CDA meeting offers something for everyone

By Robin Godman, Group Editor & Fred Michmershuizen, Online Editor

The California Dental Association held CDA Presents the Art and Science of Dentistry Sept. 10–13 at Moscone West in San Francisco. The meeting featured four days of educational offerings. One of the highlights was a session featuring Joe Massad and Jack Turbyfill. Friendly jibes between the speakers and amusing simulated “patient” videos were a hearty warm-up for attendees of their joint lecture.

These two “giants” in removable prosthetics have a long-standing and entertaining rapport, the goal of which is imparting their knowledge to all those within earshot.

During their dueling dentures match — complete with a simulated boxing poster of the two speakers in gloves and trunks — Massad and Turbyfill took turns answering six questions that helped illustrate their different approaches to treating edentulous patients.

For example, the first question was: How do you arrange anterior maxillary teeth? In turn, each speaker presented a case that helped illustrate his answer to the question.

For those who stayed for the entire two and half hours of this lecture walked away with pearls of information about how to make not only a comfortable, esthetically pleasing and functional denture, but also how to make the entire experience a pleasant one for the patient.

In another educational highlight of the meeting, a quartet of lecturers presented “Forensic Dentistry: ‘CSI: San Francisco’ — Who was this?” The speakers for the forensic dentistry session were Anthony “Rick” Cardoza, DDS; Duane E. Spencer, DDS; James D. Wood, DDS; and Jeannine Willie, DDS.

Moving at a fast pace and using actual casework to illustrate the leading principles of forensic dentistry, the four presenters taught attendees how to acquire an understanding of the varied roles of forensic dentists as well as the forensic value of dental records. Attendees also learned how to cooperate with the legal system.

The lecturers’ second session focused on the analysis of bitemarks and how they are used within the legal system. For example, the first question was: How do you arrange anterior maxillary teeth? In turn, each speaker presented a case that helped illustrate his answer to the question.

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