



Snohomish County DENTAL SOCIETY



PRESIDENT'S LETTER, Dr. Tania Tran

"Everyone you will ever meet knows something you don't." – Bill Nye the Science Guy

This quote summarizes my experience serving on the SCDS board perfectly. I have been fortunate to meet and learn from so many wonderful people at all stages of our careers and at all levels of organized dentistry. It has allowed me to gain a better understanding of our profession and greater insight into the opportunities to improve dental care beyond the walls of my office.

- SCDS Executive Board introduced me to dentists who seek to collaborate and create a friendly, supportive, and vibrant local community.
- WSDA House of Delegates introduced me to dentists who recognize strength in numbers and the value of having a collective voice to translate ideas into action at the local, state, and national levels.
- Dental Action Day introduced me to dentists who are passionate about advocating for the best care for patients and enacting legislation that ensures our ability to do so.
- Volunteering with the MTI Dental Van, Sno-Isle Tech Skills Center, Toothapalooza, and SKC Clinic introduced me to dentists who have huge hearts and a mission to serve others.
- WSDA Committees introduced me to dentists on task groups who are vigilant about fighting to preserve the doctor-patient relationship against the many forces that seek to destroy it.

And there is so much more that organized dentistry does! ADA/WSDA/SCDS may not be perfect, but I believe it is the best vehicle for creating positive change. Your active participation and membership are important to ensure that dentistry remains a great profession for now and always. Wouldn't it be amazing if we can continue to serve others with dental care at the highest levels while thriving personally and professionally? *We really cannot do that without you.*

— Dr. Tania Tran

MEMBER ACTIVITIES THIS WINTER



Dr. Tania Tran and a Toothapalooza visitor, fifteen members volunteered at Toothapalooza in February. SCDS welcomed UW students in January.



SCDS members attended Dental Action Day, in Olympia, in February. The Annual Seminar was held on March 7, at the Lynnwood Events Center.

WORKFORCE TRAINING IN EVERETT

SCDS Volunteers Help Train Future Dental Assistants.

SCDS recently sat down with Kelly Beebout, Instructor with the Dental Assisting program at Sno-Isle Tech, to discuss their program. Sno-Isle Tech is a trade education program that allows high school students to earn credit toward their diploma, while learning career-focused job skills. The school is located in Everett and serves five school districts in the north Puget Sound region. The Dental Assisting program is the only one in Snohomish County and it has long been a resource for the dental community. Several SCDS members volunteer with the program. Kelly shared why this is essential to making the program a success.

SCDS: Who are your current



Dr. Greg Fjeran and a student

in-classroom volunteers?

Dr. Greg Fjeran, Dr. Andrew Sholudko, Shelby Sholudko, RDH, MS, and Dr. Tracy DeLorm.

SCDS: How many hours a month do in-classroom volunteers provide?

We open the clinic on days when the volunteers are available. The Clinic operates about 4.75 hours a day. This month we have been open 5 days.

SCDS: What are some of the tasks volunteers do when working with the students?



Dr. Andrew Sholudko in the school clinic

All the professionals' volunteer their time for the dental clinic when it is open. They provide care to patients who cannot afford, or don't have, dental insurance. While the clinic is running we have up to seven students in back to assist one dentist/hygienist. The volunteers explain the procedures they are doing. Everything from comprehensive exams, perio charting, charting current restoration and decay, prophylaxis, and restorative. Both Dr. Fjeran and Dr. Sholudko have watched students while they practice coronal polishing on manikins and on each other. They offer suggestions for patient comfort, ergonomics, and valuable tips for a smooth process. The rest of the class is in the classroom working on assignments, and other skill sets. Both dentists have come around and helped "check off" these skill sets after patient care has been completed. Dr. Tracy DeLorm supports training on an iTero scanner device, shares the importance of good chart notes, the layout, and how to navigate a computer. She also encourages and teaches the importance of transferring instruments (especially while a dentist/hygienist is wearing loupes) during any procedure. Shelby Sholudko, RDH, MS, is wonderful at showing students the Dental Hygienist side of dentistry. She encourages them to get involved in

every procedure she is doing and explains proper suction placement, transferring of instruments and chart notes. She is very good at breaking down the steps and clarifying why she's doing what she is doing. Her encouragement has brought out some of the most timid students in the class.

SCDS: Why is it important to have licensed dentists in the classroom ?

When students are practicing on each other, it's good to remember that even though we are in school there are laws in place regarding patient care by a DA. A licensed dentist needs to be present. It also allows students to see that dentists are not scary; that they need and appreciate a good assistant. Also, to operate a clinic for our community, we need a licensed dentist present.

