



# Suffolk Dental

**Suffolk County**  
DENTAL SOCIETY

*Bulletin*

The Official Publication  
of the Suffolk County Dental Society

Volume 52 - Number 1  
Spring 2023

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are great sources of up to date schedules.

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# Suffolk County Dental Society

150 Motor Parkway, Suite 123, Hauppauge, NY 11788

Tel.: 631-232-1400

e-mail: [contact@suffoldental.org](mailto:contact@suffoldental.org)

website: [www.suffolkdental.org](http://www.suffolkdental.org)

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Editor

**Bill Panzarino**  
Executive Director & Managing Editor

**Carol Deerwester**  
Executive Assistant

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Direct all communications to:

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Editor

{ Members, American  
Association of Dental  
Editors

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Date	SCDS Event
4/10/2023	Signing Day - Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine
4/10/2023	Board of Directors Meeting
4/12/2023	<a href="#">CPR/AED Course</a>
4/17/2023	Advocacy Days - April 17 and 18th
4/24/2023	Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine - White Coat Ceremony
4/25/2023	<a href="#">Greater Long Island Dental Meeting</a>
4/26/2023	<a href="#">Greater Long Island Dental Meeting</a>
4/29/2023	<a href="#">Give Kids a Smile - Flyer and Registration Information</a>
4/29/2023	<a href="#">Give Kids a Smile (Sponsorship Information)</a>
5/8/2023	Board of Directors Mtg.
5/10/2023	<a href="#">General Membership Meeting</a>
5/13/2023	<a href="#">Shredding Event</a>
6/2/2023	NYSDA House of Delegates June 2 to June 4th
6/14/2023	<a href="#">Golf Outing 2023 - Upgraded Prizes!</a>
9/18/2023	Board of Directors Mtg.
9/20/2023	<a href="#">Seminar Series - 7 CE - Dr. Anne L Koch</a>
9/27/2023	<a href="#">General Membership Meeting</a>
10/5/2023	Smilecon - 10/5-7
10/7/2023	ADA House of Delegates 10/7-10
10/16/2023	Board of Directors Mtg.
11/13/2023	Board of Directors Mtg.
11/15/2023	<a href="#">General Membership Meeting</a>

Please note there are several events and courses in active planning, watch our website and our emails and social sites for updates (as events are subject to change). Your support and patience are appreciated as always. Please send any comments to [Contact@SuffolkDental.Org](mailto:Contact@SuffolkDental.Org).



SCDS [Registration](#)

Site



[SCDS Calendar](#)

We welcome the following new members to the *Suffolk County Dental Society*, elected between November 2022 and March 2023:

**New Members**

Joseph Fanti, DMD  
Erica Weinberg, DMD

**Reinstated**

Robert Baldi, DMD  
Marta Heron, DDS  
Faraj Mirza, DMD  
Ty Osborne, DDS  
Iqbal Sayed, DDS

**Transferred In**

Umair Hassan, DDS  
Bryce Ledger, DDS  
Scott Levitz, DDS  
Sonia Motwani, DDS  
Steven Sau, DDS  
Wu Zheng, DDS

**Grad Student/Resident**

Brendan Ruby, DDS  
Sonya Mascagni, DMD

## Managed Care Contract Analysis Service

Before you sign a contract with a managed care dental insurance company, make sure you understand what you are signing. NYSDA offers members a free legal analysis of managed care contracts through the American Dental Association's contract analysis service. In addition to understanding the terms of any contract you may be considering signing, you should also be aware of the company's fee schedule, billing and payment policies, frequency limitations, etc. Check out [additional resources](#).



