

Suffolk Dental

Suffolk County DENTAL SOCIETY

The Official Publication of the Suffolk County Dental Society

Bulletin

Volume 54 - Number 4 Winter 2025

Compliance Day 2025 A great event for Dentists, Staff and SCDS































Our upcoming events are on page 3. The <u>website</u> (www.suffolkdental.org), our emails and our social sites are great resources to stay up to date.

NYSDA Members

SAVE 5%

with New York's leading dental professional liability insurance.

NYSDA members enjoy a 5% Premium Discount through MLMIC's new premium pricing plan. A plan that offers Dentists and Oral Surgeons affordable pricing, specifically tailored to their particular practice characteristics. Coverage you can trust along with concierge-level service and exclusive New York-focused extras.

MLMIC Insureds can take advantage of multiple discounts:

- 5% NYSDA Member Discount
- 10% savings when you complete a NYSDA approved Risk Management program
- 50% savings for dentists who limit their practice of dentistry to 20 hours a week or less
- 3% premium credit for prompt payment of the full annual premium within 30 days of receipt of the invoice
- 5% premium reduction when you waive your consent to settle a claim



You may also visit MLMIC.com/dentists or e-mail dental@mlmic.com.





FLAT RATE FIRST-YEAR PREMIUM FOR NEW GRADS

(with additional discounts for up to four years)

MLMIC is the only dental professional liability



Suffolk County Dental Society

150 Motor Parkway, Suite 123, Hauppauge, NY 11788 Tel.: 631-232-1400

e-mail: contact@suffoldental.org website: www.suffolkdental.org

Paul R. Leary, DMD Editor

Bill Panzarino

Executive Director & Managing Editor

Carol Deerwester

Executive Assistant & Assistant Editor

Officers of the Society, 2025

William Bast, DMD, President Natalia Elson, DDS, President-Elect Devin J. Klein, DDS, MS, Vice-President Steven Feigelson, DDS, Treasurer

The Suffolk Dental Bulletin is the official publication of the Suffolk County Dental Society. It is published four times a year: Spring (March), Summer (June), Fall (September), Winter (December) by the Suffolk County Dental Society, 150 Motor Parkway, Suite 123, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

Periodical Postage rates at Central Islip Post Office. Subscription rates in the U.S. included in member dues and \$75. per year for non-members.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Suffolk County Dental Society 150 Motor Parkway, Suite 123 Hauppauge, NY 11788

Neither the Society nor the Bulletin staff will be responsible for any opinions or statements which are published over the signature or initials of an author. Acceptance of advertising in the Suffolk Dental Bulletin does not constitute an endorsement by the Suffolk County Dental Society. The Editor and Publications Committee reserve the right to reject any copy, and as a matter of policy adhere to the advertising policies of the American Dental Association.

Direct all communications to:

Paul R. Leary, DMD Suffolk Dental Bulletin 150 Motor Parkway, Suite 123 Hauppauge, NY 11788

Editor

Members, American Association of Dental Editors

Please submit material for publication <u>electronically</u> accompanied by double-spaced written copy six weeks prior to the month of publication.

<u>Advertising rates</u> and other information can be found on <u>SuffolkDental.Org</u>, inquiries should be directed to the Suffolk County Dental Society, (631) 232-1400, or via e-mail to <u>Contact@SuffolkDental.Org</u>.

Date	SCDS Event		
12/30/2025	LAST DAY TO SAVE 25% on the 2026 Seminar Series!		
1/25/2026	SCDS Officer Installation - Sponsorship Information		
1/25/2026	SCDS Officer Installation - Here's your invite!		
2/9/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
2/11/2026	General Membership Meeting - ZOOM		
3/9/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
3/25/2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - What's New?		
4/13/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
4/18/2026	Give Kids a Smile - Sponsorship Information		
4/26-	GLIDM - The Greater Long Island Dental Meeting - Two-		
27/2026	Day Event! a - All Sponsorship Information b -		
	Exclusive Sponsorships Information		
5/11/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
5/13/2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - Explanations Not		
	Excuses: Using Imaging and Artificial Intelligence for		
	Better Outcomes and Communication - Kyle L. Reeves,		
	DDS		
5/20/2026	General Membership Meeting - New Location -		
	Commack Hamlet Golf and Country Club		
6/17/2026	Golf Outing - Willow Creek Golf and CC Golfer and		
	<u>Sponsor Information Here!</u>		
9/14/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
9/16/2026	General Membership Meeting - ZOOM		
9/23/2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - The role of the dental		
	professional in the detection and management of		
	pediatric sleep-disordered breathing - Michael K.		
	<u>DeLuke, DDS, MDS</u>		
10/19/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
10/21/2026	Seminar Series 2026 7CE Event - Dr. Andrew Burke -		
	Digital Dentistry Planning Workflow: From Planning to		
	Optimal Outcome		
11/4/2026	SPECIAL ALL DAY - BLOCKBUSTER LECTURE - SPACE IS		
	LIMITED		
11/16/2026	Board of Directors Meeting		
11/18/2026	General Membership Meeting - New Location -		
	Commack Hamlet Golf and Country Club		
12/2/2026	COMPLIANCE DAY 2026		

More details and events can be found on the back cover and within the bulletin.

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, patronage and patience are appreciated as always.

Please send any comments to Contact@SuffolkDental.Org.

