

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By the third week of January we have a light covering of snow, the Bears are on their way to Miami for the Super Bowl and hopefully you're all feeling like you have a little more time and less stress with the holidays behind us. So here's wishing you the best for your plans, dreams, and hopes for this New Year.

And again we want to thank you for allowing us to be your dental office and for trusting us to care for the friends and family you have sent us.

FREE TOOTH WHITENING!

Well--not really. For the first ten patients in the month of February we are greatly reducing tooth whitening to \$225 with all proceeds going directly to the *Give Back A Smile* (GBAS) foundation (it's tax deductible, checks only, made out to GBAS). The *Give Back A Smile* program is sponsored by the *American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry*. The primary purpose of GBAS is to restore smiles to victims of domestic violence.

The *Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry* selects and screens victims of domestic violence requiring a "smile makeover". Dr. Gibbs will be performing their dental care at no charge to the patient, as a way to help them restore their lives. It is often amazing so see how people debilitated by domestic violence and neglect flourish and regain their confidence with their mouth and smile restored to comfort and beauty!

CONGRATULATIONS DR. GIBBS

Dr Gibbs will be receiving his second fellowship this January 26th with the *International Congress of Oral Implantology*. A fellowship is an honorary degree certifying expertise after testing and education. He recently graduated from the renowned Misch *International Implant Institute*, affiliated with Temple University and the University of Michigan. *The International Congress for Implantologists* designate the degree with symbols FICOI.

Implants are a fast developing area of dentistry. They serve as an important alternative to fixed bridges. They also allow us to either eliminate or more comfortably secure either full or partial dentures. If you would like more information on this see our website at SmileGlenEllyn.com or call for our educational computer CD, showing how implants can make your life more enjoyable.

CONGRATULATIONS EVA

We want to share our good news. Eva, Dr. Gibbs dental assistant, had a beautiful seven and a half pound baby girl named Sandra. Baby and mother are doing very well. Eva is looking forward to joining us again soon!

Cough Syrup and Other Sugared Medicines

While we are on the subject of our younger family members I should mention that cough syrups can damage children's teeth and it's not necessarily the sweeteners in them that do it. Many over the counter remedies that contain antihistamines are slightly acidic in nature, and a new study shows that this acid can cause cavities in healthy tooth enamel. Fortunately fluoride counteracts the problem so make sure your children brush their teeth after swallowing cough syrup. Also try giving the medication with meals, when the body's natural production of saliva helps protect the teeth.

Sedation and Comfort Notes

An interesting note: We found after becoming certified for sedation in the State of Illinois (only 2% of the dentists in the state are licensed to do this) that many patient's primary motivation is not only avoiding fear of pain. We found a surprising amount of patients who seek sedation dental care for other motivations. Namely because they were embarrassed by their teeth or thought they would be scolded by the dentist or hygienist. We don't ever do that. And we noticed that patients perceived that a dentist and staff licensed in sedation dentistry would be more supportive and understanding. Another surprising find was the number of patients who know they need a lot of dental care and want a dentist who can perform their dental work in as few appointments as possible. Lack of time was their motivation.

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR KIND REFERRALS!

We sincerely appreciate your referrals and we try to take care of our patients as if they are our own family. If there is ever anything we can do for you please let us know.

Have a Wonderful New Year!

Dr. Gibbs, Eva, Jill, Barb, Jessica, Cathy, Veronica, and Mary Kay