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MDA NEWS



Winter 2017
 Volume 3 Number 2

What's Inside?



Dentists Who Care for ME - see p. 11

Mentorship Program Update	2
From the President's Corner	3
From The ADA First District Trustee's Corner	4
Updates From The MDA	5
Legislative Update	8
From A Student's Perspective	9
MDA Booth At Yankee	10
ADA Lobbyist Conference	12
New ICD Fellows	15
Continuing Education Courses, In The News	16
Classifieds	17-19

Get ready for opioid prescribing provisions

Peter Drews, President of MDA
 Executive Board

What do the Minnesota Dental Association and the Maine Dental Association (MDA) have in common? Clue: The Mid-Level Dental Therapy Program at the University of Minnesota has nothing to do with the question. Answer: Both were incorporated in 1867.

This year the MDA is celebrating its 150th Anniversary!

Just eight years earlier, in 1859, twenty-six dentists met in Niagara Falls, NY to form the American Dental Association. In 1860, the ADA adopted its first

(continued on page 7)

Maine Dental Association

MDA to celebrate milestone birthday at 2017 convention

150



YEARS

Don't miss the 2017 Maine Dental Association Annual Convention, June 2-3, 2017, at the Harborside Hotel, Marina, and Spa in Bar Harbor.

2017 marks the MDA's 150th anniversary, and we are planning to mark the special occasion at this year's convention.

The Harborside offers spectacular views of Maine's coast and its steps from Bar Harbor's downtown and whale watching tours, a few miles from Acadia National Park, and 20 minutes from Hancock County-Bar Harbor Airport.

Dr. Tieraona Low Dog and Dr. Gordon J. Christensen will both be presenting at

this year's event.

Dr. Low Dog, whose presentation will be "The Fire Within: Nutrition and Lifestyle Approaches to Chronic Inflammation," is an internationally recognized expert in the fields of integrative medicine, dietary supplements, herbal medicine and women's health. She has been an invited speaker to more than 550 scientific/medical conferences, published 40 peer-reviewed articles, written 20 chapters for medical textbooks, and has authored five books.

Dr. Christensen, whose course will be "The Christensen Bottom Line: The Areas

(continued on page 6)

The Maine Dental Association exists to: improve and maintain the oral and overall health of the people of Maine; serve the dentists of Maine, collectively and individually; and represent the American Dental Association at the state level.



MDA Mentorship Program: Update



Building up the next generation of dentists in Maine...

Greetings and Happy New Year!

My name is Lindsey Cunningham and I am a second-year dental student at UNE. I have been very fortunate to meet several dentists in our community over the last two years and am looking forward to having many of you as our dental mentors.

Since the beginning of my time at UNE, our student members have been hard at work developing the UNE/MDA mentorship program. So far, we have created our website, mentorship applications, networked with dentists, and have gathered advice from other dental school mentorship programs.

We are excited to partner with the MDA to establish this mentorship between Maine dentists and UNE dental students. This will also give dentists who are not associated with externship sites the opportunity to interact with UNE students. Students will benefit by having a dentist to ask advice and to begin to build a dental network. Doctors will benefit from the opportunity to pass on their dental wisdom to the next generation. We think that this type of relationship would encourage UNE students, with a new Maine dental network, to stay in Maine and help fill the shortage of dental providers.

For those who have already expressed interest in becoming a dental mentor, thank you! We are working very hard on our pilot program to ensure that it runs as smoothly as possible. We will keep you up-to-date with the latest and greatest developments of our mentor-mentee partnership. Please keep an eye on your email and mail for further information. We will also be updating our website as the program develops:

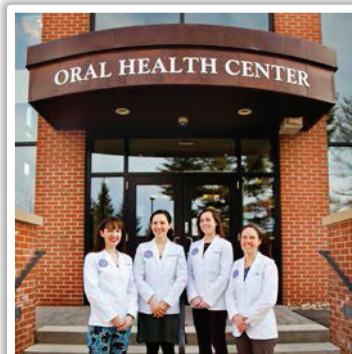
<http://www.uneasda.com/mda-mentor-program.html>

If you are interested in becoming a dental mentor, please contact our mentorship committee at:

unedentalmentorship@gmail.com.

We will keep you up to date as this program becomes established!

Thank you, and we look forward to meeting many of you in the future!





The Value of Being a Mentor: Find a Mentee

"Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders," Tom Peters

In November, I had the opportunity to represent Maine at the New England President/President-Elect Meeting in Salem, Mass. This was a fantastic way to connect and review with other New England dental associations about what specifically has been working for them, as well as validating that most of us share a lot of the same concerns about the future.

Looking around the room, I could not stop thinking that next year we should try and partner up with a local cosmetology school and let their students loose on this crowd to practice their hair-coloring skills - there was a lot of gray (myself included). Let's face it, dentistry, and owning your business, is a stressful endeavor and we have all earned those gray hairs - not to mention those gray hairs - not to mention that one really big crease between the eyebrows. At the same time, all of this gray hair is evidence of the merit badges of experience - audits, letters to the board, litigious patients (or employees), managing loans for new equipment purchases, expanding (or downsizing) staff. None of this stuff is comprehensively covered in your clinicals at school, it's mostly baptism by fire.

