

August 2010

## August Board Meeting

Mark your calendar for the kick-off board meeting on Monday, August 16th at the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic, 190 North Pennsylvania Avenue at 6:00 PM. We will enjoy dinner and get a brief tour of the clinic we support. Please let Dr. Preeti Sahasi know if you'll be coming by calling (570) 752-8753 or emailing [psahasi@hotmail.com](mailto:psahasi@hotmail.com).

## Plan for September's Meeting!

Don't miss the first meeting of this session on Monday, September 20th at 6:00 PM. This is a great way to earn CE's, hear about the latest industry trends, and catch up with old friends. As always, the meeting and dinner are complimentary for our members. If you plan on attending, please call or email Dr. Preeti Sahasi at (570) 752-8753 or [psahasi@hotmail.com](mailto:psahasi@hotmail.com).

## Dr. Larry Shire to Serve as Third District President

Our very own Dr. Larry Shire will take the reigns as President of the Third District Dental Society in January



2011. Dr. Shire graduated from the Kornberg School of Dentistry at Temple University in 1972 and spent 20 years in the Army Dental Corps where he retired as a Colonel in 1992. He served as the Director of Pediatric Dentistry at Temple from 1992 to 1994, and then moved to Kingston where he began his private pediatric practice. In 2008, Dr. Shire semi-retired

from his full-time practice to exclusively serve in the

hospital dentistry

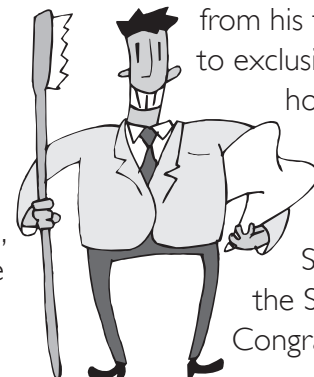
setting. As a

past President of the LCDS, Dr.

Shire is currently

the Secretary.

Congratulations, Dr. Shire!



## LCDS Supports VIM & Wilkes-Barre Free Clinic, Inc.

Because it is our mission to serve the people of Luzerne County, the LCDS actively supports both the Volunteers in Medicine Dental Clinic and the Wilkes-Barre Free Clinic through monetary donations, as well as volunteer doctors. In fact, several LCDS members serve on the boards

of these organizations, volunteer their time, and donate supplies to these worthwhile charities.

The Wilkes-Barre Free Dental Clinic is housed in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 35 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre and is open Tuesdays, 1:00 to 3:30 PM. It is staffed by Dr. John Andrews and volunteers.

The Volunteers in Medicine Clinic is located at 190 N. Pennsylvania Avenue and is open daily, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with special appointments made for dental patients. The phone number is (570) 970-2864.



# The Latest News from the ADA & PDA

## **ADA Seeks to Ease PECOS Burden on Dentists**

**ADA** ADA staff met with CMS officials to discuss ways to alleviate the burden of a requirement in the new health care law that doctors must enroll in Medicare as referring providers, or opt out of the program, if they refer patients to Medicare providers. In comments submitted to CMS, the ADA asked the agency to exclude dentists from the requirements of the new provision if feasible. The ADA is also seeking ways to make it easier for doctors to comply or opt out by requesting that CMS phase in implementation of the program (giving dentists and other practitioners who rarely

refer or order Medicare-covered services or equipment a longer period of time to comply), and to delay enforcement until six months after the agency develops and promulgates new user-friendly forms designed to make it easier for referring-only providers to comply.

(Contact: Frank Kyle at 202-789-5175 or govtpol@ada.org)

## **Big Numbers for ADPAC at New Dentist Conference**

The American Dental Political Action Committee's (ADPAC) Capital Club and Capital Elite scored big at the ADPAC booth at the ADA's 24th New Dentist Conference in San Diego. ADPAC brought in \$13,950 at the

meeting, with 100 percent of the Committee on the New Dentist's executive committee contributing. (Contact: Kathleen Ford at 202-789-5171 or govtpol@ada.org)

## **Medical Malpractice Bill Under ADA Review, Official Association Support Likely**

The ADA is reviewing a medical malpractice reform bill (H.R. 5690) recently introduced by Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-Ga.). ADA policy supports most of the goals the bill seeks to address. The Association is drafting a letter of support with input from various divisions and councils.

(Contact: Michael Brzica at 202-898-2404 or govtpol@ada.org)

Become a  
*Mentor*

PDA recognizes new dentists and dental students as the future of dentistry in Pennsylvania and wants to foster and encourage their participation in the organized dentistry community.