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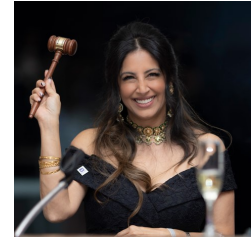
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Dear Colleagues,

Our installation gala was truly a spectacular, fun and successful event at Lands End in Sayville. The venue was truly breathtaking and the town of



Sayville is quaint and filled with rich history. I hope others will use this venue for other events in the future. We had many distinguished VIP guests from other local components, NYSDA, and the ADA. We were honored to share the evening with Dr. Thomas Bonomo, who was honored at the event. We also had a very high number of sponsors from the dental sector and all facets outside of the dental field, which is a good change of pace and nice to see acknowledgement of our profession from the community. With an ever-changing landscape in the dental field, we need to have a say in it and control the direction it is heading by encouraging innovation and forward thinking.

I have been thinking of some goals for this year. I am enthusiastic about some of the new programs we are looking to start up or set into place. Our mentorship program had a successful start with the New Dentist Mentorship Event held at Naper Tandys. Having our experienced and veteran dentists share their knowledge with dental students and new dentists is instrumental in shaping and molding the next generation of dentists who will soon be our peers. Other outreach programs that I will be looking to solicit volunteers for include a Give Vets a Smile program and a Children's Dental Health program with Congressman Andrew Garbarino and The East Islip School District. There will be more information to come on these programs. They are near and dear to my heart and I am very passionate about them. I am hoping to get a lot of volunteers from our component to help make this a success. I am also looking forward to collaborating with the presidents of our neighboring components and the Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine.

I would like to stress the importance of organized dentistry. Another of my goals for this year is to try to get the younger members

more involved in organized dentistry. Our media campaign is almost underway to try and educate the public about what differentiates ADA member dentists. We must also educate the dentists in Suffolk county about the importance and benefits of membership. With rising education costs and high student loans, it is very difficult for young dentists. My position on the Governmental affairs committee will allow me to lobby for the young dentists. I am headed to Washington DC to participate in the ADA Lobby Day. Looking forward to participating and being a part of change and progress.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Craig Smith once again for his leadership and his dedication. We know he has a bright future and we look forward to his continued success as a leader in organized dentistry. Congratulations on a very successful year and thank you for planting the seeds that we'll continue to grow this year! Congratulations to our Raskin Award winner, Dr. Nick Vittoria, well deserved! Thank you for all that you do for SCDS, NYSDA and the ADA. Lets kick this year off "Suffolk Style"!

**Radha Sachdeva-Munk, DDS**  
**President, Suffolk County Dental Society**



*(Guests enjoying themselves at the January 28, 2023 Installation Gala)*



The **Suffolk County Dental Society**  
cordially invites you to join us at our



# **23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

**Wednesday, June 14, 2023**  
**Willow Creek GOLF COURSE**

1 Clubhouse Dr,  
Mt Sinai, NY 11766  
631-474-9200



*Willow Creek Golf Course - Renowned course architect Stephen Kay designed the true epitome of exceptional golf on Long Island, the award-winning Willow Creek Golf & Country Club. It was created to test and challenge golfers of all skill levels.*

**COST: \$250** Golfer Registration Fully inclusive - Range, Carts, Golf, Luncheon, Awards, Banquet Dinner 5 raffle tickets, prizes, giveaways, and trophies

- Alternative Dinner only option (no golf) - \$125
- All your favorite elements will be out there – Longest Drive (Men’s and Women’s), Closest to the Pin, Putting Contest, Beat the Pro, \$10,000 Hole in One, and more. A great time for all!

### **SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES**

- \$5,000 Dinner Sponsor – Two foursomes (8 golfers), 6 minutes to address seated group from the podium at the banquet dinner, full page color ad in the December 2022 Bulletin, Two large logo signs on 1st tee and 9<sup>th</sup> tees, company logo on ALL flyers, Event Program and event related material, a sponsor table at the event and recognition on our website!
- \$3,500 Platinum Sponsor: Includes - large logo sign on 1st tee, one foursome, company logo on ALL flyers, and Event Program from the time commitment is received. Don't Delay!
- \$2,500 Diamond Sponsor: Includes large logo sign on 1st tee and four golfers (1 foursome).
- \$1,250 Gold Sponsor: Includes large logo sign on 9th hole and two golfers.
- \$ 600 Silver Sponsor: Includes large logo sign on the 18th hole, and one golfer.
- \$ 250 Tee Sponsor: Sign on course.
- \$ 100 Special Tee Sponsor: Sign up as a foursome and receive a tee sign for just \$100

If you don't see a sponsorship that suits you, give us a ring (631-232-1400), we'll work with you to put something together that suits your organization.

