



# REDS News

Vol 46, Issue 2, June 2012

## Dr. Mark Cooper Receives New Kidney



We received word directly from Dr. Cooper that he received a new kidney on March 26, 2012. The donor was a friend of the family and is reported to be the chief dispatcher for the Clearlake Police Department. Dr. Cooper relayed that his daughter said "I am going to get you a new kidney, Dad", and she did. He said "my blood levels are all absolutely normal for the first time in 15 years. My regards to the Redwood Empire Dental Society for the attention that was drawn to organ donation. Thank you so much for your support."

## We welcome a new REDS Board Member

We welcome Dr. James Kinsel of Clearlake who has been confirmed by the REDS board to complete the term of Dr. Randy Sun as director for Lake County.

Dr. Kinsel has been a REDS member for 8 years and is a 1998 UOP grad. We thank him for stepping forward and know that he will be a valuable addition to our board.



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# President's Message

Peyman Hedayati, DDS, MD



2012 is progressing on and so are we. We have addressed health care issues for the underserved at a legislative level. We were well received and attended. And time pushes on. We will be renewing old discussions of water fluoridation in Sonoma County and expand continuing education opportunities more frequently to Mendocino and Lake Counties. Our traditional Members BBQ event is scheduled for September, and this year we would like to extend this invitation to member spouses as well.

We have discussed how REDS can be instrumental in supporting the need of the dental communities and we have included the "Give Back" section on our newly designed Web site. We have organized continuing education and social events which

Our dental board is constantly looking to solicit and recognize new talent. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim Woods and Mike Perry for their involvement in regards to SB694.

I also would like to commend all REDS board members for their participation and extend an invitation to others to join us. Everyone has a talent to contribute to our society.

I find membership to be a treasure; an important part of our dental profession. It allows us to meet in an organized fashion, interact with our peers and stay informed at a local and state level. I encourage everyone to take advantage of their membership benefits, some of which you may find on our REDS Website and on the CDA Web site.

I wish you a prosperous summer.

## REDS Builds Consensus at HOD

A special House of Delegates for the California Dental Association was convened in Oakland on March 3, 2012. The issue was a previously passed proposal that supported a pending bill in the State legislature called SB694. Much has already been written on this piece of legislation. Debate centered over whether the legislation would lead to the establishment of "mid-level providers" that would do irreversible dental procedures to the detriment of the public and the profession. After considerable discussion, an alternative proposal was presented by Dr. Michael Perry with the help of Dr. James Wood. This alternative language received the backing of 8 other dental societies prior to its introduction. With minor alteration, the proposal was approved by the General Assembly of the House of Delegates. The terms of the agreement allayed the concerns of some and focused our support onto the importance of a public dental director for the State of California. It also served to limit the matter to a study of the issue of alternative providers.

## Community Foundation of Sonoma County \$ for \$ Challenge



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St. Joseph Health System of Sonoma County is involved currently in a challenge grant with the Community Foundation of Sonoma County. The goal of this challenge grant is to help raise enough funds to purchase a replacement mobile dental van. The goal is to raise \$100,000 and the Community Foundation of Sonoma County will match the \$100,000 toward the purchase of the new mobile dental van.

If you would like to donate to St. Joseph please visit their website and donate today.

[www.stjosephhealth.org](http://www.stjosephhealth.org)

# Do Dental X-Rays Cause Cancer?

## A Clinician's Evaluation of the Research

Jim Simonds, DMD

### Editor

Dental professionals have become adept at dealing with patient reactions to new research that gets published in scientific literature, then gets "translated" into the popular press in such a fashion that it creates anxiety among the public. Unless the research is truly valid, even poorly done research can elevate fears among patients who could then, inadvisably, alter treatment choices that could do harm. It is our responsibility to assist the public by properly interpreting the data through analysis of the publication being cited, and then communicate with the public to educate them on the level of value of the research.

