2008-2009 ODA President, Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward, talks about the importance of teamwork in dentistry and the future of the ODA. Read more on page 12.
SMART SOLUTIONS FOR DENTAL PRACTICES

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SNAPSHOTS

ODA’s 102nd president vows to encourage a “teamwork” mentality; offering to serve as the “quarterback” for organized dentistsy’s team, knowing that individual dentists cannot play the game without the help of the ODA. Read more on page 12!
From the Executive Director

Dana A. Davis

Executive Director’s Oral Report to the House of Delegates
May 15, 2008

I am always proud when I have to provide the House with an annual update on the state of the ODA. For a small state society ODA is the best.

We have the best leadership and I thank Drs. Jones, Wood, Ward, Low, Phillips, and Glenn. You have been a great Executive Committee. ODA’s reputation for outstanding leadership impresses many states, as well as the ADA. I was asked to conduct a session during ADA Management week on leadership development. When the request was made, ADA staff told me that they were impressed with ODA leaders, not to mention our two ADA presidents. We have several of our members serving on ADA Councils and Task Forces. I am titling my presentation “The Oklahoma Way”. Lynn Means and I will be conducting a presentation at the ADA Annual Meeting to teach other state association staff about preparing their applications to the CERP Committee. ODA recently received a three-year approval to continue to be a CE provider. After our application was approved, the CERP committee decided to put it on the ADA website as a “best practice” manual for those seeking CERP recognition.

ODA has the best Journal and editor. In 2007 we were the first state to offer a DVD and article package on pediatric dentistry. A big thank you to Dr. Kevin Haney who was the author of the DVD and articles. We also have the information on the ODA website and the ADA website, being offered for CE credit. Several editors from other states have asked about the feasibility of duplicating the articles and DVD for their own state journals. The House recently voted yes to a licensing structure that will allow the ODA to market the articles and DVD to other states.

ODA has the best office building. Many state presidents and executive directors as well as ADA leadership have visited our building and are very impressed with its beauty and functionality. When it was built the estimated value was $1.2 million dollars. It has become the center for dentistry in the state as many other dental organizations as well as state agencies use our facility for meetings. Currently, the mortgage is $607,000. We will be making a $90,000 principal payment shortly, leaving us a balance of $517,000. If you have not contributed to the building fund, please consider making a contribution.

ODA makes the best use of technology. Thanks to Dr. Raymond Cohlmia and the TEC Council, the ODA has the latest software, new and upgraded computers, and a videoconferencing system. Several members have been able to attend ODA meetings in the comfort of their homes. The TEC Council is also responsible for our Digital Dental Office (DDO) classrooms during our Annual Meeting. Its purpose is to help members move in the direction of a paperless office. Drs. Ray Beddoe and Wade Sessom are the co-chairs for the DDO and had nine companies participate in the DDO this year. The ODA has also started making Council, Board, and House agenda books available electronically, saving the association money because of less paper use and staff time.

The ODA has the best state meeting. For our size we attract over 130 exhibitors. The income from the exhibitors amounts to over $107,000 for the annual meeting.

ODA has the best relationship with our state agencies and legislators. We definitely have the best lobbyist in Scott Adkins. This year, when the state budget was flat, we were able to have an additional $125,000 for the Dental Loan Repayment Program and $100,000 for the Mobile Dental Care Program. Our PAC is listed in the top ten non-profit PACs in the state. The Governor, at our urging, formed a Task Force on Children and Oral Health to develop a state plan to ensure that the dental needs of all children in Oklahoma are being met. If you have not donated to DENPAC, please do so soon, as this is an election year.

Last, but certainly not the least, the ODA has the best staff. There is no way we can accomplish all that we do without our loyal and dedicated staff. A very special thank you to Lynn Means, Shelly Murphey, Phoebe Roth, Stephanie Trougakos, and Kim Loving-Proby.

