NEWSLETTER OF NOVEMBER 2024



# Save the Date: NOV. 20 VIRTUAL MEMBER MEETING



## EMBEZZELMENT & HEALTH CARE

Embezzlement is a pervasive problem in dental practices. It happens more frequently than any

dentist cares to admit. In July 2024, the ADA reported the operator of Floss Family Dental Care, in Houston, Texas was given a 120-month sentence in federal prison for pediatric Medicare fraud. True crime stories are always interesting, until it happens to you! We welcome Jim Siwek, former Special Agent with the US Department of Housing & Urban Development Office of the Inspector General. During his tenure, Mr. Siwek investigated fugitive felon and whitecollar fraud with a focus on embezzlement and public corruption. His presentation will:

- 1. Define and identify different types of embezzlement:
- 2. Review case examples;
- 3. Identify red flags in case examples;
- 4. Learn habits to help reduce the risk of embezzlement; and
- 5. Discuss different avenues for reporting embezzlement

Jim currently works for Peraton, conducting health care fraud investigations. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner and a board member on the Pacific Northwest ACFE chapter. This class will be offered virtually on Wednesday, November 20th, from 7:00 - 9PM. Register for this free, virtual class on the SCDS website at www.scdentists.org/meetings-events/calendar-of-events



### **PRESIDENT'S LETTER, Dr. Tania Tran**

I planned to write this month's bulletin on the many advantages of being a member of our dental society. Many of us are familiar with these benefits already. For those who need a refresher, check out the "Membership Benefits" pages on each of the ADA, WSDA, and SCDS websites.

Instead, I suggest we turn our perspective on membership around. President John F. Kennedy said at his Inaugural Address in 1961, "ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country." I'd like to apply this powerful message on public service to our own dental society: ask not what your dental society can do for you – ask what you can do for your dental society.

We are a vibrant community of dentists with a wide range of ideas, skills, and talents. I invite you to share them! Here are some ideas of things you can do to help:

- Participate in our events
- Write to us about your ideas, suggestions, compliments and grievances
- Serve on our leadership board
- Volunteer at outreach events
- Ask for and/or offer mentorship
- Advocate for our patients and our profession
- Invite your friends, neighbors and colleagues to join us

Our dental society doesn't just exist *for* us, it exists *because* of us. Your active participation ensures that we can continue to provide valuable services to our members for years to come. A healthy, connected membership not only makes us better dentists for our patients but also more productive members of our profession and local community.

The whole can be greater than the sum of its parts. Please know that your involvement and participation is always welcomed and valued no matter how great or small. We are truly better together!

## DON'T MISS THIS! ANNUAL SEMINAR: MARCH 7, 2025

Earn your CE hours in a fun, engaging, and time-effective manner! 2025 is a CE reporting year for many Washington dentists, and the 2025 Annual Seminar is scheduled for Friday, March 7, 2025 8AM – 4PM at the Lynnwood Events Center. Reimagine the way you restore teeth with Dr. Charles Regalado, a well known and regarded speaker on implementing conservative esthetic restorative treatments and techniques in your practice. Dr. Regalado graduated from the UW in 1991. He has more than twenty years of clinical teaching experience in advanced cosmetic dentistry, advanced composite techniques, and full mouth comprehensive treatment. He is a full faculty member at the Bioclear Learning Center in Tacoma, teaching dentists from all over the United States, Canada, and many areas of the world. He resides and practices in Spokane, Washington. Continental breakfast and lunch provided. Vendor fair, raffles and vendor bingo! See our website for details and registration.

## **RETIRED? Stay involved with SCDS**



If you are of a certain age, January is frequently a time when members begin to think about retiring from practice. Just because you are moving into a new phase of your life doesn't mean that organized dentistry doesn't have a place.

You may not want to go into the office every day, but you might want to keep your skills sharp with teaching, working part-time in a clinic, volunteering or mentoring a young practitioner. Here are some tips for how you can continue to be involved even if you are no longer in active practice:

Retired Member: For those who are not Life Members but still ready to retire, this is your category. This designation is also determined by whether or not you are receiving fees for dentistry. If you are working - even just one day a year, you cannot be considered retired.

Retired Life Member: This designation means that, as a Life Member, once you are retired from dentistry you will be a member for life and will no longer pay annual dues. Your dues are reduced by 100%. Life Members have been continuous ADA members for 30 years or more.

Active Life Status: If you are a Life member, retiring from full-time practice but still want to work a few hours a week, a month or a year, you are Active Life status. This designation is determined by the fact that you receive pay for dentistry. However, if you are working - even only one day a year - you are considered Active Life.

Active Life Waiver: If a Life Member is earning less than 50% of their income through the practice of dentistry, they may qualify for the Active Life Waiver.

#### YOUR SCDS OFFICERS:

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Dr. Tania Tran

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#### **Executive Director:**

Sandra Anderson

SCDS Mailing Address:

6202 4th Ave NW

Seattle WA 98107

Phone/TEXT: (360) 419-7444

E-mail: info@scdentists.org Website: www.scdentists.org

.....Also, remember to update your contact information especially if you are no longer at your office. Give us your current mailing address and email to stay connected with member meetings, volunteer opportunities, and much more. Lastly, fill out the ADA's retirement affidavit. Contact Sandra at info@scdentist.org, 360-419-7444, for assistance.

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Campbell's Handpiece Rescue repairs and maintains handpieces at affordable prices. Over 15 years experience and we come to you! (425) 303-8822

Well Established Everett Practice Grossing 700K ready to Grow - Very well established 4 operatory practice with 2 additional ops plumbed. Refers out many procedures so a lot of growth potential. High visibility location. Contact - 425-985-8390 or frank@omnipg.com Lic.#130877 (WAD552)

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Multiple dental practices for sale by Omni Practice Group in and around Washington. Contact Omni Practice Group at 877.866.6053 / info@omni-pg.com for more details. Visit website https://www.omni-pg.com.

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