



Delegates Annual Conference Report

The 86th Annual Conference of the American Dental Assistants Association was held in Orlando, Florida October 6 – 10, 2010. This is an exciting time and provides exceptional opportunities for our delegates and members to participate in professional development and network for the betterment of the profession.

This years delegates, Ninette Lyon, Kym Goodell, Sally Poznanski, Samantha Ellis, Bonnie Marshall, and Linda Kihs had the responsibility in studying the Delegate’s Handbook and Proposed 2010-2011 Budget, attending all Caucuses, House of Delegates, assigned Reference Committees and Forums.

In the Budget Reference Committee, it was noted that it was the first time in eleven years that ADAA generated a loss. The negative variance was due to loss of members, lower than expected investment performance, a short-fall from the military, and the poor economy in general. Total expenses, however, were at budget. The proposed budget for 2010-2011 was reviewed and ultimately adopted by the House of Delegates.

- Our own Samantha Ellis won a pair of Nursemate shoes donated by Henry Schein.



Resolutions that were adopted:

Whereas, proper diagnosis of oral conditions and causes of discoloration in patient dentition by a licensed dentist is necessary to determine which treatment and post-operative care is indicated: and

Whereas, tooth whitening procedures and using activating lights and chemicals can cause pulpal and gingival injury: and

Whereas, the American Dental Assistants Association believes that tooth whitening procedures performed outside of a dental facility utilizing prescription strength chemicals and external mechanical aids have the

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Our membership was reported as: 7,558 e-members, 6,613 active/other members, 4,058 student members, 5,682 military members for a total of 23,911.

- States receiving funds for their legislative activities were California, Michigan, and New Jersey.
- The largest membership increase for 2009 -2010 was once again awarded to Oregon.

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See website for committee postings after election.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Sally Poznanski, Mary Harrison, and Bonnie Marshall for photographs within this publication.

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Trustee Report

How would you complete this sentence: Dental Assistants are.....?

I would like to hear from you.

I believe Dental Assistants are one of the most valued members of the dental team. Dental Assistant's are professionals. We are compassionate about others, passionate about what we do. We are caring, self-motivated, creative, hardworking, multi-taskers, loyal, and friendly individuals. Dental Assistants choose to be educated, highly skilled, and well trained to pursue and advance the quality of care we deliver to our patients. Dental assistants are our patient's liaison to the dentist.

We assistants have an amazing work ethic and are highly motivated to get things done when we put our minds



to the task at hand. Dental Assistants wear many hats. We become whatever is needed at that time. We are educators, infection control facilitators, OSHA regulators, financial coordinators, lab technicians, appointment coordinators. We are the Doctors' right hand, right brain.

I have chosen to belong to my professional organization, the American Dental Assistants Association. I have chosen to become active in my state association. I am proud to be a Certified Dental Assistant. What is stopping you from moving forward and stepping out of your comfort zone? Please come join me and your professional organization, become an active member.

Why wouldn't you?

*Lisa Lovering, CDA, CDPMA, MADAA
ADAA 10th District Trustee
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DELEGATES ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT, continued from page 1

potential to create irreversible damage to the tissue and dentition of consumers, therefore be it

Resolved, that irreversible treatment of dentition should be delegated to only properly educated individuals with regulated supervision within a dental office setting.

Whereas, many state boards have recognized that education with clinical proficiency is necessary for the delivery of quality dental care, and

Whereas, access to oral health care depends upon educated and highly

skilled dental health care professionals; and

Whereas, credentialing indicates a higher level of competency in dental assisting; therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Dental Assistants Association take necessary measures to encourage all dental assistants to become credentialed professionals.

We thank you for the opportunity of serving as your elected delegates. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

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

Thanks You!

As I start my third term as your President of the Oregon Dental Assistant Association, I want to thank everyone for this honor and congratulate the other elected officers; Sam Leach-1st Vice President, Kym Goodell-Treasurer and Bonnie Marshall- Secretary. I look forward to another successful year and working with these professional and devoted ladies and the other members of the Executive Board for the ODAA. As I have stated before, without everyone's support, dedication and knowledge the ODAA would not exist; this includes all active members!!

