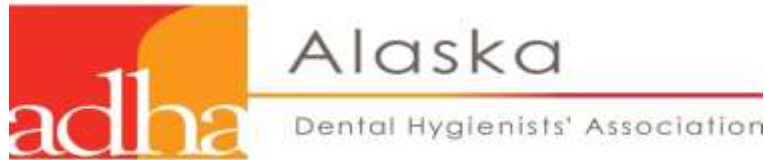


Alaska DHA Spring Newsletter 2017



President's Letter

Alaska DHA Spring CE

Legislative News, Delegate News

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District XII News, Component News:

Midnight Sun, Cook Inlet

UAA AK BoDE Report IOH

The logo for the 94th Annual Conference features the ADHA logo on the left. To its right, the text "94TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE" is written in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. Below this, the dates "JUNE 14-19, 2017" and the location "JACKSONVILLE, FL" are written in a large, bold, orange, sans-serif font.

94TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
JUNE 14-19, 2017
JACKSONVILLE, FL

President's Letter

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Spring is here and that means the Alaska DHA CE Committee has been busy organizing the Spring CE and Business meeting which will be held on April 29th at the Southcentral Foundation's (SCF's) new Nuka Wellness & Learning Center! We are very excited to be hosting our Spring CE and Business meeting in this new, beautiful, state of the art center located on the SCF Campus in the Tribal Drum Room 110! The street address is 4805 Tudor Centre Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508.

The Alaska DHA has gone through a total website makeover due to a terminal crash that required completely rebuilding the Alaska DHA website; thank you for your patience and understanding as we worked on our website: www.alaskadha.org. Check it out! We have made significant changes/additions, retained the fill-in list, and employment list per popular demand. Thank you for taking the time to complete survey monkey's when they are posted; your voice matters and we listen!

I would like to send a big thank you out to all of the dental hygienists' across our state for helping to improve the oral health of so many and making such a positive impact in people's lives each and every day; you are appreciated! I am also sending out a big thank you to the dedicated volunteers who encompass the Alaska DHA, CIDHA, and MSDHA for your commitment to our profession and to our state and local dental hygienists' associations. Your knowledge and dedication are inspiring and I am grateful to be a part of this association. Please keep in mind, we are always looking for members who are interested in getting involved in the Alaska DHA or serving on a committee; contact me if you have any questions or are interested.

As your current President, it is my goal to provide a welcoming and positive atmosphere that encourages participation and sharing of ideas from all of our members. We are stronger together working as one driving force with the collective goal to elevate our profession and each other to the next level of excellence.

Check out our website at www.alaskadha.org or find us on Facebook: Alaska DHA. I look forward to seeing you all on April 29th for our Spring CE and Business Meeting at the Southcentral Foundation Nuka Wellness & Learning Center!

It is a pleasure serving you.

Sincerely,
Lisa Bryant, RDH, BSDH
President, Alaska DHA

Alaska Dental Hygienists' Association Spring CE/Business Meeting

Saturday April 29th, 2017

Pre-Registration ends Saturday, April 8th

After April 8th registration will only be accepted at the door

ANCHORAGE: Southcentral Foundation Nuka Wellness & Learning Center, Tribal Drum Room 110, 4805 Tudor Centre Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508

FAIRBANKS: Live Streaming to Murie Bldg at UAF, Room 107

Morning Speaker: Kris Potts, RDH, BS, FAADH
Afternoon Speaker: Sherri Lukes RDH, MS, FAADH

- 8:15am** Morning Registration
9:00am - 12:00pm: CE: Preventive Prehabilitation of the Oncology Patient
12:00pm - 1:30pm: Lunch/Business Meeting/UAA DH Student Table Clinics
1:30pm – 1:50pm: Afternoon Registration
2:00pm – 5:00pm: CE: Oral Pathology and the Assessment Process: It's Risky Business

Preventive Prehabilitation of the Oncology Patient

It's more than screening for oral abnormalities and cleaning the teeth of patients diagnosed with Oral Cancer. Cancer of any type affects everyone, if not personally then as a friend, family member or the patient that comes into your office. This course covers oral concerns of cancer patients and their caregivers, products to aid in their treatment of those oral concerns and, a few other aspects of care you may not have previously considered.