Please show your support for new dentists, dental students and the future of organized dentistry by agreeing to be a mentor.

**PDA**  
Pennsylvania Dental Association



Visit [www.padental.org/mentoring](http://www.padental.org/mentoring) to register as a mentor.

# Letter from the President

As we begin a new season of meetings, I want to officially welcome everyone back from a (hopefully) relaxing summer. This year promises to be one filled with educational speakers, good networking, and of course, delicious food. The board is considering moving the location of the general meetings from Mohegan Sun. Next month's newsletter will contain all the details.

Remember, the two dental clinics we support are continually looking for volunteer dentists and monetary/equipment donations. If you are inclined to help, please contact either clinic (see the article) directly.



*Dr. Calandria Miller, President*

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting September 20th!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Calandria Miller

---

## The Latest News from the ADA & PDA continued

### **NCOIL Tables Model Bill to Prohibit Insurers from Capping Non-Covered Fees**

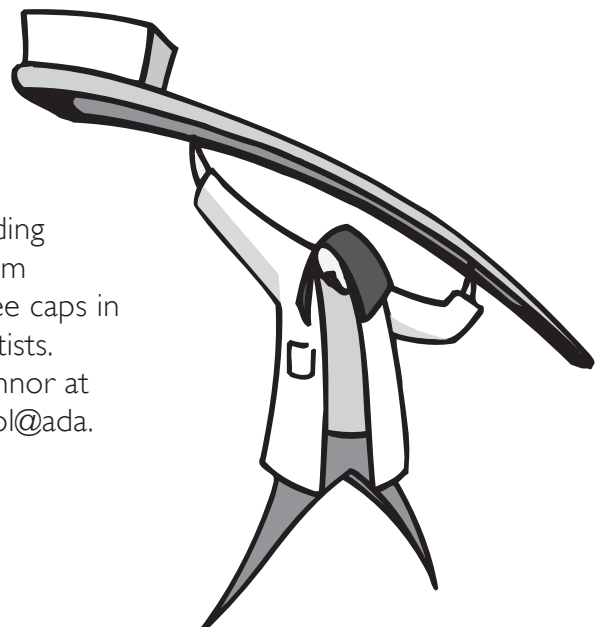
The National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) met in July in Boston where a special committee discussed model legislative language to prevent insurers from capping fees on non-covered services in their contracts with dentists. After hearing from dental plans and the dental providers, the committee examining this issue decided to table the legislative language instead of voting on whether to accept it as a model for state lawmakers.

Dr. Steven Ura, a member of the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs, represented the ADA at the conference hearing.

Dr. Ura provided real-world experience on trying to run a practice on limited resources and having the impossible decision of accepting discounts to keep patients or refusing the contract and losing patients. Dr. Ura also stressed the importance of the doctor-patient relationship.

So far, approximately a third of all states have passed laws forbidding insurance companies from including non-covered fee caps in their contracts with dentists.

(Contact: Paul O'Connor at 312-440-2873 or govtpol@ada.org)



## 2010 Officers

### **President**

Dr. Calandria Miller

### **President Elect**

Dr. Pranav Vohra

### **Vice President**

Dr. Elizabeth Joseph

### **Program Chair**

Dr. Preeti Sahasi

### **Treasurer**

Dr. Gary Hughes

### **Secretary**

Dr. Larry Shire

### **Newsletter Editor**

Cynthia Cox

### **Directors**

Dr. John Evans (2010)

Dr. Tom Donahue (2010)

Dr. Elizabeth Joseph (2011)

Dr. Richard Grossman (2011)

Dr. Samantha Abod (2011)

### **PDA Delegates**

Dr. David Bergey

Dr. Thomas Donahue

Dr. Richard Grossman

### **Alternate Delegates**

Dr. Calandria Miller

Dr. Larry Shire

## Upcoming Events

<b>Board Meeting</b>	VIM	August 16, 2010	6:00 PM
<b>Board/General Meeting</b>	TBA	September 20, 2010	6:00 PM
<b>ADA Annual Session</b>	Orlando, FL	October 9-13, 2010	8:00 AM
<b>Board/General Meeting</b>	TBA	October 18, 2010	6:00 PM
<b>3rd District Meeting</b>	Woodland's	November 12, 2010	8:00 AM
<b>Board/General Meeting</b>	TBA	November 15, 2010	6:00 PM

Board meeting begins at 6:00 PM, general meeting starts immediately after (around 7:00 PM)

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

Dr. Calandria L. Miller, President  
1770 Church Rd  
Mountain Top, PA 18707-9028

