



# NEWS BULLETIN

Winter Issue 2012

## Delegates Annual Conference Report

**E**ducation was a large part of the American Dental Assistants Association's Annual Session in Las Vegas, October 10-14, 2011. The ADAA in conjunction with the ADA provided courses to more than 2,000 dental team members over the course of the meeting.

A large portion of the focus was how we might better serve the student members. The result was adoption of student chapters at dental assisting programs of 800 hours or more throughout the US. Pilot programs are already operating at Citrus College in Glendora, California and Mount Diablo Adult Education in Concord, California. A student trustee position was created on the ADAA Board of Trustees to provide representation for all ADAA student members. Jennifer Broyles, a student at Citrus College in California, was appointed to fill the position.

LAP funds of \$3,000. was awarded to the state of California to continue in their endeavor to help dental assistants in their state.

The House of Delegates voted for an increase in dues. \$5.00 student increase and \$10. for active members. The top 10 benefits of a \$10. dues increase are:

**1. Free, unlimited CE** to all its full dues paying members. Starting January 1, 2012, those members who opt for paying for a full year's dues when billed will be granted the right to unlimited education for the duration of their membership. Those opting for half-year payment or less through debit payments will receive six hours of education until their membership is fully funded.

**2. Enhanced use of social media.** Twitter, Tweeting and Facebook. Networking is a regular part of life for the

young professionals and ADAA must keep up with these developments. Students are our future.

**3. Conversion of E-members.** More revenue could mean more aggressive outreach with more incentives to make E-members Active Members. Currently there are 15,000 e-members.

**4. Recruitment and retention of active members.** Active members are always the first in line to benefit from ADAA improvements.

**5. Improved ADAA website.** News of the profession, links to everything helpful, all in one spot and guidance on where to go for more information. The website is meant to be entertaining, enlightening, educational and helpful to our members. The dues will help to fund its expansion and improvement.



back row, left to right, Ninette Lyon, Samantha Ellis, Linda Kihns, front row, left to right, Kym Goodell, Sheri Billeter, Trustee Lisa Lovering

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after election.*

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# Trustee Report

**G**reetings  
Friends,

Congratulations to all who attended the ADAA 87th Annual Session in Las Vegas thanks to your contribution to the Annual Session was a success.



The following are some of the Highlights from the Annual Session

1.) Congratulations go out to two of our 10th District members from Oregon, Bonnie Marshall and Kym Goodell. Bonnie was re-elected for a second term for the ADAA Secretary position and Kym Goodell was awarded the ADAA Sunstar America's Pride Federal Award. Way to go Ladies: you make us proud! Thank you for your Service.

2.) Dues increase- ten dollars for members and five dollar for students begins 2012.

3.) Members will have unlimited online continuing education access beginning 2012.

4.) The ADAA Website will be getting a face lift- this update will help us stay competitive in the social media market. This includes hiring a new staff person.

5.) The ADAA will now have a Student Trustee to give students a voice. These students are the future of our organization. Let us help mentor them to become even greater leaders.

6.) The new Student Trustee, Jennifer Broyles was appointed at the second HOD (House of Delegates).

7.) All Officers and Trustee's were installed at the Gala. We appreciate your support of your officers and your organization.

8.) New MOP coming soon December....

As stated in my highlights we now have an ADAA Student Chapter. This will allow dental assisting schools who support and promote the objectives of the ADAA and meet the requirement of 800 hrs in length. The advisor/faculty must be a member of the ADAA. The goal is to come along side and help these students develop and or mentor them to become the leaders of tomorrow. A local is desirable but not mandatory.

According to the Dictionary the definition of value is .... to regard or esteem highly, to consider with respect to worth, excellence, usefulness, or importance.

This is what I believe a Dental Assistant adds to a dental practice.

I believe a Dental Assistant is the heart of the practice, or should I say the glue. A practice does not run effectively or as efficiently without a great Dental Assistant. Dental Assistants are a valuable asset to the dental team. Never discount your importance to the Dental Team.

*Be All that You Can Be... Be a member of the American Dental Assistants Association.*

*Your Friend,  
Lisa Lovering, CDA, CDPMA, MADAA,  
ADAA 10th District Trustee  
Montana DAA Vice President*

### ADAA

(312) 541-1550

### Dental Assisting National Board (DANB)

1 - 800 - 367 - 3262

*When leaving a  
message; please leave  
day as well as evening  
phone number.*

WEBSITE: <http://oregondentalassistants.com>

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is my privilege to once again be serving ODAA as President and to you it's members. As we think ahead to the new year we feel "resolutions"

are in order. Instead of a long list of resolutions that get tucked away or are too many that we become discouraged, how about focusing on just one or two?

