Casino Royale...Richmond County Style!

by VALERIE VENTERINA, D.D.S.

The evening was cool and clear, the moon and stars were out — what a perfect night for a party! As valets sprinted from car to car, revelers in their finest attire began arriving at the Richmond County Country Club promptly at 7 P.M. It was Jan. 27, and this was the 2018 Dinner Dance and Installation of Officers of the Richmond County Dental Society (RCDS), Second District Dental Society’s branch society.

The evening started with a sumptuous cocktail hour. Clams and oysters on the half shell, shrimp and of course, assorted

Continued on Page 3
Dr. Michael L. Costa is a lifelong Staten Islander. He attended the Academy of St. Dorothy and then St. Joseph-by-the-Sea High School. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in biology with honors in 2002 from Providence College in Rhode Island and in 2006, he was awarded his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (now Rutgers School of Dental Medicine). Dr. Costa then completed a two-year general practice residency program at Staten Island University Hospital. He served as chief dental resident in his second year and was recognized as the recipient of the Arthur W. Puglisi Award for “the resident who has exemplified leadership qualities, quality patient care and a desire to further oneself professionally.”

Dr. Costa entered private practice on Staten Island in 2008 and took over at Randall Manor Dental Care in 2011. He serves as supervising dentist for the Children’s Aid Society, overseeing community and school-based dental clinics throughout the city. He is also a member of the attending staff at Staten Island University Hospital Dental Care Center.

Dr. Costa is a 2017 graduate of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry’s implant MaxiCourse, a 300-hour yearlong class focused on treatment planning, placement and restoration of dental implants. In 2018, he was inducted as the president of the Richmond County Dental Society, the branch society of Second District Dental Society. In addition to dentistry, Dr. Costa enjoys golf, photography, travel and cooking. He and his wife Jennifer were married in 2009 and have a son, Giovanni, who was born in July of 2015. They are currently living in the New Dorp section of Staten Island with their French bulldog Theodore.
Casino Royale...Richmond County Style!

The highlight of the evening was the installation of Dr. Michael Costa as president of RCDS, along with his executive board: Dr. Valerie Venterina (president-elect), Dr. Charles Mistretta (vice president), Dr. Lydia Lam (treasurer) and Dr. Sandra Scibetta (secretary). The all-important oath of office was performed by SDDS President Dr. Sari Rosenwein. Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis presented Dr. Ralph Attanasi, the immediate past president with a Certificate of Appreciation from the NYS Assembly for his outstanding volunteerism as the 2017 RCDS president. She was even able to throw in little “plaque” joke, apropos of the audience!

With the “business” of the evening concluded, the fun activities began. The theme of the evening, a brainstorm of Dr. Costa and expertly executed by Drs. Phyllis Merlino and Michael D’Anna, was “Casino Night!” As the evening progressed, the roulette wheel whirled, dice were thrown against the backboard of the craps table and cards were shuffled and dealt for blackjack and Texas Hold’em. Dealers were very helpful in educating the less experienced guests. All attendees were given “play money” with which to bet and at the end of the evening, chips were redeemed for raffle tickets to win several prizes, all donated by Henry Schein, Neoss and Bocelli Ristorante. A great time was had by all who attended!

Congratulations to Dr. Michael Costa and the entire Richmond County executive board. Best wishes for a productive, collaborative and exciting 2018 for Richmond County Dental Society!

VCCs and EFTs: What You Need to Know

by ALYSON K. BUCHALTER, D.M.D.

Members of the SDDS Dental Benefit Programs Committee have received complaints about Aetna Dental sending virtual credit cards (VCCs) instead of paper checks. It is important for you to know that unless your contract with Aetna (or any other third-party payer) says otherwise, you are NOT required to accept VCCs. These VCCs have processing fees like any other credit card.

Some letters Aetna has sent imply you must accept EFTs (electronic fund transfers) in order to avoid VCCs. You cannot be compelled to accept EFTs. Some providers find EFTs helpful as they speed reimbursement. But others find it difficult to match the payment to a patient and procedure. Remember, whatever your choice, you cannot be forced to give your banking information to anyone.