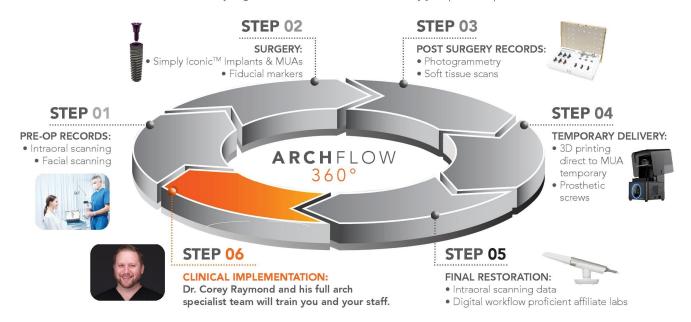
"Implant Direct is your one stop dental solutions company"

IMPLANT DIRECT IS YOUR ONE STOP DENTAL SOLUTIONS COMPANY



STREAMLINE YOUR FULL-ARCH WORKFLOW!

Transform your practice with our full-arch digital workflow. Increased predictability and decreased chair timehelp close more cases, leading to higher patient satisfaction. Become the digital arch practice in your area and handle more arches efficiently. Digital workflow will revolutionize the way your practice operates.





Contact Steve Swalgen at (516) 246-4074 or email at steve.swalgen@envistaco.com



A Message from Your President

As I finish my term as President of the Suffolk County Dental Society, I want to express my deepest appreciation to each of you. Serving this organization and working alongside such passionate, talented colleagues has been an honor I will always cherish.



Thank you for your unwavering support throughout this year—and for your commitment to ongoing change and growth. Our profession is evolving faster than ever, and we have embraced that challenge with remarkable dedication.

I especially want to acknowledge how adaptable our members have been as new technologies continue to transform dentistry. From digital workflows and integrated software platforms to virtual engagement, you have demonstrated not only openness but genuine enthusiasm for the future of our field.

I am equally grateful for our commitment to expanding our membership and welcoming the next generation of dentists. Our efforts to include and mentor younger colleagues ensure that this society remains vibrant, relevant, and strong. Thank you for continuing to build a community that offers support, professionalism, and meaningful connection for all its members. I want to especially thank Bill Panzarino and Carol Deerwester for their unwavering commitment to our society and its growth.

The Importance of Organized Dentistry — Advocacy & Collective Strength

As many of you have surely seen, the ADA and other national dental organizations recently joined in urging Congress to adopt — in the upcoming 2026 fiscal-year Labor/Health & Human Services (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill — significantly higher funding levels for federal oral health programs.

This joint appeal highlights several critical priorities that impact all of us:

- Protecting and strengthening public-health and disease-prevention initiatives, such as community water fluoridation and oral disease prevention programs through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Oral Health.
- Supporting workforce development and training programs that help address staffing shortages, especially in underserved areas including programs under the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). These programs reach large numbers of patients who might otherwise lack access to care.

Sustaining and growing funding for dental research, public health, and care programs — including for vulnerable populations such as those living with HIV.

This kind of advocacy illustrates why organized dentistry matters: individually, our voices are limited — but together, through our local society, our state, and national bodies like the ADA, we become a powerful force.

Because of collective action, we can influence policy and funding decisions that directly shape the future of oral healthcare, patient access, and the viability of our profession.

As incoming steps evolve — whether in funding, public-health initiatives, or workforce support — our organized voice ensures that the needs of dentists and patients are heard and addressed.

Patient Expectations and Care Delivery

As we look ahead, we must also recognize the rapid shift in how patients view and access dental care. To-day's patients increasingly expect convenience, personalized attention, and modern digital communication options — including virtual consultations and streamlined online interactions.

To meet these expectations, dental practices must continue adopting digital tools and expanding communication channels. Doing so will not only improve patient engagement but also strengthen satisfaction and loyalty in an increasingly competitive healthcare environment

Addressing these challenges requires coordinated effort — policy changes, investment in technology, and, importantly, a renewed focus on the well-being of our dental workforce. By embracing these priorities, our profession will be better equipped to provide exceptional care and build a sustainable future for dentistry.

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege of leading this outstanding Suffolk County Dental Society. I look forward to supporting our continued growth, innovation, and commitment to excellence in the years ahead. It has been a true honor to serve you.

Best regards,

Bill Bast - President Suffolk County Dental Society

We put more teeth into our legal services



Let us put a smile on your face

We advise, assist and protect dentists with the intricacies of starting, running and transitioning their professional practices.

- Buying, selling or expanding your practice
- Compliance
- DSOs
- Hiring & employment
- Succession & estate planning
- Tax, contract & other business issues

Eric J. Ploumis, DMD, Esq. Benjamin P. Malerba, Esq. Joel M. Greenberg, Esq. Douglas E. Menikheim, Esq. Sean N. Simensky, Esq. Dylan Mruczinski, Esq.

For more information call: **(516) 357-3000**



DRIVEN TO DELIVER®

NEW YORK | NEW JERSEY | FLORIDA

rivkinradler.com



HRforHealth.com

All the perks, none of the stress

Say bye to HR headaches for good.

HR for Health helps you manage and retain your team with our integrated cloud-based platform. Our all-in-one solution features payroll processing, 401(k), timeclock, compliance tools, online documentation, & more.



Automated Payroll



Automated Compliance Features and Employee Handbook



Seamless Time Clock Integration



401k Retirement
Planning and
Outsourced HR Advisor

The 5 Most Common HR Compliance Gaps

Compliance Gap #1

No established process for recruiting, hiring and onboarding

Compliance Gap #2

Missing or outdated employee handbook Compliance Gap #3

Wage, Hour, & Overtime Noncompliance Compliance Gap #4

Having time off policies & procedures that carry risk

Compliance Gap #5

At-will conspiracy

HR Hotline

Whether it's office romances, repeated late arrival offenders, or just burning HR questions that keep you up at night, our team is here to help - no commitment, just expert advice.

Try it today!



