

THE BULLETIN

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 6

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE DENTAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



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MEET THE NEW EDITOR DR. BETH TROY

Although I am the “new” Editor, this position is familiar to me. I held the Editor position from 2011-2013, when The Bulletin was a print-only publication. In recent years, The Bulletin transitioned from print to online, giving DSWP members 24/7 online access to The Bulletin via the website. We have continued to print one annual issue, coinciding with registration for the annual fall meeting.



After completing Editor duties in 2013, I was elected Vice President and moved along the DSWP ranks, eventually to President for 2016-2017. I am happy to be back with The Bulletin, and look forward to providing quality information to our members.

A bit more about me: I am an orthodontist in the South Hills with two locations. I am married and have two cats. I have a modest garden, sing in church choir, and love hiking and biking with my husband, Dane. Due to COVID and all of the social distancing/airline uncertainties/stress(!) involved, we have made walking and hiking a priority in our lives. Our vacations now center around outdoor activities and how we can add miles and mud to our boots.

We most recently returned from our annual trip to Canaan Valley, WV. We meet up with friends there every fall, just in time to call ourselves “peepers.” The leaves changed early in the higher elevations, a much different scene than our greener landscape in southwestern PA. I felt a sincere peace and sense of awe in the mountains, woods, and valleys, as I do every time we make the 3-hour drive. It was a vacation where I could truly relax, reconnect with dear friends, and retreat into the beauty of nature.

I have enjoyed working on this November/December issue and hope you find it informative. I would like to include more articles and photos from you, the members. Please don’t hesitate to email the Society anytime with content for The Bulletin or questions in general. And if you are interested in getting involved, even in a small way, contact the Society. There is always a way to be involved!



DSWP Past Presidents Memorial Lecture Series

January 28, 2022 CE

Course descriptions, educational objectives and speaker biography

Updates on the State of General Practice from Materials to Technology in the Current Dental Practice Climate

6 credit hours

This one day will be jam packed full of practical information as well serve to stimulate and inspire direction for the entire group. Whether you are a seasoned clinician or newly graduated, we believe you will find great value in Dr Suh's candor and transparency as he shares a wealth of info for a day with all of us.

Goal will be to break up the day into the following practical categories:

- Perspectives and updates on the state of indirect dental materials, adhesives, and cements.
- Practical concepts on how to successfully integrate emerging dental technology.
- Evolution of the role of the dentist in leadership with respect to communicating with the team and with the patient.
- Perspectives on the role of the general dentist against the backdrop of DSO/corporate dental groups.



Presented by: Dr. Edmond Suh

Dr. Suh is fast becoming one of the most recognized names in the field of contemporary dentistry. His down to earth, real life approach to systematically implementing contemporary techniques into the private practice is what has made him highly sought after as a speaker since 2002.

From esthetic principles to simplifying complex adhesive protocols to streamlined practice management, the topics covered are true to life and have resulted in many success stories both here in the US and Internationally.

Dr. Suh is currently a Core Director at the Las Vegas Institute for Dental Learning, the former clinical director for the Nash Institute for Dental Learning, former Adjunct Professor at the UNC School of Dentistry, and serves on the Board of Contemporary Product Solutions. Dr. Suh also serves as a Key Opinion Leader for numerous dental manufacturers.

Register for this course through PDA's website. Visit: www.padental.org/calendar.
Scroll to the course and click!

Updates for 2023 License Renewal: It is not too early to plan your CE requirements

To renew a dental license in March 2023, dentists need 30 hours of CE completed in the two-year period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023, including at least 15 hours of in-person CE. Live, virtual courses where participants can interact with the speaker in real time count as in-person CE. Recorded or non-interactive webinars would be considered self-study credits. It is important to note that dental licensees can no longer fulfill 100% of their CE requirement with self-study courses.

CE requirements for child abuse (Act 31) and opioids (Act 124) are part of the 30 hours--not in addition to the 30-hour requirement. Two CE credits in pain management alternatives, identification of addiction, or opioid prescribing practices (Act 124) is required for dentists who have a DEA registration or use a DEA registration as allowed by law. Act 31 requires dentists, hygienists, and EFDAs to earn two CE credits in child abuse recognition and reporting from a state-approved provider.

CPR recertification must include an in-person component. The in-person requirement also applies to Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) and/or Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) recertification for anesthesia unrestricted permit or restricted I permit holders.