If you do not wish to receive VCCs and/or EFTs from Aetna, call them and “opt-out”. Aetna’s National Dentist line is (800) 451-7715. If a provider rep is not cooperative, ask to speak with a supervisor. Remember, you are permitted to opt out.

Feel free to reach out to your Dental Benefit Programs Committee if you need assistance. We are here for you.

Dr. Alyson Buchalter is the chair of the SDDS Dental Benefit Programs Committee.
In Memoriam: Dr. Murray Gott

In this sesquicentennial year of the SDDS, it is right and proper to acknowledge our predecessors who laid the foundation of our very special organization, those who nurtured it in its formative years and those who helped it evolve and remain relevant during its maturity. Among the pillars of the Second District Dental Society was a man recently lost to us, Dr. Murray Gott.

Murray was an example to all who knew him — he served his nation as a member of the U.S. Air Force, was a loving husband to his wife of 61 years, Susan, and a devoted father and grandfather to Kenneth and Karen and their children. He was a talented dentist devoted to his patient family, a fervent supporter of organized dentistry, a great golfer and a great guy. His smile was infectious, as was his sense of humor.

Dr. Murray Gott practiced dentistry on Staten Island for 30 years. He dedicated a great deal of time to the Richmond County Dental Society and Second District Dental Society, serving as president of both. He subsequently served on the Organization Committee of the Greater New York Dental Meeting, giving even more of himself and his time to helping it along the path to becoming the premier dental congress in the nation.

After retiring, Murray relocated to Boynton Beach, Florida, often playing golf with many of the professional golfers on the pro circuit. He traveled, enjoyed friends and family and remained a staunch supporter of his esteemed profession.

Having the good fortune to know Murray during the early years of my professional career was a gift. His friendship helped serve as an example of how to balance one's career with family, professional practice, ‘play’ and service, and understanding the importance of each to one's fulfillment. Finding out about Murray's passing brought me great sadness and yet a smile came to my face at the memories of his life, a life to be celebrated. Thank you, Murray, on behalf of your country, your profession and all those who had the good fortune to know you. And a special thank you from me.

Rest in Peace.

by Howard I.A. Lieb, D.M.D.

In Memoriam: Dr. Sheldon Jacobson

Second District was saddened to learn of the demise of one of its past leaders, Dr. Sheldon Jacobson. Dr. Jacobson was president of Second District Dental Society (SDDS) in 1980. An oral surgeon by training, Shelly remained an active, vital member of SDDS up until his retirement from practice in 1995. Like many of his generation (New York University College of Dentistry's Class of 1949), his rise to leadership at SDDS had many stops along the way, including doing his internship at Metropolitan Hospital and his residency in oral surgery at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, serving as base oral surgeon at Langley Air Force Base, entering the oral surgery program at University of Pennsylvania and completing training as chief resident of oral surgery at Harlem Hospital. He also taught at Harlem Hospital, Brookdale Hospital and New York University College of Dentistry.

Shelly's service at SDDS commenced in 1956 when he joined. He was a member of multiple committees and a member of the SDDS Board of Trustees beginning in 1964. He served on the DSSNY (now NYSADA) Councils on Insurance and Public and Professional Relations, as well as on the DSSNY Board of Governors and as an ADA delegate. It seemed that once he started, he never stopped. And there was reason for that — he cared about the interests of his fellow Second District Dental Society members and, perhaps more importantly, the entire profession of dentistry. His own words from his installment as SDDS president were truly telling:

“To assure our future, we must stress education, advocacy and participation. There will always be a significant segment of our membership that will not become involved. This is a fact of life in any democratic entity. Therefore, our gratitude for the efforts and dedication of those who man the structures of our Society cannot be overstated.”

He astutely recognized the nature of this and any other professional membership association. But through his personal involvement of close to 40 years with the Society, he demonstrated an outward commitment to service and leadership. We will always be grateful to him for that. Our condolences to his family and friends.
The SDDS Oral Health Committee: Making a Difference at Home and Abroad

by RENÉIDA E. REYES, D.D.S., M.P.H.

