

# Bronx County Dental News

A PUBLICATION OF THE BRONX COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

## Dear Future Leaders of Dentistry

Jerica Cook, Associate Program Director, BronxCare GPR Program



**IN 2016, AS A NEW GRADUATE,** joining organized dentistry was the last thing on my mind. Actually, scratch that. It wasn't on my mind at all. I was focused on just making my way through residency, fine tuning my hand skills, working on my time management, and learning new tips and tricks from my attending faculty. I didn't even read the emails from the ADA.

Luckily for me, I happened to work with someone who was the opposite of me, and a potential

model for who I would like to be. She was a private practice owner who worked with residents a couple days a week and was heavily involved in Bronx County Dental Society. One day, she invited me to a continuing education course and I decided that I would show up. Not only was the course extremely informational but I also had an epiphany. This was

a network of dentists much more experienced than I. This was a mix of people from all different backgrounds, from all different dental schools, who have attended all of these different courses, and practice in all different areas of dentistry. This was exactly what a new dentist needed. I joined and have not looked back since.

I could go on and on about the benefits of becoming a member of the American Dental Society.

I could tell you about the student loan refinancing, or the travel benefits, or the exclusive discounts provided throughout the network, however, all of this is Google-able. What you cannot gleam from the website, is how far having a group of colleagues from all different walks of life can take you.

As much as you would benefit from joining, the organization would benefit from you joining as well. Our voices need to be heard. Our generation needs to be represented. Our needs, our concerns, and our interests need to be shouted loudly and proudly. And if we don't step up and speak for ourselves, who will?

I strongly encourage you to join the American Dental Association. I emphatically urge you to become an active member of the Bronx County Dental Society. Do not miss out on your opportunity to make a difference in not only yourself but also the future of dentistry as a whole. Join today. You will not regret it. ■

# A Message from the Bronx County Dental Society President

## I HOPE THIS MESSAGE REACHES YOU AND

yours in good health and spirit. My sincere condolences to all who have suffered loss during this pandemic.

2020 has been a year of challenges. As we have navigated our way through this year, we have much to be proud of. In the spring when local Bronx hospitals were bearing the brunt of the pandemic, many of us donated our own short supplies of PPEs to those on the front line. When returning to our offices in June, we reinforced to the public what we have always known: No one understands infection control like a dentist. According to the CDC there is no documented transmission of COVID-19 in a clinical dental setting to date. A study published in the Journal of the American Dental Association

found the prevalence of COVID-19 among dentists to be less than one percent.

Yet many of us are facing severe financial pressures as we struggle to safely provide essential services. Providing dental care in a pandemic has driven up overhead and allows fewer patient visits per day. Many of our patients are scared to shop in a supermarket, much less sit in a dental chair. A few colleagues have told me that to save money they are considering not rejoining the ADA this year.

I want to address those who do not think their dues is money well spent by showing how essential organized dentistry has been this year and will be in the future.

### AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:

- The ADA helped secure \$350 billion in funding for the Paycheck Protection Program. They then pushed for greater flexibility in the time to use those funds and ease requirements to receive full forgiveness.
- The ADA advocated to the Department of Health and Human Services for all dental providers to be included in the CARES Act and receive Provider Relief Funds. This allowed dentists to receive up to 2% of their yearly gross for patient care.
- The ADA supported the creation of the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program which provided grants of up to \$10,000.
- The ADA is advocating for dentists and staff to be included in the first category of those to receive the eventual COVID-19 vaccines.
- See [this link](#) for a comprehensive list of what the ADA has done for us this year in Washington.

### AT THE STATE LEVEL:

- The New York State Dental Association (NYSDA) was instrumental in our return to work on June 1. Governor Cuomo shut us down and set up regional guidelines for reopening. The Bronx, being the hardest hit county in the state, was far from meeting the criteria necessary for reopening dental practices. It was the lobbying efforts of NYSDA as well as the presence of our own Dr. Amarilis Jacobo on the Governor's Council for Reopening that led to dentistry opening statewide on June 1.

