
THE METROPOLITAN

DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Organization and Education Towards Excellence

August/September, 2009 Vol. 45 No.1

METROPOLITAN District Dinner Meeting

Newest Developments in Technology for Your Dental Practice

with Paul Feuerstein, DMD

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Newton Marriott Hotel 2345 Commonwealth Ave. Newton

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Registration

6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Buffet Dinner

7:15 – 8:15 p.m. Lecture 1 CEU

Dr. Paul Feuerstein has scoured the world for the latest high tech products and processes that can be used in dental practices today and some that are coming in the future. He will give a glimpse of these and answer questions on everything from Conebeam CT to the new digital impression systems.

Dr. Feuerstein received installed one of dentistry's first "in-office computers" in 1978 and has been teaching dental professionals how to use computers since the late 70's. He is currently the Technology Editor of Dental Economics Magazine and the High Tech writer for the Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society as well as contributing author to several national dental journals. He is now one of the ADA technology lecturers, speaking at the annual sessions, as well as several state and local dental association meetings.

Thank you to our sponsor 3M ESPE/Brontes Technologies. Please visit their table before the lecture.

✂----- **RESERVATION REPLY** -----

Dr. Paul Feuerstien Wednesday, September 16, 2009 6:00 p.m. Newton Marriott Hotel

4 Easy Ways to Register

- ✓ **On-Line Registration** with MasterCard or Visa: www.massdental.org/metropolitan/register
 - ✓ **Mail** reservation form and check payable to:
The Metropolitan District Dental Society ★ 209 West Central St. Suite 209 ★ Natick, MA 01760-3716
 - ✓ **Call** (508) 651-3521 to register by telephone with MasterCard or VISA
 - ✓ **Fax** your reservation coupon and credit card information to (508) 651-3522
- \$55.00 per person** for buffet dinner and lecture • **\$35.00 per person** staff/auxiliary

Name _____

Guests _____

Office Address _____

Office Telephone (____) _____

VISA MasterCard Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder's Name _____

PLEASE READ THE FINE PRINT:

- Reservations and payment must be received by 9/09/09.
- Cancellations for refund will be accepted until 9/09/09.
- Telephone reservations by credit card only.
- There may not be seating available for at the door walk-ins.
- It is best to make your reservation ahead

MEETINGS & EVENTS

STUDY CLUB MEETING DATES 2009-2010

- **Parkway/Norfolk Study Club** meets at Finz Restaurant 910 Washington St. Dedham at 6:00 p.m.
For more information call: President Dr. David Wolf 508/473-4999.
Dates and speakers: TBA
- **Charles River Study Club** meets at the Woodland Golf Club 1897 Washington St. Newton at 6:00 p.m.
For more information call: Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Richard Doff (781) 444-8550
 - Tuesday, September 22, 2009 *Non-Invasive Cosmetic Procedures* with Dr. Constantinos Laskarides
 - Tuesday, December 8, 2009 a representative from Tekscan will speak on Tekscan Technology
- **West Metropolitan Study Club** meets at the Courtyard Marriott 342 Speen St. Natick at 6:00 p.m.
For more information call: Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Barbara Preussner 508/429-7125.
 - Monday, September 21, 2009 *Taxes, Transitions, Associateship and Ownership in Your Dental Practice* presented by Jean Fallogo, Esq.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT MEETING DATES

District Dinner Meeting

SAVE THE DATE!

EDIC Risk Management Seminar

presented by Mr. Barry Regan

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Natick Crowne Plaza Hotel, Route 9, Natick.

Registration/Buffer Dinner 6:00 -7:15 p.m.

Risk Management Seminar 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

\$55.00 per person

5% EDIC malpractice policy discount

1 CEU

More details along with the reservation reply will be in the next newsletter or you can call the district office at 508/651-3521 for early registration.

Executive Board Meeting Dates

- ❖ Tuesday, September 8, 2009
- ❖ Tuesday, November 17, 2009
- ❖ Tuesday, February 9, 2010
- ❖ Tuesday, April 13, 2010

2009 – 2010 District Executive Officers

Chair Armond Enos
Chair ElectSergio Guzman
Vice Chair Michael Putt
Secretary Cherie Bishop
Treasurer Richard Cardiff
Ass't Sec'y Cara Donley
Ass't Treas Cressida Joseph
Editor Jeffrey Lowenstein
Trustee James Cinamon

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Armond Enos, Jr., DDS, M.S.D.