It started with Dental Health Day in the children’s room at the central branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza. Today, the Second District Dental Society (SDDS) Oral Health Committee responds to endless requests to participate in wellness programs, constituting a movement throughout Brooklyn and Staten Island. Requests range from NYC Department of Education schoolwide programs to health fairs and “Career Day” programs.

Particular requests and focus are the special needs schools (P771K), which are the educational facilities for autistic and developmentally-challenged students who can’t be mainstreamed through the immersion curriculum. Other educational facilities, including parochial schools, yeshivas and other religious schools, as well as private and independent schools and even local colleges (Brooklyn College, New York City College of Technology and St. Francis College), tap SDDS as a resource to participate in oral health wellness programs.

The dedication and enthusiasm of the members of the SDDS Oral Health Committee has made Second District Dental Society the epicenter for oral health community outreach resource, resulting in requests from church groups, community organizations, state and local legislators as well as congressional leaders, in addition to participating in health fairs. We have provided oral health kits to homeless shelters, and college-based wellness events, including the Great American Smokeout program at St. Francis College.

On the international arena, oral health kits were sent to Haiti as part of a support group project. Ecuador and Sri Lanka have been recipients of both educational as well as oral health supplies. Dr. Reyes has also participated in a service component of outreach in Ecuador and Sri Lanka providing clinical care for children in remote areas.

The generosity of the SDDS Oral Health Committee members giving of their time and talent goes beyond Give Kids A Smile Day and National Children’s Dental Health Month activities. Their efforts have created a movement of promoting oral health as an integral part of wellness.

Dr. Reneida Reyes is the chair of the SDDS Oral Health Committee.
Mainstream media and the medical profession have finally come to understand what those of us in the dental profession have known for decades – the mouth is indeed connected to the body. We know that our patients’ genetic predisposition, oral hygiene and recall regime affect their overall health. What we may not know is how their social circumstances and environments play a role in their personal health. Emerging trends in care coordination are improving health outcomes and changing the way we look at care delivery today.

When embedded in primary care offices with a population health approach, care coordination has assisted in medical home designation, the transition to value-based care models and improved health outcomes. It works in medicine, why not dentistry?

The American Dental Association (ADA) asked this question years ago and then designed a unique program (licensed and trademarked) called the Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) program.

A CDHC is an example of specialized care coordination being utilized today. A CDHC is a dental professional with a community health worker skill set who can serve as a liaison between patients, physicians, dentists, community health centers and social service agencies. They facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competency of care delivery. Currently, 21 states actively have CDHCs in place and the impact of their work shows.

In 2013, the ADA Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations (now known as the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention) studied 81 cases of CDHC impact. One example of the results is shown in Figure 1.

The work of CDHCs is focused on linking patients to resources they need: health literacy for treatment completion, insurance enrollment, transportation, translation services and referral coordination. Ultimately, their goal is to connect these patients to a health home, while offering access to ongoing dental care.

When we place a CDHC out in the community with a strong cultural understanding, armed with a skill set of clinical knowledge and the ability to link resources, the result is real progress overcoming the barriers to care. CDHCs are typically recruited from the same types of communities in which they will serve. This helps to eliminate the cultural, language and other barriers that might otherwise reduce their effectiveness. Their cultural competency within these communities helps establish trust and makes them true role models.

“The CDHC is able to bridge the gap between understanding and action” states Dr. Jane Grover, director of the ADA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention. “Their ability to connect patients into available but underutilized care is a remarkable skill gained through participation in the program.”

It is easy to see from the above just how valuable a CDHC can be in an FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Centers), an Article 28 clinic or a hospital setting. However, CDHCs can be equally beneficial in the private practice setting.

Case Study 1: Addition of CDHC to Dental Team

- With the addition of the CDHC in 2011, the clinic saw increases in billable procedures.
  - 2,307 procedures in 2011
  - 1,066 procedures in 2010
- The total care value of services provided increased.
  - $231,551 in 2011
  - $91,399 in 2010
- Services within the scope of CDHC practice increased.
  - 2011: 704 procedures; $25,203
  - 2010: 281 procedures; $8,470

Figure 1.
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CDHC: The New Team Member that will Grow All Practices

Continued from Page 6

area. There is a place for a CDHC in practices of all sizes, from small to large, that want to grow.

