

Spring 2009 TDHA Trustee Report to BADHS

As Trustee, I am happy to report the Spring BOD was very productive and we covered a lot of business in the time allotted. TDHA Spring Board was well prepared and we were able to conduct business and adjourn early on Sunday.

Hope Garza presented a Strategic Planning Workshop that was very informative and gave us some ideas in planning this upcoming year!

Robbie Cole who is Cheryl Cole's son gave a presentation on Facebook! TDHA strives to reach out to our members and as well as non-members. TDHA would like to have all forms of communication open with hygienist across Texas.

Soon we will have a new continuing education link (**360training.com**) on our website. Whenever anyone takes a course through this link, TDHA will receive 30% of the fee. So, if you want to take some on-line courses, take them through our website! And, speaking of non-dues revenue, our TDHAPerks cards will be ready for distribution before Summer Board.

Governmental Affairs Council

Legislative Update

HB456 and SB97 (TDHA Access To Care Bills), as reported at the Spring BOD Meeting, the bills were amended as agreed with Texas Dental Association (TDA). The current language removes Head Start Centers, but includes nursing homes, school-based clinics, and community health centers. Dental Hygienists would be able to provide preventive services in these locations for 6 months prior to patients having a required dentist's exam. Dental Hygienists will work closely with dentists and will be referring patients to a dental home. Online or search www.capitol.state.tx.us and locate the bill by typing in its number.

GAC also reported at the Spring BOD Meeting, that our Bill for Local Anesthesia would not be voted out of the House Public Health Committee. Committee members asked the Chair Kolkhorst not to call a vote on this bill, as they did not want to have to choose between the dentists and dental hygienists on this issue. The Chair has mentioned that there might be an interim study on local anesthesia. In order for dental hygienists in Texas to have this privilege, TDHA and TDA will have to work together. GAC is looking at new strategies to gain allies/partners to collaboratively support this bill in future sessions.

TDHA GAC is proud to announce that SB 97/HB456 (Access to Care) has passed through the Texas Legislature and was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2009. The bill will be effective on September 1, 2009.

We want to thank everyone who contacted their Senators & Representatives regarding the bills and for all the collaborative efforts throughout the entire legislative session. Now that this new law has been passed, we, as an association, must work diligently to transition hygienists into these practice settings.

GAC is also monitoring TDA's bill (HB 3670 and SB 455) pertaining to expanding the scope of practice for dental assistants. The Chair of the Public Health Committee

(Rep. Kolkhorst) facilitated negotiations between TDA and TDHA. TDA had to make 5 modifications to their bill: 1) their bill will keep in language that polishing cannot be billed as a prophy; 2) training for pit and fissure sealants will be a 8 hour course; 3) dental assistants requirement for CE will stay at 6 hours per certificate, but not more than 12 hours per year, 4) language regarding dental emergencies, was tightened and now the SBDE will need to write rules to clarify its implementation, regarding how to define “properly trained dental assistant”, “treating dentist”, and “a follow-up visit” and 5) assistants can only apply fluoride varnish and not other types of fluoride treatments.

Professional Education Council

2nd Annual **COW** known as Components Officers Workshop is on Friday July 24th in Austin. The workshop will be held from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at:

Wyndham Garden Hotel
Woodward Conference Center
3404 South IH-35
Austin, TX 78741

All room arrangements will be handled by TDHA. A \$30 deposit (check made payable to TDHA) is required with registration to reserve your hotel room. Upon attendance at the workshop, this fee will be refunded.

COST: Registration Fee - \$30.00.
Hotel deposit - \$30.00.

Please submit two (2) separate checks payable to: TDHA

NOTE: No registration or hotel deposit will be refunded for failure to attend the workshop.

Registration Deadline: 6-26-09.

All components are urged to send leaders and future leaders to this workshop. This is a great opportunity to promote professional development and leadership for dental hygienists. The morning session facilitated by Dr. Margot Perez-Greene, promises to enhance one’s leadership skills while the afternoon session will include roundtable discussions on topics of interest indicated by registrants. ***Please let us hear your ideas or topic suggestions for the afternoon session.***

TDHA will again provide each component a hotel room (up to four persons in room) for Thursday night. If only one RDH attending per component, attendees may be sharing a room with members from other components. We are hoping for a good attendance and opportunities for networking and fostering leadership.

See attached registration information or visit www.texasdha.org for information.

Any questions, please contact Cheryl Cole (H-512-371-7535 or sweet2th@swbell.net) or Dale Hahn (H-979-548-5151 or dhahnrhd@windstream.net)

Membership Services Council

We are reminded to reach out to the 2009 Graduates. Many have heard from WREB now and are looking for jobs. If you know of any student looking for a position reach out to them and let them know that BADHS has resources for them through our employment chair, Geneva Haiflich. Olivia Schreiner also receives phone calls as well. Our website also has useful information for them too.

Please invite them to our monthly meetings. Any help that you can give to point them in the right direction, i.e. employment agencies, component employment committee, any websites where job listings are posted or if you know of offices with open positions, let these new graduates know that they are not alone.

*******Remind students that they have a MySpace page to stay in touch with students from across the state. <http://groups.myspace.com/TexasDentalHygieneStudents>**

Membership renewals were down in the Winter Cycle. This means that 181 members did not renew their ADHA membership. We are urged by TDHA to find out what happened and why they did not renew. We must be sympathetic because with the economic downturn. They need to know that we noticed that they did not renew and that ADHA is looking out for our profession and we want them back as members. We also had 304 2008 graduates that did not transition their student membership to active membership. We need to make membership a priority this year. The students are our life line. We need them to become members and also to get involve in our association. Remember to invite these hygienists to our component meetings. Many times, if you invite them they may come and see that BADHS is friendly and where friendship can grow.

TDHA Facebook Page

TDHA members now have a Facebook page to network and get TDHA information. When you go to your personal Facebook page, you can search **TDHA – Texas RDHs** to get you to the TDHA page and request to join.

TDHA Texas Size CE Weekend

On Friday & Saturday, August 7-8: TDHA Texas Size CE Weekend at the Hilton Houston North Hotel. Our Professional Education Council and Omega Seminars have been very busy organizing this weekend and planning surprises for attendees.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get all your CEU's in one weekend. Bring your staff!

Featuring:

Dr.Chris Norton on Friday & Dr.John Molinari on Saturday.

Questions? Contact:

Lois Palermo (281) 332-5640 for registration
Jan Smith (210)696-6737 for general information or
www.omegaseminars.com

Annual Sessions Council

TDHA Annual Session is coming to Houston on September 24-27@ **Houston Omni Westside**. BADHS is still looking for delegates to represent us in the House of Delegates (HOD). If you are interested please let us know! It is very exciting to see hygienist across Texas come together to make Resolutions that potentially make our professional better! We work hard and also have a lot of fun too! Please consider becoming a delegate in this 2009 HOD.

Public Affairs Council

- 1). Reminder to Always Display Your Credentials!**
- 2. Educated Your Patients to Look for the License!**

Together we can make a difference! We have great resources found @ www.texasdha.org and www.adha.org.

Respectfully Submitted by—

Vickie Webb RDH, BBA
President BADHS
Trustee TDHA