Well, well, well......it’s hard to believe we are already in the month of October, the pros, perio, endo, and ortho residency programs have moved to the new SUNCREST TOWNE CENTRE, and unfortunately, the MOUNTAINEERS will not be winning the national championship in football for the year 2013. However, they are still NUMBER ONE in our hearts, and hopefully someday our dream will come true.

In this issue, I will highlight two new board members in the WVU School of Dentistry Alumni Association, the 75th Anniversary of the WV Dental Hygienists Association, the ADA meeting and dental school reception in New Orleans, and bring congratulations to Dr. Kilcollin for being recognized as Outstanding Rural Health Provider of the Year.

WVU SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The NUMBER ONE dental alumni association welcomed two new board members at its fall alumni weekend last month, and number one gets even better every year.

Lyndsey received both her B.S. (2008) and Master’s degree (2011) in dental hygiene from the WVU School of Dentistry, and is presently employed by the dental school as IMPLANT COORDINATOR. Lyndsey’s primary responsibility at the school, however, is to help yours truly with any alumni functions or activities that are presently happening or will EVER HAPPEN at the school. I have also given her the task of making sure that any all hygiene graduates are members of your alumni association, and she will experience EXTREME RE-PERCUSSIONS if this does not come to fruition. To be serious, at least for one sentence, Lyndsey is a GREAT addition and her hard work, wonderful personality and dedication will be a great asset to all.

Dan is a 1998 graduate of the WVU School of Dentistry, and although he lives and practices in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he definitely bleeds GOLD and BLUE. Dan received the opportunity of a lifetime last year, when he was privileged to fish with the GREATEST FISHERMAN OF ALL TIME, while attending the CE program “MOUNTAINEERS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE” in beautiful Clearwater, Florida. Dan felt that he was so blessed that he immediately bought his own fishing boat, and I have assured him world records will be caught every year with LESSONS from yours truly.

When you see Lyndsey or Dan, at any school or alumni function, please thank them for all they do and will continue to do for all of us.

West Virginia University School of Dentistry
Speaking of MOUNTAINEERS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE, plans have already been finalized for next year at the beautiful Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater. The dates are January 30, 31 and February 1, 2014. You should be receiving a brochure within the next month, but if you would like more information, you can contact me or Paula Rice in the Dean’s office at 304-293-0728. Also if you would like to renew your alumni membership dues for this year or next year, please contact our Secretary:

Cathy Boyce  Phone:  304-293-4393  
E-mail:  caboyce@hsc.wvu.edu

By the way, if you are not already a member of the NUMBER ONE DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF ALL TIME, PLEASE, PLEASE consider joining. I have been blessed with the opportunity to have attended many alumni association meetings at the University, and I honestly believe that no group does more for its alumni and students than we do. However, we can still do MORE with your help. If you have any suggestions about changes that you would like to see in your alumni association, or projects that you believe we should be doing, again PLEASE let us know. WE ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS.

TRIVIA QUESTION

What present or past faculty member has served our alumni association longer than any other member in our history??????

ADA SCHOOL AND ALUMNI RECEPTION IN NEW ORLEANS

The dental school and alumni association will sponsor a reception at the New Orleans Marriott on Convention Center Blvd. The reception will be held on Friday, November 1, 2013 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Blaine Kern “A” Room, with lots of good food, friendship, and fun. The Dean and I, along with a CAST OF THOUSANDS will be there, so please join us in this celebration.

75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WV DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION

The WV Dental Hygienists Association held their 75th anniversary extravaganza at the beautiful Bridgeport Convention Center on Saturday October 12, 2013. It was a great time for all in attendance and besides alums from all over the MOUNTAIN STATE, there were student representatives from three of the four dental hygiene programs in West Virginia. One of the highlights of the program was maestro Dr. Peter Ngan leading all present with his rendition of COUNTRY ROADS.

The West Virginia Dental Hygienists Association has a GREAT web site, and if you would like to check out all of the programs and activities you can go to www.wvdasmile.org.

West Virginia University School of Dentistry
Dr. Mark Kilcollin, one of the four original members of the West Virginia Rural Health Partnerships Program (RHEP), received the OUTSTANDING RURAL HEALTH PROVIDER OF THE YEAR, at a recent ceremony at Stonewall Jackson Resort. Dr. Kilcollin is currently a Clinical Professor at the school and has served our school for over 20 years.

Dr. Kilcollin graduated in 1974 and has practiced in Union WV for nearly 40 years. In 2009, Mark was joined in his practice by his daughter Dr. Katie Kilcollin, and his other daughter Abby is a junior dental who may someday also join the practice. The Rural Health program has now grown to 60 faculty dentists, and is one of the SHINING STARS at our school. I would also be remiss if I didn’t thank Dr. Richard Meckstroth, the director of the program from its inception, who has devoted his life both teaching and Community Dentistry.

TRIVIA ANSWER

Dr. Bob Sausen, although not a graduate of the WVU School of Dentistry, served as its first Secretary and has attended almost every alumni board meeting from its inception in 1961. Dr. Sausen is currently Chairman of the Awards Committee, and to honor Dr. Sausen, a new award is presented every year at the Senior Banquet the day before graduation. This award (called the Dr. Robert Sausen Award) is given to a dental and dental hygiene student who embodies the service and dedication of Dr. Sausen.

Again if you have any news or stories that you would like to share with other alums, or if you have suggestions about ways to improve communication, please let me know at 304-293-4301 or rwanker@hsc.wvu.edu.

Until we chat again.....God bless you all, and LET’S GO MOUNTAINEERS

Coach