



The Explorer - Fall 2011

Kentucky Dental Hygienists' Association's Newsletter

KYDHA President's Message

Greetings!

Isn't it special to meet a celebrity or someone famous? I was excited to have my picture made with the dental icon, Dr. Esther Wilkins, at the ADHA annual session. I admire her lively spirit and passion for dental hygiene. She authored the big purple textbook that I carried around for two years studying for the boards.



What an honor it is to serve Kentucky's dental hygienists as your president. I have made so many friends and networked with many of the movers and shakers in dental hygiene. Since I graduated in 1995, membership in my professional organization has been a priority. When I graduated I was living in a mobile home that sat in the middle of a former corn field in Grayson County. I had two small children and money was tight. I attended South Central component meetings but didn't feel able to take on any responsibility. Paying my dues so that others could work for me was the least I could do at the time. After a couple of years, I agreed to be delegate to the state meeting. I was impressed with the ladies who were so knowledgeable about the issues in our state. I could not imagine having the confidence of speaking in front of that group.

I moved to the big city of Louisville and was amazed at the size of their continuing education classes. In one of those meeting, a couple friends from South Central attended and asked me to be the state newsletter editor. I gave it a try and enjoyed attending the state meetings and hearing the latest news. Then, I decided to run for alternate delegate to the ADHA annual session. I was so surprised to get elected and the experience was life changing. The people I met were so passionate about improving our profession and had strong opinions about the future. I wanted to be a part of that vision.

The past five years have been all about stepping out of my comfort zone. I held several offices, attended leadership training, orchestrated annual session, and served as head delegate to two ADHA annual sessions. Running for an office may not be your thing but please let your voice be heard by going the next step. If you are already a member, why not sit in on a local or state planning meeting? If you are not a member, please consider joining so that we may have a stronger voice.

Since I graduated, our professional organization won victories over the issues of local anesthetics, general supervision, school screenings, laser usage, and soon another dental hygienist representative on the Kentucky Board of Dentistry. These were hard fights that were won by a small voice. Imagine what we could do with a louder voice. Please consider joining the ADHA. Quarterly payments are available. We work better together.

Sincerely,
Laura Blanton, RDH, BS
KYDHA President

KYDHA Council and Committees Report

Kentucky Dental Hygienists' Association's officers and Trustees met at President Laura Blanton's house August 26 & 27 to plan for the upcoming year.

Greg Brotzge, KYDHA lobbyist, attended and helped with the legislative discussions. Greg challenged those attending to give to the KY-Pac and would match up to \$250 collected. With his contribution over \$500 was collected to be used for future legislative projects. Donna Ruley, KYDHA Executive Director, reported that meetings are still going on about the public health language to be placing into regulation.

"Dental Hygiene, The Times Are Changin" was presented by President Laura Blanton. National, state, and local issues were reviewed and discussed. The group was divided into three groups to discuss legislative issues, membership, and annual session.

Beth Nicely, District V representative, led the membership discussion and they drafted a membership plan. They asked us to "Tell a Friend, Bring a Friend" and make potential members welcome at local meetings. A plan was made to recognize new members and students converting to active membership. They reported the suggestion of a student award and RDH of the year award.

KYDHA Annual Session is planned for March 9 & 10, 2012, at the Marriott Downtown Louisville. More information will be released soon on the exciting line up of speakers and activities. Kim Bastin, President Elect, Lisa Johnston, 1st Vice President, and Aimee Lamb, 2nd Vice President, are working hard to provide an enjoyable spring meeting.

Thank you to our dedicated officers and trustees for volunteering your time to work for the advancement of dental hygienists. Your dedication to your professional organization is greatly appreciated.

ADHA Annual Session 2011 - Nashville, TN

This year's business in the House of Delegates was calm compared to the last two. We adopted fourteen proposed resolutions (PR's) and two proposed bylaw amendments

(PBA). Most of the PR's were inserting updated definitions describing words such as Dental Public Health Setting, At-Risk Population, Diversity, Direct Payment, Third Party Payment, and Collaborative Practice. One PR was on criteria for supporting new dental hygiene programs. Many states expressed concern for too many programs and too few jobs. Since some states dental hygienists' now get direct reimbursement, one PR dealt with ADHA recommending diagnostic codes and receiving third party payments. The PBA was an update on members with disability section and Finance committee members.