2025 is just about done, but 2026...

There were some great things this year for the Suffolk County Dental Society. In recent memory I can think of Tacos and Teeth, and Compliance Day. These were things all our member dentists could leverage either at no charge, or half price of what a non-member would pay. There was our golf

outing, our seminar series, our shredding event and countless engagements with the Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine. We are indeed blessed with a great relationship with the School, its leadership and the students. Which brings to mind our Give Kids a Smile event so well supported by the school, and other community events like Central Islip Kindergarten welcome and the LI Ducks screening event. Our leadership is wonderful, that is a group of individuals you should consider joining in 2026! These are just some of the fine things that come to mind. As I think about 2026. I truly hope to win back some Member Dentists who did not renew their ADA membership in 2025. This was indeed disappointing, because this means fewer individuals to take advantage of our services and the member benefits offered by the American Dental Association, the New York



State Dental Association, and the Suffolk County Dental Society. We will double are efforts on this in 2026. In truth there were some system issues that prevented us from doing things that had previously underpinned our success in this area. Having been at this for 8 years now, we know there is no substitute for members advocating membership with their peers. We'll continuing to be stronger together in 2026. We need each of you. Consider joining a committee, and/or our board of directors. Renew or grow your passion and impact around the profession. We are ready for you!

Bill Panzarino - Executive Director SCDS

Guess who's coming to Suffolk!

Here are some hints...

- World Renowned
- Founder of Digital Smile Design
- Internationally Recognized Leader
- Highly Coveted Lecturer from Sao Paulo, Brazil

SAVE THE DATE - November 4, 2026

An all day lecture (9am-4pm), Breakfast, Lunch and a rare opportunity to engage with this speaker. Space is limited. Can't wait to know more - 631-232-1400

Dental Office for Sale - Dental office in Eastern Suffolk for sale, has five operatories, established since 1984, very busy, fifty percent state funded insurance like Fidelis, Health First, HealthPlex, and fifty percent ppo and private patients, grossing \$750k, with fifty percent overhead. Asking \$300k, willing to finance. For further information call 631-786-2321

Office for Rent in Smithtown - Newly renovated, beautiful dental office with 2 operatories available for rent on a busy main street. Available part-time. Dental Specialists only. Contact: teethmaker9@gmail.com or call 631-371-3432

Dental Practice for Sale - This Greater Hamptons Region general dental practice features 4 ops (with room for a 5th), collections of \$1.685M, EBITDA of \$340,000, and a fully fee for service model. With 915 active patients, strong demand, and recent remodeling plus real estate available, this is a rare opportunity in a highly desirable South Fork community. Interested? Email bailey@professionaltransition.com or call 719.694.8320. Reference #NY112025.

Associate Dentist Needed - Large multi-specialty group practice is experiencing significant growth and therefore looking for top-notch Associate Dentists in Riverhead, Jamesport, Medford, Garden City, Valley Stream, Hicksville, and Amityville. Qualifications and Skills: DDS/DMD from an accredited University and an active State Dental Board license. A personable chairside manner. Earning potential of \$300K+ annual income, Full-time employees also enjoy healthcare benefits, continuing education courses, a company-sponsored 401(k), and malpractice reimbursement. Reach out to chris@thesmilist.com today!

Associate Needed for Single Doctor Family Practice-Farmingdale - We are looking for an associate for 3-4 days a week for our family practice that has been in the area for over 30 years. We are a general dentistry PPO office located in Farmingdale. We are looking for a dentist with minimum 4 years experience. The candidate should be motivated, patient oriented with the ability to treatment plan ideally and provide comprehensive care. We have an experienced team and a collaborative work environment. Your success is our success! Please send CV to associateposition640@gmail.com

Experienced General Dentist – I am a General Dentist, proficient in all phases of dentistry, seeking a P/T position in Suffolk County, available Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Please contact drjoelheller@gmail.com

Office Space for Rent – Syosset – Excellent opportunity for a dental specialist. Fully equipped operatories available for rent and conveniently located near the train station. Operatories available part-time or full-time. Contact – 516-921-7444

For Sale - Pro-Dentec Pro-Select 3 Piezo Scaler. Includes: Foot Control, 2 cables, Power cord, 4 Scaler handpieces, 7 tips, 2 wrenches, solution bottles, Works Great! \$1750.00. John 934-204-4403

Suites for Rent – Unique Opportunity – fully equipped suites for rent within multi-doctor office. Digital X-rays, CadCam Scanner, etc. Close to Smith Haven Mall/Stony Brook. Work independent and be your own boss with mentoring and support available. Start your path to financial success and enter private practice without a huge building loan. For more details, please text your name, number, and a brief personal info summary to 631-240-3205

Dental Office For Sale – Large, modern, great signage in Professional building. Busy road, Stony Brook near the Smith Haven Mall. 4 Ops, 5th plumbed. New chairs, compressor, computers, digital X-rays and TVs in each op. Doctor retiring – small practice now but easily increase to 1M+ again. Includes Trios Scanner and PlanMill Cad/Cam. Merge your existing practice or grow this practice easily with minimal investment. Turnkey. REDUCED price: asking \$175K + take over lease. Text 631-827-7188 for more information

Looking for Office Manager - Looking for a new office manager to join our dedicated and hardworking team in a FFS, relationship-based GP office in South Amityville. Current office manager looking to retire soon. Experience with Dentrix, billing and treatment/schedule coordinating required. Hours would be 7 am - 6:30 pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and every other Saturday 7 am - 2 pm. Please contact Scott Levitz at 203-506-4835 or scott.levitz.dds@gmail.com for more information.