Make your resolution(s) actionable. The ODAA Executive Board met the early part of December and set a goal of increasing our membership by:

- Working towards the recruitment of our E-membership to active. We are thrilled to have many e-members but we strive to educate them on the many benefits that active membership can provide for them.

- Attention will also focus on our student members and ways to better serve them. ADAA has adopted a full program to more fully incorporate them into the organization. This includes the development of student chapters at dental assisting programs of 800 hours or more. We hope to be instrumental in this endeavor.

Plans need milestones and they need to be measurable. Our goal will be broken down into the next 12 months. At each executive board meeting we will

be looking at what has transpired and what our next step will be.

- Inspire yourself. Our board is smaller in number this year but each and everyone is excited and motivated to move forward. They have a positive attitude and a love for our profession. I am extremely thankful for each one of them and the expertise that they bring to the table.

- Aim high. We are looking at big goals that will take not only our perseverance but also our passion. We're ready. Let's go.....

Sincerely

Linda Kihs, CDA, EFDA, MADAA  
ODAA- President



## Wreaths Across America

The tradition of laying wreaths to honor our veterans during the holiday season began in 1992, when Morrill Worcester of Worcester Wreath Company was stuck with a number of extra wreaths at the close of the holiday season. Worcester realized he had an opportunity to honor our country's Veterans. With the help of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington.

The mission, "Remember, Honor, Teach" is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies on the second Saturday of December at Arlington, as well as veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.



*Volunteering this year at Willamette National Cemetery were ODAA members: Joyce Vaughan, Sheri Billetter, Bonnie Marshall, Mary Harrison, Linda Kihs, and Kym Goodell.*

### DELEGATES ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT, continued from page 1

**6. Improved job placement service.** The ADAA Career Center, powered by "dentalworkers.com" is ready with improved benefits for our members. Discounts and free services just for ADAA Active Members.

**7. Ability to fund on-line research editor.** The plan is to reach out to a specialist in on-line communications to keep us up and running cyberspace and provide an image for the dental assistant of current, cutting edge professionalism and effectiveness.

**8. Expanding number of online newsletters.** Nine is the goal of expansion from the current six.

**9. Fulfilling the goals of the vision committee.** The combination of ADAA leadership past and present along with leaders from the dental business community and the military are working to develop growth and recognition for the ADAA at every level.

**10. Reserves and investment** not utilized to fund new projects. Standard accounting practices urge that our organization retain at least one year's operating budget in reserve for emergencies.

**National officers were elected and installed. They include:**

President: Claudia Pohl, CDA, RDA,

FADAA, BVED, Alta Loma, California.

President-Elect: Carolyn Breen, CDA, EdD. RDA. RDH, Union County, N.J.

Vice President: Lori Paschal, CDA, FADAA, Irma, S.C.

Secretary: Bonnie Marshall, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, MADAA, Battle Ground, WA

Immediate Past-President: Natalie Kaweckyj, CDA, LDARF, CDPMA, COA, COSMA, MADAA, Minneapolis, Minn.

ODAA Delegates were Ninette Lyon, Samantha Ellis, Kym Goodell, Linda Kihs, and Sheri Billetter.



# ADAA/Sunstar Award: Federal Category

**K**ym Goodell is currently a full time enlisted member in the Oregon National Guard. She is a Sergeant who works daily at the Oregon State Surgeon's Office. She enlisted in the Army as a delayed entry high school student in 1983.

The following is an account of her military dental/medical service:

- 1984 - 1998 Inactive Ready Reserve
- 1988 - 1997 Oregon 313th MASH Unit
- 1991 Desert Storm: stationed in Germany
- 1997 Honorable Discharge (due to government downsizing)
- 2008 Re-enlisted into the Oregon National Guard Specialist as a Dental Specialist in January then in April took a dual status as a Federal Technician for Medical Readiness

## Military Education:

- 1988 -1989 Fort Sam Houston, TX - Advanced Camp: Patient Administration
- 1994 Camp Parks, CA - PLDC = Primary Leadership Discipline Course
- 1994 Bel Air, Maryland - Hearing Technician Training
- 2010 Camp Shelby, MS - ALC Training = Advanced Leadership Discipline Course



Kym has been instrumental in scanning dental and medical x-rays for Oregon National Guard Soldiers who are being deployed. Her work involves all aspects of patient records so all dental/medical histories and x-rays are available worldwide for guard Soldiers on active duty. She is also responsible for taking Soldiers records to other states where they will be deployed from, then meets them again when they

return to bring them back to Oregon. Kym has also worked as a dental coordinator/assistant in the dental clinic in the Salem, Oregon National Guard clinic.

