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The May 1 lineup features Dr. Joe Steven, *Efficient Dentistry - Success Thru Efficiency*. Dr. Steven's fast-paced, entertaining seminar is packed full of efficiency tips that will help your practice become more profitable the very first day back in the office. Thursday's continuing education offering also includes Susan Wingrove, RDH, *Setting the Stage for Dental Implants* and other top-notch classes.



There is nothing like spending a day with The Madow Brothers. And you will have the opportunity to do just that on Friday, May 2. Dr. Richard and Dr. David Madow will help you schedule more new patients and increase your practice productivity! This fun, fast-paced course is perfect for all doctors, team members and spouses who want to easily and predictably take their practice to a level they never thought possible! It's filled with incredibly usable content, and also features videos, music and humor to make it unlike any other dental seminar you have experienced!

Montana's biggest dental trade show, top-notch speakers, receptions, Montana Oral Health Foundation Auction and Golf Tournament. And More. All conveniently located in Missoula May 1 -2. Stay in-state, learn and enjoy!

View the annual meeting registration brochure and register online at www.montanadental.org. See the registration form on pages 10 and 11 in this newsletter. Mail to MDA, PO Box 1154, Helena MT 59624 or fax to (406) 443-1546 or email to rosita@montanadental.org. For further information contact MDA at (800) 257-4988. See you in Missoula!

SAVE \$25 - REGISTER BY APRIL 15

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* www.montanadental.org

Registration form

* **Pages 10 and 11**

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Montana Dental Association

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MONTANA ORAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Join your friends in a friendly round of bidding during the annual meeting. *Everyone is invited to participate.* If you would like to donate an item please contact the MDA central office at (800) 257-4988. Thank you.



Enjoy a round of golf Friday, May 2, 1:30 pm, Canyon River Golf Course. Sign up now! Use the registration form on the back page of the Annual Meeting brochure or call MDA at (800) 257-4988.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Dr. Mike Veseth
MDA President

This has been an eventful year for me as your president and the Montana Dental Association and has been engaged in activities on several fronts on behalf of members.

Last December, the Denturists Association of Montana (DAM) filed suit against the Montana Board of Dentistry seeking to overturn "Rule J", which prevents denturists from placing dentures over implants. DAM

alleges that this a restraint of trade on denturists. The MDA remains strongly opposed to denturists placing dentures over implants.

The MDA is not being sued, but MDA requested and has been allowed to participate in mediations between the dental board and the denturists. The mediations were scheduled to begin on April 3 (before this newsletter will reach you). The MDA is represented by president-elect Dr. Chris Hirt and our attorney, Greg Van Horsen. The dental board maintains that the restrictions on the denturists are warranted because of their lack of necessary training and experience. I see this action against the Montana Board of Dentistry as a move to circumvent legislation and regulation that are in place. Remember that politics does not have an off season and stay informed on the issues.

There are other important matters concerning the MDA. The "Sealants for Smiles!" program and "Give Me a Montana Healthy Smile", our oral health public awareness campaign, are important to the MDA. The "Sealants for Smiles!" program is being moved forward by Dr. Jane Gillette. The number of patients served in this program has increased from less than 200 in 2011 to over 3,200 in 2013! Funding for this program has come from dentist donations, from the United Way of Missoula, and from the Caring Foundation of Montana, which in 2013 provided \$55,000, and the Foundation for Healthy Montanans, which will provide \$105,000 this year! Over one hundred dentists in Montana have provided services in the "Sealants for Smiles!" program and this as provided much satisfaction and useful publicity for Montana's dentists.


This year the MDA Board voted to spend \$30,000 on the public awareness program. The Montana Oral Health Foundation granted \$5,000 and

Foundation for Healthy Montanans granted \$145,000. The public awareness program is a campaign that has been developing and changing over the last couple of years, starting as "Who's My Dentist?" and now re-named as "Give Me a Montana Healthy Smile". The website started September 2012 as a site for use by the public and dentists. The Montana Group, our new consultant, is now working to upgrade the website and social media. With the larger budget, there will also be direct mail and public service announcements on the radio later this year.

Both "Sealants for Smiles!" and the public awareness campaign have shown outstanding growth and represent the dentist as the trusted source for oral health information and care. These are goals that our members value. Going forward, some questions present themselves. First, how can these programs be sustained? We want something that is more than a splash with no follow-up. Second, what will these programs be like in a few years, and what relationship

(continued on page 12)

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BOARD OF DENTISTRY

MDA has been actively representing your interests as members in critical issues that are before the Board of Dentistry over the past months. Here's a summary

Denturist implant lawsuit update

The Denturist Association of Montana (DAM) filed a lawsuit against the Montana Board of Dentistry on December 13, 2013 alleging that the Board has violated Montana statutes prohibiting regulation in a discriminatory manner, that it has restrained trade and that it has interfered with their lawful rights.

