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NDA JOURNAL

Official Magazine of the Nevada Dental Association and Component Societies
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NDA JOURNAL

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NDA JOURNAL

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Daniel L. Orr II, DDS, MS (anesth), PhD, JD, MD
EditorNDA@nvda.org

UNLV Supports the Constitution...Sort of

Happily, UNLV requires all domestic academic faculty to demonstrate fealty, via a notarized document, to the Constitution of the United States.¹ (Figure 1)

Some may be surprised that this document is required for employment at the university, including UNLV SDM. Some might even say that in reality Administration at UNLV does not necessarily support the Constitution. Maybe administrators are not considered faculty?

By the way, the Bill of Rights is incorporated into the Constitution. The James Madison authored Bill of Rights was presented as a list of amendments (rather than altering the Constitution proper) that would follow Article VII. Ten amendments were ultimately ratified by the states.²

Consider the 1st Amendment, specifically free speech, while not discounting the religion, press, assembly, and ability to petition the government components. Noticing that 09 February was approaching during my first year of employment, I sent an email with artwork to UNLV SDM students, staff, and faculty advising that the Patron Saint (Apollonia) of Dentistry's Feast Day, was imminent. Within 24 hours, a campus wide email admonished the entire UNLV community about the proper use of university email. The email mentioned that unlv.edu email was for academic purposes only and not for anything else. Fielding a call later that day from an academic dean, I answered with the query: "Is this about my St. Apollonia email?" The dean said: "Dan, I really liked the email, but..." after which he proceeded to explain why I couldn't comment about St. Apollonia anymore in spite of the 1st Amendment confirmation of the delineated inherent rights. I pointed out that St. Apollonia is a recognized dental historical figure and, for

heck sake, that I'm not even Catholic, all to no avail. I was told that if I wanted to revisit the issue, a petition to the UNLV Diversity Committee would be required. My immediate thoughts ranged from "this is ridiculous" to "this is unconstitutional" to "what have I got myself into (at UNLV)?" Curious, I had little trouble tracking down in minutes, the name of the "anonymous" complainant, another UNLV SDM professor.

Since both St. Apollonia and the Constitution deserve respect and recognition and my emailed facts were truthful, I chose not to petition the Diversity Committee. Further, for the last 10 years the same announcement has been sent out, albeit with a disclaimer in large red font at the beginning of the email stating: "Those who are offended by historical dental events associated with potentially religious connotations should read no further."

Members of the NDA know that we have seen at least one Journal cover featuring St. Apollonia³ (Figure 2) and several religion based articles relating to the health professions.^{4,5,6} In this issue, the NDAJ sincerely thanks former UNLV SDM student and artist Dr. Trent Tobler for his original artwork cover submission. Readers who are aware of any interesting dental history, no matter what the source, including those with religious connotations, are encouraged to submit such for publication in the NDAJ. One last irony about our "do as I say, not as I do" regulatory crowd, the Catch 22ish⁷ (Figure 3) UNLV Constitutional Oath invokes God (See Figure 1 again)... one cannot get much more religious than Him.

For our second example, consider the next Amendment, the Second, which states that "...the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall

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UNLV

Constitutional Oath

Article 11, Section 5 and Article 15, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada require all academic faculty – including part-time faculty and graduate assistants with instructional responsibilities – to subscribe to the oath specified below.

Note: Professional, non-academic staff and faculty participating in foreign exchange programs (typically on J1 Visas) are not required to subscribe to the oath. Faculty on H1B Visas or permanent residents are required to subscribe to the oath.

The oath must be subscribed to before a Notary (or other notarial officer, such as a justice of the peace or judge), and may be executed in any jurisdiction prior to employment.

I, _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States, and the constitution and government of the State of Nevada, against all enemies, whether domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith, allegiance and loyalty to the same, any ordinance, resolution or law of any state notwithstanding, and that I will well and faithfully perform all the duties of the office of _____

_____ on which I am about to enter; (if an oath) so help me God; (if an affirmation) under the pains and penalties of perjury.

Signature

State of _____
County of _____

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on _____ by _____.

(Seal, if any)

Signature of Notarial Officer

Distribution: Original – UNLV Human Resources File



Figure 1

Figure 2: NDAJ cover art volume 19, issue 1, 2017

catch-22 noun, often capitalized

\-ˌtʃen-tē-ˈtū \

plural **catch-22's** or **catch-22s**

Definition of *catch-22*

- 1** : a problematic situation for which the only solution is denied by a circumstance inherent in the problem or by a rule
// the show-business catch-22—no work unless you have an agent, no agent unless you've worked
 — Mary Murphy
also : the circumstance or rule that denies a solution
- 2 a** : an illogical, unreasonable, or senseless situation
- b** : a measure or policy whose effect is the opposite of what was intended
- c** : a situation presenting two equally undesirable alternatives
- 3** : a hidden difficulty or means of entrapment : **CATCH**

Figure 3



not be infringed.” Nowhere does the Constitution say “except at University of Nevada facilities.” The Constitution confirms the guarantee that citizens have the right to pursue happiness. Assuming, for example, that most people would consider rape an unhappy event, the Second Amendment iterates the guarantee of effective security in a free state. Yet, in spite of circumspect pleas from rape victims such as Amanda Collins⁸, University of Nevada campi volitionally and unconstitutionally attempt to deny law-abiding citizens the right to keep and bear arms. Some rape victims are not able to express an opinion about effective self-defense because they were murdered after they were raped.⁹ Incomprehensibly, considering that the University of Nevada System is supposed to affirm evidenced based science, not misplaced emotion, overwhelming statistical evidence that armed campi are safer than oxymoronically named “gun free zones,” are dismissed out-of-hand.¹⁰ In Israel, firearms are ubiquitously carried, and the Israelis do that in part because they, and their enemies, understand that firearms on campi, in grocery stores, in churches, and virtually everywhere reduce violent crime.¹¹

Even though the State's higher education system does not support the Constitution, except its own version as required for employment, it is nice to know that our academic Presidents know it exists. 🍷

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On the Cover



St. Apollonia Feast Day February 9

St. Apollonia, the Patron Saint of Dentistry, lived in Alexandria, Egypt when Christians were being persecuted during the reign of Emperor Philip. In 249, Apollonia was arrested and tortured by pagans trying to force Apollonia to give up her faith. Apollonia's teeth were fractured or avulsed and her facial bones were fractured. Apollonia was told that if she did not recant her faith, she would be burned at the stake. Apollonia then intentionally leapt into the flames, becoming a martyr to her faith (Revelations 6:9). Catholics and others now invoke Apollonia's name to aid with the pain of toothaches. 🦷



About the Artist

Trent Tobler DMD graduated from UNLV School of Dental Medicine in 2013 and currently practices dentistry in Denver, CO. He went into dentistry because of its artistic nature. In dental school was recognized for his cosmetic talents both by UNLV and The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry.

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The logo for Liberty Dental Plan, featuring a stylized 'L' and 'D' inside a square frame with a compass rose design.

