Destination: D.C.

AAO’s 110th Annual Session makes itself at home in the nation’s capital

By Kristine Colker, Managing Editor

There are going to be rallies, there are going to be congressional visits and there are going to be tours of monuments. And that’s not even including the educational courses and hands-on workshops, the live clinical procedures or the exhibit hall teeming with new products and technology, all of which signal that the 110th Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists is about to get under way.

From April 30–May 4, orthodontists from across the country and the world, their staffs, orthodontic residents and guests will be taking over Washington, D.C., as the AAO pulls out all the stops to make this year’s meeting better than ever.

There will be a variety of new course topics to engage in, including an examination of how stem cells and tissue engineering may impact the future of orthodontics, a look at current issues surrounding oral bisphosphonates and a discussion regarding the issue of access to orthodontic treatment.

Other topics include the use of aligners, clinical guidelines for miniscrews, the past and future of imaging, esthetics, practice management and orthodontics for adults.

Miniscrews: a focal point in practice

Part 1 of 6: The basis and history of anchorage — the selection of screws

By Dr. Björn Ludwig, Dr. Bettina Glasl, Dr. Thomas Lietz and Prof. Jörg A. Lisson

In view of the plethora of publications, courses and advertising material on this subject, it would seem that miniscrews are widely used. Once some candid questions have been asked and answered, however, it becomes apparent that the reality is quite different.

It seems evident that there are valid reasons that miniscrews are not yet in daily use in many practices. With this series, the authors intend to encourage those practitioners who are hesitant to use miniscrews to use them routinely, by providing a compendium of experiences and new findings in this field.

Anchorage in general

Moving a body requires anchorage in the form of a counter support. The force required for the movement acts on both body and abutment. In his “Third Law” (1687), Newton specified that every action has an equal and opposite reaction. In dento-facial orthopaedics, this means that the force acts on all teeth involved in the case of the dental support of a tooth movement. Thus, both bodies ultimately move.