DAM's main complaint is that the Board's rule ("Rule J") prohibits denturists from placing dentures over implants allegedly. Quoting from the lawsuit, this rule allegedly "constitutes a restraint of trade or competition which is not necessary to protect public health and safety, and unfairly discriminates between persons regulated by the Board who are equally capable of fitting oral prostheses over implants."

MDA continues to support Rule J and has repeatedly expressed that support to the Board.

In February, DAM was granted a stay, which has put the suit on hold, pending the outcome of mediation between the dental board and DAM. Last month MDA asked the attorneys for DAM and the Board to allow

MDA to participate in the mediation. That request was granted and the mediations began on April 3. MDA is represented by president-elect Dr. Chris Hirt and MDA's attorney Greg Van Horssen. Dr. Hirt has effectively presented MDA's position during several Board meetings throughout 2013.

"Rule J" - ARM § 24.138.2302(j) - provides that "fitting, attempting to fit or advertising to fit a prosthesis on or over a dental implant" is unprofessional conduct for a denturist. It has been challenged by denturists since in adoption in 1991.

Last year Cliff Christenot, the denturist on the Board of Dentistry, made a motion that the Board repeal the rule. The Board referred this to the Board's newly-formed Denturistry Committee, comprised of Mr. Christenot, Allen Castell (the president of DAM) and Dr. Dale Chamberlain, a member of the dental board. The committee recommended that the Board repeal the rule and at its September 6, 2013 meeting discussed possible amendments to the rule, rather than repealing it. The Board referred the matter back to the Denturistry Committee for further consideration. Mr. Christenot chose to not call a meeting of the committee and DAM took the issue to court.

(continued on page 8)



New Year's Resolutions 2014

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Thad Langford DDS - Bozeman

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MDA BYLAWS

Proposed amendments to the Montana Dental Association Bylaws will be considered by the membership at the General Assembly meeting at 11:45 a.m. on May 1, 2014 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula. Amendments by deletion are shown by strikethrough and proposed additions are underlined. Nominations for officers are listed below.

ARTICLE I - DUTIES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 5 - The President shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Directors and shall attend all Board of Directors meetings, with voting privileges as detailed in Article 111, Section I. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Association shall be the secretary to the Board of Directors throughout his/her term of office. All Board of Directors meetings shall be attended by the President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and the Delegates-at-large; however, these members shall be without the right of vote.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1- All No officers shall have the right to vote at the meetings of the Board of Directors.

Reason: The MDA is the only known dental association and one of the few non-profit organizations that does not allow its officers to vote in meetings of the Board of Directors. Proponents state that officers dedicate the most time considering the issues and have significant leadership experience. Opponents prefer to maintain a check and balance to decision-making. The Board voted to support this amendment.

ARTICLE VI - DUES

Section 2 - ACTIVE MEMBERS. The annual dues of active members shall be \$~~426~~ 425. Members elected to active membership in this Association for the first time or reinstated after a lapse in membership of a minimum period of one year and who are elected after July I shall pay one-half (1/2) the current annual dues; and who are elected after October I shall pay one quarter (1/4) of the current annual dues. All dues for active membership shall become payable January I. An active member whose dues have not been paid by March 31 of the current year shall cease to be a member of the Association. These members shall be notified by registered or certified mail by the Executive Director of the Montana Dental Association apprizing them of their loss of membership and of Article XVII of the Montana Dental Association Bylaws, Reinstatement.

Reason: The Board of Directors will adopt the Budget for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year at its April 30, 2014 meeting. If the Board determines a dues increase amendment should be considered for 2015, a \$1 "placeholder" amount is proposed and may be withdrawn or amended by the General Assembly.

Nominations. These members have been nominated for election as MDA officers. Nominations may be made from the floor.

President : Dr. Christopher A. Hirt (Billings)

President-Elect: Dr. David C. Keim (Kalispell)

Vice President: Dr. Edith J. Gillette (Bozeman)

ADA Second Alternate Delegate Dr. E Jane Gillette (Bozeman)

MoDePAC ANNUAL BREAKFAST

Sen. John Walsh, recently appointed to represent Montana in the U.S. Senate, will be the special guest at MoDePAC's breakfast during the Annual Meeting in Missoula, according to Dr. Kevin Miltko, MoDePAC chair.

