

North Carolina Dental Assistants Association Fall 2012



Greetings from Your President

I am so excited to have been elected to the North Carolina Dental Assistants Association as your president for 2012-2013. The installation ceremony was held at our Annual Session in Myrtle Beach, S.C. I choose a lighthouse theme for the installation ceremony. I've always loved lighthouses and what they represent. They helped ships find their way up the intercoastal waterway and I feel as dental assistants we should help new assistants find their place in our profession. Nanette Hill did the installation and did a great job. She has been my lighthouse and helped guide me into the role I have as your president.

We recently held our first committee and board meetings on August 18, 2012. It was held at Dr. Bobby Elliott's office in Cary, N.C. Dr. Elliott was also our guest speaker. He spoke on "Tricks and Design Layout for Seeing Younger Patients in Your Office." He did a great job as always.

October 18-20, 2012 we will have 6 delegates attending the American Dental Assistants Association Annual Conference in San Francisco. This meeting is held in conjunction with the American Dental Association. There will be a lot of exhibitors and CE classes for us to attend along with the meetings of ADAA.

On November 16, 2012 we will have our next NCDAA meetings and CE at Rowan Cabarrus Community College in Salisbury, N.C. Our speaker will be Amanda Meyers. This will be a 6 hour "Spice" class. It will be open to all members and to the area dental office staff.

NCDAA has been participating in the MOM's Projects in N.C. I hope everyone will try to help in at least one of the projects this year. There are so many needy people in the state and it is so rewarding at the end of the day just knowing you have helped put a smile back on someone's face. The next MOM's will be held on Sept. 21-22, 2012, Gastonia, Nov. 2-3, 2012, Dare County, Nov. 16-17, 2012, Greensboro and Dec. 7-8, 2012 Charlotte.

I'm looking forward to working with all the officers and the local societies this year. My goal is to increase our membership this year by inviting e-members to become full members and to encourage students to join. I really hope each local will make it a point to contact e-members in their area and encourage them to become full members. Instructors I encourage you to have your students join ADAA and become a part of their professional organization. I think if we can get everyone in the mind set that dental assisting is a profession and not just a job they will take a lot more pride in their work.

Sincerely,
Rita Millikan, CDA
NCDAA President

Officers 2010-2012

President

Rita Millikan, CDA
127 Caroline Street
Rockingham, N. C. 28379
910-997-8378 W
910-417-1409 C
rita.millikan@richmondnc.com

Vice President

Linda Clark, CDA
3533 Arthur Pierce Road
Apex, N. C. 27502
919-467-0654 H
919-363-0503 W
glclark@bellsouth.net

President Elect

Secretary

Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
92 6th St. SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-635-1081 H
828-322-4627 W
828-310-6077 C
drgwaltneys@yahoo.com

Assistant Secretary

Doris Clapp, CDA
714 Dove Rd.
Cameron, N.C. 28326
919-499-1270H

Treasurer

Kristy Eddleman, CDA
6715-A Fairview Road
Charlotte, NC 28210-3355
704-364-8963 H
704-366-6321 W
704-506-4273 C
704-366-6346 F
kristy@edata-charlotte.com

Parliamentarian

Nanette Hill, CDA
13400 Bold Run Hill Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
919 556-2520 H
919-556-2996 W
nanette416@embarq.com

Immediate Past President

Carol Sell, CDA
1600 Su John Road
Raleigh, N. C. 27607
919-851-1155 H
919-467-2762 W
919-906-5259 C
ohsell@nc.rr.com

Advisor

Dr. Bobby Elliott
Diplomate, American Board of
Pediatric Dentistry
Fellow, American Academy of
Pediatric Dentistry
540 New Waverly Place, #300
Cary, NC 27518
office: (919) 852-1322
fax: (919) 852-1230
The2thFxr@aol.com
www.the2thfxr.com

Visit the NCDAA website at:

www.ncdentalassistant.org

For more information contact

kristy@edata-charlotte.com

Related websites:

American Dental Assistants Assoc.

www.dentalassistant.org

Dental Assisting National Board

www.danb.org

North Carolina Dental Society

www.ncdental.org

All State and Local components are required to file with the IRS. For more information call Doug McDonnell at Central Office 312-541-1550 ext. 203.