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NDA's 101st Annual Summer Meeting



Registration Form | June 20–22, 2019 | Hyatt Regency Incline Village

Event	Time	Attendees	Fee/person	Total
Registration—NDA Member/Spouse/Child		_____	No Charge	
Registration—Non-NDA Member (required)		_____	x \$ 300	\$ _____
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Thursday, June 20				
Executive Committee Meeting	3–5 PM	_____	No Charge	
Dinner on Your Own				
Friday, June 21				
Breakfast	7–8 AM	_____	No Charge	
House of Delegates	8 AM–1 PM	_____	No Charge	
Lunch on Your Own				
President's Dinner Adult	7–10 PM	_____	x \$ 125	\$ _____
President's Dinner, Child (Age 5–20)		_____		
Saturday, June 22				
Breakfast	7 AM	_____	No Charge	
Continuing Education: Member	8 AM–12 NOON	_____	\$99	
Continuing Education: Member		_____	\$49	
Continuing Education: Member		_____	\$199	
Lunch on Your Own				
Grand Total				\$ _____

Registration for Events will be accepted until June 7

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Hotel Reservation Information: Location: Hyatt Regency Incline Village (cutoff for rooms is Friday May 23, 2019)

Web: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/TVLLT/G-NVDA> | **Phone:** (775) 886-6603

Group: Nevada Dental Association

Summer Meeting Speaker

Arthur W. Curley



Mr. Curley is a senior trial attorney in the California healthcare defense firm of Bradley, Curley, Barrabee & Kowalski, PC. After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley with honors in 1970, he obtained his J.D. in 1974 from the UC Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Dental Jurisprudence at the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco and an Adjunct Faculty Professor at the University of California, San Francisco. As a trial attorney, he has been defending doctors for over 40 years and has presented risk management courses throughout the United States and Canada. He is an associate of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Mr. Curley has published several articles on risk management and authored chapters in numerous text books on oral surgery, endodontics and periodontics.



Above three photos: Views from the Hyatt Regency Incline Village

How Big Pharma is Ripping You Off...Even If You Don't Pay for Your Own Prescription Drugs

By Chuck Muth

They say everyone talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it. Well, the same can be said about the skyrocketing cost of certain brand-name prescription drugs.

Everyone has heard about ginormous price spikes over recent years—most famously Martin “Pharma Bro” Shkreli’s obscene increase in the cost of Daraprim from \$13.50 per pill to a whopping \$750 per pill in 2015.

Unfortunately, the knee-jerk reaction to this problem by all too many public officials has been to propose government intervention and price controls. Alas, the better solution—always—is market competition.

But that’s where the problem is.

In order to foster ongoing research in the development of new drugs, the United States issues “patents” that allow drug-makers monopoly control over sales for a set period of time—usually 12 to 20 years. After the monopoly sales period ends, generic competitors are allowed to enter the market.

The first problem is that in order for generic companies to bring to market a less expensive competitive product, the generic version must go through a lengthy approval process through the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to assure the generic version is both safe and effective.

But in order to submit its version for such approval, it’s necessary for the generic company to obtain samples of the brand name drug for development and clinical testing purposes. And by law, the brand name drug is required to provide such samples.

Unfortunately, in order to extend its monopoly hold on a captive market,



some brand name drug manufacturers have “gamed the system” by finding ways to deny the generic companies the samples they are entitled to.

And some aren’t even subtle about it. As Pharmalot.com reported in 2015, Jon Haas, director of patient access at Shkreli’s Turing Pharmaceuticals, came right out and admitted it...

“If someone calls and asks for 50 bottles of Daraprim, they would have to come to me for approval... Most likely I would block that purchase... We would like to do our best to avoid generic competition. It’s inevitable. They seem to figure out a way [to make generics], no matter what. But I’m certainly not going to make it easier for them.”

Legislation to end such road-blocking—the CREATES Act—is pending in Congress. But Big Pharma’s big influence on Capitol Hill has thus far successfully choked off the bill from coming to a vote.

The second trick pharmaceutical companies have used to extend their monopoly control and profits for a

brand name drug comes from abuse of the U.S. patent system itself.

As a drug reaches the end of its patent life, and thus subject to generic competition, what some pharmaceutical companies have been doing is tweaking the drug with some minor adjustment to extend the patent—and thus their higher prices and higher profits.

For example, they might change the drug from a capsule to a tablet. Or issue a “time release” version. Or change the coating. Or adjust the dosage. Or change it from a twice-a-day pill to once-a-day.

In the industry this is called “product hopping.”

And successful product hopping results in the original patent being extended well beyond the protected lifetime of the drug—which freezes out generic competition and keeps prices artificially high.

There’s an easy fix to this—but one state legislators seem to avoid in preference to pushing for government price controls. All states need to do

Unfortunately, in order to extend its monopoly hold on a captive market, some brand name drug manufacturers have “gamed the system” by finding ways to deny the generic companies the samples they are entitled to.

is allow pharmacists to prescribe low-cost “near substitutes”—meaning FDA-approved similar drugs matching the original patent.

But such a common-sense simple fix doesn’t generate near the headlines as price-fixing legislation. So don’t hold your breath.

Anyway, product hopping has proved to be so effective and so profitable that some companies have gone to extreme lengths to take advantage of this loophole in our patent system. Take Humira, for example.

Humira is a drug used to treat severe medical conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease. It’s manufactured by AbbVie and is the best-selling drug in the world which reportedly accounts for some 60% of AbbVie’s international sales.

And the amount of money that means is simply staggering.

“Sales of Humira totaled \$5.1 billion during the third quarter” this year, reported Ned Pagliarulo for BioPharmaDive.com last week. “Overall company revenues, meanwhile, reached \$8.24 billion in the three months from July to September.”

That ain’t chickenfeed.

Now here’s the thing...

The original patent for Humira expired in 2014. However, AbbVie filed 247 new patent applications—that’s right, 247!—in an effort to extend the company’s monopoly control over the drug through the year 2037.

There’s an industry term for this, too. Filing multiple new patents to protect a drug whose original patent is set to expire is called creating a “patent fence” around it.

In Humira’s case, 110 of the 247 follow-up patents in the United States have been approved—thus blocking generic competition.

However, Europe has refused to play this “patent fencing” game. As such, four generic competitors to Humira recently entered the European market—which has already resulted in price drops of anywhere from 10% to 80%.

But let’s say you have a Cadillac health insurance plan in which you pay the same small co-pay regardless of whether you get the expensive brand-name drug or the less-expensive generic version. Why should you care?

Here’s why...

You, as a taxpayer, are also paying for the prescription drugs of fellow Americans who are getting their drugs for “free” under various

government-funded health programs—such as Medicare and Medicaid.

And as long as brand-name drugs are allowed to game the patent system to extend their monopoly control over the sale of certain prescription medications, the cost out of your pocket to fund those government programs through higher taxes will continue to go up, up, up.

As those old commercials for Fram oil filters put it, you can pay for it now, or you can pay for it later.

