FRESNO-MADERA DENTAL SOCIETY

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Wouldn't it be nice, this holiday season, to PAY it FORWARD!

You, as professionals, have many opportunities to give back. I heard a nice story on the radio told by a single mom of three boys, ages 6, 9 and 11. They had very little money and therefore took most, if not all of their meals at home.

During this holiday season, the mom saved up enough money to treat the kids to a special dinner out at their favorite restaurant. She had some coupons that she had collected, and those together with the money she had saved would have to do.

When they were seated, and ready to order, they were very careful to only order those dishes that could be split, and then added up their expenses to see if they tallied with the money and coupons they had brought with them.

When they were ready to leave, the waitress came over and told the mom and her kids, that her bill had been taken care of by the couple who had been seated at the table next to them.

Well, the mom began to blush. She was so embarrassed that someone had taken pity on them thinking that they were so poor that they needed a handout.

"No" said the waitress. "Wait until I tell you the rest." "They were paying it forward because someone else at one of the other tables had paid their bill and only said, "Here you go, now pay it forward."

The mom and her children were amazed. They collectively decided to do the same. Looking around the restaurant, they settled on an elderly couple and told the waitress to apply the money and coupons to their bill. The waitress told them that this was the eighth such act of kindness occurring on her shift.

After walking out of the restaurant, they looked back through the window and saw the look of amazement on the couples faces. What a gift for everyone involved.

The mom and her children were high on life that whole day. The children kept thinking of ways to give back by paying it forward. What a life lesson.

This is a true story, and it happened right here in Fresno. Now read the rest of your newsletter to see how else YOU can pay it forward. If you look closely, you really can see angels out there.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Celebration Time, Oh Yea!!!

The Fresno-Madera Dental Society is Giving Back. This year we will commemorate our 100th year of service to our members and the community they serve. We are planning something very special for member dentists and their spouse or significant other. You won't want to miss this one! This will be a hosted event by FMDS—no charge to you.

He Paid it forward without ever knowing it.

Recently I visited Albania to provide free dental care at a missionary organization. This was my seventh trip in the past 19 years but it was the first time in 18 years that I spent the whole time in Tirana the capital city. My first visit was in 1992 two weeks after the end of communism. All the citizens of the nation were employed by the government. The dentists I met made $14 per month — but at least a loaf of bread was only five cents.

A friend of mine Irwin Stobbe DDS retired and donated his entire office contents consisting of chairs, x-ray machine, instruments, supplies, materials, and sterilizer. By some process I can't recall, all the stuff was shipped at no cost to Albania. I do remember it went by boat to Holland and then by truck to Tirana. The Bosnia war was going on so the driver was paid an extra thousand dollars to take the container through the war zone.

When my team of six arrived in Albania all of Dr. Stobbe's stuff was in the living room of Dr. Muci Myzyri. We set up a dental clinic in his house and on the front porch. I had never seen amalgam mixed by mortar and pestle. When I started prepping a cavity Dr. Myzyri started the hand mixing process. I asked him how he knew it was mixed right and he said when it sounds like the crunchy sound made when walking on snow then he would roll it in his bare fingers. Some of our luggage had been delayed in Rome-for a few days so when the Wiggle Bug amalgamator arrived my wife popped in a capsule and in 15 seconds dumped the contents into Dr. Myzyri's hand. I saw him hold it near his ear as he rolled it in his fingers and then give an approving smile. The machine-mixed amalgam sounded "right". We left all the stuff in his living room. I think he was the first dentist in private practice in Albania at that time.

Fast forward 19 years. I am back in the capital city, recovering eight boxes of supplies, a cardboard dental chair and air compressor and vacuum that I left after my visit to a distant town three years ago. I brought three suit cases of current anesthetic and supplies. But I don't have an amalgamator. I won't be able to use my Fuji IX or amalgam without one so I head out by dead reckoning for a house I haven't been to for 18 years in a town without phonebooks or decent street signs.