CDHCs should be utilized in the community, not just in the office or at chairside. CDHCs can speak to and partner with medical and allied health professionals and fill chairs in the office. For example, a CDHC can meet area pediatricians and their office staff to discuss the current ADA recommendation regarding the age 1 dental visit. Dental offices can then become the dental home for the referrals that will follow from that pediatrician’s office.

The CDHC can meet with internists and endocrinologists to discuss the interrelationship of diabetes and oral health. Referrals will follow in this era of physician compensation based on patient outcomes. CDHCs can also meet with and lecture to community groups to educate and promote a dentist’s practice. Studies show that many patients with commercial insurance do not seek dental services because they are unsure of how to begin or what services they may need. Utilizing their unique combination of skills, the CDHC is positioned to grow a practice by being the face of the dentist in the community—a link between the practice and the public.

There are now four CDT codes that are designed to assist your practice in integrating education, motivational interviewing and case management. The dentist may be reimbursed, depending on the insurance companies, for the work that is done by CDHCs in their clinic or office. These codes are:

- D9991 dental case management – addressing appointment compliance barriers
- D9992 dental case management – care coordination
- D9993 dental case management – motivational interviewing
- D9994 dental case management – patient education to improve oral health literacy (this code includes translation services)

To qualify to enroll in the CDHC course, the student must currently be a registered dental hygienist or certified dental assistant. The education entails completion of a two-semester course from an ADA-approved school and a non-clinical internship which demonstrates the community health worker skill set.

Where do we stand in New York?

Both the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA) and the Dental Hygienists’ Association of the State of New York (DHASNY) support this movement and are working together to see it grow. The role has changed from its original introduction in 2006. The CDHC certificate no longer interferes with the current practice act. We are also actively meeting with schools in New York willing to include this curriculum by “stacking” or offering as continuing education. Currently, we have four students enrolled in the CDHC distance learning program through Rio Salado College in Tempe, Arizona. Funding for these students was generously provided by Henry Schein to further this model of care delivery.

In concert with CDHC advocacy, NYSDA’s Dental Demonstration Project (DDP) offers Article 28 and FQHC facilities support in transitioning patients that participate in the free dental events to becoming a patient and completing treatment. Two of the four current CDHC students from New York are actively working in clinics that have participated in DDP events. At the completion of their training, they will put their new skills to work. Subsequent DDP events are planned and data will reveal the CDHC effectiveness.

Please join us in our mission to improve the health of all New Yorkers. “Ultimately, the health fate of each of us is determined by factors acting not mostly in isolation but by our experience where domains interconnect.”1

Betsy Bray is a registered dental hygienist and the NYSDA Oral Health Workforce Director. Dr. Rich Herman is vice chair of the NYSDA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention.

To learn more about the CDHC program, please contact/visit:

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bdbray@nysdental.org

DR. RICH HERMAN
ddsrph@gmail.com or (914) 572-9930

DR. JANE GROVER
groverj@ada.org or 312.440.2751

DR. LUCIANA SWEIS
Project Manager, CDHC Program
sweisl@ada.org or 312.440.2741

www.ADA.org/CDHC

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

New Members

DR. EUGENE GOLDMAN

(General Practice; State University of New York at Buffalo, 2010)
Leaf Dental, 18 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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Sponsored by the SDDS New Dentist Committee
This course provides dentists and their staff members with the knowledge and skills needed to properly respond to cardiopulmonary and other medical emergencies which can occur in dental offices. The specific advantages and disadvantages of performing CPR within the dental operatory will be discussed. This program utilizes hands-on practice sessions for all participants. Topics to be covered will include heart attacks and strokes (signs and symptoms), sudden cardiac arrest/defibrillation, airway obstruction (choking), respiratory emergencies, anaphylactic reactions, emergency drug kits, and more.

Upon successful completion of this course, participants will gain the knowledge and hands-on experience needed to administer CPR safely and effectively. Completion of this course will also satisfy the New York State Education Department’s requirement for licensed dentists.

