. **ALL classified ads must be paid for upon submission and must be typewritten or printed.**

**Policy:** Although the DSWP believes that advertisements published herein are from reputable sources, the Society neither investigates the offers or assumes responsibility for them. The DSWP reserves the right to decline or withdraw advertising.

**Box Numbers:** Box numbers are provided to insure the confidentiality of our advertisers. Replies to box number ads should be addressed to: Classified Department, Box Number \_\_\_\_\_, The Bulletin. The box number must appear on the envelope; names of box number advertisers cannot be revealed. All responses will be mailed, unopened, to the advertiser immediately upon receipt.

**Mailing Address:** The Bulletin, 900 Cedar Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

# Ways to contribute...

**Website**  
*(credit card)*

[www.padental.org/padpac](http://www.padental.org/padpac)

Donate Now --- Personal Contribution

Donate Now -- Foundation

Donate Now - Corporate

**Check**

*Mail or deliver in person:*

PADPAC / PDA  
 P.O Box 3341  
 Harrisburg, PA 17105

**Phone**  
*(credit card)*

*John Basial*  
 Government Relations Manager  
 717-234-5941 ext.108



# Thanks for your support!



\$2500+



\$1000+



\$500-\$999



\$200-\$499



\$120-\$199



\$5

PADPAC contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal Law requires political action committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions exceed \$200 or more in a calendar year. Federal election laws require PDA to record whether a contribution is hard or soft. Political campaign contributions can be made with a personal check or credit card. Personal contributions ("hard dollars") can be used to support state legislative candidates and corporate contributions ("soft dollars") can be used only for PADPAC administrative expenses. A maximum of \$40 of your hard dollar contribution will be sent to the American Dental Association Political Action Committee (ADPAC). The PADPAC board determines a lump sum amount of soft dollars contributed to ADPAC annually. There is no minimum amount you must contribute to PADPAC.

Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania  
900 Cedar Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
PERMIT NO. 5046

The Bulletin is published bimonthly and represents the nine counties the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania comprises: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Washington, and Westmoreland. The DSWP, PDA, ADA or any of its subsidiaries, councils, or agencies does not necessarily endorse statements of opinion. Letters to the Editor must be signed and may be edited. Communications should be addressed to the Editor, 900 Cedar Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

The Society telephone: (412) 321-5810. FAX: (412)  
321-7719.

Our website is [www.dswp.org](http://www.dswp.org)  
The Society's email address is  
[threeriversdental@verizon.net](mailto:threeriversdental@verizon.net)

All copy for publication in The Bulletin must be in the hands of the editor by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month preceding the next issue. Copy received after that date, if still newsworthy, may be published in the next issue.