**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE . . .**

Change is in the air! The days are getting shorter, the nights are getting colder and as a famous quote, reminds us “It is not the strongest of the species that survives, but the one most responsive to change.”

On Thursday October 30th I attended the Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) Fall Oral Health Symposium. I presented information on the Limited Access Permit (LAP) and how Community Health Partner-Dental Clinics across the state could benefit and implement the LAP workforce. Dr. Bob Russell, Iowa Dental Director, spoke immediately after my presentation. He said, “Like it or not, the profession of dentistry is undergoing change. It is time for dentists to allow dental auxiliaries to practice at their full scope and allow new dental workforce practices.” He went on to explain that mid-level Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants are now common place and mid-level dental providers will also, become common practice. Yes, change is in the air and it is our responsibility to create our new future.

I am fortunate to be surrounded by an amazingly talented, energetic, and creative Board of Trustee’s (BOT). That’s long for saying “Great Leadership!” The synergy became quite evident during our Strategic Planning Weekend, Oct. 24-26, at Bozeman Lucky Dog Lodge. Using the Mega Issue responses collected during the 2014 Annual Session meeting, BOT members were divided into one of four work groups: (1) Membership and Communication, (2) Annual and Spring CE Sessions, (3) LAP & Research, and (4) Policy. We all enjoyed Stephanie Cunningham’s presentation regarding MDHA investment opportunities. She is an investment planner from Edward Jones. Bonnie Young MDHA CE Coordinator and Tammy Helmer MDHA Treasurer will contact Stephanie Cunningham regarding investment opportunities and will report back during the January BOT meeting. A new strategic plan emerged from these four workgroups and financial presentation. A special “thank-you” to Barbara Dixon, ADHA District X Trustee for providing leadership during our Strategic Planning Meeting!

Several notable events are on the horizon!

- All Montana hygienists should be watching for quarterly Mail Chimp E-Blasts during the months of January, April, July, and October. To ensure you receive these E-Blasts, please update your email by contacting Deb Porter, MDHA Executive Administrator at montana@mdha.com.

- The Professional Partners mentorship program between GFC-MSU students and MDHA BOT members was reinstated.

- You should notice an increase in visible “fun” member incentives during Spring CE and Annual Session Meetings!

- MDHA’s LAP task force continues to build strategic alliances. These alliances will become visible as Kim Dunlap, MDHA LAP Chair, unveils a brochure that will list these endorsements. The brochure will be distributed to Montana Legislators during the

MDHA Lobby Day on Friday, January 23rd, 10 a.m., at the Capitol. Plan to attend!

- January 23, Lobby Day we will be partnering with the Montana Dental Association to support a bill to increase Medicaid reimbursements.

- Sarah Leichner, MDHA Public Health Chair, will collaborate with senior Dental Hygiene students at Great Falls College-MSU on a WIC research project (Jan. 2015). Results will be shared during Spring CE Session, April 24-25, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bozeman. Thank you Crystal Spring (Chair) and the Spring CE Committee.

- President Elect Heidi Halvorson continues to amaze me with all her activities. I can’t keep up!

- Past President Tracy Hull is collaborating with the MT Pharmacy Association, Dental Association, Nursing Association and Medical Association as leader of the statewide “Dry Mouth Campaign.”

- Membership Co-chairs, Brittney Hendricks and Tracy Hull, are ramping up MDHA efforts to increase and retain members.

- I will represent MDHA during the MT BOD Public Hearing Dec. 1, 2014 on the proposed 100% fee increase for RDH licensures (from $70 to $140) effective in 2015. All dental licenses are proposed to increase by 100%. Everyone is encouraged to attend the hearing on December 1st in person or via phone.

Read MDHA BOD Liaison, Sara Solberg’s article for more information.

Yes change is in the air…**your voice, your membership, YOU MATTER!** Let’s Lean In, Take Risk, and MOVE Forward! TOGETHER we can transform the profession of dental hygiene in Montana!

Lorie Becker RDH, MS, LAP
MDHA President

2014-15 MDHA Board of Trustees
A Message from the President-Elect . . .

I have been a dental hygienist for 34 years and being nominated to be President Elect of the Montana Dental Hygienists’ Association is truly a highlight of my career. I am extremely excited to work with Lorie Becker and the entire MDHA board to keep you informed on the exciting opportunities that are available for Montana dental hygienists.

One of these opportunities that I have had the privilege of participating in is our Limited Access Permit (LAP). Montana is included in a list of states that allows dental hygienists’ to provide preventative dental hygiene services to individuals who are unable to get to a dental office. We have been able to provide these services to residents in long term care facilities for over 10 years thanks to Judy Harbrecht, Patty Conroy and other dedicated trail blazers. Our expanded practice act did not happen on a whim, but bit by bit, step by step and systematically toward a common goal.