As my third term starts I am still focused on you our members and this will always be my focus. My

continuing goal is *visibility* and of course increasing and continuing memberships. There are many opportunities in our communities and I hope we can share in these opportunities for the upcoming year.

Once again, I'm going to encourage all members and non-members to check the ODAA website at www.oregondentalassistants.com for upcoming continuing education, board meetings, volunteer opportunities, contact information or other special activities the association may have planned. We also want to hear from you and what activities you may have going on in your area.

As always I look forward to any

partnerships that may be formed both professional and personal.

Sharing common goals and working towards those goals is as important as membership. HUGE thanks to current members and a HUGE encouragement to non-members to get involved!!

Once again, thank you for this great opportunity!

Sincerely
Ninette Lyon RDA, CDA, EFDA
ODAA- President



Wreaths Across America

This event is special for ADAA and the ODAA. The laying of wreaths at Willamette National Cemetery in December has become important for the remembering of lost veterans.

Cindy Bradley an ADAA member was instrumental in encouraging other states to become involved on the same day as wreaths are being placed in Arlington National Cemetery. ODAA has participated the last three years. It is a solemn but rewarding experience remembering those who have given their lives for our freedom.

Again this year, the weather was not good. Heavy rain and the wind was extreme. Last year during the ceremony we were stopped by the arrival of Oregon's latest fallen serviceman, Sgt. Elijah John-Miles Rao.

Elijah has become important to the ODAA Board. Being part of the service and his arrival placed him and his family deep in our hearts. Throughout this past year I have been in contact

with Sharon, Elijah's mother. She has shared pictures and family information that made me feel even closer to them. I wrote to her about Wreaths Across America and she was planning to participate, however she invited me to the ceremony the weekend before in remembrance of Elijah's death. I was honored to be included and took part in a very moving event. The Patriotic Guard was present and they lead us with their flags and thundering motorcycles. They took us through the cemetery to the area where they formed a double line with about 30 or more guards holding flags to guide Sharon to Elijah's grave where special words were shared, a letter written from his wife and words from Sharon. Sharon placed a wreath and other flowers were also placed. I was standing next to a person who I spoke with, not knowing anyone, and she said "I am his Grandmother". We shared thoughts and it again made me feel even closer to the family. I spoke

with Sharon and we again met on the following Saturday for Wreaths Across America.

I also again placed a wreath on my Uncle Paul's grave. That is something that can be done if you know of anyone you would like to remember, you may purchase a wreath and lay it for that special person. The graves are marked for easy locating.

I love being part of ODAA. There are so many interesting events to participate in, not just dental, but many personal times to share with others. I plan to continue to participate in events and I welcome all of you to become involved...if you know of a happening that would be something ODAA members could join, call one of the Board or someone on the roster and get the word out.

Save the second Saturday in December and come join me!

Mary Harrison, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, FADAA

In Memory of Patricia Carlson

Pat was born in Los Angeles, CA on September 19, 1931 and passed away March 17, 2010. She was raised in the LA area and after high school, she moved to San Francisco. There she attended dental school and became a dental assistant.

Pat worked for many years in the Salem area as a dental assistant and was instrumental and very supportive of the Capitol City Dental Assistant Society.



In Memory of Kristi Tupper

A memorial service was held September 25th in Eugene for Kristi Tupper, who passed away September 9th in a snorkeling accident while vacationing in Hawaii with her family. She was 53.

Kris graduated with a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Oregon in 1983. She worked as an instructor and program coordinator for the dental assisting program at Lane Community College for 27 years. She was known as a “born teacher” who taught and mentored hundreds of students. Her sense of humor and supportive nature was appreciated by friends and colleagues.

Mary Harrison of Portland Elected to DANB’s Board of Directors

CHICAGO (October 27, 2010) – The Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) is pleased to announce that Mary Harrison, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, FADAA, of Portland, Ore., was elected to the DANB Board of Directors. Ms. Harrison was elected to DANB’s Board from a slate of qualified nominees provided by the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA). She is currently serving the first of a possible two three-year term.