Dentists with an unrestricted permit need 15 CE credits related to general anesthesia and deep sedation, while restricted permit I holders need 15 CE credits related to conscious sedation. These required CE credits also count toward the 30 credits needed to renew a dental license.

PDA's new program, FREE for members:

Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting

for Dental Professionals

PDA's new program, Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting for Dental Professionals, satisfies the Act 31 CE requirement and is now available online as a self-study course. The course is complimentary for PDA members and \$25 for non-dentist team members.

Other self-study courses that are complimentary for member dentists include:

- HIPAA Compliance for Dental Teams, 1 CE credit
- Principles of Infection Prevention and Control for Dentistry, 1 CE credit
- OSHADontics--Work Place Safety for Dental Offices, 1 CE credit
- Pain Management Alternatives and Identification of Addiction (satisfies Act 124), 2 CE credits
- Promoting Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination in Primary Care and Dental Practices, 2 CE credits
- Radiation Protection Update, 2 CE credits

Visit www.padental.org, go to “Events” tab, click “Continuing Education” for requirements, or click “Event Calendar” for list of available CE, including in-person (PDA Events) and virtual (Prerecorded Events).

FREE Member Benefits:

New Guidance from the ADA on Digital Radiology

and

PDA Updated Radiology Online Course

Department of Environmental Protection regulations require individuals who are authorized to operate an x-ray machine to complete continuing education specific to radiology. Most dental offices are classified as performing low-risk procedures, and must complete CE at least every 4 years. **Dental offices with cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) machines are classified as performing high-risk procedures, and must complete CE every 2 years.** Regardless of frequency, CE must address radiation safety, biological effects of radiation, quality assurance, and quality control.

On June 4, 2021, the ADA released new quality assurance guidance for digital intra-oral radiographic systems. **The booklet is free to members**, a \$37 value. Call the ADA Catalog at (800) 947-4746 or download yours today at <https://ebusiness.ada.org>.

In addition, on July 31, 2021, the PDA Environmental Issues Advisory Group revamped and updated the **Online Radiology Course, available free to members** and to their staff for a small fee.

Visit www.padental.org, go to “Events” tab, click “Event Calendar,” click “Prerecorded Events” to access the Radiology course.





YOUR MEMBERSHIP. YOUR INVESTMENT.

Program or Service

ROI (return on investment)

PDA worked to get dental offices reopened by May 8, 2020

Priceless

ADA advocated for and obtained PPP loans and EIDL grants for dentists & dental specialists

\$10,000s or more per practice



ADA/PDA COVID-19 Updates, PDA Information & Resources

Priceless

PDA advocated for members and their staff with a letter to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission raising concerns about increasing license and permit fees during the pandemic.

\$47 per dentist license renewal.

The State Board of Dentistry ultimately decided not to raise fees for the 2021 renewal period.



PDA's online continuing education platform provided complimentary self-study courses for license renewal during the pandemic when in-person courses weren't an option.

\$1,000s in savings for members.

President's Report: John Pawlowicz, DMD

None of us would have imagined the challenges the last two years have presented our profession. Prior to March of 2020, organized dentistry was focused on the priorities of recruiting younger dentists to membership, insurance reimbursement challenges for advanced technologies and techniques and the dental needs of an aging American population.

We had made great strides in educating our patients on the benefits of tooth preservation, disease prevention and the systemic link between oral and cardiac health. The profession had never had a higher profile regarding advancements in dental implants and innovative orthodontic treatments. Yes, dental treatments had become as ubiquitous as pharmaceutical commercials. There was even the birth of a subscription club for toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss.

Patients presented to the office understanding the benefits of digital radiographs, periodontal therapy, oral cancer screenings and tooth replacement. The internet and social media were bridging the gap between hygienists, dentists and patients like never before. Patients expected the dental team to keep up with new technologies and techniques and organized dentistry was poised to re-energize the continuing education offerings for our membership. In fact, the Western Pennsylvania Dental Society had just come off our largest and most successful Three Rivers Conference in recent years.