Part-time Position - The Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine seeks part-time Clinical Assistant Professor in General Dentistry to teach and provide patient care at LISVH Home. Apply: https://

apptrkr.com/6553463

Dental Office Coverage Available - Vacation and illness coverage. Keep your office open confidently in a legally compliant manner. Contact Dr. Laurence Schwartz at 516-982-8948

or LSchwartzDDSPC@gmail.com

Why Membership in Organized Dentistry Still Matters

In a rapidly changing healthcare environment, maintaining active membership in

organized dentistry – through the ADA, NYSDA, and our own Suffolk County Dental Society – remains one of the most valuable commitments a dentist can make. Membership is far more than a yearly renewal; it is an investment in your practice, your identity as a professional, and the strength of our dental community.

Organized dentistry provides a unified voice advocating for our profession on legislative, regulatory, and insurance issues that directly impact daily practice. By representing a majority of dentists, we are able to influence policy changes to protect and support both dentists patients and the we Membership also provides access to an array of essential resources: practice-management guidance, legal and compliance support, peer review systems, and tools that help simplify and reduce the cost of practicing modern dentistry.

Continuing education remains a cornerstone of professional growth. Suffolk County Dental Society is proud to offer members 10+ free CE hours every year along, with the opportunity to hear world renowned speakers at highly reasonable prices without leaving Suffolk! These programs ensure that staying current with clinical standards is convenient and affordable. Beyond education, membership fosters a sense of community and connection

that is invaluable in a profession that can often feel isolating. Through county and even state involvement, dentists find mentorship, camaraderie, and a network of colleagues who understand the unique challenges of our field.

Finally, the financial value of membership cannot be overlooked. Discounts on supplies, insurance products, and endorsed services, if taken advantage of, frequently offset the cost of dues. This means your membership is a practical business decision!

Being part of SCDS and the rest of the tripartite, means supporting an organization that works every day to strengthen our profession. As we enter the renewal season, I urge you to renew (of course), but to make it your goal in 2026 to utilize as many of the benefits as possible. If you want to get more involved or hear about how to use these benefits, please email myself, any member of the board, or the amazing Bill Panzarino. Your membership matters and so does the Suffolk County Dental Society.

Look out for the next membership spotlight in our Spring bulletin! If you wish to be featured, or know someone great who should, email me.

Hailey Taylor, DDS

Membership Chair SCDS

We welcome the following new members to the Suffolk County Dental Society

Elected between October and December 2025

New Member

Ashleigh Alex, DDS

Transferred In

Madelyn Cohen, DDS Min Gyu Kwak, DDS

Welcome Back

Jennifer Mackey, DDS Sarah Metri, DDS

Residents/Grad Students

Judy Chen, DDS Khyri Saunders, DDS



LAURENCE E. SCHWARTZ, DDS, PC

DENTAL OFFICE COVERAGE **DENTAL CONSULTANT**

Phone

516-982-8948

Email LSchwartzDDSPC@gmail.com



I PROVIDE DENTAL OFFICE COVERAGE KEEP YOUR OFFICE OPEN LEGALLY

> Laurence E. Schwartz, DDS, PC Phone: 516-982-8948

Email: LSchwartzDDSPC@gmail.com



NEWFIELD LAW GROUP P.C.



LONG TERM DISABILITY AND LONG TERM CARE **INSURANCE MATTERS**

For more than two decades, Jason A. Newfield has represented claimants whose long-term disability claims and long-term care insurance claims have been wrongfully denied. We represent individuals before filing claims. during the claim process, for appeals, and in litigation.

Our Services:

- ✓ LONG TERM DISABILITY CLAIMS ✓ DISABILITY INSURANCE LITIGATION
- ERISA DISABILITY CLAIMS
- ✓ LONG TERM CARE CLAIMS AND

LEARN MORE

Contact Us (631) 270-5090

- Website

www.newfieldlawgroup.com

Transition on your Terms with DDS match



DDS match.com

Services We Offer:

Practice Sales

Mergers

Partnerships

Associate Placements

Transition Planning

Practice Valuations

Professional Guidance & Proven Processes

Michele Gabriel DDSmatch NYC & Long Island

Direct: 862.409.9925

mgabriel@ddsmatch.com

\$1,000 credit towards your Practice Valuation for all SCDS members

It's not too early to start a conversation. Call today to schedule your complimentary, confidential call.

SCDS 2026 Seminar Series – Buy the series of four before 12/31/2025 and Save 25% - CALL 631-232-1400 to book!

A rare opportunity to see four renowned speakers close to home, with free, easy parking and breakfast and lunch provided! Each course awards 7mce.

- I. <u>March 25, 2026 9am-4pm</u> <u>What's New? Materials and Tech that Expedite Excellence</u> Joshua Austin, DDS, MAGD
- II. May 13, 2026 9am-4pm Explanations Not Excuses: Using Imaging and Artificial Intelligence for Better Outcomes and Communication Kyle L. Reeves, DDS
- III. September 23, 2026 9am-4pm The role of the dental professional in the detection and management of pediatric sleep-disordered breathing Michael K. DeLuke, DDS, MDS
- IV. October 21, 2026 9am-4pm Andrew Burke Digital Dentistry Planning Workflow: From Planning to Optimal Outcome Andrew Burke, DDS

Each Course 7CE, \$300 ADA Members, \$600 Non-Members, Staff \$125, Resident Members \$75. Save 25% when you buy all four in 2025.

ADA C·E·R·P® | 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.



