Welcome to the summer edition of the VSDS e-newsletter. In an ongoing effort to enhance communication, keep members informed, and reduce paper mailings, the Dental Society will be sending e-newsletters on a quarterly basis.

The newsletters will be filled with topics ranging from Continuing Education offerings to Legislative Updates. Please feel free to reach out to us if ever there is a pertinent issue we are missing.

VSDS thanks you for your support and continued partnership, and we wish you a safe and happy summer.

Sincerely,

The VSDS Team

Vermont Dental Team Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for September 18-19, 2014!

- The VSDS recently sent the Vermont Dental Team Annual Meeting brochure to all members, and online registration is open and available. Register now!
The 2014 Annual Meeting is going to bring some exciting changes; from a new exhibit hall layout, to a revamped gala, to vendor breakout demonstrations in the exhibit hall, the VSDS is confident that this will be the most dynamic meeting yet!

- With an exciting line-up of speakers there is ample opportunity to earn those CE credits for all dental team members! Check the Vermont Dental Team Annual Meeting website for all the details!
- Earn 1 CEU for Exhibitor Education (see attendee folder insert for further information upon check-in at the meeting)

**Vermont State Dental Society Updates**

- It has come to our attention that the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has recently doubled the fines for employers who fail to comply with Federal Labor Law posting requirements. The increase went into effect on April 18, 2014. Visit the EEOC website for full details and to be sure your office is in compliance. Each poster is available online for printing from the VSDS Resource page.
- The Vermont legislature has recently approved a provision to remove the cap on dental services for pregnant and post-partum women. Leaders from the Vermont State Dental Society, the Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, VT OB/GYN Community, the VT Association of Family Practitioners, and the Vermont Department of Health have all signed a consensus statement regarding the importance of oral health care during pregnancy. For the full article, click here, for the consensus statement click here

**Free Dental Care Day 2014**

The 7th Annual Free Dental Care Day took place on May 3rd. Free Dental Care Day was established to assist Vermonters who have no dental insurance or do not have the ability to pay for urgent care. In Chittenden County, over $66,000 in services were provided, and 350 hours were donated by volunteers. In White River Junction, 40 adults were treated. In Rutland county, 75 adults received donated care at the Rutland Elks Club. Dr. Robert Ruhl, of Wilmington, Vermont, is the statewide coordinator and founder of Free Dental Care Day. "We are extremely pleased to see a growing number of dentists involved in this annual event which started in 2007," Ruhl states.

**Special Olympics**

On Saturday, May 31st more than 400 Special Olympic Athletes participated in the Summer Games at the University of Vermont. The athletes are also invited to participate in the Healthy Athletes Screening program, which offers three types of screenings, including dentistry, physical therapy, and health and well-being. The Special Smiles event this year was able to screen 190 athletes with the help of many volunteers; including Vermont dentists, dental hygienists, assistants, as well as students from Tufts Dental School, VTC Hygiene School, and Essex Tech School of Dental
Assistant. "We believe that the Special Smiles program has morphed into something well beyond our expectations, but consistent with Dr. Zablotsky’s and my vision for the program. Seeing the increase in the number of volunteers allowing us to help more athletes is incredibly gratifying for all involved," says Dr. Brian Shuman, a periodontist in South Burlington, and co-chair of the Special Smiles program with Dr. Nevin Zablotsky.

Northeast Delta Dental Panel Discussion

Please join VSDS on 7/29/14 at 1:30 at the Capital Plaza in Montpelier for an informational Q&A with Northeast Delta Dental

- Open to dentists and office managers
- The purpose of this session is to engage in an open dialogue with representatives from Northeast Delta regarding many of the changes that have recently occurred and are effecting dental offices. This includes billing procedures, the implementation of the Premier Provider Organization, and claim submissions.
- Please register for the session in advance utilizing the registration form. VSDS highly encourages the submission of all questions in advance. Click here for the registration form
- Please note that there is limited space

Vermont Legislative Update

The VSDS legislative team had their hands full this past winter and spring with the campaign against S.35, the bill proposing a mid-level dental provider. Nine Senate hearings were held on the bill and many member dentists were asked to testify. Throughout the session the legislative team worked diligently at coordinating member support and contacting legislators. The highlight of these efforts was the VSDS Dental Legislative Day in Montpelier in March, where over two dozen VSDS member dentists and a small group of dental students turned out to support the VSDS, talk about the importance of oral health, and of course, hand out tooth brushes and apples. Legislative day was a great success, and a real turning point in the campaign.

In April, the team learned that S.35 would not move out of committee, but was forced to play the waiting game until the very last day of the legislative session. In the end, S.35 did not advance; an accomplishment which was made possible by a dedicated member base and a hardworking legislative team. Advocates of the mid-level dental provider concept have already stated that the bill will be reintroduced this coming year.

Answer the Yankee Trivia Question Today!

Celebrate 40 Years of Yankee with 40 Days to Win!
The Yankee Dental Congress third annual YDC Facebook
Sweepstakes has been a huge success! Test your Yankee Dental Congress knowledge by answering a trivia question on the Yankee Dental Facebook page Monday through Friday until August 15th—here is your chance to win a complimentary registration to Yankee Dental Congress 2015, or the grand prize: a suite at the Marriott Residence Inn for seven nights during Yankee Dental Congress 2015.

To see today's Yankee trivia question, please follow the link and submit your answer to be eligible for the chance to win complimentary registration and the grand prize hotel suite during Yankee 2015 Visit the Yankee Facebook Page to Win!

The promotion will end August 15. Winners will be announced at the end of each week. All entries will be submitted into a grand prize drawing and the winner will be announced at the end of August. If you do not already "Like" the Yankee Dental Congress Facebook Page, now is the time! Stay tuned for more details and be sure to visit Yankee's Facebook Page and yankeedental.com for updates. Registration and housing for Yankee Dental Congress 2015 will open on September 17, 2014 at noon!