Kris Potts, RDH, BS, FAADH has been a clinical hygienist for 32 years, is a member of the American Dental Hygienists' Association as well as a Fellow and accredited Provider with the American Academy of Dental Hygiene. She is a Past President of the Texas Dental Hygienists' Association and a member of the American Academy for Oral Systemic Health. Kris offers educational information to a cross section of medical and dental offices, advocacy, support and special interest groups. She is Owner/CEO of Oral Health Promotion Strategies, LLC, providing speakers, resources, product information, education and coaching services for health professionals & consumers.

Alaska DHA would like to thank the following sponsors for making this CE possible:



Oral Pathology and the Assessment Process: It's Risky Business

This course will review the assessment portion of the dental hygiene process of care, specifically in relation to oral pathology and lesion detection. The range of descriptors for lesions and anomalies will be presented with lesion examples for each descriptor. Cases with the various types of lesions will be presented with a differential diagnosis discussion with audience participation. Emphasis will be placed on detecting lesions that are suspicious of oral cancer and differentiation of similar appearing lesions.



Sherri Lukes, RDH, MS, FAADH has 35 years of experience in dentistry, 28 spent in academia. In 2014 she retired as associate professor from Southern Illinois University dental hygiene program where she taught oral pathology, community oral health, multicultural dental hygiene and advanced periodontics clinic. Her research concentration was in oral pathology, migrant farm worker oral health, and challenges of other underserved groups, resulting in multiple peer reviewed publications. A Pathology Fellow and approved speaker of the American Academy of Dental Hygiene, Sherri enjoys integrating her expertise from years of teaching and research into CE courses to empower hygienists in the delivery of care. Ms. Lukes serves as chair of the Public Health/Access to Care Committee and is a Past President of the Illinois Dental Hygienists' Association. Community service projects include biannual mission trips to central Mexico, where accompanied by SIU dental hygiene students, she provides oral health care in an orphanage and remote villages. She received Community Service, Teacher of the Year, and Research Paper of the Year awards while at SIU, was named an Oral Health Champion by the IFLOSS Coalition and the Illinois Department of Public Health and is a past recipient of the Sunstar/RDH Award of Distinction.

Alaska DHA would like to thank the following sponsors for making this CE possible:



Legislative News

The Alaska Legislature is currently in session. House Majority Leader, Representative Chris Tuck, is sponsoring House Bill 89: a bill that would, "...establish licensing requirements for radiology technicians to increase safety for patients and healthcare professionals. Approximately two-thirds of the states have laws regulating the practice of radiologic technology. However, Alaska is not among the majority who require licensing of this profession" (Rep. Chris Tuck: Sponsors Statement; HB89, 1/30/2017).

The Alaska Dental Society (ADS) reached out to the Alaska DHA for comment on HB89, which was provided after seeking expert advice from the ADHA's Legislative Team, as there is some concern about the verbiage used in the bill pertaining to dental hygienists and dental assistants taking radiographs. The American Dental Hygienists' Association's political experts provided guidance and also referred to CODA Standards in which all dental hygienists have radiography as part of their curriculum and are trained proficiently to take radiographs which is part of our dental hygiene licensure. Currently, HB89 has been referred to the Labor and Commerce Department for review.

I encourage everyone to follow the Alaska Legislation and be informed of legislation that could potentially affect our practice; I have created a list of references for easy access on our website.

Dental Health Aides/Therapists/Practitioners, also called Mid-Level Providers, continue to make the news: Massachusetts, Kansas, and Arizona are considering legislation that would allow dental therapists to work in those states and in a February 16, 2017 article in NBC New York asks, "Would you let someone who is not a dentist pull your teeth?" This article cites how dental therapists can, "...help fill gaps in access to oral care for low-income, elderly and disabled people, and in rural areas where few dentists practice, according to many public health advocates" (NBCNY Feb 16, 2017). However, the American Dental Association (ADA) has consistently voiced opposition to this midlevel position citing safety and supervision concerns. The ADA's response to recent articles about dental therapists in the news is, "Recent news coverage has reported on state activity related to dental therapists as an option to address access to care challenges. There is no available data that demonstrate new models that replicate what dentists already do well have increased access to care at a lower cost... Rather than add a new category of providers, the ADA believes there is a critical need to connect underserved people seeking care with dentists ready to treat them" (ADA.org, News releases, February 21, 2017). Washington and Oregon tribal organizations are currently utilizing Dental Health Aide Therapists. This movement is gaining momentum and will most likely continue to spread to other tribal organizations around the nation. The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) supports a dental hygiene-based oral health provider workforce model (ADHA.org, 'The Benefits of Dental Hygiene-Based oral Health Provider Models, April 2016).