- NYSDA has provided a wealth of up-to-date information in the COVID-19 Resources section of their website and in daily emails.
- NYSDA is emphasizing that dentistry is an essential service. If there is another round of statewide lockdowns, dentists must remain open.

#### **AT THE LOCAL LEVEL:**

- The Bronx County Dental Society (BCDS) was there on June 1, providing hard to find N95 respirators and other PPEs to its dues-paying members. The value of the N95s alone is more than the share of your dues that goes to the local component. If you did not take part in the initial give-away, or if you would like seconds while they last, contact Joy Patane at [BronxDental@optonline.net](mailto:BronxDental@optonline.net).
- The Bronx County Dental Society Remote Lecture Series will start in January 2021. This will present monthly Zoom lectures, free for all members.

**Tuesday, January 26, 7pm** Christine Taxin

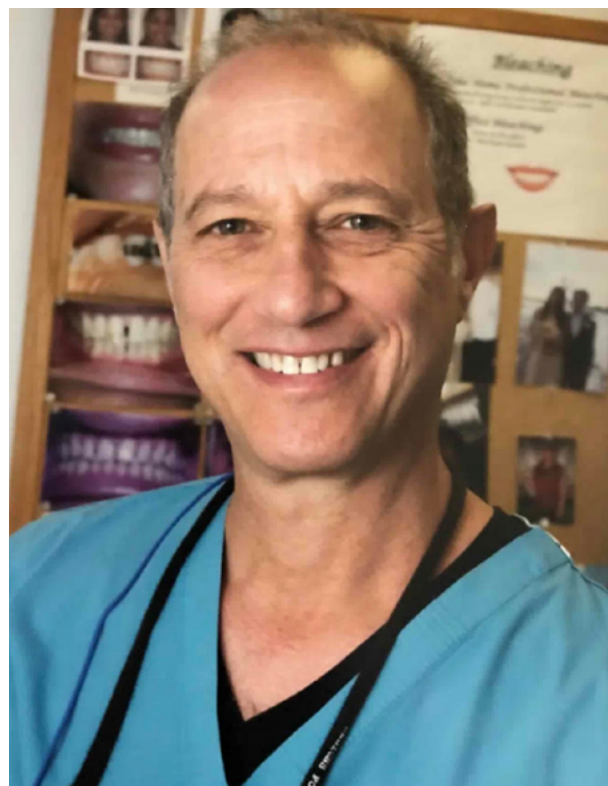
**Monday, February 22, 7pm** Dr. Howard Glazer

In retrospect I think that our yearly dues to the ADA are an investment that pay us back many times over. As 2020 ends I would like to thank all of you for your steadfast commitment to organized dentistry. I wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season and a peaceful new year. Feel free to reach out to me at [donsafferstein@outlook.com](mailto:donsafferstein@outlook.com).

Very truly yours,

Don Safferstein

President, Bronx County Dental Society ■



# Christine Taxin

## Exciting Changes for 2021

Virtual | Tuesday, January 26, 2021 | 7:00-8:30pm

Every year we return to work with many changes. 2021 will have more than any other year I can remember.

### Objectives:

1. Understanding Transmission in Dentistry
2. "We are the definition of primary care"
3. Health History is a must!
4. The foundation of new codes and how to implement them

### What you will learn:

1. Changes in the coding & billing world for 2021
2. The value of becoming a certified medical biller
3. The changes on the dental claim form
4. Knowledge of billing medical in today's world

## Christine Taxin

A dental educator with over 40 years of experience in her field, Christine Taxin excels at explaining complex billing and health topics to diverse audiences. Taxin is an adjunct professor at the NYU Dental School, has taught at Harvard University, and other dental universities around the country. Her focuses include medical billing in dental practices and how to transform general dentistry practices into dental wellness centers.



She has published 16 guidebooks and whitepapers for dental teams navigating the complexities of medical billing in dental practices. She has published articles in many trade publications, including Inside Dentistry, Dentistry IQ, and The Profitable Dentist. A popular presenter at Dental Conferences around the country, Taxin has been one of Dentistry Today's Top 100 Leaders in Dental Consulting for over eight years. She is a proud member of many organizations that deal with billing, wellness, oral systemic issues. By September 2020 Christine Taxin has successfully completed a working agreement with QPro and the AMA to have certification for billing within the specialties of dental practices. They will be in modules to allow all to be able to become certified billers under the AMA for Sleep Apnea, Peds Sleep, Sedation, TMD, Implants and Oral Surgery.