I find the street, then the address but it looks different. I see a steel door inset into a sheet metal garage door. After I push the door bell Mrs. Myzyri opens the door and immediately recognizes me. She took me up two flights of stairs above the carport where my old colleague now has a nice two chair dental suite. New Italian over the patient delivery, video monitor for an intraoral camera is attached to the patient light pole — as well as a computer monitor plus a soccer game playing on a TV. As I looked around I recognize some equipment such as a little cylindrical shiny chrome Harvey Chem-clave, an art deco Wiggle Bug amalgamator and a old GE Xray machine mounted to the floor. Dr. Stobbe's stuff was still in use! I was able to borrow the Wiggle Bug for the week.

After we left in 1992 Dr. Myzyri continued to practice in his living room using the donated equipment and supplies. Then after seven years he tore down the brick wall that was topped with broken glass pushed into wet cement. In its place a narrow three story building was built which had a carport at ground level. The second level was storage and the third floor was the dental clinic.

In 1992 his son was seven years old and I told Muci, " even though you got all this stuff for free you can't provide treatment for free like we did for the past two weeks. You are going to have to charge more than what the cost is to replace the materials that you consume." I think he made the transformation from communism to capitalism successfully. Nineteen years later creates a better perspective to appreciate the power of generosity. Not only is Dr. Myzyri earning a nice living in an attractive office with a Mercedes parked downstairs but Kejdi his son is now 26 years old and practicing dentistry with his father. The legacy of Dr. Stobbe's generosity is still paying dividends now to a second generation.

I hadn't seen Irwin Stobbe in years. He lived just a block from my old office. When I got back in October I found only one "Stobbe" in the phone book. A lady answered and told me the sad news that Irwin had died a couple years ago. I told his widow the whole story and she said he would have been so glad to hear his stuff was put to good use. He once told me his parents were very active with the Salvation Army. I'm sure they had demonstrated a lifetime of generosity and service to others. When I was in Junior High I used to pull skeet and trap for Dr. Stobbe, earning $1.25/ hour. That added up to a whopping ten dollars a day! —- Along with the risk of any one of five guys with a 12 gauge mistaking my hat for a clay pigeon. I wonder if it was the 12 gauges or the "Quiet Air" that caused the ringing I hear.

K.O. Crosby DDS

In Recognition of Dr. Emilio Garcia and the Crowns for Kids Program

A BIG THANK YOU to Dr. Emilio Garcia, who through his donated cast off crowns and other precious metals to the "Crowns for Kids" program netted $500 for the Fresno-Madera Dental Society's use in promoting and paying for dental treatment for our community's children. Just imagine how many more dollars could become available to FMDS if all of our members participated in this great program. The Sacramento Dental Society raised over $10,000 through this program.

We would like to encourage everyone to hop on the band-wagon and become a part of a truly beneficial program. FMDS could use these funds to help with Team Smile, The S.O.S. Program, Give kids a Smile, or to even to donate to FMDS' Children's Fund established with the CDA Foundation. You can also deduct this donation on your Income Tax.

Crowns for Kids provides much needed dental treatment to children, who would otherwise slip through the cracks. Below is more information on this wonderful program, along with contact information. Again THANKS Dr. Garcia for participating. And now you can also participate, and **PAY IT FORWARD.**

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The metals used in crowns are precious for many reasons, especially when it comes to helping kids smile a little brighter. By donating those metals through Crowns for Kids, you'll help fund essential programs in your community.

It's easy to participate. Simply collect the crowns in the jar provided until you reach the "pick-up" mark, then give us a call. The CDA Foundation will arrange to collect the jar and provide a receipt for your donation. Funds will be pooled with other donations from your local dental society and used to make a difference for children in your community.

Get your collection jar. Call the CDA Foundation at: 800.232.7645 Ext. 5942

Crowns for Kids™ is a trademark of the Sacramento District Dental Foundation.