“Throughout my career as a professional dental assistant, I have encouraged dental assistants to do the very best for themselves,” Ms. Harrison said. “This has been the way I have lived my life and pursued my career – through involvement in the local, state, and national levels of the ADAA. I feel that the time I have served has provided me with important knowledge that will allow me to be an asset to the dental profession and to DANB’s Board.”

Ms. Harrison currently works as a clinical chairside dental assistant for Dr. Steven Scheffel in Beaverton, Ore. She has been a DANB Certified Dental Assistant since 1967, and is also an Oregon Expanded Function Dental Assistant and Oregon Expanded Function Orthodontic Assistant. She is a graduate of the Chemeketa Community College (formerly Salem Technical Vocational College) dental assisting program.

Having been an active member in the ADAA for more than 35 years, Ms. Harrison has made contributions at national, state, and local levels. She held numerous officer positions within the Oregon Dental Assistants Association (ODAA), including president and vice



president, and served on various ODAA committees. She has also taken on leadership positions within local dental assisting societies, and participated in all society committees. She is a Fellow in the ADAA, and has also served on the ADAA Foundation. Additionally, Ms. Harrison was the ADAA

Tenth District Trustee for six years, and won the ADAA Achievement Award in 2006.

Ms. Harrison has been a dental assistant representative to both the Oregon Dental Association and the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD). She has testified before the OBD and the Oregon State Legislature, representing ODAA and all dental assistants in the State of Oregon.

Ms. Harrison was a consultant to the OBD for the Expanded Function and Expanded Function Orthodontic Clinical Exams, and assisted in the test construction with DANB for the written Basic, Expanded Function, and Expanded Function Orthodontic Dental Assistant written exams. Ms. Harrison has chairside assisted dental candidates taking their Oregon Dental Board exams and the Western Regional Dental Boards for over 20 years.

Her other allied health organization involvement includes the Give Kids a Smile Week Committee, Portland Public School Fluoride King Program, and various volunteer work related to health and dental care within the community. Ms. Harrison has also been active in the Public Portland Schools as a PTA member and past PTA President at Grant High School, in addition to serving on the local school advisory committee and city central budget committees.

Ginny Jorgensen elected to DALE Foundation Board of Trustees

DANB's Board of Directors previously approved the development of a new education and research foundation to better meet the needs of dental assistants and other members of the dental team in the areas of supplemental education and professional research. At its February 2010 meeting, the Board selected the DALE Foundation as the name of the DANB-affiliated, separately incorporated non-profit foundation. The DALE Foundation is committed to Dental Assisting Learning and Education in support of DANB's mission. The DALE Foundation has been formed to benefit the public by advancing dental assistants and promoting dental assistant certification, by developing quality

DALE Foundation
*is committed to Dental Assisting
Learning and Education*

supplemental education and conducting sound research to support and promote oral health.

Six trustees with expertise in research, education, e-learning, employer, employment, public health, and corporate interests were selected.

Oregon is proud to announce Virginia Jorgensen as one of the newly elected Trustees.

Virginia Jorgensen, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, A.A.S., is an educator in a CODA-accredited dental assisting program in Oregon who says, "I believe the latest technology has already improved our ability to deliver and enhance learning. The sky is the limit to the ways it can be used to deliver, improve and enhance learning."

New Officer



Bonnie Marshall

Oregon is pleased to announce Bonnie Marshall, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, MADAA as ADAA's newly elected Secretary. She will be responsible for maintaining the ongoing records of all ADAA's national business meetings.

Ms. Marshall is an instructor and coordinator in the dental assisting program at Portland Community College. She serves as a consultant for the ADA Commission on accreditation, works for the Western Regional Testing Agency and serves on the DANB Radiology test construction committee. Bonnie has held many positions with the Oregon Dental Assistants Association, including that of president and is currently serving as ODAA Secretary. Bonnie completed two terms as Tenth District Trustee and has been the recipient of the Sunstar Americas Award of Excellence for educators.