Christine has started a new program bringing the best of insurance into one room - the insurance extravaganza has been successful, with many always asking when it is this year!

**TO REGISTER FOR THIS ZOOM, EMAIL JOY PATANE AT [BRONXDENTAL@OPTONLINE.NET](mailto:BRONXDENTAL@OPTONLINE.NET)**

2CE Credits. Free to BCDS members. ■

# Howard S. Glazer, DDS

## I Have It...You Need It! Minimally Invasive Dentistry - Bioactivity v. Biomimicry

Virtual | Monday, February 22, 2021 | 7:00-8:30pm

Dr. Glazer will explore the concept of Bioactivity v. Biomimicry in a minimally invasive approach to restoring dentition. He will discuss the instruments and products he uses to achieve optimal health for the tooth while maintaining form and function. Products will be mentioned and rationale for the use of each will be discussed. This is a program about real dentistry, by a real dentist, treating real patients!

### Objectives:

1. To learn what bioactive means and why we should use such products
2. To learn what bioactive materials are used for specific instances
3. To learn what to use for detection and instrumentation to create minimally invasive procedures that will preserve tooth structure

### Howard S. Glazer, DDS

Dr. Glazer is a Fellow & Past President of the Academy of General Dentistry, and former Assistant Clinical Professor in Dentistry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He has been a visiting clinician at several universities around the country. He is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists; International College of Dentists; American Society for Dental Aesthetics, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Aesthetic Dentistry. Dr. Glazer is an Attending Dentist at the Englewood Hospital (Englewood, NJ).

For the past several years, Dr. Glazer has been named as one of the "Leading Clinicians in Continuing Education" by Dentistry Today, and most recently was named as one of the Top Dentists in New Jersey by New Jersey Monthly & 201 Magazine. He lectures throughout the United States, Canada, overseas, and authors articles published throughout the world. His "I Have It...You Need It!" column appears in Dental Economics magazine. He maintains a general practice in Fort Lee, NJ.

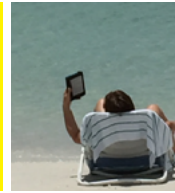


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## Dental Seminar 2021

The Resort at Longboat Key Club, Longboat Key, Florida  
Thursday, April 22 – Sunday, April 25 | 20 CERP/PACE



# Smiles In The Sun

## Educational, Fun and Relaxing

continuing education above & beyond the ordinary for a **sunsational** experience



### Joe Massad, DDS

**The Neuromuscular Prosthesis: A Major Shift in Prosthetic Design**

This full-day course will discuss a new and improved prosthetic design based on anatomical and physiological concepts.



### Debra Englehardt-Nash

**"Up Your Service"—Creating Patient Experiences that Increase Profits**

Learn how to differentiate your practice, define your practice, ask the right questions and monitor the statistics that matter.



### Howard S. Glazer, DDS

**I Have It...You Need It!**

A rapid-fire, no-nonsense presentation about "must have" materials will reinvigorate your desire to provide clinical excellence.



### Roy H. Sonkin, DDS

**Forensic Odontology: "CSI It Ain't"**

Gain knowledge and insight into the use of forensic odontology and the various hurdles one must overcome.



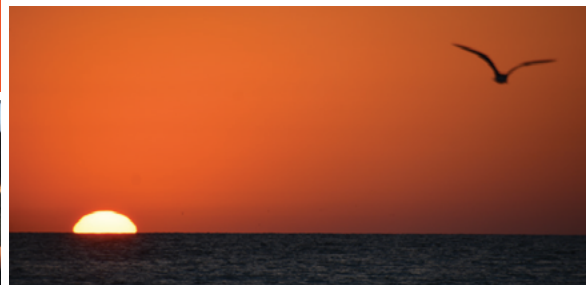
## EDUCATIONAL

Looking for a meeting where you can learn about the latest materials and techniques? Do you want an educational, fun and relaxing meeting for you, your family and your staff? Then look no further as **Smiles In The Sun Seminar 2021** at the Resort at Longboat Key Club in Longboat Key, Florida has it all! Courses are held Thursday – Sunday mornings and you can receive 20 CERP/PACE approved credits for only \$975 (call for special fees for staff and spouse).