MDHA is still working on “expanding” our Limited Access Permit. We are using the three-pronged goals from the Coalition for Oral Health for the Aging (COHA) to guide us. (1) Education of dental professionals (2) Education of health services providers, and (3) Education of patients and their caregivers.

To fulfill (1) Education of dental professionals, MDHA will be providing another LAP continuing education course at our spring meeting on Saturday, April 25th. This course will be free for MDHA members. (2) Education of health services providers is being fulfilled by many dental hygienists giving in-services to staff members at LTC facilities and educational presentations to Ombudsman’s groups both in Eastern and Western Montana. (3) Education of patients and their caregivers is an ongoing task that all of us are participating in every day while we work.

I was recently invited to attend a social event, “Network with your Colleagues” at an assisted living facility. I take great pride in my dental hygiene colleagues but how exciting to expand our “colleagues” to include other health professionals like nurse practitioners, social workers, occupational and speech therapists. This social event fits right in with ADHA/MDHA’s goal of developing alliances with other groups and organizations that can help lead the transformation of the dental hygiene profession.

Networking with other organizations and health professions to help solve access to care issues is extremely rewarding and makes for better outcomes for our patients.

MDHA is a small organization in the big picture of health care, however, it doesn’t mean we can’t “act big,” and be an important player among health care providers. Good things can come from small groups who work together and collaborate with others.

I hope you can join me in working together to expand access to oral health care for all. Make sure you are a member of ADHA/MDHA because we need your support to move forward on making our communities healthier. If we all carry the torch we can make it burn as brightly as possible for future generations.

Heidi Halverson, RDH, BSDH, LAP
MDHA President Elect

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MDHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elected Officers
President  Lorie Becker
President - Elect  Heidi Halverson
Past - President  Tracy Hull
Secretary  Amy Brown
Treasurer  Tammy Helmer
Delegates  Lorie Becker & Heidi Halverson
Alternate Delegates  Crystal Spring & Cara Reck

Standing Committees
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BOD Liaison  Sara Solberg
Membership  Britney Hendriks & Tracy Hull
Legislative  Seeking Volunteer
Public Relations  Diedri Durocher
Historian  Kirsten Berg
Spring CE  2015  Crystal Spring
SADHA Liaison  Vanessa Rocheleau
Public Health  Sarah Leichner
Continuing Education  Bonnie Young

Component Trustees
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Helena  Amy Eikomstead & Cara Reck
Bozeman  Rebecca Anderson & Erica Gerard
Kalispell  Alisha Moberley
Missoula  Jenny Hawthorne
Great Falls  Kelly McDonald & Laurie Jessen
Glendive  Erin Kuehn

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Sign Up For an ADHA Listserv Today!

Listservs are a national communication tool about dental hygiene issues. Areas of interest include public health, student advisor, and governmental advocacy. By subscribing ADHA members can monitor national issues and trends through a discussion via e-mail.

Members and Nonmembers
Help us keep current!
Please notify the Communication Center
of any name, address, phone number,
and e-mail updates!!

montanadha@msn.com
(406)256-7384

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HYGIENE BULLETIN
ADHA/MDHA Membership

MDHA 2014-2015 is kicking off to a great start! MDHA President, Lorie Becker is set in high gear to progress the profession of dental hygiene in Montana. This means MDHA Membership retention and recruitment is also set in high gear. So far, we have had an exciting Annual Session in September and most recently, a progressive Strategic Planning session in Bozeman with the MDHA Board of Trustees. As Membership co-chairs, we will assist in matching Lorie Becker’s vision for her year of presidency by: Revamping our membership information and reader-board, assigning membership assistants to help us through Spring CE and 2015 Annual Session, reach members and non-members through-out the year with current MDHA activity. Our main goal is to keep everyone informed of actions occurring within MDHA. By doing so, we hope to encourage non-members to change to membership status by showing how important membership is and how we are benefiting your career in dental hygiene. Please be watching for quarterly updates from MDHA. These updates will include important bulletins from President Lorie Becker, latest actions by MDHA, helpful hints from hygienists across Montana, and links to health-related topics and issues occurring in the U.S.

You can help by making sure your membership information is accurate and current with MDHA (addresses, phone numbers, e-mails). It’s easy; just contact the MDHA Communication Center at montanadha@msn.com or (406) 256-7384 to update your information.

