

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Judith Zann, CDA, RDA
CDAA PRESIDENT



Once again we are bringing in a New Year with new challenges for our Association and Profession. January can be a very busy time for all of us and we can easily feel overwhelmed. At times like this, I am reminded of advice that was given to me during a recent Catamaran trip on the coast of Kaua'i, Look to the horizon. I found this advice physically comforting while riding the ocean's waves and I find it mentally comforting as I prepare to ride out the challenges that lie ahead. CDAA addressed many challenges in 2006 and there are more to meet in the upcoming year. The strength of CDAA comes from You, the members and we are thankful for your support.

At the September Board of Directors Meeting it was announced that Jann Dobbie would no longer be able to continue in her capacity as secretary of CDAA and a letter of resignation had been received. We are sorry to see Jann go, but she has

informed us that she would like the opportunity to serve again in the future. In light of this vacancy, Ruby Roach volunteered to carry on with the responsibilities and was voted into the office of Secretary by the CDAA Board of Directors. Ruby is no stranger to the CDAA Board and has held many positions in the past, including the office of president. Her dedication to CDAA and the profession of dental assisting is to be admired. CDAA exists because of people like Ruby who are willing to step in when needed and give their time to promote and advance dental assisting in the State of California.

It is hard for me to believe a year has past since I was installed as president, but CDAA will be holding its Annual Session in San Diego, March 2 – 4, 2007. We will be offering two CE courses and will hold our General Assembly business meeting. New officers will be elected and installed along with local directors. We will be in need of members to sit on various committees and people to chair these committees. CDAA is looking for support by its members in this capacity. You will find more information on this event inside the Journal. I encourage the membership to attend this weekend of educational and business meetings. Come find out what your professional organization is doing for

you and for the future of dental assisting.

I know we are all busy people and it is hard to find time to do "one more thing", but isn't your career worth it? Where would the status of the RDA be without your professional organization? And the ultimate question, would there even be an RDA category? Please consider how you can serve the people of your profession. If you would be willing to serve as an officer our Nominating Chair, Dorothy Cox, would love to hear from you.

I wish all of you a prosperous 2007 - personally and professionally. And when you find yourself "riding the waves" of your day, remember to Look to the horizon.

President's Message

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**Dental Assistans
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In This Issue...

cdaaweb.org

Editor:

Kristy S. Borquez, CDA, RDAEF, FADAA

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CDAA 2006 Executive Committee

The California Dental Assistants Association is affiliated with the American Dental Assistants Association. Dues include local society, state association, and national membership benefits. Membership applications are available from the CDAA Membership Chairperson. For questions regarding membership or to request applications, contact:

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Tricia Henry
(707) 545-1715 wk

*For changes in name or address **please** contact both CDAA and ADAA.

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CDAA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kristy S. Borquez, CDA, RDAEF, FADAA

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CHAIR



As you may remember, Senate Bill No. 1546 was signed in 2004. This is the bill that created

three new registered specialty categories: "registered orthodontic assistant," "registered surgery assistant," and "registered restorative assistant." There was to be no practical or written examinations due to the implementation of mandatory specialty courses that had to be completed along with a radiation safety program and 12 months of work experience. The changes were to be implemented on January 1, 2008, but this all changed when the Governor approved Senate Bill No. 1541 and filed it with the Secretary of State on September 30, 2006.

SB 1541 will now allow a dentist who holds a valid, active and current license to train and educate his or her employee(s) of the dental office, primary care clinic, or hospital where the dentist is practicing and directly supervises the employees, without charge or cost to the employee, in all of the allowable duties for the purpose of licensure in one of the specialty licensure categories. The dentist will be required to submit an application and be approved before they are allowed to offer the work experience pathway for their

employee(s). The dentist will be required to complete a six-hour course in teaching methodology or possess a postgraduate degree in education or hold a teaching credential. A dentist may not begin the work experience training and education of an employee until the application for that specific employee is approved by the Committee on Dental Auxiliaries (COMDA). All duties performed by an employee shall be done in the dentist's presence and the training must be completed within an 18-month period of time. The dentist shall ensure that any patient treated in the work experience pathway is verbally informed to the student's status.