It is my honor to be the Chairman of the Metropolitan District Dental Society this year. I am eager to work with our dedicated executive board, the leadership of the Massachusetts Dental Society and all the members of our district as we face the opportunities and challenges of improving oral health to our constituents, especially the underserved.

Improving the oral health of our communities has always been a major priority for us as dentists. However, today more than ever before, our services as providers are in even greater demand as the number of people requiring oral care is increasing daily. That is why I am joining forces with Dr. Milton Glicksman, the immediate past president of the Massachusetts Dental Society to increase the number of MassHealth providers in our district. Presently, only 24% of the dentists in the Metropolitan District are MassHealth providers. This lack of providers is a very serious problem that needs to be addressed immediately.

As leaders of the dental profession we need to be in the forefront to provide dental services to the underserved. When the Omnibus Bill is implemented, dental hygienists will become the leading dental providers in the health centers due to the lack of dentists participating in this program. Furthermore, as we speak, the state of Minnesota has passed legislation to create a "dental therapist" which will be a mid-level dental provider. This dental therapist upon completing a bachelor's level program in dental therapy will be able to practice in underserved areas and perform procedures which include restorations and primary extractions under the direct supervision of a dentist. This is what we can expect in Massachusetts in the near future if the needs of the underserved population continue to go unmet. There are many political activist groups in this state that are strongly campaigning for better oral health to the legislature and they are listening. Now is the time for us to increase our numbers of MassHealth providers and show the legislature that, as dentists, we are committed to this issue as well. My goal is to increase the number of MassHealth providers in our district to 50% by June, 2010.

The executive board and I have already begun to address issues surrounding Resolution #8 and #9 which were approved by the House of Delegates in May of this year. Due to the passing of Resolution #9, a committee has been formed to look at the reconfiguration of the thirteen districts of our society, especially our very own Metropolitan district. The members of this district must realize that this committee's actions will probably change the Metropolitan District into smaller districts geographically which means a reduction of members, funds to run operations and event, and numerous administrative services that we now offer. This reconfiguration issue is another agenda item that we will be addressing this year.

I want to give special thanks to Dr. Chris Owen who did a fantastic job as the chairman of our district last year. Dr. Sue Lee, who will not be on our board this year, requires special recognition for her services as past chairman twice and council representative. Dr. Andrea Richman, the first female president of the Massachusetts Dental Society, continues to offer her leadership and guidance to our district. Finally, Phyllis Basile, our executive administrator, is the key individual who makes our district function at a high professional level.

Again, I am honored to serve as your chairman and look forward to working with you this year.

Sincerely,
Armond Enos, Jr., DDS

TRUSTEES REPORT

James Cinamon, DMD
District Trustee

There have been 4 significant meetings since the last newsletter. Three Board of Trustees meetings were held on February 11th, March 18th, March 29th and June 17th. The House of Delegates meeting was held at the Burlington Marriott on May 15th. The BOT meetings were very significant however space requirements will allow only a report on the HOD and a discussion of two very significant resolutions that may impact the MDDS greatly.

The House of Delegates is the supreme authoritative body of the Massachusetts Dental Society. As such, it speaks for the thousands of members of the Society and for the dental profession in Massachusetts. The 145th session of the MDS House of Delegates was held on Friday, May 15, 2009, at the Burlington Marriott.

The Executive Committee installed for 2009-2010 are as follows:

David Samuels, President; John Fisher, President Elect; Tom Borgia, Vice President; Tom Torrisi, Speaker of the House; Charles Silvius, Secretary; Anthony Giamberardino, Assistant Secretary; Charles Gagne, Treasurer; Michel Juseaume, Assistant Treasurer; Milton Glicksman, Immediate Past President.

Resolution No.: 1-09 Approval of MDS 2009-2010 Budget

1-09 Resolved, that the 2009-2010 MDS Annual Budget of revenues and expenses be approved.

