North Carolina Dental Assistants Association Spring 2011



Greetings!

It is time once again for our Annual Session in Myrtle Beach! The NCDS is sponsoring some great opportunities for all. There is a host of continuing education programs, receptions, time to visit with your vendors and some new ones, and even a dance with beach music! The most exciting event to me is the NCDAA Annual Session with lots of activities for all. We will have a business meeting and installation of the new officers, there will be a Past-President's luncheon and you can still purchase tickets, a President's reception and also a breakfast. I would like to extend an invitation for everyone to come; you do not have to be an officer to attend. Come as a delegate of your local society or as a visitor. This would be a great time for you to check out the voice for your profession and to experience what this organization has to offer. Bring your thoughts and ideas and join us. Don't forget to stop at our table and say hello.

Please be sure and check out our ever changing website, it is awesome, with great new pictures and a list of upcoming events. Thanks to Kristy and her husband for the wonderful changes! Also let me thank all of the truly wonderful officers and committee members that I have worked with this past year. I could not have done it without you! I am very proud of representing this professional organization. See you in sunny Myrtle Beach! Sincerely,

Carol W. Sell, CDA NCDAA President

Officers 2010-2011

<u>President</u>

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

<u>Vice President</u>

Kelley Curtin, CDA 320 Hillbert Road Rockwell, N. C. 28138 704-279-8296 H 704-239-1184 C blndkaufe1@aol.com

President Elect

Secretary

Joyce Baker 1114 Maple Drive Newton, N. C. 28658 828-294-0937 H 828-328-5581 W 828-320-3011 C 828-322-1745 F jbaker88@embargmail.com

Assistant Secretary Rita Millikan, CDA

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

<u>Treasurer</u> 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 919-971-4086 C 919-556-6295 F nanette416@embargmail.com

Immediate Past President Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA

92 6th St. SW Taylorsville, NC 28681 828-635-1081 H 828-322-4627 W 828-310-6077 C thegwaltneys@bellsouth.net

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 <u>The2thFxr@aol.com</u> www.the2thfxr.com

Visit the NCDAA website at: <u>www.ncdentalassistant.org</u> For more information contact <u>kristy@edata-charlotte.com</u>

Related websites: **American Dental Assistants Assoc.** <u>www.dentalassistant.org</u> **Dental Assisting National Board** <u>www.danb.org</u> **North Carolina Dental Society** <u>www.ncdental.org</u>

All State and Local components are required to file with the IRS as of the year beginning 1/1/07. For more information go to <u>www.irs.gov/eo</u> or see Sept/Oct Journal article pg. 18: IRS Electronic Notice Filing Requirement



Special Committees

<u>Awards</u>

Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA 92 6th St. SW

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<u>Faye Watkins</u>

Charyl Allison, CDA 5933 Cole Mill Road Durham, NC 27712 919-383-8634 H 919-810-8826 C 919-967-2030 or 245-2441W asmile2nv@aol.com

<u>NC Committee for Dental Health</u> Nanette Hill, CDA (See Info Above)

Program

Student Involvement

Convention Kelley Curtin, CDA 320 Hillbert Road Rockwell, N. C. 28138 704-279-8296 H 704-239-1184 C blndkaufe1@aol.com

<u>Historical</u>

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NC Dental Foundation

Charyl Allison, CDA (See Info Above)

Website 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

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

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Standing Committees

Budget/Finance

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Judicial/Legislative Deana Billings

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ByLaws/Manual of Procedures Linda Clark, CDA (See Info Above)

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

Education



NORTH CAROLINA DENTAL SOCIETY 155TH ANNUAL SESSION

May 19-22, 2011 - Embassy Suites Kingston Plantation Resort Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

A time to visit with professional colleagues (dental and medical), enjoy the beach and participate in some of the best Continuing Education offered in 2011. 18 hours of CEUs available at this meeting.

