

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Idaho Dental Hygienists' Association

Spring 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kristy Garrett, RDH, BS

Greetings and happy spring to all of you! I'm so happy to be seeing a little more sunshine and longer days this time of year. I had the privilege to attend the Idaho State Dental Association board meeting since I last reported to you. I am grateful for their invitation and look forward to collaborating with them more to further the goals of both our organizations. While we may not see eye to eye on some issues, there are so many that we do agree on and have consented to work together to better the access to dental care for more Idahoans than ever before.

Our IDHA board members have been meeting with legislators and dentists to bring to light the concerns and interests of hygienists in our state. While we have not actively had any legislation this year, we feel this networking will be valuable when we pursue legislation in the near future. We hope that if you have an opportunity, you will meet with your local legislators and impress upon them the future you see for hygiene in Idaho.

Hopefully, by now you have all received your preliminary information regarding our Annual Session in Boise this year. It will be October 3rd and 4th at the Airport Holiday Inn. Many wonderful and well noted speakers have been invited to speak on current topics. We extend a warm welcome to all dental team members, including hygienists, dentists, assistants, and front office staff. Registration information will be coming out soon, so save the date and join us! As always, we welcome any who wish to volunteer to help lead IDHA to greatness, and we would love to add you to our board. Experience isn't necessary, but willingness to better our organization and participate in greatness is required!

ADHA President, Jean Connor, RDH, visited Idaho in April. She came to Boise on April 17th, and visited Apollo College, met with area legislators, and enjoyed an evening at Berryhill and Co. The next day, we traveled with her to Pocatello, where she visited ISU's Dental Hygiene program, met with Southeastern Idaho legislators, and participated in a continuing education class that evening. Our ADHA President makes these state visits so rarely. It was a great opportunity to see our organization at work and learn more about IDHA/ADHA membership.

In January, I was honored to be highlighted by my alma mater, Eastern Washington University. They are recognizing

people who are using their education in leadership positions, or those who have "started something big" since their graduation. I was happy to see that the dental hygiene students at EWU are addressing access to care issues and formulating programs to go out into the community to give service. This aligns with many of the goals of IDHA and I wrote to say so. Imagine my surprise when they called to arrange for a photographer and published a small piece in their newsletter. This was an awesome opportunity to speak out in behalf of IDHA. See idha.org for a link to the article.

It was exciting to visit with the North Idaho Components on April 25th for a continuing education course at Eastern Washington University. I'm grateful I got the opportunity to meet with you and receive some timely information as well.

I hope you are all enjoying your careers in dental hygiene. I have been fortunate to practice for the last 28 years. Two years ago, I felt compelled to participate in IDHA on a more proactive level and it has been extremely rewarding. I ask that you look within yourselves to find what you are passionate about, and be willing to lend a hand to help make this organization all it can be. Feel free to contact me any time to ask questions or to give your comments. You can reach me on our website at IDHA.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of IDHA is to assist and serve individual members through active participation and promotion of the highest standards of the dental hygiene profession.

VISION STATEMENT

Enhance the profession of dental hygiene by improving professionalism, autonomy, access to oral health care, and the relationship of oral health to total health.

- Professionals representing the highest standards of practice to maintain the integrity of the profession.
- Promoting public awareness by providing quality oral health care to individuals in private and alternative practice settings, including underserved populations.
- Promoting higher educational standards and increased educational offerings to keep pace with the demands of an ever changing population.
- Increasing public awareness of services provided by dental hygienists.



NEWSLETTER

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Please send your Newsletter reports, articles, pictures, advertisements, questions, etc. to: vanessa@idha.org. All submissions should include the author's name, credentials and contact information. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

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Advertising rates: business card size—\$25, one fourth page—\$45, one half page—\$80, & full page—\$150. For more information, or to advertise on our website, contact vanessa@idha.org.

PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT

Sally Kane, RDH-EA, BSDH

Last November I attended ADHA's "Unleashing Your Potential Weekend" in Chicago. This was my first visit to Chicago and ADHA headquarters and I walked away with renewed enthusiasm for dental hygiene. ADHA is working hard to assist state associations to empower and develop the hygienists throughout the nation, to support hygienists of the future, and to advance the dental hygiene profession.



District XII representatives in Chicago learning to Unleash Our Potential. From left: Nevada, Washington, Hawaii, Pres Elect Diann Bomkamp, Pres Jean Connor, me-Idaho, Oregon, and Alaska.

ADHA has adopted a new Brand that your IDHA board has also embraced. We are professionals promoting total health through quality oral health care. Hygienists have taken to heart the Call to Action by the former Surgeon General to improve access to care. I think you all agree that the dental hygienist is the logical health care provider to play a key role in addressing the needs of the underserved, and your association is working with the Idaho State Dental Association and other partners of the Idaho Oral health Alliance to achieve this goal.

Here in Idaho we are fortunate to have a Board of Dentistry that recognizes the value of a college educated and licensed preventive oral care specialist—the registered dental hygienist. I regret to tell you however, that in several other states movements are occurring to devalue dental hygiene education by the introduction of scaling assistants. Procedures once reserved for licensed members of the dental team are being delegated to individuals with no professional degree or board approved competencies. Your association is working hard to promote the highest standards of dental hygiene education, licensure and practice.

I recently learned that Dental Hygiene is one of the fastest growing occupations in the country—in fact, there's talk of two more dental hygiene schools opening in Idaho in the near future, to join the two existing Idaho programs. My hope is that all of these hygienists will be able to find rewarding careers in private practice or alternative settings. If the laws are changed and more settings for restorative hygienists are allowed and direct access hygienists are recognized, there is no doubt in my mind that more Idahoans

would get needed dental care and all dental hygiene graduates would find jobs.

I enjoyed meeting with the PVDHS and MVDHS recently. I will be attending the ADHA annual session in Albuquerque this summer and hope that you will consider attending with us.

If you are not a member, become one. As former ADHA President Margaret Lappan Green said, "Together we have one voice and one vision." Your voice counts and we want to hear from you. Email me anytime: salkane@msn.com.

One Voice, One Vision: I want to specially thank our District XII Trustee, Susan Savage, and the ADHA Government Affairs division for providing helpful information in preparation for the Idaho Oral Health Summit where the IDHA perspective was shared. The second draft of the Idaho Oral Health Plan was recently completed and sent to the Board and Trustees who can share it with their component members. You will have only three weeks to respond. The Public Relations Committee submitted an opinion to coverage of the Idaho Oral Health Summit which was published in the February 16th issue of the Idaho Statesman (see the PR report for more information).

Call for nominations and volunteers: I hope existing officers, committee chairs and others will want to continue serving, but it seems there has been a "Baby Boom" among the leadership. We need your help. Next year will be busy as we partner with Special Olympics, the Healthy Idaho Coalition promoting smoke free bars, and other great opportunities for dental hygienists to serve and increase oral health awareness. Please consider participating in any way, big or small. Our enthusiasm is contagious.

Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP): The new mid-level oral care provider. Why?

- 1) The ADHP is intended as a solution to the oral health crisis in America.
- 2) The ADHP is comparable to nurse practitioners in terms of education and potential for increasing access to care.
- 3) The expectation that with time the ADHP will be accepted as a valued member of the dental team.

An Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner curriculum has been approved by the Minnesota Board of Education and state Legislature, and is slated to start in spring 2009. This exciting success was in spite of attempts by the powerful American Dental Association (ADA) to block the legislation. At one point during the process the ADA published an article saying, "In Minnesota, the misguided hygiene practitioner legislation continues to limp along."

Fortunately, many dentists, as well as the Minnesota Legislature, disagree with this statement and find the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner to be a valuable asset to the

health care provider team that warrants the opportunity to make a difference.

At the Idaho Oral Health Summit IDHA shared the idea of implementing an ADHP curriculum at ISU since it already has a masters level dental hygiene program. After all, Idaho was the first state to license Nurse Practitioners. Unfortunately, not all Summit participants were in favor of creating the ADHP in Idaho at this time, however it is something we will be revisiting in the future. For more information about the ADHP, go to the ADHA website: www.adha.org.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Nies, RDH, Co-Chair



This picture makes me realize how far the dental hygiene profession has come. Despite this evolution, there are surprisingly few hygienists that are a part of their professional organization. We are truly fortunate to be part of such a wonderful profession. Consider this: What would you do if one day you awoke to find your expertise was no longer needed? What if dental hygienists were trained chair-side with no minimum education requirements. What if your salary was minimum wage. *It could happen.* All across the country the "scaling assistant" is on the rise, with more states considering legalizing them. This means the public, as well as dental hygienists, will suffer.

Hygienists have longed to be in charge of the education requirements of our profession for this very reason. Membership in your professional organization is critical for IDHA to help our profession to continue to evolve and to prove we represent the opinions of Idaho dental hygienists.

IDHA & ADHA are here to protect our profession. Even if all you do is write a check to pay your membership dues, you have done something to protect your future. Last year, I had dentists ask me what I think about scaling assistants here in Idaho. They say they have trouble finding hygienists to work for them. They say their overhead is too high and that they cannot afford to pay another hygienist's salary. They want a dental assistant to be able to scale above the gum line on children and possibly others—after all an assistant can do everything else a hygienist can, right? Although dental hygienists do many more important things than just scale teeth, to the public, it is what distinguishes us from other dental team members.

Think about it, then send in your membership application today. You can also join online at www.adha.org. If you have any questions please contact Liz Nies: 208.866.4271 or Lizabiz_2000@yahoo.com. You may also access some membership info on our website, www.idha.org.

ISBD REPORT

Jan Simpson, RDH

The Idaho State Board of Dentistry (ISBD) met April 11-12th in Boise. Dr. Jay Harris conducted his first meeting as chairman and we all welcomed Dr. John Blaisdell, the new Dentist member from Caldwell. Art Sachs, ISBD Executive Director, informed the board that HB 410 and the new fee schedules became Idaho code. HB 410 makes provisions for a spouse or surviving heir of a dentist to continue operating the dental office for up to a year after the death of the dentist. The new fee schedule for dental hygienists is as follows—by exam: \$150; active status: \$175; and inactive status: \$85. For more info on the Idaho Dental Practice Act, see our website: www2.state.id.us/isbd/rules.htm.

The board is continuing its discussion regarding dental assistant certification. We would like to form an ADHOC Committee consisting of dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants to help us with this task. If you are interested, call the ISBD office at 208.334.2369.

The board plans to draft a bill for the next legislative session that will limit the number of online Continuing Education Credits dentists and dental hygienists can use for license renewal. **Our next meeting is July 25-26 in Post Falls.**

IDHA 2008 ANNUAL SESSION

Susan Cameron & Ruth Kearn, Co-Chairs

“BETTER TOGETHER”

IDHA's 45th Annual Session, themed "Better Together," will be held October 3 and 4 in Boise, Idaho at the Airport Holiday Inn. Please put these dates on your calendar.

Ruth Kearn has been busy arranging the speakers and we are happy to announce that we will be featuring “Earth, Wind and Fire” with Debra Grant, Shirley Gutkowski and Beth Thompson on Friday October 3rd, providing 6 CE credits. This session is planned to include the entire dental team.

Student Table Clinics will also be held on Friday the 3rd, providing 1.5 CE credits. We have had some fantastic, informative table clinics from the students so plan your calendar so you and your team can attend and learn. Watch your mailbox for registration materials in June.

We also are thrilled to announce that Dr. Esther Wilkins will be at our Annual Session and will be available for book signing and photos at our Friday Night Gala. Dr. Wilkins and Jane Weiner, RDH will be presenting a special student forum on Saturday October 4th for 4 CE credits for the students in attendance and providing table clinics. What a wonderful opportunity. We are thankful to the Regence Caring Foundation for helping to sponsor both the Gala and Annual Session.

The Professional Issues Forum will also be held October 4th for 2 CE credits. This forum is designed to get us up to speed with what is going on across the nation and locally with issues that pertain to us as Dental Hygienists.

I encourage each ADHA/IDHA member to bring in a new member; and I challenge non-members to join ADHA/IDHA. Membership is one of the best insurance policies you can have to protect your position as a Dental Hygienist through a network of hygienists across the country. IDHA would like to have all of you—dentists, hygienists, assistants and front office staff—attend our 2008 Annual Session. After all, we're "Better Together."

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”
Helen Keller

IDAHO DENTAL HYGIENISTS' FOUNDATION

Dawn Bowman, RDH, Chairperson

The current members of the Foundation are: Vanda Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer (Filer), Susanne Jamison, board member (Nampa), Julie Slee, board member (Boise), and Dawn Bowman, Chair (Pocatello). The Foundation is the mechanism in which tax deductible monetary gifts fund scholarships and grants for degree completion and dental hygiene service projects.

An elegant piece of jewelry has been purchased for the IDHA Annual Session Jewelry Raffle and is available for viewing on the IDHA website. Tickets are available from the Foundation for \$20/6 tickets or \$5 each—for more information go to www.idha.org. All educational institutions fees have increased, and therefore the need for donations is even more urgent! I encourage your generous contributions towards this worthwhile Foundation. It is an investment in our future!

The Foundation members met during the fall Annual Session to agree on recipients and award amounts for Grant applications. No applications were received for the degree completion or advancement degrees. Applications may be sent to Vanda Johnson, PO Box 701, Filer, ID 83328 prior to October 1st, 2008.

An anonymous donation has been given to help send our IDHA Webmaster to the ADHA Annual Session in New Mexico in June. ADHA has professional communications sessions that analyze and critique state websites, making this is a great, cost effective session. As always, your contributions toward helping make this happen are appreciated.

Donations are being received all year for the Live and Silent Auctions at Annual Session. If there is something special you would like to offer, we would appreciate your creative assistance. Please remember IDHF and send your tax-deductible donations to: IDHF, Vanda Johnson, PO Box 701, Filer, ID 83328. Your generosity is always appreciated.