Resolution No.: 2-09 Resolution Regarding Special Assessment for MDS Foundation

2-09 Resolved, that a special three-year assessment of \$100 per year per regular active member (prorated for other membership categories) be approved by the House of Delegates for the specific purpose of establishing an endowment fund within the MDS Foundation.

Resolution No.: 3-09 Resolution to Redirect Special Assessment Funds

3-09 Resolved, that the unspent special assessment funds collected in Dues Years 2004-2008 for the expansion of dental hygiene educational programs and media campaigns to promote dental auxiliary careers (especially dental assisting), be redirected to the MDS General Fund. Three quarters of the funds (approximately \$352,000) will be redirected during the 2009-2010 budget year, and the remaining one quarter (\$117,000) will revert to the MDS General Fund, if not utilized for its original purpose in the 2009-2010

Resolution No.: 4-09 Amendment to the MDS Bylaws to Eliminate Board of Trustees Members from Eligibility for Membership of MDS Councils and Council Chair Positions

4-09 Resolved, that Board of Trustees members may not serve as members of MDS councils or as MDS council chairs.

Resolution No.: 5-09

Amendment to the MDS Bylaws to Modify Sections Related to Appointment of Committee Chairs

5-09 Resolved, that the Chair of a Standing Committee be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Trustees, and that the Chair, if not a Council member, be a consultant to the respective Council, and be it further;

Resolved that at least one member of the Committee be a Council member;

Resolved, that appropriate changes be made to the MDS *Bylaws*

Resolution No.: 6-09 Name: Proposal for Yankee Dental Congress Oversight Committee

6-09 Resolved, that the Yankee Dental Congress Oversight Committee will replace the Yankee Steering Committee, with edits to the MDS *Bylaws*.

Resolution No.: 7-095 Resolution Name: Amendment to the MDS Bylaws to Change the Duties of the MDS Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations (CAPIR)

7-09 Resolved, that Chapter VI (Councils), Section 100(D) (Duties) Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations of the MDS *Bylaws* be stricken and replaced with a new list of duties and responsibilities:

And be it further **Resolved**, that the composition, duties and activities of the Council be reviewed by the Board of Trustees in 2012 with a report to the 2013 House of Delegates.

Resolution No.: 8-09 Amendment to the MDS Bylaws to modify “Chapter II, Component Societies, Section 30,” Related to Redistricting

8-09 Resolved, that Chapter II, Component Societies, Section 30 of the MDS *Bylaws* be amended to read:

A. Districts The above division of the Commonwealth may be altered only by vote of the House of Delegates on receipt of a petition of two-thirds (2/3) of the members in the geographical area of a proposed new District, and then only after the proposed changes, which shall include provision for the necessary Massachusetts Dental Society and American Dental Association delegates, have been evaluated by the Board of Trustees and their recommendations submitted to the House of Delegates for action.

B. Cities and Towns: Any city or town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts wishing to change from one District to another may do so only by vote of the House of Delegates on receipt of a petition of the majority of the members in that city or town.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter XV of these *Bylaws*, the above division of the Commonwealth may be altered or amended only by the House of Delegates at any session of the said House, by a two-thirds (2/3) legal vote of the members present and voting, provided the proposed alteration or amendment of the above division of the Commonwealth shall have been presented in writing at a previous session or a previous meeting of the same session and shall have been evaluated by the Board of Trustees and its recommendations submitted to the House of Delegates for action.

Resolution No.: 9-09 Creation of a District Reorganization Task Force to Study the Current District Structure in Massachusetts and Report Back to the 2010 House of Delegates

9-09 Resolved, that a special committee be formed to study the current district structure and possible modifications. This special committee will be formed with each district appointing one of its members. In addition the president of the Massachusetts Dental Society will appoint two at-large members. This special committee shall be allotted a budget of up to \$10,000 and will report its findings to the 2010 House of Delegates.

Resolutions 8 and 9 could potentially break up our MDDS from approximately 1260+ members to approximately 350-400 members. This would significantly impact the services that MDDS has been able to provide to our membership. Resolution #8 will affect the mechanics of redistricting and could/would remove the individual rights of our members. The committee established by Resolution #9 has a year to study the recommendations and consequences of redistricting and will report back to the 2010 HOD. MDDS has formed a committee on our own to discuss these issues and to help make recommendations to our members on the state appointed committee.

