

REDS News

Vol 47, Issue 3, Fall 2013

Street Drugs Exposed

For the first time in REDS recent memory, REDS & the Napa Solano Dental Society held a joint continuing education event on Friday October 4 at Ramekins Culinary School in Sonoma. The speaker, Harold Crossley, DDS, PhD is Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland Dental School, and spoke on the topic of street drugs. During Dr. Crossley presentation, he identified many different kinds of commonly used street drugs and their effects on the body, especially the damage that can be done in the mouth. Dr.

Crossley also spoke on the signs and symptoms of commonly abused prescription and illicit drug abuse. He also explained which medications to avoid with suspected drug abusing patients, how to recognize and manage the “doctor shopper,” how to manage a chemically dependent patient, and how to understand the biochemical basis for the disease of addiction. Nearly 100 attendees and vendors made this course one of the most successful events of the year.



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President's Message

Freedom Day Marches Ahead

Anthony Lieu, DMD



Freedom Day Marches Ahead I suggested in my last presidential address that our members step forward and do more. I am pleased to say that this was well demonstrated during the first "Freedom Day USA," which took place on September 12. The concept of Freedom Day is for individuals and companies to open their doors and thank U.S. military personnel, veterans and their families for their service to our country by offering them goods or services for free on this special day. Several dental offices, dentists and staff, came forward in the Redwood Empire to give this national event a great start. At my office, I was very proud of my staff for volunteering their time on Freedom Day. We participated by offering more than \$4,000 in free dental exams, cleanings and fillings

to 14 patients who were either active U.S. military, a U.S. veteran, or an immediate family member of a military service person or veteran. Next year, I'm sure that we will be able to exceed these numbers – at our office and at other local businesses – as the word gets out about this wonderful idea. I want to thank our Freedom Day State Chairperson for California, and REDS member Dr. Yolanda Mangrum, for championing this initiative. In addition, I extend a special thanks to the following dentists who also joined with us to participate in this project: Yvonne Szyperski, DDS – Petaluma, Claudia Karkia, BDS, MS – Petaluma, Andy Ashtiani., DDS, MS – Petaluma, and Robert Alavi, DDS - Santa Rosa. Being a REDS member is more than just doing charitable work and receiving good continuing education. We are also here to celebrate our lives and our profession. Thanks to all who attended the annual BBQ at the

John Ash Restaurant/Vintners Inn. We had a great time with music and fine food. This year, we included an auction for the benefit of our REDS Care Fund. We were able to net more than \$7,500 from that event. Thanks to all of you who contributed to the auction or who made direct donations to the event, and know that we are still accepting donations. The more you contribute, the more funds we will have available to help those programs and individuals in need of oral health care in our community.

I hope you and your staff will continue to participate in our educational and social events. We are always eager to hear from you and to boost participation in all areas. If you have anything you'd like to share in this newsletter, or if you'd like to support its publication through advertising support, please let us know.

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My Dental Life & The Dead at the Washington Navy Yard

Jim Simonds, DMD
Editor

I never got to see much ocean during my stretch in the Navy Dental Corps. As a wet-behind-the-ears dentist seeing hourly patients for the first time, I knew that I would be doing amalgams or “pushing pewter” for the better part of my Navy active duty. Even though we used nautical terms inside the land-locked building such as “coming aboard”, “going ashore”, “head” (bathroom), “bulkhead” (wall), “ladderway” (stairs), etc, the most water we got to see was the unimpressive lint colored Anacostia River. With the murderous rampage at the Navy Yard two months ago, these ethereal memories came back into focus.

I enjoyed the Navy. We had a great bunch of fresh dental graduates stationed together blending into the large 32 dentist clinic. We were certainly irreverent; following the cinematic trend laid out by M.A.S.H. with our own dental twist of messing with authority. Our hair was often too long, our comic criticism of



commanders too vocal and our gripes about anachronistic regulations too frequent.

In this immediate post-Vietnam environment, the public was a bit edgy at the sight of soldiers and sailors, so we were discouraged from wearing our uniforms in the District.

They didn't want to make Washington appear as a military town. We were seen as far from the military “heroes” of today as were the members of the 1968 My Lai massacre's Charlie Company.

What I often soft-peddled in my summary of Navy life was that I spent the large bulk of my time at

the large clinic that was located in SouthEast D.C. at the Washington Navy Yard. While not very far from Capital Hill, the crime rate was high in this area of the Capital city, but we felt a little safer knowing the gates of the Navy Yard were manned by U.S. Marines and cars required stickers in order to enter.