Recently, there was a paper published in *Cancer* that got broad national media attention that ostensibly evaluated the possible risk of routine dental diagnostic radiographs to patients through a perceived association with a common brain tumor (meningioma).

While the ADA has published a response to this paper, REDS would like to provide a perspective that might help the practitioner by noting some features of the paper and an analysis of the study, and then suggest some "talking points" that could assist in a dialogue with patients. We leave it to each dentist to determine how to address this issue, what subjects to discuss, and how best to manage each patient's concern. The talking points are the comments seen below in an abbreviated form provided on a separate sheet with highlights in bold that is easy to understand at a glance.

When discussing this or other topics that we see in the press or are brought to us by patients, we need to address each

issue in a measured and scientific fashion that is consistent with our training and manner of practice. Our patients rely on our ability to evaluate research on a level they are often not prepared to do. As such, we should avoid emotional, defensive, or dismissive responses that can often aggravate an issue rather than resolve it. If the research is sound, we can learn from it, but if the research is weak, we can identify it as such and discard that which has little or no value. In either case, we should feel comfortable providing a thorough evaluation of the issue. In the case of the Claus paper there are some observations that might help evaluate the publication. This was

a retrospective (reflections of past events) study as compared to a more reliable prospective (planned future events) study that relies on data from patients with regards to their recall of how much and what type of dental diagnostic radiation they received over a lifetime through interviews. This was a case-control study comparing patients with no history of meningioma (controls) with patients that had been diagnosed with meningioma (experimental). The numbers of subjects (N) were 1,350 controls and 1,433 experimental subjects. The findings were that more frequent bitewing exposure was associated with higher risk of developing meningioma over a lifetime. A statistically insignificant association was found with full mouth series and development of meningioma.

There appear to be no indications that significant changes in the dental practice are recommended due to the findings of the

research. The paper cites the ADA's policy on dental radiographs that says there is "little evidence to support the use of dental x-rays to search for occult disease in asymptomatic patients or to obtain routine dental studies from all patients at preset intervals" and "Dentists should not prescribe routine dental radiographs at preset intervals for all patients." The ADA paper recommends:

"New adult or adolescent patient:

Individualized radiographic examination consisting of posterior bitewings with panoramic examination or posterior bitewings and selected periapical images; a full mouth intraoral radiographic examination is pre-

ferred when the patient has clinical evidence of generalized dental disease or a history of extensive dental treatment."

Patients with a history of caries and/or periodontal disease (other than non-specific gingivitis) are recommended to receive routine radiographs and specific intervals as a part of their recall care. The positive gain from the paper is to maintain awareness of ionizing radiation used in dentistry and the continuing efforts to limit patient exposure as much as possible without significantly increasing the risk of developing serious dental maladies. Perhaps the media effect of this paper will "have legs" and dental x-rays will continue to draw attention, or the whole matter may quietly fade away. Regardless, we can use this experience as an exercise to improve our care to our patients by honing our analytic skills as required by our commitment to the science of dentistry.



## We mourn the loss of a good friend and board member, **Randolph “Randy” Sun**

Dr. Sun died in his sleep on February 25, 2012 at the age of 63, he died of a heart failure. His funeral was on March 3, 2012. His wife Pamela Sun informed us.

Dr. Sun was a REDS board member serving as a director for Lake County. Dr. Sun graduated from Loma Linda’s dental school in 1974 and had his practice in Lakeport. His daughter, Heidi Sun-Hailey recently took over the practice.

Randolph Sun enjoyed electric vehicles and promoted renewable energy sources like wind and solar. As a dentist, he was a beloved by his patients and staff. He and his family were very active in their church. He will be greatly missed.

## REDS Represented at SRJC Dental Hygiene Graduation

Rather than under the Oaks, Santa Rosa Junior College rolled out a fresh class of eager and talented dental hygienists under the shallow acoustic ceiling of the Hilton Hotel function hall in Santa Rosa on Friday, May 25, 2012.