An applicant who completes the work experience pathway must certify that they have a minimum of 1600 hours of prior work experience as a dental assistant. The 1600 hours of required work experience may be obtained by working for multiple employers, if the applicant provides written evidence of work experience from each dentist employer. The employee may begin the work experience pathway before they complete 1600 of work experience, but may not apply for licensure until that work experience is completed. The board shall give credit toward the 1600 hours of work experience to persons who have graduated from a

dental assisting program in a postsecondary institution, secondary institution, regional occupational center, or regional occupation program that is not approved by the board. The credit shall equal the hours spent in classroom training and internship on an hour-for-hour basis not to exceed 400 hours.

In light of these changes, the requirement to pass a written and practical exam is back in the equation. Now, of course, the registered dental assisting programs will still be the "ideal" way to achieve the course requirements. What is unclear at this time is if those students trained formally in a school setting will be required to take the written and practical exams. The legal department for COMDA is currently looking in to that issue.

Though implementation of the specialty licenses is scheduled for January 1, 2008, it is most likely that the start date will be delayed at least one year, possibly longer. The board still needs to adopt regulations for the approval of the prerequisite courses for on-the-job training as well as the core courses that teach basic dental science, when these courses are taught at secondary institutions, regional occupational centers, or through regional occupational programs. This will not be a quick process.

The implementation of the specialty categories will not have an affect on those currently holding a RDA license. There will still be the RDA category. Theoretically, if a person completes the process to obtain all of the three specialty licenses, they will be a RDA. The three specialty categories, taken together, include all of the current RDA duties, as well as several new duties. Current RDAs will be required to take courses that will include some of the new specialty category duties, but only if that RDA desires to perform the new duties. If a person completes only the requirements for a specialty license they will only be registered in that particular category.

SB 1546 also included a new EF category. If a Registered Restorative Assistant wishes to pursue an extended functions license, they may take the required course work and pass a board exam to become a Registered Restorative Assistant in Extended Functions (RRAEF). The RDAEF has its pathway: RDA licensure, EF training and then RDAEF licensure. This person can perform RDA duties as well as EF procedures. The RRAEF has its pathway: Registered Restorative Assistant (RRA) license, EF training and then RRAEF licensure. This person can only perform RRA duties, as well as EF procedures. New restorative duties in the EF

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CDA A ANNUAL SESSION

Lori Clark, RDA

ANNUAL SESSION CHAIR



The 2007 CDA A Annual Session marks the second year that the CDA A business portion of the

meeting will be held in the General Assembly format. As President Zann mentioned, Annual Session is an important event in our Association. Representatives from each local society in the organization come together to discuss the pertinent business of the Association, adopt the annual budget, and elect officers.

The weekend will begin on Friday afternoon with the Government Relations and the Budget & Finance

forums followed by the Board of Director's meeting. Saturday morning will include four hours of continuing education and a dental product updates with manufacturer representatives at the Vendor Fair. Lunch is included with the CE registration, so you will not want to miss the fun and networking with other dental assistants. After lunch we will get down to the business of the Association. The General Assembly is open for all to attend, but you must be a CDA A member

to participate in voting. The installation of the new officers will take place after the business portion of the meeting is completed.

Winding down the weekend, the newly elected Officers, the Board of Directors, and Committee Chairs will meet Sunday morning for breakfast and the Board of Directors meeting. I hope you will plan on joining us for this important weekend.

CDA A ANNUAL SESSION AGENDA

FRIDAY, March 2, 2007

- 4:00 – 4:30 pm Government Relations Forum
- 4:30 – 5:00 pm Budget and Finance Forum
- 5:00 – 7:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting

SATURDAY, March 3, 2007

- 7:30 – 8:00 am Registration
- 8:00 – 10:00 am CE: First Smiles, CDA Foundation Speaker
- 10:00 – 11:00 am Vendor Fair
- 11:15 – 12:15 pm CE: Sealants, Jason Mayer of 3M Espe
- 12:30 – 2:00 pm Luncheon
- 2:00 – 2:30 pm Credentialing
- 2:30 – 4:00 pm General Assembly
- 4:30 – 6:00 pm Installation

Reception in Presidential Suite following Installation

SUNDAY, March 4, 2007

- 8:00 – 12:00 pm Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting

A NOTE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dorothy Cox, CDA, RDA



The nominating committee is now seeking eligible members to serve as officers of this Association. At the Annual Session in March we will be electing officers to the positions of:

- President-elect
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Editor

President-elect, Lois Parento, will automatically assume the office of President. The position of treasurer is a two-year term and Shelly Sorenson will be serving the second year of her term.