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A copy of an application for membership is available from FMDS. Just call 438-7284 and we will send one out to you.. .

Of course we welcome all dentists, no matter how long they have been in practice, but to compete in the $100 prize, the new member must be a full dues paying member, therefore having been in practice for four years or longer.

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Saturday, February 25, 2012 (YOUR CHANCE TO GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY!!!!

Patient care hours: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Approximately)

Dear Doctor and Staff:

It is time once again to lend your support for the Give Kids a Smile Program *and* S.O.S. Sealant Clinic at FCC. Volunteers need not be in dentistry to help, as we have need for bilingual team members fluent in Spanish and Hmong languages.

Because of your past efforts, we have been able to provide restorations, cleanings and thousands of sealants for more than 1000 children in our community. This would not have been possible without the broad range of support of our dental community.

This year's program will be our best yet. We will run the Give Kids a Smile restorative clinic at local dental offices, with children being screened and bussed from the Fresno City College Dental Hygiene Clinic. At FCC, we have opened up the clinic for prophys and sealants to all 2nd through 6th grade students on a first come, first served basis. We plan to begin by about 8:15 AM for orientation and to get situated in an operatory. The last patients will be seated at 11:30 AM. Treatment hours at the dental offices will be 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. There is a great need for doctors to provide restorative services in local dental offices, as well as provide care at the 30 operatories at FCC. We welcome DDS, RDH and RDA team members to help place sealants and provide prophy's and fluoride treatments to make this day a success.As in years past, we ask you to bring the following supplies for your own personal use:

Personal Protective Equipment: Clinic jacket, glasses/shield (your preference). Bring gloves if you have special requirements, otherwise a variety of sizes of latex gloves will be available

For those providing dental care, if you have preferred them. We will have a broad range ypical dental supplies-burs, slow-speed handpieces and curing lights for your use.

For those providing dental sealants at FCC, it would be helpful if you could bring your own curing light. We have approximately 15 available and have need of 25. You will use your own light. Please label your light with your name and phone number.

Volunteers are also needed to help with processing patients, sterilization, assisting, placing sealants, minor scaling, prophys and fluoride treatments. Several doctors will be needed for screening patients as they are brought into the clinic. Bring your staff if you can. We'd love to see a large number of dentists and their team members as this is FMDS's premier community dental outreach program.

If you can participate, please fill out the form included with this memo, and fax or mail it to me as soon as possible. Please indicate your preferred work location, as we can use doctors both providing pediatric restorative care and placing sealants. I will forward details of the day and directions to the Dental Hygiene clinic. Your participation is greatly needed and valued! We look forward to working together with you. Please call me at 432-7100 or Val Jury at the FMDS office at 438-7284 if you have any questions.

Dr's Name:_____ Phone:_____ Fax:_____

Please ask Team Members to participate with you: _____ RDH RDA other

_____ RDH RDA other; _____ RDH RDA other

❒ I will be able to participate in the SOS clinic this year on Saturday, February 25, 2012

❒ Give Kids a Smile: At one of the dental offices

(We will let you know which offices are available)

❒ SOS Sealant Clinic: Fresno City College School of Dental Hygiene

I will bring a light cure unit with me for my own personal use at FCC ❒ Yes ❒ No

❒ Please contact me at the above phone number regarding questions I have about the clinic.

Mail to FMDS, 371 E. Bullard, #120, Fresno, CA 93710 or FAX to 438-7287.

FMDS Members pay it Forward

During the summer, when the big Fresno Fair was in town, two of our members, along with their staff and the help of Benco, Henry Schein, Patterson and Procter and Gamble donated 1000 ++ goodie bags to school aged children. The kids took home a new toothbrush, dental floss, tooth paste and a disclosing tablet for use at home but knowledge about how to properly take care of their teeth.