The Friends of Creston Children's Dental Clinic



The Creston Clinic has been providing low income children in the Portland Public School District with free, high quality dental care since 1962. The Creston Clinic is the only school based safety net dental clinic in Multnomah County. Each year the clinic provides approximately 1,500 children in PPS with 2,500 annual clinic visits. Our patients are children who would otherwise have no access to care. We estimate that in nearly 50 years of operation, over 50,000 children have received dental services at the Creston Clinic.

Since opening in 1962, the Creston Clinic has been financially sustained by the Assistance League of Portland (ALP). After many years of generous support, capacity limitations required the ALP to pass on stewardship of the clinic to the Friends of Creston Children's Dental Clinic (FCCDC). FCCDC took over operation in March of 2010, and with a tremendous showing of community support from volunteers and financial contributors, we successfully completed services for the 2009-2010 school year.

Even with such an outpouring of help, both financial and physical, FCCDC seeks to capitalize on our recent momentum by developing a stable bank of volunteer dentists to provide regular treatment for children at Creston. FCCDC will hire a Clinic Director whose primary function will be to recruit, retain and coordinate volunteer dentists, dental assistants and hygienists as well as over see operations of the clinic. Funds are needed to support this very important position.



e-mail: crestondental@gmail.com



Need: Bobbie came to the Creston Clinic at the age of nine with an abscessed first permanent molar. When asked how long it had been hurting he said he couldn't remember; he had not visited a dentist in over three years. With no provisions for follow up care, the volunteer dentist that day had no choice but to extract the tooth, lamenting the fact that had the condition been caught a few years earlier, a dental sealant would have protected the tooth at almost no expense.

It is estimated that over 15,000 children in the Portland Metro area, like Bobbie, lack sufficient dental care due to no insurance or family financial strains. As a result, thousands of children in our community have serious dental health problems that impair their learning and contribute to missed school days. Oregon lags far behind the national standard in terms of children's dental health. In a 2010 PEW survey of 37 states, Oregon had among the worst rates of untreated cavities among children 1st to 3rd grade. Children with oral disease experience terrible pain, are less successful in school, and are more vulnerable to other health problems.

www.crestondental.org

Am I Protected from a Lawsuit?

As a participating member, you have the full satisfaction and security of knowing you are protected should you be named in a lawsuit. (Students, life original and life retired categories do not apply; students are covered if they so request and pay an additional fee.)

What is professional liability?

Professional liability coverage offers protection against claims that the policyholder may be legally obligated to pay as a result of an error or omission in his or her professional work. Also known as E&O insurance, liability insurance is significant to your profession. Liability insurance helps deal with claims of professional liability in your services. ADAA offers a professional liability insurance policy for you that is both affordable and effective.

How much professional liability insurance do I need?

Am I covered under my boss' policy?

My dentist says I am covered under his umbrella policy.

Anyone can be sued personally even if they are covered under another policy, such as your employers. ADAA's professional liability policy protects you against loss from a claim of charged



negligent acts, errors or omissions in the performance of your specialized services.

What does professional liability cover?

Coverage is given for claims of bodily injury or property damage liability at your work site or at your job location. You will be covered for work that you conduct which is legal under the dental practice act in your state.

Regardless of who is negligent, it can take years for litigation to be dismissed. While you may be exonerated from liability, your attorney's fees can be staggering. Professional liability insurance helps relieve you from the financial burden of defending yourself in a malpractice lawsuit.

If you're providing a professional service or rendering a professional opinion, this coverage is strongly suggested. In fact, many occupations require you to have professional liability insurance before allowing you to practice.

Additionally, it's important to note that having professional liability insurance does not make you more likely to be sued. It simply makes you more prepared if a lawsuit is brought against you. Whether you're employed or self-employed, work full-time or part-time, or are a student practicing in a managed setting, having a professional liability plan will give you peace of mind and the security you need.

Do I have nationwide coverage?

