

CONTACT

Madison, Wisconsin
MARCH 2001
Dave Walther, Editor
VOL. 9 NO. 1

DANE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY *NEWS BULLETIN*

DANE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY MEETINGS: UPCOMING

ALL DAY MEETING

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2001

Place: *Best Western-Inn Towner*
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Topic: **Oral Health Products for Home Use: What Should I Recommend?**
Speaker: Karen Baker, Ph.D., M.S.
Host: Dr. Patrick Tepe (608) 848-4000

ALL DAY MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2001

Place: *Radisson Inn, Madison*
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Topic: **"Everybody Wants to Go to Heaven, But Nobody Wants to Die: The Reality of Removable Prosthodontics"**
Speaker: Dr. M. Nader Sharifi, D.D.S., M.S.
Host: Dr. Jane Busch 849-5343

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 4 & 5, 2001

Place: *Midwest Express Center, Milwaukee*
Topic: **The Jewel of the Great Lakes**
Host: WDA 1-800-364-7646

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DANE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, January 9, 2001 - Houlihan's Restaurant

Present: Drs. D. Walther, C. Gjertson, G. Lofgren, J. Hartjes, K. Killian, P. Lorge, D. Sherraden, B. Veerman, B. Jaeger

I. Secretary's Report - Written by E. teDuits

Approved - B. Veerman, Seconded - J. Hartjes

II. Treasurer's Report: Presented by J. Hartjes

Approved - B. Veerman, Seconded - D. Walther

Checking	\$ 3,449.60
MoneyMarket	3,671.47
Smith Barney	<u>79,998.90</u>
Total Assets	\$87,119.87

III. President's Report - Presented by K. Killian

- A) Support for the Dane County Fluoride supplement program was voted on and approved. We will continue to support the program as needed. Our budget allows for \$1,500 towards this program.
- B) Nominations for Foreign Country Volunteers were discussed with Dr. Greg Stroncek as a possible candidate.
- C) Nominations for the Access Recognition Award were discussed with Dr. Kathy Kelly and Drs. teDuits, Kinzel as possible candidates.
- D) The toothbrush fund still has toothbrushes to be given out.
- E) Discussed the Seal a Smile Program.

- F) The Access to Care meeting held in Madison came up with a few ideas:
- i) There will be an attempt to get a full-time dentist in the Harambee clinic and a possible Federal grant was discussed to aid in this effort.
 - ii) A motion was made to require Dane County Dental Society members to volunteer at least a day a year at Harambee clinic.

IV. Trustee's Report - None was given.

V. Adjournment - Moved - B. Veerman, Seconded - J. Hartjes

Respectfully submitted, Joel Hartjes, D.D.S. Secretary

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DANE COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, February 13, 2001 - Biaggi's Restaurant

Present: Drs. D. Walther, C. Gjertson, G. Lofgren, J. Hartjes, K. Killian, E. teDuits, B. Veerman, B. Jaeger, F. Jaeger, Maureen Oostdik-Hurd

I. Secretary's Report - Written by J. Hartjes
Approved - D. Walther, Seconded - K. Killian

- II. Department of Public Health Report - Maureen Oostdik-Hurd
Access to care follow-up meetings came up with three recommendations:
- A) Increase capacity at Harambee Clinic with a full-time dentist to start by July 1. The clinic has received a grant to partially fund salaries of a dentist and an assistant.
 - B) Increase reimbursement for Medical Assistance. This can be helped by contacting members of the legislature.
-Recommendation to increase reimbursement to the 75th percentile
-Possible expansion of duties for dental assistants with unlimited delegation in the office
 - C) Need to get the message out to increase public awareness of access to care issues

III. Treasurer's Report - Unavailable

- IV. President's Report - Presented by K. Killian
- A) Old Business - none
 - B) New Business
 - 1. Pyramids of Pride Nominations were discussed and will be addressed at the next meeting
 - 2. Legislative Day is March 13, 2001 - all encouraged to attend

- V. Trustee's Report - Presented by F. Jaeger
- A) WDA Contact Network was discussed. This is a network of dentists in key legislative districts to educate their elected officials on the WDA's positions regarding dental related policies. Board members were selected to find 9 other dentists to be part of the network to contact area legislators.