While REDS member and Editor Jim Simonds gave the commencement speech, the students heard from Dean Ezbon Jen who informed the joyful class and celebrating family members that the Junior College Dental Hygiene program has ratings placing the school in the top 4 among the 240 dental hygiene programs in the United States.

Much of their training relies on current and past REDS members, including active Board Member, Christine Ford who heads the Periodontology course and retired members Bob Weis and Linda Carroll.

While the elation of the crowd was clear, the event was more somber than usual with the absence of Doni Bird, the Director of Allied Dental Education Programs at the SRJC. Her retirement was accelerated by the effects of injuries sustained in a car accident several months ago. Her presence at the SRJC for nearly 30 years has influenced many students and will continue to for years to come.

## REDS Dentists Invited to use State-of-the-Art Surgery Center

George Schneider DDS

Many of you are aware of the Pediatric Dental Initiative (PDI) Surgery Center in Windsor, which provides high quality, treatment for children with severe decay requiring anesthesia. The facility and staff anesthesiologist are available to any dentist to use for general anesthesia patients, or to refer children requiring extensive work.

REDS dentists and PDI have the same goal; to provide quality dental care for all Sonoma County, especially children. I am impressed by the quality and dedication of the PDI Surgery Center staff, who have served over 6500 children, most dependent on Medi-Cal, since opening in 2008. As we all know too well, being sustainable on Medi-Cal is impossible, but thanks to fundraising, PDI’s dedicated board and bilingual staff have made the two-operatory room center a reality as a specialty care resource for our community.

If you have not yet toured PDI’s surgery center, located at 1380 19th Hole Drive in Windsor (Shiloh Road exit), I encourage you to call Viveka Rydell (837-8882 cell 339-1105) to learn more about it. PDI’s website is [www.pedidental.org/index.htm](http://www.pedidental.org/index.htm) Also check them out on NBC Nightly News at [www.facebook.com/pdisurgery-center](http://www.facebook.com/pdisurgery-center) And of course they would always welcome donations.



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# A Few Words...

Martin Van Tassell  
Executive Director

This year has been filled with louder calls for help on behalf of the needy or for the education of our future staff. PDI, the SRJC and St. Joseph's Dental Clinic to name a few have been reaching out to our members for donations. I urge you to do whatever you can. There are links on our website [www.redsdentists.org](http://www.redsdentists.org) in the "Give Back" section for you to check out.

I attend some of the community programs such as the Sonoma County Oral Health Access Coalition (SCOHAC) on behalf of REDS. It is clear that most of our water is still without fluoride and too many families and children are still undereducated on dental hygiene and do not see a dentist regularly. As a result, despite years of

effort, the caries rate remains high. Yet, I know that there are enough dentists in most communities to serve this population. Charitable funding sources have become scarce. We at REDS investigated establishing our own foundation. However, the overhead costs are enormous, and we realized we would be competing for the same dollars for the same people as these other worthy organizations.

Many of our members are stepping forward to do what they can to address the problem. Some open their doors and volunteer on certain days to all comers. Others work in clinics or volunteer their time in programs like Give Kids a Smile or the RAM events. Some do so quietly on an individual ba-

sis for their patients, participate in the CDA Foundation or provide direct financial support. We Congratulate all of you.



CDA is still looking for volunteers both for dentist and hygienists for the CDA Cares event happening in Sacramento, August 24 & 25

My hope is that until more public funds and grant money become available, you as leaders in the dental community continue to do whatever you reasonably can to respond to this need. By doing so, you demonstrate your concern for oral health and avoid the call for change to be imposed on the profession.



