

SOUTH DAKOTA

Ryan VanLaecken, President

Keri Barrow, Secretary/Treasurer

The South Dakota Society of Orthodontists met on Friday, March 29, 2019 in Fargo, North Dakota during the joint NDSO and SDSO CE meeting. Dr. **Brian Hohlen** was introduced as a new member. Brian practices in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at Crist & Wenande Orthodontics. AAO council reports were given by Dr. **Kevin Horner**. Dr. **Rick Fuchs** gave a report on the activities of the Foundation.

Other new members to the association are Dr. **Nate VanLaecken**, son of Dr. **Ryan VanLaecken**, and Dr. **Paul Meyer**, son of Dr. **Dave Meyer**. Nate will practice with his family at VanLaecken Orthodontics in multiple locations and Paul will practice with his father at Meyer Orthodontics in Brookings.

Currently, Dr. **Bruce Evans** and Dr. **Kevin Horner**, working with **Brittany Novotny**, attorney for the South Dakota State Board of Dentistry, are helping make changes to the Scope of Practice for dental assistants in South Dakota. After conversations with most SDSO members, the consensus was to redefine what duties dental assistants can perform under general supervision. The item most concerning for all members was whether to allow dental assistants to take digital records or impressions without the supervising doctor present. By allowing this, Direct to Consumer orthodontic aligner companies could easily set up scanning centers without a South Dakota licensed supervising dentist. The South Dakota State Board of Dentistry will meet on Friday, June 21, 2019 and will be discussing the changes proposed.

Lastly, Dr. **Ryan VanLaecken** of Watertown has agreed to serve as the new SDSO President.

Keri Barrow

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