### **PROGRAM FOR THE DAY:**

11:00a.m.	Registration/BBQ Lunch	12 Noon	Putting Contest Opens
12:30p.m.	Shotgun Tee-off (Scramble)	5:30 p.m.	Dinner/Awards Banquet

Reserve your spot now online via this  
QR Code



Or via this link

<https://charitygolftoday.com/event?e=6248&ce=6a4255>

## April 10th, 2023 - A new beginning!

It may be a bit bold to declare this as such, but we are trying something very new and different, and for that reason we can feel optimistic. For 35 years the ADA has been marketing to its dentists in order to grow membership.



We have done our own analysis on what has been attempted and the results of those attempts. Despite very well-intentioned efforts focusing on marketing to dentists, discounting of dues, and various ways to promote membership and demonstrate value the membership market share has been declining for at least 35 years.

The profession is healthy, those serving dentistry are fortunate in that the profession continues to grow. More dentists join the profession year on year, than leave the profession. However, the number of dentists joining the ADA continue to be significantly reduced as a percentage of dentists. It's easy to say "this is the situation for all associations". This may be true, but we dare think differently based on the history.

There may be many that understand the greatest benefit of ADA membership is the advocacy provided at the National and State level. While I think that benefit is very real, I don't think that is well understood, and I am not even sure that it is properly valued by younger/new dentists. But rather than continue to try and market and explain that to dentists, we explored what is genuinely appealing to all dentists, regardless of practice modality, specialty, and demographic...

Some simple things come to mind... we all want to be held in high regard, we all want to belong to something that does good, we all want patients to value us and seek us out. In short, win the hearts and minds of the patients, and they will find their way to our members

chairs.

Our idea is to educate the public about what differentiates an ADA member dentist from a non-member dentist. Show our ADA member dentists out in the community, donating oral health care to underserved children and veterans, donating oral cancer screening, show our ADA members working with dental students and dental hygiene students to raise the standard of education and care. If the ADA wasn't evaluating products and providing the ADA Acceptance Seal, who would be doing it?

Our effort in this area was started prior to covid and it is very comprehensive. We developed our messaging and worked with the ADA and NYSDA to get this approved. While all things are not exactly as we hoped for, we do feel we've gotten to a place that will work.

The tripartite organization is difficult enough for dentists to understand, our messaging needs to be simple. The message to the public is about ADA member dentists, not about Suffolk dentists, not about NYSDA dentists, just describing the differences between members and non-members. That alone puts members in the positive light that they earn and deserve.

Tell us what you think.



Ads start to air April 12, 2023

**Please send any comments or questions to [Contact@SuffolkDental.Org](mailto:Contact@SuffolkDental.Org) or call us at 631-232-1400.**

**Bill Panzarino - Executive Director, SCDS**





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## Driving the Profession Forward

What's available for members? Plenty! One benefit that you will be seeing soon is our Suffolk County Dental Society Public Facing Ad Campaign. We are running

this campaign in conjunction with the Nassau County Dental Society in order to maximize visibility around Long Island. The advertisements will be shown on TV and on multiple Digital Media Outlets. The goals are: to make the public aware of the importance of visiting the dentist and to drive patients to the offices of our ADA Member Dentists. The Ads will have a QR code that will bring the public to the ADA Find-a-dentist website. As a member you have a free Find-a-dentist profile that you can personalize. Take time to review and update your profile. Make sure you include a photo, add your website, phone number, and any relevant information about your practice. Make sure the patients find YOU! Stay tuned for the ads and updates!

