

# STUDY LEADERSHIP

**MAY**  
2019

**May 1**  
Military Symposium

**May 2**  
BLS Renewal

**May 7**  
Evening at the Ballpark

**May 16-18**  
CDA Presents

**June 7**  
Practice Mgmt. CE Course

**June 14**  
Starting a Dental Practice

**June 18**  
Retirement Strategies

**June 20**  
New DDS Social



**San Diego County**  
DENTAL SOCIETY

Yoshindo Shibuya, DDS  
SDCDS member since 1957,  
holding Ansel Adams  
photograph of his music  
group in Manzanar



It happened to our members: the Japanese American  
incarceration during World War II [PART 1](#)

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Japanese American relocation center

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## FACETS NEWSLETTER

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Members (619) 275-7188; 1-800-201-2811 Public (619) 275-0244; 1-800-201-0244

EDITOR/Managing Editor:

**Brian Shue, DDS, CDE**

SDCDS STAFF

**Mike Koonce:** Executive Director

**Meg Hamrick:** Media/CE Coordinator

**Erin Houlihan:** Membership Coordinator

**Ryan Burgess:** Case & Development Coordinator

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# Thinking About Selling Your Dental Practice?



## Here Are Some Questions You May Be Asking Yourself?

- 1) Am I financially ready to retire or work less?
- 2) What is my practice worth?
- 3) How much will I net after paying off my practice debt, taxes, and transaction costs? Is that enough for me to retire?
- 4) How will I find a buyer that will take care of my patients and staff?
- 5) Should I keep the sale anonymous? If so, how can I do that?
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## Programs improvement

This article is a continuation of our last edition of Facets, where we began a detailed explanation of our Dental Society's Strategic Plan. The plan is broken up into 3 main goals: strengthening membership, program improvement, and improved outreach. This month's issue focuses on **"Program Improvement."** Of note, the percentages in parentheses denote our completion progress in that specific area.

One of the first goals is to revamp the **CE program** at SDCDS with aim to improve its pertinence to the needs of our members. On this front

- 1) We have already achieved our first goal of obtaining ADA CERP certification, which will enable us to provide higher quality CE courses (100%).
- 2) Create CE programs with a more diverse modality for learning (lecture, hands-on, online) (50%, ongoing).
- 3) Create protocol for designing the annual CE program (100%).

The next goal is near and dear to me, the **Learning Center**. For those that are unaware, we currently are in the process of developing a plan to construct a state of the art Learning Center, with the goal of providing a centralized location for continuing education courses. At this point, we are still assessing the feasibility, and are working to develop a business plan, review accounting, investigate what permits will be needed, what each step will cost, and what construction will be necessary (40%).

Another large goal set by our leadership is to create and develop a **Mentorship Program** to facilitate interaction and support between new and experienced dentists. We plan to achieve this goal by

- 1) Continuing our "Speed Dating" event, which matches dentists with jobs and office transition opportunities. This is now in its second year (100%).

What do you think about these goals? Next issue, the **Strategic Plan** for Outreach.

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## It happened to our members: the Japanese American incarceration during World War II

*My intent is to focus on the history of our fascinating members, both current and past, who lived through this dark period of time.*

Imagine a world where you and your entire family are thrown into prison because of your race. Do you have a successful dental practice? Are you an U.S. citizen? It doesn't matter. You lose everything, including your civil rights. Your president and government failed you. You are sent to a desolate location behind barbed wire and machine guns with others like you. Your world is forever shattered; your fate unknown.

Is this science fiction? No. It happened in 1942 to over 110,000 people of Japanese descent in the Western U.S.—the majority of whom were U.S. citizens. All were forcibly removed from their homes and incarcerated into prison camps because of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. They were transported in trains and buses into crowded barracks, located in desolate locations, often being forced to sell all of their possessions and bring only what they could carry. This affected up to 2,076 San Diego County residents (1,283 were citizens) and 1,583 Imperial County residents (994 were citizens).

Because of this exclusion, over 100 Japanese American dentists were incarcerated and lost their practices. Like their imprisoned physician counterparts, the government officially employed these dentists at the insulting salary of \$19 a month to provide all the professional health care for their population, at first with limited or inadequate supplies. These providers and their families lived without privacy like all other detainees in the crowded tar paper, thin-walled barracks and shared public showers and toilets lined up elbow-to-elbow, while their Caucasian supervisors lived in private well-built housing with indoor plumbing.

My intent is to focus on the history of our fascinating members, both current and past, who lived through this dark period of time. Three San Diego County Dental Society members from San Diego and Imperial Counties were incarcerated: Isamu Takeda, DDS, the second dentist of Japanese descent to join our dental society when he became a member in 1922; George Hara, DDS, a new dentist who would later reestablish and lead the San Diego Japanese American Citizens League from his postwar dental office until tragedy struck; and Kazuichi Taniguchi, DDS who practiced in my hometown of El Centro, and who became dental director at the Poston "Relocation Center" in Arizona. A fourth member, U.S. Army Reserve Captain James Arikawa, DDS of Brawley, was placed on active duty at the start of the War like all Reserve dentists. After it was discovered he was an Army officer and an American of Japanese descent, his rank and title were stripped away, which was just the start of his incredible journey living outside of the walls.

Those who lived through this experience inside of the prison camp as children were invited to share their perspectives in this issue of Facets, which include current SDCDS member Yoshindo Shibuya, DDS and former ADA President Eugene Sekiguchi, DDS. In another issue, SDCDS member Terry T. Tanaka, DDS will share his family's experience hiding in Arizona outside of the camp walls, which was recently part of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego's exhibit at Balboa Park's San Diego History Center.

In 1983, the U.S. Government report, Personal Justice Denied, concluded the incarceration was due to "race prejudice, war hysteria, and failure of political leadership."<sup>1</sup> Military necessity was the commonly used justification for their actions. Since Japan viciously attacked Pearl Harbor by surprise and forced the U.S. into World War II, it was feared another similar attack would occur with help from those of Japanese descent living on the West Coast of the United States.