As always, it is a pleasure and honor for me to serve as your Executive Director. Thank you.
calendar of events

july

JUL 4 – ODA Offices Closed
JUL 7 – ODA Offices Closed
JUL 9 – Children’s Oral Health Coalition Meeting - 10:00 AM - ODA Building
JUL 14-19 – ODF Mobile Unit - Hinton/ Ft. Cobb Area
JUL 15 – ADA “Success” Program for Seniors - All Day - OUCOD
JUL 18 – Council on Dental Education & Public Information Meeting 9:00 AM - ODA Building
JUL 18 – Council on Membership & Membership Services Meeting 11:00 AM - ODA Building
JUL 18 – Council on Technology & Electronic Communications Meeting 1:00 PM - ODA Building
JUL 21 – Retired Dentist Lunch - 11:30 AM - ODA Building
JUL 23-26 – ODF Mobile Unit - Panhandle Area

august

AUG 1 – Endorsements Committee Meeting - 10:00 AM - ODA Building
AUG 8 – ODF Mobile Unit - LCDA - Oklahoma City
AUG 9 – ODF Mobile Unit - Ministry Fair - Lawton
AUG 11 – ODF Mobile Unit - Caring Hands - McAlester
AUG 12 – ODF Mobile Unit - AK Verdigris Valley Community Clinic - Porter
AUG 13 – Children’s Oral Health Coalition Meeting - 10:00 AM - ODA Building
AUG 15 – Council on Dental Care Meeting - 10:00 AM - ODA Building
AUG 15 – Annual Meeting Planning Committee Meeting - 1:00 PM - ODA Building
AUG 18 – Retired Dentist Lunch - 11:30 AM - ODA Building
AUG 26 – OUCOD Student Fall Festival - 5:00 PM - ODA Building

In Memoriam

Stuart Nelson
May 14, 2008
Tulsa

John C. Upp, Jr.
April 17, 2008
Chelsea

Joe Edward Drake
May 15, 2008
Guthrie
For more information on ODA’s endorsed companies please call the ODA at 405-848-8873 or 800-876-8890 or visit www.okda.org

**ODA News You Can Use**

This month’s spotlight on an ODA endorsed company

---

Only people like you can save like this.

The Dell™ Member Purchase Program is an exclusive discount program brought to you by your company and Dell. Dell Member Purchase Program gives you:

- Up to 12% savings on Dell home desktops or notebooks
- Discounts in addition to generally advertised Dell Home prices and promotions
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Saving up to 12% is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

**STEP 1**
Visit www.dell.com/eppbuy and enter Member ID: HS29180512.

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Choose any Dell home desktop or notebook.

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Select 3- or 4-year at-home service to double your discount — up to 12%!

Add electronics and accessories for even greater savings.

The Dell Member Purchase Program is your best value on a Dell Home PC.

1-800-695-8133  Member ID: HS29180512  www.dell.com/eppbuy
Some over-the-counter mouthwashes contain acids that can worsen tooth sensitivity if you have exposed dentin (the middle layer of the tooth). The acids further damage the dentin layer of the tooth. If you have dentin sensitivity, ask your dentist about the use of a neutral fluoride solution.

Are Your Teeth Sensitive?

Is a taste of ice cream or a sip of hot coffee sometimes a painful experience for you? Does brushing or flossing make you wince occasionally? If so, you may have a common problem called “sensitive teeth.”

What Causes Sensitive Teeth?

Cavities and fractured teeth can cause sensitivity. But if your dentist has ruled these problems out, then worn tooth enamel, a cracked tooth or an exposed tooth root may be the cause.

A layer of enamel, the strongest substance in the body, protects the crowns of healthy teeth. A layer called cementum protects the tooth root under the gum line. Underneath the enamel and the cementum is dentin, a part of the tooth that is less dense than enamel or cementum.