Kym became involved in the Oregon National Guard "Wounded Warrior Project" in 2010 when Soldiers were returning to Fort Lewis. The Oregon Surgeons Office appointed her as the liaison in 2011 to the "Warrior in Transition".

# Celebrating Achievement and Retirement

## *Sheri Billetter Honored for Teaching Commitment*

**S**heri Billetter CDA, EFDA, MADAA, SBS retired from Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Oregon in June 2011. Sheri was Program Chair/Department chair and lead instructor for fifteen years. During that time she earned her Fellowship and Mastership from the ADAA. Sheri prepared for three successful CODA accreditations and also served as a CODA curriculum consultant. Linn-Benton Community College was a

great place to work. I was given the autonomy to develop and establish a quality program with trust and guidance from administration and members of the advisory committee. Sheri was asked to return in September for in-service day where she was presented with the Distinguished Staff Award for dedication to students, the program and the profession. This award is presented to individuals who have been

nominated and supported by all three employee groups (management, faculty and classified). The award was presented by Carol Schaffsma, Vice President of Instruction.



# Dues Increase

**A**t the ODAA Annual Business meeting in October the membership unanimously agreed to increase Oregon dues by \$3.00. For many, many years, dues have remained at \$12. However, with the goals set forward, it was time and necessary for a slight increase.



# Salem Free Dental Clinic



Joyce Vaughan, CDA, EFDA, BS, Clinic Coordinator

In the Spring of 2005, the West Salem Foursquare Church began seeing medical patients in an auditorium at Walker Middle School. Volunteers working at the clinic noticed the dire need many of these people had for dental care.

Some leaders at West Salem Foursquare Church and Salem Alliance Church created a small committee to determine what was needed to start a dental clinic. After approximately 4 years of planning, the completion of a new building known as Broadway Commons, and generous

donations from local businesses, dentists and community members, the city of Salem now has a free dental clinic with two treatment rooms to support many adults who would otherwise not be able to receive care. Patients are referred to the dental clinic through the medical clinic and, currently, the only service is dental extractions. The clinic is open two mornings per month, usually a Friday and Saturday. In about 4 hours per day, the volunteer dentist, assistants and hygienists see an average of 8-9 patients. The clinic has currently

## The DALE Foundation Announces 2011 - 2012 Board Officers

Secretary Treasurer -

Virginia Jorgensen, CDA, EFDA, EFODA

Mrs. Jorgensen has been an instructor at Portland Community College's dental assisting program for nearly 15 years. She is the dental assisting department's safety expert and a member of the Campus Health and Safety Committee and College Emergency Response Team. She

has also been PCC's Health and Safety Officer since 1999. Ginny is active in the ADAA, having served at state and local levels, including as Past President of the Oregon Dental Assistants Association. She is the recipient of DANB's 2009 Hazel O. Torres Memorial Award.



Trina Fowler, Dental Clinic Volunteer Coordinator

seen 131 patients, extracted 256 teeth and performed 12 assessments.

The clinic depends on volunteers to operate the clinic, and we can always use more help. If you would like to volunteer a few times per year (not a heavy commitment, but a great help to these patients!), you may send an e-mail to [Trina@salemfreeclinics.org](mailto:Trina@salemfreeclinics.org). Assistants and hygienists serve in the same role, assisting the dentist, exposing and processing radiographs as needed, sterilizing instruments and disinfecting the treatment rooms. All volunteers are required to submit an application form and copies of their credentials.

We hope you will consider joining us as a way to give back to those who are less fortunate.

## Another Term

Bonnie Marshall was elected and installed for another term as ADAA Secretary. Thank you Bonnie for your commitment to serve.

## Volunteer Efforts

Volunteer efforts were once again given to the Octoberfest in Mt Angel during the month of September. \$10,850.40 was raised during the 4 days. All proceeds of the Father Taaffee booth support the homes, and the mothers and children who live in them.

# ODAA Operation Shoebox

## The Focus

Soldiers stationed overseas in Afghanistan and Iraq sacrifice much for their country. Our troops serving for the United States in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines, are heroes and need to be made to feel appreciated. One way to do this is to mail them packages

that contain those practical items they need as well as favorite foods they miss.