Sen. Walsh will speak to dentists at the May 2 event, which begins at 7 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Please plan to attend. The breakfast is open to all dentists attending the Annual Meeting. Please indicate your attendance when you register for the meeting.



GRANTS

MDA's "Sealants for Smiles!" program and "Give Me a Montana Healthy Smile!", MDA's oral health awareness campaign, have received major funding from the Foundation for Healthy Montanans. On March 21 the Foundation invested \$250,000 in a grant to MDA to expand both projects in the coming months.

The prevention awareness campaign is designed to encourage parents and other caregivers to teach their children good oral health habits and seek professional care early in a child's development. It began under then president Dr. Rob Neill's leadership began in 2012 with news media relations, a website, Facebook page and other special media.

Through 2013, MDA has committed nearly \$77,000 to the campaign. Earlier this year the MDA Board approved \$30,000 for the upcoming MDA budget. The Montana Oral Health Foundation granted \$5,000 and the Foundation for Healthy Montanans has now granted \$145,000. The grants allow the campaign to produce radio advertisements and increase promotion for social media and the web site.

Sealants for Smiles! received a \$105,000 from the Foundation for Healthy Montanans, which is two-thirds of its projected budget for the 2014-2015 school year. Under the leadership of Dr. Jane Gillette, the program provided care to 3,240 disadvantaged children, who received 3,224 dental sealants and 3,134 fluoride varnish treatments in the 2012-2013 school year. In the first months of 2014, Sealants for Smiles! Has already served more than 4,500 children and provided more than 5,000 dental treatments in schools and communities across the state. Another major boost was given by Oral Health America, which granted \$20,000 to the program earlier this year

On May 2 at the MDA's Annual Meeting in Missoula, MDA will celebrate the generous support of Oral Health America, the Foundation for Healthy Montanans, dentists and other partners who are making the association's prevention effort a reality. Please join MDA's leadership, Montana Sen. John Walsh and other leaders in healthcare at 7:45 a.m. for this exciting event at the Hilton Garden Inn.

(continued on page 12)

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Board of Dentistry (continued from page 5)

A copy of the lawsuit may be viewed on the MDA members-only website: *Montana Dental Advocate* (montanadentaladvocate.com). The site is password protected and requires your ADA member number to log in.

Comments due by April 11 on rule restricting assistant x-ray qualifications

The Board of Dentistry's rule 24.138.406 Functions for Dental Auxiliaries requires that a dentist "must assure that the radiation source under the dentist's jurisdiction is used only by individuals competent to use it". Qualification is required prior to being allowed to expose radiographs. Currently, an assistant can qualify if a graduate of a CODA accredited program of assisting, dental hygiene, or dentistry; or if certified by the U.S. military; or by completing the DANB written exam; or if certified in dental radiology in another state.

The Board voted unanimously to amend the rule. After June 1, 2014, another state's dental radiology certification will no longer qualify a dental auxiliary to expose radiographs in Montana.

MDA opposes this change as an unnecessary barrier to employment of experienced out-of- state dental assistants. Unless qualified by military experience or completion of an accredited program, assistants must take the DANB exam, offered periodically in Billings, Helena, or Missoula.

The Board clarified the effect of the rule in a message to the MDA:

"Dental Assistants (new or current employees) that have been certified in another state prior to June 1, 2014 will still be eligible to meet the requirements to expose radiographs. So the "grandfather" clause allows Dental Assistants that are currently employed to expose radiographs based on another states certification because they were hired prior to June 1, 2014. If the Dental Assistant is hired say in 2016 and can show proof that he or she was certified in another state prior to June 1, 2014 they will still qualify.

If they are certified by another state after June 1, 2014 and want to expose radiographs they will need to meet one of the other rule requirements in order to expose radiographs. It is ultimately the responsibility of the supervising Dentist to ensure the assistant meets the rule requirements, just as it is now."

A public hearing was held on April 4, but written comments may be submitted to the Board of Dentistry by 5:00 p.m. April 11. Send comments to P.O. Box 200513, Helena, Montana 59620-0513, or by fax to (406) 841-2305, or by e-mail to dlibsdden@mt.gov.

Contact David Hemion, MDA executive director, for information: (800)257-4988 or dave@montanadental.org.

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SEALANTS FOR SMILES! SCHEDULE

There are many sealant events and participation opportunities throughout the spring and. Please contact Program Coordinator Bridgette Schramper 406-548-5020 or Bridgette@SmileMontana.org to find out how you can get involved!