The dentin contains microscopic tubules (small hollow tubes or canals). When the dentin loses its protective covering, the tubules allow heat and cold or acidic or sticky foods to stimulate the nerves and cells inside the tooth. This causes hypersensitivity and occasional discomfort. Fortunately, the irritation does not cause permanent damage to the pulp. Dentin may be exposed when gums recede. The result can be hypersensitivity near the gum line.

Proper oral hygiene is the key to preventing gums from receding and causing sensitive-tooth pain. If you brush your teeth incorrectly or even over-brush, gum problems can result. Ask your dentist if you have any questions about your daily oral hygiene routine.

Treating Sensitive Teeth

Sensitive teeth can be treated. Your dentist may suggest that you try a desensitizing toothpaste, which contains compounds that help block transmission of sensation from the tooth surface to the nerve. Desensitizing toothpaste usually requires several applications before the sensitivity is reduced. When choosing toothpaste or any other dental care products, look for those that display the American Dental Association’s Seal of Acceptance–your assurance that products have met ADA criteria for safety and effectiveness.

If the desensitizing toothpaste does not ease your discomfort, your dentist may suggest in-office techniques. A fluoride gel, which strengthens tooth enamel and reduces the transmission of sensations, may be applied to the sensitive areas of the teeth.

If receding gums cause the sensitivity, your dentist may use agents that bond to the tooth root to “seal” the sensitive teeth. The sealer usually is composed of a plastic material.

If sensitivity is severe and persistent and cannot be treated by other means, your dentist may recommend endodontic (root canal) treatment to eliminate the problem.
ADA Foundation Offers Disaster Relief

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov) has officially announced the authorization to release federal disaster funds to help meet the recovery needs of residents/businesses in Ottawa County, Oklahoma, following the recent disaster event. As part of the ADA’s Charitable Assistance Programs, the Foundation provides the following:

- grants up to $2,500 to dental professionals who have been affected by disasters to assist with personal immediate needs; and
- grants (no specified amount) to organizations which can provide dental services to affected areas.

The Disaster Assistance Grant application and additional information including the rules for each program can be found at: http://adafoundation.org/ada/prod/adaf/prog_charitable_disaster.asp.

A Second Edition of the Disaster Preparedness Manual was developed by the Florida Dental Association in 2006, with the Florida Dental Health Foundation, under a grant of the ADAF (http://www.adafoundation.org/ada/prod/adaf/prog_disaster_handbook.asp). The manual is based on the experiences of dentists who lost or suffered damage to their offices and homes during a disaster. It covers how to prepare the office; what to do if a storm strikes; and describes local, state and national resources that are available. While focused on Florida and hurricane disasters, the information can be applicable to other states and other disasters. If you wish to download the manual, or find out more information, please visit the website: http://www.floridadental.org/foundation/disaster.html.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rose Famularo, ADA Coordinator of Charitable Assistance Programs, at 312-440-2763, or by e-mail at famularor@ada.org.

ODA Installment Payments Option for 2009 Dues

The ODA is again offering the Installment Payments Option opportunity for your 2009 dues. Effective for the 2009 dues cycle, all installment dues must be paid by credit card and must be paid in full by December 31, 2008. During the months of July, August, September, October, November, and December 2008, a partial payment (equal to 1/6 of the total amount) will automatically be charged to your credit card. The final payment in December will also reflect any additional dues approved by the ADA House of Delegates, ODA Components, and/or the ODA Board of Trustees. A form is required in order to participate in the 2009 ODA installment payment option. Please contact Phoebe Roth, ODA Member Records Manager, at proth@okda.org or 405-848-8873, to obtain a form. Completed forms must be returned to the ODA office no later than July 15, 2008, to take advantage of this option. We thank you in advance for your continued membership in your Oklahoma Dental Association!

