President's Message

After what seemed to most of us as the winter that would never quit, warm weather and longer days have finally arrived. Spring CE was a huge success and a great example of MDHA’s dedication to its members and the profession of dental hygiene. Thank you to all of the LAP RDH’s that presented. It is so important that we continue to work together to perfect dental hygiene practice models.

This is such an exciting time to be a dental hygienist. Around the country ADHA and state dental hygiene associations are diligently working to help improve access to care, ensuring that RDHs are working to the top of their scope of practice and education. The need for affordable, equitable and obtainable oral health is being recognized and we are gearing up to make it happen.

I believe that ADHA and MDHA are major players in the fight for equitable oral health in our country. Oral health plays a huge part in overall health and it is finally being recognized. RDHs are working interprofessionally with all spectrums of the health care team to improve oral health outcomes. MDHA supports ADHA’s vision that dental hygienists are valued and integrated into the broader health care delivery system to improve the public’s overall health.

Your support and membership are such valuable assets to the future of dental hygiene. Now, more than ever your association needs you. It is critical that we have a strong percentage of membership and support to make a change in how dental hygienists are allowed to practice. The limited access permit allows dental hygienists to work in non traditional settings bringing access to care to vulnerable populations who would most likely never receive care if not for the LAP RDH. If you are not a member, I urge you to join and be a part of the change. Please reach out to MDHA with any questions that you have about our association and where you fit into it all.

We are so excited about our upcoming Annual Session. It is sure to be a great time. We have some amazing presenters, vendors and lots of fun planned. We hope you can join us this September in Bozeman.

Thank you,
Crystal Spring, RDH, LAP
MDHA President

Here is a picture of health professionals working together to provide the best health care to residents at Missoula Health and Rehabilitation Skilled and Assisted Living facility.

Interprofessional Collaboration at it’s best!

From Left to right: Stacy Carey, CSW; Tanya Cohen, MS,ccc-SLP; Carla Miller, RN; Samantha Lawrence, LPN; Dr. Joe Byington, DDS; Elizabeth Beringer, MS, PT Director; Ann Gregg-Ross, BS, OTR/L; Heidi Halverson, RDH, BSDH, LAP
Happy Spring to all of you wonderful hygienists! Thanks to everyone that was able to attend Spring CE in Helena. Angie Stone was an amazing speaker! Even though we had a few glitches due to travel, it worked out perfectly. I always look forward to our Spring and Annual meeting so we can get together and share our great ideas.

I am looking forward to attending my first ADHA Annual Conference in Ohio in June. I am so excited to see all of the amazing hygienists I met at Unleashing Your Potential and being able to reconnect and inspire each other more. I can't wait to learn all about the house of delegates and how our profession is ruled/regulated through it.

I would encourage you to join MDHA Board of Trustees if you are looking for more ways to be involved. This group of hygienists is so inspiring and motivating. When I first graduated from Idaho State in 2004 and moved back home I didn't really know any hygienists from here. I can say that the Board has helped me meet colleagues from all over the state and really gotten me out of my comfort zone in a great way! I would have never applied to Unleashing Your Potential and stayed with a roommate I didn't know. It was one of the best opportunities I have ever experienced!

Have a great summer and see you in the fall in Bozeman!

Happy Spring!!! I am starting to work on our slideshow for Annual Session Bozeman that is quickly approaching!

Please send pictures from any CE's, meetings or volunteering you have done this year to cory.dulin@gmail.com.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing y'all in September!

Cory Dulin, RDH Historian

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For the 2018 Spring CE, MDHA raised money for the Institute for Oral Health. This organization is through ADHA and the only foundation for hygienists, by hygienists! We have so many recipients of their grants and scholarships here in Montana and look forward to seeing many more of you on that list as well. Our fundraiser this year is selling Rustic Cuff bracelets. These beautiful bracelets are one of a kind as our own Board was able to customize them just for our fundraiser! Rustic Cuffs main focus is about giving. They are very supportive of our profession so we thought partnering with them here in Montana would be great! Didn't get your bracelet ordered at Spring CE? Never fear! They will be available at Annual Session in Bozeman as well! Thank you to those who have already invested in our foundation and we look forward to seeing you in the Fall!