ADHA DISTRICT 12 TRUSTEE REPORT

Susan Savage, RDH, BSDH

At the Board of Trustees meeting in March, ADHA Executive Director, Ann Battrell, RDH, MSDH, introduced the new ADHA staff members: Katie Powell—Director of Member Services; Megan Fitzpatrick—Director of Government Affairs; Stacy Chappell—Manager of Government Affairs; Dawn Amaskane—Manager of Meetings and Conventions; and Chuck Allworth—Director of Development.

The initial step for the master file of dental hygienists is now COMPLETE!!! We have finished inputting the data of over 150,000 dental hygienists nationwide. This will eliminate duplicate mailings and allow us to initiate contact via mail with every licensed dental hygienist in every state. These lists will be made available for purchase (maybe free) to state and local associations. Please forward any corrected addresses you receive to Katie in Member Services for correction (member.services@adha.net or 312.440.8947).

The Finance Committee report was presented by Hope Garza, Treasurer. ADHA staff was impressed with the efficiency of the committee and the preparation they did before the meeting. They were charged with cutting \$600,000 from the proposed budget for 2008-09. A review of some of the cuts are: no staff raises; Finance Committee is funded for only 3 days at Annual Session; Finance Committee and Council meetings will be 2 days next year rather than 3; review number of staff members traveling to ADHA annual sessions; BOT Leadership conference was cut; local speakers will be utilized for 2009 Annual Session to reduce travel costs; there will be a registration fee for Lobby Day at Annual Session 2009 in DC; and ADHA officers will no longer travel to BOT meetings a day early for preparation (this is now completed via the internet and web postings).

A Member Services review was given by Katie Powell. Our winter renewal rates are down and will not be on target for annual projections. Retired members renew at a rate that is \$119.25 less than regular member fees, and retired members increase by 300 every year. In 2008, 452 active members are eligible for retired member status. If the trend continues \$151,000 will be lost in 2009, \$151,000 in 2010 and \$194,000 in 2011. The cost of the retired status membership will be further discussion at a later date.

Student membership conversion data: Of 5700 graduates, half convert and half of them become members. 90% of all dental hygiene students belong to ADHA and many of those are required to join. Katie can provide 3 years of retention and recruitment rates soon. We need to push the consumer piece of the branding campaign off for another year to provide emphasis on the current members and students for membership growth and retention. The consumer part will continue in 2009-10 to complete the whole package of marketing. Member Services will be marketing to graduates soon to remind them to upgrade their student

status to professional. They will also get information to increase the value they place on their membership for their professional life. Member Services will have a membership push in CA, TX, NY, FL, and IL to test the new membership campaign and increase membership. Annual Session will now be considered a membership drive. Marketing tools, videos and ideas will be provided in a kit for membership drives available to state and local components.

It was recently brought to our attention that Idaho is using the ADHA/Idaho logo for stamps to be used on their mailings. Great idea Idaho!!! Remember, you can call me or Jeff Mitchell with any questions regarding logo use. And be sure to spend some time cruising the ADHA website for membership and component information.

The Executive Committee Report

The ADHA Bylaws have undergone a review by the ADHA legal council. We will talk about their suggestion at the District Workshop in Albuquerque. The review is required to align our Bylaws with "current best practices." ADHA has not had a bylaw review for over 30 years! The new Council on Policy and Bylaws will now be able to keep up with these changes. Previously, the CPB was also charged with Annual Session planning and the policy manual. Also, the Standards for Clinical Practice Guidelines was unanimously approved by the BOT and will soon be available online!

ADHA has been corresponding with the ADA about collaborating on joint work force models to put in place to ease the access to care issue. This communication will continue and is anticipated to create a joint venture.

The ADHP Curriculum passed the BOT with a unanimous vote and was very emotional since it has been a 3 year effort by the task force and the ADHA Education Division.

The Council on Research requested that the BOT look again at funding for printing the *Journal of Dental Hygiene*. Everyone understands that it is in the best interest for all members to have the *Journal* in print but it is not possible without more corporate support. Printing of the *Journal* will only be done when corporate funding can be secured.

I hope to see you all in Albuquerque at ADHA's Annual Session! You may contact Susan with any questions or concerns regarding District XII: toothdoc001@charter.net.



SHARE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IDHA would like to hear about your community service and volunteer events. We would like to share your stories and may be able to provide information about potential grant opportunities for your future projects. For more information, visit our website, www.idha.org, or email vanessa@idha.org.



A CALL TO ACTION

Janet Garlick, RDH, BS, IOHA Secretary

The Idaho Oral Health Alliance (IOHA) is a non-profit association with members from the dental hygiene and dental associations, Department of Health representatives, dental insurance companies, medical professionals, scholars, Head Start representatives, Community Health Centers, legislators, Community Councils, and other stakeholders concerned with oral health. Its mission is to bring together a broad spectrum of parties interested in oral health issues in order to improve oral and overall health for Idahoans.

IOHA convened an Oral Health Summit in November 2007 with state and nationally recognized speakers who presented to a capacity audience of over 225 attendees! Speakers highlighted the relationship between oral and systemic health, presented information on best practices and potential solutions to the oral health crisis, and helped to create a shared vision for improving access to dental care. The IOHA Summit Planning Committee, along with representatives from the state dental board, IDHA, and ISDA met in January to develop an Action Plan with short and long-term strategies to achieve Summit priority goals. These priority goals, which resulted from the Summit breakout sessions will be used by the Department of Health and Welfare as they begin the process of developing the next State Oral Health Plan.

The Idaho Oral Health Alliance has an ambitious agenda for 2008 and beyond, with a clear focus on being a visible, serious and legislatively important advocate for oral health improvement in Idaho. Toward this end we are currently evaluating best practice models, such as the Maine Oral Health Program, for possible replication in Idaho; and seeking opportunities for further grant funding to facilitate growth. We believe that an important key to the success of this agenda is to strengthen Idaho's oral health infrastructure and improve awareness among non-dental providers, consumers, and legislators about the serious implications of untreated oral disease and the importance of prevention.

Like many states, Idaho falls short of meeting the goals set forth by the Surgeon Generals 2000 Report on Oral Health and the objectives of Healthy People 2010. We have a mechanism and an opportunity to effect change, but success depends upon the willingness of the professional community to make it happen. Further information about IOHA activities, including summaries of the Summit and Action Plan, are readily available and we would be delighted to discuss opportunities to contribute your knowledge and efforts. Immediate IOHA plans incorporate structural reor-

ganization including formation of a Membership Committee with a focus on expansion to include both dental and non-dental supporters, project committee leadership, fund raising and grant writing.

We are currently accepting membership applications for 2008, which can be obtained at our website or by contacting Janet. The IOHA is a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization and your financial contributions are both welcome and tax deductible.

For additional information, please refer to the IOHA website at www.idahooralhealth.org or feel free to contact—Janet Garlick, RDH, BS, IOHA Secretary: truleo@netscape.com or 208.562.8387; or Dan Watt, DDS, FAGD, IOHA Chairman: [dwatt@trhs.org](mailto:d watt@trhs.org).

IOHA Action Plan The following summary identifies the priorities that were discussed at the Post Summit Planning meeting in January. These goals provide an outline for our objectives for the next several years, but our success depends upon membership and involvement. Do you want to see change in how Idaho approaches oral health?