To download NCDAA Annual Session Pre-Registration Form go to http://www.customreg.com/generalreg21/?show=ncds_052011 To download NCDAA Annual Session Schedule of Events go to http://www.ncdental.org/ncds/NCDS_Annual_Session1.asp?SnID=696799760

The Mirror Spring 2011 NC DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

From the Desk of the NCDAA President:

I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to the North Carolina Dental Society's and the North Carolina Dental Assistant Association's Annual Sessions in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. I would like to remind you of some of the exciting and rewarding events that are taking place at this meeting. Please attend as many as possible and plan to come back in 2012 for those you missed this year. There are many excellent continuing education programs for you to take advantage of sponsored by the NCDS. This meeting is a wonderful time to meet and visit with all the exhibitors of the products you see in your offices every day. There are also business meetings, luncheons, and receptions to attend.



For all the dental assistants and dental assistant students, I hope to see you at the NCDAA business sessions so you can learn more about your association and the voice

representing its members. Don't forget to visit the NCDAA display table in Cambridge Hall to learn more about what membership in ADAA and NCDAA has to offer. Also the Dental Assisting National Board will be an exhibitor at Booth 10, please stop and speak to the representatives.

I would like to thank the NCDS for sponsoring this wonderful event and also to thank my officers and committee members that have been my right hand this year. I could not have completed the job without each and every one of you and your support and dedication. I am confident this support will continue with each incoming President and officer. A special thank-you goes to Dr. Bobby Elliott for his valuable support and leadership as advisor to the NCDAA.

Go and enjoy all that is offered!

Sincerely, Carol W. Sell, CDA NCDAA President

NCDAA 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, May 19, 2011

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. NCDAA Registration – Embassy Suites/Cambridge Hall 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon NCDS Continuing Education – Embassy Suites 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. NCDS Continuing Education – Embassy Suites 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open – Embassy Suites 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. NCDAA Executive Committee Meeting – President C. Sell's Suite

Friday, May 20, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. NCDAA Registration – Embassy Suites/Cambridge Hall 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. NCDAA Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting – Palladium C Room (Brighton Tower) 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon NCDAA Opening Session/ General Assembly - Palladium C Room (Brighton Tower)

12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.
NCDAA Luncheon Honoring Past Presidents –Bally Moneen Room (Brighton Tower)
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
General Assembly continued –
Awards
Installation of Officers
Post Convention Executive Board Meeting
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

President's and Officers Reception – President C. Sell's Suite

Saturday, May 21, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Presidents and Officers Breakfast Social – President C. Sell's Suite 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon NCDS Continuing Education – Embassy Suites

Convention Committee News

Once again it is time to prepare for the NCDAA Annual Session in Myrtle Beach, S. C. One of the highlights during this session is the presentation of awards. Please see the enclosed information to nominate members from your local society this year. Please consider this list of awards for a deserving individual from your local society.

To allow enough time for nominations to be considered before Annual Session please return your nominations to me at the information below, by April 30, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact me by email, work, or cell phone.

Please remind the student members in your local society to apply for the scholarship awards given each year. Their instructors should have that information.

The NCDAA Luncheon Honoring Past Presidents of NCDAA will be held on Friday, May 20, 2011, at 12:00 Noon. You must pre-register for this event by contacting me at 828-310-6077. The cost of the luncheon is \$25 for members; Past Presidents and Students is \$15. Please make checks payable to the NCDAA Past Presidents and send this to me as well. Also, if you would like to donate door prizes for the luncheon, please let me know.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, and also seeing you at our Annual Session.

Sincerely,

Dianne R. Gwaltney, CDA NCDAA Awards Committee Chairperson 92 6th St. SW Taylorsville, NC 28681 828-310-6077 (cell) 828-322-4627 (work) drgwaltney@yahoo.com



NCDAA ANNUAL SESSION AWARDS

THE EDNA ZEDAKER LOYAL ASSISTANT AWARD, sponsored by the Past President's Council, will be presented to the member of NCDAA present at Annual Session Awards Ceremony, who submits the longest record of consecutive employment, with one employer, providing she has not previously received the award. (The term of consecutive employment shall refer to an assistant actually employed by, but not married to her employer). A notorized statement giving the date of original employment and stating that she has been a member of the NCDAA for at least 2 years must be given to NCDAA Secretary of her society. It must be signed by her employer and the President and Secretary of her local society. It must be 2 consecutive years just prior to application of the award, that he or she has been a member of NCDAA.

