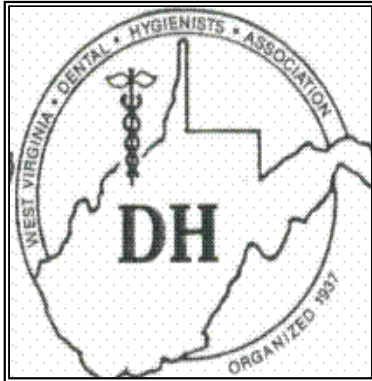


WVDHA Newscaler

Winter 2009

Editor: Dawn Ann Dean RDH, MSDH, WVDHA President



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lmuthrdh@yahoo.com

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WVDHA

President's Address:

I can hear the song now..."CH,CH, CHANGES," as this president's address unfolds and the incredible developments of our association's alliances, not to mention the profession of dental hygiene's alliances in WV, shifts direction. Our WVDHA Administration is in place, with changes that were crucial to the renewed, positive energy we needed to pursue key issues, both professionally & legislatively. We have commitment now to the pursuit of restoring our professional alliances with the WVDA & the WVBODE, opening the welcome doors of communication that lead to progress. Following a meeting with WVDA Executive Director, Richard Stevens, in early January at his executive office in Charleston, Laura Aliff, WVDHA Legislative Chair, WVDHA member & Asst. Director WVU HSC Oral Health Initiative, Gina Sharps, & I resolved that although there would always remain areas of disagreement on both sides, when reviewing the "Emergency Rules" which were coming before the "WV Legislature's Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee," we were ultimately,

both, willing to pledge our commitment to working together. When addressing the obvious area of most question: “8.2gg - “dental assistants coronally polishing,” we were assured that the WVDA had no intention on dental assistants coronally polishing as a “billed” procedure, which both sides agreed would be an illegal service in need of WVBODE disciplinary action. We were also assured of the opportunity to analyze the efficacy of such a procedure over the course of the next two years, with the WVDA & the WVBODE open to discuss any concerns/observations that may surface due to “dental assistants coronally polishing.” As the meeting ended, we all were elated to share with our associations the product of our discussions & the common vision of desiring to join forces to answer the “access to care” issues by ultimately finding patients “dental homes” to address their dental healthcare needs.

The WVDHA Executive Board voted by majority, following a “meeting review” given by me & Laura Aliff via email. I, also, had the Exec. Board review the Virginia Dental Hygiene Association legislative victory over “dental assistants polishing & scaling,” to consider all the possibilities for our own state’s decision. Our Exec. Board did not agree with, “8.2gg - “dental assistants coronally polishing,” but we did not want to “kill” the entire bill losing the “General Supervision” & “Public Health Practice Permit.” The later two issues were key in our decision, as we are satisfied that dental hygienists are taking their “first steps” into the dental community under these broadening professional settings. Tapping dental hygienists’ unique ability to provide education, preventative clinical skills, and practice management, in answer to the “access to care” issues in WV, will fuel the vehicle driving us to the same destination: “providing ethical & quality” dental healthcare.

Speaking of “driving vehicles to the same destination,” I want to thank all of the membership & potential membership that attended the January 24, 2009, “Mid-Winter Meeting,” at the Clarksburg, Hilton Garden Inn; we had a lovely day at our new, beautiful location! The presenters were simply outstanding, with the “dynamic duo” of OSHA Standards: Pam Payne, PhD, MHA, CHSP, CHCM, RDH, and Amy Gay, RN, CIC, ICP; Ruth Roach, Sales Consultant for Premier Dental, and Dennis Cone, District Manager, GC America Inc.! Our Patterson Dental vendor extraordinaire, Sharon Green, RDH, shared her product & her computer wizardry with her “have lap-top will travel” heroics! LOL! Your “attendee surveys” applauded the location, the presenters, and the WVDHA performance! Thank you so much!

Also, I want to thank those attendees for their spirit of excitement, as I shared the “highlights” of the upcoming “WVDHA Spring Symposium” scheduled at the Charleston Ramada Plaza Hotel, Saturday, February 28, 2009! Truly, this CE Event will be an “epic” experience for the WVDHA membership, potential membership, & guests! Check out the “Registration Form” enclosed in this newsletter to register, you may print additional registration forms from our website: www.wvdhaonline.org for guests to attend, too! Dentists & dental hygienists will love the “practice management” & “public health practice permit” courses being offered! Kudos to Richard Stevens, WVDHA Executive Director, for extending our event information from 1/24/09, and now the 2/28/09 event, to the WVDHA email list! Remember to wear “red” & bring a “canned good” to celebrate “community awareness & service!”

In closing let me extend my gratitude to the WVDHA membership & potential membership, for affirming my role as WVDHA President! September 12, 2009, WVDHA Fall Annual Session, is only 7 months away, as is the close of my two-year presidency. It was a close friend & colleague, a few years ago, who convinced me to take the role as president, stating, “You may be what the WVDHA needs right now.” I will let you be the judge of that & give you the opportunity to express your opinion, as I plan for you the “Roll Out The Red Carpet” Annual Session Event at the Bridgeport Conference Center on Saturday, September 12, 2009! OMGosh! Do I have an itinerary you will not want to miss; so SAVE the date! We will introduce the “new” administration, presenter talent, & the “WVDHA Distinguished WV RDH Award” recipient, just to name a few “highlights!” Look for the “registration flyer” in the Summer Edition/Newscler or online at: www.wvdhaonline.org by June 2009!