Make no mistake, if these abuses of the patent system aren’t ended, YOU are going to end up paying through the nose one way or another. And that, my friends, is a prescription for financial disaster. 🍷

Mr. Muth is president of Citizen Outreach and publisher of Nevada News & Views. He blogs at MuthsTruths.com. His views are his own.

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The Nevada Oral Health Program

By Antonina Capurro, DMD, MPH, MBA*

The Nevada Oral Health Program is statewide program under the Division of Public and Behavioral Health housed within Nevada's Department of Health and Human Services. The Program was established in statute in 2009 under NRS 439.2791. The mission of the Oral Health Program is to protect, promote, and improve the oral health of the people of Nevada. The Program reaches this goal by facilitating communication and collaboration between agencies and organizations throughout Nevada, working to enhance maternal child health, decrease chronic disease rates, improve Medicaid utilization, establish medical-dental integration programs, and the provide services and education for those with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

The Program seeks to improve the health of Nevadans across the lifespan by enhancing access to dental care for underserved and vulnerable populations. This is accomplished through support of public health community based dental programs and school-based sealant programs, education to promote the use of preventive dentistry practices in the dental care delivery system, influencing Medicaid policy changes that are clinically sound, and collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data to describe the oral health burden, health disparities, and unmet needs in Nevada.

There are currently three coalitions in the state that focus primarily on oral health: Community Coalition for Oral Health (CCOH), Northern Nevada Dental Coalition for Underserved

Populations (CUSP), and Oral Health Nevada (statewide). The Oral Health Program facilitates communication and collaboration between the coalitions and the statewide Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH, NRS 439.2792).

The program is staffed by myself and Elizabeth Chartier, RDH, MPH, Interim State Public Health Dental Hygienist.

The Oral Health Programs invites oral health stakeholders and advocates to join them in their mission to reduce dental decay, oral health disparities, and chronic diseases comorbid with poor oral health. Join us in our mission to improve oral health in Nevada. Together we will create a better dental healthcare system for all Nevadans. 🦷

See "About the Authors" on next page.

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Liberty Dental Plan

By Amy Tongsiri, DMD

Liberty Dental Plan was awarded the Medicaid dental contract for Nevada starting its administration in January 2018. Prior to this, dental benefits were under the same managed care operation as medical benefits. In 2017, the Nevada Department of Health Care, Financing and Policy sought the opportunity to carve out dental benefits as a stand-alone entity. Liberty's bid was chosen among those submitted. Liberty Dental Plan was founded in 2001 by a practicing dentist, and continues to be run by dentists. We have over 4 million members nationwide in government, commercial, union and individual programs. Liberty serves Medicaid members in multiple markets including: California, New York, New Jersey, Texas, Florida and Illinois. Our goal is to work with Nevada dentists to ensure delivery of appropriate, innovative, and quality oral health care to your Medicaid patients. We recognize there were a few kinks along the way but are working diligently to iron them out. Going into 2019, I am confident that,

together, we will achieve these goals and establish a successful, long-term partnership focused on overall oral health improvement for the state of Nevada.

Many of you may recognize me as a member of UNLV SDM's faculty for nine years. I have opened my own practice from scratch and owned multiple practices in a DSO model. I am also a UNLV SDM alumna Class of 2008. I left UNLV SDM in January 2018 and was recruited by Liberty Dental Plan as a staff dentist to review claims. Following the promotion of Dr. Todd Gray from Nevada Dental Director to Liberty National Chief Dental Officer, I advanced to his position of Liberty Nevada Dental Director.

The Liberty Dental Director is similar to running one's own private practice. I wear many hats as I am required to have a thorough understanding of all the operations within Liberty. We have departments including claims, member services, care coordination

for members, reports to the state, grievance and appeals, compliance, quality management, and importantly, I manage providers in our network. Managing may sound like telling people what to do, but that is not the case. I am here to be your liaison between the managed care operation and our clinical expertise. I trust our providers. I want our providers to succeed. I am here to give you the tools to succeed. We have member service reps and community outreach specialists for our members, we have network managers for our office staff, and I am here for you as providers.

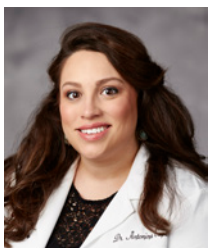
Dentists can expect a call back, a response to an e-mail, or a text reply from me. For those providers who I have had the pleasure of working with, please know I am responsive. If I do not know an answer, I will find it or I will let you know where to look for it. I am new to this model, just like you. However, I don't forget where I come from. Home means Nevada. Born and raised and here to make a difference in oral health. 🦷

About the Authors



Liberty Dental Plan Article

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The Nevada Oral Health Program Article

Antonina Capurro, DMD, MPH, MBA is Nevada's State Dental Health Officer and a Visiting Assistant Professor at the UNLV SDM. As Nevada's State Dental Health Officer, Dr. Capurro gathers oral health surveillance data, provides clinical review and expertise for Medicaid administration of dental benefits, and revises and creates state policies that will expand access to quality oral health services. Dr. Capurro earned her DMD, MPH, MBA from UNLV and was recently accepted to the A.T. Still University Dental Public Health Residency Program. Contact: acapurro@health.nv.gov or 702-774-2573. More information on the Oral Health Program can be found at: <http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/OH-Home>.

UNLV SDM Dean Karen West



Congratulations to Dean West and thank you for your contributions to UNLV SDM.

Dr. West, retained as Dean in 2007, has announced her retirement from UNLV SDM effective 30 June 2019. Her tenure has included many accomplishments which were achieved through the efforts of talented faculty, staff and students with Dean West's oversight. Some of the more significant are:

1. Both the Orthodontic and Pediatric Dentistry residency programs are fiscally self-sufficient. In addition, undergraduate OMS is also self-sufficient and generates dollars to assist with other undergraduate expenses.
2. In spite of budgetary constraints (\$5-6 million cut over 6 years) and adverse economic conditions, built a significant cash reserve beginning in 2007 to date.
3. Founded UNLV SDM Faculty Practice Clinic in 2009.
4. Developed UNLV SDM Continuing Education Program with dental participation from around the world in 2009.
5. Led two strategic planning processes at UNLV SDM in 2009 and 2014.
6. Led the transition from SALUD dental electronic records (DER) to Axiom DER in 2010.
7. Collaborated with the professional community and organized dentistry to dramatically and positively change the perception of the new UNLV SDM.
8. Increased patient visits from a 40,000/year in 2008 to approximately 75,000/year in 2018.
9. SDM provides \$5 million of free or reduced care to Nevadans annually.
10. Established the first and 3 subsequent free clinics for the underserved that operate one Saturday per month at UNLV SDM.
11. Established the UNLV SDM Alumni Association Board in 2010.
12. Established the UNLV SDM External Advisory Board in 2013.
13. Established the first Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology biopsy service in Nevada in 2013.
14. Established scholarship programs from endowments, private parties, alumni support, and state resources.
15. Up to 50% of each graduating class has been accepted to advanced training internship and residency programs.
16. The average clinical board and national board first-time passage rates are greater than 90%.
17. UNLV SDM students received more national awards than any other dental school in the nation in 2009.
18. Over \$1.3 million in research funding was received in 2018.
19. Served as Chair of Health Sciences Dean's Committee to develop the Strategic Plan for the Academic Health Center from 2017 to present.
20. Developed international affiliation agreements with dental schools in China, Saudi Arabia, Bolivia, Peru, and Italy.
21. Funded and developed the first Interprofessional Health Professions Education Day for health science students at UNLV.
22. Transformed the Orthodontics Residency Program from primarily a business model to an academic model while maintaining a profitable paradigm.

