America’s ToothFairy celebrates 10 years

By Robert Selleck, today Staff

America’s ToothFairy: National Children’s Oral Health Foundation honored several of its core leaders during a celebration of its 10th anniversary at a reception during the Chicago Midwinter Meeting.

Most of the award recipients were current or former America’s ToothFairy board members, most of them having served as past chairman. In being honored, each was recognized for some of the programs initiated during their tenures.

Those honored were: Tom Ingalls, retired vice president and general manager of 3M ESPE; Chris Clark, president and chief financial officer of DENTSPLY International; Thomas Prescott, retired president and CEO of Align Technology; Henk van Duijnhoven, former senior vice resident of KaVo Kerr Group; and Cherilyn Sheets, DDS, of the Sheets, Paquette & Wu dental practice in Newport Beach, Calif.

Sheets is the organization’s founding chairman and continues to serve as chairman emeritus. Van Duijnhoven is current chairman. Prescott is immediate past chairman.

The honors were presented by Fern Ingber, president of America’s ToothFairy. Ingber noted that since its founding, the organization has distributed more than $17 million to various non-profit organizations devoted to expanding access to dental care for at-risk children. All of the funds raised by the organization go directly to such programs.

In fiscal year 2015 alone, more than 2 million children benefitted from oral-health services made available through programs supported by America’s ToothFairy in North America.

Looking back over the organization’s 10-year history, Ingber said: “It was really about expanding access to care. We knew that had to be the core of everything we did.”

Also looking back with a 10-year perspective, Sheets said, “It’s amazing and so rewarding and fulfilling to see how this charity has grown – to be able to be helping so many children today, while still operating on such a frugal budget.”

Here in Chicago

To learn more about America’s ToothFairy’s mission to promote the importance of oral health and its link to overall systemic health for at-risk children, you can visit www.ncohf.org. Here in Chicago, you can find them in the exhibit hall in booth No. 1037.