



# The ORACLE

Published by the Southern Maryland Dental Society

November 2024

ORACLE

## President's Message

### Save the Dates

2024

Nov 23

Soft Tissue Laser Course

2025

Feb 3

GMM Live Webinar

Mar 3

GMM In-Person

Apr 7

GMM Live Webinar

Sep 8

GMM Live Webinar

Sep 18

Chesapeake Dental Conference

Oct 23-25

ADA SmileCon

Nov 3

GMM In- Person

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As we near the end of November, a month that calls us to reflect, give thanks, and embrace the season of change, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for my family, friends, and loved ones.

I want to report that we had a great turnout at the new dentist event earlier this month. As such, I wanted to thank everyone who attended to make that event fun and welcoming.

Also, I want to thank everyone who has helped keep our organization active and engaged this year. Active membership continues to be an important part of our organization. So, please consider asking your colleagues to join our organization in 2025 if they have not done so already.

Additionally, the members of the executive board are continually working hard to help put together excellent continuing education and fun membership events for next year. As always, we welcome members to join the board.

Lastly, please be on the lookout for the membership dues that will be coming out in the next couple of weeks.

Happy holidays!

Tuan Nhu, DDS





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Acceptance of advertising in no way constitutes professional approval or endorsement.

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**Editor's Letter**

Greetings Colleagues,

🍂 As the year winds down take some time to acknowledge those you are thankful for this holiday season.

🌟 New Member Spotlight: Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our newest members:

- Dr. Courtney Williams
- Dr. Kennedy Chioma
- Dr. Sheng Ge
- Dr. Giuliana Irene Aliaga Romero
- Dr. Ariel Anderson



As the new year approaches encourage colleagues to join our dynamic community and reap the rewards through the MSDA Member Referral Program (details on pg.10).

🗣️ Your Voice Matters: Your feedback is invaluable. Share your insights to enhance our newsletter.

As we enter the holiday season remember to check in on your loved ones and stay safe for all of those traveling!

Happy Holidays,

Dawn Clarke, DDS  
Smds.newsletter@gmail.com





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## Southern Maryland Dental Society

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The Southern Maryland Dental Society (SMDS) is a component dental society of the American Dental Association and the Maryland State Dental Association.

SMDS works diligently to enhance the oral health care environment in southern Maryland. We are here to serve our members, the public, and our partners in oral health care. SMDS provides quality continuing education for its members and advances public service initiatives.



## Upcoming Meetings

Please mark your calendars and save the date for these upcoming meetings and events below.  
Note: General membership meetings (GMM) dates are in **bold** and may be subject to changes.

**2024**

Nov 23 Soft Tissue Laser Course

**2025**

**Feb 3 GMM Live Webinar: Dr. Steven Liu**

Feb 19 MSDA Dentist Day

Feb 27-Mar 2 MSDA CE Retreat

**Mar 3 GMM In-Person: Dr. Sheila Sammadar**

**Apr 7 GMM Live Webinar: Dr. Richard Lipscomb**

Apr 30 MARPAC Golf Classic

**Sep 8 GMM Live Webinar Dr. Sylvan Mintz**

Sep 18 Chesapeake Dental Conference

**Oct (tba) GMM Live Webinar**

Oct 23-25 ADA SmileCon (Washington, DC)

**Nov 3- GMM In- Person: Dr. Vivek Thumbigere**

### **REMINDER**

General Membership Meetings are FREE to SMDS members who register in advance.

Failure to register at least one week in advance will result in a \$25.00 late charge.

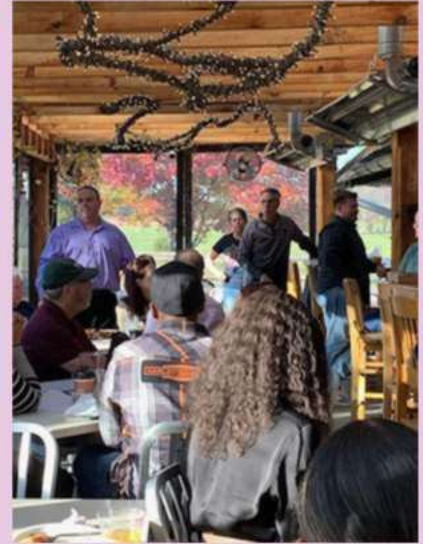
To register **Please call** 301.345.4196 or  
**Email** [valerie@smdsdentists.org](mailto:valerie@smdsdentists.org)



## Event Highlight

Fun Time Learning Improvisation at Brookeville Beer Farm!