Special Committees

Awards

Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
92 6th St. SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-635-1081 H
828-322-4627 W
828-310-6077 C
drwaltneys@yahoo.com

Faye Watkins
Susan Wilson
(See Info Right)

NC Committee for Dental Health
Nanette Hill, CDA
(See Info Right)

Program
Joyce Baker or
Kelley Curtin
(See Info Above)

Student Involvement

NC MOM
Nanette Hill, CDA
(See Info Above Right)

Convention

Linda Clark, CDA
3533 Arthur Pierce Road
Apex, N. C. 27502
919-467-0654 H
919-363-0503 W
glclark@bellsouth.net

Historical

Nanette Hill, CDA
13400 Bold Run Hill Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
919 556-2520 H
919-556-2996 W
nanette416@embarq.com

NC Dental Foundation

Ways and Means

Website
Kristy Eddleman, CDA
(See Info Above)

Nominating
Joyce Baker
(See Info Right)

Edna Zedaker

Kristy Eddleman, CDA
6715-A Fairview Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
704-364-8963 H
704-366-6321 W
704-366-6346 F
kristy@edata-charlotte.com

Mirror Editor

Susan Wilson
1405 Piperwood Ct
Durham, NC 27713
919-806-5152 H
919-810-6925 C
blackeyedsusan@frontier.com

Organizational

Joyce Baker
1114 Maple Drive
Newton, N. C. 28658
828-294-0937 H
828-328-5581 W
jbaker88@embarqmail.com

Standing Committees

Budget/Finance

Linda Clark, CDA
3533 Arthur Pierce Road
Apex, N. C. 27502
919-467-0654 H
919-363-0503 W
glclark@bellsouth.net

Judicial/Legislative

Deana Billings
446 Wildwood Drive
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659
336-670-2135 H
336-667-5170 W
336-984-7872 C
dbillingswphdc@embarqmail.com

ByLaws/Manual of Procedures

Linda Clark, CDA
(See Info Left)

Membership

Doris Clapp
714 Dove Rd.
Cameron, N.C. 28326
919-499-1270H

Stephanie Garnuette
4143 Turnberry Park Ct
Pfafftown, NC 27040
336-782-1540 l
336-765-9224C

Education

Linda Kamp
111 Pecan Lane
Salisbury, NC 28146
704-279-8855 H
704-798-0907 C
704-216-3726 W
lkamp@carolinarr.com



NCDAA Pre-Convention Board Meeting

Friday, May 18, 2012

President Carol W. Sell, CDA, Presiding

President Sell called the meeting to order at 9:08AM.

President Sell extended a warm welcome to those in attendance. She also recognized those attending their first board meeting, students Natalie Jensen and Kimberly Crawford from Guilford Tech. She encouraged them to stay active in their dental assisting profession and to plan to attend future board meetings.

President Sell recognized NCDAA officers in attendance and special guests, our ADAA President Claudia Pohl, ADAA Trustee, Nanette Hill, and one of our past NCDAA Presidents, Jackie Rion.

Secretary Dianne Gwaltney called the roll and a quorum was present to conduct business.

President Sell reported on correspondence received as follows:

- ADAA concerning Delegate apportionment for 87th Annual Conference in San Francisco
- Invitation to bring greetings to NCDS 2nd House of Delegates on Saturday afternoon

Treasurer's report given by Kristy Eddleman reported the following balances:

Checking.....	\$6109.30
Savings	\$2410.23
Edna Zedaker Scholarship	\$1077.23
Faye Watkins Scholarship	\$1603.98

The treasurer's report was approved and placed on file for audit.

We did not have a quorum at the Feb. 25, 2012 NCDAA Board meeting, so therefore business could not be carried out. Minutes were available as information only. However, the minutes from the November, 2011 meeting were read and approved with corrections.

Written Standing Committee reports, Special Committee reports, and Local Society reports were available as attendees entered the meeting room. These reports are also available in the President's and Secretary's records. These reports were not read at the meeting.

President Carol presented a report of recent meetings. Nanette Hill presented a report of the NC MOM's Projects, continuing to encourage everyone to be involved with these worthy projects.

Under unfinished business, Kristy Eddleman of the Nomination and Balloting Committee presented slate of officers for 2012-2013 as follows: President Rita Millikan Vice-President Linda Clark, Secretary Dianne Gwaltney, Assistant Secretary Doris Clapp, Treasurer Kristy Eddleman, Immediate Past President Carol Sell. There was no one running for President-Elect.