- I. Goal: Improve Provider education in the area of Oral Health care (can begin to implement without infrastructure in place).
 - Develop and conduct regional oral health education to non-dental providers (i.e., lunch and learn sessions at hospitals, in-service trainings, train-the-trainer models).
 - Topics to address:
 - Seriousness of oral disease
 - Overview of causes and treatment
 - Role non-dental providers can play
 - Make non-dental provider oral health education part of contract negotiations with district health departments
 - Recruit and train a group of oral health education trainers
- II. Goal: Enhance infrastructure and leadership for oral health issues in Idaho
 - Strengthen the capacity of the IOHA
 - Generate new funding including grant opportunities
 - Establish a formal governing body
 - Marketing/outreach to increase IOHA membership and visibility
 - Establish and fund a State Dental Director position with duties to include oversight of oral health activities in both IDHW and Medicaid, and with sufficient authority to effect policy change
 - Strengthen the Public Oral Health System
 - Explore Medicaid reimbursement for clinical preventive services such as sealant placements and Fluoride varnish
 - Explore expanded scopes of practice for other types of dental providers in conjunction with the state dental board: dental assistants, dental hygienists, other potential mid level providers

III. Goal: Improve access to care at the state level

- Increase Medicaid reimbursement for providing dental care and preventive services [2008 legislative session]
- IOHA will support the current legislative proposal to increase Medicaid reimbursements
- Develop a legislative strategy to comprehensively address access issues [2009 legislative session].
- Form Ad-hoc Committee in IOHA to lead these efforts: identification of specific dental procedures that should be prioritized for increased reimbursement rates and developing an ideal fee structure, such as one based on national, state, or regional averages.
- Develop a proposal to address scope of practice issues related to access, possibly through a pilot.
- Advocate and lobby for passage of the legislation.
- Conduct outreach to dentists to increase active participation in Medicaid.
- Develop an outreach plan to address dentists' barriers to participate in Medicaid.

ISU DEPARTMENT OF DENTAL HYGIENE

Kathleen O. Hodges, RDH, MS, Professor & Department Chair

The new spring semester has been very busy. The senior students are preparing for graduation and "Boards" at this time of year as you well remember. Mock Boards took place recently. The junior students are in the process of completing their first semester of caring for patients in the clinical setting and are enjoying this direct patient care.

The undergraduate students spearheaded an extremely successful "Give Kids A Smile Day" by engaging the services of dentists and their staff, senior and junior student dental hygienists, and faculty. It was a rewarding community service project as 118 children were cared for and \$35,000 in dental services were provided. Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE led this effort for the Department. Carlene Paarmann, RDH, MEd and Carole Christie, MCouns were also co-coordinators of this event. The event is cosponsored by the Southeast Public Health Department, the ISU Dental Residency Program, the local dental society and the ISU Department of Dental Hygiene.

Candidates for admission to the undergraduate program were notified of their status around April 1st. Twenty-six highly qualified and eager applicants were selected for the 2008 fall class. Alternates have also been notified.

On April 18th we were honored by having Jean Connor, RDH, ADHA President visit Pocatello and Idaho State University. The day was packed with activities such as a campus tour, a dental hygiene department tour, a luncheon with department faculty members, a reception with legislators and licensed dental hygienists, and a continuing education course. The reception and continuing education was co-sponsored by the ISU Department of Dental Hygiene, the Idaho Dental Hygienists' Association, the Portneuf Valley, Magic Valley and Upper Snake River Dental Hygiene

Societies, and the ISU Department of Dental Hygiene Student Chapter of ADHA.

The Master of Science degree in Dental Hygiene program is progressing well with many student achievements and advancements. Currently, there are 20 students enrolled in the spring semester from fifteen states and Canada. Eight students are at various stages of their thesis research. Thirteen new students are enrolled for the fall. Ann Wetmore, RDH, BS, graduate student, has received two honors recently: the ADEA/GSK Dental Hygiene Fellowship and the Crest Oral-B Scholarship. Lidia Brion Silva, RDH, BS, graduate student, was also honored at the Kasiska College of Health Professions Research Day by receiving the Jeffrey Bartolome Award. She will use the monetary award to travel to Pocatello to collect clinical data for her thesis research.

Faculty members are very active with teaching, research and service. Recently, Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE, Ellen Rogo, RDH, MEd and Linda Boyd, RDH, RD, EdD presented poster presentations on original research at the Kasiska College of Health Professions Research Day held on campus in April. Also at this event, Tanae Nelson, BS, RDH, a graduate student, presented an oral presentation on her thesis topic and research investigation about Mexican mothers' perception of dental decay.

Linda Boyd, Ellen Rogo, and Ann Wetmore presented a faculty development workshop at the 85th Annual American Dental Education Association Meeting about electronic portfolios used to assess student and program outcomes. Kathleen O. Hodges, RDH, MS published an article about furcation instrumentation in Dimensions of Dental Hygiene. Ellen Rogo has been awarded a sabbatical leave for the fall semester to complete her doctoral dissertation work.

Anita Herzog, RDH, MEd is approaching retirement this May. Faculty and students, present and past, are supportive of her retirement yet saddened by this event, as it will leave a void as future students and faculty members move forward with the teaching and learning process. Anita will continue to be associated with the ISU Dental Hygiene Department after her retirement in various capacities as a Professor Emeritus. We look forward to our future relationship. As always, please contact me if you have questions about our dental hygiene programs: hodgkat1@isu.edu.

IDHA EMAIL LIST

Get the most up to date information by joining the IDHA email list, open to all Idaho hygienists. Contact Susan Cameron, IDHA Executive Director at 208.882.2787 or scameron@moscow.com. Be sure to provide your name, email address, phone number, and mailing address. IDHA members should also contact ADHA Membership Services, at 1.800.243.2342 or member.services@adha.net. Please include your name, ADHA membership number, mailing address, phone number, and email address.

PRACTICE & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Nies, RDH, Chairperson

The IDHA legislative team is continuing to meet with legislators to introduce our profession to them. I find it amazing that legislators do not know the education requirements of a dental hygienist and that we are licensed professionals. They are always impressed once they hear the skills we have to help address the access to care issue. We are showing our support for Medicaid reimbursement, requesting a dental director for Idaho, and offering our support to the dental association with their legislative activity this year.

We are hoping to bring the Idaho State Dental Association and IDHA together for the greater good of oral health in Idaho. We are also reaching out to other organizations that want to be a part of the answer to access of care, so that all Idahoans can benefit. IDHA believes prevention is the key and health professionals working together can make more of a difference than working alone.

We are monitoring other states and their legislation regarding issues that could affect the dental hygiene profession in Idaho. It is up to all hygienist in Idaho to lend their support to their professional organization to ensure a high standard of dental hygiene care for Idahoans. Even if all you can do is send financial support, I urge to do it today by joining at www.adha.org.

ADHA membership serves your career twofold: it protects the dental hygiene profession and thereby protects *your* source of income to support yourself and your family financially; and it helps advance IDHA's influence by increasing the number of members we have, and thus increases the power of *your* voice. Our organization needs to have the majority of hygienists as members in order for IDHA to demonstrate that we represent the majority of hygienists in Idaho. For more information, contact Liz: lizabiz_2000@yahoo.com, or go to idha.org or adha.org.



GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CLINIC

Garden City Community Clinic needs volunteer dentists, hygienists and assistants. Please contact Monica Hyde, volunteer coordinator: 208.385.5200, or download the volunteer form on the website at www.genesisworldmission.org.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Vanessa Hanser, RDH-ER, BSDH

The Public Relations Committee has been very busy this year. We've already had several meetings and have begun setting up a statewide infrastructure of hygienists who are our media contact people. They are the designated "go to" hygienists throughout the state who are prepared to interact with the media and provide the perspective of the Idaho Dental Hygienist. We plan to conduct more training for these hygienists at the IDHA Annual Session so we can continue to improve our communication, relationships, and the delivery of our perspective.

A Public Relations Media Plan was drafted by IDHA's lobbyist, Roger Simmons, and modified by the committee to identify immediate goals and actions. It is an ambitious plan and we will need the continued support of our volunteers. We have been making progress identifying organizations that are supportive or could be supportive of IDHA's goals and objectives. Direct contact with these other organizations will help increase awareness and share our message.

We are adopting the new ADHA brand. Branding is a method of establishing consistency, identity and credibility among others, and value to members. The ADHA brand is uniting dental hygienist throughout our country and state, and is built on the following core principles: dedication to the dental profession; long-standing support of dental hygienists; and commitment to the personal/professional success of our members. Our approach to succeed in our mission: keep a collaborative mindset; be a passionate patient advocate; and have an accessible source of knowledge and experience. Our reason for being: we are a proven resource in an expanding field; an assertive standard bearer; and a trusted mentor and partner. Here is the ADHA Idaho logo.



Sally Kane, RDH-EA, IDHA President Elect, submitted a second opinion news release entitled "Idaho Needs to Better Utilize Dental Hygienists" to the *Idaho Statesman*, and on February 16th it was published in their newspaper. The publication of Sally's letter demonstrates how our Committee's hard work to establish good relationships with Idaho media and to share our opinion is paying off. For more information about the PR/Communications Committee please contact me: vanessa@idha.org. We always welcome new members to our committee so please join us. And don't forget to visit our website often (www.idha.org).

APOLLO COLLEGE

Dr. David C. Reff, DDS

Presently there are 88 students in the DH Program: 36 Freshman-1, 24 Freshman-2, and 28 Juniors.

In addition, there are 5 fulltime DA faculty, 8 full time DH faculty, 5 full time administrative assistants and sterilization technicians, and 13 part time DH faculty.

The ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation's site visit for the DH Program will be held in the Fall 2008.

The DH class of August 2008 presented table clinics at the SWIDS MidWinter meeting in February.

Rachel Gomez, a DH student in the class of August 2009, won a \$1000 scholarship from the ADA.

For Children's National Dental Health Month, Dr. Reff gave presentations on oral hygiene to pre-K and 4th grade students at Horizon Elementary in Boise.

Junior DH students have been participating in varnish clinics sponsored by the Central District Health Department.

The Juniors will be taking the WREB anesthesia exam in May.



Apollo dental hygiene students placing sealants on a second grade student in a classroom that was converted into a new preventive dental clinic at Meridian Elementary School.

CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Carolyn Brammer, RDH-EA, Oral Health Program Coordinator

CDHD has been busy this winter with several projects. Once again, Apollo College DH students have given oral health education to local schools and preschools. With funding from Regence Caring Foundation for Children, we educated and provided "goody bags" with oral health supplies to 435 preschool and school aged children. Thanks to Kathy Ellis and Regence Caring Foundation for Children for their continued support of improving the oral health of Idaho's children.

CDHD and Apollo College DH students also teamed up to provide fluoride varnish treatments and oral health education (with goody bags) to the Friends of Children and Families Head Start program. We served 343 Head Start children in Ada County, and plan to provide this service in Mountain Home and Glenn's Ferry in April. This effort was supported by funds from FCF Head Start.

Our school based dental clinics have done well this year. In McCall, we provided services to 115 school and preschool children. We will serve Donnelly and Cascade Elementary Schools in April and May. A big thanks to our hygienists, Linda Thacker, RDH and Sherri Class, RDH-EA and our dental assistant Becky Thomas for all their hard work.

We also got our school based dental clinic up and operational at Meridian Elementary School. Ronald McDonald House Charities of Idaho and Regence Caring Foundation for Children provided grant funds for new equipment and the set up of our clinic into its new home inside the school. Many thanks to Patty Cushing, school nurse, Ron Shoen of S&S Dental Inc., and Sally Kane RDH-EA, for all their hard work in accomplishing this in a timely manner. Apollo DH students help Sally at the clinic when they're available. To date, we have to served 64 children at this clinic and will still offer services for the next month or so.

We continue to hold regular Fluoride Varnish Clinics at CDHD Boise and Mountain Home offices. Thanks to our hygienist Nora Torres, RDH-EA for helping out with projects in Elmore County.

CDHD provides education on the topics of Oral Health and Pregnancy and Early Childhood Caries to community organizations, medical and dental professionals, and allied health professionals and organizations. We recently participated in a Health Fair at the Discovery Center for Head Start Children and their families. We were assisted by Apollo DH students, Delta Dental of Idaho, and Regence Caring Foundation for Children, with Kathy Ellis making an appearance as the TOOTH FAIRY—always a big hit!

Thanks to all those who help support our efforts towards improving the Oral Health of Idaho Children! For more information about CDHD, contact Carolyn: 208.327.8612 or cbrammer@cdhd.idaho.gov.

TERRY REILLY HEALTH SERVICES

Terry Reilly Health Services (TRHS) is a community based non-profit corporation which is dedicated to providing quality comprehensive health care to populations facing barriers elsewhere. TRHS is funded through federal grants, private donations, and other variable sources.

The Terry Reilly dental clinics provide high quality, respectful care to all, with fees based on patients' ability to pay. Services are available on a discounted fee basis, in accordance with family income for patients who might not otherwise have any access to oral health care. Many of the clients served at the Terry Reilly clinics are low income, working poor, and homeless who may not have the option to receive their treatment elsewhere.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Janet Garlick at 208.562.8387 or trueleo@netscape.com.

ACEDHS

Liz Nies, RDH, President

ACE Dental Hygiene Society Needs You!



It has been an honor to serve as ACE President for the past 3 years, however it is time for someone else to step up and take over. I look forward to taking the role of Immediate Past President and being a mentor to the lucky individual that accepts this honor. If you have ever wanted to get involved in securing your professional future, the time is now. I cannot tell you how excited I am that I get to be a mover and shaker in our association today. If I can do it, so can you. I am no different than you, and as someone once told me, "Yes you can."

The power of that statement has transformed the opinion I have of myself as a professional. When I decided to move from New Jersey to Idaho, I had to take the WREB exam in order to practice here. I wondered to myself if I could really take that big of an exam 20 years out of hygiene school. I took that wise advice I once was given, and told myself "Yes I can," and low and behold I did it. When I was offered a position to practice assisted hygiene, something I never had done before, I asked myself if I could let go of some of my duties. I told myself "Yes I can." When I was contemplating purchasing my own Loupes, Light and USI, I asked myself if I could invest in my professional career. I shouted "Yes I can!"