What an awesome gift (and it's free!) to new grads - if you could have a do-over or that hindsight lobe installed in your brain, what would you tell them to do differently, better, to make life easier? Experience can't be purchased. It can only be earned, or shared, and a great mentor can easily pass on helpful little nuggets of wisdom to help a young professional achieve their goals. There is no question that this is a challenging time to

be a dentist (seasoned or otherwise). Practitioners of all ages can benefit both personally and professionally by becoming actively involved in organized dentistry -- especially when they are first starting to establish a practice. I truly believe that no matter what obstacles

we face as a profession, they can be overcome if we remain active, engaged and organized. The University of New England College of Dental Medicine has a pilot program in partnership with the MDA that seeks to integrate UNE dental students with Maine dentists. Students are paired with a dentist at the beginning of their third year. The relationship is self-sustaining, and would not only allow the dentist to hand off their wealth of knowledge to the incoming

generation, but for the student it would provide a professional outside of school to answer questions and guide them into becoming a successful clinician.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor to a UNE dental student, go to the following website for information: www.uneasda.com/mda-mentor-program.html. If you have questions about this program, please reach out to the MDA or to the UNE Student Mentor Coordinator Lindsey Cunningham at lcunningham@une.edu. Please

do not think of this as "one more thing I am being asked to do, and I'm already maxed out." Realistically, none of us invested all our time, money and gray hairs into dental school and business ownership to then just shut the doors and pack off down to a golf course at The Villages at the end of our careers.

The act of passing on knowledge, tips and life hacks is how we leave our mark, and that legacy outlasts any crown that we will ever place in a patient's mouth.



New England President/President-elect Meeting attendees

"To my fellow seasoned dentists, we must welcome aspiring and new professionals into organized dentistry. We must encourage and support them, as we were supported. The future is theirs."

Roger Winland, DDS, MS, MAGD
AGD Impact Editor





Greetings!

The American Dental Association annual meeting in Denver, Colorado concluded in late October. It was a great meeting, with many of the continuing education classes sold out. The House of Delegates elected Dr. Joseph Crowley, from Ohio, as president-elect. Dr. Crowley will serve alongside President Gary Roberts until the ADA meeting in 2017, when he will be sworn in as president.

The House of Delegates passed a resolution to begin a three-year initiative to drive utilization of dental services for ADA members. This initiative is the result of ADA members reporting that they have capacity to see more patients. Health Policy Institute data shows that although 77 percent of the public say they intend to go to the dentist, only 33 percent go. The plan has four parts and focuses on digital and social media, since the target group of patients are within Generation X and Millennials. The focus on digital strategies is more targeted and cost efficient than traditional media plans.

Here is a link to a video explaining the research

behind this initiative and the four phases of the plan: www.ada.org/en/member-center/leadership-governance/councils-commissions-and-committees/three-year-initiative/

Another video that I would like to share with you is the 2015 ADA Highlights. It is a compilation of all that the ADA accomplished in the year of 2015. It is an eye opener and can leave you feeling very proud of your national organization. I encourage you to watch it! (https://youtu.be/O1gqN_NBScM)

2016 was the 150th anniversary of the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Conduct. For 150 years, the code of ethics has served as the foundation for members' dedication to providing the highest quality care and the utmost professionalism by putting patients first.

My final video for you to view is about the code and the awareness it brings to members about the value of the ADA code of ethics from the patients' perspective. (<https://youtu.be/OVCcymTKG6U>)

Powdered gloves banned

The Federal Register on Dec. 19, 2016, published its final rule establishing the Food and Drug Administration's ban on powdered surgical and exam gloves.

The FDA says powdered gloves are an adulterated product and are unsafe for use. The ban was set to take effect in 30 days. Unfortunately, the ban's effective date also applies to end-users who have already purchased and are using powdered gloves. These gloves may not be used after Jan. 18, per the FDA, and are subject to enforcement action.

Powdered gloves represent a small percentage of the current exam glove marketplace and there are many high-quality powder-free gloves available as alternatives. The staff at Association Gloves, which is endorsed by the Maine Dental Association, is prepared to help you find a powder-free latex, nitrile or chloroprene glove that will satisfy your unique needs. Contact Association Gloves at 877-484-6149 for assistance selecting a new glove. Free samples are available.



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Kathy Sukley,
USI Insurance Services

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It has been determined that dentists who take part in risk management



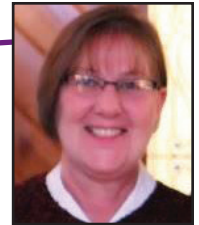
services have fewer claims and stronger policies and procedures in place. You can take advantage of these benefits as follows:

- CNA's risk management hotline staffed by professionals who understand the dental practice workplace can guide you towards the tools and resources to help minimize the likelihood of a loss. The hotline number is (312) 822-5541.
- Dental Expressions newsletter developed quarterly to stay up to date on risk management strategies and the latest happenings in the dental industry. If you are not currently receiving this publication and would like to, e-mail Kathleen.Sukley@usi.com.
- Sample forms such as consent to treatment, refusal of treatment, patient referral, and many other forms for use in a dental practice can be found at www.protectorplan.com/dentist-sample-forms.
- Risk management articles addressing patient management issues, claims, coverage concerns, clinical issues, and frequently asked questions are available on the Professional Protector Plan website at www.protectorplan.com.
- Risk management seminars and online continuing education courses are also available.