Serving as an officer in this Association is a very rewarding experience. **You** can make the difference in fulfilling our mission... *Advancing and Enhancing Dental Assisting*. You can contact me for an application at 831-659-3757 or by email at dorthcox@mbay.net.

CDAA ANNUAL SESSION REGISTRATION

March 2-4, 2007

Hotel Registration Information

Courtyard by Marriott San Diego Downtown
530 Broadway San Diego, CA 92101
800-321-2211

**Please mention California Dental Assistants Association
when making reservations to meet our room block obligation.**

Room Rate is \$139.00

General Registration

- _____ \$50 Members (includes lunch)
 - _____ \$60 Non-Members (includes lunch)
 - _____ \$25 Dental Assisting Students & CDAA Officers (includes lunch)
 - _____ \$10 Additional Late Registration Fee (for registrations received after 2/23/2007)
- **Please include a copy of ADAA membership card or Student ID card.
- _____ \$20 Sunday Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting

Make check payable to CDAA

Mail check to :

CDAA
Lori Clark, RDA
951 Adler Dr.
Clovis, CA 93612

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Local Component: _____

Home phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

CDAA AWARDS



Once again, CDAA is accepting nominations for three very important awards which will be given at the Presidents Luncheon on March 3, 2007, in San Diego. They are the Achievement Award, Helen Peterson Award, and the Longevity Award. Please read the following requirements for receiving these awards and submit your nominations to:

Kelly Leonardi, CDA, CDPMA, RDA, FADAA
1611 Calle Ranchero
Petaluma, CA 94954
(707)658-0423

I. ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- This award shall be granted to a member of the Board of Directors who has contributed to the advancement and welfare of the dental assisting profession beyond the required duties of their office as a member of the Board of Directors.
- The component Society directors of the Association shall submit in writing, nominees for this award, which shall include a resume of the nominee's accomplishments for the year.

MANDATORY CE COURSES \$35 each

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Calif. Dental Practice Act* 2 hours CE
Annual Bloodborne Pathogen (OSHA required) 3 hours CE
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II. HELEN PETERSON AWARD

- The nominee for this award shall have contributed to educational advancement of the dental assistant on the component level.
- The award is for one who stimulates educational activities at the component level. Therefore, officers and committee chairpersons are not eligible unless their contribution is beyond fulfilling the required duties of their office.
- Names of nominees and resumes are to be submitted in writing to the awards chairperson.

III. LONGEVITY AWARD

- This member shall be granted to a member with the longest consecutive employment with one employer.
- A signed affidavit from the employer of the nominee must be submitted with the member's name and sent to the awards chairperson.
- Usually this award is submitted to the recipient as a surprise.

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ABOVE AWARDS
IS February 20, 2007.**

CDAA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

continued from page 3

category, i.e. placement of amalgams/composites are now included. Current RDAEF's who wish to do the new procedures will be required to take a specific board approved course.

Lastly, in 2005, SB 1546 was scrutinized for possible errors and the need for clarification of certain areas. These changes went into a clean-up bill, SB 1111. You can find all of the bills discussed in this report, in their entirety, on

www.leginfo.ca.gov. I know all of these legislative changes can be very confusing. First we hear there will be no RDA exams, then a new bill changes that and now they will be required. Will the written and practical exams be required for formally trained students or just for those trained on-the-job? We do not know yet, but as new developments surface you will be informed. If you have specific questions you can email me at: kdancer@earthlink.net.

San Gabriel Valley Dental Assistants Society

EDUCATION DAY – 6 CEU'S

Saturday, March 10, 2007

Bring the Entire Staff

Applicable to: CDA, RDA, RDAEF, RDH, RDHEF, RDHAP, DDS

license renewal for 2007

- 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Registration
8:00 – 12:00 a.m. “California Dental Practice Act” also known as “California Law”
“Infection Control” – John C. Chao, DDS
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch (included in the fee) – No half days
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. “First Smiles Overview of Early Childhood Caries – causes & prevention and
“Oral Health Assessment and Treatment for Babies and Young Children”
Satenik J. McDaniel, RDHAP, BS.

Location: Four Points Sheraton Hotel
710 W. Huntington Dr.
Monrovia, (626) 531-8002

Directions: Take 210 Fwy. East, exit at Huntington Dr., turn left or go east, proceed under the bridge, **Four Points** hotel is immediately to the right with ample parking.

*CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS ISSUED ONLY AT END OF THE DAY

PLEASE NOTE: The cost of this Education Day is for the entire day, includes lunch. No half days.

Cost: Members: ADAA, ADHA, AGD, ADA \$80 Payable to SGVDAS
Non-members: \$100
Late fee (after March 3rd) Add \$20

(Credit cards not accepted)

(A silent auction will be available, one gift example will include free registration to SGVDAS meetings in March, April & May, 2007 – a \$60 value)

Be sure and invite your dental staff and doctors to this great event. Remember you will earn 6 CEU's

Please send reservation to: LeAnna Martin, RDA
8235 Kyle St.
Sunland, CA 91040
(818) 951-9565

RESERVATION FORM (One per person – please copy this form)

Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

License # _____ RDA, RDAEF, CDA, RDH, RDHAP, RDHEF, DDS (circle applicable ones)

Member ___ ADAA ADHA AGD ADA Non-Member

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION WILL BE **SAT. March 3, 2007; After this date a late fee of \$20 will be charged.**

Table Clinic Competition for Dental Assisting Students

Lydia Henry, RDA

STUDENT RECOGNITION CHAIR



The California Dental Association is once again hosting a table clinic competition at the upcoming CDA Spring Scientific Session. The Session will be held May 3 – 6, 2007 at the Anaheim Convention Center. *The Table Clinic Competition* will be held in the morning of *Friday, May 4, 2007*. After judging is completed, clinics will open for public viewing

I urge dental assisting instructors to encourage students in your school to participate in the table clinic program. It is a popular well-attended event that gives dental assisting students the opportunity to share new ideas and innovative techniques with other members of the profession. Cash awards will be offered to first, second and third places winners in each individual competition category. First place winners will also have their abstract

published in a 2007 issue of the prestigious CDA Journal.

The CDA deadline for receipt of applications is February 15, 2007 to have the students' names included in the CDA program. An extension to *April 15, 2007* is possible for participation, but the students' names will not appear in the program. Although there is no cost to present a table clinic, all presenters must be registered participants for the 2007 CDA Scientific Session.

We are also looking for RDA volunteers to judge the competition - preferably educators or those involved in educational work. All table clinic judges will have access to the VIP lounge. Judges are also invited to the complimentary speaker/host luncheon on Sunday, May 6, 2007. The luncheon will be hosted at the Anaheim Convention Center, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please contact me at 818-246-5400 if you have any questions. Thank you.

The application and regulation form containing guidelines for the competition can be found at:

http://www.cda.org/careers_in_oral_health/dental_students_&_new_graduates/2007_table_clinics_competition

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Dental Assistants Recognition Week - March 4-10, 2007

Get a Kit – Get Going!



How do you celebrate DARW? Perhaps you participate in this event as an office, school, local society or individually. However you celebrate, ADAA wants to

know about it and asks you to join in this annual effort mounted by the ADAA and the ADA and joined by the Canadian Dental Assistants Association and the Canadian Dental Association. Each year ADAA encourages everyone in dental assisting to create and participate in activities that call attention to the profession during Dental Assistants Recognition Week. All ADAA state and local presidents will receive a kit of DARW materials and anyone may request a kit. For details and a DARW activities kit contact EreK Armentrout at earmentrout@adaa1.com or fax your request to 312-541-1496.

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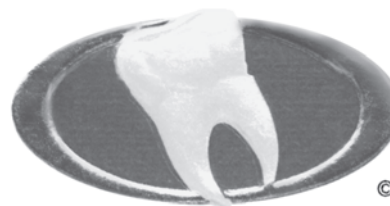
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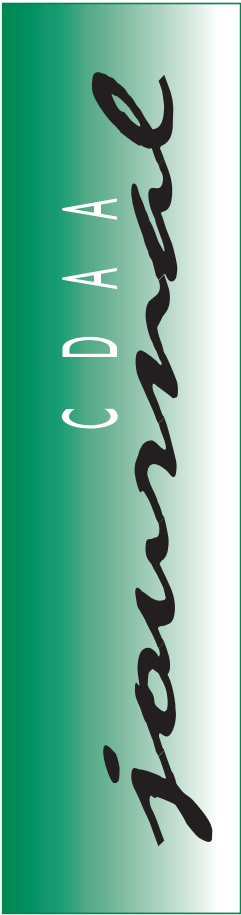
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