The only thing that stops anyone from something we really want is ourselves. It doesn't matter if you have an AS degree or a Masters degree. It doesn't matter when you graduated or what school you attended. If you have an RDH after your name, you are a dental hygienist and it is your responsibility to give back to the profession that has given you so much. Thank you for volunteering and filling one of the positions on our Board and let me assure you... "Yes you can!"

ACEDHS Member Highlight

ACE chose to highlight Janet Garlick, RDH because she has done so much even though she is only newly involved with us. Janet serves as the secretary for Idaho Oral Health Alliance (IOHA), is Trustee for ACEDHS, and when she's not busy volunteering, she is working towards her masters degree. She is a spark that hopes to ignite a flame for our profession.

NCIDHS

Amy Larson, RDH, President

On February 28th NCIDHS held a Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) continuing education course given by Donna Anderson, RN, BSN, staff Epidemiologist at North Central District Health Department. We followed this course with a group meeting for planning the IDHA 2008 Annual Session taking place in Boise in October.

Our next meeting was on April 17th at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Lewiston, ID. Dr. Wilson spoke with us about remineralization products such as MI Paste.

Keep an eye on the IDHA website for more NCIDHS meetings and info: www.idha.org.

NIDHS

Barbara Vidinha, RDH

On Friday, April 25th, we held a fantastic continuing education meeting at Eastern Washington University. Lisa Bilich, RDH, MS presented a course on "Treating Periodontal Disease in an Evidence Based World." This was a terrific opportunity to learn more about evidence based dental treatment and in a great location. For upcoming meetings and information, see the IDHA website (www.idha.org) and look under "NIDHS" in the COMPONENTS section.

NIDHS Member Highlight

We are highlighting Emily Petrie, RDH, BS to recognize her service to our association and the dental hygiene profession. Emily is energetic and is the NIDHS VP. She is both a private practice hygienist and a teacher at Eastern Washington University. Emily graduated from EWU in 2007 and is well respected by instructors, employers and colleagues.

PVDHS

Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE, President

The Portneuf Valley component is active once again. A total of 94 Dental professionals volunteered for the annual Southeast Idaho Give Kids a Smile Day held in February. The majority of volunteers were members of our professional association. We provided over \$35,000 in oral care services for approximately 118 children. We are proud of the local dental professionals who contribute to the health of our community.

On April 3, PVDHS and ISU's SADHA members sponsored Lisa Copeland from Phillips Sonicare. Her presentation highlighted dental hygiene career opportunities: "Think Outside the Box." On April 18, the local components collaborated with ISU and IDHA to sponsor Jean Connor, RDH, ADHA President, for a reception and dynamic presentation about our profession. We hope you enjoyed this unique opportunity.

In addition, we are continuing our volunteer efforts with local schools to provide oral screenings and fluoride varnish for kindergarten children in our area. Our Southeast District Health Hygienist, Karla Luedtke, is very supportive of any efforts to provide preventive services. Suggestions for quality continuing education programs and community service opportunities are welcome. We invite hygienists to join us for camaraderie and professional growth.

For more information about our component, go to www.idha.org and look under "PVDHS" in the COMPONENTS section.

USRDHS

Kareen Freeman, RDH, President

The USRDHS members attended a seminar sponsored by the Straumann Co. in connection with Dr. Ethan Moulton, a local Idaho Falls Periodontist. The course, "Proper Hygiene with Implants," was given by Beth Peshman from Straumann. The meeting was well attended and Beth gave an overview of dental implants and an update on the latest concepts of care practices for implants. It was a great evening with dinner provided and prizes galore. We thank Dr. Moulton for coordinating the meeting and supporting our local hygienists.

The USRDHS was excited to be a co-sponsor for the visit and presentation by Jean Connor, RDH, ADHA President on April 18th in Pocatello. It was an enjoyable evening for those who attended.

The USRDHS appreciates all the support from both the local and state level. We look forward to a rewarding year and welcome new members. Please contact Karen Freeman@prodigy.net to join your local component.



Kathy Ellis, Idaho Coordinator

Twin Falls Hygienists Help "Give Kids a Smile"

Children attending Bickel and Lincoln Elementary Schools in Twin Falls had an extra reason to smile in February. Hygienists Kate Henna, Abbie Aullman, Lorinda Newton, Lacy Merrill, and Kimberly Miller teamed with area dentists to provide \$20,000 in free dental screenings, fluoride applications, and sealants to 164 elementary school children. Dental services were delivered onsite (through the Family Health Services Dental Van) to children whose parents had signed a permission form.

The project was sponsored by the Regence Caring Foundation for Children dental program. Project partners included

Family Health Services, South Central District Health, and the College of Southern Idaho Dental Assisting Program.

The Regence Caring Foundation provides free dental insurance to qualifying low-income, uninsured children throughout Idaho. If you know of a child in need of dental care, please contact the Regence Caring Foundation toll-free at 1-866-938-0084. Note: You may access the Caring Foundation website for more information through the IDHA website (idha.org).



SPECIAL SMILES

Many thanks to all who participated in the Special Olympics 2008 Winter Invitational Special Smiles Screening. This was a great chance for everyone to get acquainted with protocol for the world games in 2009. We do have some adjustments to work out, but because of our fabulous volunteers we should have a world class event next year.

Special Olympics Idaho will host the state summer games in June and are offering Idaho athletes an opportunity to participate in the Special Smiles program. This will be a great chance for anyone interested in volunteering for the 2009 world games to become familiar with our screening process.

For more information, please contact Amy Haugen, RDH, MA: haugena@cableone.net; or Jennifer Clayton, RDH: jenavia55@msn.com. Thank you for your continued support of these amazing athletes!



Special Smiles volunteers

ADHA President Jean Connor, RDH Visits Idaho

Kristy Garrett, RDH, BS, IDHA President

We recently had an amazing opportunity to have ADHA President Jean Connor, RDH visit our state. She arrived on April 16th in Boise, and that evening, President Elect Sally Kane and I took her to a production of "Annie" which we all enjoyed very much.

The next morning, we met with Dr. David Reff, DDS and Kelly Pfeifer, RDH at Apollo College and toured their facility. It was so fun to meet with the students, share their experiences, and learn of their future goals. Jean spoke to the students about ADHA and the benefits of membership. A lovely luncheon was provided and we gave each of the seniors autographed copies of *The Purple Guide*, which were provided by the ACE dental hygiene component.

Later that day, we met at Berryhill & Co. for a reception for the Boise area legislators. A big thanks to Liz Nies, the ACEDHS Board, and the Practice & Regulations committee for planning a fabulous event! Many local hygienists turned out to help us speak to our senators and representatives about dental hygiene issues in Idaho. Several were surprised to learn of the access to care issues in our state, and very interested to know that hygienists are already educated to provide many of the services that rural areas are lacking.

The following morning we dashed over to the other side of the state to Pocatello. On the way, Jean was captivated by the Flying J truck stop near Twin Falls. She had never seen a place where you could buy pizza, movies, gifts, and pay to take a shower! Jean was given a tour of Idaho State University campus, and then the students took her around the dental hygiene clinic. Most of the students were involved in the planning of her visit and they did a wonderful job. Jean remarked many times how amazing all of the students are.