At that time, the Navy Yard was a nondescript industrial-looking center and decaying utilitarian base where naval canons used to be built. Old-timers refer to the Navy Yard

as the “old gun factory”. Along with the good sized dental clinic, there was a small medical dispensary, the headquarters for the Navy band, a warehouse that discarded surplus stuff by auction or sale and many other colorless offices and buildings. The most interesting site was the slip on the river where the presidential yacht Sequoia was kept. That vessel too was eventually sold off.

I never imagined that tired old patch of military real estate would ever gain the notoriety of mayhem created by recent events at the Washington Navy Yard. Yet, since I had spent so much time there, reading that news of another gunman on a rampage so close to where I spent so much time, I felt my memories had been violated. My old home had been invaded.

Not long after the souls were taken, President Obama traveled across town to support the grieving survivors of this tragedy. I wish that the one time a President visited the Navy Yard would have been to acknowledge the attention to duty of its workers, not mourn the senseless loss of their comrades.



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New Member Get-Together

Jack and Tony's restaurant in railroad square in Santa Rosa was the site of the new member get-together on August 20th. There have been a significant number of new member dentists joining REDS this year. It was a great time for our new member committee and REDS board members to get acquainted with some of these new members. We welcome each of our new members. We thank Rabobank and Virtual Training Innovations for supporting the cost of food and beverages.



Shout Outs

REDS President Elect Katie Bales Marries Rob Balchunas, October 26th, 2013



2013 Paul Levine Memorial Scholarship awarded to SRJC student Megan Carter.



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A Few Words...

Martin Van Tassell

Executive Director



We have had a busy summer! Our new REDS directories has been printed and were sent or delivered to everyone. I think it is our best one yet. A

large number of new members, many of them recent graduates, joined us this summer. We had a new member get-together in August and it was great fun. Thanks to our sponsors for making that happen. Our BBQ was also a success as we had our first silent auction for the REDS Care Fund. In October, we had our first cooperative CE event with the Napa Solano Dental Society that was held in Sonoma. This was a great way for us to have more well-attend-

ed educational functions. The Ladies Spa Day was another event that will continue next year. Our venue of the Sonoma Coast Villa and Spa was a great find and the members, staff and guests who attended enjoyed being pampered. Shred-A-Thons, CPR classes and general membership meetings rounded out our schedule.

A special thanks to all the members and staff who volunteered at the CDA Cares Event in San Jose, provided donated services during Freedom Day, and participated in other individual open door events. Doing so shows your dedication to the oral health needs of the community and is a rebuttal to those who would try to impose more demands on dentistry.

I am in line to receive the honor of being the president of CASE, the California Association of Society Executives starting in November. All of the other dental components in the state of

California are members. While I sometimes feel that such a structured organization isn't required to achieve our common goals, I am interested in fostering more intra-regional events and technological communication during my term.

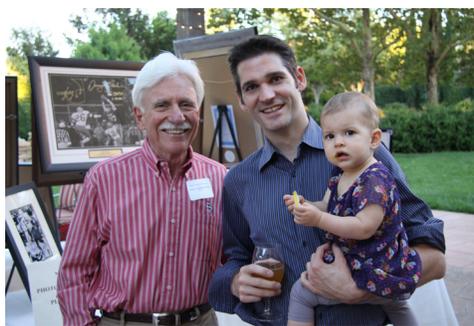
Efforts on bringing fluoridation to the tap water of Sonoma County continue. I am on an advisory panel to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors on this subject. An engineering study was performed estimating the cost. Further meetings and discussions are planned before it returns to the attention of the County Board of Supervisors in the Spring. Integral to the discussion will be finding ways to fund the project. A dedicated group of opponents continues to engage at these public meetings. I hope all citizens who wish to see fluoridation come to pass for the benefit of Sonoma County will demonstrate the same level of commitment.

REDS BBQ

REDS members and spouses were treated to cocktails and a gourmet dinner at the renowned John Ash Restaurant/ Vintners Inn. They nibbled on hors d'oeuvres of baked brie with figs and crackers while viewing silent auction items of sports and Rock and Roll memorabilia. The main entrees included baby back ribs and BBQ grilled steak served with

salads, scalloped potatoes and jalapeno corn bread.

New this year to the REDS BBQ was the live and silent auctions to benefit the REDS Care Fund. Through the generous contributions from the REDS members the their spouses, more than \$7,660 was raised towards the oral health of our community.



REDS Members at CDA Cares San Jose

REDS members were on hand during CDA Cares San Jose on May 18. REDS members and more than 1700 volunteers including 800 dentists helped treat more than 2,000 patients. Services provided ranged from cleaning to dentures and everything in-between. Patients were seen

on a first-come first-served basis. Many patients waited in a line that stretched around the block all night to be seen and treated by a dentist.

