President’s Message
Claudia Pohl, CDA, RDA, FADAA

I hope this finds you well and perhaps preparing for some summer fun! Our year has just come to a close, ending with our Annual Meeting, which was held in San Diego. We had a very productive meeting, including time with Kevin Henry and planning for our coming year with the Board of Directors and some fun exploring Old Towne San Diego and a visit to a Padres game. Kevin is a huge advocate of dental assistants and understands the demands of our profession. We came away energized and with a new focus. Some work, some play and some time with friends – good times, indeed!

As we gear up for our coming year, I would love to have you consider joining us! There is always room for one more and we invite your input and presence on a committee – perhaps you have a passion for membership or students or legislative issues. Whatever your passion is, we could use your input. Contact me!

We appreciate the support you provide through your continued membership! Your membership in the professional organization does matter as we advocate for you on the issues at hand. If you haven’t done so yet, join our CDAA Facebook group (https://www.facebook.com/groups/474295615948597/) AND like our CDAA Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaDentalAssistantsAssociation) to keep abreast of important info! Follow us on Instagram @californiadamontalassistants.

Warmly,
Claudia Pohl, CDA, RDA, FADAA
CDAA Meetings

All CDAA Members are invited!

Be a part of your professional organization and help shape your future.

Mark your calendars and watch for details!

CDAA Meeting Schedule

October 2-3, 2015
Fresno - Board of Directors Meeting

January 22-23, 2016
Sacramento - Board of Directors

April 1-3, 2016
Burbank - Annual Session & Education Course

Stay up to date on CDAA ‘happenings’
instagram @CaliforniaDentalAssistants

Mark your calendars!
ADAA Annual Session
November 5-8, 2015  Register Now
Washington, DC

CDAA Annual Session is April 1-3, 2016 in Burbank, CA

For more exciting news, visit CDAAweb.org

In an attempt to help preserve the environment, this communication will go out electronically to any members with email addresses.

It will also be posted on the website. Please visit: www.cdaaweb.org for the latest updates and events.

If you are interested in writing an article for the Journal, please send it to Tricia Henry, CDAA Editor at Editor@CDAAweb.org
Election of Officers

New officers were elected at the Annual Session and are listed to the right. Congratulations to our new Officers and many thanks to the outgoing officers for their dedication and service on behalf of Dental Assisting.

If you would like to be a part of this dynamic group, contact the Director of your local Dental Assisting Society (visit CDAweb.org for the directory) or contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Christy Burton, RDA, via email mcdentalassist@yahoo.com

Serving in your local or State professional association is a great way to network, learn new skills and gain valuable experience. Get connected today!

San Diego FUN! by Katie Bell, Delegate

CDAA held its Annual Session in beautiful, sunny San Diego this year; and not only was it a productive meeting weekend, but included some fun as well.

Saturday afternoon after our General Session was concluded, we all headed down to Old Towne San Diego for a bit of fun. The hotel shuttle took us to the heart of Old Towne, where we walked the streets and did some shopping at the local shops. What fun, cultural and traditional items the shops carried. We had a blast traveling back in time and immersing ourselves in San Diego’s history. After some shopping a few decided to check out the old haunted Whaley house, for a quick tour where supposedly haunts, and spooks have been seen and felt, but none of our friends who went saw or felt anything.

After walking around and exploring, our stomachs started talking and it was decided that we would eat at one of the most popular places in the area, the Coyote Café, a Mexican restaurant know for its traditional local dishes and killer margaritas! Together we ate a delicious meal, sharing about our lives, laughing and just simply have a great time. I personally had a great time and can not wait to have some more fun with CDAA!

CDAA Officers 2015-2016

President
Claudia Pohl, CDA, RDA, FADAA
Pomona Valley DAS

First Vice President
Linda Willyerd, RDA
San Fernando Valley DAS

Second Vice President
Shari Becker, CDA, RDA, FADAA
Diablo DAS

Secretary
Kelly Lennier, CDA, CDPMA, RDA, MADAA
Marin DAS

Treasurer
Shelly Sorensen, CDA, CDPMA, CRFDA, RDA
Fresno-Madera DAS

ADAA 12th District Trustee
Ruby Roach, CDA, RDA
Fresno-Madera DAS

Annual Session Business

The CDAA Bylaws were amended at the Annual General Session in May. You can download an updated copy for your reference. Download: Revised Bylaws 2015
Your Association at Work

Government Relations Update
Shelly Sorensen, CDPMA CRFDA CDA RDA

As you know from the last journal, the Dental Board is going through a Sunset Review process and changes and notations have been made known by CDAA, CADAT, and FADE. CDAA has been diligently advocating for the profession of Dental Assisting. Your CDAA representatives attended a workshop sponsored by CADAT on June 18 to review the regulatory language the Dental Board of California is considering adopting into the Sunset Review documentation for AB179. The Dental Assisting Council of the Dental Board held a workshop on Friday, June 19 to collaborate on this language and your representatives attended this workshop also.

There are two bills AB178 and AB179 which have been brought forward by Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla. Both have passed the Assembly and will soon be presented to the Senate. AB178 imposes a one-year moratorium on the RDA practical until such time as the Board and the State Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) concludes a validating assessment called an Occupational Analysis. It does not permanently remove the practical examination. We are monitoring the progress of these two bills.