April

8 - Lima School; **11** - McKinley School; **15** - Elrod School; **24** - Nashua School; **25** - Circle, Medicine Lake and Orchard Schools.

May

5 Deer Lodge School; **9** - Miles School; and **16** - Valley View School



Classifieds

Practice Opportunities

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HOW TO REGISTER

All attendees must be registered to participate in any course or event.

Register at www.montanadental.org
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Include **names of all attendees** as will appear on conference badge. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Fill in **Registration Code** from list to the right and fee for each attendee.

Fill in **Course and Event codes** from list to the right that each participant will attend. (Please include the daily luncheon buffets that you will attend).

Include **tournament registration page** with your conference registration.

Place the **total conference fees** for all participants (include golf tournament fees)

Complete **payment instructions** on the next page.

F E E S

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C O D E S

THURSDAY Sessions

CODE COURSE

- A Dr. Joe Steven, Jr. » 6 CEC**
- B Ms. Susan Wingrove, RDH » 3 CEC**
- C MT Prescription Drug Registry » 1.25 CEC**
- D The Affordable Care Act » 1 CEC**
- E Current Trends in Dental Practice Sales » 4.5 CEC**
- F Healthy Montana Kids Dental Program Update » 1 CEC**
- ** **Radiography Study Class**
** 8 am or 1:30 pm
** You must call MDA to register (800) 257-4988

FRIDAY Sessions

CODE COURSE

- G The Madow Brothers » 6 CEC**
- H AbCd Certificate Training » 3 CEC**

THURSDAY Events

CODE EVENT

- I President's Lunch (Dentists Only)**
- J Spouse's Coffee**
- K Thursday Buffet at Trade Show**
- L President's Reception**

FRIDAY Events

CODE EVENT

- M MoDePAC Breakfast (Dentists Only)**
- N Friday Buffet at Trade Show**
- O Golf (See back page for instructions)**

MDA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM (Please Print)

DENTIST'S NAME or EMPLOYER NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

NAME (for badge) Last: _____ First: _____

COURSE CODES _____ EVENT CODES _____

EMAIL (Let us notify you about upcoming events) _____

REGISTRATION CODE (see info page): _____ REGISTRATION FEE _____

NAME (for badge) Last: _____ First: _____

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EMAIL (Let us notify you about upcoming events) _____

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REGISTRATION CODE (see info page): _____ REGISTRATION FEE _____

EMAIL: rosita@montanadental.org (attached pdf)	Total Conference Fee \$ _____
FAX: (406) 443-1546	Total Golf Fees (if any) \$ _____
MAIL: MDA, PO Box 1154, Helena MT 59624	Total All Fees \$ _____
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- > Cancellations must be made by April 23, 2014 to receive a refund. No refunds will be issued after that date.
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2014

April

30 MDA Board of Directors, Missoula

May

1-2 MDA Annual Meeting,
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula.
Thurs., May 1, Dr. Joe Steven,
"Efficient Dentistry".
www.kiscodental.com
Friday, May 2, The Madow Brothers.
www.madow.com

September

9 Board of Dentistry, Helena

December

13 Board of Dentistry, Helena

2015

January

23 Dental Day at the Legislature
24 MDA Board of Directors, Helena

April-May

30-1 MDA Annual Meeting,
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula.
Friday, May 1, David Meinz

President's Report (continued from page 1)

will they have with remaining functions of the MDA? What is the most useful and transparent means of accounting and monitoring these programs?

The question of MDA governance has received some attention. Allowing the MDA officers to vote in Board meetings will be decided by the General Assembly at the next annual meeting. The members of the MDA Board strongly supported this proposal. They seem to feel more experience on issues was a useful principle.

We must have an MDA that is worthwhile to its members. Take advantage of all that is offered.

Thank you for your support during my term as president. I have enjoyed serving you.

Grants (continued from page 7)

"We are absolutely thrilled to receive this support," said president Dr. Mike Veseth. "The funding will help us continue to expand MDA's prevention efforts under our Montana Healthy Smiles initiative. This is truly a remarkable milestone in MDA's history."

Montana Healthy Smiles is MDA's umbrella for both Montana projects. It has garnered support from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Healthy Montana Kids, Healthy Montana Kids Plus, Caring Foundation of Montana, the Office of Public Instruction, Superintendent Denise Juneau, the Montana Hospital Association, Oral Health America, the American Dental Association and now, the Foundation for Healthy Montanans.

Keeping You in Touch with Dentistry in Montana