We then met in the ISU planetarium, and Jean spoke to the students about the value of membership in ADHA/IDHA and what they could expect from the national organization, as well as their state constituents. She then opened the time for questions and the students had many good ones! They gave her some gifts that represented ISU and Idaho, and then provided ice cream floats for refreshments. She was so impressed with their organizational efforts. *The Purple Guide* was autographed by Ms. Connor and given to each senior dental hygiene student at ISU as well. These also were provided by the ACE dental hygiene component.

Later that evening, a legislative reception was held at the beautiful ISU Performing Arts Center. We were pleased to welcome senators and representatives from Southeast Idaho. Many hygienists from Magic Valley, Upper Snake River, and Portneuf Valley dental hygiene components also attended and helped update the legislators on access to care issues and how hygienists can be a big part of the solution. There were delicious appetizers and the setting was fabu-

lous. Jean spoke to the legislators and thanked them for attending. She also reiterated our concerns about Idaho's oral health crisis and how it would be a wise pursuit to utilize hygienists who are already educated to help solve the problem. Following her remarks to the legislators, Jean spoke to the remaining hygienists and provided continuing education on the value of membership in ADHA, highlighting many of the services and activities that benefit us.

Jean was impressed with her visit to Idaho and was grateful for how much was done to make her comfortable and to help her accomplish her mission in coming here. She was pleased to meet the students and invite them to join IDHA to further their careers. Jean also said she was happy to meet so many of our state's legislators and to assist us in educating them about IDHA and our goals. My heartfelt thanks goes out to all those who worked so tirelessly to make these events successful and meaningful. It wouldn't have happened without all of you, and especially the students who participated so well.

The ladies of ACEDHS having some fun



Representative Carlos Bilbao and Jean Connor, ADHA President



Kristy Garrett and Jean Connor, ADHA President

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH DEPT.

Virginia Reyna-Walling, RDH-EA, Oral Health Program Coordinator

Southwest District Health (SWDH) is excited to announce that we have partnered with our District's WIC department and kicked off the "Healthy Smiles Happy Babies" Project. This partnership enables us to further our efforts in promoting, educating, and increasing awareness on the importance of early oral hygiene practices to new mothers and caregivers.

In November 2007, WIC and the Nutritional Managers introduced our project at their in-staff meeting. Currently over 500 mothers and caregivers have received educational material, and infant care packets. This project was funded by Regency Caring Foundation for Children. The funding from the Regency Caring Foundation has also enabled us to provide fluoride varnish to children who are uninsured.

In December, the Community Council of Idaho Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Advisory Committee held a meeting. Southwest District Health did a presentation on Early Childhood Caries and introduced the "Healthy Smiles Happy Babies" Project to the Health Services Advisory Committee. The project was well received by the committee. Southwest District Health participated in the Happy Valley Parent Health Fair where educational material on ECC, fluoride varnish, and the "Healthy Smiles Happy Babies" Project was presented.

Fluoride varnish clinics are offered once a month in Nampa and at Farmway Village. Our clinics are implemented with the immunization clinics. This summer, due to the well received services, our District will offer a preventative dental clinic for the children at Farmway Village once a month.

Our District continues to promote oral health to the schools. Several presentations during the month of February were done. Our school based sealant clinic was held in February. This year 165 sealants were placed on children at Snake River Elementary with 300 students receiving oral hygiene education and oral screenings. Fluoride varnish applications were provided to the kindergarten students.



As spring approaches, we continue to educate, provide preventative care, and promote oral health. In April we partici-

pated in the KWEI Health Fair in Nampa at the Hispanic Cultural Center.

Once again we would like to thank Regency Caring Foundation for their continuing support of oral health, and for the funding of the "Healthy Smiles Happy Babies" Project. Thanks to Burkhardt Dental for their continued kindness in donating supplies to the sealant project, and a big thank you to Delta Dental for all the support and generous donation of a mobile dental cart. For more information, contact Virginia: virginia.reyna-wallington@phd3.idaho.gov or 208.455.5391.



ADHP LEGISLATION IN MINNESOTA - UPDATE

On Monday, May 12, 2008, Minnesota's Governor Tim Pawlenty signed a bill establishing an Oral Health Practitioner (OHP) into law.

Passage of this landmark legislation is a major step towards easing the access to care issue for the many people who are disenfranchised from the current oral health care system. Key components of the OHP provision include:

- *The OHP will be a licensed, educated provider who works under the supervision of a dentist via a collaborative management agreement.
- *Requires the OHP to practice in settings serving low-income, uninsured and underserved patients or in communities located in federal dental professional health shortage areas.

A workgroup, populated by various stakeholders including MNDHA, will convene to make recommendations and propose legislation to define the scope, supervision, and education of the provider. OHP's cannot begin lawful practice prior to 2011. For more information on the OHP efforts in Minnesota contact the ADHA Governmental Affairs Department at 312.440.8925 or gov.affairs@adha.net. For full text of the bill, go to: www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/bldbill.php?bill=S2942.3.html&session=ls85. Scroll down to Section 26.

An informative article entitled, "MNDHA Supports Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner Bill in Legislature of the State of Minnesota" is available online at: www.reuters.com/article/sphereNews/idUS214681+21-Feb-2008+PRN20080221?sp=true&view=sphere



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

UPDATE

Washington Post Article Looks at Direct Access for Dental Hygienists

A well balanced article that appeared in the April 22, 2008 edition of the Washington Post is a wonderful illustration of how the power of teamwork and a solid staff and volunteer partnership can pay off for ADHA.

ADHA President Jean Connor, RDH, Government Affairs Division staff, Communications Division staff, Washington Counsel Karen Selander, Board of Trustees member Pam Quinones, RDH, BS, and Maryland Dental Hygienist's Association leadership worked with Post staff writer Mary Otto on an article to explore the recent passage of a direct access bill in Maryland and serve as a follow-up to last year's story on the death of Deamonte Driver which Otto also covered.

The article provides wonderful exposure in a national venue of ways that dental hygienists can be creatively used to help overcome the access to care crisis in the U.S. You can read the article online here.

Congratulations 2008 Graduates!

You've invested in your education, now it's time to invest in your career by transitioning your membership status from Student to Active. We understand making the transition from student to professional-life can involve many challenges, including financial ones and we would like to help you start Unleashing Your Potential by offering a grace period through December 31, 2008 on Active Membership dues. We've made it convenient for you to transition. Simply grab your license number and look for the "Graduates Transition Now" button at the following locations: adha.org and www.myspace.com/dentalhygienist. If you have any questions, contact the Division of Member Services at member.services@adha.net or 1.800.243.2342, press 1.

ADHA Launches Interactive Online Career Center!