Cara Reck, BS, RDH, LAP MDHA Public Relations Chair ADHA IOH Liaison
Montana LAP RDHs Stacy Fowler and Amber Reap receive IOH Wrigley Grant

Stacy’s Story
Miles Of Smiles began in Lewistown Montana with the help of the Wrigley Company Foundation Community Service Grant. I was able to purchase portable dental equipment with my grant money. American Eagle also donated instruments as well. Of course I had guidance from members of my association as well. Heidi Halverson and Crystal Spring have been my sounding board and helped me going at times. Being a member of my association has been important to me where I can meet likeminded professionals and learn fresh new and exciting thinks about dentistry. My goal as a provider to the nursing home residents is to give them the compassion they deserve and the dental care they need. I have come to realize that I need them just as much as they need me. Getting my LAP has been very rewarding, thank you to everyone that has seen potential in me and helped me in my journey.

Amber’s Story
I started seeing residents at Pioneer Care and Rehab in Dillon, MT in March of this year. I currently have 7 residents that are signed up and 6 more that are in the process of getting signed up. The staff at the facility has been great to work with and have made me feel very welcome. With the money that I received through the Wrigley Grant, I purchased a self contained Acteon Piezo and nine tips. I also plan to buy a portable suction unit and am currently deciding which brand I want to go with. I go room to room to see patients but may try to set up a more permanent operatory as I start to see more residents. This has been a great learning experience from setting up a new business to ordering supplies to working with a variety of professionals to provide the best care for these residents!

Montana Migrant Mobile Dental Unit Needs You!
The Montana Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker Council is looking for registered dental hygienists and dentists to work at the Flathead Lake Mobile Dental Unit. The dates are dependent on the cherry harvest but typically start around the third week of July and go into the first week of August. The mobile unit sees patients from 10am to 7pm Monday through Saturday. You can sign up for one day or as many as your schedule allows.

The mobile dental unit is 7 years old and has 2 chairs. It has all the amenities of a dental office including air conditioning. The ultrasonic works great and the staff are very helpful. The council pays $27/hr. Potential housing may be available but you will be responsible for your own food.

The average yearly income of these families is less than $10,000 and most have no insurance. Some have lived in the area all of their lives while some come from other states looking for work. Most of the adults speak Spanish with the children translating for them although outreach workers are available to help translate during dental appointments. The migrant workers are very appreciative of the services provided at this clinic each year.

The Flathead area is a beautiful place to spend a few days in the summer and the mobile unit is always in need of dental hygienists and dentists. I would encourage anyone who wants a cultural dental experience to sign up with Vicki Thuesen at v.thuesen@mtmigrantcouncil.org

Important Tax Information
Because MDHA sponsors activities designed to represent and protect members’ professional interests before the Montana Legislature, no portion of your annual MDHA constituent dues in the amount of $20.00 can be taken as a business or charitable deduction on your federal or state tax returns.

Montana Dental Hygienists’ Association

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Montana Dental Hygienists’ Association

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Great Falls, MT 59404
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montanadha@msn.com
www.montanadha.org

MDHA 2018-2019 Calendar

May 18-20, 2017
June 8, 2017
June 20-25, 2018
September 14, 2018
September 28-30, 2018
October, 2018
October, 2018
January, 2019
March 8, 2019
April 5-6, 2019
September 12-14, 2019

WREB Exam, Great Falls
BOD Meeting, Helena
ADHA Annual Conference, Columbus, OH
BOD Meeting, Helena
Annual Session, Bozeman
Dental Hygiene Month
MDHA BOT Strategic Planning, TBD
Lobby Day, TBD
BOD Meeting, Helena
Spring CE, Chico
Annual Session, Great Falls
Flathead Valley
Greetings from Flathead Valley! The sun is shining and so do the hygienists here :) Things have been quiet since hosting Annual Session here last Fall. What a great success it was! So much fun to see our colleagues from all over this great state and have some time to Recapture our Magic with phenomenal speakers. Thank you to all you AMAZING hygienists that helped make it a success!

