

## **Father and Daughter Dental Team Earn Recognition from the Academy of General Dentistry**

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), a professional association of more than 35,000 general dentists who are dedicated to professional excellence through the pursuit of continuing education, is pleased to announce that two area dentists, Daniel L. Steinke, DDS and Hillary S. Caruso, DMD both of Dover-Foxcroft and Sorrento, Maine, earned prestigious awards during the AGD 2010 Annual Meeting held July 8-11<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans. Dr. Steinke and Dr. Caruso practice together in both locations, and are father and daughter.

Dr. Steinke has earned the 2010 Lifelong Learning & Service Recognition (LLSR) for his commitment to lifelong learning, volunteering his services to communities in need, mentoring associates and new dentists, and participating in organized dentistry.

The LLSR is presented only to AGD members who have gone above and beyond earning the association's highest honor of Mastership. To accomplish this recognition, Dr. Steinke completed at least 1,600 hours of continuing dental education in 16 different dental disciplines. In addition, recipients must complete at least 100 hours of dental-related community/volunteer service. Since its inception in 2005, only 127 of the AGD's 35,000-plus members have received the prestigious LLSR recognition and Dr. Steinke is the first dentist from Maine to receive the award.

Dr. Caruso earned the Academy's Fellowship award, which is presented to dentists who seek to provide the highest quality of dental care by remaining current in their profession. To accomplish this goal, Dr. Caruso completed over 500 hours of continuing education and passed a comprehensive exam. As a recipient of this award, Dr. Caruso joins more than 6,600 AGD Fellows who understand that providing great smiles and good oral health for their patients is the result of going above and beyond the basic requirements.

"Recipients of these awards are true leaders among our organization and wholly embrace the AGD's core principles and ideals," says AGD President David F. Halpern, DMD, FAGD. "For Dr. Steinke and Dr. Caruso this award symbolizes a career of excellence in dentistry and demonstrates the characteristics of a role model to their fellow dentists and to members of the community."

Dr. Steinke graduated from The University of Iowa in 1980 and currently practices dentistry in both Dover-Foxcroft and Sorrento, Maine. Dr. Steinke has been married to his wife, Beth for 35yrs and they have four children. In addition to the AGD, Dr. Steinke is a member of the American Dental Association, Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation, Pierre Fauchard Academy, New England Masters Study Club, International Congress of Oral Implantologists and L.D Pankey Alumni Association.

Dr. Caruso graduated from the University of Connecticut in 2004, and also practices dentistry in both Dover-Foxcroft and Sorrento, Maine. Dr. Caruso has been married to her husband, Joe, for 10 years. They have 2 children, Jack and Griffin, and are expecting a baby this November. In addition to the AGD, Dr. Caruso is a member of the American Dental Association, Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation, and the New England Master Track, as she is now currently working on obtaining her Mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry.