HYGIENE BULLETIN

SPRING 2019

President’s Message

Happy Spring to all of you amazing Montana Hygienists! In March, the Board of Dentistry (BOD) voted to add Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) under prescriptive authority for hygienists. This is a great win for all of the underserved people in MT! Hygienists in all settings will be able to apply SDF because of the perseverance of MDHA. Please check the BOD rules as to when this new rule is applicable for LAP hygienists. RDHs can apply SDF currently under general supervision.

The legislative session ended up being very busy for MDHA despite carrying no legislation of our own. Please see the Legislative update for important information on the bills that passed and failed this session.

Spring CE was one of the best and most relevant courses I have been to in a while! If you didn’t make it and ever have the chance to see Dr. Jeremy Horst speak, do it, you won’t be disappointed. Dr. Horst is a huge supporter of dental hygienists in all setting to be able to apply SDF. Thanks to Heidi Halverson for reaching out to him, he and several of his colleagues wrote letters of support to the BOD in our support.

MDHA is now preparing to head to Louisville to represent Montana at the annual session for ADHA.

It has been a great year so far and I couldn’t be prouder to be representing MDHA as your president.

There are still some positions available for the 2019-2020 year on the Board of Trustees. We would love some new voices and new ideas. If you are interested, don’t hesitate to call or email me! I look forward to seeing everyone in Great Falls for our Annual Session in September.

Clancy Casey, BS, RDH, LAP

Legislative Update

The 2019 Legislative session has come to a close. MDHA didn’t carry any legislation, however we were busy with several bills:

**SB157 Dental Assisting under general supervision:** MDHA worked with Senator Olszewski to get language added to this bill. There are a couple of important parts to this bill that were imperative for MDHA to be able to support. Dental assistants must be Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) certified, either by graduating from a CODA accredited school, or minimum number of hours worked to be able to take the exam. DANB also requires dental assistants to maintain a certain number of continuing education credits to keep their certification in good standing. The Board of Dentistry can get a list of current certified dental assistants at any time from DANB. Rules will be made by the BOD to decide which duties are safe to be completed by a dental assistant under general supervision. This bill passed with no amendments. MDHA will need to be very present at the Board of Dentistry rule making to ensure no duties that can cause any harm to the public will be allowed under general by assistants.

**HB599 Dental Health aids on reservations:** This bill passed both the House and Senate with minimal changes to the original bill. MDHA testified in support of this bill with an amendment to ensure the health aides would graduate from a CODA accredited school and also be licensed in MT. These amendments were not added.

**HB652 Dental Hygiene program expanding at Great Falls College MSU:** Money was designated to GFC-MSU to build a new dental clinic. MDHA testified in support of this bill, and it passed with a lot of support. The change will increase the number of students for the dental hygiene program in Great Falls from 18 to 26. This is a great success for the dental hygiene program.
Greetings from President-Elect Kelley Oakes

Spring has sprung! I don’t know about the rest of you, but I am certainly happy to see the sunshine! With spring comes graduation time. I was blessed to be able to be a part of the Great Falls Dental Hygiene pinning ceremony this year, presenting the 2019 ADHA/MDHA membership award to Stacy Orr, as well as recognizing her as last year’s recipient of the Lorrie Merrick Memorial Scholarship. It was awesome to see so many new and excited dental hygienists embarking on the next phase of their journey. The experience brought back many memories of clinic, anesthesiology, pharmacology, and pathology to name a few. Both teachers and students work so diligently every year to produce some of the best dental hygienists out there. I want to take a moment to thank all of those educators involved in the process. These students wouldn’t be the hygienists they are today without your knowledge, guidance, and compassion. Also, a shout out to all of you dental hygiene graduates. We all know the amount of time and dedication it takes to get through this program. Many of you spent countless hours away from family and friends buried deep in books into the wee hours of the night. I am proud to now call you my colleagues. I encourage everyone to be active in your local components and for all to reach out and network with each other. MDHA is continuing to work hard for you. We thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Kelley Oakes, RDH, BSDH, President-Elect

Editor’s Note: The 2019 Lorrie Merrick Scholarship winner will be announced at Annual Session in September due to a change in Pinning Ceremony format at GFC-MSU.

MDHA 2019-2020 Calendar

June 6, 2019
BOD Meeting, Helena
June 21-23, 2019
ADHA Annual Conference, Louisville, KY
June 21, 2019
IOH In Motion Fun Run/Walk
September 6, 2019
BOD Meeting, Helena
September 12-14, 2019
Annual Session, Great Falls
October, 2019
National Dental Hygiene Month
October (TBD), 2019
MDHA Strategic Planning & BOT Meeting
December 6, 2019
BOD Meeting, Helena
March 6, 2020
BOD Meeting, Helena
April 4, 2020
Spring CE, Chico Hot Springs
October 1-3, 2020
Annual Session, Helena

2018-2019 Board of Trustees

Elected Officers
President: Clancy Casey
President Elect: Kelley Oakes
Past President: Cara Reck
Secretary: Amy Neihart
Treasurer: Amber Reap
Delegate: Kelley Oakes
Delegate: Clancy Casey
Alt. Delegate: Amy Neihart
Alt. Delegate: Amber Reap

Component Trustees
Billings: Suzie Warren
Bozeman: Anne Vorobetz
Flathead Valley: Ellie Bicha
Helena: Katie Glueckert
Butte: Maggie Matteson
Missoula: Seeking volunteer!
Great Falls: Seeking volunteer!
Eastern MT: Seeking volunteer!

Standing Committees
Annual Session 2019: Diedri Durocher
BOD Liaison: Susan Bell
Spring CE 2020: Seeking volunteer
Public Health/Head Start: Melissa Utley
Historian: Cory Dulin
Legislative: Seeking volunteer!
Membership: Seeking volunteer!
Public Relations: Cara Reck
CE Coordinator: Alison Bayr
Student Member Liaison: Julie Barnwell
Limited Access Permit: Seeking volunteer!
SMADHA Representative: Katelynn Walsh

Congratulations to GFC-MSU Graduate Stacy Orr!
2019 MDHA Membership Award Recipient

Stacy Orr with President-Elect Kelley Oakes

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Congratulations to GFC-MSU Graduate Stacy Orr!
2019 MDHA Membership Award Recipient

Stacy Orr with President-Elect Kelley Oakes
Heidi Halverson, BSDH, RDH, LAP (MDHA Past-President) was honored with Idaho State University’s 2019 Professional Achievement Award on May 4, 2019. Professional Achievement Award recipients are alumni who have made important contributions to their careers or profession, to the social, political or economic well-being of the world around them and have shown continued community and civic involvement in addition to their association with and contributions to ISU. Individuals selected for these prestigious awards have been out of school at least 10 years and have excelled in their chosen field, attaining significant success and accomplishments. Heidi is a 1980 graduate from the ISU Department of Dental Hygiene. She is one of the first dental hygienists in Montana to obtain a Limited Access Permit and is one of the groundbreakers in the movement towards prescription ability and unsupervised practice of dental hygienists. Heidi’s business, Dental Hygiene at Home, provides dental hygiene services for people who are homebound and unable to get to their dental office. Heidi now works in six long-term care facilities.

Crystal Spring, BSDH, RDH, LAP (ADHA District X Trustee & MDHA Past President) has been named one of four nationwide recipients of the 2019 Sunstar/RDH Award of Distinction. Crystal will receive her award during a ceremony at RDH Under One Roof on August 1st in Texas. Since 2002, the Award of Distinction has recognized 125 exemplary dental hygienists who have followed their passions and made a significant difference with expertise and dedication. Over 100 applications for this award were received this year, and the recipients were chosen by a panel of judges coordinated by Sunstar Americas and RDH Magazine. Crystal’s passion about access to care lead her to create Smiles Across Montana, a nonprofit dedicated to ending oral health disparities in her home state. With another hygienist (Cara Reck, BS, RDH, LAP), she started this nonprofit with just one portable unit, a chair and a few supplies. The journey hasn’t always been easy, but their belief in their mission kept them moving forward. Critically, Smiles Across Montana is also actively working with and mentoring other hygienists who want to recreate this model.
Silver Diamine Fluoride

The Board of Dentistry passed with a 7-2 vote to allow Silver Diamine Fluoride to be added in as an allowable product that can be used with prescriptive authority of hygienists. This was the initial vote but there are more hoops it has to jump through before the rules are changed in writing. The Board will vote again in June followed by a period of public comment. SDF could potentially be derailed from the initial vote if we are not diligent in speaking with our employers, public health administrations, and families who could be positively affected by this care. Please check your emails for further information regarding the BOD and its decision. It is important to know that SDF is not yet written in rule, it has passed through the initial stages, but it will be a while before we have the official wording placed in our practice act.

What does SDF mean for you?

Private Practice:
As a private practice hygienist, please share your knowledge about SDF to your employer and encourage them to seek out Continuing Education that is evidence based so they can learn more! This could be a great alternative for families who have a loved one needing treatment but an invasive procedure is not the best option for them. Please make sure to provide informed consent to all your patients so they know that the decay will turn black.

Public Health:
Limited Access Permit Hygienists and those working for Community Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Clinics will be able to provide preventative care to their patients in settings where treatment might not be an option. Again, informed consent is very important no matter where you are practicing, so that the patient and families are completely aware of the process!

Submitted by Cara Reck, BS, RDH, LAP—Public Relations Chair

Montana Oral Health Program Tobacco Toolkit

Available at https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/oralhealth/OHdentalproviders

Research based resources and ideas to improve your interactions with patients about tobacco prevention and use.

- Readiness to quit documents and tools
- Current Quit Line benefits
- Links to resources on the Montana Tobacco Use Prevention Program website about e-cigarettes and vaping

Are you looking to get out of the Op but still make a big impact on oral health in Montana? Perhaps you could be the next Program Specialist for DPHHS’s Oral Health Program! Apply now at https://mtstatejobs.taleo.net/careersection/200/jobdetail.ftl?job=19141229&tz=GMT-06%3A00&tzname=America%2FDenver
COMPONENT UPDATES

FLATHEAD

Spring has sprung here in the Flathead Valley! The Flathead Valley Component loves to gather and enjoy each other’s company. We had the pleasure of gathering last November at Martha Bisharat’s home where we enjoyed delicious homemade authentic Palestinian food and networking! Our component collected and donated $120 to the local Abbie Shelter along with other wanted hygiene items. Thank you ladies for your generosity! In May our component met at a local dental office to hear Melissa Kjos-Peterson speak about Wellness & Women in Dentistry. Great Job Melissa! It was great to be reminded of all the ways we can improve our (and our patient’s) lives on a day to day basis. Our component is very excited to announce that the 1st District of MDA will be hosting a local C.E. opportunity and membership rally this Fall for our local MDHA component. There will be speakers, food, and great opportunity to network with hygienists and local dentists. More details to come this summer and fall! Don’t forget to join our local Facebook page; search for "Kalispell Dental Hygiene Component" where you can find local requests, announcements, and informative articles. If you have questions, please contact me directly. Have a fantastic summer and make lots of memories!

Ellie Bicha, RDH
Flathead Valley Component Trustee
(406) 208-2480

HELENA

Happy Spring from the Helena Dental Hygiene Component. Our component has been busy since the last newsletter update. In December, we celebrated the season with a holiday party at the Lewis and Clark Brewery. In January, Lobby Day at the Capitol was a success and the MDHA was introduced to both the Senate and House of Representatives. Throughout the legislative session, component members were busy discussing, modifying, and testifying for legislation influencing our profession. We would like to give a special thank you to our president, Clancy Casey, who went above and beyond leading these efforts. Furthermore, our members attended several Board of Dentistry meetings in which the application of silver diamine fluoride was discussed. Lastly, the Winter Component Meeting was held in early March at the Residence Inn in Helena, MT. Burkhart Dental sponsored the meeting, covering the cost of the room and providing Qdoba catering, and Dr. Foster, DMD from Helena Orthodontics was our CE presenter. We plan to have three more component meetings this calendar year, and invite all local hygienists to attend!

Katie Glueckert, RDH, MSDH
Helena Component Trustee

BUTTE Maggie Matteson, Trustee
BILLINGS Suzie Warren, Trustee
BOZEMAN Ann Vorobetz, Trustee
MISSOULA Seeking volunteer!
GREAT FALLS Seeking volunteer!

EASTERN MONTANA Seeking volunteer!

???? How do I know what I can do as a hygienist in Montana ???

RDHs must follow Montana Statutes and Administrative Rules. Statutes are laws passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the governor. Administrative Rules are formulated by boards comprised of members appointed by the governor (for us, the Board of Dentistry). Rules are written to administer the laws passed by the Legislature and often contain great detail. Therefore, our practice act is found in both Statute and Rule, and covers everything from definitions, supervision levels, allowable duties, CE and licensing requirements, local anesthesia and Limited Access Permit rules. It is up to each licensed individual to know and follow the statutes and rules.

Statutes can be found in the Montana Code Annotated. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene are under Title 37, Chapter 4. Click Here

Administrative Rules of Montana can be found on the Board of Dentistry website HERE

MDHA can help you navigate statutes and rules. Email montanadha@msn.com with your questions.
Great Falls College Dental Hygiene Program is excited to announce that they have another graduating class of hygiene students happy to be done with school and ready to hit the work force. This year’s class was so much fun; all of us here at the college will miss them terribly. However, we know that Montana is getting a great group of hygienists. Congratulations to the class of 2019. You people have worked hard and earned this. Shoot for the moon.

Julie Barnwell Liaison between MDHA and SMADHA

Editor’s note: The 2019 Lorrie Merrick Scholarship winner will be announced at Annual Session due to changes in the format of the Pinning Ceremony.

Happy Summer Hygienists!!! Hope everyone is having a fabulous 2019 so far. Please send me any photos you have from meetings or events in your community and any photos from Spring CE in Chico to cory.dulin@gmail.com.

Hope everyone has a fun and safe summer and rest of 2019!

Cory Dulin, Historian

Support ADHA’s Institute of Oral Health by donating to the IOH In Motion Fun Run/Walk, to be held June 21st in Louisville, KY. Montana has 8 participants registered! Donate online through Crowdrise, choose District X Rocky Mountain sQuad and pick who you’d like to support. All donations benefit IOH!


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.

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