National examples of injustice abound. German American families on the East Coast of the U.S. were not imprisoned, even though German U-boats sunk over 600 Allied ships with the loss of thousands of men on the East Coast. Sometimes the burning vessels could be seen from the shoreline. Additionally, President FDR timed the announcement of the end of the incarceration to occur after his upcoming reelection bid.

Injustices were seen on a state and local level, too. State California Attorney General Earl Warren "testified that sabotage by resident Japanese must be imminent because none had yet occurred" and he agreed with California Governor Olson that "the Japanese would not report subversive activities of other Japanese because none had been reported this far."<sup>2</sup>

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution that supported the incarceration, because among many things, they said it was not possible to differentiate between loyal or a disloyal Japanese. Besides firearms, the Imperial County Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance that did not permit "alien enemies" to own communication devices, such as carrier pigeons, short wave radios and even cameras and telescopes. The San Diego Union printed editorials that attacked Japanese Americans and printed racial slurs on a regular basis on its newspaper pages, including in article headlines. Even beloved children's author Dr. Seuss published mean-spirited political cartoons that caricatured Japanese and Japanese Americans with grotesque stereotypical features that would have instantly derailed anyone's career if done in modern times.

continued on page 17





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## Making the Wheels Turn

While last month I wrote about our board and their strategic guidance of our organization, I would be remiss not to say a bit about our staff. They are the engine that makes the society run every day.

**Media/CE Coordinator:** Meg Hamrick attacks this role with relentless determination. She manages the business side of publishing our print and electronic newsletters. She oversees the running of our society website and is deep into social media as a means of communicating with our members. She coordinates all the aspects of making a CE meeting run smoothly, from the set-up of the room to the delivery of CE certificates. On any given Wednesday, you can hear Meg shout, "It's admin Wednesday!" That's the day she's set aside for herself to be sure our society office is stocked, prepped and functioning at full capacity.

**Care Coordinator:** Ryan Burgess was a school teacher in his previous career, but he wasted no time in learning the ropes at the society when he joined our team. With the perfect mix of efficiency, empathy and discretion, he is the staff liaison with the Wellbeing, Ethics and Peer Review Committees. But the place he's really shown his colors is in the coordination of the San Diego County Dental Foundation. Our sister organization has grown dramatically in the last several years especially with the opening of the Geis Dental Clinic at VVSD. Ryan has proved to be a winning grant writer and is responsible for raising a healthy portion of the budget we need to keep the clinic running and to support many of the other foundation programs such as

scholarships for dental school students and access to dental care in the community.

**Membership Coordinator:** Erin Houlihan was the last to join our full-time staff and she dove in head first. If you've got a question about membership, Erin is the person you'll talk to. Her background working with other non-profits is invaluable as she implements the many tasks and events of the Recruitment and Retention Committee, and works especially closely with new dentists. Her job demands a mastery of our database and marketing skills that she is teaching herself along the way. While I am the primary liaison with our board, Erin handles much of the behind-the-scenes work that goes into preparing their materials. We all consider ourselves lucky in the office when Erin bakes one of her breads or cakes and brings in the left-overs!

To round out the group, we are happy to have Antoinette Simonetti, our bookkeeper, who is here every two weeks. And Mike Metzger is our talented graphic artist whose work you see every time you read an issue of Facets, or receive one of our postcards advertising a CE meeting or social event. Antoinette has a long history in dentistry having worked with a couple of our dentist members, and Mike's tenure with SDCDS exceeds my 11 years. Please join me in thanking them for a job very well done. Without them, our organization just wouldn't be the same – or wouldn't be at all!

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**CENTRAL SAN DIEGO:** Well-established practice located in prof. bldg. with ample and convenient parking. Office open 5 days/wk and 8 days of hyg./wk. Operated w/ EagleSoft and is digitized with Schick de~~SOLD~~ and Cone Beam Pano. Practice utilizes CEREC, I/O Cameras, and Dental Lasers. Patient base is comprised of FFS, Indemnity, and PPO. Most specialty work referred out. 2016 GR \$2M+ Adj. Net \$658K. #CA483

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**LA JOLLA:** General Dentistry practice with 8 Operatories, 7 Equipped. Utilizes Dentrix software with Digital X-rays and an I/O Camera. The practice is ~~SOLD~~ days of hyg./wk. GR \$738K with \$264K Adj. Net on 4 day/wk. 60 yrs. goodwill, 29 w/ current owner. Most specialty procedures referred out. Great location in which to live and work. #CA477

**NORTH COUNTY INLAND SAN DIEGO:** 4 Operatory Prosthodontic Practice featuring Dentrix and Digital X-rays in a beautiful and spacious facility. In an excellent location with great curbside visibility and loyal referral sources nearby. Seller relocating. 2017 GR \$737K with \$182K Adj. Net. #CA524

**SAN DIEGO PERIODONTAL:** **NEW LISTING!** Periodontal practice with 5 total operatories, 4 equipped, is now available. Excellent, bright, and airy location, with digital x-rays and Dentrix practice management software. Seller is retiring. 2017 Gross Receipts of \$379K with room to grow! #CA559

**SAN DIEGO:** Family oriented general practice in a busy shopping area with great visibility. 3 Ops, EZ 2000 Software, Digital X-ray ~~SOLD~~ era, PPO/FFS, Small amount of MediCal. Seller retiring. Excellent opportunity for a new doctor or a 2nd office location. GR \$253K with \$129K Adj. Net. #CA523

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## Welcome New Members

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John Dubiel, DDS			UCLA, 1978
Ronza Abdal, DDS	3314 Carlos Dr.	Spring Valley	Universidad De La Salle, MEX, '17
Kevin Fang, DMD	15731 Bernardo Hts Pkwy #101	San Diego	Western Univ. Health Sciences College, '18
Edward Adourian, DDS			Yerevan State Medical Univ., Armenia, '92
Yvonne Jordan, DDS	5222 Balboa Avenue #71	San Diego	UOP, 2014
Han Nhat Vo, DDS	41785 Nicole Lane	Temecula	UCSF, 2017
Sherry Vakilian, DDS	320 Santa Fe Drive #105	Encinitas	UCSF, 2014
Sophia Aramoon, DDS	860 W Valley Pkwy #100	Escondido	University of Missouri - KC, '18
Jonathan Amberg, DDS	3121 Avenida Olmeda	Carlsbad	University of PA, School of Dentistry, '99
Zachary Nelson, DMD	955 Boardwalk #202	San Marcos	University of PA, School of Dentistry, '10

# Yoshindo Shibuya, DDS: Manzanar, music and Ansel Adams

By Misako Hirota, DMD and Brian Shue, DDS, CDE

Yoshindo Shibuya, DDS (USC, 1955) has been a SDCDS member since 1957. He was interned at the Manzanar Relocation Center in May 1942 as a teenager with his family. Manzanar was a fully-functioning city like any other, with housing, employment, education, medical and dental care, and even sports and social activities all within the barbed wire fences. Yoshindo was active in Manzanar High School and served as vice president of his class, played music, and was a sports editor for his yearbook. He was one of 177 graduates. He served as a US Navy Dentist at Port Hueneme in Oxnard. He retired from his Chula Vista practice in 1999.

