

# NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Idaho Dental Hygienists' Association

January 2009

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sally Kane, RDH-EA, BSDH

My colleagues and friends: "One Voice~One Vision" is the theme I selected to symbolize my presidency. As dental hygienists, we share a vision for the future—an all-inclusive vision, respectful of student members and dental hygienists with all educational backgrounds and areas of interest. We are woven together with one common thread, the "RDH" Registered Dental Hygienist designation. We worked hard and sacrificed to achieve this license (some equate it to surviving boot camp!), and with your help, our organization is here to protect that achievement. IDHA is here to support you through mentorship and networking. We are here to develop you by providing quality life long continuing education and leadership opportunities. We are here to empower each other to look to the future to ensure access to quality dental care for all Idahoans. As licensed prevention specialists, we provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services to the public, which supports total health by ensuring good oral health. We are scientists and provide research based care, referred to as "best practices." We have inquisitive minds and stay informed on promising new practices and emerging technology.

There are more than 1,100 licensed dental hygienists in Idaho, and judging by the many e-mails I receive from them, many cannot find employment in these difficult economic times. This is not due to a lack of patients, but a broken oral health care system that behaves as if the public accesses dental care only in private dental offices.

Many believe Idaho hygienists are underutilized. In fact, on February 16, 2008 the Idaho Statesman published an opinion article that I wrote on that very subject. Organized dentistry's solution to the access to care problem is to develop several new workforce models, all of which I perceive as threats to the Idaho dental hygiene profession. We have a workforce of over 1,100 licensed prevention specialists who have proven competent to provide services in private dental practices, schools and other settings. My belief is that the dental needs of the public should be provided only by licensed dentists and registered dental hygienists.

Recently, the phrase, "Change" is heard often. It is time for change. If dental hygienists were permitted direct access to patients, the needs of the underserved would be better met. The creation of the extended access endorsed dental hygienist could help resolve this but our laws are still overly re-

strictive. We must be the voice for the underserved—the medically disabled, homeless, isolated, intellectually challenged, low-income, and others that face barriers to accessing dental care. Dental hygienists can help improve these situations if given the authorization.

Could this be the time for dental hygiene to be part of the medical team supporting total health through good oral health? Dental hygienists could work alongside the dietitians, social workers, nurses and physicians (especially pediatricians, obstetricians and FNP's). We could be the link for patients with oral health needs (beyond hygiene) and dentists. Could this be the time for dental hygiene to be part of the public education team? This could help prevent tragic deaths from abscessed teeth, avoid failure of focus in school, or the inability to eat well because of preventable oral health problems. Could this be the time for dental hygienists to work alongside teachers, social workers and school nurses to provide preventive oral health care and education to students? Once again, we could be the link between these students and dentists. Maybe this is the time for dental hygienists to team up with people and organizations specializing in geriatrics and intellectual disabilities to help those patients attain good oral health and once again be their link to dentists? Continued on page 3...

## 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

**EDITOR ASSISTANT** Vanessa Hanser, RDH-ER, BSDH  
Susanne Jamison, RDH, BSDH

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

The opinions and information contained in this publication do not necessarily represent IDHA's official policies or recommendations. Authors of published materials are solely responsible for their accuracy. The publication of advertisements in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement or guarantee by IDHA.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

I would like to thank Susanne Jamison who has agreed to help with the IDHA Newsletter. It is a big job to compile and edit articles, then produce the Newsletter, and her assistance is greatly appreciated. Susanne also serves as the ACEDHS President and as a board member on the Idaho Dental Hygienists' Foundation. With both of us contributing to IDHA in other ways, we are quite busy and could use a little more help. If you'd like more information about assisting with the Newsletter or with IDHA in any other way, contact me: [vanessa@idha.org](mailto:vanessa@idha.org).

## ADHA UNLEASHING YOUR POTENTIAL

Vanessa Hanser, RDH-ER, BSDH

Each November, ADHA hosts a leadership workshop for a representative from each state's dental hygiene organization. IDHA sends our President-elect, while other state associations send their President, Secretary, or another leader. The workshop, "Unleashing Your Potential" (UYP), is held in Chicago, Illinois and generously sponsored by GlaxoSmith-Kline Consumer Healthcare. For more information about GlaxoSmithKline's contribution to oral health, visit their website: [www.dental-professional.com](http://www.dental-professional.com).

I am grateful for the opportunity to be a leader in IDHA and to represent Idaho at the UYP Workshop. The presentations were outstanding, and the setting and hotel couldn't have been better (the Hilton on the Chicago Magnificent Mile). ADHA leaders and staff gave presentations and we learned more about the resources ADHA offers and how hard they are working for all dental hygienists. In addition, we heard more about the ADHA branding campaign—Unleashing Your Potential: Supporting, Developing and Empowering You. We also toured the ADHA headquarters, located on the 34<sup>th</sup> floor on Michigan Avenue! What an amazing view and terrific people to meet and talk with.

Dr. Ben Bernstein, PhD, a professional performance coach and a psychologist with an extensive background in education and the performing arts, gave an enlightening presentation. Dr. Bernstein is a nationally recognized speaker and gives informative, lively, eye-opening seminars on performance enhancement. The focus of his presentation was how to be a calm, confident and focused leader by identifying what causes your stress, how you react to it, and how to achieve a balanced life while accomplishing great success and satisfaction in your work. It was an outstanding lecture and I hope we can have him come to Idaho to present in the future. For more information about Dr. Bernstein, see his website: [www.drperformancecoach.com](http://www.drperformancecoach.com).

I am looking forward to sharing the information I learned with Idaho's hygienists and my fellow IDHA leaders to benefit IDHA. I had an amazing time and look forward to my next opportunity to represent IDHA at the 2009 ADHA Annual Session in Washington DC in June. Thank you!

Continued from page 1...

Finally, is it time, after educating Idaho dental hygienists in restorative procedures for over 30 years, to let these qualified hygienists practice for dentists who want to utilize them in this capacity? Let me hear your voices by showing your support through your membership in ADHA.

With those things said, I was proud to hear from Special Smiles Global Director, Dr. Perlman recently. He expressed his appreciation for hygienists Amy Haugen, RDH, MA and Jennifer Clayton, RDH whom have been such an asset to him. Amy and Jennifer are working with Dr. John Kriz and taking leadership roles coordinating the 2009 Special Smiles program for the World Games Special Olympic athletes in February 2009. This is an amazing opportunity for Idaho and a great opportunity to highlight the role dental hygienists may play to make certain that intellectually challenged Idahoans are able to access oral health care services. Unfortunately, our state has been negligent in addressing this population in the past.

I hope you will join me this year as we work together with some great visionary dentists and our many partners to implement change as we plan for the future of oral health care delivery in Idaho. I look forward to a great year and am grateful for my dental hygiene friends and volunteers. For membership information please see our website ([www.idha.org](http://www.idha.org)) or contact me: [salkane@msn.com](mailto:salkane@msn.com) or 208.861.6185; or Samantha Kenney: 208.866.3493 or [samanthakenney@cableone.net](mailto:samanthakenney@cableone.net).

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## IDAHO ORAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

Janet Garlick, RDH, BS, Secretary

Important changes to the way dentistry and dental hygiene are practiced are on the discussion table all over the United States and elsewhere. These changes promise to have a major impact on the future of oral health in Idaho and inevitably, to the profession of dental hygiene itself.

The Idaho Oral Health Alliance hopes to play a key role in directing the future of oral health delivery in Idaho, and has facilitated ongoing discussions about better utilization of our existing oral health workforce. The Alliance consists of dental and dental hygiene professionals, insurance companies, educators, community health organizations, Head Start leaders, the Idaho Health and Welfare Department, and others interested in promoting oral health. You are invited to join us in our collaborative effort to find a better way to create healthier bodies through healthier mouths!

