

# Give Kids a Smile: February 2, 2007 Lansing Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic

In conjunction with the Dental Hygiene Program at Lansing Community College, the Central District Dental Society will sponsor a Give Kids a Smile Event (GKAS) that will be held on the national day set aside by the American Dental Association for this activity. Nationally, this is the sixth year for "Give Kids a Smile." The first program was held in St. Louis over two days in February 2002. At that inaugural event, sponsored by the Greater St. Louis Dental Society nearly 400 children were treated.

Since 2002, the program has expanded tremendously. In 2006, over 500,000 children were treated nationally at 2000 locations around the country. Over 27,000 dentist and auxiliary volunteers provided free services to underserved children. This event, held on the first Friday in February in conjunction with National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM), is considered the centerpiece of NCDHM activities. National Children's Dental Health Month focuses on the dental health of all children; GKAS is aimed at meeting the needs of underserved children. National sponsors for GKAS include Colgate-Palmolive Co., Dexis Digital X-Ray and Sullivan Schein.

Locally, this is the fourth year for GKAS. The event has been held each year at LCC in partnership with the Dental Hygiene Program at LCC, the Central District Dental Hygiene Society, the Central District Dental Assistants Society and the Lansing School district. Delta Dental of Michigan and Physician's Health Plan will provide lunch for volunteers at this year's event. With every succeeding year, the program has improved as problems have

*Fall Edition 2006*

been identified and changes made in subsequent years. This year's program will focus on underserved children from Riddle Elementary School in the Lansing School District. Children are screened by the school nurse for potential participation in the program. Transportation will be provided from the school by the Lansing School District. In prior years, services were not completely utilized in the after school hours. This year, an after school bus service will be provided so that volunteer services can be utilized for the full day. In addition, 8 operatories will be set up to provide operative dentistry. In prior years, only screening, exams, radiographs and preventive services were provided. Follow up restorative care was to be provided at a later date by dentists who participated in the program. This approach has not been very productive, mainly due to scheduling and transportation issues. This year, the

## In This Issue

Give Kids a Smile

New Dentists to Meet on  
November 30, 2006

LCC Hygiene Program  
Update

CDDS Holiday Mixer on  
December 14, 2006

Care Free Dental Clinic

***Insert: CE Registration and  
Corrected Schedule of Events***

full range of services will be offered on day of the event. Hopefully, this will result in more care being delivered and better utilization of volunteer dentists. The goal for our program is to treat approximately 80 children on the day of the event.

The LCC dental hygiene faculty and students are fully committed to making Give Kids a Smile a big success this year. Christina Dauka, RDH, is the LCC faculty member coordinating activities at LCC for Give Kids a Smile this year. Forty-six dental hygiene students will be paired with volunteers from the Central District Dental Hygiene Society to provide preventive services. Twelve to sixteen

volunteer dentists are needed to staff the event. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dr. Greg Komyathy at [GDKDDS@aol.com](mailto:GDKDDS@aol.com). You can volunteer for either a half-day or a whole day. In addition, restorative materials are needed for the event. If you cannot volunteer, please contact Dr. Komyathy and ask what you can donate to make this event a success. Give Kids a Smile Day has become an important event to help the needy and to showcase organized dentistry at its best. Your participation would be most welcome and appreciated. *More information on GKAS can be found at [ada.org](http://ada.org) or [cdds.org](http://cdds.org). ed.*

---

---

## CDDS Young Dentists November Meeting

Please join us for an evening of camaraderie, networking and continuing education on Thursday, November 30, 2006 at the orthodontics office of Drs. West and Burkhardt. Plan to gather with your colleagues at 6:30 for refreshments and socializing with the program to follow at 7:00 PM. The featured speaker is David Rushman from the Centennial Group, who will speak on Investment and Retirement Strategies for the New Practitioner. It's never too early to plan for the future!