Please refer to our website at: www.massdental.org/metropolitan or the MDS site at <http://www.massdental.org/hod.aspx?id=5374> for a recap of the HOD details. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information at jcinamon@conversent.net.

Respectfully submitted,
James S Cinamon

IN MEMORIAM

“Let us remember
our friends and colleagues
for their enthusiasm and
love of the dental arts.”

F. Daniel Buttner, DMD
Harold A. Chamberlin, Jr., DMD
Anthony A. Gianelly, DMD
John Morley, DDS
Robert J. Muse, DMD
Terrence O’Shaughnessy, DDS
Melvin W. Stern, DDS
Herbert S. Yolin, DDS

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in a warm welcome to the newest of our elected members to the Metropolitan District Dental Society and to those who transferred to us from other districts. We encourage all of our veteran members to make a special effort to contact the newest members listed in your area and extend a warm welcome and invitation to join us at any one of our meetings.

ELECTED FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Michelle O. Cummins, DMD 256 Ashmont St. Dorchester. Dr. Cummins is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Vassiliki Cartsos, DMD Tufts University Dental School One Kneeland St. Boston. Dr. Cartsos is a graduate of Athens University and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is an orthodontist.

Erika M. Kahan, DMD Brookside Community Health Center 3297 Washington St. Jamaica Plain. Dr. Kahan is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Nancy Medina, DMD is a graduate of Harvard University School of Dental Medicine, NOVA Southern University College of Dental Medicine and is an endodontist.

Wendy R. Cheney, DMD Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine 801 Albany St. #214 Department of Pediatric Dentistry Boston. Dr. Cheney is a graduate of Louisiana State University School of Dentistry and Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine and is a pediatric dentist.

ELECTED APRIL 28, 2009

Joyce Soinda Gitangu, DMD Kool Smiles 2181 Washington St. #101 Roxbury. Dr. Gitangu is a graduate of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Michael G. O'Toole, DMD Dental Partners of Boston 800 Boylston St. #200 Boston. Dr. O'Toole is a graduate of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Harvard School of Dental Medicine and is a prosthodontist.

Aruna Ramesh, DMD Tufts University Dept. of General Dentistry One Kneeland St. Boston. Dr. Ramesh is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is an oral radiologist.

Elena A. Jordache, DMD Dental Specialties 245 Washington St. Dedham. Dr. Jordache is a graduate of Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Mark Pham, DMD Tremont Dental Care 635 Tremont St. Boston. Dr. Pham is a graduate of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Matthew Horan, DMD Codman Square Health Center 637 Washington St. 2nd Fl. Dental Department Dorchester. Dr. Horan is a graduate of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

ELECTED JULY 31, 2009

Shelly Abramowicz DMD, MPH Children's Hospital Boston Department Plastic & Oral Surgery, 300 Longwood Ave. Boston. Dr. Abramowicz is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and the University of Florida School of Dental Medicine and is an oral surgeon.

Adrienne A. LeClair, DMD Boston Dental 36 Chauncy St. Boston. Dr. LeClair is a graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and is a general practitioner.

Welcome the following members who recently transferred into the Metropolitan District

Sabhat Abernethy, DMD

Xinhai Yang, DMD

Christine N. Kirk, DMD 1425 Beacon St. Brookline 02446

Yael Frydman, DMD Sowles Trauring Dental Partners of Boston 800 Boylston St. Boston.

Christine Kirk, DDS 1425 Beacon St. Brookline.

Paul Scull, DMD 575 Boylston St. Boston.

Paul W. Baek, DMD 345 Boylston St. Suite 101 Newton.

Meredith Bailey, DMD Boston University Dental Center 930 Commonwealth Ave. Boston.

Congratulations to John Horack, Jr., DDS Recipient of the 2009 Robert L. Burke, DDS Volunteer Award

This recognition award was established in Dr. Burke's honor to acknowledge outstanding volunteer efforts and contributions which have been put forth for the betterment of the dental society or the community.

The Executive Board of the Metropolitan District Dental Society is proud to present The Robert L. Burke, DDS Volunteer Award 2009 to John Horack, Jr., DDS at the Wednesday, September 16, 2009 district dinner meeting.