For further information, contact Kathy Sukley, vice president and account executive at USI Insurance Services, at (207) 239-3662 (office), (207) 671-9195 (cell) or Kathleen.Sukley@usi.com.

Updates From The MDA

Patti Bureau, Interim Executive Director



Happy New Year! I hope this year brings health and happiness to all! We have a few updates to share.

March. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

We are well on our way in the process of recruiting a new Executive Director. An ad hoc committee consisting of 8 MDA members has reviewed scores of resumes and interviewed several candidates. The committee expects to make a recommendation in late January or early February.

The MDA and UNE have been working on a mentorship program. The mentorship program provides students with the opportunity to observe and more fully grasp all aspects of the profession and organized dentistry.

The membership dues have been rolling in fast and furious, and your promptness is greatly appreciated. In past years, the ADA ran what they refer to as "member-pending cutoff" in mid-April. This has been moved up to January, which means that your status, which is currently "present" with the ADA/MDA and your local component society, will change to "member-pending cutoff." You still have plenty of time to get your payments in by the end of

Please, if you have time at this year's Yankee Dental Congress, stop by the MDA booth and say hello. I've met many of you, and would love the opportunity to meet many more. You may also volunteer at the booth and chat with your fellow colleagues.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your interim executive director, and I will continue at the MDA in the future to assist the new executive director in his/her role.



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Convention (continued from page 1)

of Dentistry with the Most Change,” is an adjunct professor at the University of Utah School of Dentistry. Dr. Christensen has presented thousands of hours of continuing education globally, made hundreds of educational videos used throughout the world, and published widely. He is a member of numerous professional organizations.

Dr. Low Dog’s course, on June 2, is part of the 2016-2017 Dentist and Hygienist Package Plans. Dr. Christensen’s presentation, on June 3, is part of the Dentist Package Plan.

A CNA Risk Management Seminar will be offered June 1, 2017, at the Harborside from 12:30 to 5 p.m. The Risk Management Seminar is not part of any Package Plan. Exhibitors, the president’s dinner/dance, and a student/mentor reception will also be part of this year’s convention.

If you have any historical items or photos you’d like to share, contact the MDA’s central office. We’re planning on putting together an exhibit for attendees to view at the convention.

Watch for convention and Risk Management Seminar registration forms to be coming soon, as well as the 2017 Annual Convention brochure. Rooms can be reserved at a special rate by going to the Harborside’s website at www.theharborsidehotel.com or by calling 866-258-7253.



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Opioid Prescribing (continued from page 1)

constitution and bylaws.

Since then, the ADA has grown to become the leading source of oral health-related information for dentists and their patients.

The MDA is committed to promoting the health and welfare of the people of the state of Maine. In our state, prescription opioid abuse has risen to crisis levels. Studies have shown that Maine has consistently topped other states in opiate treatment admissions. From just 28 Mainers per 100,000 total residents admitted for treatment in 1998, the rate rose steadily to 386 admissions per 100,000 residents in 2008. This compares to a national average in 1998 of nine individuals per 100,000 and 45 per 100,000 in 2008.

As dentists, we can prescribe opioid pain-controlling substances based on our clinical judgement, but we must be part of the solution in fighting this epidemic.

Maine's new statute, "An Act to Prevent Opiate Abuse by Strengthening the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program," includes several provisions designed to reduce overprescribing of opioids. In addition to the E-Prescribing of Controlled Substances (EPCS) requirement, which goes into effect July 1, 2017, the legislation also has provisions that limit the durations and doses of opioid prescriptions. It further requires that prescribers receive continuing medical education on addiction.

The first three elements – continuing education, prescribing, and the PMP requirement – are rather straightforward. The legislation requires three hours of continuing education every two years on the prescription of opioid medication as a condition of prescribing opioid medication. These hours can be home study, and I have found two great options. The first is at no cost to the provider: <http://www.opioidprescribing.com/> overview. This website was developed through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and has 4.75 credit hours of continuing education. The second option was developed specifically for dentists and is provided by PennWell Publications. This is an article followed by question/answers, and must be submitted in order to earn three hours of CE. The cost is a mere \$59. This course is available at www.dentalacademyofce.com. Just search "Opioids."

The legislation mandates a limit on opioid scripts to seven days for acute pain and 30 days for chronic pain, with no limits on renewals. There is a 100-mg limit (morphine milligram equivalent) on the average daily dose of opioids, effective 90

OPIOID EQUIVALENT DOSING			
Substance	Route	Daily Use	Total Equivalent
Morphine	PO	100 mg	
Oxycodone (Percocet)	PO		66 mg
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	PO		25 mg
Hydrocodone (Vicodin/Norco)	PO		100 mg
Meperidine (Demerol)	PO		1000 mg
Source: http://web.stanford.edu/~jonc101/tools/OpioidEquivalentDosing.htm			

days after the law's passage, for new prescriptions.