At the beginning of the year our component met to hear Kelly Jenson speak about her Denture Clinic where we learned the best products and ways to keep our patients dentures clean. We also heard from Dr. Dave Keim about his passion for the Whitefish Shepherd's Hand Clinic and community/public healthcare. This was a great opportunity for hygienists to see how not only other hygienists are volunteering in the community but also many other forms of healthcare available to the underserved population. We also got to tour the dental clinic and have some hands on experience. Many Flathead hygienists also have been attending statewide C.E. courses, and it has been great to see familiar faces away from home.

Ellie Bicha, RDH- Flathead Valley Component Trustee

Helena
Greetings from the Helena Dental Hygiene Component!
Since the last newsletter, our component has hosted a cookie decorating social, conducted three component meetings, and actively participated in preparations from Spring CE in Helena. We have had CE speakers present on the topics of periodontology and obstructive sleep apnea. Additionally, we were very excited to have several new members attend meetings. This spring/summer, we are looking forward to a speaker on adverse childhood experiences (ACE), as well as a private yoga class specifically for members. Happy Spring from us to you!

Katie Glueckert, RDH, MSDH, Helena Component Trustee

Billings
Please check the Billings Dental Hygiene Component Facebook page for updates!
Suzie Warren, RDH, LAP-Billings Component Trustee

Bozeman
On April 24th the Bozeman RDH component had 25 RDHs in attendance for an educational forum at Price Rite drug. Pharmacist Erin Smith and the Price Rite team walked us though the many different things compounding pharmacies can create to deal with dental issues.

Great Falls
Great Falls will be hosting Annual Session 2019. If you are interested in helping, please contact Diedri Durocher at 406-781-4473.
2018 Annual Session ~ Bozeman, MT ~ September 28th-30th ~ GranTree Inn
*Preliminary Schedule*

Friday, September 28th
9:00 -11:00  Morning Hike to the “M”
11:00-1:00  MDHA BOT Meeting
12:30–1:30  Registration and Exhibits Open
Noon–1:15  Lunch
1:30–5:30  Speaker: Ann Eshenaur Spolarich – “Commonly Prescribed Medications and Managing the Side Effects of Medication Use” 4 CE
5:30-6:30  GFC-MSU Student Table Clinics 1 CE
6:00-7:30  Silent Auction, Wine/Cheese Social, Silent Auction, Fashion Show

Saturday, September 29th
8:00-11:30  Speaker: Stephanie Botts – “Oral Systemic Relationships” and “Building Collaborative Relationships with Medical Professionals ” 3.5CE
11:30-12:30  President’s Luncheon
12:00-2:00  MDHA Business Meeting
2:00-5:30  Speaker: Stephanie Botts – “Street Drugs, Vaping, Tobacco, and Alcohol: Are We Talking About It?” 3.5 CE
5:30-6:00  MDHA Awards Ceremony – in Small Ballroom
6:30-8:00  Installation Dinner, 14 North Restaurant
8:00–11:00  Live Music and Dancing Downtown Bozeman

Sunday, September 30th
8:00-9:00  MDHA BOT Meeting
9:00-12:00  Speaker: Lisa Copeland-“Designing Healthy Smiles: Evaluate, Communicate, & Formulate” & “Every Conversation Counts: Optimal Patient Health -365 Days Per Year” 3 CE

Watch for detailed flyer and registration opening up through CE Zoom in late July.

Congratulations GFC-MSU Dental Hygiene Class of 2018!
Fifteen graduates were honored at Pinning Ceremony on Friday, May 4th and graduated on May 5th.

Incoming senior Stacy Orr received the $1000 MDHA Lorrie Merrick Memorial Scholarship.

Graduate Beth Sanders was presented with one year free membership in ADHA.

Did you know that you can request Montana Board of Dentistry agendas, upcoming board meeting books, and hear recordings of past BOD meetings?

To request to be on the mailing list for notices and upcoming BOD meetings email dlibsdden@mt.gov
To see agendas and listen to past meetings Click Here
https://boardmeetings.bsd.dli.mt.gov/boardmeetings/den

Have you been to the Oral Health page on the DPHHS website?
You will find a wealth of resources and information there!

https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/oralhealth

Don’t delay entering your codes and claiming your CEs from MDHA Events. If you wait too long, you may not get credit for classes you attended!