23. Secured UNLV Graduate School approval to change the Orthodontic Residency from a 2-year experience to a 30-month Masters in Oral Biology program. Currently a joint certificate/PhD program.

24. Changed “Intent to Withdraw” accreditation status to “Full Accreditation With No Reporting Requirement” in the period from April 2007 to July 2008 for the Orthodontic Residency Program.

25. Received full accreditation status with no recommendations for the Orthodontic Residency Program in 2013.

26. UNLV SDM received full accreditation status with no recommendations for the 2013 site visit.

27. Developed a new Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program funded via a 3-year \$3 million HRSA grant.

28. Pediatric Dentistry Residency gained Full Accreditation With No Reporting Requirements in 2017.

29. Successfully transferred the Dental GPR Residency program from UNR SOM to the UNLV SDM in 2009 along with \$990,000 in state finding.

30. The UNLV SDM GPR received Full Accreditation Status With No Recommendations after the 2015 CODA visit.

Dean West is not slowing down. 15 February she issued the following news: I am pleased to announce that I have been chosen as the next President and CEO of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) to succeed Dr.

Rick Valachovic after his 22 year of dedicated service. I will be retiring from UNLV effective June 30, 2019 and will assume my new position on July 1. As I reflect on my 12 years as the Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, please know that my tenure here is one of the highlights of my professional career, and I will miss of you. I am especially proud of our school’s role in helping reach Carnegie R1 status, which reflects the hard work and professionalism of all of you. Thank you all for your dedication to our school’s success. UNLV SDM occupies a special place in UNLV and the Las Vegas community, and I know the future will bring many more accomplishments. I am proud to have served as your Dean these past 12 years, and I will remember you all fondly as I transition to this next chapter. Thank you all!

Congratulations to Dean West and thank you for your contributions to UNLV SDM.

Editor’s Note:

Dean Karen West hired me as Professor and Director of Surgery at UNLV SDM a decade ago. I’ve noticed something here at UNLV since her retirement was announced. I’m beginning to sense that UNLV SDM faculty, staff, and some community professionals are starting to preemptively miss her, perhaps somewhat anxious about the transition. It seems many are beginning to realize that she might be a pretty good executive. The notice that she will be the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Dental Education Association adds credibility to that thought. There are many individuals qualified for deanships, but likely even more pretenders that would be a poor fit.

Speaking from an SDM OMS point of view, Dean West’s leadership

style has been invaluable. The Directorship has always been a labor of love, even as I’ve had to go to the “Dean’s Office” 3–4 times during my time at UNLV SDM. During Dean West’s tenure we were advised, during our CODA accreditation visit, that UNLV SDM OMS was the finest undergraduate program CODA’s team had seen. Later I was named the AAOMS National Outstanding Predoctoral OMS Educator of the Year. UNLV SDM OMS is quantitatively the most productive undergraduate feeder program for advanced training in Anesthesiology and Surgery in the nation, placing 79 residents in 11 years. We have had student, and former student, co-authored writings in peer reviewed journals such as JACD, JADA, JOMS, OOO, JDE, NDAJ, medicine based journals, and even several textbook chapters, all acknowledging the UNLV SDM. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without our outstanding staff such as Valinder Addison and Lisa Kindred, faculty including OMS’s Richard Hamilton, Lawrence Hundley, Jeff Moxley, Steven Saxe, James Schlesinger, and our newest member Wayne Ichikawa. We owe a huge debt to our OMS area GP’s who bring so much to the table, including Drs. Dave Ord, Andy Ingle, and the late Joe Hansen. Our Clinical Deans have all been so supportive and include Drs. Bob Lockhart, Stan Nelson, Michael Sanders, Wendy Woodall, and Monique Phipps. However, the good things we’ve been able to accomplish started with the leadership of Dean Karen West. We in Anesthesiology and Surgery will miss her. 🍷

Periodontal Disease and Incident Cancer

By Steven Lehrer, Peter H. Rheinstein,* and Kenneth E. Rosenzweig**

Nwizu and colleagues report that periodontal disease increases risk of total cancer among older women, especially for certain anatomic sites: breast, lung, esophagus, gallbladder, and melanoma. Stomach cancer risk was borderline¹. Data were from a prospective cohort of 65,869 women ages 54 to 86. We have corroborated these results using oral health data from The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and U.S. state cancer statistics.


Female lung cancer incidence is from the American Cancer Society². Female melanoma incidence, esophageal cancer incidence, and stomach cancer incidence are from United States Cancer Statistics: 1999–2012 Archive Incidence, WONDER Online Database. Gallbladder

cancer incidence is from Henley and colleagues' work³. Percent adults age 65p who have lost six or more teeth or all teeth due to tooth decay or gum disease are from BRFSS (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2008), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention survey, which tracks health risks in the United States (www.cdc.gov/brfss). Cigarette smoking among adults by state is from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, white women who had lost six or more teeth due to tooth decay or gum disease were at increased risk of melanoma ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.310$, $P < 0.027$). Loss of six or more teeth was significantly related to esophageal cancer ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.281$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.046$). Loss of six or more teeth and gallbladder

cancer were not significantly related ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.116$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.416$), but gallbladder cancer was significantly related to loss of all teeth ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.284$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.044$). Stomach cancer was not significantly related to loss of six or more teeth ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.085$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.55$) or all teeth ($r \frac{1}{4} 0.104$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.468$).

Women who had lost six or more teeth were at increased risk of lung cancer. Because of the relationship of cigarette smoking to lung cancer, we performed multivariate regression. Lung cancer incidence as dependent variable was significantly associated with loss of six or more teeth ($t \frac{1}{4} 2.062$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.045$) and was unrelated to a borderline relationship to cigarette smoking ($t \frac{1}{4} 1.713$, $P \frac{1}{4} 0.093$). We previously demonstrated a relationship of periodontal disease to breast cancer in women⁴.

One possible explanation for the observed relationship between dental disease, especially caries, and certain cancers is that both are driven by immune deficiencies, allowing the proliferation of cancer cells as well as bacterial infections leading to loss of teeth⁵. 

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**Severn Health Solutions, Severna Park, Maryland.

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Robert H. Talley, DDS, CAE
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Executive Director's Spring Message

The Nevada Legislative session began on February 4 and will run the next 120 days.

Thanks you to all who have donated to the NDA PAC fund as this will help in our fight against the impending mid-level provider legislation.