The general liability policy provides coverage in the United States and its territories. Worldwide coverage is provided on the Professional Liability policy if your work is produced and the suit is brought in the United States.

When is the policy renewed?

Yearly.

The only way to ensure that you're covered for your professional acts is to have professional liability insurance. When you are covered as an ADAA member, you can download your certificate of insurance issued in your name at www.adaa1.com. This liability insurance policy will provide you with limits of liability expressed in the certificate.

How do I know if I am covered?

With the exception of students, life original and life retired categories, most membership categories include professional liability insurance, and as stated earlier, students can request insurance for a fee in addition to their student dues.

How much coverage do I have?

Limits of Liability:
\$50,000 per incident per member
\$1,000,000 aggregate

Deductible:

There is NO deductible in this policy

Who is the ADAA Professional Liability Insurance provider?

The provider is Columbia Casualty Company. Any inquiries should be directed to Tiaese Dolberry at 888-288-3534 at HPSO. HPSO is the ADAA's agent for the professional liability insurance policy.

In Memory of Anna Nelson

We are saddened to announce that the ADAA Journal's editorial director, Anna Nelson, has died suddenly at her home in San Francisco.

Ms. Nelson was a pioneering member of the American Dental Assistants Association and served as the 2000-2001 national president of the ADAA. A Life Member of the ADAA, Ms. Nelson had held every office in the ADAA's local, state and national components. Recipient of numerous awards and citations, she received the first Kay Mosley award presented by the ADAA Foundation in recognition of achievements on behalf of the profession, the ADAA and the Foundation. She was also serving as Secretary of the ADAA Foundation at the time of her death.

She was currently a Commissioner of the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and chaired CODA's Dental Assistant Review Committee. She was a member of Colgate Oral Systemic Advisory Board and was active with the California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers. Until last fall, Ms. Nelson was program director for dental assisting at the City Colleges of San Francisco, but had revised her status to continue exclusively as a teacher with the colleges and devote additional time to ancillary professional activities and family matters.

Thank you Anna for a job well done.

DANB CDAs Earn More, According to Salary Survey

CHICAGO (Dec. 15, 2010) – The Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) has just published the results of its biennial salary survey. DANB's 2010 Salary Survey shows that DANB Certified Dental Assistants (CDAs) continue to earn more and stay in the profession longer than non-certified assistants. DANB's results are based on a 17 percent response rate to its survey of a national sample of CDAs. DANB targeted a 10 percent response rate to be able to generalize results to the full CDA population.

According to the survey, DANB CDAs who work full-time (73 percent) report a median salary of \$18.73 per hour, which is up \$0.73 from 2008. The median salary for full- and part-time DANB CDAs is \$18.50 – \$2.04 higher than non-certified assistants, who earn \$16.46 per hour, according to adjusted figures from a May 2009 Bureau of Labor Statistics survey.*

"I believe DANB Certification has everything to do with my wage," according to one respondent, who notes she went from making \$15 to \$19 within the last year. "I believe with the confidence in my knowledge and abilities that I gained from being DANB Certified, I always worked a little harder, pushed a little further, and feel very successful."



Many DANB Certificants share the results of the salary survey with their employers when asking for a raise. "Thanks to your survey I was able to show it to my dentist and get the recognition I deserved," one DANB CDA said.

DANB CDAs tend to stay in the profession longer and have more loyalty toward their employers. According to DANB's 2010 Salary Survey, DANB CDAs have been in their current positions for an average of 8.7 years and in the profession an average of 15.7 years. DANB CDAs increase office efficiency and often take on additional responsibilities such as infection control; laboratory functions; expanded duties, as allowed in their respective states; and

providing in-office training to other staff.

DANB Certificants receive benefits such as 401(k)/pension plan (61 percent), free dental care (56 percent), health insurance (54 percent), reimbursement for CDE (52 percent) and reimbursement for certification or state registration renewal (30 percent).

Beyond higher pay, DANB CDAs cited personal benefits to maintaining DANB Certification, including self-gratification (87 percent), pride (78 percent), employer recognition (55 percent), elevating the profession (48 percent), patient respect for credentials (45 percent) and recognition in the dental community (41 percent).

