



District of Columbia
DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

November 2017, Vol. 63, No. 11



Dr. Carol Blake

A Letter from the DC Dental Society President Carol Blake, DDS

Dear Colleagues:

I had the pleasure of attending the ADA's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA last month. It is always so energizing to catch up with colleagues, hear great speakers, and talk about our profession and the future. I came away refreshed, encouraged, and even more motivated to work towards DCDS's goals of membership value, technology, and financial stability, as detailed in our strategic plan.

In Atlanta, the ADA House of Delegates held their annual meeting. I'm happy to report that Dr. Jeffrey Cole, our Fourth District Trustee and a Georgetown University School of Dentistry alum, was elected to the position of President-Elect of the ADA. As Fourth District Trustee, Dr. Cole has done a great job representing our region on the ADA Board, serving as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. He will take over as ADA President in October 2018. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Cole, and we hope to see him at one of our local meetings in the near future. Also, I'd like to thank our DC delegation to the ADA House of Delegates - Drs. Patrick Grogan and Stephen Tigani (Delegates), Drs. Sally Cram and Angela Noguera (Alternate Delegates) and Dr. Michael Blicher (Secretary) - for attending the meeting and so ably representing all of us and our concerns at the national level. Please make a point of attending the November monthly meeting to participate in the nomination of one delegate and one alternate delegate position that open annually.

In addition to all of the events, continuing education, the exhibit hall, and the House of Delegates, there was serious discussion about what we as dentists can do to help those in need. It makes me proud of my profession that the ADA and the ADA Foundation are taking leadership roles in bringing much-needed assistance and relief to our colleagues in Texas, Florida, California and Puerto Rico. As a fellow member of the ADA Fourth District, our hearts particularly go out to Puerto Rico. The devastation caused by Hurricane Maria cannot be overstated

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Only 50 of the island's 1,200 dentists are able to work on a limited basis, due to the destruction of their offices and the limited supply of generators. Please see the article on page 11 on how you can help.

As all of you are aware, this is a licensure renewal year in the District. As a result, we've decided to offer Infection Control, a licensing requirement, at the December monthly meeting. 4 hours of infection control are required for licensure renewal. DCDS will offer two, two-hour sessions on December 5th at the Westin Georgetown. Members may take one session for two CE hours or both sessions for 4 CE hours. The afternoon session, which is from 3pm to 5pm, will cost members \$50. This nominal fees covers the Society's direct costs of offering this event. The second session, from 6pm to 8pm, will be complimentary to members. Non-members will be charged \$75 for each session or a total of \$150 if they attend both sessions. Please note that at this monthly meeting, we are not able to accommodate members bringing non-members as their guests. All non-member dentists must pay the registration fee. Please note that the December monthly meeting is a week earlier, on December 5th, due to Hanukkah.

I'd like to welcome new board member Eugenia Prokopets, who will serve the remainder of Dr. Adam Eskow's term. Dr. Prokopets is a periodontist and fourth-generation dentist. Originally from the Ukraine, she grew up in Scottsdale, Arizona. She received her DDS from Marquette University, and completed graduate training at Columbia University – New York Presbyterian Hospital, before earning her MS degree in periodontics from Louisiana State University. We're delighted to have Dr. Prokopets join us on the Board.

(Continued on Page 3)



For over 75 years, dentists in the Mid-Atlantic have trusted R.K Tongue Co. to safeguard their financial wellbeing and professional reputations. The D.C. Dental Society officially endorsed us in 1998 and every year since then to provide a comprehensive suite of insurance and financial services to its esteemed membership. We remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting your assets and your reputation.

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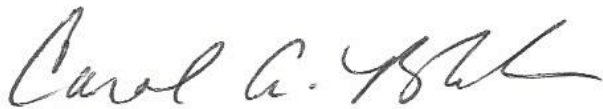
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Finally, it's membership renewal time! Please keep an eye out for your membership renewal invoice which will be mailed to you later this month. As we've reported, the DCDS membership did vote to increase membership dues by \$25 at the October monthly meeting. ADA dues are unchanged from 2017. When you receive your renewal notice, you will see that you can also donate to the DCDS Foundation and the DCPAC, as well as ADPAC. Please consider making these donations, as this funding allows us to give back to the community (in the case of the Foundation) and advocate for legislation that's beneficial for dentists (in the case of the DCPAC and ADPAC).