Yoshindo's father, Yokichi, and mother, Fumiye were both born in Wakayama, Japan and came to the U.S. in 1919. His older siblings, Koichi (b. 1920), Kazue (b. 1922), and George (b. 1924) were all born in Utah, where his father worked in the mining industry. His father passed away due to illness when his mother was pregnant with him and he was born in Los Angeles in 1927. At the time of Executive Order 9066, his mom operated a 20-bedroom apartment-hotel just blocks from Los Angeles City Hall, where a 14 year-old Yoshindo made beds, took out the trash and also delivered the L.A. Times and Kashu Mainichi Japanese newspapers in the neighborhood.

**What are some things you took with you to Manzanar?**  
The only thing I remember is my brother George and I went down and got some new shoes and of course we thought we were going to live out there in the boondocks, so we bought boots. I don't remember too well on how many trunks we could take.

## Were you prepared for the harsh conditions?

There was just a frame of tar paper and chicken wire for our home when we got there. That was basically it for the walls of the buildings. Later on they drywalled inside. My buddy that lived in Poston (another camp) said he never had any drywall. But it was pretty cold at Manzanar. And the wind blew all the time. The sand and the dust from the wind was so bad, sometimes you couldn't even see the next barrack over even though it may be only 10 or 15 yards away.

## Did you receive dental treatment at Manzanar?

The oldest brother of a classmate of mine was my dentist in Manzanar. At the time he was doing the dentistry at Manzanar, he was in the fourth year of dental school, either he was going to Cal or SC. His name was Obo Sakiguchi. I think I had a wisdom tooth extracted.

## You played sax in a Manzanar band called Jive Bombers. What kind of music did you play?

We played big band. Glenn Miller, Count Basie, we played in music and dance halls. Our band had two trombones, three trumpets, four saxophones, bass, guitar, drums, and piano. Back then people really liked to dance. I learned to play music in camp when I was 15. I started with the tenor and after a while I played the other horns.



## Were there music teachers at Manzanar?

Yes. The camp had a regular music hall. And fellows that played trumpet or clarinet or piano or whatever. You would go up to them and say you want to learn how to play the horn or whatever. They had a connection with a music store in Los Angeles. So they would send over a list of horns they were looking to buy and the type of horn.

## Did you have money in camp to buy an instrument?

My mother probably took some money with her. It wasn't much. And she wanted to make sure I wanted to play this instrument. Otherwise it would be a waste of money. They say that kids don't want to practice, it's like going to work. But I liked to practice. And then of course you play in the high school band, so I got enough playing time. One thing that was important was to be able to read music. You had to be a good sight reader. That was important later in life, because I wanted to be able to

play and be called in for jobs. Because a band would come into town and say, "We are short an alto player or whatever, can you find one?" The union would call you and see if you could fill in or if you already have a gig that night, they would tell you what the dress code is, like a tuxedo.

## How did you meet Ansel Adams in Manzanar?

We were told to come down, this guy is taking a bunch of pictures of the band. At that time, I didn't even know who he was. We went to this certain block where there was a stage and that's the story. Eventually

he sent a set of the pictures for us at the music hall. I have an actual photo from Ansel Adams. It is not a reprint.

## Did any of your brothers join the service?

My oldest brother Koichi was drafted before Manzanar. You know, people don't know this. He gets in the service, and the war breaks out. President Roosevelt came to visit his army camp in Missouri. And they locked all the Japanese American servicemen in the brig during this visit, including my brother. They wanted to make sure nothing happened to the President. My brother was fluent in Japanese and also in writing. He was in the Military Intelligence Service language school. My other brother left Manzanar and also served as an interpreter in the Army. My sister was an interpreter there, too.

## You got to leave Manzanar early to go to college?

Yes. The latter part of September or early October 1944. I left to go to Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa.

## Did you feel any kind of prejudice in the Midwest?

No, except for one time back in Nebraska. We were at a performance with the band and at the break, audience members would come up and ask, "What are you?" It seemed like they never seen an Asian before.

## Why did you want to become a dentist?

I started out as an engineer. The defense industry was hiring many engineers. I got out of college in 1948. And the engineers were getting laid off. I got out of that field and picked dentistry. I'm not sorry that I did.

## When did you go to dental school?

In 1951. I got out of Morningside College in 1948. Back then it was tough getting into dental school. When I applied to USC in 1948 I got a letter back saying we are taking applicants now for the class of 1951 and if I wanted to leave my application. So I left my application there for three years. All during that time, I worked in a band. Then the following year I went to Creighton for graduate school in chemistry. While there I applied for dental school. But they wouldn't even allow me to take the test there. Because here I was in graduate school and they said sorry you can't take the test for dental school because you are in the graduate program. So I just quit and got on the road playing music. We played in Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, and Kansas.

## When you went to USC for dental school, did you experience any discrimination?

I was never invited to join a dental fraternity. There was another Chinese student, and he wasn't invited either. So what we had was an oriental study club. But I got to know the Psi Omegas, the national dental fraternity, in fact, I got to know those guys so well. I didn't go to their meetings, but they gave me free use of their dental laboratory. That was the only thing that I noticed about discrimination. But my brother-in-law, Terry (SDCDS member Terry T. Tanaka, DDS), joined Psi Omega in 1957 or 1958.