THE WILLIAM H. OLIVER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, sponsored by Linda W. Clark, will be presented to the member, who in the opinion of the Executive Board has done the most outstanding work for NCDAA and for dental assistants.

THE ETHEL EARL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, sponsored by the Family of Faye J. Watkins, 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.

THE CHARLOTTE LABORATORY AWARD will be presented to the society having the largest percentage of members registered at the Annual Session.

THE JOE BAKER COOPERATION AWARD will be presented to the local society that has given the best cooperation to the officers and committees. The Executive Committee will recommend a society to be approved by the Executive Board.

THE AILEEN CROOM MEMBERSHIP AWARD will be presented to the local society having the largest percentage of increase in active membership since the close of the last Annual Session of NCDAA.

THE HARRY LEMMONS MEMBERSHIP AWARD will be presented to the local society with the second largest percentage of increase in active membership since the close of the last Annual Session of NCDAA.

NCDAA LOCAL SOCIETY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AWARD will be presented to the local society submitting the best educational program for at least six regular meetings of the current year.



NCDAA VOLUNTEERISM AWARD, sponsored by Carolyn C. Newman, will be presented to a local society or active membership status individual for recognition of volunteer service to underserved populations for clinical, educational, or monetary support. This work is performed in the local community, state, or international levels of service.

THE EDNA ZEDAKER SCHOLARSHIP of \$100.00 will be presented to a student enrolled in a Dental Assisting Program. The selection is made by the Scholarship Committee.

THE FAYE J. WATKINS, CDA, SCHOLARSHIP OF MERIT, sponsored by NCDAA, will be presented to a student member of NCDAA who attends an accredited Dental Assisting School in the state of North Carolina. The student must exhibit professionalism, leadership qualities, a commitment to the profession of Dental Assisting and a commitment to community service.

NCDAA - Edna Zedaker Scholarship Award

The Edna Zedaker Scholarship Award is a monetary award based on need and academic achievement. All Students in Dental Assisting Schools in North Carolina are eligible to apply.

The deadline for applications is May 5, 2011.

Edna was a Certified Dental Assistant in Charlotte, NC. She worked with Dr. Burt Fox for her entire career. She was a Past-President of the American Dental Assistants Association and a Past President of the North Carolina Dental Assistants Association. She held Certification #1 from the Dental Assistant National Board.

Her career was spent caring for her patients and friends. She was a dear lady who did a lot for organized Dentistry during her career.

If you need information on the Edna Zedaker Scholarship. Contact: Kristy Eddleman at <u>kristy@edata-charlotte.com</u>



NCDAA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING November 20, 2010 Carol Sell, CDA Presiding



President Sell called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

President Sell extended a warm welcome to everyone in attendance, with special recognition of persons attending their first board meeting. The person attending their first board meeting was, Tammy Glover, from Tri-County DAS.

She was welcomed and was encouraged to attend future board meetings.

President Sell introduced the current NCDAA Officers in attendance, with special welcome to Nanette Hill, CDA, our ADAA Fourth District Trustee.

Secretary, Joyce Baker called the roll and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Correspondence was presented by President Sell. One of the things she brought to our attention was sending cards to our Military. Nanette had brought cards for those present to sign and be sent. President Sell also expressed her appreciation to each one who participated in the NCDS Missions of Mercy this year. She gave a brief review of the Missions of Mercy at Kill Devil Hills.

Treasurer's report was given by Kristy Eddleman and placed on file for audit. She reported balances of: Checking \$1303.81

| Checking | \$1303.81 |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Edna Zedaker Scholarship | 676.90 |
| Faye Watkins Scholarship | 1403.15 |
| Savings | 2407.39 |
| | |

Secretary Baker gave highlights of the Minutes of the August Board Meeting. Following corrections the minutes were approved.