Sincerely,



Carol Blake, DDS
President, DC Dental Society

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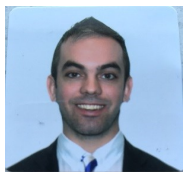
Welcome New Members



Dr. Jennifer Hunter - Dr. Hunter received her undergraduate degree from Howard University, then attended dental school at the University of Michigan, graduating in 2015. After dental school, she completed a one-year post-graduate general practice residency at Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center in Bronx, New York. Dr. Hunter recently joined Smile Dental in Adams Morgan. In addition to dentistry, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, and cooking.



Dr. Clare McGorry - Dr. McGorry graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ohio State University College of Dentistry where she was awarded the Carl O. Boucher Outstanding Senior Student Award for excellence in prosthodontics. She then completed a yearlong general practice residency at the Washington D.C. Veterans Affairs Medical Center before joining Markowitz Dentistry in Northwest DC. In her free time she enjoys running, cooking, skiing and traveling.



Dr. John Sporidis - Dr. Sporidis received his DDS from the University of Maryland in May 2017. After graduation, he joined the practice of Dr. Chris Loukaitis, who was instrumental in encouraging him to pursue a career in dentistry.



Dr. Laura Styron - Dr. Styron is a 2012 graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry. Dr. Styron practiced for three years in Oklahoma City before moving to Denver in 2015 and on to Washington DC this past summer. She transferred into the Society from the Colorado Dental Society. In her spare time, Dr. Styron likes to cook, read, run, and travel.

Bioterrorism and Emergency Preparedness for Dentists

While living in Washington, DC has many perks, it also means accepting certain realities. Namely, that the District of Columbia's status as the capital of the United States makes it a larger potential target for terrorist activity than most metropolitan areas.

Following the September 11th and subsequent anthrax attacks in 2001, the Journal of the American Dental Association published an article laying out the ways that dental professionals could be called upon to act in the wake of a significant bioterrorism event. This was the first of several articles that were published in the Journal in the following years covering emergency preparedness for dentists. The thinking behind covering these topics was, and still is, that education could potentially save lives in the event of a large-scale terrorist attack.

Does your practice's emergency preparedness plan include bioterrorism? To browse these articles, click [here](#).

Coming Soon: Your ADA/DCDS Membership Dues Renewal Notice

Thank you for your membership in the DC Dental Society this past year! Members should receive their 2018 DCDS and ADA membership renewal notice and dues invoice in the mail later this month. At the October monthly meeting, membership voted to increase DCDS dues by \$25, to a total of \$630 for full dues.

Once you receive your 2018 invoice, you may pay your dues [online](#) via credit card using your ADA login credentials or mail a check (payable to the District of Columbia Dental Society) to the address on the invoice. Monthly and quarterly partial payment plans are available. Please contact the office at info@dcdental.org or call (202) 367-1163 to make arrangements. The membership year ends on December 31st, but members have a one-month grace period until January 31, 2018, to pay their dues. Members will still be able to attend the January Monthly Meeting during this grace period. After January 31st, there is a \$100 late fee that is added to the regular dues. When renewing, please consider making voluntary contributions to the following DCDS-related entities:

- DCDS Foundation — charitable and philanthropic arm of the D.C. Dental Society that supports education, screenings and services for at-need District of Columbia residents. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.
- District of Columbia Dental Political Action Committee (DCDPAC) — voluntary unincorporated committee of individual dentists that advocates on local issues of concern to the dental profession within the District of Columbia.
- American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) — bipartisan voice of thousands of dentists who join together to help elect candidates to federal office who understand the importance of dentistry and dentistry's unrelenting commitment to improving oral health care in America.

Be sure to remain an active part of your national and local dental organizations to stay up-to-date and connected with peers in the field.

