



***Word of Mouth***  
***enews from the***  
***South Florida Dental Hygiene Association***  
***February, 2008***

**Miami Winter Meeting**

Those of you who missed Miami Winter Meeting lost out on a great learning experience. Our speakers, Dr. Joe Garri and Dr. Michael Ragan, were dynamic. The exhibit hall was spread around the lecture rooms, and we had time to visit with our favorite reps in the break between sessions. Staff went out of their way to make us feel welcome. So next year, try to be there.

**Next SFDHA Monthly Meeting**

This month we're having a dinner program at the Café Violetto on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> sponsored by Perio Chip/Mis Implants. Beginning at 7pm Dan Trister and Noel Wilford RDH will discuss the new advancements of Perio Chip (1 CEU) . At 8pm, Michael Ragan, DMD, JD, LLM will present a course on Medical Errors (2 CEUs), which, as you know, is mandatory for license renewal. [This event is almost sold out.](#) Call DIANA GALVIS AT 305-816-0990 to check on space availability.

**Free for SFDHA members.** (cards will be checked at the door) **\$40 for NONMEMBERS.** Make checks payable to South Florida Dental Hygiene Association and mail to : SFDHA Treasurer, Karen Mattox, 14807 Breckness Place, Miami Lakes, FL 33016. Once the room is filled, we will take names and phone numbers for cancellations on a first-come-first-served basis. Telephone reservations are due by February 15. Checks must be received by February 17.

**St. Patrick's Festival**

This year, SFDHA will again manage a booth at the St. Patrick's Festival, on March 15, 2008. We need volunteers beginning at 11:00 AM until we run out of supplies or 6:00 PM, whichever comes first. You can volunteer by e-mailing a response to this newsletter with the time you can serve. We'll get back to you ASAP. Karen Mattox will coordinate the students. If you

haven't done this before, please think about joining us. It's a great way to make a contribution to the community.

## From FDHA

FDHA leadership met this week with Governor Crist's Legislative team to explore methods of improving access to care for medically underserved citizens of Florida. One issue on the horizon is "Public Health Supervision" to allow dental hygienists to practice without supervision in certain public health settings or programs. FDHA is now in the process of compiling a list of organizations who are interested in this new public access initiative. If you know anyone who has a contact in any coalition/agency/group who would aid us in this effort to send the contact information to Tami Miller, Executive Director. [tami@fdha.org](mailto:tami@fdha.org)

By the way, FDHA is sponsoring a cruise with the opportunity to earn CEUs. You have until February 21 to sign up. Go to the website [www.fdha.org](http://www.fdha.org) to check it out.

## License Renewal

As of February 5, 2008, only 32% of the RDHs have renewed their licenses. You may renew on-line at [www.flhealthsource.com](http://www.flhealthsource.com). The system will be available to Dental Hygienists for on time processing until midnight, February 28, 2008.

The Department can provide renewal information over the telephone at (850) 488-0595. Press menu option 3. For additional renewal information, please visit the Department's website at [www.flhealthsource.com](http://www.flhealthsource.com) and click on the link to Licensee/Provider, then click on Board Information.

## SFDHA Website

Don't forget to check out our website: [www.sfdha.org](http://www.sfdha.org). In between newsletters, you can access the site for information of all kinds. In fact, you'll be able to check the newsletter.

## Unlicensed Activity

An RDH or anyone who wants to report a tooth whitening business that is operating in locations outside of dental offices should contact the **Department of Health at 1 877-425-8852**. Unlicensed activity poses a threat to consumers.

## ADHA News: Travel Treasure for Student Members

Calling all MDC students! Would you like to win \$3000 for your program? Or how about winning \$1000 for yourself and your friends? Maybe an all expense paid trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to attend ADHA's CLL and Annual Session is more your style. From the Community Service Award to the Student Delegate position, all these opportunities and more await you at [www.adha.org/students/awards.htm](http://www.adha.org/students/awards.htm). Don't delay - some deadlines are quickly approaching!

## Readers Corner

From **Tracey Jacobs**: According to the AHA, heart disease is the #1 killer of American women. 1 in 2.6 women will die from heart disease or stroke compared to 1 in 30 women that will die from breast cancer. After losing my precious Mother, Sandra Trexler in 2004, I vowed to take care of my own heart and encourage others to do the same. Won't you join the *Go Red for Women* movement with me? It's FREE! Just log on to [www.goredforwomen.org](http://www.goredforwomen.org)  
<<http://www.goredforwomen.org>>

Upon joining, AHA will send you a free **Red Dress** pin to wear on **National Wear Red Day**, Friday, February 1st or every day to help share important heart health information with family and friends. You can also take the **Go Red** Heart Checkup and find out your risk for heart disease.

From **Sheah Rarback**'s column in the Tropical Life section of the Miami Herald: 1/15/2008: Of 46 common fruit and vegetables ranked for pesticide contamination, the top twelve (most contaminated) are: peaches, strawberries, apples, spinach, nectarines, celery, pears, cherries, potatoes, bell peppers, raspberries and imported grapes. These are the best choices for purchasing organic. Blueberries ranked 31.

### ***Reminder about the Newsletter Listserve***

**You've heard this before: our listserv will be purged to remove the following people: those who block the newsletter, those whose mail boxes are full, those who have not activated their email accounts, and those who change their addresses without notifying the editor. Every month, we have had to take this action because a faulty email address can end up blocking the entire list.**

**The editor's address is [cameronc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cameronc@bellsouth.net).** Be sure the editor's address is in your contact list. We will add names to the listserv only when an interested person emails us and notes that the editor's address has been added to their contact list. If you can't open the attachment, notify the editor and she will paste a copy in to the body of your email.

Once again, the success of this newsletter depends on you. Let's get the ***Word of Mouth*** out.

Carroll Cameron, RDH, EdD, Editor,  
South Florida Dental Hygiene Society