Thank you Dr. Michelle Asselin and Dr. Greg Nalchajian for donating your time to instruct these kids.

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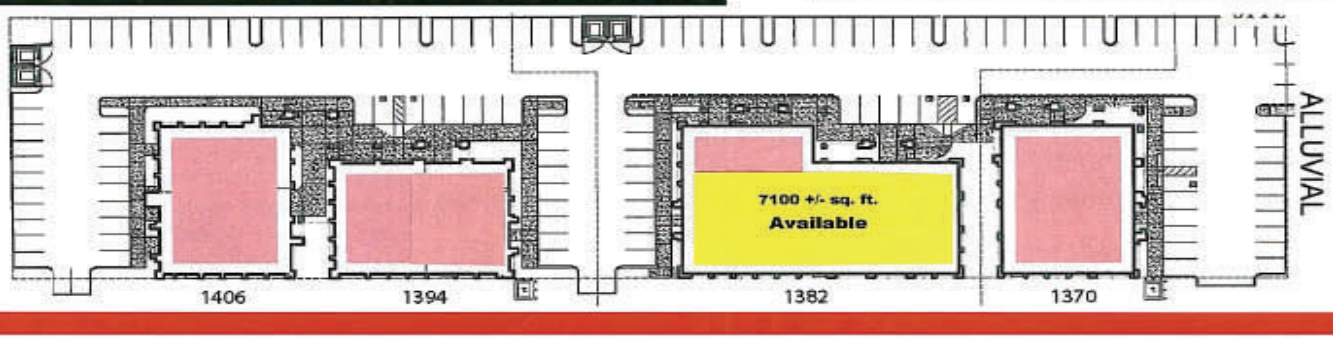

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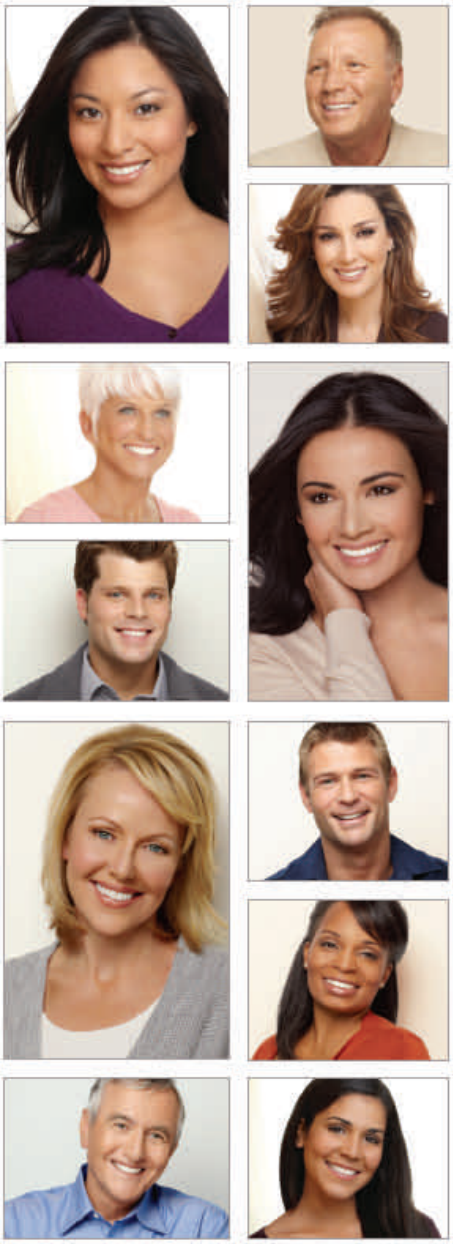

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I am glad to say that over the last several years I have been working closely with MicroDental. I've been very content and grateful that I can provide my patients with top quality lab work that exceeds their expectations... I feel confident recommending MicroDental Laboratories to everyone with no regrets!

– Dr. Luis Castillo, Fresno, CA

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