Ashley Nunn, student delegate for District V, is from Bluegrass Community and Technical College. She did a fantastic job representing our district. Many expressed that they saw leadership potential and a bright future for her in Dental Hygiene. She volunteered during CLL and stayed till the end of the business portion. Thank You, Ashley!

Picture below of the ADHA Annual Session Delegates from Kentucky:



Beth Nicely, Laura Blanton, Kim Bastin, Susan Collier, Ashley Nunn

Beth Nicely, RDH was formally installed as District V Trustee. She led her first meeting at our District V group discussions. She was in control and kept us on topic. Kentucky is proud of you, Beth, and will watch you climb up the leadership ladder.

A new advanced leadership conference is being developed and will be at the mid winter meeting in Chicago. ADHA sent out a survey this year and this was a concern among constituent and component leaders. The ADHA president will preside over this meeting and there will be a charge.

Executive Director Ann Battrell gave the yearly report. Due to the economy, businesses budget cuts have been made, and employees agreed to continue even without raises. We saw lots of charts and slides on the metrics used to manage and measure our organization. The focus is on membership and advocacy. Survey results showed an increase in relevance for membership and the membership is slightly increasing. District V was recognized for increase in membership. (Ohio) She suggested concentrating on the positives and work on those areas. We have the best ADHA staff that encourages questions, e-mails, and phone calls. New resources to look for are Council on Public Health information, grant opportunity resources, and Career Opportunity tool kit (template to use in the states). They are currently working to update the master file for

state information.

Mega Issues discussion was "How will the current and emerging oral health workforce models change the way dental hygienists practice, both now and in the future?" New employment avenues need to be established to take care of the health needs. Insurance companies in some states are recognizing dental hygienists' as health care providers. I encourage you to contact local legislators to let them know who we are and what we do. Network with other groups outside of dental that have concern for health care issues and let's stop the perception that we "just cleaning teeth". Look for the summary of our conclusions in the Fall *Access* magazine.



Some Kentucky RDH cowgals at the ADHA Bash

Many from Kentucky attended the Nashville ADHA annual session. It is a fun town with music playing on every corner. It always renews my excitement about our profession. Please invite a non member to a meeting this year. It is all about relationships and getting the word out about the threats and advances of our profession. New ADHA President Pam Quinones asked us to look for the spark in someone and ask them to be involved.

Sincerely,
Laura Blanton, RDH,BS
KYDHA President
KYDHA Head Delegate

Component News

South Western District Information :

SWDDHA has created a Facebook page- "[South Western District Dental Hygiene Association](#)" The purpose of this page is to help members of the component stay connected and informed about what is happening in the component and the area. It includes a temp. list for hygienists to easily access. southwesterndistrict@yahoo.com can be emailed with contact information, questions, or suggestions concerning the component. The component will begin local CE courses in the fall. First CE is Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 6:00pm. Check Facebook page for more details.

Louisville District Information:

There are many exciting things happening in the Louisville District in Fall 2011! We have three outstanding CE courses. On Sept 15, we are hosting national speaker Pat Pine speaking about utilizing technology in the office and time constraints. Our second scheduled CE course features Lil Caperila, RDH, and M.Ed., speaking on Periodontal Instrumentation sponsored by Premier, October 20th. Our final CE course is scheduled for November 10th featuring Dr. Kori Acord discussing Pedodontics. The University of Louisville has planned a Floss Walk and CE course scheduled on November 5th. What a great way to get healthy, get some CE hours and see the newly renovated dental school on a Saturday morning!

Along with our CE courses, we have developed a [Facebook group](#) in which Louisville area dental hygienists can post job openings, needs for substitute hygienists, and general discussion about dental hygiene products and practice. It is such a handy tool for wide communication among our local dental community.

Heartland Information:

Heartland is proud to offer scholarships to second-year hygiene students. To compete, the students must either live in or go to school in one of the counties in our component. Congratulations to our 2011 Scholarship winners, Kasey Samuels and Valerie Parkey, both students of ECTC!

Annually HDHA chooses organizations to which to donate. This year we sent money to the children of Sierra Leone, Africa to buy school supplies and personal hygiene items for the Backpack Program. We were also happy to send money to help renovate the Lexington Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic.

In September, local dentists and hygienists will work together to screen elementary school children for Smile Kentucky. Children in need will be identified for future treatment at no cost to the families.

Heartland started the CE calendar with the first class on February 26. Dr. Nicholas Ising gave an enlightening lecture on "The Role of the Dental Hygienists in Orthodontic Therapy." Then on March 19, Dr. Juan Yepes presented "Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office".

