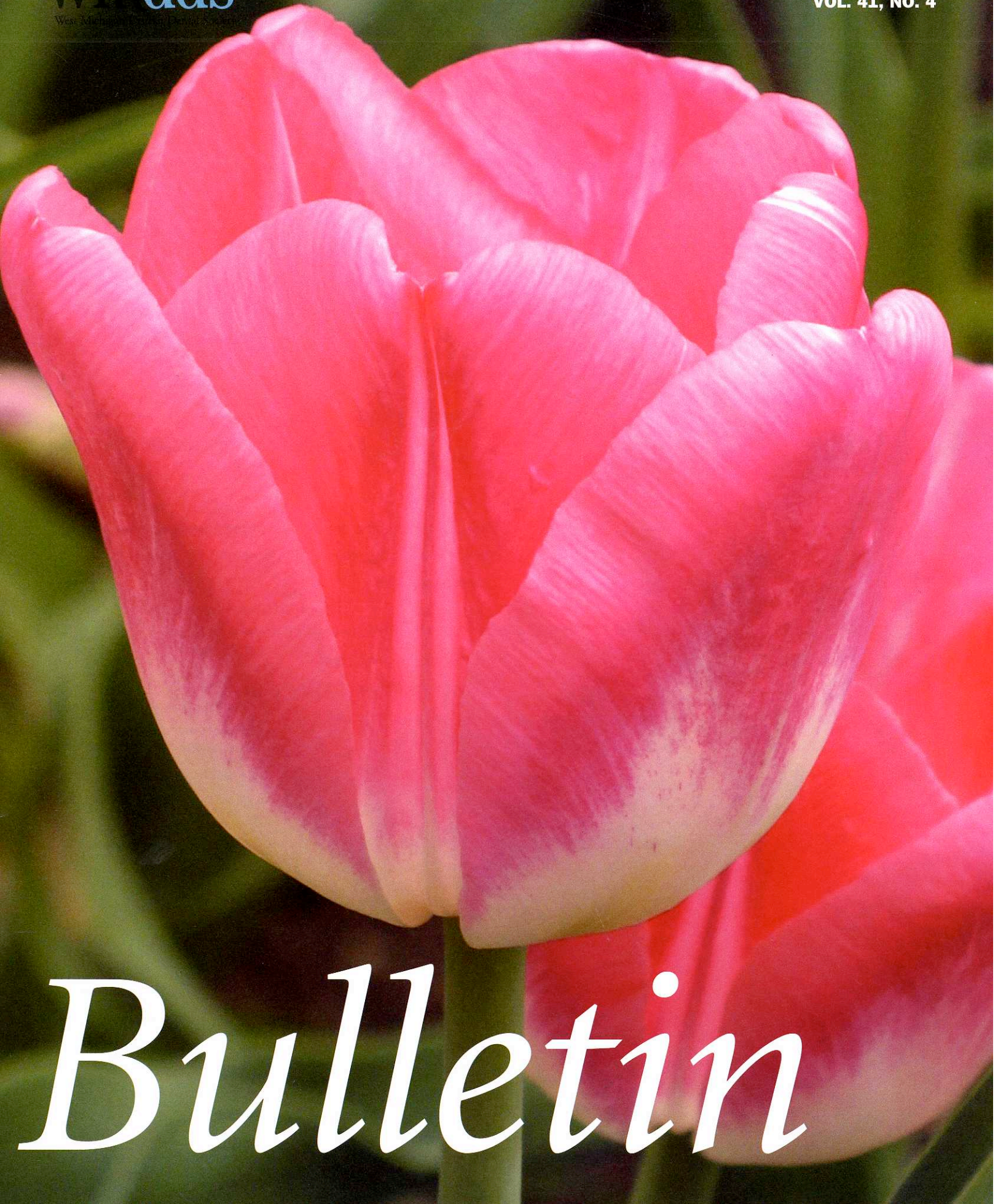


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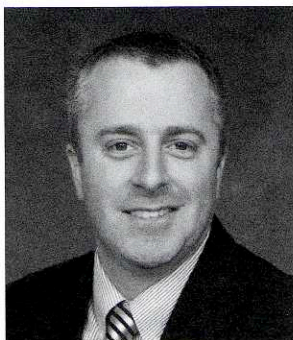
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Bulletin

Bringing in Spring with Dr. Michael Sesemann

By Dr. Seth Vruggink



March 20th marked the end of a long, cold winter and the beginning of what we can hope is a wonderful spring. It was also the day that over a hundred West Michigan dentists gathered at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park to hear Dr. Michael R. Sesemann lecture on Oral Art and Design: The Synergy of Esthetics and Function. Dr. Sesemann is a Fellow in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and started the Nebraska Institute of Cosmetic Dentistry.