Covid changed everything. Here in Pennsylvania, the role of organized dentistry quickly became one of information dissemination, rumor control and advocacy to a state government determined to regulate without engaging with dental professionals. Fortunately, the local and state dental society leadership was ready to work through quixotic governmental regulations and financial rescue programs. The society offered support and assistance to dentists and their teams as they digested accurate scientific information regarding virus spread prevention and mitigation efforts. The society became a sounding board and supply chain support regarding the office equipment and upgraded PPE needed to safely re-open to comprehensively treating our patients.



President's Report, continued

Congratulations all around to the leadership and membership for emerging from the virus. As we looked forward to the 2021 year, we expected to breathe easier, return to normal and focus on the pre-pandemic goals of increasing membership, expansion of procedures covered by and increased reimbursement from third party payers and in-person continuing education. However, we were instead faced with the challenges of hiring and retaining staff, colleagues choosing retirement over returning to the office and increased practice overhead and debt incurred to safely outfit our offices and teams with proper PPE and mitigation equipment. We have not had the quick and rapid return to normal that we all wanted for our business, teams, patients, and families. However, the benefits of organized dentistry continue to be clear and more important than ever. The resources offered by the Western PA chapter, the PDA and the ADA for talent acquisition, practice transition, financial counseling and banking support, we recognize that we can look forward to emerging stronger than we were before. Instead of operating alone in our respective offices, we have had to come together as a dental community to advocate and support colleagues as we all weigh the future opportunities for our individual and group practices.

The challenge of the dental society is clear – reach out to new dentists who enter the profession with the most untraditional dental education. Mentor them, welcome them into the professional community and support their growth and transition. Invite a new graduate or two to join you at a continuing education event, offer to explain how organized dentistry stepped up and advocated for dentists' rights to reopen and provide care as essential members of the health care team. Support the dental schools and residencies in the area by building relationships with students, residents and recent grads. Brush up on your own CE and branch out to something new as an unlimited amount of content is offered on a virtual platform in which we have all become fluent. Collaborate with other dentists in your town to offer services to the underserved and those left financially devastated by the changes brought by Covid. Get out of the office and get involved. The future of dentistry is indeed bright. As we emerge from the pandemic, let us do it refocused, stronger as a local society, ready to embrace the challenges and promises of the future together.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president. I am proud to call you all colleagues and friends. Good luck to Dr. Denny Zabelsky as he assumes the role of your new president in 2022.

**ALL MEMBERS OF
THE DENTAL
SOCIETY OF
WESTERN PA ARE
INVITED TO
ATTEND THE
**ANNUAL
BUSINESS
MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 17,
2021 AT 7:00PM****



PLEASE CALL THE DENTAL SOCIETY OFFICE
AT 412-321-5810
FOR A **ZOOM INVITATION**
TO THIS ONLINE MEETING



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 or (717) 234-5941 to request a dues quote.





On October 22-23, 2021, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, local dentists, hygienists, assistants, and lay volunteers provided free dental care to those in need.

A big THANK YOU to all volunteers who provided quality care to over 950 patients!!!

Visit www.mompgh.org for more information.







LOCATION

Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh
c/o a Call to Care, Inc.
The Times Building
336 Fourth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

CONTACT

E: info@MOMpgh.org



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Special Olympics Pennsylvania provides year-round training and competition to nearly 20,000 individuals, ranging from eight to 80, with intellectual disabilities in a variety of Olympic-type sports. This gives them opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and more.

Athletes might receive referrals for follow-up care from Healthy Athletes. Healthy Athletes is designed to improve athletes' health and fitness in order to enhance their ability to train and compete in Special Olympics. All of these programs are non-invasive screenings designed to offer additional support at no cost to our athletes and their families.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania is committed to assisting athletes find the services and resources that they require when they return to their local communities.

This is an opportunity for you to become a provider to an under-served, yet very deserving population. Completing this application does not require you to offer free or reduced services or add anything to your normal services. It is simply a way for us to include your contact information within our directory.

As a part of completing the provider application, individuals will automatically be provided information on Special Olympics Pennsylvania as well as resource about working with individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Providers Special Olympics Pennsylvania is looking to add to their directory:

- Podiatrist
- Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant
- Physician, Physician Assistant and Nurse Practitioner
- Audiologists and Otolaryngologist
- Optometrist or Ophthalmologist
- Dentistry
- Specialties
- Psychologist, Licensed Social Worker, Licensed Counselor and Behavior Analyst
- Dietitians

Interested in becoming a provider and being listed on the Special Olympics Pennsylvania directory?