As I write this, the bill proposed by the hygiene association has not been introduced but here is what they are going to ask for:

1. Their own board separate from the State Board of Dental Examiners
2. The creation of a new dental provider that must be a hygienist first (Dental Therapist) who will be able to do irreversible procedures such as fillings and extractions
3. Local anesthesia without direct supervision
4. They are advocating for the use of teledentistry

The Nevada Dental Association has grave concerns about patient safety with any dental provider that is not a dentist. Nevadans deserve fully trained dentists. The introduction

of a mid-level provider sets up the dangerous precedent of a two tiered system of dental care. We continue to talk with legislators about this issue. I am happy to report the ADA granted us a State Public Affairs (SPA) grant to pay for a public relations firm which will help develop messaging against this bill.

We are also collaborating with other healthcare organizations on bills relating to retroactive claim denials, protections for prior authorizations (ensuring their validity) and mandatory provider notifications for any change with the prior authorization.

You can expect legislative updates with more detailed bill information every two weeks.

You will find information in this journal about the Annual Summer meeting being held June 20–22, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency Incline Village. The House of Delegates will convene on Friday morning and there will be a continuing education class on Saturday morning. Back by popular demand is Arthur Curley, an attorney, to speak on risk management. The President's dinner will be a lakeside barbeque at the resort on Friday evening. 🍷

Thanks you to all who have donated to the NDA PAC fund as this will help in our fight against the impending mid-level provider legislation.



President's Spring Message

The annual mid-winter meeting was held January 19, 2019 and was well attended. We finally have our house back in order with updated bylaws, Policy Manual and a newly elected Secretary to the NDA Executive Committee (EC). Congratulations to our new NDA Secretary Dr. Ed De Andrade. Ed has already proven to be resourceful, engaging and competent with a good work ethic. From me and the entire NDA Executive Committee, welcome Dr. De Andrade.

Dr. Robin Lobato, current Southern Nevada Dental Society (SNDS) President-elect, has been appointed as our newest member to the Council on Government Affairs (CGA). There has been a long-standing tradition that members from the North along with EC members comprise the CGA due to a need for close proximity to the state capitol. As president, I decided it was time to alter that tradition. With video conferencing now being utilized by the legislature during bill hearings members from both the north and south, and sometimes even the east, are able to participate in the legislative process.

Robin will become a pivotal person for our southern members. He will be privy to any legislative and regulatory information that is discussed by committee. In addition to EC members from the South, southern members now have one additional person able to answer questions or disseminate information. Robin understands the additional responsibilities he has assumed and is ready to answer some of your questions along with any EC member. Certain questions or concerns can't always be answered or addressed by any one person. In other words, your questions may not be answered

immediately until they are brought back to the Council for further discussion. But I promise we will eventually get back with an appropriate response.

Membership is up and we are in the process of adding new members to the Council on Membership (COM). If any of you were at one time the Recruitment and Retention officer of your component society and are entertaining the idea of getting involved once again, give one of us a call. We would be very interested to talk with you.

Our communication efforts are a work in process, and are continually improving with time. This is due to the efforts from our NDA staff along with the members of the Council on Communication (COC) and the Chair, Dr. Tina Abbatangelo. The High Roads newsletter is a new endeavor which we are constantly modifying, along with information we make available on our website. This time last year the COC was a closed council, I am very encouraged by the progress that has been made in seven short months.

Regarding regulatory and legislative issues there has been progress as well as pending difficulties. The good news is that we have had a positive impact for those of you who accept Medicaid; trying to improve how it works for both your patients and your practices. As previously explained, the Nevada Health Division backed down with their request to realign their fee schedule which basically meant a reduction in their reimbursement rates. Surgical centers used by pediatric dentists have been



Richard Dragon, DMD





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closing and the ones available are not easy to get patients scheduled for treatment. We are committed to change this back to a more user-friendly environment. If access to care is the mantra of the day, then it only makes sense that we educate legislators and/or regulatory bodies that these centers need to be reopened and that fee schedules need to be fair so that those dentists who accept Medicaid patients can reasonably afford to offer quality care to these patients.

In addition, the Nevada State Medical Association (NSMA) has introduced a bill this legislative session to prevent insurance companies from not accepting billing on procedures that were previously allowed in a preauthorization request. The NDA is working to add language in this bill to include dentistry.

The elephant in the room is the Bill Draft Request (BDR) submitted by the Nevada Dental Hygiene Association (NDHA) which is basically a request to allow for some sort of mid-level provider in our state. At this time, we have not seen actual bill language and until we do, we can only speculate on how to respond and defend our profession. We have reviewed in great detail what has and is happening in other states also dealing with this issue, as well as working closely with the American Dental Association (ADA). To support our efforts, we are in the process of getting a State Public Affairs (SPA) grant from the ADA to help us with our legislative efforts. Unfortunately, even if we do receive the SPA grant, we know this funding will not be enough.

For the last 4–5 years we have been preparing for mid-level and have always agreed that when this battle comes to our state we will “go to the mattresses” and we have done

exactly that. The truth is, our PAC money is now depleted and we are searching for more. PAC money is used to offer donations to candidates running for office as well as being used to help support our own lobbying efforts. This includes flying our Executive Director (ED) back and forth between Las Vegas and Reno along with providing him accommodations in Carson City.

To put it bluntly, we need additional donations. Several members have already donated \$1,500 and we recently received a donation in the amount of \$2,500—*thank you!* Any amount of money helps, even a \$50 check is beneficial. To quote our ED, this is a “die on the sword” moment, and is honestly about your own future, the future of the profession as well as insuring that quality of services to the public will always be our number one priority.

Obviously, mid-level legislation is of great concern. Being a smaller state with fewer members and small resources we are limited in our ability to be completely effectual. Members need to step up with their voices and their checkbooks or we are likely to see decisions being made by legislators that if become law may become difficult if not impossible to change in the future.

We encourage anyone with a desire or the ability to physically help as well. Being willing to attend Legislative hearings regarding bills affecting dentistry (either in Las Vegas or Carson City) would be of GREAT benefit. Please call Bob Talley our ED and he will find a place for you.

I do wish all of you the best. We are fortunate professionals living in a state we are proud of while working in a profession we love. Let's fight hard to keep it that way. 🦷

Treasures

of Pioneer History

Courtesy of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers

Pioneer Dentists & Druggists

More than a century has passed since those first pioneers entered the valleys of the Great Salt Lake and the older generation say, "Times have changed." This is true in every respect, but the inhabitants of the world have been more eased through the advancement of medicine than in any other field. Men and women, as well as children, who lived in those early days had to depend upon the simplest remedies for the alleviation of pain.

Toothache has always been a universal disturbance. To relieve the pain simple remedies such as laudanum, oil of peppermint, etc. rubbed on the gums or put on cotton and inserted in cavities, or application

of heat were the only means of obtaining relief other than pulling the decaying member. Extractions were usually performed by the town blacksmith or tinsmith with crude homemade tools which his ingenuity led him to invent and construct. The operation as a rule took place either in his shop or on the premises of the patient who was seated on an ordinary kitchen chair. Although there were several trained dentists who came with the first companies, there were few settlements so blessed. Later, traveling dentists came periodically to the small communities.