We are at a cross-road. 80% of oral diseases are concentrated in 20% of the population, where the majority are low-income people who cannot afford private dental care. Medicaid improves access for only a small percentage of this population; most of these individuals wait until pain drives them to a Community Health Center where they receive extractions or expensive repairs. The CDC states that the

incidence of caries is increasing. Dental professionals know that these bacterial infections are also recognized as risk factors for diabetes, heart disease, abnormal pregnancies, and other serious systemic conditions.

The Idaho Oral Health Alliance is attempting to address this enormous problem as oral disease continues to be the fourth leading health care cost. We are building the infrastructure for better education, better understanding of the disease process, and outreach to those who need it most. As part of this mission we have published an Issue Brief to help inform and educate the public and health professionals alike about the importance of oral health care and disease management. You may access a copy of the Issue Brief at the Idaho Dental Hygienists' Association website: [www.idha.org/IOHA%20Idaho%20Issue%20Brief.pdf](http://www.idha.org/IOHA%20Idaho%20Issue%20Brief.pdf), or by contacting Janet Garlick at [info@idahooralhealth.org](mailto:info@idahooralhealth.org).

Idaho Oral Health Alliance welcomes and encourages your input. Please contact Janet Garlick for information about membership and IOHA activities.

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Susanne Jamison, RDH, BSDH

The exciting event for the upcoming year is **SPECIAL SMILES** at the Special Olympics World Games February 6-13th, 2009 in Boise. Amy Haugen and Jennifer Clayton do so much for this event and really need a lot of help from volunteers to make this a success. We need 60 hygienists and dentist volunteers per day to make this happen!

Screenings will be held from 4-9pm on the 6th through the 13th. To volunteer or get more information, contact Amy: [haugena@cableone.net](mailto:haugena@cableone.net) or Jennifer: [jenavia55@msn.com](mailto:jenavia55@msn.com). Remember, you receive 1 CE credit for every 2 hours you volunteer, up to 5 CE's. IDHA thanks you in advance for your help!

Idaho's North Central Component plans to dispense its yearly provisions of toothbrushes, toothpaste, disclosing tablets, mirrors, xylitol gum, printed materials, and timers to 300-500 students in the spring of 2009. The recipients will be K-6th graders in the rural farm and logging communities. This event increases awareness of the role of hygienists and educates students about homecare, dental needs, and oral health. Thanks to those that donate time and materials to this yearly event. To help or donate materials please contact Susan Cameron at [scameron@moscow.com](mailto:scameron@moscow.com).

Carolyn Brammer, RDH is our new Community Outreach Chairperson. If anyone has any ideas for community outreach projects throughout the state, please let Carolyn or your component president or trustee know. We are continuously looking for great ideas, big or small, and there are always groups and individuals in need of our time and talents! You may contact Carolyn Brammer at: 208.327.8612 or [cbrammer@cdhd.idaho.gov](mailto:cbrammer@cdhd.idaho.gov).

## ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY OPPOSES THE ADA'S CDHC

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Vanessa Hanser, RDH-ER, BSDH

There are several proposed solutions to deal with the access to dental care crisis in the United States. One such plan is the American Dental Association's (ADA) Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) workforce model. Recently, the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) took a stance on the CDHC model, concluding that the CDHC "poses an enormous threat to the health of the public and the practice of general dentistry."

The AGD completed an extensive review of the ADA's proposed CDHC, and in an e-mail to their members (AGD, personal communication, September 2008), the AGD came out against it, noting that there are "inconsistencies in the description of what this entity will be, what the CDHC will do, and how the CDHC will operate."

The AGD encouraged dentists to voice opposition to several resolutions involving the CDHC that were debated at ADA's House of Delegates in October 2008. The AGD especially recommended opposing one resolution in particular which earmarked at least five million dollars for the CDHC project. The AGD stated that these resolutions are "not a solution," and put forth their own suggestions as alternatives to dealing with the access to care crisis.

The AGD expressed additional concern with a statement made by ADA immediate past president, Kathleen Roth, DDS, to a Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives in March 2007, where she stated, "The CDHC will be a new mid-level allied dental provider who will enable the existing dental workforce to expand its reach deep into underserved communities and can be employed by Health Centers, the Indian Health Service, public health clinics, or private practices." The AGD encouraged dentists to contact the ADA and object that the "CDHC is not a mid-level provider and to describe it as such would be a mistake."

The AGD also brought up an obvious conflict with the ADA's CDHC, stating, "if the problem is that there are not enough dentists in underserved areas, how is it possible that the proposed entity (CDHC) who will be traveling to the underserved area and performing irreversible dental procedures will have a dentist's supervision (general or remote, if existent at all)?"

Other groups, such as the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), also oppose the current CDHC model. ADHA has also proposed solutions to address the access to dental care crisis, such as the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP)—a master's level provider. ADHA asserts, "Licensed dental hygienists, by virtue of their comprehensive education and clinical preparation, are well prepared to deliver preventive oral health care services to the public, safely and effectively, independent of dental supervi-

sion." Furthermore, the AGD agrees that dental hygienists are part of the access to care solution.

The ADA is moving forward with CDHC, and starting pilot programs in several states, despite objections by the AGD, dentists, the ADHA, and many others.

Many dental hygienists are unaware of the negative impact that the ADA's actions may have on their careers. As the ADA asserted, the CDHC would be considered a midlevel provider and would be permitted to work in private dental practices. As a result, the CDHC, who is not required to graduate from dental hygiene school or pass dental hygiene board exams, will be permitted to practice dental hygiene and carry out duties such as scaling.

For more information about dental hygiene professional issues go to: <http://www.adha.org/profissues/index.html>. See ADHA's Position Paper on access to care at: [http://adha.org/profissues/access\\_to\\_care.htm](http://adha.org/profissues/access_to_care.htm) and AGD's White Paper on access to care: [www.agd.org/files/newsletter/7025accesstocarewhitepaper7-31-08.pdf](http://www.agd.org/files/newsletter/7025accesstocarewhitepaper7-31-08.pdf).

### WORKFORCE UPDATES FROM ADHA

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The Oral Health Practitioner (OHP) Workgroup in Minnesota held its final meeting in October 2008. The workgroup, which consists of 13 stakeholders, was created as a result of the OHP compromise legislation and were tasked with making recommendations defining the scope, supervision, and education of the provider. The Minnesota Department of Health drafted a report based upon the Workgroup's recommendations and will submit draft legislation reflecting the recommendations to the state legislature. For more information, visit the OHP website: [www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/oralhealth/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/oralhealth/index.html).

Earlier this year, the New Hampshire State Legislature passed a bill establishing a committee to study the ADHP and other ways to increase access to care. The committee, comprised of three members from the state House and one member from the state Senate, met more than seven times during a period of three months and heard testimony from the New Hampshire Dental Hygienists' Association, the New Hampshire Dental Society and other stakeholders. The Committee's recommendation is for further discussion at the stakeholder level before taking legislative action. However, the Committee stated that inaction at the stakeholder level would result in legislative action. NHDHA is submitting a bill to establish an ADHP taskforce comprised of representatives from the various stakeholders.

In CDHC news, the Michigan Dental Hygienists Association participated in a workgroup meeting called by the bill sponsor Senator Van Woerkom. The meeting gave stakeholders the opportunity to discuss the Community Dental Health Coordinator workforce model. Upon the meetings conclusion, staff for the Senator indicated that the bill cur-

rently pending in the state legislature to establish the CDHC would not move forward this legislative session.

