From: Vermont State Dental Society
To: Hilary VanBenthuysen
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Vermont State Dental Society

E-Newsletter December 2014

Greetings from the VSDS headquarters. As we enter into the 2015 membership year, the dental profession is faced with both challenges and opportunities. It is our intention here at VSDS to stay ahead of the challenges, or at least to face them head on, and to keep you, as our members, informed about the opportunities. Together we are stronger than alone, so thank you for your partnership in organized dentistry.

Happy Holidays!

The VSDS Team

Regional Meetings

- Many of the Regional Meetings have already taken place, so thank you to the members who attended those (more than 23% of the VSDS membership!) There is only one meeting left to attend, the St. Johnsbury Regional Meeting, taking place on 12/8 at the Northeastern VT Regional Hospital, Rm. 126. Please note that the Bennington/Brattleboro meeting originally scheduled for 12/10 has been cancelled and a new date has not been set at this time.
- Email Hilary to RSVP for the meeting, or if you have a discussion item that you would like added to the agenda

Continuing Education

- There is a great 2015 line-up of nationally recognized speakers coming to Vermont for CE! Make sure to save these dates and sign up early!!
- **Hal Crossley 4/3/2015**
- **Gerard Chiche 5/8/2015**
- **Gordon Christensen 12/11/2015**

Dr. Judith Fisch elected to ADA Trustee

Dr. Judith Fisch, long term delegate to the ADA, and VSDS Executive Board member, was elected this fall as the First District Trustee to the ADA Board of Trustees. Vermont has not had a representative in this position for over 50 years. Dr. Fisch practices in Rutland, and will be installed as trustee at the ADA Annual Session in November of 2015. "One of the great opportunities of serving as a trustee will be collaborating with colleagues to advocate for public policies that support the most innovative clinical practices and
making sure health care reform at the state and national level includes dental health care and is done right. I'm looking forward to this important work." Dr. Fisch indicates.

Amalgam-VT Department of Environmental Conservation

1. It is time for the biennial filing of the mandatory Dental Best Management Practices Certification Form. The deadline is January 31, 2015 and forms must be submitted to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC.) The form will be available both in printed and online versions this year, however, for the 2017 filing, the form will be available online only. Please complete the form promptly and return to the VT DEC.
2. Dental Amalgam Use Survey - VT Statute 10 V.S.A.§ 7110(e) requires a survey of dental amalgam use. This survey will be conducted by the Vermont State Dental Society and a report of the results will be sent to the state to fulfill the requirements of the statute. Expect the survey in the spring of 2015.
3. In 2012, there was a change in Vermont statutes which removed the conditionally exempt generators of hazardous waste from not paying an annual registration fee. Now, all generators of hazardous waste (including amalgam) must pay the annual registration fee of $75.00. Even with an amalgam separator installed in your office, if you meet the criteria for conditionally exempt generator, then you must remit the $75 fee. see here for further details from the VT DEC.

Yankee Dental Congress 2015

Click here for more information on Yankee Dental 2015!!

Medicaid

As we are all aware many changes have taken place in the Vermont healthcare landscape over the last year, one of which is the addition of over 50,000 new adults to the Medicaid enrollment, and the implementation of the ICD-9 Dental Diagnostic codes. The VSDS wants you to know that we are working with the Department of Vermont Health Access and the State of Vermont to minimize the impact these changes will have on dentistry. For a quick reference guide of the ICD-9 codes, and other useful links, click here.

Dental Recruitment Coordinator Position

The position of Workforce Development Coordinator was previously held by Colleen Safford here at VSDS. The work that Colleen did to grow dentistry in the state was tangible, the relationships she built were strong, and the impression that she will leave is a lasting one. The VSDS was sad to see her go. We recognize that this position is an important one, and therefore we are taking the time necessary to fill it with the right candidate, and we appreciate your patience while we do so. Please forward your recruiting/practice needs in the interim to recruiter@vsds.org and we will be happy to assist in any way that we can.

Did you know that???

- You must make patient records available promptly when properly requested. VT Statutes Title 3, Chapter 5, Subchapter 3, 3 V.S.A § 129a Unprofessional Conduct. (8) Failing to make available promptly to a person using professional health care services, that person's representative, or succeeding health care professionals or institutions, upon written request and direction of the person using professional health care services, copies of that person's records in the possession or under the control of the licensed practitioner, or failing to notify patients or clients how to obtain their records when a practice closes.

Give to the Museum of Dentistry

- The National Museum of Dentistry inspires people to make healthy choices about oral health by creating and sharing learning opportunities that celebrate the heritage and future of dentistry, the achievements of dental professionals and the importance of oral health in a healthy life. Please consider supporting their mission, and making a tax-deductible donation. See the full brochure!

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