The final element of the opioid statute mandates e-prescribing, which becomes law in July 2017. If your office is already using electronic records, the process is relatively easy to implement. Dental software vendors that presently incorporate e-prescribing functionality into their software are Henry Schein, Patterson, Carestream, MacPractice, Planet DDS, Open Dental, Dentimax, XLDent, and Dovetail. The average cost for these systems is a one-time set up fee of \$395, and a monthly fee of \$29.95 per doctor, with unlimited prescriptions. If you have never used e-prescribing, you will realize quickly the monthly fee is worth the efficiency it brings to your office. It eliminates printing/signing or having staff interrupted to call in prescriptions (i.e. antibiotics, NSAIDS, Prevident, etc.)

Stand-Alone E-Prescribing: Below is a list of vendors that provide e-prescribing options. This option is for providers that do not have electronic records. The cost for the service is \$30 to \$35 per month for these services. *The Maine Dental Association has negotiated a \$100 per year discount for MDA members with DoseSpot.*

E-PRESCRIBING VENDORS WITH CERTIFIED STAND-ALONE EPCS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE		
Company Name	Software Name/Version	Website
Allscripts	Allscripts ePrescribe/18.1	www.nationalerx.com
DoseSpot	DoseSpot/14.0	www.dosespot.com
DrFirst	DrFirst Rcopia/ 3.0	www.drfirst.com
MDToolbox	MDToolbox-Rx/3.1	www.mdtoolbox.com
NewCrop	NewCrop Core/13.05.14.05	www.newcroprx.com
RxNT	RxNT eRx/7.1	www.rxntehealth.com

Prescription Monitoring Program Links

- <https://qc.z2systems.com/np/clients/qc/event.jsp?event=1229> - Sign up here for Maine Quality Counts learning session and regional training on opioids on Feb. 2
- www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/rules/samhs-rules.shtml - Rules Governing the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program and Prescription of Opioid Medications
- [www.maine.gov/dhhs/samhs/osa/data/pmp/files/Dr.PLetter-DHHS-PMP-Update-Final\(12-19-16\).pdf](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/samhs/osa/data/pmp/files/Dr.PLetter-DHHS-PMP-Update-Final(12-19-16).pdf) - Letter that provides an update on implementation of Public Law Chapter 488



It's A New Year And A New Legislature

The first regular session of the 128th Maine Legislature convened on Dec. 7. Republicans narrowly held the majority in the Senate (18 -17), and Democrats maintained control of the House (77-71-3).

Leadership elections were held, committee chairs were chosen, and members received their committee assignments.

In the Senate, President Michael Thibodeau, Republican Leader Garrett Mason and Assistant Republican Leader Andre Cushing were re-elected; Sen. Troy Jackson was elected Democratic leader and Sen. Nathan Libby was elected assistant Democratic leader.

In the House, Rep. Sara Gideon was elected Speaker, Rep. Erin Herbig was elected House Democratic leader, and Rep. Jared Golden was elected assistant House Democratic leader; House Republican leader Ken Fredette and assistant House Republican leader Ellie Espling were re-elected.

The MDA will be involved in a number of initiatives at the State House, including a more comprehensive MaineCare adult dental benefit, an education loan tax credit for dentists practicing in rural and/or underserved areas of the state, and a non-covered services bill.

Perhaps our most significant area of focus will be phase two of the statutory review of the Maine Dental Practice Act, the board's report back to the committee, and the ensuing actions of the committee.

As you know, Maine's Dental Practice Act was completely repealed and replaced in 2016. The new law requires the Board of Dental Practice to "... study the dental practice

laws and recommend changes. The Board of Dental Practice, in consultation with interested parties, shall conduct a study of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, Chapter 143, and any rules adopted by the board, and recommend changes to the scopes of practice of dental practitioners, practice settings and delivery models and any other dental practice issues. The board shall report its recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce, research and economic development matters on or before March 1, 2017. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the second regular session of the 128th Legislature related to the board's report."

More than 2,000 bill titles have been submitted to the Revisor's Office; unfortunately, the full list is not yet available.

We'll update you as bills of interest are printed. And, as in past years, we'll be reaching out to ask for your assistance.

If you haven't done so already, please take the time to call or email your senator and your representative. Introduce yourself, congratulate them on their election, offer yourself as a resource, invite them to visit your practice. It's worth the effort.

Make Friends
Nuture Relationships
Be a Resource
Be Active Politically
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Looking at life in dentistry beyond graduation

I once saw life as a competition. In the years preceding my acceptance to the University of New England College of Dental Medicine, my resume was a means to an end, with each experience a building block on the bridge to joining this inaugural class. I've taken in an abundance of information over the past four years, but perhaps most significant was that life-long learning is a necessity to master the practice of dentistry. Each lesson and experience with value often interpreted differently from person to person.

In regard to those experiences I've had, I am proud to say I got a glimpse of organized dentistry and its significance beyond dental school. Two years ago, I became an active member of our growing American Student Dental Association chapter. That involvement has pulled the curtain back on the tripartite membership and how it affects my professional future. More so, I've learned how it differs at each level and how it varies between states.

UNE students have expressed great interest in becoming more integrated with our state dental society. Limited early exposure and a fervid political atmosphere have made this difficult for the inaugural class. However, future classes are seemingly becoming the beneficiaries of a growing relationship with the MDA.