Dental Assistant Registration

According to the Dc Board of Dentistry, there are currently 1,492 registered dentists in Washington, DC, compared to just 772 total registered dental assistants. Recognizing that this number most likely does not reflect the actual number of practicing dental assistants in Washington DC, the DC Board of Dentistry is cracking down on offices using unregistered assistants. Practices found to be in violation of the Board of Dentistry's registration guidelines could be subject to a fine calculated by the number of unregistered assistants multiplied by the number of months that they have been employed.

The DCDS is encouraging all area dentists to please register any currently unregistered assistants as soon as possible, and re-register them for the upcoming period by December 31, 2017. To view all of the regulations for dental assistants in Washington, DC, please [click here](#). To view the required documents for registration, please [click here](#).

Dry Mouth and Dentifrices

November Monthly Meeting

The November DC Dental Society monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, November 14th at the Westin Georgetown and will feature a presentation by Dr. Fiona Collins entitled, "Dry Mouth and Dentifrices."



Session Abstract

Saliva fulfills many functional and protective roles in the oral cavity. This presentation briefly reviews these roles, before focusing on the etiology of dry mouth and the associated oral manifestations. An overview of current therapies available for their prevention and management is provided during the presentation, including the role of fluoride dentifrices and their ingredients, calcium and phosphate options, and other technologies that provide for the management of dry mouth.

Learning Objectives

Dentists who participate in the program will be able to:

- List etiologies of dry mouth
- Describe the oral manifestations associated with dry mouth
- Review current therapies available for the relief of dry mouth and the management of other oral manifestations of dry mouth
- List and describe ingredients in dentifrices relevant to the relief of dry mouth and management of oral health

<i>Presentation Topic</i>	<i>Location</i>
Dry Mouth and Dentifrices	Westin Georgetown
<i>Schedule</i>	2350 M St NW
5:00 p.m. — Registration	Washington, DC
5:45 p.m. — Business Meeting	20037
6:00 p.m. — Presentation	<i>Parking at the Westin</i>
8:00 p.m. — Dinner	Before 5:00 p.m.: \$15
	After 5:00 p.m.: \$10

Members planning to attend the November meeting should RSVP [online](#), by phone at (202) 367-1163, or via email at info@dcdental.org by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13th. Monthly meetings are free to members as a membership benefit. Members may also bring one non-member dentist guest for free. Dental staff are \$30. For more information, including the presenter bio, and to register, click [here](#).



The DC Dental Society is an ADA CER-P Recognized Provider. ADA CER-P is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CER-P does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. The DC Dental Society designates this activity for 2 continuing education credits.

Infection Control is Not Optional: Dental Professionals Need to Be Involved



December Monthly Meeting

The December DCDS Monthly CE Meeting, occurring on the first Tuesday of the month in order not to conflict with Hanukkah, will offer up to four hours of continuing education (CE) credit on infection control. This course meets the District of Columbia Board of Dentistry requirement for infection control and OSHA training.

The course is being offered in two parts, an afternoon session and an evening session. Dentists may sign up for one session or both. **Please note that one session is 2 CE; you must register for both sessions to receive 4 CE.**

Members who register for the afternoon session will pay a \$50 registration fee, due to the extra costs of offering an afternoon course. For the evening session, members will pay \$0. The cost for non-members is \$75 per session.

- **Where:** Westin Georgetown Hotel (2350 M St. NW)
- **When:** Tuesday, December 5, 2017
- **3pm - 5pm:** Afternoon Infection Control Session (\$50 members, \$75 non-members)
- **5pm - 6pm:** Networking Reception
- **6pm - 8pm:** Evening Infection Control Session (\$0 members, \$75 non-members)

Space is limited and members are encouraged to register early to ensure their seat at one or both courses. Please note, members may not bring non-member guests to this meeting.

The course will be conducted by **Dr. Louis DePaola**. For speaker bio, course abstract and learning objectives, please [click here](#)

Members planning to attend the meeting should RSVP [online](#), by phone at (202) 367-1163, or via email at info@dcdental.org by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 4th.



The DC Dental Society is an ADA CER-P Recognized Provider. ADA CER-P is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CER-P does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. The DC Dental Society designates this activity for 2 continuing education credits per session.