ODA Today

The Oklahoma Aquarium is pleased to partner with the Oklahoma Dental Association to offer free aquarium admission to children who visit their dentist. The “Show Your Smile” club is a wonderful reward for families recognizing the importance of regular dental check-ups and good oral health. Here’s how it works: Parents can visit www.okaquarium.org, click on Plan A Visit, then Admission to find the link for a printable certificate. Bring the certificate to your child’s next dental appointment and have your dentist sign the certificate. Present the certificate at the Oklahoma Aquarium to receive a free child admission. While at the aquarium, see lots of teeth, with the largest bull sharks in captivity, seen through a unique walk-through tunnel. Plus, see the chompers on adorable river otters, raccoons and beavers in the new Hayes Family Ozark Stream.

With more than 200 exhibits, you’re sure to see something that will make you smile, so “Show Your Smile” to your dentist for savings and fun at the Oklahoma Aquarium.

Oklahoma Aquarium
300 Aquarium Drive
Jenks, OK 74037
(In the Tulsa metro area)
(918) 296-FISH
www.okaquarium.org
What are you waiting for? Sign up today for our fast and free claims payment service. Direct Deposit from Delta Dental of Oklahoma!

Did you know Delta Dental can directly deposit benefit payment checks into your bank account? What's more, this service from Delta Dental of Oklahoma is totally free!

What are the advantages of enrolling in direct deposit? You can receive payments within 24 to 48 hours of approved claim submission and you have access to your Information Requests (IR’s), denials and processed pre-determinations much faster.

So, how do you receive payment this quickly? Simply call for a direct deposit enrollment form, complete the form and send it back to us with a voided check. Not only will you be able to receive payment more quickly, but you will also have the ability to obtain a copy of your check and Claim Payment Statement (CPS/EOB) on-line through your secure internet based system - Dental Office Toolkit. You can also use the Dental Office Toolkit to access your patient’s real-time benefit, co-insurance, and deductible information. You can even submit claims using the Dental Office Toolkit.

And best of all, all of these service are not only fast – they’re totally FREE!

I invite you to call me to help you get started. My toll free number is 800-522-0188, ext. 142 -or- 405-607-2142 (OKC Metro). We’ll show you how FAST and EASY it truly is.

Respectfully,

Terri Green
Delta Dental Professional Relations

**ONLY DENTAL. ONLY DELTA.**
The following resolutions were adopted by the House of Delegates on May 15, 2008.

Resolution H-BOT(2007-2008)-18, Honorary Membership
Resolved, that Dr. Bill Nations be elected into Honorary Membership of the Oklahoma Dental Association.

Resolution H-(2007-2008)-14, Honorary Membership
The Oklahoma County Dental Society recommends that the Board of Trustees nominate and the House of Delegates elect Linda Campbell into honorary membership of the Oklahoma Dental Association.

Resolution H-(2007-2008)-15, State Life Membership
Resolved, that Dr. David Nittler, Edmond, Dr. Jimmie Gann, Woodward, Dr. Richard Kamp, Oklahoma City, and Dr. Fred W. Sims Jr., Tulsa be nominated by the Board of Trustees and elected by the House of Delegates into State Life Membership of the Oklahoma Dental Association.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-10, Delegates to the American Dental Association
Resolved, that the Bylaws Article VIII Section 1 C. be amended by striking “the” and inserting “an” before “Alternate Delegate” and striking “for the President”.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-3, Elevation and Installation of Officers
Resolved, the ceremony for the elevation and installation of Officers will be held in conjunction with the President’s Banquet”.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-3, Whiteneck Tray
Resolved, that the House Manual be amended by adding “The Whiteneck Tray will be awarded to the component dental society with the highest percentage attendance at the House of Delegates meeting”.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-9, Officers of the Board of Trustees
Resolved, that the Bylaws Article V Section 2 be amended by adding “and Secretary/Treasurer”.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-20, Succession of Officers
Resolved, that the Bylaws Article IV Section 4 be amended by striking “the President-elect and” and “President and” and “respectively”.