*This course may not fulfill the CPR certification requirements for staff/faculty of some hospitals/universities. Check with your employer before taking this course.*

*ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED, SO REGISTER EARLY!!!*

As dentists, we must not only rely on the materials with which we work but on our own ability to treatment plan and diagnose based on a multi-factorial situation. We must be careful in our preparation and design, and be meticulous in our bonding techniques. Failures in dentistry are frequently blamed on the materials. In reality, “user error” is often the culprit.

In this seminar, Dr. Kugel will highlight the latest information and evidence on a variety of esthetic dentistry-related topics and clinical procedures. Aimed at dentists and their staffs, this course will provide relevant clinical information to assist dentists in their everyday practice. Participants will learn:

- A comprehensive review of core principles of esthetic dentistry related to tooth form and function — tooth position, occlusal function and, most importantly, what you need to know to stay out of trouble
- Why esthetics is secondary to proper function
- All-ceramic options and cementation for indirect anterior and posterior restorations including laminate veneers
- Digital impression-making and chairside CAD/CAM
- Advances in adhesive and bioactive dentistry — are the new generations all they are claimed to be?
- Esthetic case maintenance

Attendees will get practical and cost-effective information that they can use immediately in their practices. Upon successful completion of this course, dentists will:

- Learn the limitations of materials and what the best options are for different clinical situations
- Learn the importance of understanding occlusion as it relates to their choices of materials
- Learn the evidence as it relates to new bonding systems

Recession: Prevention/Treatment for Teeth and Implants

In this presentation, indications and techniques for soft tissue grafting will be discussed. Prevention and repair techniques will be reviewed and graft material selection will be addressed. There will also be a discussion of implant and root coverage techniques and expectations. At the conclusion of this presentation, attendees will have learned the indications and techniques for soft tissue grafting.

Immediate Implant Function — What the Restorative Dentist Needs to Know

Immediate implant function offers quicker and shorter treatment time, fewer patient office visits and immediate relief for uncomfortable flippers and other prostheses. It also provides a more practical way to address the patient’s great concern — “How long will it take before I have something that looks and functions like a new tooth?” Clinical cases will be shown depicting immediate temporization of implants placed into edentulous ridges as well as immediately into sockets at the time of extraction. Case selection, technique and components will be reviewed. At the conclusion of this presentation, attendees will have learned indications and techniques to achieve immediate placement/load/function ranging from one missing tooth to edentulous arch.
Predictable Dentures
Featured Clinician: VINCENT VERDEROSA, C.D.T., M.D.T.
University Support Specialist, Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine

In this presentation, there will be a discussion of techniques for predictable dentures. Attendees will be shown tools that can help communication between the dentist and the dental lab technician. There will also be a discussion on everything from custom tray design to denture occlusion, as well as a discussion of digital dentures.
Are you in need of a DENTAL ASSISTANT?

The Dental Auxiliary Training Center’s (DATC) “Fundamentals of Chairside Dental Assisting” course that started in September 2017 has ended and graduates are ready for employment.

As a service to SDDS members, DATC has a placement service to help dentists find trained prospective employees. We will be happy to discuss your job requirements and help you find a mature, responsible and motivated dental assistant.

Your job information can also be anonymously posted on the DATC Facebook page. DATC students and graduates search this page to find out about current dental assistant positions and must call DATC to obtain details and point of contact information. To view these postings, look at our Facebook page under the “NOTES” tab and don’t forget to “Like Us.” Visit us on the web at www.datcny.com. As has been our policy for the last 33 years, there is never a fee for this service. Please call Lisa Lyle at 1(888) 595-3282 for more information.
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- Free Home Study Risk Management Course
- No deductible on any of our policies
- Aggressive claims handling for which we provide quality support in times of crisis
- Live customer support during business hours to assist you
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MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

President, Dr. Sari Rosenwein, to call the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

MOTION PASSED: To accept the minutes of the December 4, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting

PRESENT: Drs. Rosenwein, Buchalter, Bina, Donato, Flagiello, Ariola, Buccigrossi, Demas, Flagiello, Halikias, Khanna, Lieb, McIntyre, Meiselman, Medrano-Saldana, Oshrain, Quartey, Ratner, Segelnick, Turchak, Mindlin, Venterina, Butt and Teplitzky

EXCUSED: Drs. Albicocco, Sconzo, Bongiorno and Hassan

GUESTS: Drs. Attanasi, Gounardes and Gisele Richard

RESIDENTS: Drs. Alex Pisapia and Jennifer Katz (NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital)

DECEASED MEMBERS: Dr. Murray Gott (Temple Univ. 1958) (Past President 1982)

PROPOSALS AND ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

NEW MEMBERS:
Dr. Eric Brotman – New York University, 2015

DECEASED MEMBERS:
Dr. Yana Rosenstein – State University of New York at Stony Brook, 2005

TRANSFERS:
Dr. Katie Lim – Stony Brook University, 2015 (Transfer from Nassau County)
Dr. Joan Santiago – Temple University, 2004 (Transfer from Texas)

GRADUATE STUDENTS/REINSTATEMENTS:
Brookdale Hospital
Dr. Fallon Cunningham – Howard University, 2017

Coney Island Hospital
Dr. Jason Friedman – Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, 2017
Dr. Emanuel Papadopoulos – New York University, 2017
Dr. Yaron Shvets – New York University, 2015
Dr. Jonathan Shorter – Meharry Medical College, 2017
Dr. Sima Tafreshi – Columbia University, 2016

MOTION PASSED: To approve the presented candidates to membership of the SDDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
See “Upcoming events.”

CORRESPONDENCE:
None

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND STAFF:
President – Dr. Sari Rosenwein:
• Thanked everyone for attending the Installations of Officers luncheon on Jan. 7 at the Yale Club.
• Special thanks to Drs. Halikias, Segelnick, Gounardes, Lieb, Ariola and Shayo, Veronica and Mr. Hackett.
• Appointed Dr. Steven Gounardes as SDDS Parliamentarian, 2018.

Treasurer – Dr. Michael Donato:
• Report of financials.

Executive Director – Mr. Bernard Hackett:
• January 27, 2018 is the RCDS installation and Dr. Michael Costa will be installed as president.
• SDDS has already reserved a table for 10 board members and is requesting securing an additional table for 10 people for the Richmond County Dental Society installation.
• 2018 Activity Book should be received by membership soon.
• D&O, General Liability and Umbrella Policy have been bound with minimal increases.
• Congratulate Dr. Ariola, the 2018 officers and Dr. Flagiello as new librarian curator.

Motion Passed: To purchase a second table for Richmond County Dental Society installation.

EROB to patients to have them verify any changes for two years.

SDDS REPORTS:
Greater New York Dental Meeting – Dr. Lauro Medrano (General Chairman):
• Commented on the success of the meeting, over 52,000 attendees.
• Booths and education courses were both very successful.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
None

NEW BUSINESS:
Motion Adopted: (Flagiello) That SDDS approve a budget allocation of up to $8,000 to send the Action Team Leaders to the ADA Dentist and Student Lobby Day.

GOOD & WELFARE:
• Dr. McIntyre commended Dr. John Halikias for wonderful installation and awards luncheon.
• Dr. Buchalter congratulated Dr. Ratner on his article in the latest ADA News.
• Dr. Ratner announced that loan forgiveness application will start on Jan. 15 and encourages young dentists to apply.
• Dr. Buccigrossi announced that his son was involved in a movie production called “One Stop Away” on Amazon Prime.
• Dr. Ariola announced that Dr. Gounardes’ son, Andrew, is running for state senate.
• Dr. Segelnick reminded everyone that in recognition of 150th anniversary of SDDS, members may select one of two lectures on a complementary basis, namely the February 23 Dr. Meryl Efron Memorial Lecture, or the March 9 Dr. Irving Gruber Memorial Lecture.

ADJOURNMENT:
Seeing no further business before the Board, Dr. Rosenwein adjourned the meeting at 7:40 P.M.
JACOBSON GOLDBERG & KULB, LLP
Attorneys and Counselors at Law

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