
DECEMBER 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holiday season is approaching fast, and 2017 is coming to an end. This is the time of year for giving thanks, and reflection. I would first like to thank each DDHA member for your daily contributions to the dental hygiene profession and patient care. You may not hear it enough, but your commitment to the profession and your patients is appreciated. As I reflect on this year, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve on the only association that is an advocate for the dental hygiene profession. This has been a year of learning and growth for me, as your DDHA President.

DDHA provided an incredible continue education course on November 3rd, with speaker Tom Viola, on the topics of diabetes followed by an afternoon of pharmacology. His course was very informative, engaging, and entertaining! If you have not had the privilege of attending one of his courses, please make it a point not to miss his next one, as you will not be disappointed! A **BIG** thank you to Tom, DDHA CPE Chair, Teresa Matoni, and the CPE committee for putting this event together! DDHA would also like to thank the Delaware Technical Community College Dental Hygiene students and faculty for their attendance at the continuing education course. If you were not able to attend, the second-year dental hygiene students presented their table clinic projects. The students continue to impress us with their hard work and cutting-edge topics. These students are the future of the dental hygiene profession and it was so nice to welcome them at the course! As always, thank you to all the DDHA members that attended, and helped support DDHA's CPE course.

I hope every one of you have a peaceful and joyous holiday season with a happy and prosperous New Year!

Jaryn Bermudez, RDH



**95TH ANNUAL
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JUNE 20-25, 2018
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FUTURE ANNUAL SESSION SITES OF
THE AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

CLL 2017- 95th Annual Session
June 20-25, 2018
Columbus, OH

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HYGIENE HOTLINE

Newsletter of the Delaware Dental Hygienists' Association
This newsletter is provided to members of The Delaware Dental Hygienists' Association
Non-members may subscribe for \$20.00 a year

Delaware Dental Hygienists' Association
222 Catalina Drive
Newark, DE 19711

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News From

Kent/Sussex County DHA



News From New Castle County DHA

Since my last communication to you, the weather has certainly shifted to the autumn feeling we have been long awaiting. We have also changed the décor around our offices, practices, and homes to reflect the approaching holiday. Most of us have either embraced the chill in the air, or wished we were able to travel South until Winter is over.

With Thanksgiving 2017 behind us, it is so easy to be drawn into the commercialism surrounding Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. Lest we forget our neighbors and friends with holiday cards, homemade treats, lavish meals, gifts galore, and festive mood abounding. We are so fortunate to be afforded the ability to partake in these aspects of the holiday season, however, there are many who are unable to enjoy this time of the year. There can be an overwhelming amount of stress during the holidays, for everyone. While we tend to focus on our loved ones during the holiday season, let us not forget about our professional passion within; we are driven to provide excellent care for our patients, which in turn shapes us into empathetic, caring, sensible individuals. I've heard stories from many of you about how generous you have been to those in need. I urge you to continue to exude that bigheartedness this holiday season to those who are less fortunate than us. I am not only referencing those who are visibly in need, but perhaps our co-workers and colleagues, who may not outwardly show they are struggling. Sometimes it is difficult for us to see what is directly in front of us; a co-worker who is financially struggling and fearful of losing their home or not being able to provide food for their family, a colleague who is battling a mental illness which is even more arduous to control during the holidays, or perhaps it is the patient in your chair who has just lost their job and feels that their world is falling apart.

Let us use our gift of listening this season. Listen intently for the cries for those who seek support, refuge, recourse and sustenance. No matter how great or minute their needs are, they yearn for your regard. Consider giving your time to these beautiful, blessed people who perhaps are lost at this moment in their life. By exuding beneficence you might be surprised by the feeling this evokes within you; perhaps greater than a feeling of opening a gift you've been pining for this holiday.

These past few years I have realized more that the holidays are not about how perfectly your holiday cookies turn out, how beautifully arranged your family's holiday photo is, how you have precisely placed the holiday decorations around your house, or how adept you are at selecting holiday gifts for everyone on your list. The holidays are about the people around you; our friends, family, neighbors, acquaintances, patients, co-workers, colleagues, and those who chance to pass you by. May you find joy in the simple things, peace all around you, happiness & warmth in the memories you will make this season, and love abounding in your heart.

Peace & love to you always,

Jennifer Quillen-Strauss, R.D.H., B.S.D.H.

The Awards and Scholarships Committee is accepting nominations for the **Dental Hygienist of the Year** and the **Dental Hygiene Community Service Award** nominations must be received by **March 9, 2018**. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

Dental Hygienist of the Year

- A. A voting member in good standing of DDHA/ADHA
- B. Five years of DDHA membership to include:
 - 1. Participation at the state level for 5 years
 - a) Officer, or committee member for at least 3 of the 5 years
 - b) Attendance at past DDHA Annual Session and/or Continuing Professional Education Programs
 - 2. Volunteer efforts for DDHA in any of the following ways:
 - a) Special Committee work
 - b) Planning special DDHA programs
 - c) Community oriented efforts representing DDHA
 - d) Public relations for DDHA
 - e) Legislative activities
 - 3. Any other special assignments taken on by the member which has been sanctioned by DDHA which may not fit into any of the criteria listed above.
- C. A dental hygienist who has demonstrated an outstanding dedication to the profession.

Community Dental Hygiene Service award

- A. a voting member in good standing of DDHA/ADHA
- B. Volunteer efforts for DDHA in two or more of the following ways:
 - 1. Special Committee work
 - 2. Planning special DDHA community programs
 - 3. Community oriented efforts representing DDHA
 - 4. Public relations for DDHA
- C. A dental hygienist who has represented the profession in an outstanding community service contribution.

Nominations are open to anyone who meets the criteria of these awards and should be submitted to: Merith Taylor – meritht@comcast.net

Advanced Degree Scholarship Applicants

The Delaware Dental Hygienists' Assoc. will be awarding two \$400.00 scholarships to hygienists returning to school for advanced education. These scholarships will be awarded at the Spring Continuing Professional Education Program and will go towards recipients fall semester tuition. The following criteria must be met in order to apply:

- A. A voting member in good standing of DDHA/ADHA for three years
- B. Part-time educational status declared in a health-related field.
- C. An advocate promoting one of the six roles of dental hygiene: Administrator, Advocacy, Educator, Clinician, Research, Public Health
- D. Advanced Degree Scholarships will be awarded on an individual basis not to exceed \$400 annually. Award selection will be based on criteria fulfillment, scores of applications and the number of qualified applicants.

To request an application, contact MerithTaylor – meritht@comcast.net deadline: Mar. 9, 2018