President Sell informed us that her report from Annual Session will be on the website and also in the next issue of the Mirror.

Standing Committee Reports:

Judicial & Legislative – Deana Billings reported that on behalf of this committee she corresponded with Nancy Fetter, Cape Fear Community College, Dr. Gary Oyster, Legislative Chair of NCDS, and Dr. Bob Plage, NC Dental Society Board of Trustees and Chairman of the ADA Delegation, concerning discussions with NCDS in regards to Expanded Functions Dental Assistant training programs and access to care. Ms. Fetter said one of her recommendations was that this program be offered only to dental assistants that already have experience of working in a dental office. They would go back for additional training. She said this was discussed with the administration at CFCC, however, is waiting on unanswered questions and support from the North Carolina Dental Society.



Dr. Plage said he felt like the Dental Society was definitely interested in more discussions, however, they had been tied up with assuming control of the MOM project. He also felt NCDS was waiting on ADA and what position they would take nationally

However, he and Dr. Oyster did say that a letter from NCDAA to Dr. Robert Hollowell, President-Elect, would be a great next step. They suggested we write the letter and send it before January, which is when the next NCDS Trustee Meeting will be held. Deana believes that NCDAA needs to restate our official position and give them the names of our members that was appointed to that Special Task Force by Past President, Dianne Gwaltney, last year. That committee consists of Dianne Gwaltney, Charyl Allison and Lynda Snider. Deana Billings was also asked to join this NCDAA Task Force. This committee will continue to monitor the progress regarding EFDA.

Bylaws/Manual of Procedures - No Report

Membership – Rita Millikan sent a report showing total membership, as of November, is 455. This includes paying members and the new e-membership. She encouraged the Local Societies to contact e-members to get them involved in local society meetings.

Budget & Finance - No Report

 ${\bf Education}-{\rm No}\;{\rm Report}$

Special Committee Reports

Program – With the absence of a President-Elect, there was discussion about our Program Booklet for Annual Session. A program committee was appointed to come up with a decision about the Program Booklet. Those serving on this committee are Dianne Gwaltney, Kristy Eddleman, and President, Carol Sell.

Organizational – No Report

Awards – No Report

Convention – No Report

 ${\bf Student\ Involvement}-No\ Report$

Historical – Please send any pictures or historical items to Nanette Hill.

 ${\bf Edna}\; {\bf Zedaker}\; {\bf Scholarship} - {\rm No}\; {\rm Report}$

 $Faye \ Watkins \ Scholarship - No \ Report$

NC Dental Foundation - No Report

NC Committee for Dental Health – No Report

Mirror – Please send Susan Wilson any information for the Mirror at blackeyedsusan@frontier.com. Information deadline for the Mirror is January 15, 2011.

Website – Kristy will be working on updates. She posted the November Meeting on the Home Page and provided directions.

Ways & Means – President Sell gave a report, listing the items for sale at the Annual Session in Orlando. NCDAA received \$274.00 from the sale of the items Carol provided. She also has jewelry available at our Board Meetings for those interested.

Unfinished Business

Local Societies were asked to make sure we have information about officers or at least a contact person. Please send this information to Secretary Baker.

President Sell was encouraged to attend the Educators meeting April 6 -8, 2011, to get support for the Student Involvement Committee.

New Business

Kristy Eddleman was asked to send a donation of \$90.00 to Wreaths Across America, which would possibly buy 3 wreaths and get 2 free. She will check further on this, before sending the donation.

President Sell asked everyone to check the "Missions of Mercy" dates for 2011 on the NCDS website. This website can be found on the Links of NCDAA website. We were all encouraged to participate in as many as possible. These events have been very rewarding for those who have participated in the past. Several NCDAA members traveled to Kill Devil Hills in October. President Sell reported that 902 patients were seen at Kill Devil Hills and there was \$358,700.00 in donated services.

President Sell asked Kristy to change the picture on the Home Page of the NCDAA website. Dianne Gwaltney said she had pictures that could be used.

The March Board Meeting date will be announced when the speaker arrangements have been made.