Suffolk County Dental Society Approved PACE Program Provider for FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority or AGD endorsement. 12/18/2025 to 12/17/2029 Provider ID# 219113



2026 President's Gala & Officers' Installation



Join us as we honor Dr. Natalia Elson as our 2026 President as well as our incoming line officers:

Dr. Devin Klein - President-Elect, Dr. Steven Feigelson - Treasurer

Additionally, we will be honoring **Dr. Claudia Mahon-Vazquez** and **Dr. Ivan Vazquez**, the recipients of the Dr. Robert Raskin Meritorious Service award.

Sunday January 25, 2026

Watermill Caterers

711 Smithtown Bypass Smithtown, NY 11787

11am-Noon

Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres

Noon-3pm

Full Buffet

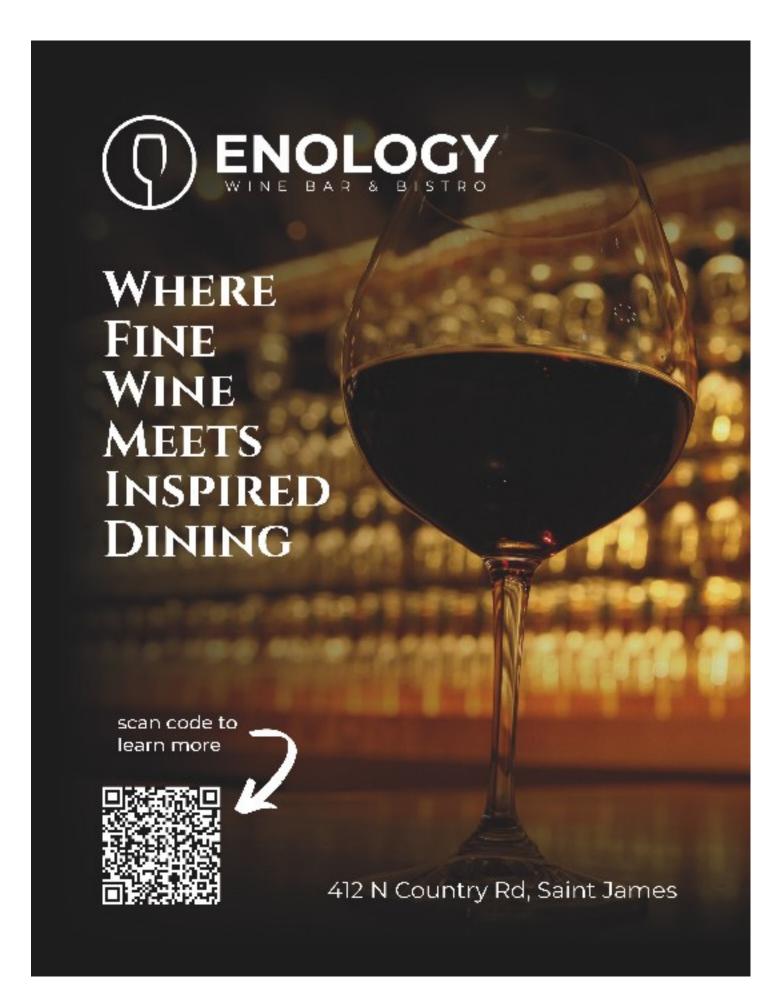
Awards and Presentations

Dancing to the Sounds of After-Hours Entertainment
Our Traditional Port and Cigars Celebration
(Business Casual)

Please join us as we celebrate these outstanding leaders!

SCAN QR Code, Click or Call 631-232-1400





Peer Review: A Key Member Benefit

In dentistry, trust is everything. Our patients place their confidence in us not only because of our skills and training, but because they know we hold ourselves to high eth-



ical and professional standards. One of the most meaningful ways those standards are upheld within organized dentistry is through Peer Review, which is a process that benefits both dentists and our patients. Yet many dentists don't fully realize just how significant this benefit is, or that participation is contingent on being a member of organized dentistry.

For many reasons, being a tripartite member is important. But Peer Review stands out as one of the most valuable, practical, yet often misunderstood benefits of membership.

What is Peer Review?

Peer Review is a structured, confidential, and unbiased process for resolving disputes between patients and dentists. These disputes often involve questions about quality of care or the appropriateness of treatment. Instead of escalating to attorneys, insurance companies, or regulatory bodies, like the Office of Professional Discipline (OPD), Peer Review offers a fair and professional way to evaluate concerns and work toward a solution.

The process is carried out by trained volunteer dentists, made up of your colleagues from the Suffolk County Dental Society, who review records, examine cases, and offer an objective opinion based on accepted standards of care. The goal isn't punishment, blame, or embarrassment; it's clarity, fairness, and professionalism. Peer Review aims to resolve disagreements efficiently and respectfully, while helping both patients and dentists reach closure without there being any public records of the proceedings. Most disputes are resolved through mediation, which is the first stage of conflict resolution. If mediation is not satisfactory to either or both parties, it will go to a hearing made up of a panel of three general dentists or specialists. The dentists will review all information provided and examine the patient. Once a decision is made, the results are binding, and the dentist is provided with immunity from litigation or further actions taken by the patient.

Peer Review works. It resolves the vast majority of cases, restores trust, and helps avoid far more stressful and costly alternatives.

Why is Peer Review Such an Important Member Benefit?

For patients, Peer Review helps ensure that their concerns are heard and taken seriously. For dentists, it provides a protective structure that is both impartial and grounded in our profession's values. It is one of the clearest examples of organized dentistry working exactly as it should by supporting both public confidence and professional integrity.

Peer Review only exists because of the tripartite system.