As reported last year, thirty-eight states now allow direct access to dental hygiene care. This means that a dental hygienist can treat patients in public health settings without a dentist first seeing the patient. New Mexico has a bill before the Senate for an Oral Health Practitioner. If passed, NM will be the 2nd state to implement dental hygienists as mid-level providers. More and more state legislators are joining this movement as a method of increasing access to care to those who need it most.

Collaborative practice at Prestige long-term care facility is reportedly running smoothly. Royann Royer has created a collaborative practice power point which is posted on our website for your viewing pleasure. It is meant to be a guide to those seeking information and guidance in starting their own collaborative practice.

Locally, anti-fluoridation activity has resurfaced in Anchorage with Dustin Darden sponsoring a ballot initiative in December 2016, to remove fluoride from Anchorage city water with Rep. Chris Tuck as the co-sponsor. The Anchorage Assembly held a public hearing whether or not to put community water fluoridation on the April ballot for the public to vote on. After seeking a letter of support for community water fluoridation practices from ADHA's experts in governmental affairs and providing background information for support, I provided testimony on behalf of the ADHA and the Alaska DHA in support of continued community water fluoridation practices in Anchorage, as did other healthcare professionals and private citizens, during the January 2017 Anchorage Assembly Public Hearing. The measure was voted not to be on the April ballot with Assembly Woman, Amy Demboski, being the only Assembly member to vote in favor of this initiative. The Private Citizen's Coalition collecting signatures to put community water fluoridation up for vote on the ballot failed to obtain enough signatures.

The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), Alaska Dental Hygienists' Association (Alaska DHA), American Dental Association (ADA), and Alaska Dental Society (ADS) all support community water fluoridation practices; please see ADA.org for a complete list of organizations that support community water fluoridation practices and a list of resources to share with your patients if they have questions about fluoridation.

If you are interested in legislative news and would like to be on the legislative committee, please contact Royann or myself for more information. We would love to have more members volunteer on committees and run for elected positions in the Alaska DHA!

Lisa Bryant, RDH, BSDH, Legislative Chair
lbryant_rdh@yahoo.com

Royann Royer, RDH, MPH, Legislative Co-Chair
royer@mta.com

Alaska DHA Delegate News

The Alaska DHA welcomes a newly elected delegate for term 2016-2018, Carla Roe, and returning delegate Minna Allen; most recent terms include 2013-2015 and 2015-2017. Currently, the ADHA allows two delegates from Alaska to attend the ADHA House of Delegates during Annual Session which will be held in Jacksonville, Florida June 14-19, 2017. Both Carla Roe and Minna Allen will attend the ADHA's 94th House of Delegates during Annual Session this year. The Alaska DHA looks forward to the Delegate's report upon their return.



Carla Roe

Minna Allen

Alaska DHA Delegates and Executive Board members are voted into position by the general membership of the Alaska DHA with most positions having two year term commitments. The next Alaska DHA election will be for the second Delegate position and Treasurer coming up this November. Please review the Alaska DHA By-Laws posted on our website, www.alaskadha.org to review position responsibilities. We encourage all interested member's to get involved in their associations and run for elected positions.

Collaborative Practice News

Collaborative Agreement Update:

Healthy Smiles Forever – working with the non-profit Christian Health Associates started providing dental services on site at Prestige Long Term Care and Rehabilitation Facility in May of 2016

Goal: To increase access to dental care for seniors residing in nursing homes in the Anchorage, AK area. In addition to increasing access to care, we are increasing oral health knowledge to staff and residents by providing education on oral health at the facility. By doing a pilot study at Prestige Care and Rehab Center, we hope to provide a working model for using Collaborative practice (Dental Hygienists working with Dentists) to increase access for vulnerable populations in Alaska that could be emulated by other dental professionals.

Current Status: Services are being provided using mobile dental equipment and supplies with a permanent dental chair that has been donated to the facility. Two dental hygienists, and two dentists and one assistant are providing dental services for the residents of the facility one day a week. We have seen approximately half of the 85 residents and provided services including, cleanings, restorative work, extractions and dentures. Lots of "kinks" have been worked out over the last 9 months and the project is moving along smoothly now.

Future: Following this initial one year trial a document outlining the initial organization process, equipment and supply needs, expenses and billing protocols will be developed. We plan for services to be continued providing treatment long term for facility residents at Prestige and expand to additional facilities in the future.