President Pohl and I just returned from the Workshop hosted by the Dental Assisting Council to work on the legislative language that governs dental assisting. During the workshop, the groups of assistants/educators present gave the feedback and input to the Council on the Radiation Health and Safety portion. That input will be put together and then reviewed again before being sent forward. Workshops will continue until all the language is reviewed; we anticipate that the next workshop will be scheduled before the next Dental Board meeting in August. We will keep you posted on the progress!

Your CDAA board is continuing to advocate for the profession of Dental Assisting. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to actively participate in this process, contact me at: shellysorensencdaa@hotmail.com

RDA Practical Exam Possibly Postponed
Assembly Bill 178, which is the emergency bill regarding the RDA Practical Exam, passed the Assembly Business, Professions & Economic Development Committee (14-0) on April 28 and the Appropriations Committee (17-0) on May 28 and passed by the Assembly on June 1 (80-0) and ordered to the Senate.

This bill will provide the ‘time out’ needed for the Dental Board to handle the current issues of the Exam without creating more hardship on applicants. It temporarily suspends the RDA Practical Exam, but it is not a forever removal. This is what the legislature chose to ensure effective due process, giving the Dental Board until July 1, 2017 to determine whether a practical exam is necessary to demonstrate the competency of RDAs.

Once passed, the requirements for RDA licensure would be the same as it is currently with the exception of the Practical Exam.

Help protect and promote your profession
Join or renew your ADAA membership
Here is how!
California Dental Assistants

The CDAA Booth of Happiness

by Shari Becker, RDA, CDA

Anaheim, California. Most people relate Anaheim to Disneyland, the happiest place on earth. And though that is quite true, there is another place right across the street from Disneyland that each spring also turns into the second happiest place on earth. The California Dental Association sponsors a grand meeting at the Anaheim Convention Center each spring, CDA Presents. From student table clinics to 3 full days of education to hundreds of exhibitors, there is something for every dental professional at this event. Young and old, new and seasoned, this meeting is a wonderful collection of educators and exhibitors that will leave you wanting to come back time and time again!

This is a meeting to make new friends, learn great things, network with amazing likeminded professionals and see the latest and the greatest dental materials, equipment and innovations. At our CDAA booth, we had over 100 visits from members, non-members, students, instructors, doctors, and hygienists, just to name a few! Our members received a token of appreciation and all who stopped by had an opportunity for a special and fun photo opportunity. We also offered membership information and applications for those who were not members. Why become a member?

That is a great question! The ADAA, which CDAA is a part of, is celebrating its 90th year. The American Dental Assistants Association is the professional organization for dental assistants and represents all dental auxiliaries and students too! You do not need to be licensed or certified to be a member. From clinical to administrative to business to educator to students, we welcome everyone to join!

What does the ADAA offer? The ADAA has many benefits, including student scholarship programs, free home study CE, discounts on live CE meetings, liability insurance, other consumer discount programs, national/state and local publications and educational achievements. Beyond those benefits are the relationships that you will develop, the networking, the interactions between other assistants from across the country, and the sharing of a passion that brought us all into this profession of health care.

Not a member of ADAA/CDAA yet? Check out the new ADAA website @ www.dentalassistantusa.org for details on how to become a member.

And if you did not have an opportunity to stop by in Anaheim, no worries! CDAA will have a booth at the CDA Presents meeting in San Francisco at the Moscone Center August 20-22, 2015.

Stop by the CDAA booth to see what fun surprises we may have in store for you!
ADAA 12th District Trustee Update

Ruby Roach, CDA RDA

ADAA Central Office completed their transition from our Chicago office to our new location with Solutions for Associations (SFA) Management in Bloomingdale, Illinois. Our Chicago office space has been subleased. SFA Management and ADAA Officers are working to improve our association by looking at all aspects of membership. Some things on our list:

- Our new ADAA website is up and running. If you have not visited the site yet, please do so @ www.adausa.com. It has a member’s only component where you can sign-in and take advantage of what is available.

- Work is being done to review our CE Courses to be sure of content and methods of marketing.

- Member dues re-billing has been done through electronic invoicing to those with email addresses, also regular USPS for those without email and returned emails. If you have not received your renewal invoice call ADAA or you can contact me for assistance.

- We are working on a new benefit which will actively link members to jobs around the country from our website.

- Although ADAA will not be having a House of Delegates in Washington DC in November as originally planned, plans are underway to have some events that will be announced as soon as finalized. As additional information, CDAA with help from Local Societies, will be sending President Claudia Pohl and me, as 12th District Trustee, to the Washington DC conference. We will represent our members at the events there, i.e. ADAA Membership Forum, Educational Programs and the ADAA/DANB Reception.

- ADAA’s Membership Council is diligently working on ideas to help with membership recruitment. ADAA Officers, this Council and SFA Management are reviewing current membership benefits and prospective benefits. Plans are being formulated to launch a membership “blitz” with states to assist with recruit. More information will follow.

My take on our situation is that ADAA will continue to improve and refine our association! This past year has been an aberration with an abundance of change, but we are on the right path now with reason to feel optimistic about the future of ADAA.

Register now for the Fresno clinic

Visit: http://www.cdafoundation.org/cda-cares/fresno for more information.

You can make a difference

Join CDAA in making it happen