The New York State Dental Association Committee on Substance Abuse and Well Being Many of you may not be aware that the State Association has a committee whose purpose is to help members who are struggling with substance abuse disorder and co-occurring mental health issues. The Committee's original focus was helping members with substance abuse but it's mission has recently expanded to include mental health and well-being as they oftentimes go hand in hand with substance abuse disorder. If you or someone you know is struggling and needs assistance, you may contact Dr. Peter Pruden, 631-421-2471 (SCDS Representative to the Committee on Substance Abuse and Well Being) or Jacquie Donnelly at NYSDA, 518-689-2750. **All calls are strictly confidential.** Visit NYSDA's website for additional information and resources: <https://www.nysdental.org/member-center/substance-abuse-support-services>

In addition, the ADA has created a Wellness Ambassador Program that will assist the ADA in expanding awareness of these challenges. Overall, the goal is to provide more resources for our members locally and nationally, whether they are struggling with substance abuse or physical or mental health challenges.



The Shredding Event returns:

May 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to NOON

Bring any documents or paper charts with x-rays removed (We are not collecting x-rays at this time) This is a free event for our members.

\*\*\*\*Don't forget that our Member-get-a-Member promotion is still in effect. This is a SCDS promotion. Have a brand new member join and receive a \$200 rebate.\*\*\*\*

**Claudia Mahon-Vazquez, DDS**  
**Chairperson, NYSDA Membership**  
**Committee, SCDS Membership Committee**  
**and SCDS Past President**



*March 6, 2023 Expert Panel Event for New Dentists and Residents.*

**THIS IS STARTING TO BE PHASED OUT—DO NOT DELAY!**

If your business retained its W2 employees during the months where Covid accelerated in our communities in 2020 (March 1st thru December 31st) and 2021 (January 1st thru September 30th) you may be eligible to **recover up to \$26,000 per qualified employee.**



Important Information Regarding The

# Employee Retention Credit Program



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If you, your business, and/or other entities purchased Invisaligners and/or iTero Scanners directly from Align Technology, inc. during the period March 15th, 2015 until the present, you may be entitled to potential compensation if a settlement occurs.



Important Information Regarding The

# Invisalign Aligners and iTero Scanners Case



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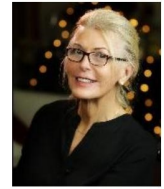




Suffolk County  
DENTAL SOCIETY

## SEMINAR SERIES 2023

**Course #2023-03 7 m.c.e. credits**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**



**Anne L. Koch, DMD**

### **Predictable Endodontic Pathways** **What You Need to Know and How to Perform It**



This all-day lecture session will address endodontics from both an advanced perspective and from a restorative point of view. The key in making endodontics profitable is being able to do cases consistently well and in manner that leads directly to the final restoration. Doing a root canal but destroying the tooth in the process does not achieve anything! In this presentation, Dr. Koch will emphasize the concept of linking endodontics with restorative dentistry and will demonstrate how important it is to be “living in the world of a constant taper” when performing rotary instrumentation. A completely intuitive way of instrumenting a root canal (the Blend Technique) will also be discussed, as well as an update on bioceramic technology. Direct pulp caps, indirect pulp caps, and perforation repair will also be fully discussed.

In addition to advanced concepts, basic issues such as attaining profound anesthesia, practical diagnosis and smart case selection will all be addressed. Additionally, a completely drill-free post system will be introduced as well as a new digital viewing device (EZscope). As is her reputation, Dr. Koch will keep the day fast paced and moving briskly.

**Objectives** - Upon completion, the participant shall be able to comprehend the endo-restorative relationship and describe the latest techniques used to achieve predictable success.

Upon completion, the participant will have a thorough understanding of the multiple advantages gained by doing a constant taper preparation technique.

Upon completion, the participant will be able to evaluate the changing paradigm in endodontics and realize that adult pulp caps potentially have a place in select endodontic cases.