Upon approval of the House of Delegates, the President-elect and the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President and President-elect, respectively. In the event the office of President becomes vacant, the President-elect shall succeed to the office of President for the remainder of the term, as well as for the full term to which elected.

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-21, Elevation of the President-elect
Resolved, that the Bylaws Article IV Section 6 B5 be amended by striking “with approval by the House of Delegates”.

To succeed to the office of President without further election at the next regular annual meeting of the Association with approval by the House of Delegates.

Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward, President-elect, made the following appointments which were approved by the House:

Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Douglas Auld
Chair, Council on Budget and Finance: Dr. C. Todd Bridges
Chair, Council on Bylaws and Rules: Dr. E. Vann Greer
Chair, Council on Dental Care: Dr. Lisa R. Grimes
Chair, Standing Committee on OHCA & DHS: Dr. Wavel Wells
Chair, Council on Dental Education and Public Information: Dr. Thai-An Doan
Chair, Council on Governmental Affairs: Dr. W. Lee Beasley
Chair, Council on Membership and Membership Services: Dr. Tamara Berg
Co-chairs, Standing Committee on Insurance: Drs. Brent Burchard and Steven Hogg

Chair, Council on Technology and Electronic Communications: Dr. Raymond Cohlmia

Resolved, that the 2008 operating budget including a $19 dues increase approved by the Board of Trustees in November be ratified by the House of Delegates.

ODA Strategic Plan Goal: Membership Participation

Resolution H-BR(2007-2008)-2, Conflict of Interest and Statement of Disclosure
Resolved, that the Conflict of Interest policy and Statement of Disclosure be amended by substitution.

Background: The House of Delegates directed the Council to review and provide recommendations for updating the policy.

Resolved, that the Guidelines for Campaigning for ODA Office be amended by substitution:
1. Candidates may produce a picture (electronic format preferred: jpeg, tiff, or pdf) and a biography limited to 350 words including categories for family history, education, professional accomplishments and community activities. The picture and biography may appear in the pre and meeting registration brochures and can be included in a personal letter.
2. Candidates may write personal letters and make personal phone calls to members asking for their support.
3. Campaign stickers, bulletins, badges or emblems, hospitality suites with or without liquor, food, gifts or entertainment are prohibited as are signs in the convention facility or hotel.
4. The Council on Nominations and Elections may establish a forum or other mechanism for candidates in contested races to present themselves and their views before balloting.

Resolution H-DEPI(2007-08)-5, Schools for Healthy Lifestyles Program
Resolved, that the ODA become an official partner of the Schools for Healthy Lifestyles program.

Financial Implication: -0-
ODA Strategic Plan Goal: Access to Care and Membership Participation

Resolution H-DEPI(2007-2008)-12, Continuing Education Policy
Resolved, that the attached (Tab Mc) revised Continuing Education Policy be adopted.

Background Statement: The ODA now offers electronically mediated / distance learning, continuing education courses.

Resolved, that the ODA offers electronically mediated / distance learning courses.

Financial Implication: -0-
ODA Strategic Plan Goal: Access to Care and Membership Participation

Resolution H-MMS(2007-08)-6, Associate Member Appreciation
Resolved, that a new Associate Member Appreciation function be added to the Council on Membership and Membership Services duties.

Total Financial Implications: $3,000.00 Annually
ODA Strategic Plan Goal: Access to Care and Membership Participation

Resolution H-MMS(2007-08)-7, New Dentist Function
Resolved, that a New Dentist function be added to the Council on Membership and Membership Services duties.

Total Financial Implications: $3,000.00 Annually
ODA Strategic Plan Goal: Access to Care and Membership Participation

H-MS(2007-2008)-16, ODF included in dues billing
Resolved, that the Oklahoma Dental Foundation be allowed to include a fundraising letter and return envelope with the ODA dues billing.

Background Statement: During the March 7, 2008 meeting, the ODA Board of Trustees referred a motion to the ODA Council on Membership and Membership Services to allow the Oklahoma Dental Foundation to insert a separate fundraising letter and return envelope with the ODA dues billing.