In addition, many DANB Certificants strongly believe in the important role DANB Certification plays in patient safety and public protection. "I would like to see more state dental boards require DANB Certification to practice as a dental assistant in the state in which they live," one CDA notes.

Although each state has different requirements for dental assistants, earning and maintaining DANB Certification demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning, and is an objective measure of dental assisting knowledge and abilities. There are DANB Certificants in every state, with more than 33,000 DANB Certificants nationwide.

View more results from DANB's 2010 Salary Survey at www.danb.org.

*The median is defined as the point at which 50 percent of the data fall above and 50 percent fall below.

Time

Take the time to listen to others;
Instill the knowledge you have;
Mentor others; be open to new ideas;
Embrace change and move forward.



By Kym Goodell

Kym has also written a book that is available at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com and booksamillion.com.



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ADAA Raises \$5,000 for the Warrior Family Support Center

On December 23, 2010 COL Hamilton, SGM Drumm and SGM ® Spadaro presented a \$5,000.00 check to the Warrior Family Support Center on behalf of the entire ADAA family.

During our 2010 Annual Conference ADAA members once again stood tall and donated money to support our heroes. We kicked off our 2010 fund raiser for the Warrior Family Support Center in San Antonio Texas. The ADAA is no stranger in helping our military, for over 60 years ADAA has supported our heroes during all conflicts

As the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) continues, seriously injured Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines are evacuated from the theater of operations to major medical facilities located on military installations. Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) is one of the best trauma centers and many of these Wounded Warriors receive their medical care there. Due to the seriousness of their injuries, these Wounded Warriors



Volunteering once again at the Octoberfest was Linda Kihs, Sally Poznanaski, and Mary Harrison. All proceeds go to support the Father Taaffe Homes.



remain at BAMC for an extended period of time which, in many cases, can exceed 12 months. BAMC physicians noticed a need for Family members to be intimately involved in the rehabilitation of their sons, daughters, or spouses (Wounded Warriors), and that a vital part of their recovery meant a need to have a "safe" environment away from the hospital.

At the physician's initiative, a committee was established to support Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), and Operation Noble Eagle (ONE) troops on their road to recovery. The concept of the WFSC was developed by this committee, led by Army Community Services (ACS), and authorized by the Garrison Commander.

On 8 December 2008, through the extraordinary generosity of the greater San Antonio community the doors opened to a new 12,500 square foot facility. The WFSC on Fort Sam Houston is the only one of its kind, offering a safe environment for Military Families to reconnect during medical treatment and restart their lives with the full support of the military community.

The WFSC provides coordinated services to patients, next-of-kin and extended Family members with a primary focus on OIF and OEF Warriors. It provides a friendly, comfortable environment in which to take a break, watch a movie on big-screen TV's, play video games, check email or use the Internet, select a book or magazine to read, make a phone call or just grab a cup of coffee.

Wounded Warriors and their Family members visit the WFSC to maintain contact with other military members or extended Family members, to receive emotional support and answers to their questions, and to extend their rehabilitation away from the hospital.

The rehabilitation involves learning to cope with war related disabilities as individuals, as couples and as Families. The WFSC schedules over 48 activities every month with opportunities to attend sporting events, movie night, plays at the Majestic Theatre, concerts, Fiesta, shopping trips, luncheons and dinners, bingo, fishing trips and more.

All events and trips are free of charge. The Warrior and Family Support Center is staffed by caring volunteers from the military community, Wounded Warriors and ACS personnel.

Goods, services and money donated by businesses, churches, schools and private individuals help keep the WFSC supplied with phone cards, games, baked goods and etc.

Thank you for your generous donations in 2010. We will continue to support The Warrior Family Support Center during 2011. If you would like to give in 2011 please mail donations to:

ADAA
Attn: Warrior Family Support Center
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1730
Chicago, IL 60601
Stephen E. Spadaro
ADAA President 2008-2009