This is a valuable opportunity for students to practice skills with a "real" dentist. It gives them a chance to experience dentistry in a safe place, but with real-life scenarios. Seeing their faces light up when they get encouragement from the dentist, or a patient, is amazing! It's the *ah-ha* moment of realizing "that's what Ms. Kelly means....and why its important"

SCDS: What are some of the benefits to working with high schoolers?

Working with high schoolers keeps you young, and reminds you why you entered the field in the first place. A lot of memories come back as you remember where you were when you first started out.

Some students go through the class and decide that dentistry isn't their passion. They have saved themselves a lot of money for schooling that, in the end, they may not like. For those who enjoy it, the program allows them to

SPRING MEMBER MEETINGS

Always free to members, including dinner at our in-person meetings!

APRIL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16
IN-PERSON MEETING

Strategies to Help Protect & Grow Your Wealth

Join us for an insightful presentation designed specifically for dentists, where you'll discover the crucial steps to protect your wealth through smart insurance strategies. Learn how the right insurance policies can safeguard your income, provide for your family's future, and ensure the continuity of your practice, even when faced with unexpected challenges. We'll also dive deep into one of the primary wealth-building tools for dentists: the retirement plan at your practice. Uncover the top three critical aspects every dentist should know about:

1. **Optimal Plan Design:** Is your retirement plan structured to maximize your benefits?
2. **Service Providers:** Are you partnering with the right professionals to manage your plan?
3. **Reasonable Fees:** Are you being charged fair and transparent fees?

Whether you're confident in your current setup or looking for ways to optimize, this presentation will provide valuable insights. Our presenters are Loyd Burleson, of Financial Freedom for Dentists and Kerri Seims of WDIA. The meeting will be held at Shawn O'Donnell's banquet room in Everett. Social hour begins at 6PM and the meeting concludes by 9PM. Register online on the SCDS website at scdentists.org/meetings-events.

MAY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21
IN-PERSON MEETING

The State of the State with WSDA President

We'll hear the *State of the State* with WSDA President Dr. Chris Dorow. Dr. Dorow is the only private practice dentist in the small Eastern Washington town of Othello. He has volunteered in



nearly every WSDA program at one time or another during his career. Dorow sees his

top priority as WSDA president to be working to remove barriers and help restore dentists' joy in caring for patients.

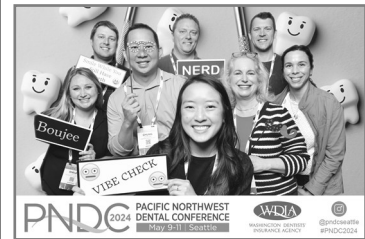
The practice of dentistry is undergoing rapid changes – *local and nationally*. Come hear what organized dentistry is doing to combat negative influences while supporting dentists in our state. Dr. Dorow is a committed leader who will share his thoughts on where we are going. Learn about the legislative successes in 2025 and what's ahead for 2026. Additionally, we will be honoring our Society out-going volunteer leaders and welcoming our newest elected leadership. The meeting will be held at Shawn O'Donnell's banquet room in Everett. Social hour begins at 6PM and the meeting concludes by 9PM. Register online on the SCDS website at www.scdentists.org/meetings-events.

PNDCC 2025

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE

May 8-10 | Seattle

Have you registered for PNDCC yet? The annual convention is May 8 - 10, a little earlier than in the past. This year, like last year, it will be held at the new addition to the con-



vention center in downtown Seattle.

This beautiful, sun-filled space is a great location for PNDCC. It's very accessible from the freeway. As usual, there is CE for the whole team, along with a huge vendor fair and lots of social activities. Make a weekend of it and check out the Mariner's game! Reduced prices are available at three hotels: The Hilton Garden Inn, Sheraton Grand and the Hyatt Regency, all in downtown Seattle. 2025 is a CE reporting year for many dentists in Washington's three-year, 63-CE credit system. Whether you're finishing up your CE hours before your deadline, just starting on a new reporting period or are somewhere in between, PNDCC is a cost- and time-effective way to earn your hours! WSDA Life Members, you attend for free (2025 member dentists who have reached Life Member status with the ADA.) Register online on the WSDA website at www.wsda.org/pndc



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Continued from page 2, **SNO-ISLE TECH**

decide which direction they may want to continue in - hygiene, dentistry, dental assistant, office, lab tech, etc. Meeting professionals in the industry helps students develop that career exploration.

SCDS: Do you need any special training and skills to be an in-classroom volunteer?

No special training or skills are required. The Mukilteo school district requires a background check for every volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering as a Dentist to treat patients for the clinic, they require fingerprinting along with the background check (all paid for by Sno-Isle) and a copy of your liability insurance.

SCDS: Are there other ways to be involved?