### **New Dentist Continuing Education Program**

Thursday, November 30, 2006

Refreshments: 6:30 pm

Program: 7:00 pm

Drs. West and Burkhardt's Office

4111 Okemos Road

Okemos, MI 48864

**Presenter:** David Rushman from the Centennial Group

**Program:** Investment and Retirement Strategies for the New Practitioner

**Contact:** Dr. Alexa Vitek, New Dentist Chair, at [Alexavitek@hotmail.com](mailto:Alexavitek@hotmail.com). Please respond by November 28, 2006.

## Lansing Community College Dental Hygiene Program

The Community Advisory Committee to the LCC Dental Hygiene Program meeting was held on November 8, 2006. This committee consists of the LCC Dental Hygiene Faculty and student representatives, as well as representatives from the Central District Dental Society, Central District Dental Hygiene Society and the Central District Dental Assistants Society. Representing the CDDS on this committee are Dr. Matthey Yun, Dr. Dan Sadler, and Dr. Brad Eschler. Dr. John Mashni and Dr. Jay Crawford also serve on this committee as community representatives. The aim of this committee is to provide a means of effective communication between the greater dental community and the Dental Hygiene Program. Meetings are typically held twice yearly.

Sherry Kohlman, MA, RDH, RDA is the interim academic team leader for the program and updated the committee on the current status of the hygiene program as well as program goals for the next year. Currently, 46 students are enrolled in the hygiene program at LCC. For next year, a full class of 24 students was selected out of 55 fully qualified applicants. Ms. Kohlman feels that the applicant pool is strong and that the demand for hygiene education remains high.

The Articulator is the newsletter of the Central District Dental Society, published four times yearly with Summer, Fall Winter and Spring editions.

Editor: Dr. Brad Eschler  
3945 Okemos Road, A-2  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: (517) 347-7870  
FAX: (517) 347-0380  
E-mail: [tbradster@aol.com](mailto:tbradster@aol.com)

Guest articles or editorials are welcome and will be included at the discretion of the editor. To make a submission, contact the editor. Fax or e-mail submissions preferred.

Students that graduate from LCC's program perform well on board exams; 100% of students from last year's class passed the NERB exam. This success is partially the result of a good applicant pool and a sound program, but is certainly also due to innovative programs at LCC, including individualized instruction programs underwritten by Perkins Grant monies and implementation of state-of-the-art teaching tools and technology. Students are learning to use computerized charting and digital technology to document cases and the program is migrating toward a paperless dental record.

The LCC hygiene program also enjoys a high profile within the profession of dental hygiene. On November 17, 2006, LCC faculty and students will host 500 dental hygiene educators and students from around the state at the annual SADHA Day (Student American Dental Hygiene Association). This event has a unique format; 43 round-table speakers deliver short presentations on a wide array of topics as participants rotate among the tables according to a set schedule. This event was coordinated by the students and the excitement level is high for this highly visible continuing education extravaganza. In addition, Ms. Kohlman and full-time faculty member, Patricia Bouman, MA, RDH, have been selected as Accreditation Site Visitors for dental hygiene programs nationally.

The LCC Dental Hygiene program continues to do well despite the challenge presented by decreasing funding at LCC. For this academic year, no budget cuts to the program are anticipated, but to innovate and cover increasing costs, the program relies on grant funding and special allocations for new equipment from LCC. Continuing support from CDDS

by awarding scholarships and providing training sites for hygiene students is also important to help to build a bright future for the hygiene program.  
*Brad Eschler, ed.*

## **CDDS Holiday Mixer: Speed Socializing in the New Millenium**

In the old days, the Central District would celebrate the holiday season with a black-tie optional sit-down dinner. Typically, there would be at least one "pre-party" for cocktails and nibbles. Those days are gone; it seems like almost no one has the time to devote an entire evening to leisurely dining with friends and adult conversation. However, it is still possible to touch base during the holiday season and support a good cause as well.

