

# A Beautiful, Healthy Smile

Thanks to a comprehensive treatment plan, one patient reaches the point where all she needs today are routine dental hygiene exams.

“I feel like I have lived in a dentist’s chair since the time I was little,” says Pat McCutcheon, “with the amount of fillings and root canals I’ve gotten. I’ve had a lot of work.”

In spite of her extensive dental treatment, Pat was still unsatisfied with her smile.

“I never had nice front teeth,” she acknowledges. “There was a chip between my two front teeth, and I had a dead tooth in front, which was dark. In fact, I had a cap on one front tooth which was too long, and it actually stuck in my front lip. I was self-conscious about that: if I was taking a picture, I would pull my lip over my tooth!”

But it wasn’t just the visible part of her smile that was causing Pat distress; her mouth was riddled with other trouble spots.

“I had teeth that were chipped, and I had a lot of dark [silver] fillings in my mouth,” she continues. “I had two root canal teeth that were grayish looking, and I was always self-conscious about them, especially.”

“I also had a bridge that I knew was probably not going to hold much longer,” continues Pat, “because it was covering the expanse of two missing teeth. I’d had it re-glued several times after it came off, and every time something like that happened, I was on a trip or a vacation, and it was just very inconvenient. I wanted to see what could be done.”

Pat went to The Smile Centre, with offices in Sarasota and Venice. There, she met Richard A. Stanley, DMD, who has been serving the Sarasota and Manatee County communities for 25 years.

## Let us help

To learn more about the health benefits and cosmetic transformation possible with dental implant treatment, as well as Invisalign, sleep apnea, snoring, and TMJ therapy, call to schedule your appointment with Dr. Stanley today. For the office located at **5899 Whitfield Avenue, Suite 105**, in Sarasota, call **(941) 351-4468**, or **(941) 497-5451** for the office located at **1500 E. Venice Avenue, Suite 203**, in Venice.

## Comprehensive treatment

Dr. Stanley explains that he and his colleagues always do the best they can to make sure that their guests receive excellent comprehensive care.

“Because we are a complete care practice, we begin by gaining a thorough understanding of each patient’s complaints, problems, and concerns, as well as assessing orthodontic and structural issues of the skull and jaw,” he says.

To that end, The Smile Centre offers a special on initial patient exams.

“We have a comprehensive initial exam special for a hundred and forty nine dollars that includes the exam, intraoral photos, digital dental x-rays, and a CAT scan, which is a three-dimensional x-ray, to show the health of your jaw,” reports Tricia Stanley, executive director.



RICHARD A. STANLEY, DMD

“When you start off with a CAT scan,” explains Dr. Stanley, “you begin to get a feel for why someone’s teeth are becoming worn down, why they have bite problems, why their teeth are crooked, or why they have clicking or popping in the jaw joints. It’s a good foundational starting point.”

Once he has incorporated the results of his evaluations into a series of treatment options, Dr. Stanley sits down with each patient to brainstorm about what he or she would like to accomplish and in what order. His practice encompasses veneers, root canals, crowns, dental implants, and other treatments to ensure that his patients end up with attractive, functional teeth.

## Dental implants

For many of The Smile Centre’s guests, dental implants are the best option to replace missing teeth, and such was the case for Pat.

“In the past, missing teeth were often

replaced with fixed bridges,” explains Dr. Stanley. “The challenge with those, specifically, is that fifty percent of fixed bridges will break down within fifteen years. Typically, when they break down it’s due to decay or the cement coming loose, or a fractured or broken tooth. Oftentimes, when a patient loses a bridge, it takes out one of the supporting teeth with it, which leads to an even larger bridge as a possibility, and larger bridges have an even higher failure rate.”

Considered the gold standard when dealing with missing teeth, dental implants are natural-looking replacements that actually bond to the jawbone itself and function in the same way as the original tooth root. For patients who do not have enough jawbone to support the implant, a bone-grafting procedure can be performed to create additional bone.

“We do all the bone grafting, implant placement, and final restorations here in-house, so patients don’t have to worry about going back and forth among multiple offices,” assures Dr. Stanley. “Implants don’t decay, they don’t require root canals, and they allow us not to have to involve adjacent teeth. Replacing missing teeth with dental implants truly is the optimum way to go.”

## A happy patient

For Pat, the experience of comprehensive treatment at The Smile Centre has been a pleasant one, and an educational one, too.

“I was amazed when I was able to look on a screen and see cracks and fissures in my teeth,” she adds.

“We acquired one of the first intraoral cameras in the area over twenty years ago,” explains Dr. Stanley, “and even after having used it all these years, it’s still amazing how many people have not seen this technology.”

Pat adds that her dental care at The Smile Centre has been uniformly outstanding.

“I have two implants in my lower

jaw which Dr. Stanley did in 2004, and then I have another implant in my upper jaw,” she recalls. “My front teeth have been individually capped, and for me, the results are wonderful.”

“It’s nice to have a mouthful of individual teeth, with no bridges to worry about, and to no longer be self-conscious about my smile.”

Pat thanks Dr. Stanley, noting that she is extremely grateful to have found such a skilled dentist with the experience and capabilities to resolve her problems, and she appreciates his gentle touch as well.

“He definitely makes an effort to make sure you’re very comfortable there in the chair,” she assures. “Even with the injections he gives you, they numb the area first and then he gives you the injection. He has a very good technique of moving your jaw while he’s doing the injection.”

“He’s well trained, and he keeps up with continuing education. I have a lot of admiration for him...and I’m totally happy with his work.”

FHCN—Michael J. Sabno



Pat McCutcheon



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**Richard A. Stanley, DMD**, is a general dentist with advanced training in cosmetic dentistry, endodontics, implant dentistry, bone grafting and sinus augmentation, craniofacial pain, neuromuscular dentistry, sedation, and orthodontics. He earned his undergraduate degree in biology from Florida State University and his DMD (Doctor of Dental Medicine) degree from the University of Florida’s College of Dentistry, followed by MBA coursework at the University of Sarasota. Dr. Stanley is a member of the American Dental Association, the Florida Dental Association, the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, the West Coast Dental Association, the Sarasota County Dental Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, the Academy of Osseointegration, the American Academy of Functional Orthodontics, and the International Association of Orthodontics.