The students also enjoy class presentations. Dr. Paul Kahlon shared a presentation about the importance of child dental care and what they do in their office. Pacific Dental had the students take a field trip to their office, showed some of their equipment like the CEREC, and provided initial training with it. Willamette Dental staff presented proper resume and cover letter tips to help students. Den-



Sno-Isle Students in class with Dr. Fjeran

tal offices can also host a student for their student externship during the spring of the school year.

At a time when staffing needs are critical and workforce issues continue, we are fortunate to have a great program in our area. Sno-Isle Tech is allowing young people to learn living-wage job skills while supporting our community and our industry. If you are interested in more information, contact the SCDS office at info@scdentists.org, or contact Ms. Kelly Beebout at Sno-Isle Tech at 425-348-2228.

Continued from page 1, **MEMBER ACTIVITIES THIS WINTER**



Drs. Brady and Bourne

Our members were out in full force this winter volunteering their time to advocate for dentistry, provide dental health education and welcome new dental school students into membership. Additionally, we had our Annual Seminar in March and monthly member meetings.

It was exciting to see our largest group ever at Dental Action Day in Olympia. No special skills are required to participate. Just a passion

for supporting our profession and sharing your thoughts with our elected officials. WSDA coordinates this annual event and it has been great to see more and more SCDS members get involved. We had a really big group of volunteers at Toothapalooza this year too. Fifteen members gave up their Friday evening to provide "mini-exams" for kids at the Imagine Children's Museum in Everett. Over 1,500 people came out to enjoy the museum's monthly free night. Our members were able to talk to numerous kids and parents about healthy habits, brushing and good oral health care. In January we hosted a Happy Hour to introduce fourth year dental students to organized dentistry. We partnered with the Seattle-King County Dental Society, the ADA and UW Dental Alumni to host a fun evening with over 30 students in attendance. March brought the Annual Seminar at the Lynnwood Events Center. We partnered with Washington AGD to host Dr. Charles Regalado speaking on the BioClear approach to conservative dentistry. Continuing Education is the backbone of our programming and we offered two virtual meetings and one in person meeting this winter. All meetings were well attended. Spring is right around the corner and more Society activities are ahead of us in April and May. *We hope you will join in!*

YOUR SCDS OFFICERS:

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Remember to Vote for the 2025 – 2026 SCDS Officers

Look for your electronic ballot link in your email. New officers will be announced at our May 21st Member Meeting!

Classifieds

Multiple Dental Practices for Sale by Omni Practice Group in and around Washington. Contact Omni Practice Group at 877-866-6053 or info@omni-pg.com for more details. View our nationwide listings at omni-pg.com.

North Seattle General Dental Practice

Annual collections of \$450,000. Three operatories, lots of parking. Convenient to freeway and retail. Digital X-rays, fully staffed. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD443)

Mukilteo General Dental Practice

Prime location with high visibility and easy access, 5 ops, experienced staff. Significant growth potential through expanded services. Contact Jen Bennett at 206-683-8966 or jen@omni-pg.com (WAD587)

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Well-Established Everett Practice Grossing \$700K

4-operator practice with 2 additional plumbed. Refers out many procedures, so lots of growth potential. High-visibility location. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD552)

Pediatric Dental Office in Beautiful Whatcom County

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Bellingham General Dental Practice

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Turn-key dental office ready to equip. Four working operatories and room for a fifth. Contact Steve Kikikis at 425-905-6920 or steve@omni-pg.com. Lic.#94563 (WAR172)

Gorgeous Everett Family Dental Practice

High-producing practice grossing \$1.8 mil. RE for sale as well. 8 hygiene days/week. Averaging 40 new patients/month. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD540)

East Snohomish County Dental Practice

Over \$500K in collections working three days/week. 4 fully-equipped ops + 1 additional. RE also for sale. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD524)

Marysville General Dental Practice

Stand-alone building with excellent visibility in residential neighborhood. 7 fully-equipped ops. Over \$1.4 mil in collections. RE also for sale. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD513)

Stunning Kitsap County Dental Practice

Over \$1 mil in collections. 5 ops. Beautiful, modern, professional business complex with easy access, ample parking, great visibility. Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD506)

Long-Established, Stable, Nicely-Appointed Whidbey Island General Dental Practice

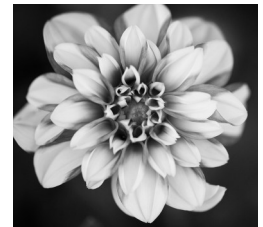
Grossing \$550K. High net. 3-day -a-week practice running at 40% overhead - room for growth! Contact Frank at 425-985-8390 or frank@omni-pg.com. Lic.#130877 (WAD429)

North Seattle Hybrid, Absentee-Owned Dental Practice

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