

Drs. Gehani, Alfano Honored by the New York State Dental Foundation

On Friday, November 10th the New York State Dental Foundation staged their Foundations of Excellence Awards Luncheon at the St. Regis Hotel in Manhattan. Honorees included Michael Alfano, DMD, former dean of NYU College of Dentistry and now Executive VP of NYU; Alice Horowitz, RDH, PhD, senior scientist of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research;

Mr. Michael Sudzina, Director, Professional and Scientific Relations, Proctor and Gamble; and our own, Dr. Chad Gehani. Over 200 people were in attendance with accolades for the achievements of all the recipients.

Dr. Alfano received the Excellence in Academics Award for his work to bridge the gap between the practice of dentistry and the greater healthcare community. Dr. Horowitz, awarded for Excellence in Research, was cited for her efforts to bring public attention to the risks of oral cancer. The Excellence in Corporate Leadership Award, bestowed upon Mr. Sudzina, was for his work in managing innovative professional education, scientific exchange and speaker programs for both dentists and dental hygienists. Dr. Chad Gehani was the recipient of the Foundation of Excellence in Community Service Award.

As cited by the Foundation, "Dr. Gehani is the leading dentist working with NYSDA to ensure the continuation and

development of New York State's Medicaid program, the primary vehicle through which the poor receive dental services. Most recently, Dr. Gehani's efforts were instrumental in enabling NYSDA to defeat a guber-



Above: Recipients of the NYS Foundation Excellence Awards. Dr. Michael Alfano, Dr. Alice Horowitz, Dr. Chad Gehani, and Mr. Michael Sudzina



Above: Dr. Gehani addresses the NYS Dental Foundation

Left: Ovation for Dr. Gehani

natorial proposal to eliminate adult services from the Medicaid program. As a result, millions of New York citizens still have access to quality dental care. In addition, Dr. Gehani continues to lead organized dentistry's efforts to include diversity within the framework of its membership."

The New York State Dental Foundation is a non-profit corporation addressing the educational and humanitarian commitments of the New York State Dental Association. Its mission is to foster a state-wide approach to the advancement of the art and science of dentistry and dental education as well as to improve the quality of dental care in the state.

In this issue:

QCDS receives award 4

Policy on monitoring of
drug data 6

Dr. Parise retires from
Peer Review post 13

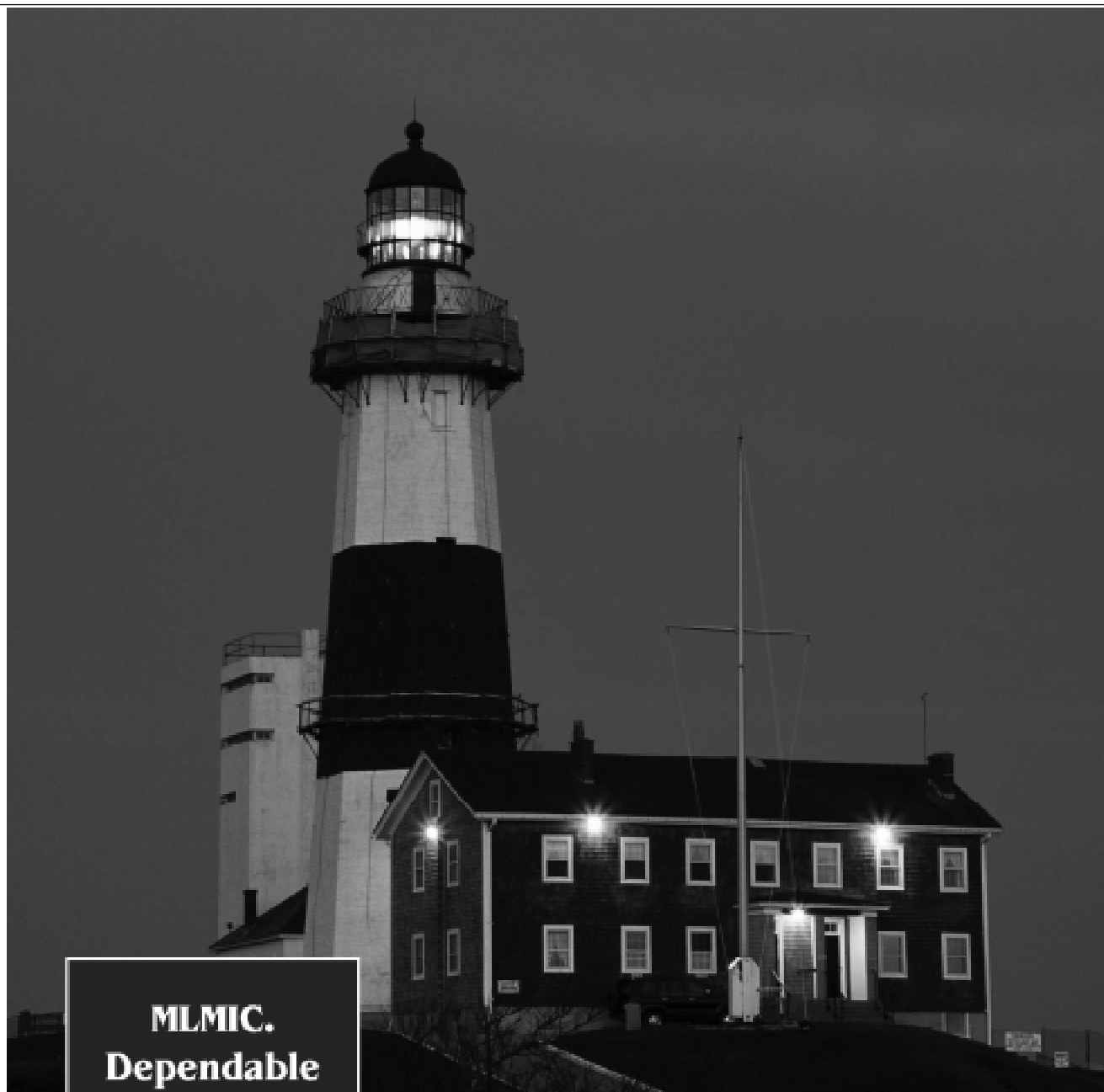
CE courses 14-15

Cosmetic Program at Caffe on the Green

Over 120 enthusiastic members attended our special educational program "A Protocol for Predictable Aesthetic Restorations for Crown and Bridge to Implants" given by Dr. Ronald Margolies. Staged at a beautiful setting at Caffe on the Green in Bayside we enjoyed cocktails, dinner, and continuing education as well as the camaraderie of our friends and colleagues.

Dr. Margolies is a member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and the International College of Oral Implantology. He has completed extensive training at Dr. Peter Dawson's Center for Advanced Dental Study. He has held staff positions at Nassau County Medical Center and Long Beach Hospital, and is a lecturer and published author.

Dr. Margolies poses the point that doctors and technicians who deal with cos-
see **Cosmetic Program** page 17



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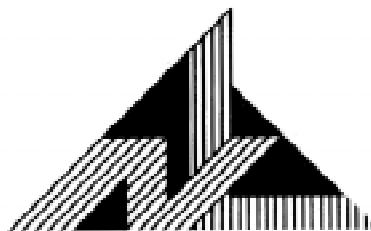
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QCDS Receives "Hallmark of Excellence" Award

At a special ceremony at the November 17th NYSDA Board of Governors Meeting, QCDS was bestowed with this year's Hallmark of Excellence Award. President Mitchell Greenberg was present to accept the award on behalf of QCDS.

In her citation upon presenting the award, NYSDA Membership and Communications Chairman, Deborah Pasquale, said:

"The NYSDA Hallmarks of Excellence Award, presented by the Council on Membership and Communications, recognizes outstanding component recruitment and retention programs.

On behalf of the Council, I am pleased to present this award to the Queens County Dental Society for its diversity outreach program.

Queens County is a borough with a rich ethnic and racial mix. More languages are spoken in Queens than any other location in the United States – 138.

Queens County leaders felt there was a disconnect between the tripartite system and the borough's culturally diverse minorities, and they took on the enormous task of reaching out to these communities.

In partnership with the ADA, NYSDA and the NYS Dental Foundation, Queens hosted a diversity forum in 2005 and a leadership conference in January, 2006. Attendees have included leaders from the ADA, NYSDA and from various ethnic dental associations, dental school deans and those working in the dental industry. The society has also sponsored additional courses inviting members from ethnic societies who were non-ADA members. Many have since become members of organized dentistry.

Last year Queens County received an honorable mention from our Council, for their ongoing diversity outreach efforts and we are pleased to honor them today with the Hallmarks of Excellence Award.

Congratulations."

Cancer Screening at Belmont



We wish to thank our volunteers who participated at the QCDS Annual Oral Cancer Screening at Belmont Raceway on October 2, 2006.