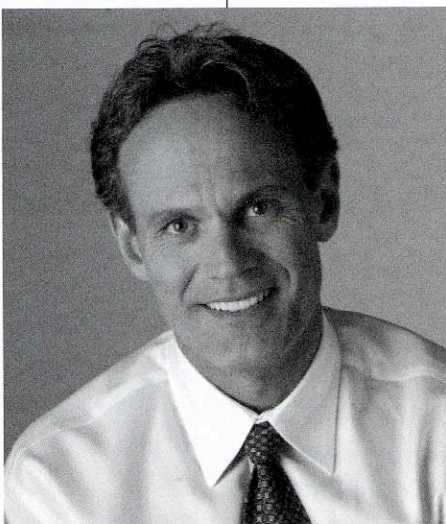
Dr. Sesemann used his own cases and experience (both successes and failures) to explain his philosophy of comprehensive dentistry. Presenting everything from simple esthetic cases to complex full-mouth reconstructions involving traumatic TMJ injuries, Dr. Sesemann took the crowd through his entire treatment protocol. From the data collection to the final cementation, Dr. Sesemann's approach emphasizes quality and defines the word comprehensive.

The data collection appointment for Dr. Sesemann's protocol is incredibly thorough and extensive. Routine PVS impression for study models, a series of twelve to sixteen photographs, and even MRI imaging of the TMJ are just a few examples of the data Dr. Sesemann will collect on comprehensive cases. One of the most interesting tools used in his practice is what he calls "The Diagnostic Tracing Analysis." To accomplish this, an anterior view of a patient's smile is projected onto paper at ten times its actual size. The teeth are then traced onto the paper. Specific measurements of

tooth and tissue height and width are recorded as well as height to width ratios. The enlarged image allows the dentist to more easily recognize visual disharmonies, plot new measurements for proposed changes, confirm the workability of those changes, and actually sketch the changes onto the current smile. Dr. Sesemann accomplishes a great deal of his smile design using the Diagnostic Tracing Analysis.

As part of his data collection, Dr. Sesemann strongly recommends the Kois Facial Analyzer to orient the maxillary arch from the patient to the articulator. Bimanual manipulation of the mandible is then used to determine what maxillo-mandibular relationship has the TMJ positioned in centric relation. An MRI can be used to verify that this occlusal relationship is truly the healthiest for the TMJ.

An emphasis was placed on the fact that successful treatment of a comprehensive case must be completed three times; first in wax, second in plastic and third in material. Dr. Sesemann specifically stressed creating a condensation silicone guide of the diagnostic wax-up to function as a three-dimensional communication device. This guide can be given to an orthodontist, surgeon, laboratory technician, or anyone involved in the case to demonstrate where the case is headed before treatment has to begin.



Once the necessary data has been collected and smile design completed, the treatment phase can begin. Dr. Sesemann stressed the need to have patient understanding of what comprehensive treatment truly is. Often, patients who want a quick smile makeover must accept that orthodontic intervention, periodontal surgery, or lengthy temporization are just a few things that may be involved in achieving predictable long-term success. Once the patient is on board and understands the meaning of comprehensive treatment, the case can be planned and taken to completion.

While reviewing several cases involving everything from the most common to the most unique and complex esthetic deficiencies, Dr. Sesemann brought up several important guidelines he tries to adhere to during treatment. One such

point involved the importance of maintaining facial enamel whenever possible during preparation. A study was cited that showed removal of proximal enamel having no affect on crown rigidity. Complete removal of facial enamel, however, lead to a dramatic increase in tooth flexibility and tensile stresses. This is a setup for restorative failure.

Dr. Sesemann took the audience through a tour of his favorite esthetic materials as well. He addressed the changes being brought about by CAD/CAM materials, and the pros and cons of the different families of CAD/CAM materials. It is his belief that the CAD/CAM boom is the future of esthetic dentistry.

Attendees of Dr. Sesemann's course were shown just how far dentistry has come and just how far we can go as dental professionals given the proper education, dedication, and passion. Dr. Sesemann is a great representation of an uncompromising practitioner of comprehensive care. His cases speak volumes for his training and for the training that is available to all dentists who have the passion for cosmetic dentistry.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**West Michigan Dental Foundation
Annual Golf Outing**

FRIDAY, June 5, 2009

**Returning to
beautiful Egypt Valley Country Club**

Registration begins at 10:30 am

Lunch 11:30 am • Golf 12:30 pm

\$200 per golfer

**Fee includes golf, lunch, on-course
beverages, and dinner**