Kristy Eddleman, treasurer, also reported that she continues to work with IRS to see if we are in compliance. According to information from ADAA President Claudia Pohl, NCDAA is in compliance although many of the locals are not. She advised us to contact Doug McDonnell and/or Natalie at ADAA for a packet to offer help.

Under new business, Linda Clark from Budget and Finance presented the proposed budget for 2012-2013. There were no questions concerning the proposed budget. The following will be nominated for ADAA awards from NCDAA; Linda Clark for Loyal Assistant Award, Dianne Gwaltney for Sunstar Clinical award, and Lynda Snider for the Sunstar Educator award. Deadline for nominations is June 30.

President Sell made the following announcements:

President's and Officers' Reception- President Sell's Suite 1006 at 5:30pm tonight

Officers Breakfast- Saturday morning at 8:30am in President Sell's suite 1006

NCDAA Board Meeting-Past Presidents Workshop- Aug. 18, 2012 at Dr. Bobby Elliott's office in Cary, NC. Topic to be announced.

Mirror Deadline-Sept. 1, 2012

Don't forget NC MOM's Projects- Upcoming dates

2012 ADAA Annual Conference- Oct. 18-20, 2012 San Francisco

See Joyce Baker for NCDAA storage needs

See Nanette for pictures for Historical

President Sell adjourned the BOARD MEETING at 9:56am.

RAP OF GAVEL.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
NCDAA Secretary



NCDAAs Opening Session/General Assembly

62nd Annual Session
Friday, May 18, 2012
Carol W. Sell, Presiding

President Sell called the General Assembly to order at 10:35AM.

President Sell extended a warm welcome to all in attendance and gave appreciation to the North Carolina Dental Society for providing continuing education. She encouraged everyone to take advantage of the continuing education and the NCDAAs meetings today.

Secretary Dianne Gwaltney lit the Memorial Candle, representing all NCDAAs members who are no longer with us.

Joyce Baker gave the invocation.

Nanette Hill and Judy Sigmon led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

The following special guests brought greetings to the 62nd Annual Session of NCDAAs:

Shelli Hinkson, President of the North Carolina Hygiene Association

Dr. Millard Webster, III, President of North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners

Dr. Francis G. Serio, Interim Vice Dean and Professor Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine

Claudia Pohl, President of American Dental Assistants Association

Nanette Hill, 4th District Trustee

President Sell recognized the NCDAAs Past Presidents in attendance. Those in attendance were Joyce Baker, Nanette Hill, Dianne Gwaltney, Kristy Eddleman, Judy Sigmon, Linda Clark, and Jackie Rion. She also recognized Life and Honorary members.

The ADAAs Vice President Lori Paschal was also in attendance. Lori resides in S. C.

Our pages, Kimberly Crawford and Natalie Jensen from Guilford Technical Community College, were the only students in attendance.

The business portion of the meeting began with President Sell making everyone aware that the Business Sessions are open to all members of this association who are officially registered and who are wearing the official badge.

Secretary Gwaltney read the Rules to Govern the 62nd Annual Session and made the motion to adopt these rules. (These rules were found in the official program.) The motion passed.

President Sell made the following Convention appointments:

Official HostessJudy Sigmon

Official TimekeeperLinda Kamp

Official PhotographerSusen Darst

Rita Millikan, Program Chairperson, presented the Official Program for the 62nd Annual Session, with corrections. She made a motion to accept the Official Program with corrections, with the right to make additional corrections as necessary. Motion passed.

Vice President Kelly Curtin introduced President Sell to present her President's Address.

Assistant Secretary Joyce Baker gave a registration report. She reported there are 272 dental assistants registered and 16 students, for a total of 288.

New Business:

Linda Clark, Budget & Finance Chairperson, presented the proposed budget for 2012-2013. Linda made a motion to adopt the proposed budget as presented. The motion passed and the budget was adopted.

Kristy Eddleman, chairperson for the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers for 2012-2013 as follows:

President	Rita Millikan
President-Elect.....	
Vice President	Linda Clark
Secretary	Dianne Gwaltney
Assistant Secretary.....	Doris Clapp
Treasurer.....	Kristy Eddleman
Immediate Past President.....	Carol Sell

Kristy reported that qualifications for each officer is on file. With no further nominations from the floor, there was a motion to elect the slate of officers as presented. The motion passed.

Following the election of officers, Nanette Hill, our Fourth District Trustee, gave her official report.