Each pioneer home had its medicine shelf which contained a few simple remedies; for in their back yards, along ditch banks, in the canyons and on the mountains grew the herbs

which they gathered, dried and stored for future use. The Indian, sometimes the trapper, and more often a new neighbor taught them the value of these herbs as well as the preparation and method of administering them. But it was not long before small drugstores were established in the settlements and although they did not have the wonder drugs that we know so well today, the druggist was well supplied with a variety of ingredients from which he compounded the needed prescriptions.

As time went by and the population increased diseases became more prevalent. Children, as well as adults, contracted diseases for which there was then no known cure. Of times the people wished that science would reveal new medicines which would save their loved ones. 🍵

NEWS BRIEFS

Public Insurance Exclusions to Include Improper Prescribing.

The number of physicians excluded from public insurance programs increased by 20% per year between 2007 and 2017. Some 2,000 physicians (0.3% of U.S. physicians) were temporarily or permanently excluded from Medicare or state public insurance programs for fraud, unlawful prescribing of controlled substances, or "health crimes." The last can apparently include performing "medically unnecessary" procedures. ACA added \$350 million to the HHS Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Account Since 2011, CMS has used predictive analytics to detect improper billing. Older, male, or osteopathically trained physicians

were significantly more likely to be excluded (tinyurl.com/y9h63be5). A physician accused of improper prescribing is likely, in AAPS experience, to also be charged with fraud. "If you don't take their money, they can't accuse you of fraud," noted AAPS executive director Jane Orient, M.D. After CMS itself, AAPS is Google's top-ranked site on opting out of Medicare.

"Death Certificate Project" Nabs Calif. Doctors

In a controversial project launched three years ago, California's medical licensure board reviews death certificates from 2012 and 2013 listing overdose of a prescription drug as a cause of death. The state agency

then cross-checks California's prescription drug database to identify which physicians prescribed controlled substances to those patients up to 3 years before their death. About 450 allopathic physicians, 12 osteopathic physicians, and another 60 nurse practitioners and physician assistants have been targeted for a more detailed probe. In roughly half, the board has determined not to pursue charges, with the rest either pending or resulting in formal accusations. One specialist in palliative and hospice medicine complained that because of a false accusation, he had been "blacklisted from doing anything directly or indirectly with patients" (MedPage Today 11 / 6 /18, tinyurl.com/y9mdv8sc). 🍵



Jessica Beason

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SNDS Executive Director's Message

This year has kicked off with a bang! The seventeenth annual Give Kids a Smile brought out over 300 volunteers from the community to provide over \$100,000 worth of donated dental services. It is always so rewarding to see the volunteers come out and support this worthy cause. I also want to thank our community partners WestPac Wealth Partners for providing breakfast and Absolute Dental for providing patient gift bags, photos with the Tooth Fairy (Tina Brandon-Abbatangelo) and Mr. Molar and Lunch for our volunteers.

The SNDS is proud to announce a fresh new look for our website. We are hoping you will find everything at your fingertips; including member benefits, a new SNDS Blog where leaders will be sharing information, patient information on the peer review and how to Find a Dentist. One feature that we are in the process of perfecting is an interactive Events Calendar. We want to showcase upcoming dental events from all sources. Yes, if you have a CE course you would like to promote let us know. Because there are many CE Events happening in Las Vegas, we want to showcase these for your convenience. So watch for SNDS CE City Events page, coming soon.

Mark your calendars for SNDS Member Appreciation Night, May 11

at 7pm! We will be headed out to the new Las Vegas Ball Park to watch the Aviators play! This is a free event for members and their families. We hope you will join us for this fun family night sponsored by WestPac Wealth Partners.

Don't forget to take advantage of your 2019 SNDS Member Benefits. It is our goal to continue to provide you value for your membership. We are excited to announce a new partnership for 2019 with Diamond Dental Lab. They are offering SNDS Members a Free Zirconia crown to try their lab and services. Another amazing 2019 benefit is with Orascoptic, SNDS Members and their staff will receive a 10% savings on loupes! Spending too much on Burs? Check out Dentalree Dental burs for a 15% savings on a \$150 spend. This is a direct to consumer purchase with incredible savings! Find all of these benefit details on our website www.sndsonline.org.

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership for 2019, we appreciate your support for organized dentistry at the National, State and Local levels! We are here to help you succeed; we would love to hear from you if you have suggestions please feel free to call us. ☺

It is always so rewarding to see the volunteers come out and support this worthy cause.



SNDS President's Message

After being a perennial candidate for about six years, I finally won election, by a narrow margin, to become Secretary SNDS in April 2016. In 2016, a sweeping change commenced under the leadership of Tina Brandon Abbatangelo with the hiring of our current Executive Director, Jessica Beason. The SNDS leadership cut expenses, renegotiated all its contracts and began to focus on making the SNDS relevant while providing tangible benefits to its members at the local level. In 2017, Steve Saxe and then Emily Ishkanian led the Membership Committee at the state level and again emphasized the need to provide a significant value to our members and by doing so have nonmembers *want* to be part of the SNDS, NDA and ADA. In September of 2017, I was catapulted into the Presidency of the Nevada Dental Association's largest Dental Society. I told the SNDS leadership at that time that no one would work harder to ensure the SNDS was successful and be left in better shape at the end of the Presidential term than me. I was extremely fortunate to work alongside some very dedicated and passionate dental peers who shared my vision and pushed the organization to greater heights. You all know who you are.

Some out there think I am a troublemaker, a radical, a rabble rouser, a malcontent. Some other believe I am a visionary, a decisive leader, a tireless worker and motivational guy. All of them wonder how I can do all that I do and still run a large solo dental practice. I tell them I am nuclear powered. I am proud of our SNDS accomplishments during my tenure.

- 1.** Created the Angel Program—a member volunteer program where SNDS members will step in to help a fellow member dentist who has become disabled to keep his/her practice afloat and staff intact while they heal.
- 2.** Reconnected with Nevada State Bank as a corporate sponsor who has become a friend to SNDS dentists through their Professionals Banking team.
- 3.** Brokered the SOLMETEX Amalgam Separator purchase deal and installation package supported by BENCO and Schein for a rock bottom deal price (yes, I was one of the first purchasers) with royalty non-dues revenue coming back to the SNDS. This program was shared with NNDS as well.
- 4.** Applied for ADA grants to support our outreach efforts to dental students and members alike for events like our recent Community Night at Red Rock in October 2018 with the Executive Director and President Elect of the ADA in attendance.
- 5.** Decided to focus our CE seminars on NSBDE requirements for licensure: Opioid Abuse by the Board of Pharmacy and Infection Control with Dr. John Molinari (both video-taped for member dentists to review at their leisure).
- 6.** Co-sponsored and supported Two Gala for Smiles Formal affairs with the UNLV SDM Foundation to benefit the UNLV SDM Saturday Clinics.