Dr. Horack has served on the Metropolitan District's Peer Review Committee for 27 consecutive years; from 1982-2009, as a committee member. He also served as the committee's chair from 1982-1986. Dr. Horack was also the district's Representative to the Massachusetts Dental Society's Council on Dental Care from 1982-1987. Dr. Horack's clinical expertise, fair-mindedness and wonderful negotiating skills were an invaluable asset to the committee. In addition, for many years he has been a dental examiner on the Board of Dental Examiners, a delegate to the MDS House of Delegates and a volunteer at the Yankee Dental Congress.

We are all very grateful for the many years of service and dedicated volunteerism. Please join us on Wednesday September 16th as we proudly present Dr. Horack with this award he so justly deserves.

Volunteers are Needed to Help Seniors

The MAC Van has expanded its community service from treating underserved children to serving our senior citizens – another underserved group.

The van offers oral cancer screenings, diagnostic exams, x-rays, and emergency fillings and a care plan for each patient to bring to his/her private dentist.

Please consider volunteering your time for one of the slots listed below.

Natick Council on Aging 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon
Friday September 9, 2009
Friday October 2, 2009
Friday November 6, 2009
Friday December 4, 2009

Please contact Ellen Factor at MDS if you are available to help. Ellen can be reached at: 1/800/342-8747 ext. 228 or by email: efactor@massdental.org.

EDITORIALS

Redistricting and the Metropolitan District

As a thirty two year member of the Metropolitan District and study clubs in the district, I approach a redistricting proposal with many questions. The most important question is how is this going to improve the dental society.

A view of the past can give us a hint of how things have changed in society and possibly where we are heading. At one time the Metropolitan District had seven study clubs- Brookline, Commonwealth, In-Town, Norfolk, Parkway, Charles River and West Metropolitan. As a member of three of these groups, it was routing to see 40-70 members at local meetings. Today only Charles River, West Metropolitan and a combined Parkway Norfolk exist. Typical attendance is down to 30-40 members. Over the past fifteen years the In-Town and Brookline groups have tried to be reactivated with negative results.

Counting the number of members in the Boston and Brookline areas gives a deceiving view of the district. Although the numbers are large, their participation is minimal.

If the new redistricting creates a Boston/Brookline District why would it succeed now when past efforts have failed?

One issue that has surfaced repeatedly is how do you have more members become active in the district. District meeting attendance has plummeted over time to that of study clubs. If the district were smaller so that people knew each other, would attendance and participation increase? If we use the study club as an example of a small geographic group, we see that this is not true.

I am in full agreement that there needs to be a change in the way the districts operate due to decreasing participation. However, redistricting does not seem to achieve this goal. It is difficult to find members willing to fill committee slots. Making the district smaller would make the task more difficult.

As a long standing active member in the district, we have tried multiple ideas to increase participation. I would be surprised if a costly study of redistricting would arrive at a solution to the problem. I would much rather see the same effort put into involving the graduating students since they are the ultimate answer to the future of the society.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Doff, D.M .D., former Editor

Periodontist, Needham

Letter to the Editor

While you were sleeping, the Massachusetts Dental Society's House of Delegates passed resolution #8, thus changing the bylaws concerning redistricting. This bylaw change allows redistricting by a two thirds majority vote by the House of Delegates. It eliminates the sovereignty each and every district was once afforded. Prior to this bylaw amendment, redistricting could only be accomplished if the members within a district voted with a two thirds majority to allow the change.

With such a sweeping and significant change, one would think that such a decision would not be taken lightly and a great deal of time and thought would be taken prior to a vote. This resolution was known about for a brief time prior to the 2009 annual House of Delegates session, but was never disseminated to the membership because the "First Reading" or presentation of this bylaw change to the House of Delegates occurred in the morning session of the same day it was voted on. Our constitution allows this, but proceeding without transparency is inherently wrong.

The notion of our tripartite governance ensures that every state and state district has sovereign authority. This was noted in the Massachusetts Dental Society constitution Chapter 2, section 30 (from April 2009) as well as the current ADA constitution Chapter 2, section 30B. The intent of the previous bylaws allowed changes to the component districts and states only by a majority vote of the persons living within that town, city or state. With this change, our tripartite sovereignty seems to have been abandoned.