Upon completion, the participant will have a more thorough understanding of the many virtues of a true bioceramic cement and hydraulic condensation.

Upon completion, the participant will understand what quality endodontics can do for their patient and where endodontics fits into the overall treatment plan.

**Bio:** Anne L. Koch, D.M.D. - Dr. Koch received both her DMD and Certificate in Endodontics from the University of Pennsylvania. She is also the founder and past Director of the Postdoctoral Program in Endodontics at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Following her clinical and academic career, Annie formed her own successful technology and development company, Real World Endo, of which she was CEO and President. Dr. Koch is the holder of multiple patents. The author of more than one hundred and fifty articles in her prior specialty field, Dr. Koch has presented more than one thousand lectures worldwide. Dr. Koch is an active member of the ADA, AAE, MDS, and BDDS. Dr. Koch maintains a faculty position at PENN (Department of Endodontics) as well as serving as a Senior Fellow with Penn Medicine. She also is a member of the Board of Overseers for the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

**Location:** 150 Motor Parkway; Media Center – Lower Level; Hauppauge, NY 11788

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Continental breakfast and check-in at 8:30 a.m.  
Buffet lunch 12 noon – 1:00 p.m.

**Tuition:** ADA members \$300, Non-ADA \$525, Aux: \$125, ADA Residents: \$60

**NOTE – We offer full refunds or credit up till 7days before the date of the event!**

**Register Here  
Online**



**ADA CERP**® Continuing Education Recognition Program

Suffolk County Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to ADA CERP at [www.ada.org/goto/cerp](http://www.ada.org/goto/cerp).

**PACE** ACADEMY GENERAL DENTISTRY PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

Suffolk County Dental Society Approved PACE Program Provider for FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority or AGD endorsement. 12/18/2021 to 12/17/2025 Provider ID# 218113

You are invited to participate in the 9th Annual



# Shredding Event



To be held OUTSIDE on  
**Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**  
from 9am to 12pm

ALSO - Get money for your Scrap Metals! Garfield Refining will be onsite to collect!

In the rear parking lot of  
**150 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge**

Bring your old charts and any other personal paper information that you would like to safely destroy.

According to the NYS Department of Education, Office of the Professions: All patient records must be retained for at least six years, except for records for minor patients, which must be maintained for at least six years *and* for one year after the minor patient reaches the age of 21.

**These are the minimal requirements.**

Contact your malpractice carrier before you dispose of anything to see what they recommend.

Processed and undeveloped X-ray film **will NOT be collected** this year. They must be removed from all files, the shredding machines cannot tolerate films and X-rays

**No charge for all SCDS members!**

All others - \$15 (cash only) per Banker's Box

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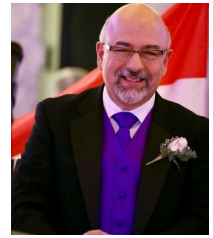


See our other events at  
[www.suffolkdental.org](http://www.suffolkdental.org)





## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



In step with my commitment to keep you informed of the developments of the DEI Committee and to continue our mission statement to create programs that

will encourage participation from and unity amongst all diverse groups, we are promoting our next webinar “Let’s Talk About It: Building Capacity for Greater Inclusion in the Marketplace” presented by Becky Martinez. The webinar will be presented on Monday, April 3, 2023 at 7:00 PM. If you ever feel that you’re stuck when it comes to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and don’t want to mess it up, or if you wonder what are the “right” words to use or actions to take, this webinar is a great start. It will provide you with strategies and tools to increase context and help you to engage DEI with courage and authenticity. It also provides 2 CE credits to add to your resume.

Please be on the lookout for the e-mail from NYSDA and from SCDS to sign up for this important conversation.

Also, do not forget to sign up for GLIDM. It is being held at the Huntington Hilton April 25-26, 2023. This year we are offering excellent hands-on courses, dynamic lectures, mandated courses, such as Risk Management and Infection Control, and social events. See what’s new in the Vendor Pavilion and enjoy the camaraderie of seeing your friends and colleagues on the exhibit floor. Support GLIDM! OUR local meeting! Remember to register at [GLIDM.com](http://GLIDM.com) and bring your staff. You will not be disappointed.