President Sell received an email from Cynthia Bradley, Military Liaison to ADAA. She was asking that we send as much correspondence as possible to the military. Many do not receive any correspondence.

President Sell open the meeting for discussion for suggestions and ideas to help NCDAA draw more interest and attendance to our Continuing Education and Board Meetings. Topics of interest were:

- How can we interest the students and get their attendance and involvement?
- How can we get the attention of Educators and their interest also?
- What topics of CE would be of interest?
- What dates would work for everyone we want to attend?
- Where would be the best location for the meetings?

One suggestion was that President Sell contact the educators and try to attend their Spring meeting to inform them and invite them to NCDAA meetings. Joyce Baker was asked to come up with some ideas for a "Goodie Bag" to be delivered to students by various NCDAA members or local societies. There was discussion about the many different projects that each Dental Assisting Class has during the year.

Nanette Hill offered to contact Debra Inglehart-Nash about finding a speaker for our March meeting. We decided a good topic would be "SPICE/Medical Emergencies", since all offices and schools are required to take the SPICE training. Lynda Snider said we could have the meeting at GTCC, however, if we charge for the meeting, we will have to pay \$250 for the room. Nanette said we could possibly have the meeting in Charlotte, at the Nash facility.

Lynda Snider also said she could contact Stacy McCally with Sonicare about a CE of one to four hours. Lynda said she does not charge for the CE.

Deana Billings offered to organize the meeting when we acquire a speaker.

March 11th and 12th was discussed as dates for the March meeting.

The discussion also included possible restructure of NCDAA and how we hold our meetings. There was a suggestion that the Executive Committee meet and discuss this further before the May dental meeting at Myrtle Beach, SC.

Announcements:

- 1. Mirror deadline, January 15, 2011, please email or send information to Susan Wilson at blackeyedsusan@frontier.com.
- 2. See President Sell for Stationery
- 3. Please participate in NCDS "Missions of Mercy" in 2011.
- 4. Please watch our website for more definite information about the March Board Meeting and CE.
- 5. See Joyce Baker for storage needs.

With no further business to come before this board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectively Submitted, Joyce H. Baker, CDA Secretary, NCDAA





ADAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE ORLANDO AWARDS AND PHOTOS

Joyce H. Baker, CDA, of 1114 Maple Dr., Newton, NC was awarded the ADAA Sunstar Americas Pride Award for Business Assistant at the Awards Ceremony at Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida in October, 2010. Joyce has been employed by Dr. Coke Gunter of Hickory, for the past 19 years. Joyce obtained her certification in 1990, and has been a member of ADAA since 1985. She has held all positions in her local society (Tri-County) many times and is one of the main reasons that her local has not disbanded. She is also very active in the state association and has also served in most of the officer positions more than once. She served as NCDAA President from 2000-2001, and is currently serving as Secretary of NCDAA. Joyce has also served as delegate to ADAA Annual Conference numerous times. Joyce has such a passion for the dental assisting profession and is a great representative of our association. We are very proud of her and her accomplishments.

Joyce and her husband, Lynn, reside in Newton, NC. Joyce has 3 grown daughters who are all married and 4 grandchildren.



Rita D. Millikan, CDA, was awarded the New Member Involvement Award by the ADAA at Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida in October, 2010. Rita has been a dental assistant for 23 ½ years. She worked 12 years in a private general practice and has been employed by the Richmond County Health Department Dental Clinic for the past 12 1/2 years. She received her DANB certification in November, 2002, and joined the ADAA in 2007. Rita started a new local, Sandhills Dental Assistants Society in 2008. She has served as president of her local and assistant secretary of NCDAA for the past 2 years. Rita has also served as a delegate to Annual Conference the last 2 years. Rita and her husband have been married 35 years and have 2 children , a son and a daughter, and one grandson. When she is not working, she enjoys working in her yard and camping. Congratulations to Rita! We're very proud of you and your enthusiasm for our profession.

A good time was had by all. To see more photos click here!