ADHA/MDHA has also made it easy for you to pay for your membership through a Quarterly Payment Plan (QPP). The dues average $54.25 each quarter, which includes a $3/quarter bank fee. Any existing member or non-member may join the quarterly payment plan at any time by contacting ADHA Membership Services at: (312) 440-8900 and pressing 1. You may also pay your membership dues by:

- Completing an application and mail it with a check or credit card information to ADHA. Please make check payable to ADHA. Mailing Address: 444 N Michigan Ave, Suite 3400, Chicago, IL 60611 http://www.adha.org/downloads/ADHA_member_application.pdf
- Log into your ADHA membership account to pay your annual dues.
- Telephone ADHA at: (312) 440-8900 to pay by credit card.
- Use the renewal slip in your “Dues” mailing.

Key features of being a member: You automatically receive a discount towards required CE. You receive a subscription to the Journal of Dental Hygiene and Access magazines to help you make evidence-based decisions and keep you abreast of the latest technology related to Dental Hygiene. You are eligible to receive discounts on professional and personal services nationwide.

Watch out Montana! It’s going to be an exciting year for MDHA!
Brittney Hendricks, RDH & Tracy Hull, RDH Membership Co-Chairs
100% Licensure Fee Increase Proposed by Board of Dentistry

The Montana Board of Dentistry has proposed a 100% fee increase on licensure for dentists, denturists and dental hygienists. The endorsements on licensure, such as local anesthesia and LAP will not be affected.

This fee increase is due to the BOD trying to achieve financial solvency, and they have disclosed that they have been working with a deficit budget for the past couple years. During the MDHA Strategic Planning a committee reviewed the BOD budget, and MDHA President, Lorie Becker, will be going to the public hearing on December 1st to seek clarification on the reasons for the 100% fee increase. You may also attend this meeting December 1st at 10:00 am, located in the Large Conference Room, 4th Floor, 301 South Park Avenue, Helena, MT. It may be possible to join the hearing via phone, call Dennis at the BOD, 406-841-2390. Written comments may be directed to the Board of Dentistry, 301 South Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200513, Helena, MT 59620-0153, by fax to (406) 841-2305 or email to dlibsdden@mt.gov. These comments must be submitted by December 5th by 5 pm. Unfortunately, the full board meeting takes place also December 5th in the morning, prior to the end of the official comment period. They will schedule a short conference call the following week to review the comments to amend the proposed language or go forward with the fee amendments as proposed.

Public Health Focus on WIC and Head Start

This should be an exciting year for public oral health in creating access to care. The focus is on early oral health interventions in community-based programs like WIC and Head Start. These two public health organizations serve low-income children that may be at higher risk for early childhood caries. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentists recommends a child’s first dental visit at age one or when the first tooth erupts so there is a need to increase oral health awareness as early as during pregnancy. Both WIC and Head Start have a referral system to help ensure children establish a dental home but there are still barriers to access including a lack of Medicaid providers and transportation. Our goal is to create partnerships with these organizations to establish onsite oral health services utilizing Limited Access Permit (LAP) dental hygienists. States like California have piloted successful, sustainable oral health programs in WIC clinics that provide core dental services including oral health assessment, education, fluoride varnish application, and referrals for ongoing dental care evaluation. The assessment phase begins in January and the results should be available at spring CE. We will keep you posted on our progress and if you are interested in participating in public oral health programs and have your Limited Access Permit (LAP) contact the Montana DPHHS Oral Health Program Coordinator:

Tonette Hollingsworth
(406) 444-2660
Thollingsworth@mt.gov

The MDHA encourages everyone to apply for a LAP as opportunities continue to be created for dental hygienists with LAP’s. For more information on applying for a LAP visit the MDHA website or contact Kim Dunlap at krdunlap@bresnan.net

Congratulations to Melissa Utley on her new position as the Head Start Dental Hygiene Liaison. Melissa served as MDHA Public Health Chair for over three years. She was the recipient of an MDHA Community Service Award for implementing a school screening program within Billings School District and currently works with low-income children on the St. Vincent Ronald McDonald Mobile Dental Unit and as a LAP hygienist in nursing homes. Melissa is an outstanding advocate for oral health and we look forward to her contributions to Head Start. If you have any questions regarding oral health programs within Head Start you can contact Melissa at tuthfari@gmail.com