***Ivan A. Vazquez, DDS, SCDS Past-President  
NYSDA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Committee Chair***

## NEW DENTIST COMMITTEE

### An Update From Your New Dentist Committee



On March 6th an expert panel took questions from residents, new dentists, a few veteran dentists, and dental students. We had lawyers (contract and

malpractice), wealth managers, vendors, practice acquisition managers on hand to answer questions about those critical early years after graduation. Food and drink fed an engaged atmosphere, and the questions and answers were flowing. Thank you Straumann, MLMIC, Bank of America Practice Solutions, TargetRock Wealth Management and the ADA for your sponsorship. Thank you Rivkin-Radler and Thomas Brown CPA for rounding out our expert panel! Join us at one of our upcoming events <https://www.suffolkdental.org/calendar>

welcoming suggestions for upcoming new dentist events and CE topics, so please feel free to reach out at any time with [any suggestions](#) you may have for future events, we would love to hear from you!

***Dr. Lauren Heisinger - SCDS New Dentist Chair***



[Register Here](#)



[SCDS Calendar](#)

Please be sure to watch for emails and social posts for all events and details. We are always

**Practices or Records Wanted-Smithtown/Mattituck**  
Privately owned dental practitioner seeking to buy charts or buy dental practices to merge into current locations. State of the art stand alone buildings providing Cosmetic, General and Implant dentistry. Retiring in the near future or in a couple of years. Want to give up administrative duties or negotiate another long lease and just practice dentistry, this may be a great opportunity. Willing to bring staff over. Call Michael Kampourakis DDS (917)698-4685.

**Looking to Purchase Patient Records** - Smithtown, NY  
Young solo practitioner seeking to grow practice and obtain patient records. Please call 516-286-6939.

### Associate Dentist Needed

Large multi-specialty group practice is looking for top-notch Associate Dentists in Amityville, Bay Shore, East Islip, Massapequa Park, Medford, North Babylon, Riverhead, Smithtown, and Wantagh. Some weekend and evening availability needed. Qualifications and Skills DDS/DMD from an accredited University and an active State Dental Board license. A personable chairside manner. Benefits - up to \$50K sign-on/retention bonus, Earning potential of \$200K+ annual income, Training to advance your career, Full-time employees also enjoy healthcare benefits, a company-sponsored 401(k), and malpractice reimbursement. Reach out to [tiffany@thesmilist.com](mailto:tiffany@thesmilist.com) today!

### Searching for Associate Dentist

Modern, established, patient focused practice in Nesconset searching for an outgoing, warm, motivated, friendly associate dentist. Candidates must have experience in all aspects of general dentistry including endodontic, crown and bridge, extractions, and implant restorations. Qualifications from an accredited University, active State Dental Board License, and current DEA License are required. CEREC experience a plus. Please send resume to [rbonatiddds@gmail.com](mailto:rbonatiddds@gmail.com) and visit our website [www.bonatidental.com](http://www.bonatidental.com).

### Huntington

Long established general practice for merger. Close to \$600k in revenues with close to 1000 active patients – mostly FFS and better PPOs. Most specialty work referred out. Seller

to stay on as an associate to guarantee transfer of practice. A rare gem that will not last long! Please contact [ira@paragon.us.com](mailto:ira@paragon.us.com) or call (516)318-3900.

### Oral Surgeon P/T Position

Immediate opening for board eligible/board certified oral surgeon. Busy Selden, Long Island group practice. Great opportunity. Call (631)732-9000/e-mail resume to [andrea@coramseldendental.com](mailto:andrea@coramseldendental.com)

### Endodontist Sought

Endodontist sought for clean, modern dental center in Lindenhurst, NY. One 8 hour session, 3 sessions/month. \$1500/day. Must carry own malpractice for Suffolk County. Email: [dlieberman@noitu.org](mailto:dlieberman@noitu.org) or call 631-225-1010.