Patients are eligible for Peer Review only when they see a member dentist. When you renew or join the ADA, NYSDA, and SCDS tripartite, you're not just signing up for networking events, CE opportunities, or professional advocacy, you are gaining access to an established, respected, and effective system of dispute resolution that would be difficult for any individual dentist to replicate on their own. The best part is that the entire Peer Review process is confidential, whereas litigation and complaints against you to the OPD or other governing bodies become public record, which often remains with you throughout your career. Additionally, through Peer Review your malpractice premiums will be unaffected, whereas judgements found against you through litigation can increase your premiums by thousands of dollars.

Simply put, Peer Review is one of the clearest examples of where your membership gives you real-world protection and peace of mind.

Once again, as a dentist practicing in Suffolk County, you must be a member of the Suffolk County Dental Society to have the safety net of Peer Review available to you. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that all dentists employed at the same group practice be Peer Review eligible. This would enable the entire practice to be under the same umbrella of protection against escalation of disputes levied against an otherwise non-covered dentist.

Peer Review Makes Us Better Dentists

Perhaps one of the best-kept secrets about Peer Review is that participating in it, whether you are involved in a case or you volunteer as a reviewer, makes you a better clinician.

Serving on the Peer Review committee exposes dentists to a wide range of clinical scenarios, documentation practices, treatment philosophies, and patient expectations. You see firsthand how various treatment decisions are evaluated through an objective lens. You gain insight into communication strategies, record-keeping, and patient management. You deepen your understanding of what constitutes not just acceptable care, but *excellent* care.

And when a dentist finds themselves on the receiving end of Peer Review, it is often an opportunity to learn, recalibrate, and improve - not through shame, but through constructive evaluation. Many dentists who go through the process, regardless of the outcome, walk away with a renewed focus on documentation, case presentation, and patient communication.

[Continued from page 13]

Participating in Peer Review - whether as a volunteer or as someone seeking resolution -ultimately helps elevate the profession as a whole.

An Invitation to Get Involved

The Peer Review system depends entirely on dentists who care about maintaining high standards and supporting their colleagues. Becoming a Peer Review committee member is both rewarding and professionally enriching. It gives you a chance to contribute to the integrity of our profession while developing skills that inevitably carry over to your own practice.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to give back, deepen your expertise, or simply to connect more with your Suffolk County dental community, Peer Review is a great place to start. The Suffolk County Dental Society welcomes interested members to learn more about the training and the responsibilities involved.

You don't have to be at a certain stage of your career, and you don't need any special qualifications beyond commitment and professionalism. What matters most is your desire to support your colleagues, your community, and the standards that guide our profession.

A Program Worth Supporting

As dentists, we join organized dentistry for many reasons: advocacy, education, community, resources, practice support, and professional growth. But Peer Review remains one of the clearest examples of the value of being part of something larger than ourselves.

It protects us.

It supports our patients.

It strengthens the public's trust in our profession. And it stands as a reminder that dentistry is not just a collection of individual practices, but a unified profession committed to ethics, fairness, and high-quality care.

So if you haven't thought much about Peer Review, now is a wonderful time to appreciate its importance. You may currently be faced with the decision as to whether you can afford to join or renew your membership within the Suffolk County Dental Society. When it comes to Peer Review, the question is: can you afford not to?

Dr. Feigelson is Chair of the SCDS Council on Peer Review and Quality Assurance as well as SCDS Treasurer. For more information about Peer Review, or getting involved, you can contact the SCDS at: Contact@SuffolkDental.Org.

SCDS Calendar



The Suffolk County Dental Society is run by a Board of Directors. Nominations are accepted to join the Board of Directors throughout the year. We encourage members to actively participate to help steer the profession. Your energy and enthusiasm can really make a difference! Scan this QR code or have a look on member's center of our website in Nomination Forms for more detail. It's easy! If you have any questions please email at

us <u>Contact@SuffolkDental.Org</u> or call us at 631-232-1400.

I'm organizing an informal group for retired dentists. It will be purely social, to have lunch and socialize with old (I use that word advisedly) friends and colleagues.

We'll meet at a restaurant that will be centrally located and the frequency we'll determine at the first gathering. There will be no dues. We'll just pay in cash when we arrive at the restaurant. The amount will be determined when I have secured a location and find out what the all inclusive cost will be. It is estimated that it will be \$35-40. That will include salad, entrée, dessert, soda or wine and gratuity.

If you're interested please email me at the following email address: retired@drjay.com. Include your name, where you live or practiced and your email address. As soon as this appears to be viable I will let you know.

Thanks for your interest — Jay Orlikoff, DDS

New Dentist Corner with Dr. Devin Klein

 ${f A}$ s the weather starts to get colder, attendance at our New Dentist Committee events is heating up! On September 14th, we had a very informative lecture on



radiological advancements in our field by Dr. Eric Mastanduono. The Riverhead Cider House was a great venue to kick off the Fall season! I would like to thank our sponsors TargetRock Wealth Straumann and MLMIC for making this event possible. More recently, we had a continuing education event in our new Media Center at 150 on Endodontic Management of the Pediatric Patient. This event was completely sold out!

Management, Bank of America Practice Solutions, Motor Parkway. Dr. Alexander Sanchez presented

Taco Island provided Mexican fare in what turned out to be a great event! Once again, our sponsors (TargetRock Wealth Management, Bank of America Practice Solutions, Straumann and MLMIC) made this fine event possible!

Our New Dentist Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to plan our events for 2026. I would love to continue the attendance and engagement at our future events! If you have suggestions for future CE topics, we would love to hear about them! Wishing everyone a happy, healthy holiday season and New Year!

Devin Klein, DDS, MS SCDS New Dentist Chair and Vice-President SCDS





Check out upcoming events, - simply scan the QR Code!

NOT **MISS THIS EVENT**





Custom Configurations

- 13ft x 5ft LED Screen & Four 75in Screens
- Hands-On Experience
- Accommodates 40 Guests
- Live Surgery from Adjacent ORs

Interested in a tour or hosting an event?