## Years later, you went back to visit Manzanar.

### What were some of your memories?

You remember what you did and the activities you did, but it is hard to explain. All these things flash through your mind. Some people don't like to think about the experience, others like to explain it because it is history. Actually, to me it wasn't bad at all. Sure, I was confined to this area. But from my perspective, I was a teenager and hung out with all of my friends. But the fact that if I wasn't there, I wouldn't have learned how to play my musical instrument. It sure helped me out.

Yoshindo Shibuya still plays the saxophone in the Elktones at the Elk's Lodge in El Cajon. His daughter SDCDS member Karen F. Shibuya, DDS, practices in Chula Vista and his son is a head and neck surgeon in Orange County. Interview from December 2017.



Manzanar High School yearbook photo, 1944: Ansel Adams' photo of the Dive Bombers performing Big Band music in Manzanar (Dr. Shibuya is in the bottom left corner of photo, with bowtie). Permission to use granted by UCLA Special Collections

Yoshindo said the Midwesterners were not very accustomed to seeing Asians. In fact, while eating with a mixed group of Asian and Caucasian friends at a restaurant in Sioux City, the restaurant owner thought they were escapees from a POW camp 100 miles away and called the police. After looking at their IDs, the police left them alone.



## Personal Justice Denied: Quotes from the report

### What happened?

"On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked and crippled the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. Ten weeks later, on February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 under which the War Department excluded from the West Coast everyone of Japanese ancestry — both American citizens and their alien parents who, despite long residence in the United States, were barred by federal law from becoming American citizens. Driven from their homes and farms and businesses, very few had any choice but to go to "relocation centers" — Spartan, barrack-like camps in the inhospitable deserts and mountains of the interior.

"This was done out of fear — fear of sabotage, of espionage, of fifth column activity. There was no evidence that any individual American citizen was actively disloyal to his country. Nevertheless, the World War II history of Americans of Japanese ancestry was far different from that of German Americans, Italian Americans or any other ethnic group. It is the bitter history of an original mistake, a failure of America's faith in its citizens' devotion to their country's cause and their right to liberty, when there was no evidence or proof of wrongdoing. It is a history which deeply seared and scarred the lives of Japanese Americans."

— "Personal Justice Denied", report

of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, 1983.

### "The big picture"

"A concentration camp is a place where people are imprisoned not because of any crimes they committed, but simply because of who they are . . . Despite some differences, all concentration camps have one thing in common: People in power remove a minority group from the general population, and the rest of society lets it happen" — Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles.

### On Racism:

On April 14, 1943, Western Defense Command General DeWitt, who oversaw the removal and incarceration said: "(A) Jap is a Jap. The War Department says a Jap-American soldier is not a Jap; he is American. Well, all right. I said, I have a Jap situation to take care of and I'm going to do it . . ." (racial slur used)

In 1943, "before a congressional committee, discussing his exclusionary policy" of the Japanese from the West Coast, General J.L. DeWitt, Western Defense Command: "You needn't worry about the Italians at all except in certain cases. Also, the same for the Germans except in individual cases. But we must worry about the Japanese all the time until he is

wiped off the map. Sabotage and espionage will make problems as long as he is allowed in this area."

Days before Executive Order 9066, the legendary Dr. Seuss drew a cartoon on Feb. 13, 1942 for a New York magazine titled "Waiting for the signal from home" (Google to see for yourself) that can be seen at UCSD's Geisel Library showing hundreds of buck-tooth bespectacled squinty-eyed Japanese walking along the West Coast and picking up TNT, while another looks in a telescope across the ocean, ready to lay the Western U.S. to waste. It now belongs to UCSD's Library collection.

### Politics prolonged the ordeal

Secretary of War Henry Stimson to Cabinet on May 26, 1944: "Is it appropriate for the War Department, at this time, to cancel the Japanese Exclusion Orders and let the Japs go home?" Cabinet agreed there is no war defense need, but not wise to do so "before the election." (racial slur used).

In conversations recorded in June 1944, FDR desired to release all incarcerated Japanese Americans after his 1944 re-election bid but did not want to "upset the West Coast" vote. He desired to dis-



tribute all the Japanese from the relocation centers "one or two families to each county" over the entire United States, because people of the West coast would "be willing to receive back a portion of the Japanese who were formerly there — nothing sudden and not in too great quantities at any one time."

The new Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, C. H. Bonesteel, who took over from DeWitt, wrote to McCloy on July 3, 1944 "there is no longer a military necessity for the mass exclusion of the Japanese from the West Coast as a whole." And also complained about Roosevelt's wish to scatter the Japanese, stated the "great majority of the Japanese will insist on going back to the areas from which they were originally removed." wrong to isolate them from their own people and their "religious, social, and cultural contacts" as well as economic factors. "For example, a Japanese dentist or merchant will have great difficulty in establishing himself in a white community." And that most would want to return to their original communities.

At Nov. 21, 1944 press conference, after his successful re-election, on the subject of the incarcerated Japanese Americans, FDR stated "a good deal of progress has been made in scattering them through the country" and said a plan to have "probably half a dozen or a dozen families" "scattered all around the U.S. is not going to upset anybody", but would not say if they could return to the West Coast. The Japanese Americans were not scattered.



### My family's internment experience

By Misako Hirota, DDS  
CDA Trustee,  
2016 SDCDS President

My grandparents, aunts and uncles were interned during World War II in Heart Mountain, Wyoming. Prior to arriving at the internment camp, they were relocated to a processing center at the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia, California. They, like most Japanese Americans, spent a few weeks to months there until they were sent out to various internment camps.

Unlike many Japanese Americans that were given short notice and were forced to sell their belongings for pennies on the dollar, my family were fortunate to have been part of a close-knit farming community that stepped up and ran their citrus business while they were interned. They had a much different wartime experience because of the kindness of their neighbors. When they returned, they came home to most, if not all their property intact and their business running. My grandparents seldom spoke of their wartime experience in the camp, just like most Japanese Americans. My grandmother only mentioned how cold the barracks and Wyoming were in the winter. Otherwise, they felt that the experience was an uncontrollable situation and that it could only be persevered.

