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Board of Directors, Lancaster Dental Implant Study Group

Back Row, l-r: Max Adams, DDS, (Campus Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery); James Wheeler, (Zimmer Dental); Gerald Green, DMD - Periodontist, John Weierbach, DDS; Shea Stevens, DMD, (Treasurer); Adam Leed, (3i Implant Innovations, Inc.); Chris Silvaggio, DMD

Front, l-r: Dan Henrichsen, DMD, (Conestoga Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, LTD.); Mike Binkley, (Nobel Biocare); Michelle Cantwell, DMD, (President, Cantwell Dental Group); Mike Eckhart, DDS, (V.P., Conestoga Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, LTD.); Jim Ament, (Toothsmiths, Inc.)

Dental Group Shares Latest Advances in Implants, Does Your Dentist Participate?

by Jill Kring Carter

While not everyone chooses state-of-the-art technology in dental care, it is clearly an option here in Lancaster County; specifically in the field of dental implants. The long-term benefits of dental implants and prosthetic teeth are fast becoming common knowledge with today's savvy healthcare consumer. Prosthodontists, like Michelle Cantwell, DMD (Cantwell Dental Group), are delivering a lot of them in conjunction with area oral surgeons, who perform a vital part of the process.

Using cutting-edge technology, Dr. Cantwell and Dr. Michael Eckhart (Conestoga Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery) are providing life-changing prosthetic restoration for a shared patient, Ben Witter. Ben is a professional golf

trickster. As a result of cancer in a sinus cavity in 1988, he lost his hard palate and significant bone in the left upper jaw. Years later, with continued bone degeneration due to the radiation he underwent, he presented himself to Drs. Cantwell and Eckhart as one of their most challenging cases yet; replacing a prosthesis with remarkably less bone to which they can attach a new one. "On a difficulty scale of one to ten, Ben's case is certainly a ten", says Dr. Eckhart. "I had the easy part", he says, noting, "Dr. Cantwell has the real challenge ahead of her."

Drs. Cantwell and Eckhart, President and Vice President respectively, will be presenting Ben Witter's case to their colleagues at the Lancaster Dental Implant Study Group meeting on September 14,

2007 at Bent Creek Country Club. Following the meeting, attendees will enjoy the Houdini-like golf trickery skills of Ben Witter, ranked #1 overall in the world for his art. To learn more about Ben Witter's story, turn to page 24.

Guest speaker at this meeting will be Stephen F. Balshi, MBE (Master of Biomedical Engineering) and Director of Research for Prosthodontists Intermedica at the Institute for Facial Esthetics in Fort Washington, PA. There, Mr. Balshi is responsible for numerous projects related to the bone-implant interface and stability of dental implants during the critical initial healing period. Mr. Balshi is highly published and has lectured internationally. At this meeting, he will lecture on the topic of computer-guided

implant placement, which is allowing dentists and oral surgeons to help patients like Ben Witter, whom they could not have helped 5-10 years ago. Mr. Balshi will then participate in the round-table consultations, offering his knowledge and expertise to the mix.

The meeting is being sponsored by Nobel Biocare™, whose trademarked minimally invasive process, Teeth in an Hour™, provides patients an immediate and fully functioning set of dental implants and prosthetic teeth in just one clinical visit.

Some of the many topics discussed at Dental Implant Study Groups include:

- Diagnosis
- Treatment Planning
- Procedure Mapping
- Implant surgery

- Bone growth and repair
- Regenerating missing tissues
- Nerve repositioning
- Immediate implant placement
- Caring for implants
- Implant complications
- New concepts, materials, techniques and devices
- Uniquely challenging cases

The Lancaster Dental Implant Study Group consists of (50) general and specialty dentists, and oral surgeons. As a credentialed member of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID), the group acts as a vehicle to teach and demonstrate many aspects in the growing field of implant dentistry. The group consult, diagnosis and treatment planning of their most difficult cases, helps to ensure greater success rates for their patients.