On October 13, Dr. Amid Ismail, who was instrumental in the CDHC efforts in Michigan, became Dean of Temple University's School of Dentistry. Temple University has a commitment to integrating its dental school more fully into the Philadelphia community that it is housed in. Dr. Ismail has expressed interest in establishing the CDHC in Pennsylvania in public comments he has made since his appointment as dean and at a meeting he had with the Pennsylvania state board of dentistry. To-date, no formal effort to establish the new provider has been undertaken in the state.

## STATE DENTAL HYGIENE UPDATES

### Vermont Board of Dental Examiners grants licensure to preceptor-trained Hygienists.

The Vermont Board of Dental Examiners granted licensure to a preceptor-trained hygienist via a loophole in the state's requirements that indicate a dental hygienist meeting certain experiential requirements (5 years) who holds a license in another state may be licensed in Vermont. The language leaves the door open for licensure of hygienists from other states who have not met the education and testing requirements that hygienists obtaining initial licensure in Vermont must meet. The Vermont Dental Hygienists' Association mounted a letter writing campaign voicing its opposition and urging the Board to reconsider their ruling. However, on November 12, the Vermont Board of Dental Examiners voted to uphold the initial ruling granting a Vermont license to the preceptor-trained hygienist. ADHA is working closely with VDHA as the association makes plans for legislative action to remove the licensure by five years experience loophole from the state practice act.

### Dental Hygienists Celebrate Legislative Victories

California now has the Dental Hygiene Committee of CA (DHCC)—dental hygiene self regulation. "CDHA's policy to achieve self-regulation for our profession is longstanding. As we have stated for decades, the profession of dental hygiene deserves to be recognized for its ability to determine and regulate its professional standards, educational standards, and scope of practice. The profession of dental hygiene has the same educational standards as similar professions such as nursing, physical therapy, and other mid-level health care providers who regulate themselves."

Did you know that California Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) may provide general supervision dental hygiene services up to 18 months without a prescription or prior authorization. After the first 18 months of service, a prescription will be required from a licensed dentist or physician. Each prescription may be renewed for a period of up to 24 months.

For more information, see the California Dental Hygienists' Association website: [www.cdha.org](http://www.cdha.org). For a list of states with

dental hygiene participation in regulation go to: [www.adha.org/governmental\\_affairs/downloads/Self\\_Regulation\\_States.pdf](http://www.adha.org/governmental_affairs/downloads/Self_Regulation_States.pdf).

In May 2008, Minnesota established an Advanced Practice Dental Hygiene Practitioner called the Oral Health Practitioner (OHP). The OHP will be a licensed, educated provider who works with a Minnesota licensed dentist via a collaborative management agreement—building off the current collaborative practice agreements currently in place in Minnesota. The OHP must be a graduate of an oral health practitioner education program that is accredited by CODA or another national accreditation organization and pass a board approved competency-based clinical examination that is independent of the education program. For more information, go to: [www.adha.org/governmental\\_affairs/downloads/Oral\\_Health\\_Practitioner\\_table\\_ADHP-fall-08.pdf](http://www.adha.org/governmental_affairs/downloads/Oral_Health_Practitioner_table_ADHP-fall-08.pdf).

For more state updates, go to: [www.adha.org/governmental\\_affairs/practice\\_issues.htm](http://www.adha.org/governmental_affairs/practice_issues.htm).



The Regence Caring Foundation has immediate openings to help uninsured Idaho children receive dental care. Eligible families can receive up to \$1,000 of free dental per child for one year through a participating dentist in their community.

Eligibility for the program is based on:

- age (children must be between 1 – 17 years of age)
- no private dental insurance, including no governmental aid such as Medicaid or SCHIP
- annual family income must be 200% of federal poverty level and below, (i.e. \$49,600 or less for a family of four)

For more information contact the Regence Caring Foundation at 1.866.938.0084. Or visit their website at [www.caringfoundationforchildren.org](http://www.caringfoundationforchildren.org).



A dental hygienist provides care at a recent Twin Falls sealant clinic.

## HYPAC REPORT

Kandi Garland, RDH, MS, Chair

The current members of the HYPAC committee include Kandi Garland (Chair), Abbie Aulmann (Magic Valley), and Heather Crawford (Upper Snake River). Our committee has been busy working in conjunction with the annual session planning committee on developing a fun fitness event/fundraiser once again. This year, participants joined HYPAC at annual session for "Aqua Blast," a water aerobics class. Some also chose to "sleep in." All registrants received a t-shirt whether they slept in or joined in the fun. So make sure to register for next year's fun-filled event on your annual session registration form. This event was generously sponsored once again by Bronco Motors.

Our committee members attended the CE course and reception honoring legislators and ADHA president, Jean Connor, on April 18th at ISU. At the reception, we spoke with local legislators about the access to care issues in Idaho, our profession's role, and scope of practice issues. It was a great way to educate our local legislators about who we are and what we can do. Having our national association's president visit Idaho was so rewarding and really demonstrates ADHA's commitment to developing, supporting, and empowering YOU!

HYPAC donated toothbrushes and xylitol products for the State Republican convention attendee goody bags. The State Republican convention was held in Sandpoint, ID this year from June 12th-15th. Janis Davey was instrumental in working with HYPAC on the donations for the goody bags and reported that the people of Sandpoint were honored to have the convention there this year.

HYPAC worked closely with our lobbyist, Roger Simmons, to support many candidates who were supportive of the dental hygiene profession. Some of the candidates we supported included: Carlos Bilbao, Sue Chew, Stan Bastian, Donna Boe, Elaine Smith, Diane Bilyeau, Dennis Lake, and Joyce Broadsword.

HYPAC is responsible for fundraising efforts to support IDHA's legislative initiatives. Donations can be made any time of the year, so please give generously! Donations to HYPAC can be sent to: Kandi Garland, HYPAC Chair, 1854 Whitewater St. Pocatello, ID 83204. Kandi can be contacted at: [garlkand@isu.edu](mailto:garlkand@isu.edu).

### IDAHO DENTAL HYGIENISTS' FOUNDATION

A message from outgoing IDHF Secretary/Treasurer, Vanda Johnson: IDHA'S Annual Session was a big event for your foundation as well as IDHA and HYPAC. One of the main purposes for the foundation is to help provide funds for scholarships and community grants and projects. Each of us remembers what a struggle it was financially for us to attend school. We can also agree that our education and degree has given us an opportunity to experience a bet-

ter than average income. With the rising cost of education it would be great if we could give more and/or larger scholarships to the students. Registrations fees at ISU are \$2,723 per semester for resident students. Expenses for the junior year are \$8,048 and \$4,482 for the seniors. I was shocked at the exam fees which are: National Board \$165, WREB \$800, WREB Local Anesthesia \$235, WREB Restorative Exam \$405, and Idaho Licensure and Application Fee \$190. I would encourage each and everyone to contribute to IDHF so that we can increase the amount and number of scholarships we award to the students.

During IDHA Annual Session the foundation sold raffle tickets for an Idaho Opal Pendant. For the second year in a row, Talisha Hansen won the jewelry raffle!

Remember that Dental Hygiene is *your* profession, so please take an active part to protect it as a profession, be a member of IDHA and ADHA. Yes, the dues are spendy—about \$250 per year; however they are less than one day's wages and consider it as an insurance policy for your career.

A message from Dawn Bowman, IDHF Chair: The Executive Board met in October to conduct business and award scholarships and grants from money donated throughout the year. Members in attendance were Vanda Johnson (Treasurer), Susan Jamison, and Dawn Bowman (Chair). Julie Slee was unable to attend. Future IDHF Board membership was discussed. Julie Slee is ending her term and Vanda Johnson requested to 'retire' after her many years of service and countless hours. Terms have also ended for Susanne Jamison and Dawn Bowman who were filling in for vacancies due to past-presidents retirement or moving out-of-state. Susanne has agreed to take on the role of IDHF Treasurer to replace Vanda. Dawn Bowman will serve as Chair for another year. New members for the 2008-2009 year will also include Kristy Watson (IDHA Immediate Past-President) and Natalie Markowski, to replace Julie Slee.