On Saturday November 2, about 40 members of the MSDA and several UMSOD Dental Students enjoyed pizza, beverages, and learned Improv. Thanks to an ADA Member Recruitment & Retention Grant obtained by immediate past SMDS President Dr. Halima Karim, the event was totally free! The improv was taught by 3 teachers organized by Mr. Michael Harris, a professional actor and Improv Instructor. You may ask, why should dentists learn improvisational skills? Michael explained that dentistry is a profession where listening to your patients and developing answering skills is so important. Voice tone, tempo, and body language were also discussed. Participants had the opportunity to practice together, learning, chatting and just having fun at the beer garden.



## Event Highlight

Thank you to everyone who attended our last GMM where Dr. Julius Hyatt lectured on "Preparing for and Treatment of Common Emergencies in the Dental Office." We had a fantastic turnout, and we were delighted to acknowledge our new members during the session. The meeting provided valuable insights into managing emergent situations, covering initial medical evaluations, the importance of emergency kits, drug administration, and team preparedness. A special thank you to the SMDS and MSDA staff for working hard to help organize and facilitate events for a successful year.



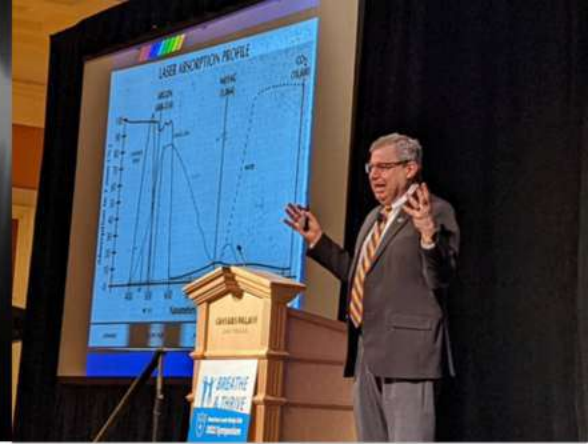
# The Southern Maryland Dental Society Presents Soft Tissue Lasers in Dentistry



**Hands-On Course - 8 CEUs**  
**WHERE:** Southern Maryland Dental Society

4920 Niagara Rd, Suite 306, College Park, MD 20740

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 23, 2024  
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM



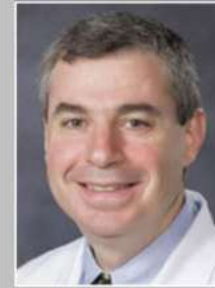
## Introduction

Soft tissue lasers offer numerous benefits over conventional surgical methods, such as scalpels and electrocautery, including enhanced precision, reduced bleeding, and improved patient comfort. However, achieving consistent, successful outcomes requires an understanding of the unique properties of laser energy and its interaction with tissue. This course will delve into the essential principles of laser physics, emphasizing the "Big 3" parameters—power, time, and spot size—to maximize surgical efficiency while minimizing lateral thermal damage. Attendees will gain insights into advanced laser techniques, allowing them to refine their clinical skills and deliver predictable, high-quality results in their dental practice.

## Course Curriculum

- Understanding laser-tissue interaction and the physics of light energy.
- Mastering the "Big 3" parameters: managing power, exposure time, and spot size.
- Techniques to minimize lateral thermal damage and optimize patient outcomes.
- Clinical applications in common procedures:
  - Gingivectomy and soft tissue contouring.
  - Frenectomy for tongue-tie and lip-tie treatments.
  - Fibroma removal and lesion excision.
  - Crown lengthening and uncovering implants.
- Managing complications and enhancing safety protocols.

## Meet the Instructor



**Robert A. Strauss DDS, MD, FACS**

Dr. Strauss is a Professor and Director of the Residency Training Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, and Past President of the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Dr. Strauss is board-certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and is a former Chair of the Major Surgery Section of the Board. Over the last 30 years, he has authored numerous publications and textbook chapters on the use of lasers in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Strauss received his dental degree from the University of Buffalo and his medical degree from the UHSA School of Medicine. He completed his internship at the Buffalo General Hospital and residencies in both Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and in Anesthesiology at the Michael Reese Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Strauss specializes in laser surgery of the head and neck, facial and jaw reconstructive surgery, cosmetic facial surgery, and sleep apnea surgery. His research interests include laser and cosmetic surgery, sleep apnea, anesthesia, and orthognathic and reconstructive surgery.

## Hands-On Participation Session **2 HOURS**

- Laser Safety
- Laser Surgical Technique Simulations
- Superficial Ablation
- Superficial Coagulation
- Shallow Incisions
- Deep Incisions
- Practicing Surgical Techniques on a Pig Jaw

## Course Certificates

Course participants who successfully complete the examination, will be awarded a **LASER SAFETY basic knowledge CERTIFICATE** from the Board of Laser Safety of the Laser Institute of America (DISCOUNTED cost for the ALSC members), as well as a Laser Dentistry and Laser Surgery Basic Knowledge and Hands-On participation Wetlab **CERTIFICATE** from the American Laser Study Club (**FREE** for the course participants).