Sarah Leichner, RDH, BS
MDHA Public Health Chair

MDHA 2014-2015 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2014</td>
<td>Public Hearing BOD, Helena</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5, 2014</td>
<td>Board of Dentistry Meeting, Helena</td>
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<td>January 23, 2015</td>
<td>Lobby Day, Helena</td>
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<td>January 26, 2015</td>
<td>MDHA BOT Meeting, Helena</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Children’s’ Dental Health Month</td>
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<td>March 3, 2015</td>
<td>Board of Dentistry Meeting, Helena</td>
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<td>Spring CE, Bozeman, MT</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Older Americans’ Month</td>
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<td>May 9, 2015</td>
<td>GFC-MSU Graduation</td>
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<td>May 19 - 22, 2015</td>
<td>Montana Special Olympics, Missoula</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13, 2015</td>
<td>Board of Dentistry Meeting, Helena</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 12 - 14, 2015</td>
<td>WREB Exam, Great Falls</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 20 - 22, 2015</td>
<td>ADHA Annual Session, Nashville,</td>
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CONGRATULATIONS
Crystal Spring

Crystal Spring was chosen from a list of ADHA members in Montana to receive a free XP Technology no sharpen instrument from American Eagle Instruments. American Eagle Instruments supports all dental hygienists’ but wants to recognize dental hygienists’ who support their professional association. ADHA’s mission is to advance the art and science of dental hygiene, and to promote the highest standards of education and practice in the profession.

Crystal chose American Eagle Instruments XP M23Thin with a resin handle.

To learn more about American Eagle’s patented no sharpen XP Technology go to their web site:  www.am-eagle.com

Thank you Crystal for supporting your association and thank you American Eagle Instruments for supporting dental hygienists’ in Montana!

Lorrie Merrick Scholarship

The MDHA Scholarship was renamed to honor our friend and colleague who passed away earlier this year. Lorrie worked in a variety of private and public setting, was an instructor at Carroll College and Great Falls, served as MDHA president and chaired many other committees, she was serving us as one of the hygienists on the Board of Dentistry at the time of her death.

At Annual Session the Helena hygienists gave a touching tribute to her and presented a white carnation to every one at the luncheon.

2015 MDHA Annual Session
Sept. 17th – 19th
Missoula, MT
Holiday Inn Downtown
Dare to Discover

SPEAKERS and TOPICS

Thursday:
Carol Jahn, RDH, MS – Love it, Don’t Leave it. Having a Happy, Healthy, Career

Friday:

Saturday:
Tom Viola R.Ph., C.C.P. – Chamber of Medication Secrets – What your patients don’t know are aren’t telling you about what’s in their medicine cabinet.

“How do I Sign in on the MDHA Members Only page?”

User name: is your ADHA membership number.
Password: is the first 3 letters of your last name, the your ADHA number again with no space between.

You may change those once you are in the system. This is where you will find the MDHA Directory. This is a complete list of all hygienists living/practicing in Montana.

Classy and Sassy

2014 MDHA Annual Session

Kim Dunlap and Melissa Pyette, 2014 MDHA Annual Session co-chairs, along with their committees did a great job. We had 3 days full of great CE, entertainment, networking, and the GFC-MSU students presented their fabulous table clinics. Thank You GREAT FALLS!!
**Billings**
Hello all and Happy Fall! It was nice to reconnect with you all at Annual Session. I am looking forward to a fun year with the Billings Component! I have several great events in mind to get our Component rejuvenated!! The Billings Component will be having CE courses offered by local speakers and Dentists. We will also be adding in some FUN activities this year, so we can get together and not have to talk about teeth. We will have a brief business meeting at some of these events to keep you informed of what is going on locally and at a state level. It’s a great way for you to stay informed and also, get involved if you choose. If anyone has any fun ideas for our component, Please, share! I want to do things and have topics that interest you all. Keep an eye out for emails from me on upcoming events. Don’t forget, we will also be doing our Annual Christmas Party in December. It’s always a fun evening and I look forward to it! I look forward to having a great year! Suzie Rogge, RDH BS suziesun@hotmail.com Billings Component Trustee

**Bozeman**
After a busy summer and getting the kids off to school, the Bozeman component is energized for the next year to come. Annual session in September kicked off our new year with a bang! Our very own Lorie Becker is our new Montana Dental Hygienists’ Association President. Lorie is very inspiring and we are so proud to have her leadership! Crystal Spring is now the Spring CE chair. Crystal has a great event and activities planned for this next spring 2015 right here in Bozeman! Erica Gerard has also accepted the position of Bozeman component Co-Trustee. Welcome Erica! We are glad to have your fresh ideas! Take a look at what we have brewing in the coming months. November 14, 2014 we will be volunteering for the Special Olympics. We hope you will join us again this year! Thank you, Crystal Spring for your leadership in charging this cause. We are getting a running start on Thanksgiving this year! Huffing for Stuffing, Bozeman’s annual running event on Thanksgiving morning will see some shining smiles from area hygienists willing to tackle the un-timed 5k. Our Christmas party will be at the Lockhorn Ciderhouse in Downtown Bozeman December 4th. We will be donating gifts to the Salvation Army for local families in need. Finally, just before the holiday crunch, we will squeeze in a CE for our study club on December 10th (topic TBA.) Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving. ~W.T. Purkiser