<i>Presentation Topic</i>	<i>Location</i>
Infection Control	Westin Georgetown
<i>Schedule</i>	2350 M St NW
2:00 p.m. — Registration	Washington, DC
3:00 p.m. — Session 1	20037
5:00 p.m. — Reception/ Registration	Parking at the Westin
6:00 p.m. — Session 2	Before 5:00 p.m.: \$15
	After 5:00 p.m.: \$10

Just Announced: January CE Event

The DCDS is pleased to announce the CE topic and speaker for our January monthly meeting. Dr. Dewitt Wilkerson will be presenting an “Introduction to Integrative Dental Medicine, Including the Airway/Breathing/TMD/Occlusion Connection.”

This meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9th at the Westin Georgetown. DC Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider, and will provide 2 CE for attendees who stay for the entire presentation. Members may bring one non-member guest for free, as long as the guest is registered in advance. Otherwise, the cost for non-members is \$75. The course abstract and learning objectives will be posted on the DCDS website and registration will be open soon.

Fourth District Dentist Elected as New ADA President

At the recent ADA Annual Conference in Atlanta, Dr. Jeffrey Cole of the Delaware State Dental Society was chosen as the new President-Elect of the ADA. Dr. Cole has served since 2013 as the Trustee of the Fourth District, which includes Washington, DC, to the ADA House of Delegates. He is also the chair of both the Budget and Finance and Strategic Planning Committees and will assume the role of President in October of 2018.



Dr. Cole has additional ties to the Washington, DC area as well. Like many DCDS members, he attended the Georgetown University School of Dentistry, graduating in 1986. He went on to receive his Masters of Business Administration from Temple University in 1996 and currently practices in Wilmington, DE.



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Notice: ADA House of Delegates Call for Nominations

According to the D.C. Dental Society bylaws, nominations for the Society's one open delegate and one open alternate delegate position must take place at the monthly meeting immediately following the ADA Annual Meeting being held later this month. Therefore, nominations will be taken from the floor during the November 14th, 2017 Monthly Meeting. Members may self-nominate or have another member nominate for them if they are not able to attend. The office will then confirm eligibility. If necessary, elections for contested positions will occur at the January 9, 2018 monthly meeting.

New Underwriter for PPP Plan

R.K. Tongue has announced that the Professional Protector Plan® for Dentists (PPP) is transitioning to a new financial underwriter/insurer, Aspen American Insurance Company (AAIC). The PPP-AAIC program will begin serving dental offices nationwide on October 28, 2017. With this change, plan participants will see a reduction in their premiums, bigger discounts (now 10%) for PPP risk management seminar and online course attendance, and additional policy enhancement.

Upon receipt of your upcoming renewal policy, you will notice your PPP coverage has been automatically rewritten to AAIC with no additional action required on your part. You will continue to enjoy the PPP program coverage and R.K. Tongue Co., Inc. expertise and service that you deserve and have come to expect.

For more information about the recent enhancements to your PPP, please contact R.K. Tongue Co., Inc. at 1-800-638-6353 or information@rktongue.com. Andrew Gerner from R.K. Tongue will also be present at the November and December monthly meetings to field member questions about this change.

Updated ADA Guidelines on Oral Cancer Evaluation

Every year, nearly 50,000 Americans are diagnosed with oral cancer. As with most forms of cancer, survival rates are largely dependent on early diagnosis. The ADA's latest [how-to video](#), based on the recently [published guideline](#) for the evaluation of potentially malignant disorders in the oral cavity, walks members through the full exam process and offers examples of potentially malignant and benign lesions. Members can also download the [new chairside guide](#) as a summary of the guideline to keep on hand in their practice and a new "[For the Patient](#)" article as a resource to help with educating your patients on their options if an exam turns up something suspicious.



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What Language Might Your Next Patient Speak?