A total of \$3850 in grants was awarded in October as follows: Janet Garlick/Idaho Oral Health Alliance—\$450. Jennifer Clayton/Special Smiles—\$950. Jacque Freudenthal/PVDHS—\$650. Janis Davey-McLelland/Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce—\$550. Mary Jo Sauber/NIDHS—\$950. In addition, two \$100 awards were given to Jennifer Clayton and Susan Cameron for Community Outreach Awards.

The Pat Stearns Estate interest money that is available for Scholarships stands at \$2009. Of this amount, \$1500 was awarded to Lillian Hilleman-Bowen for her Master's Degree completion through Idaho State University. In the future, this scholarship will be re-named the Pat Stearns Degree Completion Scholarship.

Ongoing support for the following funds is the backbone of the Foundation. Every penny you give to our Foundation is a contribution to the following: Idaho Oral Health Institute Building Fund—\$1000. Pat Stearns Degree Completion

Scholarship—\$1500. ADHA (Professional Achievement Award)—\$250. Plaques for Awards—\$100. Community Outreach Award—\$100. Harold Johnson Scholarship—\$500. TOTAL ONGOING EXPENDITURES—\$3455

Foundation members will be selling tickets for the 2008-2009 jewelry raffle at local component meetings for an emerald and diamond gold bracelet. Remember, all of your contributions allow us to continue offering scholarships and grants! We have a lot to be thankful for and please support the Foundation.



*Dental Hygienists*

**one voice • one vision**

*Clinicians • Educators • Researchers • Advocates • Entrepreneurs*

Mark your calendars for the 2009 IDHA Annual Session at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise on October 9 & 10th.



The 2009 IDHA Annual Session Committee met at the 2008 Committee Kick-off. Pictured left to right: Brooke Colson, Liz Nies, Susan Cameron, Colleen Stephenson and Wendy Baxley, working to make the 2009 IDHA Annual Session something you will not want to miss!

“Our power is broad and deep, and the world is changing because of our touch, our words, our breath, our pulse. We know that the control over our own lives extends no further than our fingertips, but that our influence is infinite...” by Barbara Herrick, *The Blackberry Tea Club*.

**Photo highlights from the 2008 IDHA Annual Session** by Lynn D. Cameron, Lynn Cameron & Associates—Lynn expressed that he very much appreciated the opportunity to photograph aspects of the 2008 IDHA Annual Session. Photos from the conference are posted on his website, [www.GotaCameron.com](http://www.GotaCameron.com). Conference prints may be ordered directly from the site by clicking the View/Order icon on the Home Page and going to Images by Lynn. The required password to enter the IDHA event is "Tooth." Lynn has discounted pricing for the conference images by 50%, so the pricing for a 5x7 print will be as he promised at the conference plus tax and shipping. Please contact him with

any questions: [info@GotaCameron.com](mailto:info@GotaCameron.com). Lynn states that it was a pleasure to meet and serve you all and suggests that perhaps while you are visiting [GotaCameron.com](http://GotaCameron.com) you might consider landscape or wildlife prints as gifts.



Dr. Esther Wilkins assisted in the officer installation ceremonies at the 2008 IDHA Annual Session, which made the event extra special.



Jane Weiner, RDH during her presentation, “Documentation: Did I Get it All?”



Dr. Esther Wilkins autographed her book, *Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist*.

## ISBD REPORT

Jan Simpson, RDH

The ISBD met July 24-25 in Post Falls and in Boise on October 10-11. The Board voted to limit the number of self study CE credits to 6 (out of 24) for dental hygienists and 8 (out of 30) for dentists per the biennial licensing period. This will be a rule change for 2009.

After an inquiry by Terry Arp, for ISDA insurance benefits, the Board voted that only oral surgeons will be allowed to give Botox, collagen or hyaluronic acid injections.

At the October meeting, the Board considered a rule change that would allow a dentist who uses an anesthesiologist, certified nurse anesthetist, or another dentist with an anesthesia permit perform dental procedures on a patient without having to obtain an anesthesia permit him/herself. The dentist would have to meet certain criteria related to facilities, recordkeeping, intent and advertising. We will have more information on the decision in the next Newsletter.

The Board will be forming an ad-hoc committee to consider statewide certification for dental assistants. For more ISBD information, see the website: [www2.state.id.us/isbd/](http://www2.state.id.us/isbd/).

## ADHA ANNUAL SESSION

Sally Kane, RDH-EA, BSDH

The 85th ADHA Annual Session took place June 18-21, 2008, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and a record number of over 1300 dental hygienists attended. This year the American Dental Hygienists' Association adopted a new meeting format. On the front end of the session was the 2008 Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) in which educational courses, workshops, poster sessions, exhibits and entertainment were offered. There was something for everyone, and I was extremely impressed with the speakers. Fully utilizing dental hygienists to improve access to care was a major theme, along with exciting new and traditional sessions. I particularly enjoyed "Fit to Lead" by nationally renowned Uche Odiatu, BA, DMD. His best advice: "Eating from the vine is divine" and "Join: the free [www.mapmyhike.com](http://www.mapmyhike.com) or [www.mapmyride.com](http://www.mapmyride.com)." I biked 25 miles every weekend this summer as a result of attending Dr. Odiatu's presentation and joining [mapmyride.com](http://mapmyride.com).

Following the CLL was the 85th Annual Session and business meeting, in which participants discussed topics such as: year two of the ADHA branding campaign; reintroduction of the paper version of *Journal of Dental Hygiene*; and expanded duties of dental hygienists across the country. I witnessed that now, more than ever, the staff at ADHA is dedicated to supporting students and all dental hygienists. We have some extremely committed members working very hard to help advance the dental hygiene profession and to develop, empower and support the individual hygienist. I would like to recognize and thank a few special Idaho den-

tal hygiene members who are serving our Association on the national level or contributing to building our science base: Kathleen Hodges, MSDH—served on the Reference Committee for the House of Delegates; Lisa Higbee, BSDH—served on the ADHA Ethics Committee; and Kristin Calley RDH, MS—served four years on the ADHP Task Force to develop competencies for the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner which were adopted by the ADHA Board of Trustees this March. Also, see ISU's report for more hygienists deserving recognition.

Next summer plan to attend 2009 ADHA CLL at the 86th Annual Session June 17-23, 2009 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC.



IDHA representatives at the President's Gala in Albuquerque pictured left to right: Vanessa Hanser, Steve Hanser, Kathleen Hodges, Ruth Kearn, Lisa Higbee, Sally Kane, Samantha Kenney.

## ADHA DELEGATE REPORT

Samantha Kenney, RDH

My first experience with a national dental meeting was when I went with my father to an American Dental Association meeting in Washington DC when I was a teenager. I went to a couple of the evening events and classes, and I felt good about it—I learned new things, met new people, and it was a good experience. But now, having gone to my first national ADHA meeting, I know dental hygienists are so much more fun than dentists! In Albuquerque this year, I went to a few classes and evening events, and I came away feeling amazing! Dental hygienists have power!

As a dental hygienist, I have some of the most intelligent, energetic, and dynamic colleagues. I realized as I looked around in my classes, and at dinner events, and after hours for drinks, that our profession is for leaders. For generations, dental hygienists have influenced the profession of dentistry, touched the lives of millions of children, and improved the health of many more. I am a young hygienist, 30 years old, and practicing for 6 years, but I have a responsibility of influence that has been passed on from the beginning of our profession. I have never felt that responsibility more than at the ADHA Annual Session this year.