Left to right Front row: Dr. Deepu Jayam, Peninsula Hospital, Dr. Therese Rawlins, CMC, Dr. Diana Pop, CMC, Mrs. Bonnye Trager, Jockey, Dr. Robert Trager, Chairman, Dr. Anthony Ripani & daughter, Ms. Harriet Goldenberg, RDH, Dr. Barry Goldenberg

Back row: Ms. Christine Doulam, RDH, Peninsula Hospital, Ms. Corinne King, DA, Peninsula Hospital, Mr. Jack Fox, Oral CDX, Mr. William Bayer, Executive Director QCDS, Dr. Huy Trinh, CMC, Dr. Seung-Jun Lee, CMC, Dr. Hugh Parker, Dr. Tristan Lue, CMC, Dr. Walter Sabolboro



All for One and One for All

By Michael S. Burstein

I am writing this column after returning from the ADA Annual meeting in Las Vegas. It was my first time to attend such a meeting, this time as your alternate delegate. It was an awesome experience. Not only was Las Vegas an amazing place: I hadn't seen it in about 14 years; but the enormity of the meeting has to make one stand back in amazement. There were over 40,000 attendees from all over the U.S., 12,500 of them dentists. The camaraderie was inspiring, everyone sharing and cordial as can be. Even during the President's Gala where coincidentally the St. Louis contingent was seated next to the New Yorkers. This was the final night of the National League Baseball championship and they sent up a cheer when word filtered down that the Cardinals beat the Mets. Consolations all around and we could hardly hold a grudge.

What impressed me the most was being part of the workings of the local caucuses and the House of Delegates. The dedication put in by these volunteers, your colleagues, is amazing. Every member comes with reams of papers, all resolutions and opinions that will be discussed. You have to do your homework. Reference committees meet to hear opinions of each proposal, details hammered out. Local caucuses meet to discuss the virtues of each resolution, establishing a group opinion of how we stand, discussing how each proposal will impact our members. Meeting after meeting, our representatives rarely saw the light of day.

Walking into the House of Delegates gallery is awe inspiring. In a room the size of a football field, rows of tables are set for the 425 delegates grouped by district. Separate seating is for alternate delegates and guests.

The AV is incredible with four mammoth screens to display the resolutions under discussion and close-ups of the speakers' podium. Microphone stations were positioned around the room to entertain pro and con discussion. Voting mechanisms were in place with yellow voting cards to wave or by pressing electronic key

the punctuation. The parliamentary procedure kept matters clear and regimented. The oratory was eloquent. Addresses from ADA Presidents Robert Brandjord and Kathy Roth were inspiring. We all took pride in anointing our favorite son, Dr. Mark Feldman, as President-elect.

Many thanks to our ADA delegates,



QCDS President Michael Burstein with the New York delegation at the 2006 ADA Annual Session of the Board of Delegates.

pads. (I wondered if we were connected to "Ask the audience" on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire".)

The organization of a congress like this is incredible. Delegates work with due diligence on working out resolutions. We heard discussions, amendments, secondary amendments, referrals, every detail down to

Jay Ledner, Joe Caruso, and Chad Gehani for their dedication and commitment. They represented us well.

As we mark the threshold of my presidency, I can only say how proud I am to be a part of this organization and process. I hope to see you all next year in San Francisco.

New Members

We welcome the following New Members

Mark Bornstein
Ashokkumar Dave
Maria D. Herrera
Jane Jaroonnarm

Tassos S. Katechis
Therese Rawlins
Victoria Rubinoff
Manish Sharma

Lyudmila Sirenko
Omid Termechi
Patricia S. Yau

The following communication has been distributed by the New York State Department of Health. Because of its importance, we reprint it here.



State of New York
Department of Health
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Phone: (518) 474-2111
Fax: (518) 474-5450

ANTONIA C. NOVELLO, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H.
Commissioner

October 18, 2006

Dear Practitioner:

The Department of Health reviews controlled substance prescription data submitted by pharmacies through New York's Official Prescription Program. The program that was implemented in 1972, to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of Schedule II controlled substances, has successfully curtailed diversion and abuse. A new law extends the monitoring of all controlled substances.

The monitoring of prescription information is vital in detecting a major source of drug diversion often referred to as "doctor shopping." Individuals engaged in this illegal activity obtain controlled substances for their own addiction and/or street sale from multiple practitioners.

The Public Health Law Section 3397(4) requires a person who obtains a prescription for a controlled substance from more than one practitioner to disclose this information to each practitioner he or she visits. Inappropriately obtaining controlled substances from multiple practitioners and failing to disclose these prior prescriptions is a serious concern to the Department of Health. This illegal activity affects the practitioner's ability to provide patients with quality care and may cause undue risk to a patient when the practitioner does not have all the facts.