The following classes will be offered this fall:

October 22--Dr. Bryan Burdette will present, "An Overview of the Evidence-Based Oral-facial Pain Practice"

and Nick Gargala (psychotherapist) will explain Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) ~This is a free class in honor of National Hygiene Month~

November 12--Juli Kagan, RDH, will teach from her book entitled, Pilates for the Seated Professional

December 3--Jean Thompson will expound on Laser Periodontal Pocket Therapy and Dr. Robert Franklin will present before and after pictures of laser treatment

These classes will start at 9:00 am at Lincoln Trail District Health Department, located

at 108 New Glendale Road in Elizabethtown. Go to www.heartlanddha.org for more information.

South Eastern District Information:

Southeastern District has made a Facebook book to keep members and other RDHs informed of the happenings in the area. You can like them at [Southeastern District Facebook page!](#)

Annual Session 2012

March 9-10



Save the Date!
March 9 - 10, 2012
Downtown Louisville
KYDHA Annual Session

Component Web Links

[Louisville DDHA website](#)
[Blue Grass DDHA website](#)
[Heartland DHA website](#)



Advancement for RDHs in Kentucky: Legislative News

The Ordinary Hygiene Regulation was approved in Frankfort by the Administrative Regulations Review Subcommittee on August 10. [RDH's had been working under emergency regulations.] A task force appointed by the Board of Dentistry is currently working on the regulation and protocols for the Public Health Dental Hygienist. At this time Public Health Hygienists must work under the current General Supervision regulations.

Laser debridement is now within the scope of dental hygiene practice. To become certified to perform laser debridement in Kentucky you must take a Board of Dentistry approved course and then register with the Board. The course curriculum must follow the Academy of Laser Dentistry's introductory course and standard proficiency course. If you are not taking a course from the Academy of Laser Dentistry's list of recognized providers the course must be approved by the Board's Education Committee. The Board of Dentistry is going to keep track of the courses and providers they approve. The fee to register is \$50.

Governor Beshear has not yet appointed the second hygienist to the Board of Dentistry.

Please remember that the CE requirements for licensure have changed slightly. The HIV course is still required every 10 years. CPR and an additional 30 hours are required every renewal cycle. 10 hours must be taken in "Live Interactive Format". The courses do not need to be Board of Dentistry approved but must meet the guidelines set out in regulation [to relate to or advance the practice of dental hygiene]. The medical emergency course for General Supervision registration must be Board approved. Visit the Board of Dentistry's website for more details. www.dentistry.ky.gov

KYDHA Annual Session 2011 Report - Louisville, KY - April 2011

Another Kentucky Dental Hygiene Association annual session has come and gone! This year's KYDHA annual session was a great success. We had a total of 361 registrants which included 126 members, 105 non-members, and 130 students. Out of the students registered for the annual session 93 presented educational table clinics. The 2011 Table Clinic Winners were as follows:

Nutritional Values vs. Sugar Content

- University of Louisville
 - Eryn Lily
 - Brandi Ray
 - Kandice Salter

What's on Your Brush?

- University of Louisville
 - Adam Hall
 - Emily Spencer
 - Janie Canup

Spit Like a Man

- Western Kentucky University
 - Alyssa Bishop
 - Elizabeth Henry
 - Johanna Higdon

In addition to the student table clinic winners there were five students who received outstanding student awards. Those students are Brandi N. Ray from the University of Louisville, Komal Patel from Henderson Community College, Crystal Hacker Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Amanda Lowry from Western Kentucky University, and Johnna Broughton from Big Sandy Community College. If you know any of the students listed above please congratulate them on their achievements.

The annual session consisted of multiple continuing education programs and for the first time this year a silent auction. Thank you to each member and local component for providing donations to be auctioned during the silent auction. Your support assisted in making the silent auction a success.

Last but not least we need to recognize the continued support of our corporate sponsors. Without their support the annual session would cease to exist. This year's sponsors were Crest/Oral B, Colgate, Dux Dental, Philips Sonicare, Sunstar Butler, Zila, GlaxoSmithKline, Kerr Totalcare, Orascoptic, Patterson Dental, GC America, Xlear, and Brighter Smiles.



KYDHA Sponsors - Thank you!

On behalf of the KYDHA Executive Council and the Board of Trustees, I would like to invite each of you to join us for another fun filled annual session at the Marriott Downtown in March 2012.

Kimberly G. Bastin, CDA, EFDA, RDH, MS
KYDHA President-elect



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