Our profession continues to be a powerful force in improving oral health, as well as general health. The ounce of prevention we have been preaching for years is finally reaching

the ears of all health fields. Collaboration is growing and dental hygienists are at the forefront. We are approachable and concerned for the total welfare of our clients. We are the obvious bridge-makers.

It does seem our profession is heading for a crossroads. The one thing I learned above all at Annual Session, is our profession is powerful because of the professionals in it; that it's young and old, and new and seasoned professionals like me and those I work with, that have power and influence. All of us are leaders, all of us touch lives, and all of us need to take responsibility for the power we hold and continue to stand together for the future of our profession.

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## ADHA DELEGATE REPORT

Ruth Kearn, RDH, BS

Hello from beautiful Albuquerque! During the 85th Annual Session Business Meeting June 23rd, I attended an "Advocacy and Public Health Workshop." New Mexico has direct access to Dental Hygiene services via Collaborative practices. Christie Baca, RDH, CPDH created Divine Dental of Santa Fe, to provide services for the general population. Debbie Birkhauser is Deputy Director to the New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care Center. Consumers take part at this center for preventative services that eventually decrease the Medicare expenditures. Jesus Galvan, DDS collaborates payments, as Vice President, Professional Services and Chief Dental Officer of Delta Dental of New Mexico, Inc.

I am thrilled to have been apart of this year's ADHA Annual Session. Through 4 days of networking and attending the House of Delegates, my career as a dental hygienist has been energized. Thank you IDHA! For more details about the workshop, you can contact Kathy Schroder, MS, JD at ADHA: [kathys@adha.net](mailto:kathys@adha.net) or 312.440.8908.



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## 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](http://www.idha.org), or e-mail [vanessa@idha.org](mailto:vanessa@idha.org).

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## JOIN THE IDHA E-MAIL LIST

Get the most up to date information by joining the IDHA e-mail list, open to all Idaho hygienists. Contact Susan Cameron, IDHA Executive Director at [scameron@moscow.com](mailto:scameron@moscow.com) or 208.882.2787. Please provide your name, e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, Idaho DH license number, and ADHA membership number (if you are a member).



Pictured left to right: Kathleen Hodges, Congressman Mike Simpson, and Sally Kane.

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## BLACKFOOT HARVEST RECEPTION

IDHA President Sally Kane; Immediate Past President Kristy Garrett; Alternate Delegate Lisa Higbee; Alternate Delegate and Idaho State University Department of Dental Hygiene Chair Kathleen Hodges; Past President of IDHA and Mike Simpson's sister in-law Jan Simpson; IDHA Annual Session Co-chair and Mike Simpson's niece Brooke Bias; and IDHA Lobbyist Roger Simmons were in attendance at the Harvest Reception fundraiser. This event was held October 16th and honored Congressman Mike Simpson with the first IDHA Hall of Fame Award.

Simpson was chosen for this award due to his support of oral health programs, including those that benefit children. Sally and Kathleen presented the award. Roger provided those in attendance with a recent article from *Esquire* magazine naming the top 10 most effective legislators in Washington, which included Congressman Simpson. As we presented the award, I spoke of this recognition and read a sentence from the article explaining Congressman Simpson's reputation of listening to both sides of an issue. I discussed the significance of the award and explained that it had been created to symbolize the spirit of cooperation between dental hygienists and dentists. I went on to express the level of respect that dental hygienists have for dentists and that we desire continued teamwork to improve access to oral health care. We thanked Congressman Simpson for listening to the perspective of dental hygienists. We then took pictures and had a few minutes to visit.

Congressman Simpson seemed very pleased to receive the award in front of the group of 50-70 people. I expressed to the Congressman my main concern of reinstating the public health dental director position in Idaho. I relayed my concern that this vacancy has created a lack of coordination, unnecessary duplication of services in public schools, a lack of expertise and questionable quality assurance. In Idaho, dental hygienists may practice under general supervision with authorization by a dentist. I would like to see a whole cadre of dental hygienists working in public health under the general direction of a public health trained doctorate level Dental Director (dentist or hygienist). I hope to see dozens of job opportunities open up in schools, medical clinics and long-term care facilities.

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## ACEDHS

Susanne Jamison, RDH, President

“It is primarily to this important work of public education that the dental hygienist is called. She must regard herself as the channel through which dentistry’s knowledge of mouth hygiene is to be disseminated—the greatest service she can perform is the persistent education of the public in mouth hygiene and the allied branches of general hygiene.” — Alfred C. Fones

Did you know it has been 102 years since Irene Newman, the first dental hygienist, started practicing dental hygiene? What a long way we have come in those 102 years! Irene and her cousin, Dr. Alfred Fones, had a vision to make preventive dental treatment and public education available to the public. Today, this vision is still at the core of why we all love the practice of dental hygiene—to prevent and treat dental disease of patients and empower them with the knowledge to do the same. Please remember in the midst of the craziness of our lives that we all share that same passion.

I would like to recognize the wonderful board members of our ACE Component (Ada, Canyon and Elmore counties): Vice President Krista Beaty; Secretary Crystal Guray; Program Coordinators Liz Nies and Angelica Calvert; Treasurer Lupe Duncan; Membership Chair Kelli Campbell-Burton; Apollo College Liaison Kelly Pfeifer; and ACE Trustee Janet Garlick. I thank each of you for your time and loyalty.

ACE was honored to have Dr. Linda Boyd, a fellow hygienist, lecture about oral health related to diabetes. Mimi Hartman accompanied Dr. Boyd. The meeting was held Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> and was attended by 65 area hygienists. Thanks to everyone for the great turnout! Dr. Boyd performed glucose screenings on those who wished to participate after the meeting. The topic was valid and the discussion was fascinating. Thank you to Linda and Mimi for their generosity and expertise.

Our next CE course will be hosting Cheryl Thomas, RDH on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The topic is “Total Wellness for Patients Living with Renal Disease”. Cheryl is an author for *RDH* magazine and a motivational speaker. This meeting will offer 8 CEU’s and will be held at Comfort Inn and Suites in Meridian. Attendees are asked to bring a donation for a local women and children’s shelter.

We will also have an all-day CE course March 13<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Patti Digangi and the topic will be “In Sickness and in Health—Rx for Insurance Blues.” The location is to be determined. Please watch for announcements in the mail. For meeting information, please contact either program coordinator: Liz Nies: [lizabiz\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:lizabiz_2000@yahoo.com) or Angelica Calvert: [angelicaandtracy@msn.com](mailto:angelicaandtracy@msn.com).

As always, I would love for all of you that haven’t joined the ADHA family, to please reconsider doing so. We *must* protect the investments we made when we committed our professional lives to dental hygiene. Please know that every

single person counts when it comes to strength of membership! Please contact Kelli Campbell-Burton—[irishburton@msn.com](mailto:irishburton@msn.com); or Samantha Kenney—[samanthakenney@cablone.net](mailto:samanthakenney@cablone.net) with questions about becoming a member. Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns: [flosser10@clearwire.net](mailto:flosser10@clearwire.net) or 208.880.4719.

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## NCIDHS

Amy Larson, RDH, President

North Central Idaho Dental Hygiene Society met on October 9 in Pullman, Washington. We elected new officers and had a continuing education course. Kim Williams, DPT, ATC of Pullman Sports Physical Therapy met with us to discuss correct posture and exercises that relate to the profession of dental hygiene. Currently we are regrouping to plan for the upcoming year. You can contact Amy with any questions: [ra2323@aol.com](mailto:ra2323@aol.com).

Keep an eye on the IDHA website for more NCIDHS meetings and info: [www.idha.org](http://www.idha.org).