ASDA takes responsibility for building this relationship, and its members are actively pushing this agenda. My own goal for this year is to develop a more defined role for the leading ASDA member on the MDA board. Another student, Lindsey Cunningham, class of 2019 and ASDA member, has been spearheading a mentorship program for 2017. We also have been working on creating an effective Student Lobby Day for legislators to hear from students on issues related to dentistry. In the past year, we were able to hold a small reception in the capitol, where I was able to briefly speak to several legislators and bring UNE students together to express their concerns.

In terms of my clinical experiences, they have been like snowflakes - unique and abundant at times. With no elder class or residency program, we are the recipients of some advanced cases that many dental students elsewhere would long for. That said, we are still a dental school with limited sessions, faculty, and a developing

patient base. As we await our start, prep, and closing checks from faculty, we watch the minutes tick by as the patients impatiently stare at us. Unfortunately, I've learned this has been the case in dental schools for years. On the bright side, students that meet certain requirements are awarded the opportunity to practice for up to 24 weeks in our final year at a dental practice in Northern New England. Typically, if a student receives two of these externships, one will be at an FQHC while the other might be in private practice.

At school, much like Hogwarts' sorting by House, we develop our own unique dental philosophy based on our group practice. My own has been the product of three or four faculty members I work with frequently, where a member in a different group will create his or her dental personality based on the faculty they see most often.

With one semester and a patient-based exam standing between me and a dental license, I am forced to weigh my options to best situate my family and optimize my development in the field following graduation. I found my wife at UNE, and we will be embarking on this adventure together. We both intend on continued participation in the local, state, and national levels of organized dentistry, and much of what we've learned these past few years will impact where we choose to settle down. While there are still unknowns, I can confidently say that we are looking for a supportive and active state society, with individuals capable of producing an environment conducive for leadership and involvement. We also are actively observing the political atmosphere and how favorably that will affect us from state to state in this profession.

I no longer see life as a competition, and I'm not trying to build a resume. In the end, we all just hope to graduate and be successful in our profession and with our families. Speaking for my classmates, there will be some incredible dentists entering the dental community very soon. My hope is that we will receive overwhelming support and a warm welcome for wherever we go and whatever we choose to do. Ready or not, here we come.

“Life-long learning is a necessity to master the practice of dentistry.”

MDA Will Host Booth at Yankee



The Maine Dental Association will again be hosting a hospitality booth/lounge area on the exhibit floor at Yankee Dental in Boston, January 25 - 29, 2017. The booth will be open most of the hours that the exhibits are open January 26-28.

The booth will provide a place for members and guests to rest and relax, have a beverage, and make connections with old friends or team members during the busy days of walking around the vast Yankee exhibit space. The MDA will also be hosting a reception with light refreshments, so save some time to drop by to say hello to MDA President Peter Drews and other members of the MDA leadership.

The MDA is looking for volunteers to host booth times at Yankee. If you are willing to volunteer to host an hour or two at the MDA booth, please complete and return the form below by January 6.

For several years, the MDA lounge has featured opportunities for dentists considering a move to Maine and job openings for hygienists, assistants, and office staff. There are plans to collect and disseminate new listings for 2016. If interested complete the form (Information for MDA Booth at Yankee) below.

If you would like to be an MDA booth volunteer or have a job opportunity you would like to have listed and distributed at the MDA booth at the 2016 Yankee Dental Congress, please complete and return the form below by January 4.

Mail to :
MDA, PO Box 215, Manchester, ME 04351 or
fax to MDA: 207-622-6210

If you have questions please call the MDA Central office.

MDA Booth Volunteers

AVAILABLE HOURS

Thursday Host / available hours: _____

Friday Host / available hours: _____

Saturday Host / available hours: _____

Contact Information:

NAME: _____

Phone: _____ Home or Office?

E:mail: _____

Best time for contact: _____

Special Notes/Comments: _____

Information for MDA Booth at Yankee

TYPE OF OPPORTUNITY

Dental Practice for Sale (__GP; Specialist: _____)

Seeking an Associate Dentist (__GP; Specialist: _____)

Seeking a Dentist-Employee (__GP; Specialist: _____)

Seeking a Dental Hygienist (__Full time; __Part-time)

Seeking a Dental Assistant (__Full time; __Part-time)

Seeking a Dental Business Assistant (__Full time; __Part-time)

Contact Information:

NAME: _____

Practice Location: _____

Phone: _____ Home or Office?

E:mail: _____

Best time for contact: _____

Special Notes/Comments: _____

2016 Dentists Who Care for ME treats nearly 400 patients

The eighth annual Dentists Who Care for ME program was a success, as 20 dentists, 16 specialists, 23 hygienists, and dozens of staff members volunteered their time on Nov. 4.

Dentists Who Care for ME provides teeth cleanings, fillings, and extractions to people who cannot afford regular dental care and do not have any dental coverage. The program offers one oral care service or a referral to a specialist, if needed.



Dr. Demi Kouzounas, a Maine Dental Association past president, organizes Dentists Who Care for ME along with Dr. Barry Saltz, another MDA past president. Dr. Kouzounas

said the 2016 program examined and treated nearly 400 patients and provided nearly \$100,000 in free care. Since its inception, the program has examined and treated more than 3,000 patients and provided services valued at over \$1.1 million.