My mother was born an American citizen but when she was about 7 or 8 she travelled to Japan with my grandmother to visit her paternal grandparents. She spent most of her developing years in Japan graduating from high school with plans to return to the U.S. She however, chose to stay in Japan, married, had children and when the war broke out, was unable to return to the States. My father was drafted into the Japanese army and served in the Manchurian front. My parents immigrated to the U.S. in 1955.

### Ansel Adams' photo credits

When offering the collection to the Library in 1965, Adams said in a letter, "The purpose of my work was to show how these people, suffering under a great injustice, and loss of property, businesses and professions, had overcome the sense of defeat and despair [sic] by building for themselves a vital community in an arid (but magnificent) environment....All in all, I think this Manzanar Collection is an important historical document, and I trust it can be put to good use."



## Broader lessons learned from my incarceration in the U.S. as an American of Japanese Descent during World War II

By Eugene Sekiguchi, DDS, ADA Past President

*Dr. Sekiguchi served as ADA President in 2003-2004, CDA President in 1996-1997, and San Gabriel Valley Dental Society President in 1987, where he practiced until 2001. He shared his views with Facets in February 2018. As a toddler, he was incarcerated with his mother and baby sister at Heart Mountain Concentration Camp in Wyoming for the duration of World War II. Because his then deceased grandfather came from a military family, his father was labeled a “dangerous enemy alien” and arrested and sent to a work camp by the FBI the day after Japan savagely attacked Pearl Harbor. His father lost his homes in Los Angeles (2) and San Diego (1). The full story of his internment appeared in the July 14, 2003 ADA News.*

**D**uring World War II, many Americans of Japanese Descent became internees when they were 18-to 40 years old, in the productive years of their lives. They were suddenly uprooted from their potential. Many were bitter about the experience. Afterwards, some of them did not necessarily end up working in their preferred careers. Some would later get involved in various rights movements. One of the rights not often mentioned is right to participate in leadership.

At the time, life in the U.S. was still dominated by White Anglo-Saxon Protestants, who took nearly all of the leadership positions. Today, there are more minorities visible in our government, but they still have a ways to go. All of the steps forward are very small steps, but they are generally in a good direction. Individual hardships are probably a very small price to pay for the various races.

Looking at organized dentistry, the theme of leadership was

easy to see. I knew that there were many minorities in the national leadership of the ADA, but I was surprised to see African Americans and Asian Americans in leadership positions across the country at the state level, as well. ADA leadership slowly began to look at the importance of inclusion of minorities in membership, whether or not they were in leadership positions.

In either case, on the subject of minorities at the professional level, the dentists are the minority in the medical field, and the medical profession is the minority in the entire political arena. Look at the medical profession, which is being lambasted for their economic and political position in the U.S. I worry about the economics of the U.S. in the world, and I think perhaps, we are on the brink of change. Changes are needed in the U.S., even though our country is #1 in almost everything. An example, our people have a lower life expectancy than the developed world in general, including some third world countries, even though we have a higher standard of living.

It may be a distorted viewpoint, I believe dentistry is going through a revolution, perhaps, in education and for sure looking at economics. I personally don't want to commoditize dentistry, but that is one of the choices we have. I am probably going off the script, but I guess I still worry about where we are going, and I think perhaps people that are younger than 50 should be concerned about our history and the reasons behind the history.

Take a look at the internment camps authorized by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His decision was probably the only solution given the information he had. If you or I or anyone else had to decide, given the same circumstances, would there have been any other way to meet the goal of keeping the U.S. homeland safe like he did? Even though that's the case, I don't want history to repeat itself. We have to do a lot more planning before taking action. Nothing should seem like it is an emergency, but I know that Executive Order 9066 was an emergency move by the President.

Perhaps Executive Orders are the way the country will now be ruled, instead of by legislation. Because we can't get behind our leaders and work together. This can be good, or it can be bad, but it truly depends on how balanced the commander-in-chief is. It is better if the body of Congress legislates, instead of just a single person, but that may not be the way it happens — I don't know really.

So could Franklin D. Roosevelt have handled Executive Order 9066 differently? His own intelligence sources knew the options and the reality. But that information wasn't shared with him. So Executive Order 9066 was enacted and I believe Roosevelt had no other choices to base his decision. However, I don't absolve him from the blame of making the internment camps possible. I don't think he was able to think through all the consequences of the camps. For example, why were the lines drawn west of the Rockies in an arbitrary fashion?

Racism was involved. It is fairly easy to see the difference between the cultures and appearances of Asians and Caucasians. I think much of the fear that lead to the camps was based upon being able to distinguish the appearance of the populations. If the Japanese were not so easy to distinguish, maybe we would not have had to go into camps. There are exceptions. The Chinese were not sent to camp. And some Japanese on the West Coast managed to go east to cities like Chicago, Cincinnati and New York, and thus avoided the internment experience.

I think that immigrants from the Middle East and those of the Muslim faith can unfairly be targeted. Their customs are different than that traditionally found in the U.S. For instance, women have to cover their faces and wear non-revealing clothes. That can be easily distinguished and targeted for discrimination or to the extreme, even sending them back to their home countries or even to camps.

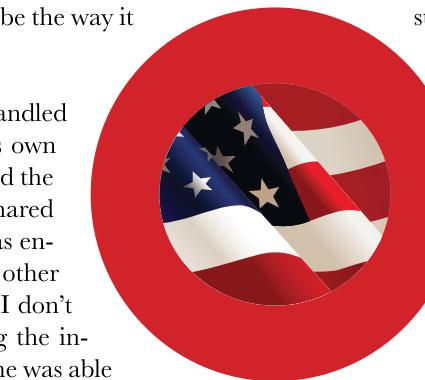
But I think that the other countries forbade these people from coming in and the U.S. accepted them, but didn't realize conse-

quences and social “degradation” that can occur. This is what happened to the Japanese in the U.S. back before the War. They were not considered first class citizens, but considered second class or lower.

Look at the movement of Mexican citizens crossing the border to work in the business of agriculture over the years. It created a group of people it considered second class. I don't know, but at the time of the ADA article about my return to Heart Mountain in 2003, if you bring economics in the picture, the image of the Mexican field worker may not have been as bad, but economics may not be the best measure of immigrants considered as first or second class citizens. Originally, any form of discrimination at the borders of the U.S. would have been a step towards incarceration in camps. This may not be a popular viewpoint.