VI. Adjournment - Moved - K. Killian, Seconded - J. Hartjes

Respectfully submitted, Joel Hartjes, D.D.S. Secretary

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GENERAL INTEREST

Origins & Meanings

The first toothpaste in recorded history was devised by the Egyptians in 2000 BC. It was made from powdered pumice stone and strong wine vinegar.

Early Roman toothpaste, used in the first century, was made with human urine. Roman physicians believed that brushing with urine whitened teeth and kept them in their sockets more firmly. Urine was used as an active ingredient in mouthwashes and toothpastes until the 18th century. The urine had cleaning ammonia molecules, that the early dentists were unwittingly making use of for cleaning teeth.

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Trivia with Teeth

Listerine is considered to be the first modern day mouthwash. What year was it introduced?

- A) 1914 B) 1924 C) 1954 D) 1964

Answer below

A

ANNOUNCEMENT:
Agenda
WDA Legislative Day 2001
Concourse Hotel
Madison, WI
Tuesday, March 13, 2001
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

8:30 Registration, rolls and coffee

8:50 Welcome Dr. Jim Springborn, WDA President-Elect
Overview of Agenda & Introduction of Sponsors (WDAPS & WDAIP)

9:00 Co-Chair of Joint Finance Rep. John Gard
2001-03 Budget Overview
Dentist Question and Answer Period

9:30 State Senate Assistant Majority Leader Rod Moen
Legislative Council Special Study Committee Overview (co-chair)
Dentist Question and Answer Period

10:15 How to Host a Fundraiser - Dr. Paul Gruber
Overview of Handout on How to Host a Fundraiser

10:30 How to Recruit Members to Attend Legislative Day - Dr. Patrick Laughlin

10:45 WDA Leadership Panel on Dental Issues
Dr. Thomas Hughes, President
Dr. James Springborn, President-Elect
Dr. Michael Donohoo, Vice President
Dr. Timothy Kinzel, Legislative Chair
Mr. Pete Christianson, Contract Lobbyist
Ms. Mara Brooks, WDA Government Services Director

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Visits with Legislators
Call Your Legislators Before March 13 to Set Up Afternoon Meetings
Please fill out and return contact forms after your visits!!

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LOCAL NEWS

Maureen Oostdik-Hurd, RDH and Dr. Stan Brysh, Meriter, Max Pohle Clinic reported to the DCDS Board of Trustees on the "Solutions Meeting" last month held to address the problem of access to care. The committee is addressing the problem with a three phase plan.

Phase I: Increase Capacity. By increasing funds and support, including staffing, of local charitable facilities such as Harambee, it is hopeful that more patients will be served.

Phase II: Unified Voice. Community leaders, legislators, and dentists must work together to accomplish these goals.

Phase III: Education. Getting the message out to the community through the schools (presently funded by the DCDS), the medical profession, and through the media via "The Public Awareness Campaign" (supported by the WDA).

This is no doubt a complex problem which many dentists believe could be solved with adequate compensation by the State of Wisconsin for basic dental procedures.

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An Open Letter to DCDS Members

February 26, 2001

Dear Colleague:

We need your help. As many of you know, Marquette University School of Dentistry and Elder Care of Dane County have recently developed a unique partnership. Elder Care is a non-profit organization that serves a population of approximately 400 frail elderly. Elder Care's mission is keep its participants in the least-restrictive, most independent home setting as possible for as long as possible. Elder Care is capitated by Medicare and Medicaid to provide complete health care (including dental services) for its participants.

Marquette's dental residency program is providing dental care at Elder Care, in Madison, two or three days during the week. The dental clinic at Elder Care features two operatories with new equipment. Elder Care employs a full-time dental hygienist, who serves as a dental assistant when dentists are on-site.

I will be at the clinic every Friday. However, we have a need for Madison-area dentists to assist us on other days. The clinic sees Elder Care participants from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in teaching, being part of an exceptional program for elderly patients, and having a faculty appointment at Marquette University School of Dentistry, I encourage you to contact us. We would be happy to consider any amount of time you are able to share with us: a half-day or full day, weekly, monthly, or several times per year.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Sharon Larson at Elder Care. she can be reached at 245-3065.