This notion which our association and society have been built on is neither outdated nor impractical. It respects, and protects the will of the individual member. Imposing a change in component affiliation by edict from the House of Delegates is inherently unfair and undemocratic. It is subject to arbitrary assumptions and potential misuse.

Redistricting may be a good idea and it should be investigated as is happening with the current task force to evaluate the subject. At this juncture, our district independence has been taken away by the MDS leadership. Maybe this can change.

I urge the membership to contact our President, Dr. David Samuels and let him know, good or bad, what you think.

John A. Buehler, DMD, MD

Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon

Wellesley

Where Do We Go From Here?

L. Jeffrey Lowenstein, DMD,

Editor, *Metropolitan News*

I hope everyone within the MDDS family is having a wonderful summer. In a very few short weeks reality will kick us in the teeth and the "back to school" world of stress and critical time management decisions will make its ferocious

appearance at your doorstep. For some individuals, with a strong family and dental team behind them, this transition will be seamless and somewhat rewarding with the arrival of the profitable daily schedule of work and leisure activities back in place. For others, the daily grind will be filled with numerous twists and turns of questions and choices to be made to tackle the obstacles placed in strategic locations in one's path to survival. But for all of us, one thing is for certain – the world will not be the same place it was before the summer break. In case you haven't read the newspapers, if you still read a newspaper, society has been dealt a bad hand and most of the players are folding. The stimulus package has been delivered and distributed. Did you get yours? The American Forces have been leaving Iraq, but more are arriving in Afghanistan. Will there ever be world peace? The H1N1 flu has taken everyone by storm during the summer, with a definite return during the fall season. Are you prepared to deal with additional days of sickness within your homes and offices? Many questions - few answers. Preparedness is the new word for a new day. Are you prepared for the new economic landscape? Are you prepared for governmental unrest as it approaches closer to our shores? Are you prepared for major healthcare reform and its affect on your practice? The Metropolitan District Dental Society wants to continue to be able to provide its membership with the leadership and resources to combat the disruptive forces that will be coming soon to a dental operatory near you. We cannot do it alone. We need each and every one of the 1100 individuals that comprise the Metropolitan District Dental Society to help with the most important mission ever placed before us – OUR SURVIVAL. We do not need financial support. We need vocal support. We do not need volunteerism. We need activism. We need you more now than ever. Please take the time to read this issue of the *Metropolitan News* either online or hardcopy. We want your feedback. We need your help.

Please email (metdent@rcn.com) or tweet (@drjefflo) the Editor with your comments. Thank you.

DentistView: Commentary from Your Editor-in-Chief

L. Jeffrey Lowenstein, DMD

I hope you read the July-August Edition of the *MDS Connection* newsletter that arrived in your mailbox the week of July 14th. The lead story on page one surrounded the controversy of redistricting, "Redistricting Issue Takes Center Stage at MDS 2009 House of Delegates." The article which was a summary of the May 15th meeting held at the Burlington Marriott states that approximately 160 MDS member delegates attended the meeting, but only 118 member delegates voted on the crucial resolution to take away the right of district membership from YOU the MDS member. The resolution was passed by a miniscule margin that required a recount following misinformation and confusion. My question is not directed to the total mishandling of the vote, but where were the approximately 42 members that DIDN'T VOTE? I can report to you that YOUR Metropolitan District member fought loud and hard to protect your rights within the MDS, but where were the other 42 members from the other districts to protect the rights of their members?

The Metropolitan District Newsletter is about to undergo a lot of changes in order to take its place in the new world order of the information smorgasbord that you are presented on a daily basis. We will continue to publish a hard copy of The Metropolitan District Newsletter, but we will also publish an electronic edition of the newsletter that will be sent to your email address when new information is available. You will then have the opportunity to choose which way you would like to receive your Dental Society information: email or regular mail.

As we go into the 2009-2010 dental year, I invite all members who would like to publish a column, cartoon, editorial, letter to the editor, dental pearl, product review, dental technique, or other dentally related material to do so. Send photos, video, recordings, and anything you like that you would like to share with the membership. It is only through our combined efforts that we will be able to create an environment of innovation and teamwork. Thank you.