CONTACT US today!

TEXT (631) 804-8048

destinationdentalusa.com drpierri@destinationdentalusa.com 400 Townline Rd, Suite 135 Hauppauge, NY 11788

DESTINATIONDENTAL





Representing dental practices in the areas of:

- **Dental Practice Transitions**
- Office Leasing
- **Estate and Tax Planning**
- Retirement Plan Design & Administration

Offices on Long Island and in Westchester County

Contact: Gary S. Sastow, Esq. by phone: (914) 948-1556 or email: gsastow@dmlawyers.com

Visit our website at danzigermarkhoff.com



Tenth Letter from the ADA Second District Trustee to the NYSDA Components Trustee's Corner

Holiday Greetings to my fellow New York State colleagues. My best to you and your families for a safe and Happy Holiday season and a wonderful New Year. At the time of writing for this Trustee's Corner, I am just beginning my fourth and last year as your trustee of the second district. As I have mentioned before, it has been a labor of love, and I have completely enjoyed representing New York at the national level. It should be an exciting and interesting year for the American Dental Association and our profession.

The ADA House of Delegates completed its deliberations at the end of October. Many difficult decisions were made, including an annual dues increase of \$57 dollars from \$570 dollars to \$627. It was a tough process, but the House felt this would help the ADA with the operating budget deficit. The ADA Board of Trustees will have already met in late November to discuss this issue and others by the time you read this article. The House of Delegates also decided to sunset the Strategic Forecasting Committee, which had only been in existence for two years.

I would like to take a moment of personal privilege and thank the ADA second district of New York delegates and alternate delegates for their careful deliberations and thoughtful consensus building on the important decisions made at the ADA House of Delegates. It was impressive to see the personal voices and opinions on all the resolutions which each New York representative worked on. We are a delegation that encourages open debate and personal choices. Our delegation takes pride in having strong voices and opinions which can be shared and expanded upon during any time in our deliberations. As always, we vote individually and with our conscience. This means we work together as a group and vote what we each think is best for the ADA. The trust factor is critically important when we rely on each other to complete the business of the House of Delegates.

I would like to share some good news about our account management system, Fonteva. It has proceeded much more effectively than the failed attempt from last year. The renewals and new member applications for 2026 have gone very well thus far, including New York. Couple that with the events manager scheduling working well in the states and components that use this function and we have a much-improved picture compared to the end of 2024 and the beginning of 2025. With the success of the AMS system, it will be time this coming spring to begin to implement Salesforce, which is the customer relation management (CRM) portion of our system. This is the first in class CRM that is used by many Fortune 500 companies and many other international companies. The ADA looks forward to providing personalized, detailed communication and interaction with our members that is specific for individual members interest and professional needs.

The 2025 ADA House of Delegates voted to continue to support the ADA's membership in the Federation Dentaire Internationale (FDI). As a fourth-year member of this delegation, I personally feel this is a critical portion of ADA international leadership. The rest of the world looks to the ADA on policy, innovation and evidence-based science. It is our connection to the World Health Organization and the United Nations General Assembly. Improved communication on this issue needs to happen with our members and constituent leaders. Expect to see more correspondence and updates on this very important relationship in the coming year. An annual report will also be given to the House of Delegates next fall in Indianapolis.

The ADA Executive Director Search Committee has met several times since the summer and has acquired Russell Reynolds Associates, an executive search and leadership advisory firm, to assist us in this critical matter. As incoming chairman of the ADA Compensation Committee, I was recently added to the Search Committee by ADA president Rich Rosato. An updated timeline has been completed with initial virtual interviews for prospective candidates coming in the very near future. After that, final interviews will be done in person in Chicago. The hope is to have an agreement and contract with a new Executive Director sometime in the spring.

Thank you for everything you do as a member, as a leader in your local component, as a contributor to the New York State Dental Association and/or your assistance with the ADA itself. I deeply appreciate your involvement, leadership and ideas to make our profession and tripartite organization the best it can be. As always, I can be reached via email at dowdb@ada.org or my cellphone at 716-510-3217.

With gratitude, Brendan Dowd DDS ADA Trustee, Second District





OF LONG ISLAND

Dr. Albert Granger, Dr. Ashish Sahasra, Dr. Rahul Gupta

Premier Endodontics of Long Island, the leading Endodontic
Practice in the greater New York area with 6 locations
throughout Nassau and Suffolk County. We have experienced
experts that share a commitment to provide comfort and top rate
services to all of our patients. Our goal is to achieve the best
possible outcome while ensuring the highest level of comfort
and convenience for each patient. We understand the value of
kind words and a smile. At Premier we use all available cutting
edge technology for endodontic treatment to get the best
results. You can rely on Premier Endodontics of Long Island, to
make the comfort of your patients a priority.

LOCATIONS

1103 Stewart Ave. Suite 104 Garden City, NY 11530 516-222-1822

90 Merrick Ave. Suite 202 East Meadow, NY 11554 516-794-2070

400 S. Oyster Bay Rd. Suite 301 Hicksville, NY 11801 516-217-7000

500 W. Main St. Suite 216 Babylon, NY 11702 631-314-0361

552 Broadway #2 Massapequa, N.Y. 11758 516-541-3636

44 Medford Ave Patchogue, NY 11772 631-447-6060



www.premierlongisland.com

SUFFOLK COUNTY-DATC DENTAL ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM

A very serious shortage of dental assistants currently exists in New York.

