

THE Articulator

The Newsletter of the Central District Dental Society
Serving Clinton, Eaton, Ingham and Shiawassee Counties

Spring 2016

Lisa Knowles, DDS - Editor

Why Your M.O.M. Needs You

Over 1500 volunteers are needed to fuel the success at this year's 2016 Mission of Mercy (MOM) event in Warren, Michigan. The dates are Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11, with set-up on Thursday, June 9 and tear-down on Sunday, June 12 on the campus of Macomb Community College. This is the third Michigan MOM program. A Mission of Mercy addresses the most-urgent needs of patients and relieves them of pain and suffering. **And, the MOM brings awareness among the media and governmental leaders about the problem of access to care and the efforts that organized dentistry is making to address it.** You may not think that last part is important, but legislators and decision makers do. If dentists do not share in the burden to help underserved populations receive dental care, our profession appears heartless. We cannot let those kinds of rumors generate because it is untrue. As we continue to find solutions, consider giving time or money to this year's MOM event. The 2016 MOM is in need of dentists, dental assistants, dental equipment technicians, dental hygienists, dental students, front office/billing clerks, and other health care professionals. Volunteer sign-up for the 2016 Michigan Mission of Mercy is now open at the MDA Foundation website. Visit www.smilemichigan.com/foundation to sign up or to donate.



mission of mercy



June 9-12, 2016

Macomb Community
College

Warren, Mich.

An Interview With The MDA President & CDDS Member

Dr. Mark Johnston, General Dentist

By Dr. Lisa Knowles



As the editor, I took the opportunity to ask Dr. Mark Johnston a few questions about what it was like to be the MDA president for 2015-16. I think you will appreciate his candid remarks. (My questions are in bold).

What will you miss? Being with the members at the component meetings and listening to their issues and realizing that, for the most part, we are all in the same boat.

What won't you miss? I had to give up my free time—my "me" time (fishing, biking and golfing) during my year so I hope to get that back—maybe do the DALMAC again and lose some weight.

What is what you expected? I did not realize it would take so much time. We had a lot on our plate this past year; I never would have expected to file an appeal on a decision made by DIFS. This was our year to host the Mid-States Dental Leadership conference so that involved entertaining dental leaders from 14 states. There was the conversion over to Aptify (the ADA database) and the error we had in not billing the working life members; these took time. Also Pew Foundation finally decided to try to introduce the MLP in Michigan, and that is still an ongoing battle. The Dental CT issue took time and

trying to get it deregulated by the CON. This was also the first year of the new governance structure so that has had some kinks to get worked out. We are moving in the right direction, but we had a lot of moving parts to keep track of.

What personal skill did you value the most? I try to listen to all sides of the story and then come up with a compromise. Too often I see opposite sides so caught up in their own views, and they are not listening to the other side. With a few tweaks, I can get them both to agree, and then they find out they were not that far apart.

Biggest surprise? The biggest surprise I experienced is how much of an agenda some politicians have. I was hoping that they were listening to the citizens of the state and trying to get what is best for all involved, but sometimes it comes down to what is best for personal gain, and that was disappointing.

Greatest accomplishment/Proudest moment? My goal this year was to focus on the member and increase member value in the association. I believe, with a lot of work by a number of different people, the member is better off than before my tenure.

What do you hope will continue on when you leave? That the member is the center of all decision making at the MDA.

Were you able to balance your practice life and the MDA demands? When was it the hardest? My wife and my team at work were very flexible this year which enabled me to change the schedule a lot at the last minute. Not having any children and living and working in Lansing are two distinct advantages I have over other dentists that occupy this position. I have on many occasions been able to get in a half day of work and then go testify in front of the Senate Health Policy committee, for instance. I can remember one week where I had a component visit on a Tuesday night, a meeting with Bill Sullivan to go over testimony on Wednesday, then testify and go to another component on Thursday and a MDA Foundation meeting on Friday. That was a busy week.

What would you tell the next MDA president? I have told Dr. DeGroat, to plan on more time than he thinks it will take. My weekends used to be my own time. This past year I have been either out of town or prepping for an upcoming meeting. I have enjoyed it immensely and would do it again if my wife would let me.

Let's thank Mark and his wife, Mary, and team for their service by attending the MDA president's night. See below for more information.