This year, for the first time, second-year University of New England dental students volunteered. A total of 63 students from UNE participated in this year's Dentists Who Care for ME. Dr. Kouzounas said organizers were "ecstatic" to have the students be part of the 2016 program.

UNE student Drew Rodney, a participant in this year's program, said Dentists Who Care for ME provides a benefit to all involved.

"The dentists are able to give back to their community, the dental students gain valuable experience assisting, and most importantly, the patients receive some much needed care, which in some cases is critical to their long-term overall



Dunstan Dental Center in Scarborough was one of the sites that participated in this year's Dentists Who Care for ME

systemic health," Rodney said.

Extractions were the most frequent oral care service provided by the 2016 program, followed by fillings and cleanings.

Offices that participated were: Dr. Alan Chebuske in Portland; Dunstan Dental Center in Scarborough; Saco River Dentistry in Buxton; Northwoods Dental in Skowhegan; Two Rivers Family Dental in Lisbon; Bayview Dental in Yarmouth; Gentle Dental in Biddeford; Windham Dental Associates in Windham; and Falmouth Dentistry in Falmouth.

Joining the dentists, specialists, and hygienists during the day of service were many volunteer dental assistants and office auxiliary personnel who help make the event possible.

Offices or individuals that want to participate in next year's Dentists Who Care for ME, the ninth annual, can contact Dr. Kouzounas at 207-329-9978 or ddcins@maine.rr.com, or Dr. Saltz at 207-318-3913 or bsaltz@maine.rr.com.

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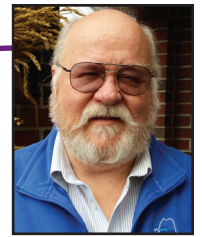


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Maine Attends Annual ADA Lobbyist Conference

John Bastey, MDA Director of Governmental Affairs



On Nov. 30, Dr. Kristina Lake Harriman, chair of the MDA Council of Governmental Relations, and I left for the 2016 ADA Lobbyist Conference at Squaw Valley Resort in California. The conference started on Dec. 1 with a welcome from Michael Graham, senior vice president of government and public affairs, and remarks from Dr. Gary Roberts, president of the American Dental Association.

The first order of business was to hear from all the states. State reports from Alabama to Wisconsin were delivered, describing the challenges and successes in legislative matters from 38 states and Washington, D.C.

Dr. Lake Harriman reported for Maine, relating how a protracted and divisive fight was fought to reduce educational requirements and eliminate the direct supervision requirement in the Maine dental hygiene therapy law. (Go to the MDA website to read the entire Maine report, along with reports from other New England states. Go to Member Center and look under News).

Roy Lasky, a partner at Statewide Public Affairs and a lobbyist for the New York State Dental Association, discussed the place dentists hold in the political world, including areas of corporate practice, midlevel providers, and other issues. His talk offered a historical perspective on the long-term efforts by organized dentistry to increase its political profile across the country.

Jennifer Donahue of the ADA, along with members from Montana and North Carolina, discussed the Supreme Court's recent decision concerning the North Carolina Dental Board and the Federal Trade Commission. Maine and many other states are reviewing the composition and oversight of their professional licensing boards as a result of the decision. Maine, according to the

Maine Board of Dental Practice, is in a better position that many other states.

Donahue next led a discussion concerning prescription monitoring programs across the country with a panel from Rhode Island, Alaska, and Indiana. Prescription opioid addiction and abuse has become a national epidemic, affecting practitioners in all fields. In response, policymakers are trying to address this public health crisis by enhancing practitioner's knowledge and strengthening regulations.

Concluding the afternoon's agenda, Jeff Troupe of the ADA explained how the Environmental Protection Agency was expected to have finalized a national amalgam separator rule in late December.

On Dec. 2, the conference started with Marko Vujicic, ADA's chief economist and vice president of its health policy institute, reviewed new tools he uses at the institute to help policymakers. He provided insights on how health care is evolving and which issues warrant more attention from organized dentistry.

A workforce panel was led by Troupe, with representatives from North Dakota, Washington state, and Massachusetts. They discussed activity on dental therapists and what is being proposed by hygiene associations, Pew Charitable Trusts, Kellogg Foundation, and the public health community.

Paul O'Connor, the ADA director of state government services, and panel members from Colorado, California, and Florida discussed improving Medicaid dental delivery and how it often involves changes in administrative programming, especially when financial resources are scarce.



Dr. Kristie Lake Harriman, Chair of the MDA Council on Governmental Relations, and Dr. Gary Roberts, President of the ADA



Dr. Kristie Lake Harriman speaks at the 2016 ADA Lobbyist Conference at Squaw Valley California



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National Children's Dental Health Month Focuses On Tap Water

"Choose Tap Water for a Sparkling Smile" is the theme for the 2017 campaign of National Children's Dental Health Month in February, an annual ADA public health observance that brings together thousands of dentists, dental team members, health professionals, and teachers to promote the benefits of good oral health to children and their caregivers.

For 2017, the message "I love tap water" is part of the theme, highlighting the value of drinking tap water instead of sugar-sweetened beverages. Those residing in areas where community water is fluoridated have the added benefit of drinking water that helps prevent tooth decay.