Sincerely,

Bill O'Brien, DDS

Director of Special Patient Care/Program Director

Advanced Education in General Dentistry

Marquette University School of Dentistry

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NATIONAL NEWS

How will OSHA's ergonomics standard affect dentists?

by Craig Palmer

The Association will testify at the public hearings, which begin March 13 in Washington, D.C., and continue in Chicago and Portland, Ore. Dr. Connie M. Verhagen, testifying in Chicago April 12, will reiterate the Association position, expressed February 1 in written comments to OSHA, that the proposed standard is inappropriate for dental offices.

OSHA should delay implementing a standard as it applies to dental offices and clinics until sufficient dental-specific, scientifically valid and objective information is available, the Association told the regulatory agency.

This report summarizes the proposed standard as it might apply to the typical dental office. At this time, however, it is only a proposal.

OSHA is likely to modify the proposed standard based on the extensive comments it has received and will continue receiving through the public hearings from groups, organizations and individuals representing diverse interests. How extensive the charges might be and how they might affect dental offices cannot be determined at this time.

This ADA News/ADA News Daily report is based on the proposed OSHA standard, a review of the standard by relevant Association agencies and the Association's formal written response to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. It is a journalistic summary and informational report and is not intended as legal advice.

For other reports on the ergonomics proposal see the ADA News August 4, 1997, February 16, 1998, December 13, 1999, February 7 and March 6 and the ADA News Daily archives online.

When Does It Take Effect?

OSHA officials speak optimistically of issuing a final standard late this year. Most observers believe it is more realistic to expect final regulations in 2001.

The final standard will take effect 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. The provisions will be phased in over a three-year period with no distinctions between small and large employers in the timetable for compliance.

A three-year phase-in offers ample time "even for very small employers" to get up to speed with the requirements, OSHA said in the proposal.

The implementation schedule, like other parts of the proposed standard, is subject to change.

Who is Covered?

Most dentists will not be affected by the ergonomics regulation, OSHA said. Where employers do not have manual handling jobs or jobs "that have given rise to a covered musculoskeletal disorder (MSD)," the standard would not apply in any respect.

Most dental practices that will be affected by the regulation, some 12 percent by OSHA's estimate, have what OSHA said are "manual handling" jobs in which "forceful lifting/lowering, pushing/pulling or carrying" are "a core element of" the employee's job.

Dentists cannot legally rotate licensed clinicians through different jobs, the ADA told the regulatory agency. Neither the hygienist or the dental assistant can perform a root canal, and the bookkeeper cannot clean a patient's teeth.

In the case of a covered MSD, said the ADA, the dentist would have to hire and pay a replacement employee while continuing salary and benefits for an injured employee. These and other costs to covered dentists are "potentially catastrophic," the Association said.

Estimated Costs

By OSHA's estimate, the proposed ergonomics standard in its first year of effectiveness will affect 15 percent of the nation's dental offices and clinics at an annualized cost to an affected practice of \$583. But every dental practice by OSHA's measure will spend \$75 a year just to understand the rules.

The ADA challenged those estimates as significantly understated.

"The Association believes virtually all dental facilities will face thousands of dollars of additional costs, and some may be burdened with tens of thousands of dollars of additional expenditures due to the proposed standard," said the Association's formal comment to OSHA on the proposal.

The proposed standard would apply to general industry including health care facilities but for now will not apply to the agriculture, construction and maritime industries for which OSHA has "less well developed data on ergonomics solutions" to MSD problems.

Among potentially affected industry groups are dental laboratories, OSHA estimates the regulations will affect one in five medical and dental labs at an OSHA-estimated first year cost of \$2,404 per covered lab.

OSHA estimates the standard will prevent 300,000 MSDs, costing employers about \$4.2 billion a year to apply the rules while saving them \$9 billion a year by reducing the costs of lost work and related medical and insurance costs.

Public Hearings

Public hearings on OSHA's proposed ergonomics standard begin March 13 in Washington, D.C. continuing through April 7.

- Hearings continue in Chicago April 11-12, in the Assembly Hall at the James R. Thompson Center, State of Illinois Bldg., 100 West Randolph St., and
- April 24-May 3 in Portland, Ore., Courtroom 16 at the Mark Hatfield Federal Court House, 1000 Southwest 3rd Ave.,
- Concluding May 8-12 in Washington, D.C. at a location to be announced.

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CONTACT

49 North Walbridge
Madison, WI 53714

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