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## NIDHS

Barbara Vidinha, RDH

Hello from North Idaho! Thank you for letting me be of service as the president of the NIDHS component the last 2 years. I have enjoyed getting to know many of my fellow hygienists, but where are the rest of you?! We have a core group of a few hygienists that have been volunteering for about 10 years! I am putting a call out to all hygienists in North Idaho to get involved in YOUR association. I do wish to thank Ruth Kearn, Carrie Busch, Lisa Bilich, Tiffany Dixon, Janis Davey, and Shari Williams. Their support has been my life line. I also want to thank Emily Petrie, who is now the NIDHS President, for her willingness to help through busy times in her life.

Our component met in October in Coeur d'Alene and received 2 credits for Dr. Cullum's lecture on Implantology. Our next component meeting was in November and the topic was “Demystifying Fluoride.”

We send emails and faxes to hygienists and dental offices to announce the dates and places of our meetings. We hope to have regular monthly meetings beginning in January 2009, so please provide us with your updated contact information and we'll see you there! You can reach me at: 208.651.4543 or [bhygienist@hotmail.com](mailto:bhygienist@hotmail.com).

If you did not make it to the IDHA Annual Session in Boise October 3-4<sup>th</sup>, you missed an outstanding event. North and North Central Idaho hosted the meeting even though it was in Boise. Ruth Kearn, Susan Cameron and her husband Lynn were responsible for the success of the event. I always have a blast, learn a lot, and get cool stuff at the auctions. Hope you'll plan on going again next year on October 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise.

## PVDHS

Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE, President

As the temperatures cooled and the leaves turned colors, the Portneuf Valley Component geared up to bring local hygienists together for camaraderie and educational opportunities.

The component's philosophy is one of sharing ideas, having fun, service, and expanding our knowledge to better serve our clients. The always popular Dr. Eric Johnson volunteered to share his expertise again this year, and the ISU senior dental hygiene students presented their table clinics to get us started this fall. Please share your ideas for future speakers and presentations, and let us know if you are aware of service opportunities or are interested in volunteering. PVDHS collaborates with Karla Luedtke RDH (District 6) at Lincoln Early Learning Center, Migrant Head Start, and local schools to name a few.

The Portneuf Valley Component is designated to plan and organize the 2009 IDHA Annual Session. We need your ideas and talents to make next year's Annual Session a success. With more people helping we can spread the load and have fun in the process. We are asking for volunteers, and that includes you, southeast Idaho hygienists! Contact me at: [fruejacc@isu.edu](mailto:fruejacc@isu.edu).

### CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Carolyn Brammer, RDH-EA, Oral Health Program Coordinator

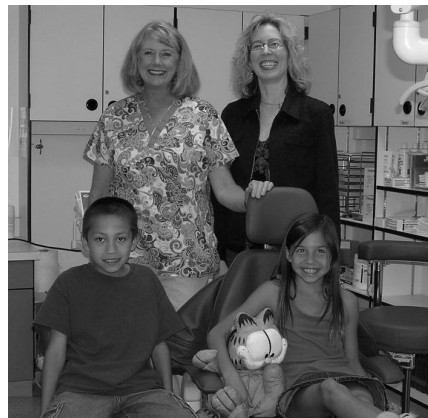
As the school year continues to fly by, we are having a very busy year. All the health districts in Idaho this year will be participating in the Idaho State Smile Survey. We do this every four years, and this time we will be doing a DMF survey of third grade students throughout the state.

We are pleased to announce that Central District Health and Southwest District Health will be receiving grant funds from the Albertson's Open thanks to Regence Caring Foundation and Kathy Ellis. We are planning a joint project involving our WIC departments and their clients. Our goal is to increase the number of WIC clients that receive Oral Health Education and reach out to more children, at younger ages, and provide more applications of fluoride varnish. We also hope to capture some data from this project that will demonstrate positive outcomes from this approach. Linda Boyd from ISU Masters in Dental Hygiene Program is helping out on that issue.

We held a "Grand Opening" of our Meridian Elementary School's Happy Healthy Smile Clinic on Sept. 18 during their Back to School Night. Thanks to grant funds from Ronald McDonald House Charities of Idaho, Regence Caring Foundation, we have a new sealant clinic for the students of this school. Sally Kane, RDH-EA very capably manages this clinic for us. We are very grateful to her for her hard work and expertise! We have also started on our

school based sealant program in Valley Co. Linda Thacker, RDH and Becky Thomas, DA saw students at Cascade Elementary beginning in November 2008. Donnelly and Morgan Elementary will be done after the first of the year.

Thanks to all those who help support our efforts towards improving the oral health of Idaho children! Contact me at: 208.327.8612 or [cbrammer@cdhd.idaho.gov](mailto:cbrammer@cdhd.idaho.gov).



Sally Kane, RDH and Kathy Ellis of the Caring Foundation at the Meridian Smile Clinic.

### IDAHO ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Mimi Hartman-Cunningham, IOHP Director

The Idaho Oral Health Program (IOHP) within the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is pleased to announce their new program manager, Mimi Hartman-Cunningham. Mimi is a registered dietitian and diabetes educator and also manages the Idaho Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP). She brings 11 years of public health experience to the IOHP.

Linking oral health to diabetes and chronic disease prevention and management is an important step in making sure people realize the importance of oral health care in their overall health. If a person has poor oral health and poorly managed blood glucose, they are at much greater risk for multiple health complications. Mimi sees integrating oral health with diabetes as an opportunity for dental professionals to remind their patients to manage their diabetes as well as an opportunity for non-dental health professionals to encourage patients to practice good oral health.

The IOHP is working with the Idaho Oral Health Alliance (IOHA) to develop the Idaho Oral Health 5-Year State Plan, a strategic framework to improve access to oral health care to people across all ages and across Idaho. The Plan will also help identify and promote policies that favor access to care and increased funding for oral health. The IOHA and IOHP are currently seeking input from dental health professionals and groups about the plan content.

If you are interested in contacting Mimi or participating on the State Plan Work Group, you can reach her at 208.334.4928 or [hartmanm@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:hartmanm@dhw.idaho.gov)

## Delta Dental Community Outreach

GOING BEYOND BENEFITS

Samantha Kenney, RDH-EA

In 2007, Delta Dental of Idaho's Community Outreach piloted free dental sealant clinics in southwest Idaho schools serving low-income families. The program was a great success, and our mobile clinic staff saw over 1,500 students in 2nd, 3rd, 7th and 8th grades. This year the Delta Dental Sealant Clinic expanded its outreach efforts by hiring a second team for south central Idaho. In addition, the southwest team began going to northern Idaho schools for two weeks in the spring, and two weeks in the fall.

Each team consists of a dental assistant, clinic aide and an extended access dental hygienist. Delta Dental's dental director, Dr. A. Riley Cutler DDS of Boise provides oversight of all clinic activities under general supervision. The dental hygienists are Samantha Kenney for southwest and northern Idaho, and Lorinda Horner for south central Idaho. Our teams experience first-hand the access to care needs in Idaho. Of the 1,500 students seen in 2007, 48% of them had indications of possible cavities. Each student seen in the clinic is sent home with a copy of the treatment record and follow-up care recommendations.

It is our intention, while sealing as many teeth as we can, to also bring awareness to families that dental care is invaluable to the health and well-being of their children; not only in treating the already infected teeth, but also in the prevention of dental diseases. If our hope materializes, these children will find a dental home and be in the hands of very capable and caring dentists and dental hygienists in their communities.

Unfortunately, many low-income Idaho children are unable to receive professional preventive dental care. To encourage these children to adopt good dental habits, Delta Dental of Idaho sent more than 19,000 toothbrushes, 2-minute timers and a dental health activity book to low-income elementary children in 71 schools throughout Idaho. The activity book, which has a coloring sheet, word find puzzle, and tooth brushing chart for the kids, also includes tips for parents on good dental habits for their children and ideas for alternatives to candy around holidays such as Halloween and Easter. All information is provided in English and Spanish.

