



METROPOLITAN DENVER  
DENTAL SOCIETY

*Connections For Our Profession*

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Local individuals recognized for outstanding community service and leadership in dentistry

DENVER, Colo. — The dental profession has an exemplary record of helping those in need. In recent American Dental Association surveys, dentists have reported providing more than \$1 billion each year to the nation in free and discounted care. Annually, the Metropolitan Denver Dental Society (MDDS) honors local individuals who have provided free, quality dental care to those in need, as identified through the **MDDS Community Service Recognition Awards Program** and individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the dental profession through the **MDDS Leadership Awards Program**. MDDS selects these individuals from the hundreds of local dentists who give back to the community the benefits of their professional expertise. The 2008 awards were presented to the following dentists at a ceremony held during the MDDS 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Society Dinner at the Mt. Vernon Country Club in Golden, Colorado.

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**The Honus Maximus Award**, the highest community service/leadership honor MDDS bestows upon its members, was received by **Major W. Tappan, DDS**. Dr. Tappan, a Denver-based general practitioner was recognized for his progressive vision, selfless dedication to children and numerous contributions to the profession over the span of his 60-year career. Most recently, as a leader in the quest to eliminate childhood cavities, he founded the **Total Oral Prevention Strategies**

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**(TOPS)** program which provides preventive care to preschool aged children. With the goal being to keep them cavity free and engaged in oral health, Dr. Tappan's concept illustrates what early intervention, education and treatment can do to alleviate the extreme needs of underserved children. This innovative program is the culmination of a lifetime of distinguished service.

**Children's Dentistry, the pediatric dental practice of Elizabeth (Betty) Barr, DMD, MS, Nelle Barr, DMD, MS and Sean Whalen, DDS, MS,** received the **2008 Outstanding Service to Children Award.** Children's Dentistry was honored for providing great care in a fun, kid-oriented environment to vast groups of underserved children. They are recognized by the American Dental Association as the national example for the best way to implement a Give Kids a Smile Day event in a private office. Established 30 years ago in Westminster, Colorado, Children's Dentistry is also very involved with The Sean McCauley Hope Foundation - dedicated to helping families who have a child with cancer.

**Lonnie D. Fallin, MS, DDS,** a retired general practitioner who practiced in Littleton, received the **2008 Outstanding Service to the Underserved Award.** Dr. Fallin was recognized for his dedication in providing free/low-cost services to patients through The Tri-County Health Department Senior Dental Clinic (serving 55 years and older, low-income and uninsured Arapahoe County residents). Described by his colleagues as superhuman in his commitment, volunteering consistently every Thursday for the last 7 ½ years, Dr. Fallin's patients appreciate his kind and humorous manner and consider him an invaluable resource.

**Shauna Vollmer King,** daughter of MDDS member dentist Dr. Donald Vollmer, received the **2008 Outstanding Service to the World Community**

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**Award.** She was recognized for her contributions as the president and founder of **International Medical Relief (IMR)**. IMR's mission is to provide access to healthcare in underserved and vulnerable communities around the world to improve the health, wellness and quality of life of those populations most in need. Mrs. King has worked on dental mission projects in Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Honduras, Cuba, Uganda, Ethiopia, Senegal, Myanmar, Mauritania, Kenya, South Africa, Mozambique, Kosovo, Romania, Laos, Turkey, China, Thailand, India, Indonesia and Mexico.

**Jack L. Wasinger, DDS**, a Lakewood-based general practitioner, received the **2008 Outstanding Contributions to the Dental Profession Award**. He was recognized for his contributions to dental philanthropy. Dr. Wasinger has made a career of benefiting others with only the purest of motives and methods, as well as inspiring fellow dentists to contribute their time and treasure to enrich lives and communities. Widely regarded by many dental organizations as their most valuable volunteer, his contributions extend to both the local and the world communities. Dr. Wasinger is described as the personification of the profession's exemplary tradition of helping those in need.

**Ian Paisley, DDS**, a Brighton-based general practitioner, received the **2008 MDDS Volunteer of the Year Award**. Dr. Paisley was recognized for his commitment in representing the needs of new dentists. He serves concurrently as a member of the MDDS Continuing Education Committee, MDDS Student Education Committee and the Rocky Mountain Dental Convention Marketing Sub-Committee. He was an integral part of the recent MDDS Business of Dentistry 101 course series and represents the 14<sup>th</sup> District as a member of the American Dental Association's

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(ADA) Committee on the New Dentist, encouraging new dentists to become involved with their professional membership organizations. He is a member of the ADA's Communications Council and is a member of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of the American College of Dentists*.

**Scott I. Whitney, DDS,** received the **Metro Denver Dental Foundation's 2008 Award of Excellence for Outstanding Service to the Smile Again Program.** Not only was Dr. Whitney recognized for consistently offering endodontic care to patients who adore him for his kindness and commitment to quality, he was also recognized as the Foundation's largest individual donor. He personally hosts the annual MOLARS Dental Golf Championship and the MOLARS \$10,000 Putting Challenge to benefit Smile Again patients. "Golf is my game, the Smile Again Program is my cause and dentistry is my passion. The MOLARS events are my personal expression of how small groups of people can make a big impact on the lives of others through the game of golf," said Dr. Whitney. Established in 2002, the Smile Again Program (formerly known as the Domestic Violence Dental Care Program) is a 501c3 community dental care project with a focus on overall health, empowerment and assisting in the transformation of individuals who have survived domestic abuse and have great potential for eventual self-sufficiency. A smile is worth a thousand words. Thanks to the investment of our volunteer providers, smiles once deemed beyond repair, so damaged by abuse and neglect, are telling a new story - a story of health and meaningful impact that only dentistry can tell. Our mission could not be achieved without the important partnerships that we have with all 143 volunteer dentists who participate in the program. These partnerships fulfill a promise to our communities by offering life-changing care to those survivors of abuse with the

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greatest need and who have the greatest promise of eventual self-sufficiency. The Award of Excellence has been created to recognize those collaborations that stand out on an annual basis.

The Metropolitan Denver Dental Society is a 111-year-old organization committed to improving the standard of dental care for the Denver community. The Society, a component of the American Dental Association, acts as the unified voice to advance public awareness and dental education for the benefit of its members and the public.

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