

## YOUR YANKEE DENTAL CONGRESS

AS WE WRITE THIS, ANOTHER YANKEE DENTAL CONGRESS (YDC) HAS SUCCESSFULLY ENDED. Attendance was up. Innovations were tried and were mostly successful. Exhibitors were, in general, happy. Most importantly, dental professionals received a complete and well-rounded continuing education program.

Every year, a large core of volunteers devotes a substantial amount of personal and professional time to make sure YDC continues to improve. Special attention is paid to attendees' comments and criticisms in order to help Yankee best meet the needs of our members. Many of these suggestions are implemented. Every aspect of the meeting, new and old, is reassessed annually. New ideas are always welcomed.

YDC planners try to program a wide variety of interesting courses for dentists and staff. With good planning, a dental professional can complete all of the yearly BORID-required CE courses at this one conference. This not only saves valuable time, but is a very cost-effective way to fulfill your requirements. The Yankee Program Committees try to schedule courses that cover a wide spectrum of offerings, from practical hands-on programs to innovative and new research that has not yet been made available to practitioners. The best speakers available are invited to teach at YDC as speaker costs continue to increase and legislation limits the parameters that former course sponsors are allowed to underwrite some or all costs, especially to Massachusetts licensees.

There are always complaints about course tuitions. There is no simple, practical, fair way to bring you the high level of education that YDC offers without charging an extremely nominal fee for a number of offerings. Free courses are offered, and the committees—made up of members just like us—try to increase this number yearly, but are not able to do so in all areas of interest.

A conference is only as good as the volunteers who help to make it happen. The dentists, hygienists, and assistants who work at Yankee give of their time, their expertise, and their ideas. It may seem that you often see the same faces in the same volunteer locations. Thankfully, you do. Without this large cadre of dedicated members, some of whom have feet so cold that they're numb, the meeting wouldn't function.

As many volunteers as possible—those who are seen on the conference floor and those who work for two years to bring each Yankee to life—are needed in order to keep YDC vibrant and fresh. Constructive change comes most efficiently from within, so if you see areas where improvements are needed, make a constructive suggestion to a committee chair or your district trustee, and then volunteer and help make the entire experience better for everyone.

The Yankee Dental Congress is the work of humans. We are not a perfect species. The meeting that comes to you is the combined effort of a superb, committed professional staff, an ever-changing core of volunteer leaders, and you, the member attendees who recognize that despite its occasional blemish, YDC offers a superb core program and set of ancillary events to improve our professional and personal lives.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the JOURNAL, which, in addition to our regular features, covers a wide range of knowledge philosophies and generations in dentistry. We salute the newest among us ("Ten Under 10," page 28), while also initiating the launch of a new series of feature articles

recognizing the modern pioneers who laid the foundation for our profession ("A Leader in Prosthodontic Education: An Interview with David J. Baraban," page 16). ■



*David B. Becker*  
*Arthur I. Schwartz*

## JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DENTAL SOCIETY

EDITOR

David B. Becker, DMD

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Arthur I. Schwartz, DMD

EDITOR EMERITUS

Norman Becker, DDS

MANAGING EDITOR OF PUBLICATIONS AND WEB SITE

Melissa Carman

MANAGER, GRAPHIC DESIGN

Jeanne M. Burdette

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Shelley Padgett

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Bruce Donoff, DMD, MD

Robert Faiella, DMD

Russell Giordano, DMD

Shepard Goldstein, DMD

Stephen McKenna, DMD

John McManama, DDS

Noshir Mehta, DMD

Charles Millstein, DMD

Philip Millstein, DMD

Maria Papageorge, DMD

Michael Sheff, DMD

Steven Tonelli, DMD

Copyright © 2010 Massachusetts Dental Society  
issn: 0025-4800

The JOURNAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DENTAL SOCIETY [usps 284-680] is owned and published quarterly by the Massachusetts Dental Society, Two Willow Street, Suite 200, Southborough, MA 01745-1027. Subscription for nonmembers is \$15 a year in the United States. Periodicals postage paid at Southborough, MA, and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society, Two Willow Street, Suite 200, Southborough, MA 01745.

Contributions: Contact the Communications Department, or visit [www.massdental.org](http://www.massdental.org) for author's guidelines.

Display ad closing dates: February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1. For more information, contact Rachel Marks, Exhibits Coordinator, at (508) 480-9797, ext. 259, or email [rmarks@massdental.org](mailto:rmarks@massdental.org).

Member Publication  
American Association  
of Dental Editors