The CDDS Holiday Mixer is set for December 14, 2006 and will be held in the Four Seasons Lounge in the Henry Center at the University Club from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Celebrate the season by joining CDDS president, Dr. Greg Komyathy and the CDDS Board of Directors for beverages and hors' d'oeuvres. There is no fee for this event nor do you have to RSVP, but we will be collecting toys and/or cash donations for "Toys for Tots" at the mixer.

"Toys for Tots" is a 59 year tradition of the United States Marine Corps Reserve and has taken on the mission of providing shiny new toys for disadvantaged children across the country. You can support this worthy charity by bringing a new toy to the gathering on December 14th or by making a cash donation. If you cannot attend, you can still make a donation at:

<http://www.toysfortots2006.com/magnoliaPublic/google/home.html>.

The format for this gathering is casual--show up in a black tie at this one and you **will** be asked to sing and play the piano. So, take a little time out of your busy holiday schedule and meet your friends and colleagues at the CDDS Holiday Mixer. You will be home in plenty of time to update your fantasy football team and get that future NHL star to the rink for practice.

## **CDDS Holiday Mixer**

Date: Thursday, December 14th, 2006

Time: 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Place: Four Season's Lounge, Henry Center (U-Club)

Host: CDDS President, Dr. Greg Komyathy

Cost: Donation to Toys for Tots

## **Care Free Dental Clinic:**

### **The Details**

A few weeks ago, an article appeared in the Lansing State Journal regarding the startup of a new dental clinic in Lansing that would offer free services primarily to the adult poor and working poor below the poverty level. This effort is being led by Dr. Barry Saltman, a medical doctor, who has started a very successful free medical clinic to serve this same population in Mason, MI. Dr. Saltman briefed the CDDS Board of Directors on his effort to start the clinic last spring.

I was recently contacted by Dr. John Brewster, a CDDS member, who has committed to help Dr. Saltman set up the new dental clinic and will volunteer one day/week at the new clinic. Dr. Brewster asked that I publish information about the Care Free Clinic in [The Articulator](#) and the need for volunteer dentists to staff the new clinic.

The new clinic will be located in a building donated by Dr. Hugh Mallory, located at 4848 S. Waverly Road. This building has the potential for four operatories. Sufficient equipment has been donated to equip all four operatories. An office manager, who is a hygienist with administrative experience, has been hired and a search is underway to hire a dental assistant. It is anticipated that the clinic will operate 4 and ½ days/week. Patients will be drawn from patients who are seen in the free medical clinic run by Dr. Saltman. According to Dr. Brewster, walk-in's will not be accepted. The aim of this free clinic is to serve those who have no other source of payment for dental care and not to treat Medicaid patients.

Grant funding has been obtained for the clinic from Blue Cross and Hastings Mutual Insurance Company. In addition, the Capitol Area Health Alliance and other organizations have also been approached for support of this endeavor.

Five local dentists have expressed an interest in volunteering and several local hygienists have also committed to volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering to work in the Care Free Dental Clinic, contact Dr. Barry Saltman at 887-5922 or e-mail [carefreebarry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carefreebarry@sbcglobal.net).

## **Get your Articulator on the World wide web**

Traditionally, all active members and retired members received The Articulator via conventional mailing. In the future, you may choose to receive your newsletter electronically or to download the newsletter from the CDDS website ([WWW.CDDS.ORG](http://WWW.CDDS.ORG)).

If you wish to continue to receive your newsletter via conventional mail, do nothing, your publication will be mailed as in the past. If you wish to receive the newsletter via an attachment to e-mail or to download the newsletter from the website at your convenience, notify the editor at [tbradster@aol.com](mailto:tbradster@aol.com). After receiving your post with your preferred method of receiving the newsletter, your preference will be acknowledged via e-mail and the change will take place with the next mailing.

In the long run, it would represent real cost savings for the Central District to have all members receive the publication electronically. If you are computer savvy and check your e-mail routinely, one of the two electronic options would work well. If you have questions about your options for receiving your newsletter, please contact me at [tbradster@aol.com](mailto:tbradster@aol.com). *ed.*