Delta Dental Community Outreach is your partner in oral health education, disease prevention, and encouraging regular dental care. For more information on any of our outreach programs, visit [www.deltadentalid.com](http://www.deltadentalid.com) and click in the purple "Going Beyond Benefits" box, or contact Lisa Reed, Public Benefit Manager at 208.489.3538 or [lreed@deltadentalid.com](mailto:lreed@deltadentalid.com).

## Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene

Advisory Committee

The ISU Advisory Committee met in April. Members of the committee are Dr. Skip Pierce, ISDA Southwest; Dr. Joel Newton, ISDA South Central; Dr. Jeff Hoover (Chair), ISDA Upper Snake; Dr. Dan Davidson, ISDA North Idaho; Michele DeMoss, RDH, BS, IDHA Portneuf Valley; Vanda Johnson, RDH, BS, IDHA Magic Valley; Jennifer Andrews Kelley, RDH, BS, IDHA ACE; Natalie Markowski, RDH, BS, IDHA Northern Idaho; Karla Luedtke, RDH, BS, Public Health; Dr. Jay Harris, ISBD; Dr. Linda Hatzenbuehler, ISU Ex-Officio, Dean, Kasiska College of Health Professions; and Dr. Ron Sheppard, ISU Ex-Officio Supervising Dentist. The new member from the Southeast Idaho Dental District is Dr. Jack Mooney. The Idaho Oral Health Institute is being discussed with this group. The vision of the Institute is for a regional continuing education and research center. The mission is also to build a new clinical facility for teaching and learning for dental hygiene and dental students.

## Student Activities

All ISU students passed the National Board Examination (100% success rate) and scored significantly higher than the national average in the majority of the subject categories. ISU students were extremely successful on the portion of the examination that is case-based demonstrating their ability to apply knowledge, critically think, and make appropriate dental hygiene care decisions.

The WREB Restorative Examination was administered at the ISU site this year and the ISU site has been requested for next year as well. The WREB results for the dental hygiene, local anesthesia, and restorative examinations have not yet been received at ISU. A report of results will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Graduation festivities for 24 senior students were held in May. A three-week summer enrichment and remediation clinical session was completed in June. Eleven senior and junior students participated. The enrichment program serves to "bridge the gap" between the junior and senior year of the student's clinical education and the program is elective in nature. It is also an opportunity for students to strengthen their clinical skills after the last semester of clinic prior to taking clinical examinations for licensure. Twenty-seven students are enrolled for the class in the fall.

## Faculty Activities

Faculty were busy throughout the summer. Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE presented her research poster entitled "Motivational Interviewing as an Intervention for Early Childhood Caries Risk-Related Behaviors" at the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) Annual Session in

Albuquerque in June. Kathleen Hodges, RDH, MS also attended and was selected to be a member of a House of Delegates Reference Committee for ADHA and represented Idaho as a state delegate. Denise Bowen, RDH, MS presented a paper to the Western Conference of Dental Deans and Examiners titled "A Collaborative Model for Dental Hygiene and Dentistry".

Carlene Paarmann, RDH, MEd and Denise have both been active with the Western Regional Examining Board. Carlene has been an educator member of the Restorative Committee and Denise is a member of the Dental Hygiene Comprehensive Computer-Simulation Examination Committee. Carlene participated as an examiner for the restorative examination at different sites this summer.

Tara Johnson, RDH, MEd, PhD has been hired as a full time faculty member. She was hired to fulfill the full time faculty position vacated by Anita Herzog, RDH, MEd due to her retirement. Tara has recently been a part-time faculty member with the department and we are pleased to have her as a colleague on a full time basis. She will be teaching research methodology to senior dental hygiene students and continuing her teaching in senior clinic as well as advising, conducting and publishing research, and working with community health service activities.

#### Facilities in Pocatello

The clinic facility is being updated with an improved nitrous oxide-oxygen system and evacuation system. The technology the students experience during their education is continually being updated to assure the students receive contemporary education in practice management systems. Eaglesoft software is being used during patient treatment in the senior year and students have experience with entering patient data into computers as well as using remote access terminals (R.A.T.'s – foot control mouse) for data entry. Students also have experience in panoramic digital radiography. These experiences were all made possible by grant funding through the Technology Incentive Grant Program through the Idaho State Board of Education. A recent grant written by Kristin Hamman Calley, RDH, MS and Kathleen Hodges, RDH, MS was also funded for \$67,000 for additional digital radiology equipment as well as intraoral digital dental imaging equipment.

#### Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Degree

##### Student Activities

Tanae Nelson successfully defended her thesis titled "The Role of Cultural Health Beliefs in Mexican American Mothers' Perceptions of Dental Decay" and she graduated at the May 2008 commencement ceremony. Tanae Nelson gave a poster presentation at the ADHA Annual Session in Albuquerque, NM in June about her research. There was significant excitement about her work. Lidia Silva-Brion came to ISU from Peekskill, NY to conduct her thesis research entitled "A Comparison of Magnetostrictive and Piezoelectric Ultrasonic Instrumentation" under the supervision of her

thesis advisor, Kathleen Hodges.

The week long advanced clinical course (DENT616) was held in Pocatello in May and six students were in attendance. Students engaged in many activities during the week related to enhancing clinical skills and using new technology.

Thirteen new students will join our existing 22 students. The new students are from Idaho, Indiana, Massachusetts, Washington, Wyoming, New York, Kansas, and Utah. The ISU Graduate School put out a call for applications for their At-Large Graduate Assistantships and the MSDH program was awarded an assistantship for the 2008-09 academic year. Mary Bossart, RDH, BS in Boise was chosen as our graduate assistant for 2008-09 and we are excited to have her work with us.

##### Faculty Activities

Ellen Rogo, RDH, MEd, presented her poster titled "Effectiveness of Online Orientation Modules Developed by a Multidisciplinary Team" at the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Director's meeting in Coeur d'Alene in June. Linda Boyd, RDH, served on a panel at the ADEA Director's Meeting held in Coeur d'Alene that was titled "Advanced Education in Dental Hygiene—Where are We?" Linda also presented her poster titled "Survey of Diabetes Knowledge and Practices of Dental Hygienists" at the ADHA Annual Session in June 2008. A manuscript for the research was also accepted for publication in the October '08 issue of the Journal of Dental Hygiene, which is available on the ADHA website under "Publications."

As always, please feel free to contact me with questions: [hodgkat1@isu.edu](mailto:hodgkat1@isu.edu), or visit our website: [www.isu.edu/dentalhy/](http://www.isu.edu/dentalhy/).

##### SADHA Activities, by Anna Marie Hauser, Advisor

The Idaho State University Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienists' Association planned and participated in a variety of activities this past school year. We were honored to host a visit from Jean Conner, current ADHA president in May. We had a successful "Give Kids a Smile" event in February where free dental services and oral health education were provided to many local children. We "adopted" two needy families for Christmas. We also decorated a float for the ISU Homecoming parade and distributed dozens of toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss.

The president of our Student Chapter this year is Michelle Cornelison and president-elect is Holly Velasquez. We have 53 ADHA members this year in the ISU Student Chapter. The first week of school we welcomed the new junior dental hygiene students with a picnic. The senior members presented table clinics at the ADHA meeting in Boise in October as well as to the local PVDHS component. We will participate in the World Special Olympics in Boise in February. In June we plan to send members to the ADHA Annual Session in Washington D.C. to present their table clinics.