With no further business to come before the House, President Sell announced that we would break for the Past Presidents' Luncheon located in Suite #1510 in Brighton Towers. The afternoon session will resume at 2:00pm with the Awards Ceremony and Installation of Officers.

President Sell recognized Awards Chairperson, Dianne Gwaltney, to make presentations of the awards. The following Awards were presented:

The Joe Baker Cooperation Award	Winston Salem DAS
The Aileen Croom Membership Award	Blue Ridge DAS
NCDAAs Local Society Educational Program Award	Sandhills DAS
NCDAAs Volunteerism Award	Durham Orange DAS
The Ethel Earl Achievement Award.....	Susen Darst
The William H. Oliver Achievement Award.....	Carol Sell

Kristy Eddleman, Chairperson for the Edna Zedaker Scholarship Committee, presented awards to Juliana Washington from Guilford Tech and Rebecca Royal from Cape Fear Community College. Each one received a check for \$250. Kimberly Crawford also from Guilford Technical Community College was presented a \$50 check from ProConnect Resources.

Unfortunately, no scholarships were given out for the Faye J. Watkins, Scholarship of Merit. Also there were no applications for the Edna Zedaker Loyal Assistant Award.

President Sell expressed her appreciation to the following persons for their help in planning or participating in the 62nd NCDAA Annual Session: Nanette Hill, Linda Clark, Kelley Curtin, Rita Millikan, Joyce Baker, Dianne Gwaltney, Kristy Eddleman, Judy Sigmon, Linda Kamp, and Susen Darst.

The current officers vacated the head table to prepare for the Installation of the 2012-2013 NCDAA officers.

This meeting was officially adjourned at 2:51PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
NCDAA Secretary







NCDAA Post Convention Executive Board Meeting

Friday, May 18, 2012

Rita Millikan, President, Presiding

The meeting of the Post Convention Executive Board Meeting was called to order by President Rita Millikan at 2:52 pm.

Secretary Dianne Gwaltney called the roll and a quorum was present to conduct business.

President Millikan made the following Committee appointments:

Standing Committees

Judicial/Legislative	Deana Billings
Bylaws/Manual of Procedure.....	Linda Clark
Education.....	Linda Kamp
Budget/Finance	Linda Clark
Membership.....	Doris Clapp, Stephanie Garnuette

Special Committees

Program	Joyce Baker, Kelley Curtin
Convention	Linda Clark
Organizational	Joyce Baker
Awards.....	Dianne Gwaltney
Student Involvement	
Historical	Nanette Hill
Edna Zedaker Scholarship	Kristy Eddleman
Faye J. Watkins Scholarship of Merit	Susen Darst
NC Dental Foundation	
NC Committee for Dental Health	Nanette Hill
Website	Kristy Eddleman
Mirror	Susan Wilson
NC MOM's.....	Nanette Hill

Ways & Means

Nominating Committee

A motion was made to adopt these appointments with the right to made additions at the August Board meeting as necessary. The motion carried.

President Millikan informed us that ADAA had notified us that we are allowed 6 delegates to Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, Oct. 18-20, 2012. The delegation representing NCDAA will consist of President – Rita Millikan, Immediate Past President – Carol Sell, Vice-President – Linda Clark, Secretary – Dianne Gwaltney, Assistant Secretary – Doris Clapp, and Treasurer – Kristy Eddleman.

The following persons were nominated as Alternate Delegates to the Annual Conference: 1) Joyce Baker, 2) Kelley Curtin, and 3) Susen Darst. The nominations were approved.

The nomination for a State delegate to the NCDAA Executive Board will be addressed at the August 2012 Board meeting.

The nomination for a State delegate to the NCDAA Executive Board will be addressed at the August 2012 Board meeting.

President Millikan reminded local societies to send the following information to Secretary Dianne Gwaltney by June 15, 2012:

- List of Officers with addresses, phone numbers, emails
- List of Committees with addresses, phone numbers, emails
- Delegate and Alternate Delegate to NCDAA board meetings
- Please send 10 copies, or email information to:

Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
92 6th St. SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
drgwaltney@yahoo.com

By sending the above information, it will be easier to keep your local society informed so NCDAA can serve you properly as the need and information arises. This is also the way the Board chooses the recipient for the Cooperation Award each year. Dianne was able to personally hand out the form for this information to many of the locals represented.