## FUN AND RELAXING

- Fishing tournament
- Extra hotel amenities and discounts
- Friday night beach bash
- Kid-friendly family vacation
- And other surprises!

## \$100 OFF for FIRST TIME ATTENDEES!



This is a limited attendance program so don't wait another moment.

Register Today: **516-352-5614** or

**[www.smilesinthesun.net](http://www.smilesinthesun.net)**

email: [sonkindental@gmail.com](mailto:sonkindental@gmail.com)



**SMILES IN THE SUN**  
Educational, Fun & Relaxing

# Some of New York's Best Dentists Share a Secret:

## DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?

More than 10% of the dentists practicing in New York State now suffer from a chronic, progressive disease. If left untreated, it is FATAL. This disease is characterized by signs and symptoms, like all diseases. And, like many other diseases, it can be treated.

## THE NAME OF THE DISEASE IS ADDICTION.

The signs and symptoms of addiction to alcohol and other drugs include loss of control, memory blackouts, increased tolerance, craving, physical dependence, withdrawal and DENIAL.

Why don't dentists with alcoholism just stop drinking? Why don't dentists that abuse drugs simply stop and get help? The fact is they are usually unable to recognize that their drug and alcohol dependence is causing problems in their lives and in their professional practices.

This DENIAL is a symptom of the disease - not a character flaw. It prevents them from seeking assistance - unless someone intervenes to help them face the reality of their illness - and the real hope of stopping its progressive destruction.

### DON'T REINFORCE DENIAL

The first step to recovery:  
1-800-255-2100

Your call is confidential

### TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE. RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE.

**New York State Dental Association**  
Council on Chemical Dependency  
20 Corporate Woods Blvd., Ste. 602,  
Albany, NY 12211 ■


Will you see one?


“Getting my smile back has given me my life back.”

YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFE

[WillYouSeeONE.org](http://WillYouSeeONE.org)

From clearing up painful dental infections and being able to eat again to rejoining the workforce - volunteering with Dental Lifeline Network's Donated Dental Services (DDS) program will make a life changing difference for the people we serve.

  
Dental Lifeline  
Network.

 “Fellow dentists—will you join me in seeing **ONE** patient?”  
-Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

# Thanks to our members that serve on NYSDA's Councils

We are always looking for new people to get involved. If you would like to learn more about any of these councils, please contact Joy Patane at [BronxDental@optonline.net](mailto:BronxDental@optonline.net)

- Dental Benefits Programs Council - Dr. Anthony Danilow
- Dental Education and Licensure Council - Dr. Keith Margulis
- Dental Health Planning and Hospital Dentistry Council - Dr. Dianne Heller
- Dental Practice Council - Dr. Richard Herman
- Dental Ethics Council - Dr. Kirti Tewari
- Governmental Affairs Council - Dr. Moshe Glick
- Membership and Communications Council - Dr. Josephine Sullivan
- New Dentist Committee - Dr. Jerica Cook
- Nominations Council - Dr. Robert Margolin
- Peer Review and Quality Assurance Council - Dr. Cathy Szanto / Dr. Josephine Sullivan
- Chemical Dependency Committee - Dr. Don Safferstein
- Special Committee on Dental Medicaid - Dr. Amarilis Jacobo
- EDPAC Board of Directors - Dr. Joel Friedman ■

## THE BRONX COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

2157 Tomlinson Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10461  
(Use the side entrance on Esplanade Avenue)



### Let Us Hear From You

Contribute to BCDS news

- Write an article for the newsletter
- Have something you want to present?
- Ideas for community outreach?

Email

[GoodmanY2K@yahoo.com](mailto:GoodmanY2K@yahoo.com)