NC Missions Of Mercy Schedule

North Carolina Dental Assistant Association and North Carolina Dental Society invites you to participate in the NC Missions of Mercy

Dear Members,

In this issue of the NCDAA Mirror is a list of the 2011 planned NCMOM Clinics all across our state. Dental Assistants are greatly needed to help in a variety of functions during these clinic weekends. You can volunteer for one or both of the days. They are planned for Fridays and Saturdays. I guarantee you will be very impressed and personally rewarded.

Go to the website to fill out the volunteer form: www.ncdental.org.

Thank you for your consideration. Nanette R. Hill, CDA Nanette416@embargmail.com

May 13-14 Laurinburg (L) St. Andrews College 700 Dogwood Mile Street Laurinburg, NC 28352

June 24-25 **Sparta (L) (DS)** Alleghany High School 404 Trojan Ave., Sparta, NC 28675

July 8-9 **Reidsville (L) (DS)** Reidsville Christian Church 2020 South Park Dr. Reidsville, NC 27320

August 19-20 Charlotte TBA

September 16-17 Asheville (L) TBA

October 28-29 **Dare Co. (DS)** Dare County Parks & Rec.Center 602 Mustian St Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

November 11-12 **Greensboro** Greensboro Coliseum

Raleigh Clinic yet to be determined

(L) Cinics with lab services offered. (DS) Clinics with UNC dental student participation.



DENTAL ASSISTING: A REWARDING CAREER

Dental assisting is a misunderstood profession. If you ask most people they will say that the dental assistant "helps the dentist" or "cleans teeth". Not too many people realize the extent of the dental assistant's responsibilities in the dental office. A dental practice is made up several individuals who work together as a team to provide comprehensive dental care for the patient. Each person has certain responsibilities that enhance and compliment the other members of the team. The practice runs smoothly when each individual does his or her job well and understands his or her role as a vital part of the office. The dental assistant is a very important member of the team.

Dental assistants are usually the first people with whom patients interact when contacting a dental office. Dental receptionists are dental assistants since their job requires that they know the dental procedures and how much time is needed to schedule for each procedure. Dental assistants take office practice management courses, which train them in public relations, computer software skills, accounting, and insurance filing. Dentists are looking for a person who likes people and has a pleasant personality with a smile in his or her voice, because this person determines the prospective patient's first impression of the office.

Most people are not too pleased about visiting a dentist. They are apprehensive about the procedures. A dental assistant's job requires him or her to be able to calm and reassure nervous and anxious patients. The dental assistant needs to understand the procedures and be able to explain how they will be done in simple, non-threatening terms. He or she needs to be a teacher as well as a counselor to each patient.

The dental assistant is the person who ensures that the instruments used in a dental office are sterile and prepared for each procedure. He or she cleans and disinfects the room after the procedures to prepare for the next patient. A large part of the job is to prevent cross-contamination between patients or between patients and the employees of the dental office. Dental assistants provide dentists two extra hands by sitting and working chairside with them throughout each procedure; handing instruments when needed; mixing the necessary materials; and ensuring that all instruments and materials are ready for use. When a dentist and dental assistant work together the procedure can be accomplished efficiently in a short period of time.

Dental assistants have many duties and work in many different types of dental practices. They take x-rays, place sealants, apply fluoride, and polish teeth in pediatric practices. They adjust appliances and take and pour impressions, trim models, take photographs, and expose x-rays in orthodontic practices. They can make temporary crowns, assist with taking impressions, and pour models in prosthodontic practices. They assist with surgical procedures in periodontic and oral surgery practices. No matter where they work, dental assistants are responsible for educating the patients about caring for the oral cavity before and after dental procedures.

Dental assistants can become certified by taking a national test administered by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB). Certification through DANB is accepted throughout the United States. The Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) maintains her certification by taking twelve (12) hours of continuing education a year. By becoming a CDA the dental assistant is demonstrating a commitment to the profession, his or her co-workers, and patients.



