



# NEWS BITES

The Newsletter of the  
SOUTHERN OREGON  
DENTAL SOCIETY

SPRING 2010



## President's Message

*Robert Stebbins, DDS*

Happy Spring!

You the members of the Southern Oregon Dental Society provide many hours of donated care through local dental service organizations (Children's Dental Clinic, St Vincent DePaul, Tooth Taxi, etc), hospital emergency call, Give Kids A Smile Day, and in charity services donated in your practices. I have been asked by state lawmakers and local individuals 'What are dentists giving back to the community?' I believe we can provide a competent answer in terms of hours and approximated dollars. We will be contacting some of you to determine the hours worked and approximate value of treatment rendered in the recent past. I invite you to take a proactive approach and send that information to the SODS email.

Health Care Reform legislation has passed and now we must determine what it will all mean. The American Dental Association has hosted two phone call sessions to help dentists understand the ramifications of the bill on dentistry. They were informative sessions which were followed by a question and answer period. The American Dental Association, Oregon Dental Association, and Southern Oregon Dental Association work to preserve the practice of dentistry as we know it. Our support for those organizations may be the only way some of your voices are heard, please make it count.

We look forward to some new meetings and activities coming soon. Your suggestions for meeting subject material is welcomed. We hope to have a picnic and softball event this summer for families.

Thanks for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Robert Stebbins DDS

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# Health Care Reform Questions and Answers

The following are excerpts from an ADA publication regarding the new health care legislation and its effects on dentist and dentistry. The Complete document can be found at [http://www.ada.org/sections/newsAndEvents/pdfs/hcr\\_q\\_and\\_a\\_mar23.pdf](http://www.ada.org/sections/newsAndEvents/pdfs/hcr_q_and_a_mar23.pdf)

## **Does this bill change the way I am reimbursed by insurance?**

At this time, the bill does not outline reimbursement requirements for specific services provided by insurers.

## **How will health care reform affect me as a dentist?**

Within two years of the bill's enactment, the HHS Secretary is required to develop reporting requirements regarding plan coverage and provider reimbursement structures that are designed to improve outcomes. The Secretary is also required to develop provider-level outcomes for hospitals, physicians and other providers. These provisions are intended to address quality and value. At this time it is difficult to determine if dentistry or what aspect of dentistry might be included in the Secretary's requirements. The ADA recognizes the importance of developing quality measures at the population level and has taken the lead in developing the Dental Quality Alliance (DQA) to ensure that specific concerns of dentistry are adequately addressed.

The bill provides additional funding for oral health infrastructure through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), increases support for the development of dental training programs, extends liability protection to individuals who work at free clinics and provides additional funding for school-based health centers.

## **How will health care reform affect me as an employer?**

If you have 50 or fewer employees, you do not have to provide health insurance for your employees. Beginning in 2014, your state may develop an exchange to facilitate the purchase of health insurance. Access will be limited in a plan's first few years to businesses with fewer than 50 employees, which may provide an opportunity for you to purchase coverage for your employees. Employers who cover dependent children now will have to do so for "children" up to age 26. Health plans will be prohibited from including lifetime or unreasonable annual limits on coverage. Other insurance reforms that may affect you as an employer after the 2014 date include:

- Prohibition on refusal to cover pre-existing conditions;
- Comprehensive coverage;
- Guaranteed issue and renewability;
- Premium rating limits;
- Non-discrimination based on health status;
- Non-discrimination of providers; and
- Prohibition on excessive waiting periods.

Qualifying employers with less than 25 employees and average annual wages of less than \$50,000 will be eligible for tax credits, on a sliding scale, to assist with the purchase of health insurance coverage.

## **How will health care reform affect me as an individual who is currently insured?**

For the moment, the bill does not change your coverage. However, it is difficult to determine what will happen over time. Beginning in 2014 when states begin to offer coverage through health insurance exchanges, your coverage options may change. Plans offered through exchanges will be required to provide essential health benefits and may affect coverage offered by insurers who operate outside of the exchange. Health insurers will also be required to adhere to a number of consumer protections.

*(Continued on page 5)*



## Trustee's Report

*Dr. Judd Larson, D.D.S.*

Southern Oregon Dental Society Members,

It seems like we are starting to see some nicer weather on the horizon. Hopefully, this unpredictable spring weather is starting to give way to a more summer-like change.

I wanted to update all of our members about a few things going on at the ODA. The first topic I wanted to address was the Oregon Dental Conference earlier this month. We set another attendance record this year with almost 6,500 people attending the three day conference. We sold out 96% of the 274 booths available in the tradeshow hall. We are now the sixth or seventh largest annual dental meeting in the United States. This is quite an accomplishment and each of us as members should be very proud of our state dental association for putting on a meeting of this size and quality every year.

The next subject I wanted to let you know about is that the Board of Dentistry at their next meeting in May are going to look at raising the license fees for dentists and hygienists. They do not have solidified numbers at the time I am writing this, but they will be voting in May on a definite increase that will take effect for 2011 year cycle renewals.

The last topic I wanted to address is Oregon's dental Mission of Mercy (M.O.M) project that will occur in November at the Oregon Convention Center. The ODA will be hosting their first M.O.M. event on November 22nd and 23rd (Monday and Tuesday) this year. The planning and preparation for the event is all ready under way. We received an overview from the management team of the America's Dentists Care Foundation who will be helping us put on the event at our last Trustee meeting. The Oregon M.O.M. project will have at least 100 mobile dental operatories along with the Tooth Taxi working during those two days to provide free dental care for those in need. With the volunteer help of all of our members and our colleagues, we hope to provide \$1 million worth of free dental care to at least 1,500 patients in this two day dental event. If you are interested in volunteering, there is a link on the ODA home page([www.oregondental.org](http://www.oregondental.org)) to register or you can call the ODA office directly. It should be a wonderful event that really shines a positive light on dentistry in Oregon.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next dental society meeting.