President Millikan made the following announcements:

1. The next NCDAA Board Meeting, Past President's Workshop, will be Aug. 18, 2012, at Dr. Bobby Elliott's office in Cary, NC. with Dr. Elliott presenting our CE. Topic will be announced later.
2. Officers- please remember to exchange files prior to leaving this meeting
3. Presidents and Officers Reception today at 5:30-6:30 in Carol Sell's suite #1006. This is for everyone including guests and students. Please join us.
4. Breakfast Social, Saturday morning 8:30 am in Carol Sell's suite #1006.
5. ADAA Annual Conference Oct. 18-20, 2012
6. Mirror Deadline: Sept. 1, 2012 Please send info to Susan Wilson at blackeyedsusan@frontier.com
7. Don't forget the upcoming MOM's projects. Please make an effort to work at least one of these projects this year.

With no other business to come before the assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA
NCDAA Secretary

ADAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT



NAME OF TRUSTEE ___Nanette R Hill, CDA__August 2012_____

Board of Trustees Meeting Date ___July 13-15, 2012_____

Action taken by the Board of Trustees:

*2013 proposed Budget was presented by the Finance Chair and discussed.

*Student renewal membership continues to decline. The Student Trustees feels the renewal form is unclear, plus the students do not understand from the onset of their membership the graduated fee. A new student form is going to be developed.

*The Student Trustee, Jennifer Broyles is in the process of implementing ideas for better retention of the students.

*It was reported that the non-dues revenue (corporate sponsors) is higher than the dues revenue, coming to over 60%. We MUST increase membership if ADAA is to exist. ADAA has money available (\$1000) for membership efforts. See me or contact Doug at Central Office. Please use those funds and work on increasing our/your professional association.

*Each month a membership list is provided, it has been stressed to use it to contact the New Members and E-Members in some form, be creative.

*States are encouraged to make a contribution and recognition to our service men and women. The "Wounded Warriors and Wreaths Across America" are still worthwhile ideas.

*IRS! IRS! IRS! The end of the year is fast approaching. Compliance is necessary. Doug at Central Office is very willing to help.

*You are still encouraged to write articles for 24/7 and submit names of "Dental Assistants you should know".

*The ADAA/DANB Alliance is progressing.

*Don't forget your personal contributions to the ADAA Foundation. \$5, \$10 a month is not hard to do. FYI very few members contribute to the Foundation, 98% is from the corporations.

*If you need a gift-dental related- go to the ADAA e-store. www.cafepress.com/ADAA247. Groupons can be used for special pricing.

*Keep a check on the ADAA's website as it has many changes all the time, www.dentalassistant.org.

*If you are interested in serving on an ADAA Council let me know and I will submit your name or contact President Elect Carolyn Breen, a.s.a.p.! cbadaa@gmail.com.

*There is a separate page of information for the Delegates to this year's Annual Session.

Deadline dates from Board of Trustees Meeting for next Board Meeting
September 10 is my deadline for Annual Session; I will be contacting you for an update prior to that time.

It has been my sincere pleasure to represent you on the ADAA Board of Trustees, if there is anything you need please feel free to contact me. Nanette416@embarqmail.com.

SOCIETY NEWS

DURHAM-ORANGE DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

The Durham-Orange Dental Assistants Society won two awards for the year 2011-2012 at the NCDAA Annual Session held May 17-20 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina .

The Ethel Earl Achievement Award: Given to Susen Darst and sponsored by the family of Faye J. Watkins, this award will be presented to a member of the NCDAA, not on the Executive Committee, who in the opinion of the Executive Board has done the most outstanding work for the Association and for dental assistants.

NCDAA Volunteerism Award: Given to Durham-Orange Dental Assistants Society Sponsored by Carolyn C. Newman, this award is presented to a local society or active membership status individual for recognition of volunteer service to under-served populations for clinical, educational, or monetary support. This work is performed in the local community, state, or international levels of service.

There was also an article in The Dental Assistant Journal of The American Dental Assistants Association July/August 2012 issue about our award winning volunteer work.

The Durham-Orange Dental Assistants Society ended the 2011-2012 last June with our annual installation dinner at the Weathervane Restaurant. Our new officers are as follows: President: Susen Darst, Vice President: Cindy Moore, Secretary: Andrea Breeden, Treasurer: Susan Wilson and Immediate Past President: Charyl Allison.