Dr. Ingrim and DA Jackie standing on step stools while working on a patient in a large and tall wheel chair.



Membership

Alaska DHA Membership

Our membership is dropping as of January 2017. We currently have 144 members. This is down by about 50 members from a year ago (Sad Face). We would like to understand the reason behind this decrease and would appreciate any feedback.

The goal of your Alaska Association is to provide:

Discounted continuing education (CE) courses

Advocate for professional issues that impact you

Change legislation to allow increased expanded functions

The means to organize community service events in which you can volunteer your services to help community members in need

Scholarships to local University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) dental hygiene students

Resources ADHA offers:

Discounted Auto Insurance

Discounted Professional Liability Insurance

World Wide Hotel and Car Rental Discounts

Discounted Continuing Education Opportunities

Career Resources

Guidance and Support from ADHA Experts

Networking Opportunities

Free Publications

Access to ADHA's Benefit-Hub

Research Grants from the Institute of Oral Health (IOH)

Hygienists' Political Action Committee (HYPAC)

Your National, State, and Local dental hygiene associations help you as an individual but more importantly help the profession grow and allow hygienists to evolve and increase treatment functions and responsibilities. These occur through legislation and advocating by a professional group who have your "back". Hygienists working and being involved in a full personal life often do not have the time or energy to work on these issues. Please help us continue this work for you by being a MEMBER!

Again, I thank all of you and please feel free to contact me anytime.

Royann Royer RDH, MPH
Membership Chair, AKDHA
royer@mtaonline.net

Lisa Bryant RDH, BSDH
Membership, AKDHA
lbryant_rdh@yahoo.com

Community News

The Alaska Cares Free Dental Days Community Event was held at UAA Allied Health College dental hygiene and dental assisting clinics on Thursday and Friday, **March 30-31st, 2017**. It was a great turn out and a lot of people received care who otherwise could not afford it. Sending out a big thank you to those who volunteered their time and services to this wonderful event. When you are all out and about, please extend a thank you to Moose's Tooth/Bear Tooth Pizza, Perpercini's Deli, Great Harvest Bread, Kaladi Brother's, and Starbucks for their generous donations of food and beverage for the volunteers and UAA DH/DA students at this event.



District XII News

Greetings Alaska Dental Hygienists' Association!

I was thrilled when Lisa Bryant asked me to contribute to your newsletter! I'm feeling excited about the future of ADHA and I'm glad to get a chance to tell you about it!

The ADHA Board of Trustees just held our big Winter Board Meeting, and, for the first time in ADHA history, we did it virtually! ADHA has recently contracted with ZOOM, a new virtual meeting platform, and I am very much looking forward to my first District XII ZOOM meeting in just a few days. ZOOM gives us the capability to not only share documents and audio with all the attendees, but we have great video capability, too! ZOOM makes it fun to connect with faces from far away without being too disruptive to your regular, busy schedules or pulling you away from your families. I am hoping I will be able to use ZOOM to meet virtually with each of my constituents on a regular basis, as well as connecting the whole District XII family, from time to time, to generate a healthy flow of ideas and information between the states of our great district. I'm aware that Alaska is already especially adept at the use of electronic means for holding meetings, so I may be asking Alaska to help me make this form of meeting seem natural, and even fun, for the states that do not have as much experience with this sort of communication. Thank you all, in advance, for your support!

As hard as it is to believe, the **94TH ADHA Annual Conference in Jacksonville, Florida is June 14-19**. That's only 79 days away! Now is the time to register and make your plans to join us this summer for the biggest, most exciting, most dental-hygiene-focused event of the year. ADHA strives to offer the highest quality events and programming at an affordable price so that anyone interested in learning, engaging, and advancing the dental hygiene profession is afforded the opportunity to participate.

