



Maïne Dental Hygienists' Association  
Celebrating 80 Years of Excellence!!!!

Upcoming Events ~ (registration inserts for both 2006 events enclosed)

2006 **Thursday, September 28, 2006 - Dr. Mark Nadeau**, MMC's Dana Center, Portland, Maine ~  
5:30-8 PM ~ Specializing in Spectacular Smiles & Confident Tomorrows

**Friday and Saturday, November 3-4, 2006**, The Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn Maine  
**The Fall Connection** and 80th Anniversary, sponsored by MDHA

2007 Friday and Saturday, June 15-16, 2007, MDHA Scientific Session with MDA at The Samoset  
ADHA Annual Session- June 20-27, 2007  
Spring and Fall 2007 CEU's- Watch for dates  
Friday and Saturday, November 2-3, 2007- Fall Connection



This issue of MDHA's SCOOP is being sent to all Maine dental hygienists  
in the hope that you will read it with pride and interest. Even better,  
if you are not already a member of this great Association, join us!



THE SCOOP  
Maine Dental Hygienists' Association  
269 Town Farm Road  
New Gloucester, ME 04260

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# The SCOOP

The Newsletter of the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association ~ Summer/Fall 2006

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SEE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS, PG 4

## Benefits of ADHA and MDHA Membership- Advancing Dental Hygiene, One Professional at a Time

• **With the American Dental Hygienists' Association's help, the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association has been successful in getting the legislature to approve the following...**

- our ability to take a local anesthesia course at one of our two Dental Hygiene schools
- our subsequent ability to give local anesthesia
- the ability to be employed in Public Health settings and get PAID for it!
- the ability to be employed in unusual settings (ie: pediatrician's offices)
- because of these efforts, the Dental Hygiene schools are able to bill MaineCare for the students services and get paid for them
- **Members receive discounts on MDHA sponsored CEU's**
- **MDHA strives to provide the BEST Continuing education related to the Dental Hygiene Profession**
- **Members receive group discounts on insurances**
- **Professional pride**



Visit your professional associations on the web for  
more information, including legislative  
updates and membership information...

**You can join ADHA & MDHA online right now!**

ADHA at [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org) ~ MDHA at [www.mainedha.org](http://www.mainedha.org)

**MDHA supports these interesting and helpful websites ~**

- [www.WatchYourMouth.org](http://www.WatchYourMouth.org)
- [www.smokefree.com](http://www.smokefree.com)
- [www.adha.com](http://www.adha.com)

**For watching and commenting on legislative issues~**  
[www.mainelegislature.org](http://www.mainelegislature.org) & [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org)



## ADHA District 1 ~ Trustee Report

Are you aware of what the American Dental Hygienists Association has done for your profession this year?

**The Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner Draft Curriculum:** I am pleased to report that through the hard work of the ADHP Task Force, the Association has made real progress on completing and delivering the first and second drafts of the ADHP curriculum. The task force welcomes all feedback from our members on this vital component in shaping the dental hygienist of the future. The latest draft was presented for review and comment by the membership during the 2006 ADHA Annual Session, in Orlando, Florida, June 21-28, 2006.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the 2005-2006 year was when President Bush signed the Department of Health and Human Service's fiscal year 2006 funding bill that was accompanied by a Senate Appropriations Committee report including language encouraging the Health Resources and Services Administration to explore the creation of the **ADHP**. The report language was inserted into the funding bill by Sen. Daniel Inouye (D/Hawaii), a longtime champion of health professions such as nurse practitioners and physical therapists.

**Lobby Day** was a very exciting time, and I had the pleasure of presenting **Senator Collins** from Maine with an award.

Another exciting initiative that we have made substantial progress with this year is the **draft clinical practice guidelines**. The guidelines reflect the standards of practice for the dental hygiene profession. The draft was released during ADHA's 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session in Orlando,

Florida.

A key initiative during the past 12 months was the release of the position paper on dental hygiene diagnosis, formally recognizing this vital component of the process of patient care by the dental hygiene profession.

The ADHP draft curriculum, the clinical practice guidelines and the dental hygiene diagnosis paper, may all be viewed on the ADHA website: [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org).

**Real time membership application and conference registration:** ADHA has undertaken the effort to provide members with real-time access to their Association 24-hours a day, seven days a week through the Web site, [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org). Please check it out!

A **Branding Initiative** has been approved by the Board Of Trustees. Member Services and Communications Divisions have joined forces to develop & present a proposal to the Board to utilize the services of Tim Prosch of Contact Points, Inc. as ADHA's branding consultant. At Annual Session, focus groups were conducted to kick off the first stage of this unprecedented undertaking.