Posters are available online at ADA.org/NCDHM. The poster depicts familiar National Children's Dental Health Month cartoon characters the Smileys, McGinns and K9 climbing on and sliding down a heart and a water drop emoji. It

also includes straightforward oral health tips, such as "brush two minutes, two times a day" and "clean between your teeth daily."

The posters are 12 by 18 inches and are written in English on one side and Spanish on the other. They are available at no cost other than shipping in packets of 25 through the ADA catalog. Activity sheets and other resources for National Children's Dental Health Month 2017 are available for download at ADA.org/NCDHM.

Local observances of National Children's Dental Health Month often include poster displays, coloring and essay contests, health fairs, free dental screenings, museum exhibits, classroom presentations and dental office tours.

The ADA will celebrate the 76th year for the program in 2017. It began as a one-day event Feb. 3, 1941 in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1981, the ADA House of



Delegates extended it to a month-long observance. Each February, the ADA sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health.

Email ncdhm@ada.org for more information.



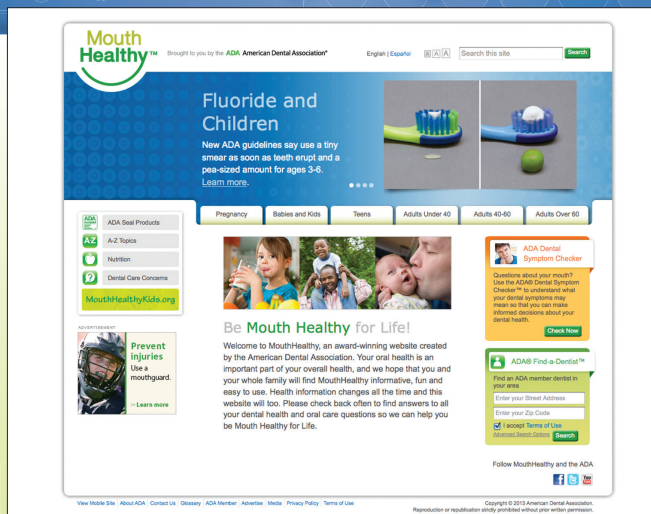
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- ADA® Find-a-Dentist™ to help locate an ADA member dentist

Promote MouthHealthy.org to Your Patients



New Scaling Procedure Code Now In Effect

It's here – Dentists may use D4346, “scaling in the generalized presence of moderate or severe gingival inflammation – full mouth, after oral evaluation,” as of Jan. 1. This code reflects the procedure for patients with gingival disease and no attachment loss. Dentists who have delivered the procedure have not been able to document and report it with an appropriate CDT code until now.

This CDT 2017 addition has been the subject of two ADA News articles, a guidelines document posted on ADA.org, and a webinar that has been accessed by thousands of dentists and practice staff.

To learn more about this procedure and its new code, either for the first time or to refresh your memory, visit the CDT Code education page on ADA.org. Search for “Guidance on the D4346 Scaling Procedure” to watch the webinar and download the free publication “Guide to Reporting D4346.”

The guide, first published in May, has been updated and incorporates content and feedback from the webinar.

Questions? ADA members can call the toll-free number on the back of their membership card, direct dial (312) 440-2500, or email dentalcode@ada.



Four MDA members inducted as ICD Fellows



DAVIS

KLEINLERER

MILLS

RYDER

Four Maine Dental Association members were inducted as fellows of the International College of Dentists at its 87th annual convocation in Denver on Oct. 21.

An honorary organization that recognizes outstanding and meritorious service to the profession and community, the college presented Dr. Rockwell Davis, Dr. Michal Kleinlerer, Dr. Stephen Mills, and Dr. Jon Ryder with a membership plaque, a gold lapel pin, and a gold key. The process for being recognized by the ICD begins with a nomination from a current ICD member and proceeds through peer review.

In a cap and gown ceremony, 320 dentists from across the United States were inducted into the college, with hundreds of members and guests looking on. The college, which was established in 1928, has representative chapters in more than 120 countries and has more than 11,000 members, including about 6,500 in the United States.

Dr. Davis practices in Brunswick, Dr. Kleinlerer practices in Augusta and Waterville, Dr. Mills practices in Scarborough, and Dr. Ryder is the dean of the University of New England College of Dental Medicine.

Call the MDA at 207-622-7900,
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EPA To Require Dental Offices To Use Amalgam Separators

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a final rule Dec. 15 requiring dental practices nationwide to install amalgam separators.

“EPA has concluded that requiring dental offices to remove mercury through relatively low-cost and readily available amalgam separators and BMPs makes sense,” said EPA in its executive summary of the final rule.

The rule closely follows ADA’s own best management practices and incorporates three of those BMPs: one requiring use of separators; two, prohibiting providers from flushing down a drain waste amalgam (such as from traps or filters); and, three, prohibiting the use of bleach or chlorine-containing cleaners that may lead to the dissolution of solid mercury when cleaning chair-side traps and vacuum lines.

The ADA, which has worked with EPA on the rule for several years, commended the EPA for its response to ADA input. The new rule meets the nine principles established by the ADA House of Delegates as a condition for ADA support for a national rule.

The rule is effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. The date for compliance for most dentists will be three years from now, at the end of 2019.