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## APOLLO COLLEGE

Dr. David C. Reff, DDS

In April, Apollo College was excited to host a luncheon honoring ADHA President, Jean Connor, RDH. This was an excellent opportunity to discuss issues relevant to DH education and practice and interact with Apollo College Dental Hygiene students and faculty. The upper-class students coordinated the effort with Kelly Pfeifer and the Apollo College administration. It was a pleasure meeting and talking with Ms. Connor.

The Seniors took the WREB anesthesia exam in May 2008. All 28 students passed. Our first time passing rate is 97.89%. The Seniors took the National Dental Hygiene Board examination on July 15, 2008. Results are expected at the end of August.

The ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation's site visit for the DH Program was Thursday and Friday August 7, 8 2008. It was grueling two days for the DH faculty and staff, but at the final meeting, there a minimum number of recommendations, none related to the curriculum content or syllabi.

The Senior class held their pinning ceremony at Boise High School on Saturday August 16. Sally Kane, IDHA President-elect, was a guest speaker. A new class of 30 students was accepted into the program and started September 2.

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## IDHF GRANT REPORT

Sandee Golay, RDH

This is a summary of my community outreach activities funded by the generous Idaho Dental Hygienists' Foundation grant I received for community service.

In October 2007 at the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Twin Falls, I held a prenatal dental health class. There were fifteen mothers-to-be with their delivery coaches. The mothers received toothbrushes, paste and floss as well as educational pamphlets. A kit was also provided for the babies that included a teething ring, teething brush and tiny toothbrush. Later in October, I held a class for about 20 4-5 year olds. Two short films were shown and healthy snacks were provided. Each child received a goodie bag with toothbrushes, paste, Wild Flossers, and informative pamphlets.

In April 2008, I traveled to the Gooding Alternative High School to provide education to over 40 students. "How much sugar is there in..." was the theme, and the students figured out the amount of sugar using food labels. I demonstrated home care techniques, gave smoking information, and provided bags of teaspoons of sugar for visual evaluation. Each student and teacher received toothbrushes, paste, floss, and pamphlets. Other items, such as Reach Access flossers and tongue scrapers, were given away for answering questions.

In January 2008 I went on a medical mission to Argentina. It is always eye opening but rewarding to work in a foreign country. Please remember my view is a limited view of dental care in their country. The medical team consisted of people from Idaho, Oregon and Indiana. The whole mission team included people from all over the world. Each person provided supplies ranging from construction to food items. I took four large suitcases of dental supplies thanks to IDHF and the generosity of many others. From Buenos Aires we flew to El Barlioche and took a bus through the mountains to El Bolson, Patagonia. It is much cooler there than Buenos Aires and snowed 2 days before our arrival.

Medical and dental care is funded and provided by the state, and our main gathering area was the local hospital. Dr. Juan Teros was our main contact. We toured the hospital and gave drugs and supplies to them. The dental team consisted of myself, Dr. Tom Dean from Oregon, and an interpreter. We went to the Centro de Salud (Health Center) a couple different days. Part of the medical team helped a family dig a trench for a water pipe. They had to walk 20 minutes to carry water in buckets. The dental team walked 1 hour to a home where there was a little boy with a toothache. I taught tooth brushing to several children in the home. Almost all of the 3,000 plus people in this area travel by horse. The children here were given hats and gloves for winter because it gets to -20 degrees, however many of the children gave them to their parents because they have to go to work in the cold. Most of the kids have shoes with no toes in them. It's hard to worry about brushing your teeth when you're cold and your fingers and toes are freezing.

One of the areas we were taken to was Lago Escondido (Hidden Lake). The motto on the t-shirts was "Los Ninos son los futuro," which means "the children are our future." This 11,000 acre area is a learning facility established to help children (free-of-charge), and includes health assistance and a dental office as well as a school and dorm. Over 100 people work here year around. There is room for 120 students at a time. Mr. Joe Lewis, who owns M.D. Anderson Cancer Treatment Center in Florida, built this facility. There was a lot of interest in our visit to El Bolson by local TV, radio and state newspaper. We were nearly famous. We stayed in a youth hostel and mostly had warm showers, contrary to our showers in Buenos Aires. The sewer systems here can't handle toilet paper so you wipe and place the paper in a waste basket. ICKY!! During our visit to the mayor's office, he thanked us profusely because the needs are many. Pregnancy, drugs and violence are their main problems.

Dr. Raquel Beatriz Rodriguez is the dentist at Centro de Salud and goes there once a month. I left supplies for her and she was ecstatic. She had no knowledge of fluoride varnish so I showed her how to use it and we each treated a few children. They don't have fluoridated water here. They don't have an x-ray machine and the same cloth bib is used on ALL of the patients. There were pieces of gauze on the floor. The unit light didn't work, but I had my headlight and

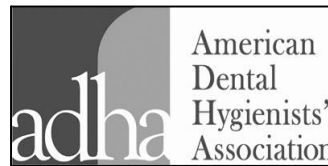
we all took turns using it. There was no water in the unit. The working day is short here. Each day we have Mate (tea) and rolls at the hospital before leaving for the health center. Everyone—nurses, doctors and helpers—all drink the mate out of the same cup and metal straw. I only pretended like I was drinking! We actually get started on patients about 10:30 or 11:00, and finish up at 2:00, so it's hard to accomplish much of anything. So many people have missing teeth, periodontal disease, and poor dentures and partials.

In the afternoons we went to a home to help build an additional room. The only water supply was a small pipe outside. The dishes are washed in a dish pan with cold water. They drink from this supply and use water for the cement. The horses, dogs, pigs, chickens, etc. drink from the drain field area. It's a wonder there isn't more illness.

We went to another health clinic that has a little dental operatory. The sterilizer looked fairly new, but there was no x-ray machine. The unit was probably donated—it had rips in the seat, an old belt driven hand piece, no water ran through the unit, and the cuspidor is rinsed out manually from a gallon of water on the floor. A cloth towel was placed on the bracket table and left there the whole time with several different patients. A metal container of gauze-like pieces was left on the bracket table and 2 or 3 pieces are retrieved at a time by reaching in with fingers. A small metal box that instruments were sterilized in was on the bracket table. When the dentist was done using them they were removed and placed in soapy water. The box then was taken and placed in the sterile instrument area and used for the next set up and placed back on the bracket table, with the same cloth in place. The foot control only worked by stomping on it. Even the walls needed paint and repairs. In spite of everything, the patients seemed to be happy to be there and loved the dentist. As each patient is dismissed they kissed and hugged each of us and thanked us over and over. Each patient received a toothbrush, paste and floss, and I also left lots of supplies for this clinic.

When the medical team returned to El Pilar, we searched through the donated clothes and shoes to send what we could back to El Bolson. We visited a Christian based drug and alcohol rehabilitation center in Buenos Aires. We took toys for their children and goodie bags with brushes and paste for each person.

All of these experiences have been enlightening and fulfilling, both mentally and spiritually. I hope you know now that the funds provided to me through the IDHF grant have been well used and greatly appreciated. Thanks again so much!



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Laura Baird, RDH, a former member and volunteer for IDHA and MVDHS has had a book published! Laura now lives in Longview, WA and is still an ADHA member. Her book is now available through [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com) under *Gem Opportunities* by Laura Baird.

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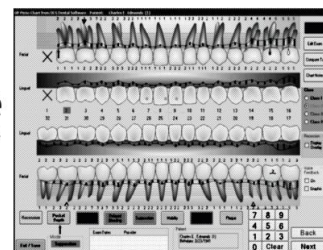
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# NEWSLETTER

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## SAVE THE DATE

Join us at the 2009 IDHA Annual Session on October 9 & 10 at the DoubleTree Riverside Hotel in Boise.

Watch our website for upcoming information:  
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