ADHA is proud to announce the creation of a new online Career Center. This valuable tool provides nationwide employment assistance. Whether you're a second year dental hygiene student looking for your first job in the profession or an experienced clinician looking to change locations or move into a new area such as public health, education, or research the Career Center is the place for you. This tool is FREE to use for job seekers! Post your resume today! <http://careers.adha.org>

ADHA Board of Trustees Adopts Standards for Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice

The ADHA Board of Trustees (BOT), at its winter meeting, adopted the Standards for Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice. For more information, go to: www.adha.org/enews/2008/04022008.htm#clinical

ADHA BOT Adopts ADHP Competencies

At its winter meeting, the ADHA BOT also adopted the Competencies for the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP). The ADHP model has been created by ADHA as an answer to the oral health crisis in America. For more information, go to: www.adha.org/enews/2008/04022008.htm#adhpc

Ask.Advise.Refer. Webcasts now Available!

Interactive webcasts are now available for viewing on the www.askadviserefer.org website, under the Cessation Toolkit dropdown. The webcasts offer viewers intervention techniques for three different tobacco users in three different stages of change. These webcasts are appropriate for the dental hygiene clinician, dental hygiene educator, and the dental hygiene student. The direct link to the webcasts is: http://www.askadviserefer.org/pres_video.asp. For any questions or comments regarding these webcasts, please feel free to contact the AAR Project Consultant, Carol Southard, RN, MSN, at carols@adha.net or 312/440-8920.

Dental Hygienists and Head Start:

What You Should Know and How You Can Help

This tip sheet provides information about how dental hygienists can help address the oral health needs of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start. Topics include an overview of the Head Start program, information on children's access to services and oral health status, and promising approaches to providing care for Head Start participants. Single or multiple print copies of the tip sheet are available at no charge from the HRSA Information Center, phone: (888) 275-4772, e-mail: ask@hrsa.gov, or online at: www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/hsrdh.pdf

The document was prepared by National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC), which supports professionals working in states and communities in addressing public oral health issues. OHRC gathers, develops, and shares high-quality information and materials. OHRC is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administrations' Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

Career Center for Employers

Are you an employer seeking that perfect employee? The ADHA Career Center is the place for you! Use the Career Center to search a nation wide network of resumes! Plus, now through June 2, 2008 you can receive 25% discount on a single 30 day job posting! Just enter the code: UP508 when prompted to enter your promotion code. Please contact Bill Termunde if you have any questions: billt@adha.net

ADHA Standards for Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice

Now that ADHA has updated the Standards of Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice, it is up to you to stay informed about your profession. Download the update at: adha.org/downloads/adha_standards08.pdf.

Online Membership Renewal

As a member of the ADHA community, you have access to all of the resources needed to keep you up to date in the profession of dental hygiene. With busy schedules, however, it's easy to put off routine tasks. But maintaining your connection to ADHA is easier than ever with our online membership renewal at www.adha.org!

Journal of Dental Hygiene...

See What You've Been Missing

On a recently conducted ADHA survey, 88.9 percent of respondents reported that having a peer-reviewed journal like the Journal of Dental Hygiene (JDH) is important for the profession. On the same survey, only 62.7 percent of respondents said that they had actually read JDH during the past 12 months. If you are among the nearly 40 percent who have not read JDH, here's an opportunity to find out what you have been missing. As a new feature, www.adha.org will highlight articles from past editions of JDH and make them available for viewing to any visitor. A rapidly evolving body of research and a highly regarded scientific journal to report the findings are vital components of a growing profession. Find out for yourself what you have been missing by reading this highlighted article from JDH today! Moving Research Knowledge into Dental Hygiene Practice

ADHA "Oral Health News"

ADHA's website now has a section dedicated to current news releases about oral health and dental hygiene. Go to adha.org and scrole down to "Oral Health News."

Help the Alzheimer's Foundation of America

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America, a national non-profit organization, on occasion receives requests from individuals seeking dental hygienists and dentists nationwide who specialize in treating individuals with Alzheimer's disease, including those who make visits to individuals' homes, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, etc. We would like to compile a list of professionals with this area of specialty in order to better serve the public. If you fit this description, please provide your contact information (name, address, phone) to info@alzfdn.org, subject line-dental. If you would like more information about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and training for healthcare professionals, please visit our Web site—www.alzfdn.org.

NIOSH Seeks Public Comment

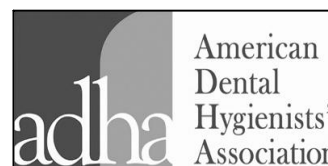
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) seek public comment on proposed national survey of healthcare workers' safety and health and a proposed national survey of employer safety and health practices. Go to: www.adha.org/enews/2008/05142008.htm#niosh

IDHA Featured in Local News Broadcast

The Idaho Dental Hygienists' Association (IDHA) was recently featured in a local ABC news broadcast for their efforts towards expanding access to dental care within the state ("Dental Hygienists Helping Provide Care for Children in Need"). To check out the entire story and watch the video of the broadcast go to: www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=8313197.

ADHA Master File Project Yields Program Director Survey Results

In the summer and fall of 2006, the Center for Health Workforce Studies at the School of Public Health, University at Albany, on behalf of the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), conducted a survey of dental hygiene education program directors to learn about their employment, programs, students, faculty, and curricula. ADHA is pleased to release this Research Brief that highlights survey responses relevant to critical dental hygiene issues identified in the 2005 ADHA report, Focus on Advancing the Profession, and presents selected information about this important group of dental hygiene stakeholders. Look for a complete report to be available later this year.



Unleashing your Potential.



The Children's Free Dental Clinic (CFDC) and Miles of Smiles Mobile Dental Van Program is a non-profit organization that provides dental services to children whose families can't afford dental care.

Our Mission is to provide emergency and preventive dentistry to underserved elementary school children in a safe, pleasant environment while also introducing a positive dental and oral health care experience to last a lifetime.

From comprehensive exams to fluoride treatments, our volunteer dentists and hygienists provide a full range of dental services to children in need.

The CFDC is working to keep pace with the growing need for preventive and restorative dental services. Oral health professionals: please consider donating your time and services. Monetary donations are also needed and any amount will help us continue this important work.

Contact us: 208.919.5252 or cfdc@yahoo.com.



NEWSLETTER

PO Box 7682
Boise, ID 83707



WHAT'S INSIDE:

ADHA Update
IDHA Component & Committee Reports
Dental Hygiene School Reports
Legislative News and ISBD Update
2008 IDHA Annual Session Information

ADHP Update: "...many dentists, as well as the Minnesota Legislature, find the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner to be a valuable asset to the health care provider team that warrants the opportunity to make a difference."



**Check out the IDHA website:
www.idha.org**

**THE NEXT IDHA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
IS SATURDAY, JULY 12TH, 2008.**

SAVE THE DATE

Join us at the 2008 IDHA Annual Session on October 3 & 4 at the Boise Airport Holiday Inn.

We will have great speakers and exhibitors, and Dr. Esther Wilkins will be there!

Watch our website for upcoming information: idha.org.

DID YOU KNOW...

Your career as a dental hygienist is in jeopardy. Several states, including our neighboring Washington, have recently passed legislation permitting significantly expanded duties for dental assistants. Washington has legalized restorative assistants who are permitted to place and carve restorations and take final impressions, while other states have legalized scaling assistants. Stay informed and protect your profession—join IDHA (see our website for more information).