### Connecticut

Great opportunity for a full time Associate Dentist in Southeastern Connecticut. We are a well-established general dental practice located on the Southeast shore in Groton CT. A short ferry ride from Long Island. The position offers a competitive salary along with vacation, sick time, health and disability insurance and a 401K plan with match. Please send a resume to [office@bridgeworksfdc.com](mailto:office@bridgeworksfdc.com) or call 860-446-8744

### Dental Office for Sale or Rent

The Stony Brook Medical Park, 2500 Nesconset Hwy, Bld 11-C, Stony Brook, NY 11790. Walk-in quality - perfect for one dentist or two dentists who will not practice at the same time. Three operatories: two doctors, one hygiene, 966 sq/ft with an equal size basement. Must be seen to be appreciated. If interested contact John Diana at [johndianadds@optonline.net](mailto:johndianadds@optonline.net) or 516-455-0695.

### Seeking Intern

The Suffolk County Dental Society is seeking interns to work on Membership and Social Media. Send resume and interest to [contact@suffolkdental.org](mailto:contact@suffolkdental.org)

## First Letter from ADA Trustee to NYSDA Districts – January 2023 - Trustee's Corner

Greetings NYSDA members from your new ADA Trustee, Dr. Brendan Dowd. In consultation with your District Editors and Executive Directors, I have decided to initiate a triennial correspondence with all of the district components in New York State. I am planning on relaying the important information and news from the American Dental Association in order for you to be as up to date as possible with your national organization. These letters will be published in the beginning of the year, in late spring and during the fall.

I would like to begin by taking a moment of personal privilege to thank our immediate past-Trustee, Dr. Paul Leary. Paul did a wonderful job representing the Second District and we all owe him a debt of gratitude for his selfless and effective service. Thank you for all of your efforts Paul.

At the ADA annual meeting in October, the ADA House of Delegates passed two resolutions pertaining to Strategic Forecasting. A House of Delegates committee, with four subcommittees and twelve Action Groups, the newly authorized Strategic Forecasting Committee will be in operation to help the ADA make decisions in real time. Issues that come up will be immediately referred to the Strategic Forecasting Committee, which will employ the subcommittees and Action Groups as needed. Urgent decisions can be made at that time, using this committee structure as a proxy for the House of Delegates, instead of waiting for the next meeting of the House of Delegates in the fall. Non-urgent issues will be vetted through the SFC and directed toward the appropriate entity (such as a Council, Committee or the House of Delegates) to be acted upon. This has become common in the private business world as well as other associations. Decisions and implementations can occur quickly to keep up with ever changing circumstances and situations. If you are ever contacted to contribute to the subcommittees or the constantly changing Action groups, please take them up on it to help our organization.

On Election Day last November, a referendum in Massachusetts was passed requiring dental insurance companies operating in the state to maintain a Dental Loss Ratio of 83%. Even more promising, it passed by an overwhelming margin of 71% to 29%. What this translates to is 83% of all revenue must be directed toward patient care and the remaining income can be used for administrative costs for all dental insurance companies operating within the state of Massachusetts. This has been a hard-fought battle to increase transparency with these companies. Currently, dental insurance companies do not have to report this data and it is very difficult to discern where the money is going. The ADA contributed heavily to the effort financially and strategically in order to make this a reality. We also need to thank the Massachusetts Dental Society and their members for all of the hard work and leadership they provided during the election season. Additionally, our own New York State Dental Association, as well as other state associations, contributed financially to the effort. We hope to transfer this success to other states in the near future. This is critical to keeping the playing field fair between dental insurance companies and the patients we serve.