Our society officers met over the summer to plan for the 2012-2013 year. We have a busy year planned with many exciting activities.

We will collect non-perishable foods at each meeting to fill our food basket which will be donated to the Food Pantry.

We planned our Children's Dental Health activity at The Ronald McDonald House in Durham for February 22nd at 1:00 pm. We will be collecting dental supplies at each meeting to stuff goodie bags.

At our first meeting at Bennet Point Grill in Durham members voted to donate money to ‘Smile Train’ for funding a life-changing cleft lip/cleft palate surgery during the Christmas Holiday. Members and students attending our Annual Christmas Dinner Celebration at The Angus Barn will bring a new, unwrapped toy which will be donated to ‘Toys for Tots’. We also voted to make a donation to help with the new wing at the Ronald McDonald House.

We fund two scholarships, The Faye Watkins Scholarship: The UNC Dental Assisting Student must attend a minimum of two (2) DODAS monthly meetings prior to the deadline date of December 31st when they submit their letter. The letter must state why the student chose dental assisting as their profession and what their future plans are once they graduate. The student can e-mail or snail mail: Susen Darst, Chairperson at: susensellshomes@aol.com or 616 Village Lake Dr., Mebane, NC 27302

The Susen H. Darst Leadership Scholarship: The UNC Dental Assisting Student must attend a minimum of three (3) DODAS monthly meetings and volunteer time at our Children’s Dental Health Month project or another community project we may have during the year prior to the month of March when the scholarship is given. The Scholarship Committee Chairperson will notify the UNC Dental Assisting Program Director with the list of students who have met these requirements and she along with her staff and the input of the DODAS officers will determine the recipient each year. Additionally, we fund The Most Active Student Award and present UNC Dental Assisting students awards for the first, second and third best Table Clinics.

We are looking forward to an active and exciting year.
For more information please visit our website www.dodas.org.

WINSTON SALEM DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

Our first official meeting was Tuesday, September 11 but we also had an informal social gathering a couple weeks ago with the intent of meeting and welcoming new Assistants in our area to the Society. There were approximately 15 people who attended, of which 6 people had never attended a society meeting, so we count that as a huge success! We have several members who are planning to volunteer their time and talents at the NCMOMS clinic in Greensboro, November 16th/17th. We established a Facebook page for our Society last Fall and have seen a tremendous increase in the number “Friends” that have joined our page. Here is the link to our page if you care to take a peek:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/168970533183211/>

Thanks,

Stephanie Garnuette, CDA

President- WSDAS

336-782-1540

Programs 2012-2013

Please note all meetings are not the 2nd Tuesday of every month. All meetings begin at 6:00 at FTCC, Bob Green Hall 278 or 139 (with the exception of Margarita Night and our Picnic)

August 23rd: Social Gathering-Margarita Night
Mi Pueblo on Stratford Road, W-S
5:00pm to 7:00pm

September 11th:
(1 CE) BGH 278 Speaker: Ms. Sarah Schneider
Topic: Ergonomics, Stress, and
Yoga in the Dental Office

October 16th: Joint Meeting w/ RDH Society
(2 CE) BGH 139 Speaker: Dr. Valerie Murrah
Topic: "Osteonecrosis as a Result
of Medications Used to Treat
Osteoporosis"

November 13th:
(1 CE) BGH 278 Speaker: Corporal M.K. Calcutt,
WSPD Support Services Bureau
Crime Prevention Unit
Topic: Drug Awareness and
Recognition

December/ January: No Meetings (Happy Holidays!)

February 12th: Joint Meeting w/ RDH Society
(2 CE) BGH 139 Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Peavy
Topic: Periodontal Laser Surgery

March 12th:
(2 CE) BGH 278 Speaker: Ms. Ruth Ann Alexander
from Proctor & Gamble
Topic: Team Building to Increase
Patient Satisfaction and Loyalty

April 9th:
(1 CE) BGH 278 Speakers: Dr. Bill Blaylock, Director
NC Missions of Mercy
Mr. James Robinson, Exec. Dir.
Community Care Center of W-S
Topic: "Volunteerism"

May 14th: Family Social and Picnic
Location: TBA

Become a "Friend" on Facebook for updates and other valuable information. Just type 'Winston Salem Dental Assistants Society' in the search field.

