

# The Articulator

## Winter's Icy Grip Can't Stop "Give Kids a Smile"

Annual "Give Kids a Smile" activities were scheduled for 2/1/08, but Mother Nature had other plans. On the day of the scheduled event, the Lansing area was blanketed with 6-8 inches of snow and slippery road conditions that forced cancellation of classes at area schools. The CDDS/LCC event, was cancelled on that date but a make up day was held on February 8, 2008.

Ninety children from Riddle elementary school were treated at the CDDS/LCC event. Eighty-six children received preventive care including dental prophylaxis, fluoride varnish and sealants. Sixteen children received restorative care at the LCC venue. The LCC staff and students, led by Christina Dauka, R.D.H. were instrumental in making this event a success. Thanks is also due to the CDDS member dentists who volunteered for the event. Participating members on the day of the event included Dr. John Hagerty, Dr. John Mashni, Dr. George Noel, Dr. Sandeep Sood, Dr. Bill Hidlay, Dr. Scott Dickinson, Dr. Joe Schmid and Dr. Scott Stone. Prior to the event, treatment planning was managed by Drs. Joe Schmid, Sherill Behnke, Kristi Beck-Bair and Scott Stone.

Although the LCC event was postponed because of weather and dependence upon school transportation, GKAS events held in private offices were held on the scheduled date of February 1, 2008. Two offices contacted the Central District with details regarding their volunteer activities.

The Valley Dental Spa opened its doors to needy children for GKAS and treated 22 children during the five hour event. Services were provided to children from age 2 to 18 years old. A complete range of services was offered including prophylaxis, exams, fluoride treatments, sealants, restorations and extractions. All children were provided with dental hygiene supplies and a t-shirt commemorating the event. The staff at Valley Dental Spa are led by Drs. Martin Valley and Jason Baker, who were assisted at the volunteer event by staff members from their office. This is the second year that the Valley Dental Spa has sponsored GKAS activities. Also ac-

knowledged were donating sponsors Proctor and Gamble, Sullivan-Schein, Benco, Darby Dental, ASAP Printing and Dental Health Products. Details about the event at the Valley Dental Spa were provided by Elizabeth Whitt.



ADA  
American Dental Association  
www.ada.org

Colgate  
National Consumer Product Sponsor

"Give Kids a Smile" activities were sponsored in Charlotte by Dr. Lisa Knowles on February 1, 2008. Ten patients from the Charlotte area, ranging in age from 2 to 7 years old, were treated. The range of services provided included prophylaxis, fluoride treatments, radiographs, sealants, and restorations. In addition to Dr. Lisa Knowles, volunteering staff members included hygienists Lori Brown and Nancy Anderson as well as Barb Anderson, Heather Hammond and Shanna Newburg. Dr. Knowles and staff also acknowledged support from Sullivan-Schein for this event.



*Dr. Lisa Knowles treats a young patient during the Give Kids a Smile Event.*

In addition to the LCC venue and private offices, GKAS activities were also sponsored on the make up day of February 8, 2008 by the Care Free Dental Clinic, located on S. Pennsylvania. Partnering with CACS Head Start, the doctors and hygienists at Care Free provided dental examinations, prophylaxes and application of fluoride varnish for 62 children, 3-5 years of age. CDDS member dentists Dr. John Brewster and Dr. Tim Zielinski provided care for participating children. The dental hygienists involved included, Paula Bates, Sandy Bare, Liane Carslake, Brandy Guy, Angie Smitley, Mary Slocum, and two Lansing Community College dental hygiene students, Kylene Smale and Beth Freeborn. Dr. Zielinski also brought along two of his dental assistants, Lisa Barratt and Katie Baughman, who teamed up with Care Free dental assistant Minerva Ortiz. The children needing further treatment will become patients of record and receive needed treatment through Care Free Dental Clinic.

Give Kids a Smile activities have had a very positive impact on our community by offering much-needed care to underserved children. The generosity demonstrated by volunteers from the Central District, LCC, ancillary personnel and dental hygienists reflects well on our profession and helps keep a community focus on the importance of oral health to general health. -ed.

"I feel blessed to have the opportunity to help people. I think it is a really worthwhile event."

--Dr. Martin Valley, Valley Dental Spa

## Laid-Back President's Night at Beggars: April 24, 2008

Don Burkhardt's presidential year has been notable for breaking new ground with innovative social and CE programs. The signature event this year was the well-attended, all day esthetics course given by Corky Wilhite. This event tapped local resources and was a huge success. It is difficult to provide high profile, quality CE at a local event because of cost. This program provided great value to the membership and was cost effective for Central District. Again breaking with tradition, Don has planned a more informal gathering for President's night.

This event will be held at Beggar's Banquet on Abbott Road in East Lansing on April 24, 2008. Wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres are on the program for the evening. Dr. Burkhardt conceives of this gathering as more of an open house than a rigidly programmed formal dinner. Plan to stop by and congratulate Don in person for a great job and a great year in Central. Invitations for President's night will be sent to the membership late in March with further details about President's Night.

## CDDS Golf Outing 2008

Once again, the CDDS Minister of Golf for Life, Dr. Vince Benivegna, has put together a great program for the CDDS Golf Outing. This year's event will be held at the Forest Akers-West Course, located at 3535 Forest Road on the campus of Michigan State University. The outing will be held on June 13, 2008, and will begin at 9:30 AM with a shotgun start.

The cost is \$65.00 per golfer. The cost includes golf and a barbecue dinner at the James B. Henry Center. Prizes will be awarded and a cash bar is available. Book that Friday off and mail your check to Dr. Vince Benivegna, 325 W. Lake Lansing Rd, East Lansing, MI, 48823, payable to the Central District Dental Society. Be sure to include your preference for golf partners with your registration.

### Dental Suite Available

Immediate occupancy. Well-decorated East Lansing office near Lake Lansing and Abbott roads. 1600 sq. ft. Good street visibility and signage.

351-1733 (Dr. John Mashni)

or

337-0032 (Dr. Dan Klein)

## FREE for CDDS MEMBERS

Register For March 18, 2008  
Evening Meeting

### **Pain Control**

Dr. Jack Gobetti

Holiday Inn South

6:00 PM Check-In (Free Members)

Name (\$25.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Staff Attending (\$35.00/each) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Staff \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: Dr. Alexa Vitek

CDDS Treasurer

13173 Schavey Road

DeWitt, MI 48820

(517) 277-2000

*Members \$25 check to be returned at the meeting. For licensure, pain control continuing education is mandatory. This presentation fulfills the requirement.*

## Dentists Encouraged to Check Licensure Status of Employee-Hygienists & Dental Assistants

A recent incident reported to the MDA underscores the importance of checking the licensure status of professional employees. The incident involved a hygienist who had let her license lapse and had not renewed in 10 years. When challenged, the hygienist produced a license that had been fraudulently produced using another hygienist's valid license and computer imaging software. Suspecting fraud, the dentist contacted Michigan Bureau of Health Professions to verify the hygienist's licensure status. He was informed that his employee was not licensed. The hygienist's employment was terminated.

When hiring new staff and periodically for established staff members it is prudent to verify licensure status. Licensure status can be verified by visiting <http://www.cis.state.mi.us/free/default.asp>

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