I also invite you to attend the ADHA Annual Session in Washington, DC, June 17 -23, as WV & all of District III are the “hosts” for this exciting event, very close to home! Volunteers from WV are needed to assist at this year’s “Annual Session,” so take a look online at: www.ADHA.org to register! Following my attendance at the District III meetings this spring in Rockville, MD, I will have more information for you as the date draws closer.

See you in Charleston for the “Spring Symposium,” 2/28/09!

Respectfully Yours,
Dawn Ann Dean R.H., MSH, WVDHA President

New Legislative Chair Announced

Laura (Stevens) Aliff, BSDH, RDH, is a 1982 graduate of the West Virginia University School of Dentistry Division of Dental Hygiene, upon which time she was inducted into the school's chapter of Sigma Phi Alpha, the National Dental Hygiene Honorary. She was also active in the Student Dental Hygiene Association on campus. She has been a long-standing member of the WVDHA, having joined upon graduation. She is currently the immediate, Past-President of the SOD Alumni Association Board of Governors, the first dental hygienist to hold this office. She just completed her fourth term on the board. Aliff has served several terms on the School of Dentistry Board of Advisors.

As a hygienist & office manager in private practice, Laura has enjoyed her career in dental hygiene. Currently, Laura is working under contract for the Office of Maternal, Child, and Family Health's Oral Health Program/Children's Dentistry Project, as an oral health educator for Harrison, Marion, and Taylor counties. She also serves as a dental advocate for Milan Puskar Health Right, a free clinic serving Monongalia and surrounding counties. Laura was recently appointed to serve on the newly established Oral Health Advisory Board of West Virginia.

Aliff is a member of various professional organizations, as well as several alumni association groups. She and her husband, Bill, live in Bridgeport, WV, and are the parents of two daughters, both students at WVU.

Welcome Laura to her new, WVDHA appointment!

♡♡ Mid-Ohio Valley Mission of Mercy

WVU-Parkersburg, July 31 • August 1, 2009

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Mary Beth Shea, RDH, Oral Health Coordinator, Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department, is pleased to announce the WVU-Parkersburg/Mid-Ohio Valley/Mission of Mercy/ two day free dental clinic. This year's clinic hopes to treat over 1200 adults, but they need your help! To get more information or

register to volunteer, go to: www.movhd.com/dental or phone Mary Beth at: 1.304.485.7374. Phone toll free at: 1.888.550.6797. You may register online or mail the registration to: M.O.M. Project/Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept./211 Sixth St./Parkersburg, WV/26101.

WVDHA 2009 * Calendar-of-Events

- Saturday/February 28, 2009..."Spring Symposium"/Ramada Plaza Hotel/Charleston, WV, I-64W,toward Huntington, Montrose exit. Theme: "Feel the Love," *wear "red" & bring a "canned good."
- June 17 - 23, 2009...ADHA Annual Session/ Washington, DC
- Saturday, June 27, 2009..."Strategic Planning Meeting"...WVDHA Executive Board only
Clarksburg Public Library/ 2nd Floor/10 - Noon *Philips lunch
- Saturday/September 12, 2009..."Fall Annual Session"/ Bridgeport Conference Center/
Bridgeport, WV, I-79, exit 124.Theme: "Roll Out The Red Carpet."

*****GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS PLANNED*****

Save the following dates & join your WVDHA Membership for the 2009, General Assembly meetings held from 4 - 5 pm, after the 2/28/09 "Spring Symposium" CEU & after the 9/12/09 "Fall Annual Session" CEU.

Remember to bring your ADHA Membership Card for registration & general assembly meeting, at both of these events. ***Send agenda items to be considered by the Exec. Board to: Dawn Dean @: deanRDHmsdh@aol.com , no later than two weeks prior to the February event; and for the fall event, send agenda items no later than 30 days prior, to the event in accordance with our by-laws. I have waived this protocol for the 2/28/09 event, due to the administrative changes & legislative travel incurred by the Exec. Board during the holidays that reduced our event planning time, for the convenience of the membership.

WVDHA IS "GOING GREEN!"

**2009 IS THE LAST YEAR OF "SNAIL MAIL" FOR THE WVDHA
"NEWSCALER" & REGISTRATION FORMS! GET BOTH AT:
WWW.WVDHAONLINE.ORG ! STILL NEED YOURS MAILED? CONTACT US!
WVDHA NEWSCALER
WINTER 2009
48 MAPLE AVENUE
WHEELING, WV 26003**

Check Us Out! WWW.WVDHAONLINE.ORG

Web Master, Adam Herrick, Renews Contract

WVDHA is proud to announce that web master, Adam Herrick, renewed a two-year contract to provide us with a new, contemporary design to leave a lasting "first impression" for members & business associates to enjoy! Dawn & Adam met in late November to address the WVDHA's "wishlist," & we will be totally revamped by March 1, 2009. Thank you, Adam, & congrats on your new job in Clarksburg! Members, remember to send your email addresses to: deanRDHmsdh@aol.com for our mass email server list. We love serving you! Smile!