## What to Send

- Dental Supplies
- Oral Hygiene Instructions
- Plus: Partner with "Beat the Heat" Campaign and Give2TheTroops.org



Dated 21 April, 2011  
Afghanistan

Dear Give2TheTroops (Connecticut Branch), Sorry it's been awhile since I have written. It's been super busy around here. I have received so many packages from your organization with the last few weeks it's amazing! Literally about 50!!! The Temper-pedic pillows are such a huge hit. I get people in here every day asking for them. They're gone the day I get a box in. I think just about everyone around here now is wearing some form of Chuck Norris shirt as well. It's quite comical. I get a good laugh everytime I get to our gym in the back of the hangar. I'll try and get a good picture of it someday. I received a Second Display Case of Coffee Mate Creamer yesterday. I've attached a photo for you. I've started a wall with a lot of the thank you letters you sent us as well. We have received so much stuff that we started taking some of it to the local USO here on base to give out to other units. They love it. Thank you guys so much for everything you have done. Keep up the great work and God bless you all.

Semper Fidelis,  
Capt Tyson Rae  
MMCO (Maintenance Control), HMH-463  
U.S. Marine Corps

## Next Steps

- Contact Sharon Crary: Branch Director and Manager of "Operation Icy Treat"
- Gain understanding of process
- Recruit volunteer and donation partners

## What is Needed from ODAA

Direction options:

- Just dental items or
- Program & Campaign theme donations; i.e. "Beat the Heat" and/or others

Contact Donation Partners  
Budget  
Appoint Chairperson

## Seal Shield Introduces World's First Waterproof, Wireless Mouse That Is Rechargeable, With No Batteries To Change Ever.

*Healthcare company demonstrates new, washable mouse at the APIC infection control conference.*

Baltimore, MD (June 27, 2011) – Seal Shield LLC today announced the new SILVER STORM™ waterproof, wireless mouse. The company demonstrated the new mouse, along with other infection prevention products, at the APIC infection control conference in Baltimore, MD. The new mouse has been designed to help prevent cross contamination infections which are spread from shared computer input devices. According to a bacteria study of common touch items, performed by the Korean Consumer Protection Board, "Computer mice have more than twice the concentration of germs as was found on doorknobs and handles in public restrooms." Overall, computer mice ranked as the second most bacteria-infested item in the study. The SILVER STORM™ mouse is a wireless scroll wheel mouse that is 100% waterproof, washable and even dishwasher safe. The mouse is environmentally friendly, with antimicrobial product protection, and a rechargeable lithium battery so there are no batteries to buy or change ever. The SILVER STORM™ waterproof, wireless mouse can hold a charge for up to a week, and is easily recharged by the included USB quick-charge station with integrated 3 port USB hub and RF Nano receiver. The waterproof, wireless mouse is available in black or white and is priced at \$69.99 MSRP. The product is scheduled to start shipping early Fall, 2011. Seal Shield™ designs, develops and manufactures medical grade, infection prevention technology for hospitals and the home. Seal Shield is a world leader in infection control products including patent pending washable keyboards, mice and TV remote controls. For more information please visit <http://www.SealShield.com/>



## Georgia School Testing Green Tea Lozenge as Dry Mouth Remedy

Researchers at Georgia Health Sciences University are conducting a clinical trial using an all-natural green tea lozenge to treat dry mouth, or xerostomia, a condition that affects 40 percent of American adults. According to an article in the Spring/Summer issue of *Word of Mouth*, the journal of the university's school of dentistry, Drs. Stephen Hsu, Douglas Dickinson, Stephen Looney and Kalu Ogbureke are hoping that their research will show that the lozenge can provide relief without the side effects of prescription medication.

"With green tea polyphenols, we have an agent that's helping to correct the salivary gland's abnormal behavior," the article quotes Dr. Douglas Dickinson as saying.

For their research, Drs. Dickinson, Hsu, Looney and Ogbureke have received one of three International Innovation in Oral Care Awards sponsored by the International Association of Dental Research and GlaxoSmithKline. The award amounts to \$75,000.

According to the article, a green tea lozenge could be available to the public by the end of this year.

## Mary Harrison of Portland Elected as DANB Board Secretary

Mary Harrison, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, FADAA, of Portland was elected as the Secretary of the Dental Assisting National Board of Directors. Mrs. Harrison has served on DANB's Board since September 2010. She was elected by DANB's Board from a slate of qualified nominees provided by the American Dental Assistants Association and is serving the first of a possible two three-year terms.

As an active member in the ADAA for more than 35 years, Mary has

made contributions at national, state, and local levels. She held numerous officer positions within the Oregon Dental Assistants Association, including President and Vice President, and served on various ODAA committees. She has also taken on leadership and committee positions with local dental assisting societies. She is a Fellow in the ADAA and has also served on the ADAA Foundation. Additionally Mrs. Harrison was the ADAA Tenth District Trustee for six years, and won the ADAA Achievement Award in 2006.