The rules are usually made by the people who live there. The rules don't have to be just, but you are still obligated by the rules of the land. That is why the Japanese in the U.S. during WW II were compliant. For instance, my wife and her family were sent to the Arkansas Relocation Centers from Santa Anita. Her father, Henry Kawamoto, DDS, eventually became the director of the Rohr internment camp hospital, the second place they were interned in Arkansas. Her father was very understanding of the politics involved. And he was entrusted with closing the hospital at Rohr at the end

of internment. On the way home from Rohr, they stopped in Pueblo, Colorado and waited for service at a restaurant. They were denied service. So her dad said that they should get back on the train, forget about the situation that just happened and to be compliant. Because of his compliancy, his camp experience was personally peaceful but not universal.



The government has the right to rule, but do things in the appropriate environment. What is good for the U.S. is not necessarily good for the world, but also, in times of war, people should live according to the rules of the country. The biggest determinant for proper action and behavior is where you are. What you want is probably a higher standard, but that doesn't always work within the rules of the society.

I think that many people, especially immigrants and millennials, do not know that the U.S. once had concentration camps. But even though just one more executive order during WW II could have banished all the Japanese from the U.S., there is barely any mention of these camps in our history books. For example, when I talked to a young group from Arkansas, only one person knew about the camps. The others were not aware and somewhat ignorant of the camps. Unfortunately, as history is recorded, the error of omission has been used to hide actual events.

Discrimination can result in the incarceration of people without a just trial. One precept of democracies. As a postscript, there should not have to be omissions — covert or overt — to wipe our history clean from anything. Let transparency prevail. Let the reader be knowledgeable about the facts and let the reader make their own judgement. ■

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Dr. Greg McElroy

## ‘Why We Give’

*A successful general dentist, Dr. Greg McElroy has always recognized the importance of community and is committed to giving back to the community he calls home. Instrumental to the opening of the John Geis DDS Dental Clinic, Dr. McElroy has been active with the SDCDF and Dentistry for Humanity. “We do lots of charity. It’s important to give back.” One of the SDCDF areas of service that speaks most to him is volunteering his time and talent in community outreach opportunities where he provides free dental care to all members.*

*Specifically, Dr. McElroy gives back by participating in the annual “Dentistry from the Heart Day” which provides free dental care to all community members. “Smiles for Freedom Day,” the other community event Dr. McElroy participates in, provides free dental care to Veterans and First Responders – an event close to SDCDF’s heart as we provide dental services for veterans at VVSD. Looking forward, Dr. McElroy is excited to partner with the Foundation on future outreach opportunities and make an impact in a community we all call home.*

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continued from page 7 *It happened to our members*

The incarceration should have never happened—it was truly the United States at its worst. An official apology was made in 1988 and each survivor was given reparations of \$20,000.

Is the U.S. and President Donald Trump currently on the path to repeating similar civil rights violations against Muslims or immigrants coming across our southern borders? Some who experienced the incarceration believe so. Rather than offer my own opinion—my background hardly qualifies me to even speculate—I gave those directly affected by the exclusion the right to freely speak their minds. This debate even arrived at the U.S. Supreme Court in 2018. In the midst of the deliberation about President Trump’s Executive Order that temporarily banned travel from several Muslim countries, Chief Justice John Roberts saw the opportunity to finally overturn Korematsu v. United States, the case in which the 1944 Supreme Court did not rule against the exclusion and incarceration of Americans of Japanese descent.

Out of respect, I will use accepted terminology whenever possible. For example, the innocuous terms “relocation center” and “internment” as coined by the government were just euphemisms for “concentration camp” and “incarceration.” The world universally agrees an internment camp holds war prisoners, not citizens. As such, the term “concentration camp” is appropriate, and was even used internally by government officials, including FDR. President Harry S. Truman said succinctly: “They were concentration camps. They called it relocation but they put them in concentration camps . . .”<sup>3</sup>

Scholars write about history by cross-checking sources and documents. But personal histories cannot always be independently verified, or may have unintentional inaccuracies, as they were sometimes recalled from memories decades later, if even shared at all. Historical accounts may be lost forever because it was and still is quite common for detainees to avoid talking about their experiences, even with their own family members, because of their perceived shame from the incarceration.

But records are not always accurate. For example, Ralph Lazo, Dr. Shibuya’s popular childhood friend in Los Angeles, is not listed as a detainee with the U.S. National Archives. But he was there, and voluntarily served as possibly the only Mexican-Irish American child to do so, in total support his Japanese American friends. Proof? He was elected class president of Manzanar High School in 1944.

Stories like that complete the picture, and remind us of the important lesson that history is lost forever, if not recorded.

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*Special thanks to Gwenn M. Jensen, PhD.*

### Zeynep Barakat, DMD, FAGD

Dr. Barakat graduated from Boston Univ. School of Dental Medicine, completed an AEGD residency in Detroit and practiced in New England before moving to San Diego.

She is currently in private practice and recently joined the board of the San Diego AGD component. She is a regular contributor to the AGD’s Daily Grind blog.



## Learning to Appreciate Ergonomics

When I was just about to start treating patients in dental school, a good friend and dentist once told me that the art of practicing dentistry is like trying to draw in the back seat of a car being driven on a road with bumps and turns and end with a beautiful drawing. He was referring to all the obstacles we have to face while drilling and or incising. His thoughts came to mind after treating a patient who could not recline back in the chair. Adding to the challenge, I had to prepare an upper second molar for a crown. I tried prepping while sitting, but my loupes, set to a fixed 16 inches from the field of view, were of no use at the 10 inches that I was at. And so I decided to stand up, raise the chair and then realized my height difference with my assistant was an issue. There was no other way to do this crown prep. I finally lowered the chair, contort myself into a pretzel and prepare the tooth with an almost upside down head position. My childhood background in gymnastics came in handy but I wasn’t ten years old and age clearly manifested itself after we were all done.



All ended well with my grateful patient, the prepped tooth and my wonderful assistant. My back, shoulders and neck, on the other hand were fiercely tight and I glanced at the schedule and breathed a sigh of relief when I saw I could somewhat rest my limbs and back.