The Health Policy Institute at the American Dental Association is an incredible group that performs valuable services for our members and our profession. The chief economist is Dr. Marco Vujcic and his group is constantly completing studies that help all of us with the day to day practice of dentistry. They study the economic trends of workforce issues, practice trends and modalities, as well as production and expense statistics they see unfolding throughout the country. Their information during the Covid-19 pandemic has been exceptionally helpful to understanding all of the changes and real time adjustments in the practice of dentistry. Please take the time in the future to watch one of their many podcasts or look up a few of their many studies that are available on our website. I guarantee you will not be disappointed. It will help keep you on the cutting edge of our ever-changing profession.

The new ADA Member App has been out since the House of Delegate meeting in October. Please take a moment to download it from the App store. There is a Home page with many important relevant articles concerning our profession located conveniently in this section. There is also a chat segment to catch up with your colleagues. Additionally, you can find your completed and in-progress courses, access to CE transcripts as well as a section to download practice documentation. This is a great way to keep up on the latest information in our profession and stay connected, all at your fingertips of your cellphone. It is the first iteration of the App, which will undergo many changes and additions in the future, all with the help of member's input.

As you know, the Power of Three at the American Dental Association is a unique structure that keeps our organization on sound footing. While other organizations struggle with including all of their different contributing partners, we gather strength from the diversity of thought we bring to the table. We must continue to support this concept as we strive to improve our membership.

It is my sincerest hope that everyone had a safe and happy holiday season and Happy New Year to everyone. I am humbled and honored to be serving you over the next four years. Please contact me at [drndowd@gmail.com](mailto:drndowd@gmail.com) or on my cell phone (716-510-3217) if you have any questions or information concerning the ADA. I look forward to hearing from you. Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Lois Jackson from the First District for initiating this idea and encouraging me to think about this important communication.

Sincerely, Brendan

Brendan Dowd DDS  
Trustee, Second District of the ADA



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**Suffolk County**  
DENTAL SOCIETY



**May 10, 2023**  
**General**  
**Membership**  
**Meeting**



SCDS Members, join us May 10, 2023 at the Hauppauge Radisson, enjoy a meal, vote on bylaws changes, and get 2 CE Credits with lectures by Residents from the Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine. There is no charge for members! Scan the QR code to register, or the link on our [calendar](#) at [www.SuffolkDental.org](http://www.SuffolkDental.org).



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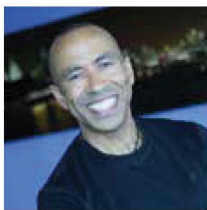
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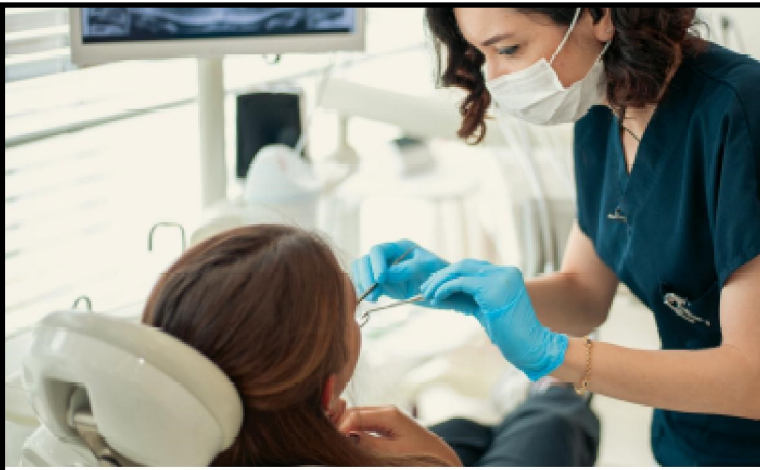
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**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS | 1PM - 4PM**

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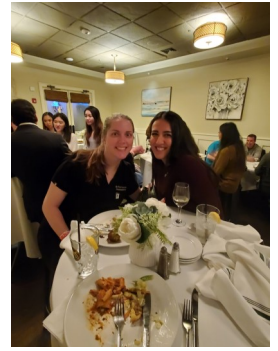
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