\$1.6 million in dental services were provided during this one day event. This was the first time San Jose held a CDA Cares event, and it was

only the third time that the California Dental Association operated a free dental clinic to anyone who was willing to wait.

The next CDA Cares Event will be held in San Diego on December 7 & 8th. If you would like to volunteer for this event please visit cdafoundation.org



CPR June & September

Dr. Peyman Hedayti continues to offer CPR renewal classes. More than twenty members and staff came to the REDS office to renew their American Red Cross CPR cards. During these classes all students in the class received updated procedures on the use of portable defibrillators and current CPR guidelines.



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CDA Motorcycle Ride raises money for CDA Foundation

The Fifth Annual CDA “Ken Sanford Memorial Motorcycle Ride” in September raised a record amount for the CDA Foundation and its programs. The Motorcycle ride, during which dentists rode for approximately 400 miles from Windsor through the Northern California coast and wine country, raised \$9,250, which is \$3,250 more than last year’s ride.

Ken Sanford, DDS, who was one of the original organizers of the first motorcycle ride, died tragically in a motorcycle accident in 2010. The fundraiser has since been named after Dr. Sanford. Ron Mead, DDS, past president of the CDA, Clelan (Butch) Ehrler, DDS, and Mark Romanelli, DDS, organized the fifth annual ride, which also provided an opportunity for the

approximately 40 participants to earn continuing education by attending lectures held the morning of the ride at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Windsor. The presenters were Michael Perry, DDS, William K. Tom, DDS, MS, and James D. Wood, DDS. For more on future motorcycle rides use the link on our website: REDSdentists.org



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Sonoma County Fluoride Update

Anthony Fernandez, chair of the REDS fluoridation committee continues to attend local government meetings and challenge the fluoridation opponents, but he can't do it alone. He urges that we all join with the Sonoma County Health Officer, Lynn Silver MD to communicate to our Sonoma County Board of Supervisors as dental health professionals, our support of water fluoridation. Dr. Fernandez wants the water study to ultimately result in the people receiving the benefits of fluoridation as a safe and effective way to reducing dental caries. The contact list is on the back page of this newsletter.

Obituaries

Dr. Niels Johansen

Santa Rosa periodontist Niels Johansen passed away on July 15, 2013 at the age of 76 after recently moving to Arizona. He succumbed to congestive heart



failure. Danish born, Dr. Johansen practiced dentistry since 1962. He received his periodontal training in 1968 from the University of Washington, School of Dentistry. He retired in 2011 and was a REDS member for 24 years. He is survived by his wife Birgit. Dr. Johansen was an occasional visitor to the REDS office and attended many of our educational functions. We were always delighted to benefit from the wisdom his experience and his worldwide view.

Dr. Fred Wessa

Retired Santa Rosa dentist, Fred Wessa DDS passed away at the age of 74 on June 22, 2013. Dr. Wessa retired



in 2000 after practicing almost 40 years on Montgomery Drive. His wife Tracy said "He did enjoy his trade. He loved it." Fred had a great zest for life and enjoyed being a pilot, sailor and fisherman. An avid traveler and musician, he sang in The Molar Band. The family requests donations to the American Diabetes Association.

Classifieds

Wanted

Petaluma Dental Group looking for a general dentist, 2 years experience REQUIRED. Must be able to work 2 day as week & 2 Sat a month. Please Email your resume to: applicant@petalumadental.com

Petaluma Family Dental looking for a Periodontist to work 1 to 2 days a month. Please fax resume to 707-763-3121.

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Upcoming Events



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CDA Trustee:

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CDA Cares: San Diego

December 7 & 8, 2013
Del Mar Fairgrounds
Del Mar, CA

Shred-A-Thon

Friday December 13th, 2013
REDS Office, Santa Rosa

REDS Crab Feed

Thursday, January 30th, 2014, 6:00PM
Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club
Santa Rosa, CA

Give Kids A Smile

February 7, 8 & 9,
Various Locations Around Sonoma County

General Membership Meeting

February 11th, 2014, 6:00PM
Fountain Grove Inn
Santa Rosa, CA

CA Law, Infection Control & HIPPA

Friday, February 14th, 2014, 8:00AM - 4:30PM
Fountain Grove Inn
Santa Rosa, CA





Redwood Empire Dental Society

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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



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

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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.



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Write or Call:

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
c/o David Rabbit, Chairperson
County administration Center,
575 Administration Drive,
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

707-565-2241

Supervisor:

Susan Gorin
David Rabbit
Shirlee Zane
Mike McGuire
Efren Carillo

Dist: E-Mail:

1st Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org
2nd David.Rabbit@sonoma-county.org
3rd Shirlee.Zane@sonoma-county.org
4th Mike.McGuire@sonoma-county.org
5th Efren.Carillo@sonoma-county.org

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