Branding will enable ADHA to take a look in the mirror and understand where the Association is today & where it needs to go in the future to grow to the next level. It will involve research to determine how ADHA as an organization is viewed by members, non-ADHA members, allied professionals and corporate supporters.

**ADHA master file effort** to put Dental Hygiene workforce information into the Spotlight: The Master file project has 2 broad goals; to establish ADHA as the primary and preferred source of data &

info about the DH profession in the US, and to improve the quality & timeliness of the data about DH & the practice of DH.

The Master file will provide much needed data about practitioners that could support a variety of educational & policy reports, research studies & administrative planning. The project will encompass demographic and workforce information on Dental Hygienists throughout the country, and would be a major step towards narrowing the dental hygiene info gap.

This project will be managed through the research division and also includes staff from the divisions of education, communications, member services, governmental affairs, corporate development, and info management.

"The road to get to this point has been long. Getting this far has been the result of the hard work of dedicated dental hygienists across the nation. We OWE them our thanks for passing the torch on to generations of dental hygienists to come." (Katie Dawson, RDH, ADHA President)

**This is an exciting time to be a Dental Hygienist, and I am proud to be a member of my professional association and feel it is my professional duty to support the only organization that supports me.**

If you are not currently supporting your professional association "The American Dental Hygienists' Association", I urge you to consider supporting your profession at this time.

Yours in good oral health,  
**Beverly Litchfield, RDH, BS**  
**ADHA District 1 Trustee**



Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine) accepts award from ADHA District 1 Trustee Beverly Litchfield, RDH, BS.

### Lobby Day 2006

March 21, Dental Hygienists and ADHA advocated for the nation's oral health on Capitol Hill. More than 170 members and students of the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) met on Capitol Hill to educate lawmakers about how dental hygienists save lives and to ask legislators to support the exploration of the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP)—a new mid-level oral health care provider who will address access to oral health care in

underserved communities. Similar to how the nurse practitioner was created, public need is the momentum behind the ADHP. Addressing the access to oral health care crisis in this country, particularly for rural or inner city residents, homebound or nursing home patients, the ADHP will provide traditional preventive dental hygiene services as well as basic restorative services.

For more information, read the complete article on the ADHA website.

### The Annual Survey ~ Please tell MDHA how you feel.

1. Are you a member of MDHA / ADHA? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no  
If yes, why? If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  2. If no, what would make you join MDHA?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  3. What do you want MDHA to do for you?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  4. What types of CE courses would you like to see offered? Where? Please be specific.  
\_\_\_\_\_
  5. Do you take CE courses that interest you or do you go for credits based on cost and proximity?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  6. Are you satisfied with dental hygiene as a profession? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_somewhat \_\_\_\_\_no  
Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  7. What types of change do you look forward to in the profession of dental hygiene?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  8. Do you visit MDHA's website, [www.mainedha.org](http://www.mainedha.org)? If yes, how often?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  9. Would you like to see this newsletter, SCOOP, continue as a means of communication for our profession statewide? Currently members will receive it twice a year, and non-members once a year.  
\_\_\_\_\_9\_\_\_\_\_
  10. What articles would you like to see in SCOOP?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  11. Please offer any suggestions or further comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (optional, but encouraged!) Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Thank you! Please return your survey by mail to: Catherine J. Kasprak, RDH, President, MDHA**  
**431 Main Street, Fryeburg, ME 04037-1142**  
**OR, email numbered answers to Cathy Kasprak at [ckasprak@fairpoint.net](mailto:ckasprak@fairpoint.net)**

**"Advancing Access for the New Age"  
Orlando Florida, June 21-28, 2006**

This year's ADHA Annual Session theme, *Advancing Access for the New Age*, was felt throughout the eight-day meeting. Maine was represented by two ADHA Delegates, Beryl Cole and Michelle Gallant. In addition to these two delegates, we were proud to see Bev Litchfield, ADHA District I Trustee, hard at work representing the delegation states of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont. We also had many individuals from our district serving on ADHA committees, councils, and as voting tellers. It is always wonderful to see how all the individuals from our district represent our states on an national level-impressive it is!!

We continue to have wonderful representation from our students throughout the country. It is so promising to see how passionate the students are about their profession.

Participants were able to choose from several continuing education courses, and special interest forums such as legislation, membership, corporate, education, etc. This is our opportunity to share with other states as well as listen to what is occurring throughout the country so we can bring that knowledge back to our individual states to help us throughout the upcoming year. It is always amazing to see that regardless of their size or region, states share many similar issues.