Joseph Wineman, DMD



7. Initiated the Business of Dentistry 1.0 Seminar series in 2018 (video-taped to sell to those in need of CE).

8. Continued BOD 1.0 seminar series and the started the Business of Dentistry 2.0 roundtable seminar discussion in 2019.

9. Sought and obtained financial partnering with our corporate sponsors who are eager to help us succeed.

10. Found venues for events that cost us less money or were *free*.

11. Collaborated with Orasoptic, DentalRee Burs and have others on the horizon that save our members money and help drive membership as well as put some money back into our coffers.

12. Organized and successfully modified the GKAS @ UNLV SDM to utilize the school's practice management software and suggested that the students get credit for their treatment of the children in need.

13. Continued the Mentorship Panels at UNLV SDM to keep the students informed as to the changing nature of our great profession.

14. Our SNDS NDA Delegation worked tirelessly to help modernize the NDA's operating documents and then turned their attention to rewriting the SNDS's Bylaws. 13 out of 14 SNDS resolutions presented at the NDA House of Delegates over the past calendar year have been adopted.

15. We have begun crafting our own Strategic Plan and have already

drafted new vision, mission, and core value statements—stay tuned.

16. Enlist the help of the ADA to assist the Society and the State Association to become more synchronized in its activities and assist us in becoming a larger, more viable organization.

17. Launched meeting mixers and social events to allow members to mingle outside of dental continuing education or work environments. Stay tuned for the announcement of the Aviators game festivities.

18. We have several ideas in the works for CE seminars:

- a.** Insurance Umbrellas and how to maximize revenue
- b.** HIPAA leaks and how to prevent them and/or respond if it happens

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ADA CERP is a service of the America Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education. Provider Recognition at ADA.org/CERP

Approved PACE Program Provider
FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by a state or provincial board of dentistry or AGD endorsement. Nationally Approved from June 1, 2015 – May 31, 2017. Provider ID #213111

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR
ADDITIONAL COURSES

Infection Control

Multiple Saturday Dates (3/16/19, 4/13/19 or 5/11/19)

4 CEU's • 8 am-Noon • \$135*

Edward Herschaft, DDS

Epidemic: Prescription Drug Abuse in America

Saturday Dates (3/16/19 1pm-5pm or 5/4/19 8am-12pm)

4 CEU's • \$185*

Edward Herschaft, DDS

Overdenture with Narrow Diameter Implants

Friday and Saturday (6/14-15/19 or 11/15/19)

2 Days • 16 CEU's • 8 am-5pm (both days) • \$1,795*

Early Registration \$1,595 (45 days prior)

Michael Scherer, DMD, MS

&

Andrew Ingel, DMD, FAGD

19. Put \$10,000 in the bank to start rebuilding our depleted reserve funds.

20. Increased membership in the SNDS from 486 to 614 members during my tenure.

21. Our leadership team has become younger and more diverse with more women and minorities becoming leaders within our Society.

So, as I end my term, I am proud to report the SNDS is on solid financial and organizational footing. But departing leaders need to be replaced. If you are willing and able to assist the SNDS keep moving forward, please let Jessica know what job you would like to do prior to our elections in April. There are at least four vacancies in our delegate positions, leadership opportunities and openings within our committees. Robin Lobato is chaffing at the bit to step up and become the next SNDS President. I know he will do a fantastic job. The SNDS is blessed to have two exceptional employees in Jessica Beason, our Executive Director, and Monica Rexius, our everything else staffer both of whom have made my time as President that much easier. Thank you all. Together We All Succeed. 🍷

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EMPLOYMENT - Reno

Denture office Part-time dentist to help with restorative treatment & extractions Call 775-829-3285

Event Calendars



Nevada Dental ASSOCIATION

2019

April 15	Executive Committee	Video Conference	6pm
May 13	Executive Committee	Video Conference	6pm
June 10	Executive Committee	Video Conference	6pm
June 20-22	NDA Summer Meeting	Reno Tahoe	



Southern Nevada DENTAL SOCIETY

2019

April 3	BOD 1 "HCM and Practice Entity"	Henry Schein	6-8pm
April 10	BOD 2 - Leading your dental team (management vs. leadership)	Henry Schein	6-8pm
April 25	Dinner Meeting: GPR presentations and SNDS annual election	Bears Best	5:30-8pm
May 1	BOD 1 - "Know your Numbers"	Henry Schein	6-8pm
May 3	CE Premier: "How to Strengthen Your Insurance Partnerships"	PBS Las Vegas	9am-12pm
May 11	Member Appreciation Night!	Las Vegas Ballpark, Aviators Game	7pm
May 29	CE CAFÉ @ Implant Direct (1/4 meetings)	TBD	TBD



Northern Nevada DENTAL SOCIETY

2019

April 9	NNDS Executive Committee Meeting	5605 Riggins Court, #101A, Reno	5:30pm
April 11	Mario Gildone Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner to honor Dr. Greg Pisani	Atlantis Casino Resort, Reno	6pm
April 30	NNDHP Advisory Board of Directors Meeting	5605 Riggins Court, #101A, Reno	5:30pm
May 14	NNDS Executive Committee Meeting	5605 Riggins Court, #101A, Reno	5:30pm
May 31	OSHA & Infection Control 2019 CE	Atlantis Casino Resort, Reno	7:30am
June 11	Delegate Pre-Mtg. & NNDS Executive Committee	5605 Riggins Court, #101A, Reno	5:30pm



Lori Benvin
nnds@nndental.org

News from the Northern Nevada Dental Society

Snowfall has been abundant this winter in the Sierras, in case you haven't heard, or maybe you've been shoveling most of February like me! Writing this editorial for our NDA Spring issue gives me hope that warmer days are ahead in the not so distant future and it will be a busy Spring.

It's also a legislative year and the NDA Oral Health Awareness Day down in Carson City will have been a success I'm confident once this journal is published. Thank you in advance to all of the members and volunteers who were able to join us and continue to build upon letting our legislators know what matters to the continuation of professional dental services but more importantly to the oral health of our Nevadans. Please continue to pay close attention if you receive an email from the Nevada Dental Association or from our office for any "Take Action" notification or request—we need your input and that of your patients when we bring it to your attention.

February is also Children's Dental Health Month but it is also a month to host ADA's national Give Kids a Smile day. As with many of my editorials from years past, the Northern NV Dental Society's non-profit program entitled the Northern Nevada Dental Health Programs treats underserved children and at-risk veterans all year long along. With over 130 pro-bono providers NNDHP continues to care for now over 1,050 veterans to date with our Adopt a Vet Dental Program (AAVD) and numerous children with our program Healthy Smile Healthy Child (HSHC). HSHC along with the NNDS New Dentist Committee provided a Give Kids a Smile event on 2/2/19. We are extremely grateful to Champagne Family Dental for

hosting this event at their office in Sparks as 101 children received treatment, from 19 volunteer dentists and specialists, and \$63,531 of donated dental care. The GKAS Chair Trent Gookin, DDS along with our HSHC Dental Coordinator Monica Vazquez did an amazing job at the success of this event for the uninsured or underinsured children of northern Nevada. Thank you to the following volunteer providers Drs. Jason Champagne, Drew Champagne, Trent Gookin, Hannah Beus, Benita Ng, John Silvaroli, Jeff Luckey, Erin Anderson, Michael Stallings, Travis Adams, Chelsie Todd, Andrew Leland, Michelle Schiro, Whitney Bryant, Garrett Swanson, Cariann Champagne, Nicole Bui, Anthony Guillen, and Jennifer McClanahan. We *thank* all of you and your volunteer dental team members for your generosity that day and helping our underserved. Any unfinished treatment or need for additional visits will all be referred to our HSHC program and many of the volunteer dentists agreed to take these children into their dental home.