Under the new law, the Department will be notifying practitioners if there is reason to believe that a patient being treated with a controlled substance may also be under treatment with controlled substances by another practitioner. In the near future, we will begin providing practitioners with a drug utilization profile report when a thorough analysis of prescription data reveals that a person has obtained controlled substances from five or more practitioners over a 30-day period.

The drug profile report will notify you of our concern for your patient and list the controlled substance prescriptions he or she has obtained during a specified interval. The report will also provide contact information at the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services as a possible resource for assistance in arranging for substance abuse rehabilitation treatment.

In providing this drug profile report, it is not our intent to determine how you conduct your practice. This information will be provided so practitioners may exercise their medical judgment for any follow-up care they deem necessary. Many other states have implemented similar programs in response to the growing epidemic of "doctor shopping." Such programs enjoy overwhelming support from their medical communities and have reduced this illegal drug-seeking activity by as much as 65 percent, allowing practitioners to devote their time to legitimate patient care.

Your attention and cooperation is appreciated in this important initiative to curtail drug diversion and abuse. If you have any questions about the new law or the Official Prescription Program, please contact the Department's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement toll free at: (866) 811-7957.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Anton", written over a horizontal line.

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H.
Commissioner of Health



Sponsors

By William Bayer

One of the more tangible benefits of belonging to organized dentistry is the wide selection of Continuing Education courses that are offered to our members either at reduced rates or even better, at no cost. As with everything in this world, in reality, nothing is truly "free" and so is the case when it comes to a discussion of "free" continuing education courses.

On November 2nd, many of you attended the recent CE offering held at Caffé on the Green and if not for the size of the room, many more would have attended. The event was filled to capacity thus providing approximately 125 of our members not only with an interesting CE offering but also with a night out at a first class catering facility where the CE was offered at no cost to our members. Although most of our courses are offered on site at QCDS headquarters, we were able to offer this course at one of the more pleasant sites in all of Queens. The cocktail hour followed with the main course and dessert was truly outstanding and from what I heard

during the event, everyone was quite pleased with nary a single negative word. The size of our waiting list almost equaled the actual number of people who attended.

Our general membership meeting on November 7th was also well attended with over 100 members. Dr. Fred Barnett provided an excellent program regarding endodontics which was preceded by a delightful dinner.

Events like this simply don't take place by themselves. Your officers and QCDS staff search out speakers we hope will be of interest, set up the logistics of the event which at time can be like planning a wedding and handle the registration, certificates, etc. to hopefully provide a product that we can be proud of but more importantly, a product that our members can both learn from as well as find enjoyable. An event like the Caffé seminar does in fact cost QCDS to put forth however we are extremely fortunate that SPONSORS for such events shoulder the actual cost thus allowing QCDS to provide the course at no cost to either QCDS itself or to our members. The generous support of CITIBANK, HENRY SCHEIN, NOBEL BIO CARE, NU LIFE LONG ISLAND, MONERIS SOLUTIONS and AMERICAN EXPRESS enabled the Caffé event to be offered. Similarly, our membership meeting was sponsored by SYBRON, HAYES HANDPIECE, CITIBANK and NU LIFE LONG ISLAND. QCDS is fortunate that many other sponsors provide the financial support that allows us to offer the varied CE courses held throughout the year. At the risk of omitting a sponsor from my thank you, I will not attempt to list all of them however we do provide an acknowledgement of their sponsorship in the meeting announcement as well as usually offering them the opportunity to appear at the event and to meet with our members. Please speak with them when they attend our events and see if they are offering a service that you might find useful. Although our sponsors are generous, business is business and they hope that they will get a return on their sponsorship dollar by having our members patronize their business. Many of you already do business with the sponsors and as a result, our sponsors continue to support our programs. For those of you who are not patronizing our sponsors, I ask that you give them a call identifying yourself as a QCDS member and see if their service is one you can use. I understand their rates are competitive with other providers and your utilization of our sponsor services will affirm to them that the dollars they invest in QCDS are dollars worth spending.

We would like to expand the number of offerings like the Caffé however such events cannot be offered without sponsors underwriting the costs. The businesses that sponsor our events are just that, businesses, and no business can survive if clients are not using their service or products. Initially, the demographics of QCDS members are quite desirable to our sponsors but they do expect that our members ultimately act by utilizing their product. This is an opportunity for those of you patronizing non-sponsors to at least give a sponsor a try. Many of our sponsors advertise in the Bulletin or you can call the QCDS office and we will be glad to provide contact information. Please try to support those who support us.

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