During the House of Representatives session, the Delegates get a chance to work together on ADHA's goals and policies. These issues voted upon at the House of Delegates plan the future of our Association. Please refer to the District I Trustee report that is also in this issue to learn more about the exciting path ADHA is pursuing. The experience individuals have while attending ADHA Annual Session is so hard to put into words. From the opening ceremonies to closing, it is a feeling like no other. To be surrounded by Dental Hygienists that care so deeply about the future of dental hygiene is so empowering. I would hope that everyone in our profession from grass root hygienist, educators, public health, corporate hygienists and beyond could share the ADHA Annual Session experience.

Those who represent you from Maine do so proudly. We feel fortunate to be able to represent our state. So, we continue to work for you locally but also nationally this year. Let's look forward to the 84th ADHA Annual Session, One Voice One Vision, in New Orleans, 2007.

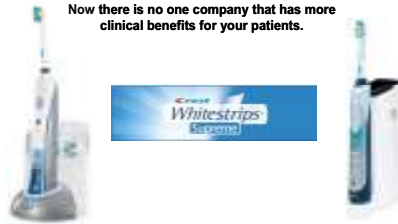
-Michelle Gallant

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*President's Message...Times Are Changing!*



This year is the 80<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association! Things have sure changed since 1926. When I was looking through some MDHA boxes I found letters that had been circulated among the officers about concerns they had and when the next meeting would be. The letter that sticks in my mind was about dental hygienists that did not hold a Certificate in Dental Hygiene from a school; but had been trained in a dental office. We can all get a chuckle about that now but also realize their concern. It is getting

easier to further your education right from your computer on-line. Just think of the changes in instruments from bulky blades all the way to fine diamond tips. With all of the wonderful technology and evidence based information we continue to search for more uses with our: ultrasonics, lasers, loupes, headlamps, microscopes, antimicrobials, manual and electric toothbrushes, fluorides, polishing materials, xylitol and sealant materials to name a few. Does anyone remember the Porte Polisher? OSHA and infection control have made their mark in the dental operatory. Ergonomics has been a big help with longevity in the field. Prevention is where dental hygiene started and will continue to

be. With all of the exciting things that have come our way, I wonder what the next 80 years will bring!

I am very happy to continue to be involved with dental hygiene. We are pioneering another age in the dental field. Let's continue with our own education, which helps us to realize our maximum potential academically, culturally and technically, while also providing for personal enrichment. Become active in your future. There is one guarantee in life-Change!

Catherine J. Kasprak, RDH  
MDHA President

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**Sherri L. LeVan,**  
recipient of ADHA  
Institute for Oral Health  
Cadbury Adams Community  
Outreach Scholarship  
**Mary Garrepy,**  
for her appointment to the  
Dental Hygiene Subcommittee  
of the Maine Board of  
Dental Examiners

**Catherine Haegerty Memorial Scholarship**

It gives the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association great pleasure to continue the tradition of the Catherine Haegerty Memorial Scholarship. Catherine Haegerty was an active member of the dental hygiene profession and professional association, finding great reward in her pursuits.

Dental Hygiene students must hold at least a 3.0 average and be an outstanding contributor to the Student Chapter of the American Dental Hygienists' Association. They must exhibit characteristics of leadership, loyalty, professionalism and dedication to the profession as did Catherine Haegerty. Applications for the scholarship will be available to interested student this upcoming academic year. Contact Michelle Gallant at 593-9158.



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**2006 RDH OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Candidates for the RDH of the Year Award must possess the following qualifications in order to be nominated:

- current MDHA/ADHA membership.
- candidate must be active in promoting dental health.
- dedicated to the profession of dental hygiene in the state of Maine.

The RDH of the Year Award will be presented at the MDHA Annual Meeting, November 3, 2006.

The nominators must submit a nomination form and outline of the candidate's eligibility and contributions to the dental hygiene profession. The deadline for submitting applications is October 1, 2006.

Mail to: Cathy Kasprak, RDH, 431 Main Street, Fryeburg, ME 04037-1142

**NOMINATION FORM - RDH OF THE YEAR - 2006**

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: work: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: work: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a brief outline of your nominee. **Deadline 10/01/06**

## MBDE Policy on Informed Consent ~ A Message for RDH's

Following is the conclusion of the Maine Board of Dental Examiners' Policy on Informed Consent. Hygienists have been advised to read the article in its entirety. To do so, visit the Maine Board of Dental Examiners' website or call 287-3333 to request a copy.