On April 11, 2019, we will be celebrating our 15th Annual Mario Gildone Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner to honor the chosen 2018 recipient Gregory J. Pisani, DDS. It is with great honor that the MGLAA Selection Committee has selected Dr. Pisani for this exclusive recognition. In serving as the Northern Nevada Dental Health Programs President Dr. Pisani I have had the pleasure of working with him these past 18 years and I would like to congratulate someone I consider as truly deserving. Thank you Dr. Pisani for all that you have done and continue to do for dentistry, for this community,

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Welcome Newest NNDS Members

- Moni Ahmadian, DMD – Oral Pathology**
 - Jacqueline Alford, DMD – Pediatric**
 - Jason Alford, DMD - General**
 - Robert J. Houchin, DDS - General**
 - Michael Stallings, DDS – General**
-



NNDS President's Spring Message

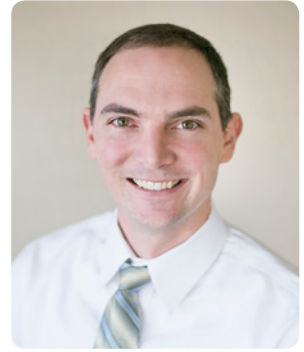
The spring is always my favorite time of the year. Not for the change of seasons, the spring rain, or spring cleaning, but for my favorite event of the year, the first rounds of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. This year will be especially exciting with the University of Nevada expected to make quite a splash in the tournament (as a UNR alum I will be rooting hard for the Pack). Basketball has always been one of my passions; both playing and watching has been one of my favorite activities to escape from the rest of the world for a short time. The skills and lessons I learned through basketball have taught me valuable lessons about leadership, discipline, dedication, perseverance, excellence, and resilience. Teamwork is the primary goal, and those that work together are more likely to succeed.

These skills are also valuable in dentistry. It takes discipline, dedication and perseverance to complete a dental school curriculum, and resilience and excellence to succeed in the practice of dentistry. However, the overlooked aspect in our profession is often teamwork. We all know it takes teamwork for our offices to function well. Just as a good team has many players who know their roles, we have teams around us to help us succeed. We

have assistants and hygienists who provide support to our procedures and help things run smoothly with all of the tools we need, and administrative staff to help us focus on the patients and treatment and not worry about insurance and phone calls. Sometimes we partner with and share the patient care responsibilities with other doctors. These aspects of teamwork are familiar to us. What we oftentimes forget is that all of us as dentists are a team working to benefit the health of our community. We all have a responsibility to provide quality health care to the citizens of our communities and we must work together to ensure that we hold our profession accountable.

Our dental society provides a framework for our team to work together, but it is incumbent upon us to be good members of our team. As with any team, there are many roles to fill, but we can all help contribute to our profession. Some of those roles are in leadership roles. If you have ever thought about a role in the NNDS, NDA or ADA, please contact Lori or me to discuss options that are available. There are many roles on committees, as delegates, or on the boards of the societies that are always looking for excited dentists

continues on pg. 28 >>



Adam Welmerink, DDS
nnds@nndental.org

>> *continued from pg. 26*

for me as the Executive Director and Liaison, and as a long standing NNDHP board member including the care of at-risk children and veterans of which it serves.

In closing please check our website at www.nndental.org for our Calendar of Events in 2019 as we have some

incredible CE opportunities right here in northern Nevada including a ½ day course at the NDA Summer meeting at Hyatt Lake Tahoe this June. It will be a continuation from Art Curley, Attorney at Law who spoke at our November 2018 general membership dinner meeting. You won't want to miss it. ♡



who wish to contribute and give back to the profession. If you don't have to time volunteer, you can support organized dentistry in other ways; through your membership, attendance at CEs and social events, PAC donations, and contributions of your services through the Adopt-a-Vet and Healthy Child Health Smiles programs. We also need to be supportive of one another and speak in a positive manner about the profession and about one another. We cannot get too pessimistic about outside pressures on the industry. When we build up dentistry to our patients and our colleagues, we all benefit from the positive attitude towards our profession.

As dentists, we must be mindful of the positive impact we can have on our patients. Just as players look to coaches, our patients look to us as leaders of our community and as role models. No matter our scope or location of practice, we all have opportunities to be role models for our patients each and every day. For example, we can model good citizenship and stewardship through our daily interactions with staff and other dental professionals, respectful treatment of all patients, participation in community outreach and volunteer opportunities, or supporting the activities and missions of local organizations. All of us, whether we would like to be or not, are role models in this community. When we become

dentists, we take up that mantle of being custodians of our profession. We have to honor that trust and give back when we are able, and lead those around us in a way that is worthy of our profession.

We are each a member of several teams, including our family, our practice, and our profession. I encourage each of you to identify ways to enhance each of your teams this year. 🍀



REPORT

ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Office of Admissions and Student Affairs has received approximately 1,862 applications for the 2018–19 application cycle. The selection for the Class of 2023 is still underway with interviews occurring through February. Acceptances will continue to be sent until the class is filled with 80–82 students.

ADVANCED EDUCATION IN PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Class of 2021 has been finalized and will begin the program July 1 of this year. We look forward to having this great group of individuals. They are:

1. **Camille Frayna**
UNLV Class of 2019
2. **Kelly Harris**
UCSF Class of 2019
3. **Jaydene McDaniel**
UNLV Class of 2019

4. **Steven McDaniel**
UNLV Class of 2019

5. **Alexis Russell-Shelton**
Howard Class of 2010

6. **Tengfei (Sam) Su**
UCSF Class of 2019

All of our current residents will participate in the poster competition at the annual AAPD meeting in Chicago over Memorial Day weekend, presenting their research, or cases they've treated.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Between November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019, the UNLV School of Dental Medicine community outreach team offered nearly 750 screenings to underserved patients in Nevada. The team also provided 700 applications of fluoride varnish and 122 sealants. With the assistance of dental students, they offered oral hygiene instruction to more than 100 children. The outreach team also

offered parent engagement presentations to several Head Start and Early Head Start Centers across the State. The value of the donated services for this time period was nearly \$84,000 using an average summary for the ADA fees.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The second Benefit for Smiles Gala raised nearly \$50,000 to support patient care and fund student scholarships, besting its first-year total. The 2019 gala has been scheduled for Saturday, December 7, at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa. Additional details will be shared throughout the year.

To learn more about supporting the UNLV School of Dental Medicine, please contact Nikki Khurana-Baugh at 702-774-2362 or via email at nikki.khurana-baugh@unlv.edu. 🍀

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