Association Executives of North Carolina

Success

B Y A S S O C I A T I O N

**North Carolina
Missions of
Mercy Program
Helps Thousands**

**The Case for Advocacy
Steering the Stormy Seas
of North Carolina Politics
The Paralysis of Political
Correctness**

Associations Giving Back

Dentists on a Mission: North Carolina Missions of Mercy Program Helps Thousands Stop Hurting

By Lisa Ward, Director of Communications and Government Affairs for the North Carolina Dental Society

Answering a need. Thousands of North Carolinians suffer from oral disease and decay because they can't afford regular dental care. Their circumstances differ, but their need is the same – relief from the pain that affects their work, how they eat, and whether they can sleep at night. Recognizing the need, the North Carolina Dental Society, through its North Carolina Dental Health Fund, took on responsibility for the North Carolina Missions of Mercy (NCMOM) portable free dental program.

The goal of the program is simple: to provide free dental services to those in financial need with few or no other options. Dr. Alec Parker, Executive Director of the North Carolina Society, says, "We work on many levels to provide access to care for the people who need it, from advocating for Medicaid for adult dental care to collaborating with statewide organizations to add dental care to their mix of healthcare services. Our NCMOM is one of our most visible efforts, and it really showcases the need for comprehensive solutions to the problem of access to dental care."

A close up look. Each year, the NCMOM X-ray truck and vans carrying equipment, supplies, and volunteers travel to locations around the state and set up portable dental clinics. In a typical year, NCMOM clinics will be held at 12-13 sites in North Carolina with additional clinics held in surrounding

states. The size of the clinics varies. In small towns, the dentists may treat 200-300 patients over a two-day weekend, while as many as 2,500 patients may be treated at a clinic held in an urban area.

All patients at an NCMOM project are examined by a licensed dentist to determine their most critical needs. Based on the examination, tooth extractions, tooth fillings, or teeth cleaning will be performed. At some clinics with dental lab services, partials for front teeth also can be cast and fit.

Currently, NCMOM has enough equipment to set up an 80-chair full dental clinic including digital x-ray, sterilization, and all instrumentation and supplies.

The days are long for both patients and volunteers. Patients often begin lining up the night before the clinic, camping out in the parking lots and on sidewalks in an effort to get help. The day starts early, with registration beginning at 5 a.m. and triage beginning at 6 a.m. Regrettably, not all patients waiting in line will be seen. At a given time each morning, a volunteer shuts down the line and the rest of the individuals leave in hopes of being seen at a future clinic. "We are able to gauge the number of patients we can treat based on the number of chairs set up and the number of dentists we have, so we can at least keep a lot of folks from waiting in vain for treatment," Dr. Bill Blaylock, Clinical Director of NCMOM says. "But it really hurts to turn



people away. That's the worst part—to know we can't help everyone who needs it."

A deep commitment to care. The NCMOM program is a grassroots effort, dependent on dentist and community volunteers with funding from grants and donations. Dr. Blaylock states, "The volunteers include dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, laboratory technicians, and scores of professional and general volunteers from across the state.

Additionally, the program enjoys a good relationship with the UNC School of Dentistry and ECU School of Dental Medicine through their student volunteer organizations. Dental students participate as volunteer providers during each clinic and are an important part of the overall program. We literally couldn't do it without the groundswell of support from all of our volunteers. Volunteering at a Missions of Mercy project is truly a soul-satisfying experience because it comes from the goodness of your own heart, with no expectation of receiving anything in return."

A look at the numbers. From 2003 through 2011, the NCMOM program has held 88 two-day clinics across North Carolina, providing over \$14.5 million in free dental care to more than 37,000 people. And the program is on track to help thousands more in 2012.

As successful as the clinics are, the North Carolina Dental Society hopes to eventually put the NCMOM program out of business. "NCMOM is doing a terrific job, but it's a temporary fix for a long-term problem," Dr. Parker explains. "Our ultimate goal is to replace the portable NCMOM clinics with sustainable community dental solutions. And with the commitment of our members, community leaders, and legislators, we're confident we can make it happen." ☼



Working-on-pt: Dental team members help relieve pain and restore function for a patient with severe decay at a recent NCMOM clinic.



80-chairs: Treatment stations, volunteers, and patients fill the Charlie Rose Agri-Expo Center at the June 2012 NCMOM clinic in Fayetteville.

Donations to support the North Carolina Missions of Mercy projects may be made online, or by mail with this form:
www.ncdental.org/images/ncds/Donations.pdf