As a dental student, I proudly ignored the plethora of ergonomic courses offered at dental meetings. I thought I was young and fit and wouldn’t need the “help” of contoured chairs, supports and other methods to maintain a proper posture while doing dentistry. “That’s not for me”, I thought conceitedly. Fast-forward to today, and I gladly welcome all the expert’s recommendations on how to sit or stand with hand piece in hand just so I can practice as long as possible without deforming myself in the process. As we know, historically, much of dentistry was done standing (and without magnification). But if a procedure is typically done sitting, and we can’t access the site, what is a non-Cirque de Soleil - trained dentist to do?

One of the best purchases I made was my ergonomic chair. It keeps my back straight and lumbar region supported. Needless to say, it is well worth paying attention to the experts in ergonomics if possible so that we can continue to “draw” our dental art in the backseat of that bumpy ride for miles on end and still end with beautiful dentistry.

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Garrett Guess, DDS

Dr. Guess (pictured here with his family) is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics, with a private endodontic practice in the La Jolla/UTC area. He developed EndoTrak, an endodontic practice management software program. Email: endo@drguess.com.



# 5 YEARS MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY



## Member milestones:

In this issue we are celebrating the members of our society who have been with us for five years. If your anniversary date falls in 2019 (in five year increments), keep a look out for your name in future issues.

So here's to you! But we're not merely calling out your name to say hello. We're celebrating your dedication to all that we stand for. You have honored the pledge to uphold a high degree of ethical standards. You have helped us advocate for the profession of dentistry while advocating for the patient as well. You may have gotten involved in the leadership of the society through committee work or by serving on our board.

Many of you have supported our foundation by donating funds or your valuable time.

As you reflect on your years with the ADA, CDA and our local society, we hope you'll see value in what we provide. From continuing education, to practice management support; from patient referrals to networking opportunities; from peer review to journals and newsletters. Our goal is to help you achieve your goals. Together, I hope we've been successful.

— Mike Koonce, Executive Director

## MEMBERS THAT JOINED IN 2014

Wiam A Jabbar, DDS  
George Abichaker, DDS  
Genevieve Abi-Nahed, DDS  
Soolmaz Ajdari, DDS  
Hoa N. Audette, DDS  
Mark J. Bellisario, DDS  
Heta M. Bhansali, DDS  
Thomas Bierman, DDS  
Malcolm J. Boykin, DDS  
Jared B. Bunker, DMD  
Jordan N. Buzzell, DDS, MPH  
Cynthia Chinh, DDS  
May D. Chou, DDS  
David N. Chrisman, DDS  
Hasan A. Daoud, DDS  
John C. Davis, DDS  
Craig Deagle, DDS  
Luz N. Dunlap, DDS  
Debra S. Edson, DMD  
Eric Peter B. Ferrer, DMD  
Alexander C. George, DDS  
Daniel K. Hardy, DDS, MS  
Austin Haught, DMD  
Caroline Hwang, DDS  
Nicholas Jize, DDS  
Sophia Z. Kalawi, DDS  
Diana Kim, DDS  
Jessica S. Kim, DDS  
Ki Wan Kim, DDS  
Sreenivas Koka, DDS, MS, PhD, MBA  
Yosuf Korel, DDS  
Erika F. Kullberg, DMD  
Joseph H. Lai, DDS  
Jose A. LaLuz, DDS  
Quan T. Ma, DMD  
Mark Macaoay, DDS  
Thomas W. Maddocks, DDS  
Matthew Madsen, DMD, MD  
Christo Mallakis, DMD  
Paul Martin, DMD  
Coleman D. Meadows, DDS  
Cvetan Mechev, DDS  
Angela S. Miller, DDS  
Helen Moreno, DDS  
Inci Narin, DDS  
Justin N. Naylor, DDS  
WM M. Odom, III, DDS  
Joseph L. Packer, DMD  
Christopher J. Peterson, DMD  
Jennifer M. Pilby-Gomez, DDS  
Georgina Quintero-Golshan, DDS  
Yamil Reeves, DMD  
James M. Rodriguez, DDS  
Hana K. Rosen, DDS  
Mark A. Rutley, DDS  
Michael A. Saade, DMD  
Tina J. Saw, DDS  
Sophia C. Sellas-Gile, DDS  
Megan A. Shelton, DMD  
Keri E. Silva, DDS  
Pavneet Sondhi, DDS  
Randall W. Stettler, DDS  
Christina J. Thompson, DDS  
Meghan R. Toland, DMD  
Victor V. Tran, DDS  
Cameron C. Turner, DDS  
Shaghayegh (Sherry) Vakilian, DDS  
Madeline Warner, DDS  
Nicholas Westwood, DDS



San Diego County  
DENTAL SOCIETY

January 1, 2019

January 1, 2021

January 1, 2022

## Recent and upcoming prescription regulation challenges

In general we have an expectation that technology will improve a process, whether it's an improvement in speed, cost, or resources, including time and energy spent. Lately our methods of prescribing have been the subject of numerous changes, specifically the regulations associated with narcotics prescriptions. Most recently we were subject to some poor regulatory planning with the recent January 1, 2019 requirement to utilize new prescription pads with a new serial number format if narcotics were prescribed. When it came time for the deadline and the new requirement to take effect, many practitioners were unprepared. Being good rule followers, many tried to get new prescription pads ordered only to find the limited printing businesses were significantly backlogged and unable to deliver on time. One company I had used for many years to print my prescription pads took almost three weeks to finally respond, despite numerous phone calls and emails. The CDA, through their helpful advisory emails, kindly warned us of that nearing deadline and warned of the problems we would encounter if we didn't use a prescription paper pad with the new and supposedly improved serial number, and offered advice by recommending one utilize electronic prescribing software, or E-prescribing software, as an alternative.

Not too much longer after I finally obtained new prescription pads with the correct serial number routine, a new bill has been written and is expected to quickly pass which would delay the requirement to utilize these new prescription pads until two years from now, on January 1, 2021. That sounds like a relief, but according to a different bill, Assembly Bill 2789, on January 1, 2022, E-prescribing for all medications, not just narcotics, will

be mandated in almost all circumstances. So these new serial number prescription pads are really only necessary for possibly one year or for use in cases where E-prescribing cannot be performed, thanks to AB 2789. The push to adopt E-prescribing is certainly here in the State of California, and since it's three years out until the mandate's deadline, much could still change as we've seen with the recent new serial number fiasco.