The Suffolk County Dental Society (SCDS), in conjunction with the Dental Auxiliary Training Center, is pleased to announce the **41st** year of continuation of our comprehensive dental assisting training course. To meet the demand for trained dental assistants, the Suffolk County Dental Society sponsors this course to help prepare students who have a desire to learn and work as a dental assistant. SCDS dentist members interested in interviewing DATC students register their dental assisting job openings with DATC. **The following is course information for the DATC program which will begin in March.**

FUNDAMENTALS of CHAIRSIDE DENTAL ASSISTING TRAINING COURSE

COURSE DATES: March 19, through June 25, 2026

(every Thursday evening for 15 weeks)

PLACE: St. Charles Hospital & Rehabilitation Center

200 Belle Terre Road, Port Jefferson, NY 11777

TIME: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

THE COURSE IS DESIGNED FOR:

- * Already employed dental assistants who have no formal classroom training.
- * Students who are interested in entering or re-entering the career field.
- Working dental assistants who are interested in preparing to take the DANB Exam.

This comprehensive course will provide a learning experience in the theory & background of the profession of dental assisting and provide hands-on-training in a clinical classroom setting. The course has been structured in such a way that the total time required for completion is only 15 sessions totaling 45 hours plus a 15-hour workbook study project.

The course is a total of 60 hours. TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

Dental Terminology Charting Disease Transmission
Infection Control Sterilization Operative Dentistry
Dental Specialties Anesthesia Dental Instrumentation
4-Handed Dentistry Dental Materials Radiology
Dental Office Emergencies Dental Anatomy Preventive Oral Hygiene

COURSE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE GRANTED UPON
SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF REQUIRED COURSE WORK, ATTENDANCE, & FINAL EXAM

Enrollment is limited.

TUITION: \$ 1150.00 TEXT, REG, INS, & LAB \$ 845.00

Free parking is available at St. Charles Hospital.

HOME/CELL PH (

TOTAL \$ 1995.00 Payment Plan Available (Call for details, DATC mobile 914-564-3774)

MAIL COURSE SEAT RESERVATIONS TO: DATC, 5 Old Windsor Hwy, #226, New Windsor, NY 12553 DATC Toll Free 1(888) 595-3282 Email datcinformation@gmail.com DATC Mobile (914) 564-3774 NAME SS# (last 4) DOB HOME ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP COURSE NAME Fundamentals of Chairside Assisting, #SC101-4 DENTIST EMPLOYER WORK PH (

CK #

AMT \$

Official publication of the Suffolk County Dental Society 150 Motor Parkway Suite 123 Hauppauge, NY 11788

(631) 232-1400

Email: contact@suffolkdental.org

Date	SCDS Event	Location	Time
Tuesday, December 30, 2025	LAST DAY TO SAVE 25% on the 2026 Seminar Series!	Call the office to Book This Savings.	9am-3pm
Sunday, January 25, 2026	SCDS Officer Installation - Sponsorship Information	Watermill Caterers - Smithtown NY	11am-3pm
Sunday, January 25, 2026	SCDS Officer Installation - Here's your invite!	Watermill Caterers - Smithtown NY	11am-3pm
Monday, February 9, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, February 11, 2026	General Membership Meeting - ZOOM	Zoom - General Membership Meeting	7pm - 9pm
Monday, March 9, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, March 25, 2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - What's New?	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level	9am-4pm
Monday April 13, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Saturday April 18, 2026	Give Kids a Smile - Sponsorship Information	Long Island Aquarium - Riverhead NY	10am-3pm
Sunday, April 26, 2026 - Monday April 27, 2026	GLIDM - The Greater Long Island Dental Meeting - Two- Day Event! a - All Sponsorship Information b - Exclusive Sponsorships Information	Huntington Hilton, Melville NY	All Day
Monday, May 11, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - Explanations Not Excuses: Using Imaging and Artificial Intelligence for Better Outcomes and Communication - Kyle L. Reeves, DDS	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	9am-4pm
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	General Membership Meeting - New Location - Commack Hamlet Golf and Country Club	Hamlet Golf and Country Club - 1 Clubhouse Dr, Commack, NY 11725	6pm-9pm
Wednesday, June 17, 2026	Golf Outing - Willow Creek Golf and CC Golfer and Sponsor Information Here!	Mt Sinai NY, 11766 - 11am checkin and BBQ, 11:45 Putting Contest, 12:30 Shotgun start	11am
Monday, September 14, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, September 16, 2026	General Membership Meeting - ZOOM	Zoom - General Membership Meeting	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, September 23, 2026	Seminar Series 2026 - 7CE Event - The role of the dental professional in the detection and management of pediatric sleep-disordered breathing - Michael K. DeLuke, DDS, MDS	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	9am-4pm
Monday, October 19, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, October 21, 2026	Seminar Series 2026 7CE Event - Dr. Andrew Burke - Digital Dentistry Planning Workflow: From Planning to Optimal Outcome	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge, Lower Level Media Center	9am-4pm
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	SPECIAL ALL DAY - BLOCKBUSTER LECTURE - SPACE IS LIMITED	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge, Lower Level Media Center	9am-4pm
Monday, November 16, 2026	Board of Directors Meeting	150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge Lower Level Media Center	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, November 18, 2026	General Membership Meeting - New Location - Commack Hamlet Golf and Country Club	Hamlet Golf and Country Club - 1 Clubhouse Dr, Commack, NY 11725	6pm-9pm
Wednesday, December 2, 2026	COMPLIANCE DAY 2026	SAVE THE DATE - courses will run all day and into the evening	All day and into the evening

SCAN this QR for the Website Calander and Links to registrations



Call us with any questions! 631-232-1400

Email us at Contact@SuffolkDental.Org we'll get back to you promptly!