

[FAN Bulletins] #210: ADA's Symposium of Shame.

THE FLUORIDE ACTION NETWORK

<http://www.fluoridealert.org> or <http://www.fluorideACTION.net>

FAN CAMPAIGN Bulletin #210: ADA's Symposium of Shame.

April 16, 2005

Dear All,

The ADA along with the CDC is organizing and hosting a National Fluoridation Symposium from Wednesday July 13 through July 16 in Chicago. The excuse for this is 60th "birthday" celebration was the launch of fluoridation in 1945. The first fluoridation trials began in Grand Rapids (MI), Newburgh (NY) and Brantford (Ontario) in that year. Of course, for most of us, especially those who have read the scientific and historical literature (particularly Chris Bryson's book), this is not a time to celebrate but a time for the ADA and the CDC to apologize for forcing this dangerous nonsense on the unsuspecting and trusting American public.

What makes this a very serious moment for us, is that is believed that this National Fluoridation Symposium is going to be the launch of an effort to get a NATIONAL mandatory bill through the US Congress. We need to make sure that the press gets the other side of the story before they go all goggle-eyed over the PR extravaganza which will take place at this launch.

Thus it is critical that we do everything we can to change the perception of this conference from a Symposium of Celebration to a Symposium of Shame. But to do this we are going to need

FAN members (and bulletin readers) help in a big way. So we would like to gauge your response to a few things we are contemplating.

1) We would like to have a little rally outside the site of this symposium on Day 1 (Wed. July 13) to welcome participants with a message they do not want to hear. Would any one be able to come to this, especially those who are close enough to drive? If we have enough takers we might try renting vans to pick up people at various locations en route to Chicago.

2) Would you be able to fly to Chicago for this?

3) Does any one have contacts in the Chicago area (even in adjacent states) who might a) be willing to participate and b) willing to help with the logistics and c) willing to put people up overnight in their homes. The latter is always exciting because it increases the sense of solidarity in this (sometimes) lonely fight.

4) For those who are able to come, would it make sense to have a little afternoon and/or meeting of our own to share the real fluoridation story with the media and local activists?

5) If you cannot come, would you consider a donation to help fund others who would like to do so, but are on a low budget?

- 6) If you are on a low budget, would you consider coming if a contribution to your costs can be made? How much would you need to make it viable?
- 7) If you cannot come would you be interested in supporting this effort by some local action, such as a press conference in your home town to coincide with the rally?
- 8) Do you have any other ideas?
- 9) Would you like to be part of the organizing committee for this event?
- 10) On a personal note, I know from past experience organizing such an event will take a lot of hard work and time, and I do not want to put that effort in unless a) I am part of a team prepared to share the load on the organizing and b) there is clearly a lot of moral support for this action.

Shortly, I am off to Springfield , Massachusetts for a fluoridation meeting organized by the indomitable Dr. Stephen Dean, so you have a couple of days to mull this over. But do, do please help if you can. I will eagerly look at my emails on Monday night to see what kind of response we have got to this. Fingers crossed.

Many thanks,

Paul Connett

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