E-prescribing software either comes included as a feature in your practice management software system, or can be obtained as a standalone web-based application separate from a practice management software system.

The process to get E-prescribing set up is a complicated one: it requires significant time, a multitude of passwords, a cell phone capable of receiving text messages as well as running a special security App, and more than one person whom you register as an administrator, to successfully accomplish the setup. Then transmitting an E-prescription requires using the software application with your username and password, and a special practice ID number in combination with a cell phone application that provides a special time limited code.

Given how complicated this is compared to using a pen and paper, E-prescribing technology certainly doesn't help with regards to the cost and efficiency of the prescription process from the dentist's standpoint, but that's not really the point of the new regulation. The complicated process is said to reduce fraud and errors in prescription writing. If and when the mandate goes into effect in three years, hopefully the system will be ready, and so will our practice's routines!

WEDNESDAY  
**MAY 01**  
2CE units

**2019  
Military  
Dental  
Symposium**



*Awards/Dinner/Lecture*

**Summary:** "Systemic Diseases and Conditions That Influence Osseointegration and Dental Implant Treatment Success". This presentation will describe how our patients heal differently as they age and cover related conditions.

**Time:** 4-5pm table clinics, 5-8pm program and dinner  
**Location:** Hilton Mission Valley, 901 Camino Del Rio S  
**RSVP:** [sdcds.org/event/2019-military-dental-symposium/](http://sdcds.org/event/2019-military-dental-symposium/)  
**Price:** \$80-Military, \$70 - First Year Residents, \$99 - Civilians  
**Parking:** Self Parking \$3

**Speaker:**  
Dr. Sreenivas Koka  
*UCLA Prosthodontist,  
Clinical Professor and  
National/International  
Speaker*



THURSDAY

**MAY 02**

3CE units

**BLS  
Renewal  
FREE CE\***



**Summary:** Register early if your CPR card is expiring; limited spaces available.

**Time:** 6-9pm (5:30pm check-in)

**Includes:** Pizza and salad, (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).

**Location:** SDCDS Office

**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org)  
619.275.7188 or  
[admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)

**This years renewals:**

August 22, October 24

**Pricing:** member \$40 or take advantage of your 1 free member benefit CE for 2019. nonmember \$60 | staff \$50

**Sponsor:** Westpac Wealth Partners



TUESDAY

**MAY 07**



SDCDS

**Evening at  
the Ballpark**

*Padres vs. Mets*

**Summary:** Skyline Patio Group Seating. Bring your office staff or the family!

**Time:** 7:10pm first pitch

**Includes:** fish tacos, hot dogs, pasta salad, roasted corn, peanuts, and beer

**Location:** Petco Park

**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) 619.275.7188 or [membership@sdcds.org](mailto:membership@sdcds.org)

**Pricing:** \$75/person

**Sponsor:** Benco Dental



**MAY  
16  
17  
18**



**CDA  
Presents**

*The Art and Science  
of Dentistry*



**Summary:** 175+ CE options and hands-on workshops about the latest technological advancements! This year there will be **No Hospitality Suite** for SDCDS attendees, so please plan accordingly.

**Location:** Anaheim Convention Center, 800 W Katella Ave Anaheim, CA 92802-3496

FRIDAY  
**JUN 07**  
6CE units

**Practice  
Mgmt.**



*Secrets of Creating a  
Case Acceptance Culture  
of Success in Your Practice*

**Learn:** Why money is rarely the biggest obstacle to acceptance. How to double your new patient flow for FREE. 3 Essential skills to help your patients say "Yes."

**Time:** 9am-4pm (8am check-in)  
**Includes:** Cont. breakfast, and lunch, (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).

**Location:** Four points by Sheraton, 8110 Aero Dr.

**Register:** 619.275.7188 or [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)

**Pricing:** member/staff \$75 nonmember \$99

**Sponsors:** Bank of America, Carestream, Dental Warranty Corp, The Doctor's Insurance Broker, Garfield Refining, Keating Dental Arts, Ken Rubin Practice Sales

**Speaker:**  
Steven Anderson



FRIDAY  
**JUN 14**

**Guide to  
Starting a  
Dental Practice**



**Summary:** A panel of experts will guide you on the next phase of practice ownership. Our goal is to provide you with the right information to help you navigate this incredibly important business decision. Take the first step toward owning your office today!

**Time:** 9am-2pm

**Includes:** Cont. breakfast, and lunch, (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).

**Location:** SDCDS Office 1275B West Morena Blvd

**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org)  
619.275.7188 or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)

**Pricing:** members free, nonmembers \$50

**Hosted by:**  
Bank of America



TUESDAY  
**JUN 18**



SDCDS

**Retirement  
Strategies**

*When You're Behind  
in the Savings Game*

**Summary:** How to save larger sums of money without breaking the bank for employees. How to accumulate \$1M or more in 10 years or less. How to enjoy tax deferred and tax free cash in retirement.

**Time:** 6-9pm (5:30pm check-in)

**Includes:** Light dinner and soft drinks (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).

**Location:** SDCDS office 1275B West Morena Blvd

**Register:** 619.275.7188 or [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)

**Pricing:** Members Free Non-members \$50

**Hosted by:** Westpac Wealth Partners

**Speaker:**  
Rod Crews



THURSDAY  
**JUN 27**



**New DDS  
Seminar**

*Clinical Pearls  
of Wisdom*

**Speakers:**  
Dr. Doug Disraeli

Dr. Michael McMahon

**Summary:** Experienced members will be presenting their clinical pearls of wisdom and favorite tools and materials in a friendly environment that promotes learning. Hands-on

**Time:** 6:00-830pm

**Includes:** Light dinner will be served

**Location:** SDCDS office 1275B West Morena Blvd

**Register:** 619.275.7188 or [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)

**Pricing:** Free

**Sponsor:** Burkhart



## San Diego County DENTAL SOCIETY

1275-B West Morena Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110

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