



President's Message

Dear fellow dentists,

I'm happy to announce that so much progress has been made over the last few months. I hope your festivities were refreshing and the new year has been fruitful.

First, a leap forward in community water fluoridation is underway at both the state and local level. Recently, the Spokane City Council met to vote on hiring the Murraysmith engineering firm to analyze implementation of community water fluoridation. With the help of our members, testimony on behalf of SDDS, Smile Spokane, and other local health organizations, progress was maintained as the council voted to take the next step. Thanks to those who contributed!

At the state level, House Bill/Senate Bill 1684 was created to improve community water fluoridation decision making for residents. The bill requires any large enough municipality to conduct a fluoridation implementation analysis in the event of water infrastructure change. Hugely, the bill sets aside funds from the Department of Health to help communities reach their fluoridation goals. The bill also ensures voters are informed with sufficient notice prior to voting on water fluoridation dissolution. SDDS was able to submit testimony on the issue, and we should be so thankful for those who signed-in or provided testimony, including Smile Spokane for checking the pulse of WA legislation. The bill is now in the Senate awaiting hearing.

If you feel you are missing out on opportunities to contribute, be sure to follow your SDDS emails or reach out to Lindsey or the officers.

Meanwhile, INDC is ramping up, and we are excited for it to return on May 12 and 13, after a three-year hiatus. With the quickly changing environment of regulation and infectious disease guidelines, we are monitoring the situation and making changes accordingly. Follow the SDDS emails or website for updates and reach out with any questions. Invitations for registration have been sent.

Remember, yearly elections are arriving quickly and SDDS is always looking for fresh perspectives and past experience. Starting for budget year 2022-23, the Executive Council has excitingly and officially supported officer ADA dues reimbursement, meaning serving as SDDS President, President-Elect, or Secretary/Treasurer will be financially supported. If you want to lead your community, help your fellow hard-working dentists, or just get out of the house, reach out to Lindsey, Max, or I on how you can contribute. Remember, making a difference starts with showing up.

Lastly, membership meetings are at the Spokane Club now and we look forward to having dinner with you there. Let us know what feedback you have; we want to see those warm and familiar faces. Have a great spring and we will see you at the hands-on splinting March membership meeting!

Best,
Neill Mears, DDS
SDDS President

**New Members July-Sept
2022**

Dr. Madrid Uso III
Dr. James Zhou
Dr. Bradyn Ellis
Dr. Benjamin Hill
Dr. Versha Sinha
Dr. Chet Hymas
Dr. Dennes Avendano
Dr. Oliver Carr
Dr. Keishi Fujii
Dr. Hayden Sharp
Dr. Anthony Fusco

November Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 10. 6pm. Spokane Club

"Untangling the Cobwebs of Electronic Dental Records"
Mary Smith, DDS, MBA

Cobwebs are defined as something that entangles, obscures or confuses. Does this describe your experience with electronic dental records and charting? Join Dr. Smith as she guides you through the basics of dental charting, suggestions for developing procedure templates and understanding the elements of a chart entry.

Learning Objectives:

- Required elements of a dental chart
- Understanding "SOAP" notes
- Standardizing acronyms
- Strategies for developing templates for charting

Dinner \$30

please email info@spokanedentalsociety.org if you are interested.

Why did the
toothbrush cross the
road?

(answer on p.2)

Thank you DentistLink

Speakers are independent of sponsor support

**Want to get involved, share your skills, have a
voice and broaden your network?**

We have the following opportunities open on the
following committees:

- Executive Council

- House of Delegates
- Continuing Education

Please contact Lacy for details

**Answer: For a change of
paste**

Indoor Mask Mandate to end March 21 for most indoor spaces. Masks will still be required in health care facilities such as hospitals, long term care settings and dental offices.

Did you know, HB 1837: Will allow Labor and Industries to impose costly, complicated, ergonomic regulations on all employers. Contact your legislators.

Inland Northwest Dental Conference

May 12-13, 2022

Northern Quest Casino

Support HB 1684

*Make it easier for communities
to fluoridate, increase
transparency for consumers,
and promote oral health equity.*

www.betterhealthtogether.org

great resource

23403 E Mission Ave

Suite 104 Liberty Lake WA

99019

509-838-0436

www.spokanedentalsociety.org

**Two days of continuing education and a dental trade show.
Sessions will begin at 8 am. On Thursday, May 12th
and conclude at 4 pm on Friday, May 13th.**

**Visit www.indc-spokane.com for the course schedule.
Lunch can be purchased along with your registration.**

Price increase after March 25! Sign up now.

Have you renewed your membership?

Do not let your membership in the Tripartite expire! We're at the point in the year when we see people's memberships pending for expiration...and they have no idea. Don't delay! Renew today! [Renew Your Membership | Washington State Dental Association \(WSDA\)](#)

Pre-dental students have been inquiring about internship or shadowing opportunities. Please reach out to me if your office would be available!