To become a dental assistant you can be on-the-job trained, but many dentists do not have the time or the inclination to train their assistants. They prefer to hire an assistant who has completed an ADA accredited program. The American Dental Association (ADA), dentistry's professional organization, has set up accreditation guidelines for dental assisting programs. These programs are required to follow the guidelines and must be reviewed every seven years by the ADA to maintain their accreditation. If you are interested in a challenging career where you can be a counselor, educator, and highly skilled assistant to a dedicated health professional, please contact an ADA accredited program for more information. You can find a list of dental assisting accredited programs in North Carolina at http://ncdentalassistant.org/.

Submitted by: Dianne Keyser, CDA, MAED Dental Assisting Instructor Wake Technical Community College 2901 Holston Lane Raleigh, NC 27610 919 747-0028

BIO: Dianne has been a dental assisting instructor at Wake Technical Community College for 8 years. Before becoming an instructor she worked as a dental assistant in private practice and public health for 23 years. She is a member of the American Dental Assistants Association, North Carolina Dental Assistants Association and Wake County Dental Assistants Society as well as the North Carolina Community College Faculty Association and Wake Tech Faculty Association.



Society News

DURHAM-ORANGE DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

DODAS held monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Pomodoro Italian Kitchen in Durham, NC. Vice President Carolyn Curin scheduled a superb variety of CE speakers. One of our presenters, Dr. Albert Guckes, "reeled" us through the history of dentistry displayed through motion picture from silent movies to present day. The number was amazing and most interesting to see how dentists and their assistants can be depicted!

With the generous contributions of our local patrons DODAS was able to provide assistance to the Durham Rescue Mission and the Christmas Share program to aid those in need during the holidays. The Smile Train which provides care to international children with craniofacial malformations and cleft pallet defects was another organization DODAS was also able to provide support to its mission. Special projects this year included a monthly donation of canned food items to the local food banks and sending Christmas cards to wounded soldiers and those in active service around the world.

DODAS supports the UNC School of Dentistry Dental Assistant Program providing scholarships for its students. A Table Clinic Exhibition was sponsored and organized by DODAS held at UNC on March 25. Winners received certificates and a monetary award. We congratulate the following recipients.

Faye Watkins Scholarship – Jane Wade

Susen Darst Leadership – Melissa Lassiter

Table Clinic 1st place

– Minjee Shoemaker

2nd place – KaShana Small & Courtney Johnson

3rd place – Lauren Williams

Officers and the operating budget for 2011/12 were voted on at our April meeting. We look forward to another successful year and wish our new officers the best.

Special thanks goes to all of our patrons who make all that we do possible and to our speakers who provided our monthly CE programs. We also thank the Pomodoro Italian Kitchen for allowing us to use their private dining space at no charge for our meetings.

Madge Webster, BSRT, R, CDA President DODA





The Mirror

Spring 2011



SANDHILLS DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

The Sandhills Dental Assistants Society has been holding regular monthly meetings at Montgomery Community College. We have continued to have some great speakers and our attendance has averaged around 10 per meeting. I'm still excited about our growth and the continued support for the local society.We have started an Endowed Scholarship fund for the society. The Scholarship Committee at the college is handling all the details and sending out letters of support and donations to all the local dentist. The society set up the guidelines and qualifications for the scholarship. We are hoping to have enough money raised to start next year giving a \$500.00 or two \$250.00 scholarships. We continue to grow and learn and hopefully the NCDAA and the ADAA will continue to offer support also.

Respectfully submitted, Rita Millikan, CDA Immediate Past President Sandhills Dental Assistants Society

CELEBRATING DENTAL ASSISTANTS WEEK

"..I couldn't have done that without you!..." How many times have we as dentists shared that thought with our Dental Assistants? I hope your answer is "often".

We all enjoy being acknowledged for hard work and dedication and it's that recognition that fosters a sense of pride and accomplishment for our TEAM members. Dental Assistants enhance the quality of dental health care and are critical members of our office families. The role of Dental Assistants has evolved over the years, with assistants now involved in many aspects of an often busy and successful dental practice. Detailed information can be found at www.dentalassistant.org.

Robert D. Elliott, D.M.D., M.S. Diplomate, American Board of Pediatric Dentistry Advisor, North Carolina Dental Assistants Association