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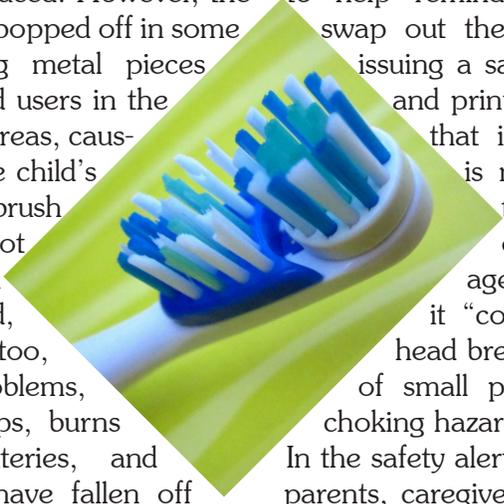
## FDA Warns of failing electric toothbrushes

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a consumer safety update about a brand of electric toothbrushes that's been found to chip teeth, cut gums and generally wreak havoc with your face. Injuries reported from use of the battery-powered Spinbrush toothbrush, sold by both Arm & Hammer and Crest (before 2009), include chipped or broken teeth, cuts to the mouth and gums, injuries to the face and eyes, and choking hazards thanks to broken pieces. The Spinbrush, manufactured by Church & Dwight Co., Inc., comes in both adult and children's models under the following names:

Spinbrush Pro Clean; Spinbrush Pro Clean Recharge; Spinbrush Pro Whitening; Spinbrush SONIC; Spinbrush SONIC Recharge; Spinbrush Swirl; Spinbrush Classic Clean, and Spinbrush for Kids. All have the potential for injury, according to the



Last year, the FDA issued a warning to Church & Dwight Co Inc. based on an inspection which found numerous consumer complaints about the product that had not been reported to the agency. The manufacturer responded to the FDA warning by improving its labeling to caution consumers about changing



the brush head after three months; adding bristles that changed color to help remind consumers to swap out the brush head and issuing a safety notice in TV and print ads which warns that if the brush head is not replaced after three months' use or becomes damaged or loose that it "could lead to brush head breakage, generation of small parts and possible choking hazard."

In the safety alert, the FDA advises parents, caregivers and consumers to inspect the Spinbrush before use for loose or damaged brush bristles and to make sure the brush head is connected tightly to the brush handle. If the brush head or bristles are loose (or damaged), the FDA says the Spinbrush should not be used and the issue should be reported to the manufacturer at 1-800-352-3384 or 1-800-561-0752.

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Either semimonthly or at time of payment, employers must provide each employee a statement of deductions and the inclusive dates for which he/she is paid (Labor Code 226 (a)). You must maintain records that pertain to employees in English and in indelible ink or an equivalent form, properly dated. Further, Labor Code Section 226(b) requires that employers shall permit current and former employees the right to inspect or copy those records upon reasonable oral or written request. Employers should comply with the request as soon as practica-

ble but no later than 21 calendar days from the date of the request. An employer who fails to provide such access within 21 day of the date of any oral or written request may be assessed a fine of \$750. In addition, knowing and intentional failure to comply with a request may subject you to court action. An employee may recover the greater of actual damages or \$50-\$100 for the initial and subsequent violations, up to \$4,000 plus costs and attorney fees. Review requests to determine exactly which records are being requested and comply accordingly.

## 4th Annual Baseball Game



Watch your **CINCINNATI REDS** take on the **SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS**

**WHERE:** AT&T Park, San Francisco  
**WHEN:** Saturday June 30th  
**TIME:** Game begins at 1:05 PM  
**WHO:** REDS members, family, staff & friends

**COST:** \$50 per ticket  
 Sign Up on Line: [www.redsdentists.org](http://www.redsdentists.org)



**Tickets are Limited!**

## Grand Opening

Dr. Claudia Karkia and Dr. Andy Ashtiani recently held their grand opening of their new joint office on 30 West El Rose Drive in Petaluma. The new office was a long time in the making, over two years in the planning process. The grand opening was held on March 29th of this year.