In order to facilitate member compliance with Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, the ADA and DCDS have announced a partnership with online translation provider CyraCom which helps medical professionals communicate with patients with limited English and cover hundreds of languages, including 25 with video support. Here are the top 10 most-requested languages by Washington, D.C. healthcare providers based on CyraCom's 2016 usage data:

1. Spanish
2. Amharic (Ethiopia)
3. Arabic
4. Mandarin
5. French
6. Vietnamese
7. Brazilian Portuguese
8. Korean
9. Cantonese
10. Urdu

Right now, DCDS members can save 70% off of nonmember rates, the same rate offered to major healthcare systems! To find out more and to sign up, follow [this link](#)

Did You Know? Check Your CE Report Online!

With license renewal season fast approaching, the DCDS has begun to receive a high volume of requests for Continuing Education transcripts. We have also discovered that many members are unaware that they can track their CE and print out reports directly through our website. To do so, follow the instructions below:

1. Go to www.dcdental.org
2. Click on "Track CE" blue button on the right-hand side of the screen
3. Scroll down page to green "Log into CE" button
4. Login to the ADA CE portal. If you do not know your login information, you can reset your password by using your ADA# as your username.

You can view your CE, print out a report, and even upload CE to your own account. Hard copies of CE reports can still be provided upon request. Please allow up to 5 business days for processing.

Donate to Assist Dentists in Puerto Rico

The dental community is joining together to help dentists and the public in Puerto Rico. Less than 50 of the 1,200 dentists in Puerto Rico are operating half days to serve the 3.4 million residents of the island. The information on this page provides options for those who wish to help.

The [ADA Foundation's Emergency Disaster Grants](#) provide up to \$2,000 in immediate financial assistance to dentists who are victims of a disaster to help with emergency personal needs such as food, clothing, shelter, bottled water, emergency lodging, and medications. Additionally, the ADA Foundation provides Emergency Disaster Grants of up to \$10,000 for 501(c)(3) organizations providing needed dental care in communities that have experienced a disaster.

Puerto Rico's dental association is also collecting monetary donations and supplies to help in Puerto Rico's recovery. Half of the funds they raise will be used to help dentists who lost their homes and practices, while the other half will be used to help provide dental care to people in need across the island. Monetary donations are preferred. More information is available on the [ADA Foundation website](#).

ADA Convocation In Atlanta



Pictured from left to right: Dr. Chris Loukaitis, Dr. Carol Blake, Dr. Patrick Grogan, Dr. Said Mokhtarzadeh, and Dr. Michael Blicher

At last month's ADA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, several DC Dental Society members were recognized for their service. Inducted into the American College of Dentists, the oldest major honorary organization for dentists, were Drs. Ioana (Anna) Bettios, Carol Blake, Patrick Grogan, Said Mokhtarzadeh, Anupma Rao Tate and Dexter Woods.

In addition, Drs. Bettios and Kim Menhinick were inducted into the International College of Dentists as Fellows. Congratulations to all of our members!

New ADA Credentialing Service

In an effort to reduce administrative burdens for all dentists, the ADA and CAQH have formed a strategic alliance to help streamline the credentialing process for dentists, dental plans and employers. The ADA[®] credentialing service, powered by CAQH ProView[®], enables dentists to enter their professional and practice information one time in an easy-to-use, fast and protected digital platform.

Any U.S. practicing dentist can participate in this service by visiting ADA.org/godigital and then selecting the “My Credential” icon. By accepting the terms and conditions, the dentist will be redirected to the CAQH ProView Welcome Page. There, he or she will see certain prepopulated information from the ADA - or the information attested to previously - making it easier and quicker for the dentist to complete and attest.

Once a profile is complete and attested, dentists grant permission to the dental plans and other participating organizations they choose to access their data. The information can be used not only for credentialing, but also for provider directories, network adequacy and other business needs. A number of dental payers already participate in CAQH ProView; view the full list at CAQH.org/proviewdentalplans.

Dentists can update their information any time. Automatic reminders will encourage dentists to review and attest to their information every 120 days so that profiles remain timely and accurate. The system will also prompt users if their licenses or other documentation are about to expire.

Learn more about the ADA credentialing service at ADA.org/credentialing. Learn more about CAQH ProView at caqhproview.org.

Classifieds

Dental Professionals

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Deadlines:

The Newsletter is usually distributed on the first Wednesday of every month. Ads are due to the Society two weeks prior to the publication date.