## About the American Laser Study Club (ALSC)

The ALSC was founded to promote science-based laser dentistry, surgery, and safety education. The ALSC is proud of its curriculum and its distinguished membership, including our honorary members **Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD** and **Rella P. Christensen, RDH, PhD**, world-renowned leaders in dental product research and education, who welcomed the ALSC's mission: "Peter, we congratulate you on starting a laser study club. It is greatly needed..."

## Tuition

SMDS Members \$485  
Non-SMDS Members: \$590  
Residents (*Starting Nov 1st*): \$235

## Registration

**Call: (301) 345-4196**  
**Email: [Valerie@smdsdentists.org](mailto:Valerie@smdsdentists.org)**



# Save the Date for Upcoming MSDA & ADA Events!



**Save the Date for MSDA Dentist Day**

**February 19, 2025**

**The Governor Calvert House  
Annapolis, MD**

**Save the Date for ADA Dentist and Student  
Lobby Day 2025**

**March 29-April 1, 2025**

**The Marriott Marquis, Washington DC**

**Save the Date for 4th Annual MARPAC Golf  
Classic**

**April 30, 2025**

**The Marriott Marquis, Washington DC**



**Save the date for MSDA Chesapeake Dental  
Conference & House of Delegates 2025**

**September 18-21, 2025**

**Princess Royale  
Ocean City, MD**



**Save the Date for ADA SmileCon 2025**

**October 23-25, 2025**

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center,  
Washington DC**





**The 2025 MSDA  
Member Perks  
Retreat is coming  
back to MD!**



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## MSDA Member Referral Program

We are thrilled to introduce the Maryland State Dental Association's (MSDA) Member Referral Incentive Program—a fantastic opportunity for our valued members to earn rewards for their support and dedication to our association.

For every three (3) non-member dentists you refer, who successfully join the MSDA, you will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card as a token of our appreciation for your support and commitment.

For more information on the MSDA Member Referral Program visit [msda.com/msda-member-referral-program/](https://msda.com/msda-member-referral-program/)



# The Classifieds

**NEW LISTING- BALTIMORE COUNTY – GP PRACTICE** - excellent location – business park – free pkgng. @1,000 S/F - 3OP's, 1 addl. plumbed. @1,000 S/F. PO/FFS/MDHS. Refers specialty procedures . iTero, Digital Pan, NB Implant System. Eaglesoft. Contact Ellen Dorner – 410-935-4066 – [edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**NEW LISTING – PEDO PRACTICE – Richmond, VA** – 7,000+ S/F in strip mall. Abundant free pkgng. 9 OP's, @2,500 active patients – 30-40 new patients/month. EagleSoft software. Digital Pan/Ceph, digital radiographs. Contact Ellen Dorner at N/L Transitions – 410-935-4066 – [edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**NEW LISTING – FREDERICK COUNTY – GP PRACTICE** - condo for sale. 4 OP's. Currently 3 ½ days/week. Huge growth potential. Refers out specialty procedures. Dentrix. Digital radiography, intra-oral camera. PPO's/FFS. Contact Ellen Dorner 410-935-4066 – [edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY – FREDERICK COUNTY** – GP practice in condo office – condo for sale. 5 OP's, 3 built out, 2 plumbed. Currently 4 days/week. Refers out specialty procedures. Softdent. Digital radiography, Panorex, Scanner, intra-oral camera. PPO's/FFS. Contact Ellen Dorner 410-935-4066 – [edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY – MONTGOMERY COUNTY –GP PRACTICE-** excellent location - commercial hi-rise – free pkgng. @2100 S/F, four (4) OP's, PPO/FFS. Refers all specialty procedures. Eaglesoft. 15-20 new patients/month. Contact Ellen Dorner– 410-935-4066 – [edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY** – GP practice in strip mall. Abundant parking. 1,350 S/F, 4 OP's. 3 days/week. @14-18 new patients/month. Refers specialty procedures. Eaglesoft. Digital radiography, Cerec 2, Laser, Therma-filler. Contact Ellen Dorner – 410-935-4066 -[edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)

**NEW LISTING- DENTAL OPERATORY FOR SUB-LEASE !!** Large dental office with extra operatory for sub-lease — Great option start-up practice for new graduates with opportunity for future buy-in of 65yrs established community general dentistry family practice. Available 2 large fully digital equipped Ops. with assets valued \$250K in spacious 3000 sq. ft. private office. Prime location downtown Silver Spring [20910], 2nd floor with park view; off busiest street - Georgia Ave; near public transportation and 2 blocks from metro- Red and purple lines. Patient parking available in building garage. Please make contact by email: [DentalAppt4U@Hotmail.com](mailto:DentalAppt4U@Hotmail.com)