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## Calendar of Events

January 18	ODAA Board meeting	May 23	ODAA Board meeting
February 25	ODAA Board meeting	September 5	ODAA Board meeting
March 4-10	Dental Assistants Recognition Week	October 18-20	ADAA Annual Session in San Francisco
April 12-14	Oregon Dental Conference	October 27	ODAA Annual Session

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## To The Editor

### Health Alert

On Wednesday, Dr. Oz had a show on the fastest growing cancer in women, thyroid cancer. It was a very interesting program and he mentioned that the increase could possibly be related to the use of dental x-rays and mammograms. He demonstrated that on the apron the dentist puts on you for your dental x-rays there is a little flap that can be lifted up and wrapped around your neck. Many dentists don't bother to use it. Also, there is something called a "thyroid guard" for use during mammograms. By coincidence, I had my yearly mammogram yesterday. I felt a little silly, but I asked about the

guard and sure enough, the technician had one in a drawer. I asked why it wasn't routinely used. Answer: "I don't know. You have to ask for it." Well, if I hadn't seen the show, how would I have known to ask?



## Dental Bib Chains Pose Cross Contamination Threat

Charlotte, NC – June, 14, 2011 / PRNewswire/ — Wet, used towels left in the gym. Dirty tissues discarded by someone suffering from a nasty cold. You wouldn't think of touching these items. But unknowingly, you may be sharing something that could be just as filthy and potentially dangerous when you visit a dental office. Infection control specialists call this cross contamination.

When an unsterilized bib chain is placed around your neck, you may be exposed to dangerous pathogens including pseudomonas, E. coli and Staph aureus – the most common cause of staph infections and a potential “superbug.”

Noel Kelsch, a national infection control columnist, Registered Dental Hygienist and former President of the California Dental Hygienists' Association, conducted a study on various types of dental chains and clips after seeing debris falling from a chain she had planned to use to protect her uniform at lunch. What she found led her to write an article titled “Don't Clip that Crud on Me” for RDH Magazine, a trade publication for dental hygienists.

Cross contamination can occur when a bib chain ‘grabs’ onto hair or accumulates patients' sweat, make-up, and neck acne, not to mention the oral substances that spray out of the mouth. During a dental cleaning, saliva, plaque and even blood can come in contact with the bib and bib chain. While you might think these types of nasty contaminants won't find their way into your system, all it takes is for you or one of the dental workers to come in contact with them. If you touch your neck after a dental visit and then rub your eye, you may have just cross-contaminated yourself.

“Studies have shown the more cracks, crevices and indentations on a bib chain, the higher the bacterial count. The problem with this when we use the same bib chain with patient, after patient, after patient, the accumulation creates a risk for cross-contamination.”

One specific study Kelsch conducted involved taking samples of bacteria found in a major U.S. airport bathroom and comparing them to the bacteria found on a used bib clip.

“What we were trying to do was put across to the public how bacteria-laden a bib clip can be, and what we discovered was, by looking at a bathroom floor at a busy airport, and looking at this bib chain, we got about the same level of bacteria in both of them. This is a risk that everyone needs to be aware of.”

As expected, disposable clips and holders opened fresh for each patient, were free from contaminants and posed no cross-contamination threats. “As an advocate for patient safety within the dental profession, one of the most important things I can do is keep patients out of harm's way. By simply educating the public about this possible cross-contamination, we can make an impact and keep our patients out of harm's way.”

Her findings echoed a study conducted by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Dentistry Oral Microbiology Lab that found bib chains and clips are potential sources of

contamination. In sampling 50 bib clips from various hygiene and dental operations, researchers discovered one in five bib clips were contaminated with “significant microorganisms,” according to an article in Dental Health Magazine.

“Society is really putting an emphasis on healthier living. If you go out into society now, you can see it everywhere you go. When you go to the grocery store, you'll see that they have wipes for disinfecting the cart; when you go into a gym, they'll supply you with items for helping you keep the equipment safe and free of bacteria. By simply going into your dentist's office and insisting that they use a disposable bib holder, instead of a bib clip, you're eliminating that harm factor.”

In addition to providing patients with a safer dental visit, Kelsch says that disposable dental bib holders are critical tools in the fight against the creation of more “superbugs.”

“If the infection route is destroyed – specifically, this bib chain is eliminated – we're not going to have the chance of cross-contamination and no disease is going to occur.”