Additional highlights of the rule include:

- Dentists who practice in oral pathology, oral and maxillofacial radiology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, periodontics, and prosthodontics are exempt from the rule;
- Dentists who do not place amalgam and only remove amalgam in unplanned or emergency situations (estimated at less than 5 percent of removals) are also exempt;
- Mobile dental units are exempt;
- Dentists who already have separators are grandfathered for 10 years.

Although less than one percent of mercury released to the environment from man-made sources comes from dentistry, the ADA has encouraged dental offices to help reduce discharges of used amalgam into dental office wastewater.

ADA’s Business Resources has partnered with HealthFirst, a vendor that offers ADA member dentists special pricing on an amalgam separator device that will meet the federal regulatory requirements, along with recycling services. For more information, visit ADA.org/RecycleAmalgam.

The MDA endorses Solmetex for amalgam separator systems and EBI Consulting for waste management needs.

Relocation

Dr. Miles Cone
Nuance Dental Specialists
193 Middle Street
Portland, ME 04101

Roster Correction

Dr. Linda Eberhardt (Office)
24 Penn Plaza
Bangor, ME 04401
O=207-942-0593

In the News

HELLO
New Members

Dr. Kristine Landry
2561 Atlantic Highway
Lincolnton, ME 04849
O=207-789-5270

Dr. Eric Staeben
39 Baribeau Drive
Brunswick, ME 04011
O=207-729-4144

Upcoming Continuing Education Offerings

***April 21, 2017**
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Dr. John Devlin [Togus VA]

***June 2, 2017**
The Fire Within: Nutrition and Lifestyle Approaches to Chronic Inflammation (6 credit hours)
Dr. Tieraona Low Dog
[MDA CONVENTION 2017 - Bar Harbor]

June 3, 2017
The Christensen Bottom Line: the Areas of Dentistry With the Most Change (6 credit hours)
Dr. Gordon Christensen
[MDA CONVENTION 2017 - Bar Harbor]

*Hygiene Package Plan
Registration forms are on our website (www.medental.org). Registration for courses at the 2017 convention must be done on separate form.

Contributions can be made year round to the MDA Charitable Foundation
P.O. Box 215 Manchester, ME 04351

Have an item (photo, instrument, etc.) that we could include in a 150th anniversary exhibit at the 2017 Annual Convention? Let us know!

MDA Board Members Attend ADA Annual Meeting In Denver



Members of the MDA Executive Board were in attendance at the American Dental Association's Annual Meeting in Denver in October. From left are ADA Long-Term Delegate Dr. Jonathan Shenkin, President-Elect Dr. Gary Creisher, President Dr. Peter Drews, and Dr. Erik Johnson.

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Nat: (207) 551-2171**

**BANGOR: Monday at 7PM - Acadia Hospital – Osprey Room,
Patti: (480)221-9776**

**CALAIS: Thursday at 7:15 PM - Surgical Services Office, 15 Palmer St.,
Dave: (207) 461-8724**

**FARMINGTON: Tuesday at 5:00 pm - UMF - Education Bldg, Rm 322
Jen: (207) 272-4449 Jack:(207) 578-0232**

**LEWISTON: Tuesday at 7PM - New Wing St. Mary's Hospital Front Lobby,
Julie: (207) 784-2985**

**PORTLAND: Wednesday at 7PM - Mercy Hospital Level B2 Upper Aud.,
Don: (207) 651-7008**

**PORTSMOUTH, NH: Monday at 7:30PM - Portsmouth Ballroom,
Laura: (603) 534-2372**

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The Waterville Community Dental Center is seeking a general dentist (DDS/DMD) to join our talented staff of dedicated professionals. We are a stand-alone nonprofit dental center located in the heart of vibrant, arts-focused Waterville, ME. The Center is a state-of-the-art facility that provides a full range of oral health services to the residents of the Central Maine area. Full or part-time options are available. Possibility for tax-free loan repayment up to \$25,000 per year. To learn more about us, please visit www.communitydental.org. To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter and resume/CV to communitydentalcenter@yahoo.com.

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STUDENT SEEKING POSITION

Motivated, professional, and responsible graduating UNE dental student seeking associateship/mentorship opportunity in southern Maine. Previous business management experience, completed two 12-week general dentistry externships in Boston and Los Angeles, and fluent in Spanish and Portuguese. I would make an excellent addition any team. Salary/compensation negotiable. Available 7/1/17. Contact dntartker@une.edu.

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Thursday

Sleep Apnea and Dentistry

113TL 8:00 - 11:00 am

Stand Out from the Crowd

136TL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

HPV and Oral Cancer

145TL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Friday

Prevention in High-Risk Adults

419RL 8:00 - 11:00 am

Medical Drugs and Dentistry

421RL 8:00 - 11:00 am

Stress Busting with Humor

434RW 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sweet-Tooth Obsession

443RL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

5mm Bleeding Pockets

448RL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Oral Cancer Risk and Detection

463RL 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Saturday

Esthetic Implant Dentistry

616SL 8:00 - 11:00 am

Life Is Your Best Medicine

636SL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Gut Health

638SL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Contemporary Periodontics

640SL 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Separate Fact from Fiction

652SL 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Commonly Prescribed Medications

656SL 1:30 - 4:30 pm

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