Complete and sign the application entirely online at:

<https://form.jotform.us/71025976998171>



For more information, contact Charla Stein, Healthy Communities Coordinator,
at cstein@specialolympicspa.org or call 610-630-9450 ext. 254.



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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 articles from the membership. Thank you for your input and support!



CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE!!!

NOVEMBER 3-4, 2022

Out of an abundance of caution, the 2021 meeting has been replaced by a series of one-day continuing education seminars that may be virtual or in-person as circumstances permit.

Your safety and the safety of all attendees
is our priority.

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50 years of Membership

Honorees 2020-2021

Thank you to the following members who are
celebrating 50 years
of dedicated service to dentistry and to the
Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania

Dr. Edwin Assid

Dr. Philip Dahar

Dr. Larry Kostyal

Dr. Don Lamparski

Dr. Jeffrey Frand

Dr. Robert Howes



2021 DSWP Century Club Members

The Century Club was conceived by Dr. Curtis Morrow, and the suggested contribution amount was set at \$100; thus the name Century Club was born. The funds collected are to be used as the Society officers deem necessary. The Society has benefitted by the generosity of Century Club members over the years. This contribution is given by the Active/Retired Life Members and Retired Members of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dr. Ralph C. Affinito, Jr. | Dr. Charles S. Jones |
| Dr. Nelson Berardinelli | Dr. Ralph Kemerer |
| Dr. Elaine Berkowitz | Dr. Raymond Lancione |
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| Dr. Howard Charlebois | Dr. Michael Rosella |
| Dr. V. Lynne Cochran (deceased) | Dr. William D. Schmidt (deceased) |
| Dr. James Doyle | Dr. Cynthia L. Schuler |
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| Dr. Richard Hansen | Dr. Robert Weyant |
| Dr. Paul Hess | Dr. Jay R. Wells, III |
| Dr. John Kautz (In memory of) | Dr. Mark Wilson |
| Dr. Betty Hirschfield Louik | Dr. Edward Torba |
| Dr. Michael Hladio | Dr. L. Gordon Walters |
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DSWP Past Presidents Memorial Lecture Series

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Register for these courses
through the PDA website
www.padental.org.

You will receive an email
from the PDA to register.

March 4, 2022

"Implant Maintenance: What actually works!" & "Choreographing the Recall Visit Dance"

Presented by Dr. Tim Donley, 6 credit hours

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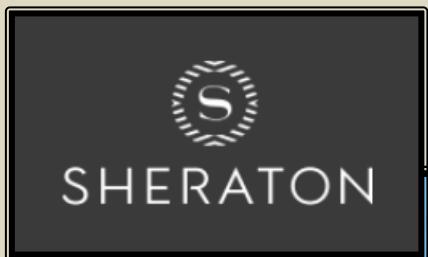
Pennsylvania's

Dental Meeting

(PDM)

PDM will be held April 29-30, 2022, at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel with virtual and in-person courses exploring advancements in dentistry.

Mark your calendar and plan to participate!
For more information, visit www.padental.org/PDM.



CANCELLED

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 cancers will be newly diagnosed in a new individuals each day in the US a person dies from oral cancer every day. The oropharynx is one of the most sites of head and neck cancer in the United States. It is estimated that 11,000-13,000 cases of oropharyngeal cancer are diagnosed in the United States each year. The vast majority of these tumors are squamous cell carcinoma which arises from squamous 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 incidence of 6.2 per 100,000 men compared to 1.5 per 100,000 women. Incidence in the U.S. is highest among white and black men, and lowest among Hispanics, Native Americans and Asian Islanders. Despite decreasing rates of tobacco and alcohol use, the rates of oropharyngeal cancer have trended steadily upward over 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 oral HPV infection and the development of related oropharyngeal cancer is estimated to be between 15 and 30 years. Unfortunately, the majority are found as late stage cancers and this accounts for the very high mortality rate of about 43% at five years from diagnosis, all stages and etiologies combined (including diagnosis), and high treatment related complications in survivors. This course is designed to review the pathophysiology of oropharyngeal cancer, emerging trends in cancer management, and

Learning Objectives:

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.

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\$5

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021 CLASSIFIED ADS

**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.** UBDA is a firm with a National Reach, but a Personal touch!

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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 nor 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.

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

The Society's email address is
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