Happy Holidays!
Rebecca Anderson, RDH, LAP
Erica Gerard, RDH
Bozeman Component Co-Trustees

**Missoula**
Happy Fall/Winter from the Garden City! Missoula Area is excited to announce the addition of Jolynn Orth as a co trustee along with Jenny Hawthorne this year! We hope to bring new ideas to the table regarding CE topics and community involvement.

Earlier this year American Eagle again put together an amazing social where several local dental hygienists met 5 guests including Kara Vavrosky, founder of “Dental Hygiene with Kara RDH” Facebook site! Following in October, we attended an interesting CE course presented by physical therapist, Dr. Jeffrey Humphrey who specializes in the TMJ and upper cervical disorders and offered different treatment options for...
We would love to see everyone again at our annual Christmas party. Reservations have been made for December 4th at 6:30 at Jaker’s Bar and Grill. Planning is still underway for Annual Session in Missoula. Please mark your calendars for September 17-19, 2015!

Continue to watch for e-mails on upcoming events. If there are any questions, comments or ideas, please feel free to contact us by email or phone at jnms6181@hotmail.com and 406.533.8575 or jolynnorth@yahoo.com 406.207.1916. Happy Holidays! We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Jenny Hawthorne, RDH and Jolynn Orth, RDH
MDHA Missoula Co-Trustees

Glendive
If you are in the Glendive area and are interested in getting together with other hygienists for CE and/social events please contact Erin Kuehn, RDH pe-kuehn@midrivers.com

SMADHA
SMADHA KICKOFF!!!
The Great Falls College MSU students are in full gear and ready to take off as they start the year with their SMADHA Kick-off party to select next years Student Officers for the Student Member American Dental Hygiene Association. The Senior Student Officers did an excellent job of introducing their rolls to the Juniors. This year the MDHA has implemented a new Professional Partners program in which each senior student is paired up with a member of the MDHA board, in the hopes of cultivating stronger networking relationships with our students and inspiring future MDHA members!
Vanessa Rocheleau, RDH
MDHA Student Liaison.

Bachelor Degree Completion

Bachelor of Applied Science with a Thematic Concentration in Dental Hygiene

Complete 15 credits in Advanced Dental Hygiene and 15 credits in Health Administration or other supporting coursework.

New Cohort starts Fall 2014

To apply for Acceptance:
Call MSUB’s Transfer Learner Specialist at (406) 657-2208
madeline.gatowsky@msubillings.edu

What are your Career Goals?
Are you desiring growth in your profession beyond clinical dental hygiene?
Do you see yourself going down another path?
MDHA MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Montana Dental Hygienists’ Association is to advance the art and science of dental hygiene by improving the public’s total health through: ensuring access to quality oral health care, awareness of cost effective benefits of prevention, promotion of the highest standards of dental hygiene education, licensure, practice and research; and provide representation, promotion, and preservation of the interests of dental hygienists.

2015 MDHA Spring CE & Limited Access Permit

Fri & Sat April 24 & 25

Hilton Garden Inn BOZEMAN, MT

FRIDAY, APRIL 24
Tongue-Tied: A Story NOT Silenced by Oral Cancer
One American dies every hour of every day from oral cancer. Eva Grayzel came close to being the one in this statistic. The riveting details of Eva’s delayed diagnosis stimulate thinking about enhanced patient care and education. Eloquent and engaging, Eva reveals the effects of treatment, driving listeners to take responsibility for early detection. Audiences! They don’t just hear her story, they experience it!

PRESENTER: EVA GRAYZEL 6 CEUs
Ignite the Power of Story to Educate, Engage and Persuade
How do you inspire trust, build a client base and increase commitment to products and services? ! Its all in the story! Facts and figures alone don’t engage attention or influence change. Tap the power of story to evoke a connection, build relationships and foster patient loyalty. Find the story that exemplifies your value and showcases what makes you stand out among the competition!

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
MDHA Limited Access Permit Workshop
Do you want to have control of your career! Everything you need to know to obtain and utilize the Limited Access Permit (LAP). If you are already practicing with a LAP there will be new valuable information. This workshop is FREE for MDHA members and $50 for non-members. Morning only.