

Baltimore County Dental Association

# NEWSLETTER

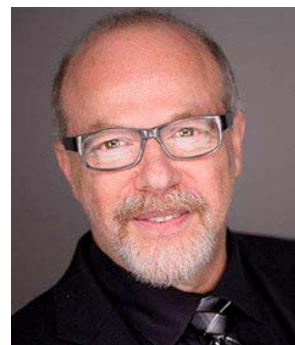
MARCH, 2019

## March Dinner Meeting to feature Damian Blum, DMD, DABDSM on "Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Dentistry (No one else sees what we see)"

The Baltimore County Dental Association March Dinner Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at the Red Lion Hotel North Baltimore, 2004 Greenspring Drive in Timonium. Our guest lecturer is Damian Blum, D.M.D., DABDSM speaking on "Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Dentistry (*No one else sees what we see*)."

Born in Argentina to a poor family, Dr. Damian Blum's parents immigrated to the United States when he was only ten years old in order to escape discrimination and persecution and to give their children the chance at a better life. Although his parents only had a sixth grade education, their wisdom, love and compassion inspired him to become the first in his family to achieve a post-graduate education.

Dr. Blum began his journey toward becoming a dentist as a volunteer at the Sinai Hospital Dental Clinic. He later graduated from UMBC with a BA degree in Biology / Psychology and went on to receive his DMD degree from Boston University's School of Dental Medicine in 1983. In that same year, he opened the doors of his first private practice in Baltimore and, in 1987, opened a new practice in Ellicott City. Dr. Blum has studied under many of the world's top clinicians for the past 35 years and, because of the passion and calling to serve others that he received from his parents, he believes that with the opportunity to learn comes the obligation to pay it forward. Dr. Blum attends training and conferences year-round, sometimes as a student and other times as the instructor. He is also a past Clinical Instructor at the University of Maryland Dental School.



Once Dr. Blum discovered the relationship between dental problems, periodontal problems, orofacial pain, TMD, headaches, systemic inflammatory diseases and problems with the patient's airway and breathing, he began deeply researching the connection between systemic health, airway blockages and sleep-disordered breathing. Once equipped with this knowledge, there was no turning back - it became his purpose to help his patients and to teach other dentists and allied health professionals about airway problems and sleep-related breathing disorders - so they could also help their patients. At the BCDA March 26<sup>th</sup> Dinner Meeting, Dr. Damian Blum will be sharing this knowledge with us! Discover the oral and systemic signs and symptoms associated with obstructive sleep apnea. Then learn - now that we see it, what do we do with it? Understand how using oral appliance therapy can increase the health of your patients as well as the health of your practice.

BCDA's March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting will also give members the opportunity to learn what's happening in Maryland with organized dentistry. MSDA Officers will be updating us on important matters at the State level prior to the evening's lecture.

Check in, networking and cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. The buffet dinner will be available at 6:30 p.m. Return enclosed reservation form with your payment, call the BCDA office at 410-560-0064, fax your reservation to 410-252-7289 or register online at [www.baltimorecountydental.org](http://www.baltimorecountydental.org) by **NOON** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2019**.

# The President's Message

Dear Members,

I am happy to report that our February Dinner Meeting at Fazzini's Taverna was a big success! Ed Ginberg gave an excellent lecture to an overflowing room. I'd like to thank those members who selflessly gave up their early registrations so that other members could attend and hear Ed Ginsberg. I'd like to also thank Joanne Rief for sharing the photos below. BCDA will be returning to Fazzini's on April 30<sup>th</sup> with Kevin Murphy speaking on "Periodontally Accelerated Osteogenic Orthodontics: An Update." Be sure to register early to hear Dr. Murphy as space at Fazzini's truly *is* limited!



For my compliance topic this month, I'd like to discuss a problem we have as Maryland dentists. **We need clarity!** Our dental code allows the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners (MSBDE) to expand upon CDC recommendations at their discretion. Perhaps this amendment was added at a time when the CDC or OSHA was not as engaged and effective for the dental community as it is today. It is our experience that the MSBDE is not communicating well about discretionary changes and that our practices, should we be inspected, are at risk of being singled out for non-compliance. The BCDA Executive Board members have found it impossible to clearly understand the MSBDE regulations, because the regulations are not published nor is the MSBDE Newsletter touching upon these issues.

The University of Maryland School of Dentistry should be a progressive test site for infection control strategies. MSBDE inspectors and MSBDE members often work at the school. Educators at the Dental School need to recognize that what happens at the school is not always a CDC recommendation. Their work is important and may affect future CDC recommendations. However, I believe that the CDC should be the final say on what is reasonable for our profession locally and nationally.

It would be my recommendation that our Association advocate for a return to 100% acceptance of CDC and OSHA recommendations by the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners without possibility for alteration. This would allow all of us to simply read published documents and comply without the uncertainty that we are missing something!

At the time of this President's Message, the Board has not responded to our request for comment.

If you would like more information about current MSBDE positions on infection control, I would rather speak with you in person. Feel free to give me a call at 410-258-7275 or come to our next BCDA Executive Board meeting and express your concerns to your leadership.

Hope to see everyone at the March 26<sup>th</sup> Dinner Meeting with speaker Dr. Damian Blum who has an important update on obstructive sleep apnea and treatment!

*Steve Kaywood*  
President

## BCDA's February 2019 Dinner Meeting at Fazzini's Taverna with speaker Dr. Ed Ginsberg