SAVE THE DATES 2016

April 13-16, 2016

MDA Annual Session
Novi, Michigan

April 15, 2016

Celebration for Dr. Mark
Johnston, MDA President
Hyatt Place, Suburban
Collection
Novi, Michigan
Reception 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Show (Hypnotist) 9:00 p.m.
Sign up at
[smilemichigan.com/pro/
annualsession](http://smilemichigan.com/pro/annualsession)

May 15, 2016

President's day honoring Dr.
Sam Epley at the Lugnuts
Stadium
Lansing, Michigan

Lunch served at 1:00
Tickets required
Contact Alexa Vitek for more
information
alexavitek@hotmail.com

What You Missed



Dr. Dewitt Wilkerson (far right) presented on the topics of occlusion, sleep apnea, and overall health issues. Pictured on left: Dr. Cathy Novak, Dr. James Mashni, and Dr. Sam Epley.



Doctors and their teams
enjoyed the time to learn
and to converse with one
another.



Go Lugnuts!!!
Bring your families!
RSVP by April 1, 2016, to
alexavitek@hotmail.com



Holiday Party 2015
 Oh, What A Night!



Thank you, Tracey and Sam Epley, for hosting!



CDDS Officers and Committee Members 2016

OFFICERS:

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STANDARD OF CARE PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS (SUNSET DATE & TERM LIMITS)

	Term Ends	Number of Terms
Gianh Portnoy	Fall 2015	First
Ernie Rompf	Fall 2015	First
Gerald Crane	Fall 2015	First
Roger Cheney	Fall 2016	First
Charlotte Cortis	Fall 2016	First
Gregory Komyathy	Fall 2016	First
Jonathan J. Bechtel	Fall 2017	Second
Holly Scott-Hetchler (CHP)	Fall 2017	Second
Dan Dirksen	Fall 2017	First

ETHICS PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS (SUNSET DATE & TERM LIMITS):

Bachtrac Tu	Fall 2015	First
Bob Erhard	Fall 2015	Second
Eric Eby	Fall 2016	First
Beth Ann Faber	Fall 2016	First
Van-Anh Peters (CHP)	Fall 2017	Second
Brian Ruster	Fall 2017	Second

In Our Local Area—For Your Information

Did you register for the MDA Annual Session Yet? April 13-16, 2016

Catch the Spirit in Novi!
MDA 2016 Annual Session
Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi • April 13-16, 2016
Michigan Dentistry's Biggest CE Event!

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
Sahar Alrayyes, DDS, MS
David Bennett, DDS, MS
Kevin Baker, MS, Pharms
Jill Baska, DDS
George Brader, DMD
Anthony Di Angelo, DMD, MPH
Debra Engelhardt-Nash
Lynda Farnes, JD
Marc Gelsberger, DDS
Greg Gillespie, DDS
Patrick Houlton, DDS
Warren Kray, PhD, DMD
Thomas Lambert, DDS
James Lichon, DDS
Jill Linneman, BSIA, MS
Ronald Martin, DDS, MS
Carol Anne Markisch-Koch, DDS
Mark Murphy, DDS
Steve Pass, DDS
Clarence Piant, DMD
Henry Schein
Ted Schumann II, MBA
Roy Shelburne, DDS
Joseph Szebecki

Plus keynote speaker
ARI WEINZWEIG
and others

SPIRIT OF MICHIGAN MEETING
NOVI • APRIL 13-16, 2016

Online registration now open

Visit www.smfcmichigan.com/pro
Join your colleagues for great social events,
a variety of topics and speakers and nearly 200 exhibits.

Looking For an Associate or a Transition Partner? Want A New Job?

Second-Annual MDA Job Fair Coming. Save the date -- the second annual MDA Job Fair will take place Saturday, April 9, from 9 a.m. until noon at MDA headquarters in Okemos. The Job Fair will provide an opportunity for dentists, dental students, and employers to connect in an open-house style event. The cost is \$20 to register as a job-seeker (refundable at the door) or \$275 to exhibit as an employer. More details will be announced soon, with registration beginning in February. For more information, email: membership@michigandental.org.

Do you have ideas for the Articulator? How about errors or inaccuracies? Do we have your correct name and address? If not, send the changes, too. Send all information and requests to Lisa at cddsarticulator@gmail.com.