NEW!! ADHA is offering a flexible pricing system for continuing education at the Annual Conference this year. You have two options:

1. The **All-Inclusive CE Seminar Pass**: Allows you to choose as many CE Seminars as you want for a bundled price of \$149. This option **DOES NOT** include Hands-on Workshops.
 2. **À la Carte**: You can pick and choose as many individual CE seminars and Hands-On Workshops as you like, according to your price point. CE Seminars and Hands-on Workshops vary on length, amount of CE Hours earned, and price.
- The Annual Conference offers a wide variety of inspirational, networking, and social events included in the basic registration price, too! These are events you don't want to miss! **All these events are included in your basic registration fee:**

- Wednesday night Welcome Reception: limited capacity (450 ppl), compliments of Young Dental
- Wednesday Community Service Day – give back to the host city
- Thursday and Saturday General Sessions (1 CE Hour Each), compliments of Arm & Hammer: Truly Radiant & Crest/ Oral-B – This year's keynote is Olympic Gold and Silver medalist Laurie Hernandez
- Exhibits on Friday & Saturday: Tons of Swag! (1 CE Hour)
- FREE Lunch on the Exhibit Floor Friday & Saturday compliments of Wrigley!
- Friday Breakfast: limited capacity (650 ppl), compliments of Crest/Oral-B
- Undergraduate Student Research Competition on Thursday (2 CE Hours)
- DENTSPLY/ADHA Graduate Student Research Poster Sessions
- Many Networking Evening Receptions

The Excellence in Dental Hygiene Award & President's Dinner will be held Friday, June 16th, from 8-11PM. This will be a plated, sit-down dinner that requires a separate \$100 ticket, and it's our chance to dress up (cocktail attire), socialize, and recognize our truly exceptional colleagues. *Please note, there is no silent auction this year.*

Instead of a silent auction, fundraising for the Institute for Oral Health (IOH) will take place on Thursday evening through the **IN MOTION 5K Fun Run/Walk**. Please visit <https://www.crowdfunder.com/ADHARUNWALK2017> and join me and the rest of the **District XII Transformers Team** to have a good "walking tour" of Jacksonville while we raise money for IOH, the philanthropic arm of ADHA, which provides research grants, community service grants, and scholarships for dental hygienists. **GO, DISTRICT XII TRANSFORMERS!!!** Then, attend the **After Glow Party** with all your dental hygiene friends for a great evening of FUN, FUN, FUN! **Last year Lisa won a trophy! Ask her to show it to you!** Runners/Walkers raising \$100 or more in donations attend the After Glow Party for free, otherwise, tickets are \$100 (donation to IOH).



Sandy Kirkoski, HI. Lisa Bryant, AK.
Annette Lincicome, DXII Trustee, NV.

Besides all the revelry, the Annual Conference will be offering membership and legislative workshops, as well as a governance design session. Attendance to these events can help you see how ADHA works for every dental hygienist in our country every day. The focus in these sessions is to advance the dental hygiene profession, making our profession strong and secure into the future. The workshops provide invaluable information that leads naturally into the business portion of Annual Conference, the House of Delegates. Can you believe all that "stuff" is crammed into six days?!! If you have never attended an ADHA Annual Conference, I urge you to make this year the year you do it! There is something for every hygienist! Whether you practice in private practice, public health, education, advocacy, or administration, or whether you've been practicing 40 years, 2 years, 10 years, or you're a dental hygiene student, the ADHA Annual Conference has just what you need. It's a week tailor-made just for you. I hope to see you all there!

Between now and June 14th there is considerable work we need to do to get ready! Delegates and alternate delegates will soon begin receiving information from ADHA about this year's House of Delegates. I invite all hygienists, members and non-members alike, to **sign up for the District XII Listserv**. Go to the adha.org website, click on the "news" tab of the red banner at the top of the page, scroll down to "ADHA Listserv." The District XII Listserv subscription tab is at the very bottom of the Listserv screen. All are welcome to sign up for as many Listservs as you wish. By subscribing to the District XII Listserv and the HOD Listserv, you will get all the news about pre-Annual Conference meetings and resources you will need for Jacksonville. Please sign up for the District XII Listserv so I have a way to connect with all of you on a regular basis.

As always, just let me say what a thrill it is to be the District XII Trustee! I firmly believe District XII includes the finest group of dental hygienists I've ever had the pleasure to know. I am here for you any time you need me. Please feel free to call or text me at 702-376-4029, or drop me an email at annettel@adha.net and I promise to respond as quickly as I can. I love hearing from my District XII people!

Warmest regards,
Annette Lincicome, BS, RDH
702-376-4029
annettel@adha.net

Component News



Board members:

President: Julie Hughes
Vice President: Blair Dellaquila
Secretary: Lacey Taylor
Treasurer: Camille Hynson
Immediate Past President: Chloe Allen

MSDHA ended the year with a 2 hour CE on Periodontal Updates given by Dr. Melissa Webster. Since then we had our first RDH after 5 in February followed by Super Saturday at Fairbanks Children's Museum. We were able to complete children's exams and provide interactive games with children ranging from ages 2-10.