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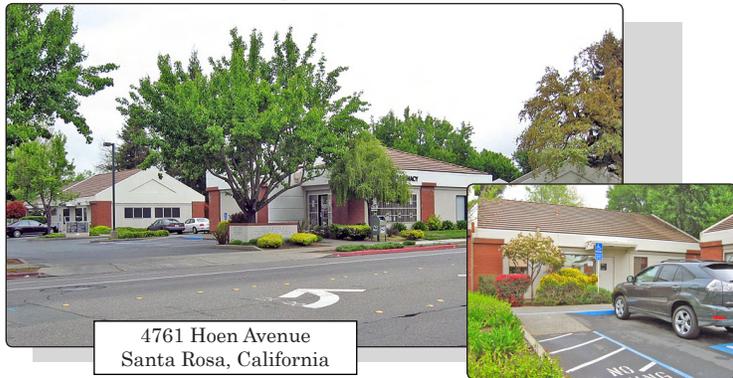
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## PRIME MEDICAL/OFFICE CONDO FOR SALE



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Vicinity Map

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## Becoming An Allied Member

Does anyone on your staff ever express an interest in becoming a Redwood Empire Dental Society Allied Member? Or would you like to become an Allied Member of REDS yourself? There are many up sides to doing so. First of all you get the same fee pricing as our full members for your CE courses taken through REDS. Second you will be sent the quarterly newsletter to help you keep up to date on news and events going on in the REDS area.

For an application visit our web site, [www.redsdentists.org](http://www.redsdentists.org)

## Classifieds

Rohnert Park General Dentist seeking coverage for maternity leave in Sept. 4th through 20th. Please contact Soonmyo Wheeler DDS  
707-206-0700: Office  
707-548-1700: Cell

## CDA Cares

CDA Cares Event still needs Dentist & Hygienists August 24 & 25 in Sacramento. For more information or to sign up please visit [www.CDAFoundation.org](http://www.CDAFoundation.org)



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# Upcoming Events

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Linnea Westerburg  
Christine Boyer  
Michael Perry

#### **Alternate Delegates**

James Wood  
Christine Ford

### **CDA Trustee:**

Elizabeth Van Tassell

### **REDS vs SF Giants**

Saturday June 30th, 1:05pm  
AT&T Park, San Francisco

### **CPR Renewal Course**

Monday July 16th, 1-4pm  
REDS Office, Santa Rosa

### **Lagunitas Get-Together**

Friday August 3rd, 5:30-8pm  
Lagunitas Brewery, Petaluma

### **REDS Board Meeting**

Tuesday September 18th, 7-9pm  
REDS Office, Santa Rosa

### **Shred-A-Thon**

Monday September 24, 2-4pm  
REDS Office, Santa Rosa

### **REDS BBQ**

Thursday September 27, 6-9pm  
John Ash in the Vintners Inn  
Spouses Are Invited





## Redwood Empire Dental Society

1400 N. Dutton Ave, Ste 10

Santa Rosa, CA 95401

(707) 546-7275

[www.REDSdentists.org](http://www.REDSdentists.org)

Find us on Facebook!

### Discounts for REDS Members

REDS members still can take advantage of discounts on solar panel systems offered by Solarcraft at 707 778-0568 or at [www.solarcraft.com](http://www.solarcraft.com)



Another key discount program offered to REDS members are for Automated External Defibrillators (AED) devices through SOS CPR.

Call (707) 795-4444 or [www.cprsos.com](http://www.cprsos.com)

REDS has partnered with Club One Fitness in Petaluma. REDS members and their staff can receive \$10 off their monthly membership fee. Please contact Club One at (707) 766-8080 for complete details.



### There's Still Space Left in REDS' CPR Classes!

There is still space available in the REDS CPR renewal classes. Register today as space is limited to 9 individuals per class. Cost is \$50 per participant. Classes are held from 1-4PM at the REDS office:

1400 N. Dutton Ave,  
Suite 10, Santa Rosa.

Next Open Class:

**Monday, October 15, 2012**