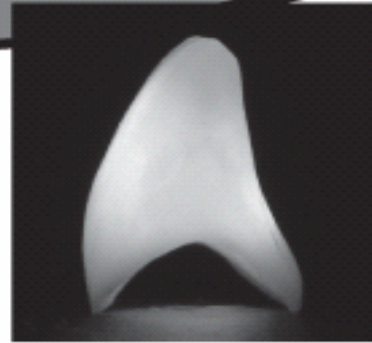
Judd Larson, ODA Trustee

*Since you're not  
doing anything...*

Why not consider joining  
us on the SODS Board!

We currently have  
positions available for both  
presidential-track and at-  
large members for 2010  
-11.

*Successful Dentistry®*



*That's what we're all about.*

**(800) 445-5941**

*O'Brien*  
DENTAL LAB, INC.

4311 SW Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97333

2010 Events

2/9/2010 SODS Board Meeting, 5:30pm, Ted Bennion's office

2/12/2010 ODA Leadership Workshop (at the ODA building in Wilsonville, OR)

2/26/2010 SODS Midwinter Conference, Smullin Center

3D Imaging Course

8:00am sign in,

Lectures 8:30am—12:00pm

3/9/2010 SODS Board Meeting, 5:30pm, Ted Bennion's office

4/8-4/10 ODA Conference (at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland)

4/13/2010 SODS Board Meeting, 5:30pm, Ted Bennion's office

8/11/2010 SODS Summer Burger Fry (details TBA)



## St. Vincent DePaul Dental Van

St. Vincent de Paul Dental Van Schedule for June through September, 2010

Can you help us serve the poor and needy of our community? St. Vincent dePaul, in cooperation with the area's dentists, dental assistants, and Medical Teams International, conducts free dental clinics one day a month in Medford. The clinics are held in a fully equipped dental van on the SVDP property and usually run from 8:30am to 1:30pm.

We are seeking volunteer dentists and dental assistants for the following dates: June 18th, July 16th, August 13th, and September 10th.

The need is great. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the coordinator of the program:

Deanna Griffith at [deannacalkins@yahoo.com](mailto:deannacalkins@yahoo.com) or telephone her at (541)890-7072

## Health Care Reform Questions and Answers cont'd

If you are insured in a high cost plan, your plan may be subject to an excise tax beginning in 2018 if your plan's premium exceeds \$10,200 for individual coverage or \$27,500 for family coverage. In no small part due to the ADA's advocacy, the value of dental and vision plans is not included in this limitation. Flexible Spending Account (FSA) contributions will be limited to \$2,500 annually beginning in 2013.

If you are a Medicare beneficiary, you will have access to expanded preventive services through Medicare and that will not be subject to cost-sharing requirements.

The bill increases Medicare taxes by 0.9 percent for individuals earning more than \$200,000 or more than \$250,000 for couples filing jointly. This increased tax rate would also apply to income derived from interest, dividends and other investments. The bill also establishes a new "Simple Cafeteria Plan" for small businesses to enable them to offer tax-free benefits to employees.

## Chip! For Teeth Golf Tournament

Calling all Duffers. DFO's sixth annual Chip! for Teeth Golf Tournament and Luncheon will be held Friday, May 21, 2010 at Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora, Oregon. "We're challenging all dental component societies to field a team of golfers," said Charlie LaTourette, Executive Director, "And the winning dental society will win prizes, all important bragging rights, and the biggest, ugliest golf trophy I can possibly find." For more information and registration forms visit [www.SmileOnOregon.org](http://www.SmileOnOregon.org) or call Charlie at 503-594-0881.



# NEWS BYTES

The Newsletter of the  
**SOUTHERN OREGON  
DENTAL SOCIETY**

PRSRST STD  
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Permit No. 133  
Medford, OR

Southern Oregon Dental Society  
711 Medford Center #273, Medford, Oregon 97504  
Tele: (541) 779-0017 sodentalsociety@yahoo.com

## Board of Directors

### *President*

Robert Stebbins, DDS

### *President-Elect*

Ted Bennion, DMD

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Jim Savage, DDS

### *Treasurer*

Matt Gebhart, DMD

### **ODA Trustee**

Judd Larson, DDS

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

**TAKE THE NIGHT  
OFF!  
AND LET THE SODS BOARD  
DO THE COOKING.**

***SODS SUMMER PICNIC  
AUGUST 11, 2010***

***LOCATION TBA***

***PLENTY OF FOOD AND  
ACTIVITIES FOR OUR  
KIDS!***

Watch your email for details

## 2010 PROFIT & LOSS COMPARISON

	Actual FY 2010	Actual FY 2009
<b>Income</b>		
Special Assessment		700.00
Christmas Party	1,200.00	1,200.00
Member Dues	8,400.00	9,228.00
Mid-Winter Meeting	1,270.00	16,860.00
Spring Social		-1,470.00
Tax Refund	21.84	123.99
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,891.84</b>	<b>26,641.99</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Postage	131.5	280.18
Telephone	442.00	513.06
Insurance	10.95	752.43
Printing		463.71
Office Supplies		502.97
Taxes	54.6	198.53
Accounting		780.00
Christmas Party		2,088.00
Dues		-1,111.00
Spring Social		-400.00
Mid-Winter Meeting		5,379.60
Newsletter	137.00	309.00
Payroll Expenses	2,834.36	6,767.28
PO Box	180.00	120.00
ER List Mailing	98.37	
Reimbursement	246.37	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4,135.05</b>	<b>16,643.76</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>6,756.79</b>	<b>9,998.23</b>