Upcoming events include the Nenana and Fairbanks Health Fair in March and April. We are also in the works of planning a CE in conjunction with Dr. Webster to bring up Tracy Butler from Straumann/Allograft Ring; It is scheduled for June 7.

Thanks,
Julie Hughes
President, MSDHA

Cook Inlet Dental Hygienists' Association

Board Members:

President: Liisia Putnam
Vice President: Carla Roe
Treasurer: Donna Smith
Secretary: Valerie Truncali
Immediate Past President: Whitney Just

The Cook Inlet Dental Hygienists' Association (CIDHA) elected new board members in January of this year: President-Liisia Putnam; Vice President-Carla Roe; Treasurer-Donna Smith, and Secretary-Valerie Truncali.

CIDHA sponsored a 1 credit CE with Dr. Ryan Gard on "HPV Associated Oropharyngeal Cancer", March 22nd.

CIDHA is also helping to sponsor the UAA Dental Hygiene Student's Table Clinic CE 4/13/17 at the UAA Allied Health Building where the UAA dental hygiene students present their semester projects to local RDH's. This is a great opportunity the UAA Dental Hygiene Program Director, Sandy Pence, has been generous to co-sponsor and also gives students a valuable opportunity to network with professional RDH's.

CIDHA was happy to be able to disperse their student scholarship for yet another consecutive year. The winner of the CIDHA Student Scholarship will be announced at the Alaska DHA April 29th, 2017 CE/Business Meeting.

CIDHA would like to encourage our new dental hygiene graduates to transition their student ADHA memberships to professional memberships. ADHA does so much for our profession, and our support through membership is crucial in enabling them to advocate for us and our careers! New members bring new ideas and opinions to our local associations as well and new ideas are always welcome! If you are interested in getting involved in any way, please contact us!

The next CIDHA meeting will be:

UAA DH Students will also present a UAA Student Table Clinic CE 4/13/17

Contact Information:

Liisia Putnam RDH
President, CIDHA
Liisia.rdh@gmail.com

CIDHA

c/o Alaska DHA
PO Box 240247
Anchorage, AK 99524
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UAA Alaska DHA News



Our re-vamped restorative courses have gone very well. Carri Shamburger has taken this on and has made the lecture component approximately 1 month long via distance delivery, and the hand-on lab and clinical portion is two weeks on campus. The third class in this format started in March and will end just before WREB this spring.

Our clinic has struggled this spring to have sufficient patients for both juniors and seniors. We welcome referrals if you have patients that can't afford treatment at an office and don't mind spending a bit more time receiving care. UAA Parking Services has hinted that we may not get parking passes for patients next year, so we are changing from Tuesday clinics to Friday ones in the fall. Parking is easier and free on Fridays, so hopefully this will help fill our chairs next semester.

The juniors started clinic this semester and are building up their speed and getting the hang of things. It is such a new experience for them, and it's exciting to see them put pieces together that they have been learning the past six months.

Seniors have taken their National Board Exams and are now preparing for WREB! They are excited and nervous, but mostly ready for all of this to be done. As you all can remember, the stress of the final semester of hygiene school is tremendous!

We are preparing for our joint CE with CIDHA on April 13. Both classes are preparing posters for their table clinics. Last year was a great experience for the students to interact with professional hygienists, and this year should be just as good. We are so fortunate to be part of the Alaska State Dental Hygienists' Association and to be able to connect with the amazing professionals that belong to it. Thank you all for your support of our students and program.



UAA Dental Hygiene Class of 2018



UAA Dental Hygiene Class of 2017

Thank you for all your support!
Sandy Pence and Carri Shamburger, UAA Dental Hygiene Program

Alaska Board of Dental Examiners (AK BoDE) Report

APRIL 2017

By Gail Walden and Paula Ross

The following bullet points highlight some key information for you to be aware of.

- **Sedation/Anesthesia Regulation Public Comment**—The BoDE has recommended and approved a second draft that will be going out for public comment very soon! Please pay careful attention to the nitrous oxide section and submit your written comments by the deadline. The BoDE reviews all comments received and appreciates input from the dental community.