[www.mainedental.org](http://www.mainedental.org)

The need for the Board to establish this position on informed consent arises from the significant changes that have occurred in dentistry in the last decade. More and more general dentists are offering more and more involved care to patients. The Board recognizes that with proper training and education this provides the public with additional sources of advanced care needed to achieved and maintain oral

health. At the same time it becomes necessary to ensure that the public is well informed of its options and possible complications arising from such procedures and treatment plans. As a result, the Board expects licensees to obtain implied consent or expressed consent prior to patient treatment for all patients utilizing the guidelines outlined above.



## Graduation News from Maine's Two Dental Hygiene Schools

**Ruth Collard of UNE** reports that the University of New England SADHA chapter had a

successful and productive year. The dental hygiene students actively represented the dental hygiene profession in community service projects ranging from blood drives to food collection and sponsorship of adopt a family care. UNE SADHA was proud to host the annual District I SADHA meeting at the Yankee Dental Congress in January. The dental hygiene students

were poised, articulate and organized to coordinate this well attended meeting. The academic year of 2005-2006 demonstrated 100% of our dental hygiene sophomores and juniors registered in SADHA. This enrollment represents the largest student organization sponsored through UNE. The faculty wishes to congratulate all of the dental hygiene program graduates who will be entering the workforce this summer. They will continue to support and advocate the dental hygiene profession with the high standards that they have achieved.

**Nancy Foster of the University of Maine at Augusta's** Dental Health Program at the **University College of Bangor** campus reports that there were 18 graduates this year, and all passed the National Board. They will have 24 in next year's graduating class.

Please note that UC Bangor's dental hygiene program is looking for volunteer dentists to teach and work chair side with the dental hygiene students. If you know a dentists who may be interested, please refer him/her to Peggy Morse at 262-7872.

## Call For Nominations~

The following are positions on the MDHA Executive Board open for nominations. If you have any interest or questions about the positions please contact Cathy Kasprak 935-9192 [ckasprak@fairpoint.net](mailto:ckasprak@fairpoint.net)



### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

The office of the President-Elect will serve as an Executive Board member and attend all regular and special meetings and submit a report of activities and correspondence at the board meeting. The President-Elect will assist the President in any way delegated by the President. They will succeed to the office of President upon completion of one year as President-Elect without election. They will plan all activities for the Annual Meeting to include: accommodations, speakers, luncheon arrangements and registration.

### OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President will serve as an Executive Board member and attend all regular and special meetings and submit a report of activities and correspondence at each board meeting. They will assist the President-Elect with regard to all activities of the Annual Meeting. This is a one year term.

### OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer will serve as an Executive Board member and attend all regular and special meetings and submit a report of all activities and correspondence at each board meeting. The Treasurer will oversee that all treasury records are audited annually. Duties include: Pay expenses charged to association, deposit in appropriate accounts all monies collected from dues, continuing education courses, projects, donations, reconcile bank statements monthly, journalize receipts and expenditures, administer funds for scholarships. This office is a two year term.



A campaign to change how the public perceives and values children's oral health is entering its second year in Maine.

WYM is specifically designed to "reframe" children's oral health so that the general public not only begins to acknowledge the importance of kids' oral health to their overall health, but also sets a climate that encourages policy makers to set an agenda that supports community improvements in oral health.

The campaign began in autumn 2005 with a series of media releases and some Opinion Editorials in newspapers across the state, as well as articles and ad placements in the house organs of nonprofit organizations and local media. This year, with no paid media, letters to the editor and Opinion Editorials are even more vital to improving the public's understanding of the value of oral health.

## WATCH YOUR MOUTH!

By working together, we can overcome the problems that affect our children's oral health, because oral diseases are largely preventable.

- We can make sure that we provide care for our children's teeth as we do for the rest of their bodies.
- We can mobilize our communities to ensure that we sustain funding for valuable programs such as tuition forgiveness for new dentists who agree to establish their practices to rural Maine.
- We can improve access to oral health care by coordinating education, screening and treatment services among physicians, dentists and social service providers.
- We can prevent oral disease by providing fluoride (through supplements and water fluoridation) and sealants (plastic coatings that seal the pits and grooves of molar teeth) through school-based and community-based health clinics.
- We can use our voices to speak up for children's oral health.

For more information, please contact Kate Perkins at (207) 622-7566 x225, or go to our website, [www.watchyourmouth.org](http://www.watchyourmouth.org). Please help the campaign by displaying WYM posters in your offices, wearing the buttons or lapel pins, and talking up the campaign with others.

Linda (Nancy) Wacholz, RDH  
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Bangor, ME 04917  
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Mobile 207-498-9956  
[www.watchyourmouth.net](http://www.watchyourmouth.net)

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