The dental hygiene scope of practice under Sec. 08.32.110 states that a dental hygienist may “if certified by the board and under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed dentist, administer and monitor nitrous oxide-oxygen conscious sedation.” Current regulation 12 AAC 28.720 states that “a dentist may delegate the administration of nitrous oxide to a dental hygienist who is licensed under AS 08.32 and has completed a course of instruction in administering nitrous oxide that meets the requirements of (b) and (c)” listed in that section. The problem with current nitrous regulations is that the BoDE is not “certifying” anyone, checking course requirements, or maintaining a registry of hygienists that are utilizing nitrous oxide sedation.

The BoDE is proposing the following nitrous regulation changes:

- ✓ Incorporate nitrous oxide regulations into Article 3 and rename—*Administration of Local Anesthetic Agents and Nitrous Oxide Sedation by Dental Hygienists*.
- ✓ Dental hygienist will be required (if you currently or intend to utilize nitrous oxide) to submit an initial application, fee, and provide written verification of successful completion of an accredited college or university course of instruction in the administration of nitrous oxide. This process will be similar to current initial application process for local anesthesia.
- ✓ A certification to administer local anesthesia and/or nitrous oxide sedation will remain active as long as the holder’s dental hygiene license is active and in good standing.
- ✓ The BoDE will notify a dental hygienist of initial certification to provide local anesthesia and/or nitrous oxide sedation and thereafter certification will be listed on the dental hygiene license. There will be no renewal of these certifications.

If you are not already on the BoDE “dental interested parties list,” and you would like to receive future notifications of proposed regulations, you must contact the Regulations Specialist, Jun Maiquis by email at jun.maiquis@alaska.gov or by calling (907)465-2537 and request that your name be added to the list. Notices are sent in the mail to those on the list, but proposed regulations are also available on the BoDE website during open public comment periods.

- **Clinical Dental Hygiene Examinations**—The BoDE has invited clinical testing agencies to present at our scheduled board meetings due to recent pressure from the American Dental Association, legislators, and the dental community. Currently, our regulations require passing the WREB dental or dental hygiene clinical examination to apply for licensure after graduation. After 5 years of clinical experience, applicants for licensure can apply by credentials if they meet certain criteria. So far CRDTS, SRTA, and ADEX have presented. WREB will be presenting next. The BoDE is evaluating content, format, outcomes, and test quality.
- **New licensing examiner**—Mr. Jedediah Smith was hired as board licensing examiner and has been doing a great job. If you have any questions regarding licensure or continuing education, his contact information is available on the board website and listed here.
 - ✓ Phone: 907-465-2542
 - ✓ E-mail: boardofdentalexaminers@alaska.gov

The next scheduled meeting of the BoDE is Friday, April 28th.



ADHA INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH

In collaboration with the American Dental Hygienists' Association, the ADHA Institute for Oral Health (IOH) provides thousands of dollars each year, to advance the profession of Dental Hygiene through scholarship, research and service.

Dates to Remember:

Wrigley Community Service Grants Available: **July 1**

Wrigley Grant Deadline and Scholarship Applications Available: **October 1**

Rosie Wall Community Spirit Available and Research Grant Application Available: **November 1**

Rosie Wall Grants Deadline and Scholarship Application Deadline: **February 1**

Research Grant Application Deadline: **February 28**

Scholarships:

Looking for an opportunity that will provide financial assistance to further your academic achievement, professional excellence and a desire to improve the public's overall health?

ADHA's Institute for Oral Health Scholarship Program offers financial assistance to dental hygiene students and dental hygienists who demonstrate a commitment to advance the discipline of dental hygiene. Research Grants: Looking for an opportunity for funding for research projects specializing in dental hygiene?

Looking for an opportunity for funding for research projects specializing in dental hygiene?

The Institute for Oral Health's Research Grant Programs give preference to proposals that address the following:

Develops or expands upon the dental hygiene body of knowledge

Promotes the public's oral health by improving dental hygiene education and practice

Supports the delivery of quality oral healthcare

Community Service Grants: Do you have a community health project that will improve the public's oral health and provide oral health education?

ADHA's Institute for Oral Health Community Service Grant program is designed to encourage dental hygienists to devise and implement community health projects. These grant programs empower dental hygiene professionals to respond to their communities' oral health concerns. Please review the specific grant program information to determine eligibility, regional restrictions and application timeline.

Wrigley Company Foundation Community Service Grants

Rosie Wall Community Spirit Grants

Healthy Start for Texas Teeth Community Service Grants

For more information, applications (if application period is open) and eligibility requirements for all programs, please visit: www.adha.org/ioh

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