Total Financial Implications: TBD
 OD A Strategic Plan Goal: Membership Participation

H-MS(2007-2008)-17, Interim Member Services
Resolved, that in an effort to mirror the ADA’s new policy, the ODA will begin providing new membership applicants with ODA interim member services.
services on a one-time basis, for up to six months, before they are officially accepted into membership.

Background Statement: The ADA recently amended their Bylaws to provide new applicants with ADA interim member services before they are officially accepted into tripartite membership. The ADA Bylaws now specify that applicants may receive interim services on a one-time basis for up to six months. The services specified include subscriptions to JADA and ADA News, access to the member’s only sections of ADA.org and member’s only pricing in the ADA catalog. The ADA sent correspondence to all the constituent societies requesting that we utilize our capability to provide interim services to new members, as well.

Total Financial Implications: Oda Strategic Plan Goal: Membership Participation

Resolution H-NE(2007-2008)-23 Nominee for ADA Delegate
The Council on Nominations and Elections nominates Dr. Scott Waugh, Oklahoma County, for ADA Delegate.

Resolution H-NE(2007-2008)-24, Nominee for ADA Alternate Delegate
The Council on Nominations and Elections nominates Dr. Stephen Glenn, Tulsa County, for ADA Alternate Delegate.

The Council on Nominations and Elections nominates Dr. Stephen O. Glenn, Tulsa County, for Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Resolution H-NE(2007-2008)-13, Nominations for Councils
Resolved, that the following nominees for Councils be elected by the House of Delegates.

Budget and Finance
Todd Bridges (SC-2-11)

Bylaws and Rules
E. Vann Greer (OC-2-11)

Dental Care
Lisa Grimes (NW-1-11)
Jandra Ward (N-2-11)

Standing Committee on OHCA and DHS
James Wells (E-1-11)
Lisa Grimes (NW-2-11)
Wavel Wells (N-2-11)

Dental Education and Public Information
William Beeson (SC-1-11)
Robert Augsburger (TC-1-11)
John Horn (E-1-11)
Frank Miranda (OC-1-11)

Government Affairs
Miranda Ruleford (TC-1-11)
Brian Drew (C-1-11)
Jack Sheets (E-1-11)

Membership and Membership Services
Carrie Chastain (NW-1-11)
Kenneth Hammond (E-1-11)

Technology and Electronic Communications
Stephen Mayer (N-2-11)
Jonathan Cooper (TC-2-11)
Tim Rudd (OC-1-11)

Resolution H-TEC(2007-08)-4, ADA Online CE Program
Resolved, that the ODA participate in the ADA Online CE program.

Financial Implication: Non dues income

Strategic Plan Goal: Membership Participation

Resolution H-TEC(2007-08)-8, BOT/HOD Materials on Secure Website
Resolved, that the ODA provide the option of posting and downloading files from a secured website for Board of Trustees and House of Delegates members, with a goal of moving to an all electronic medium by 2009.

And be it further resolved that an additional password be required for access to the website.

Financial Implication: Potential to decrease the cost of meetings (binders, tabs, and paper)

Strategic Plan Goal: Technology

Resolution H-CORD(2007-08)
Resolved that the ODA institute a survey of the membership concerning prevalence, cost of treatment, and other pertinent information on “meth mouth” in Oklahoma and formulate an action plan for the prevention and “best practice” for treatment of the oral health consequences of “meth mouth”. The resolution is referred to the Council on Dental Education and Public Information.

Resolution H-CORD(2007-08)
Resolved that the ODA, in concert with the State Department of Education, develop an official “excuse of absence for dental treatment” form to be distributed to schools for students to use for absence due to dental treatment. The ODA would urge school districts to fully excuse students for time out of school for dental treatment.

The ODA received a $59,342 dividend from Compsource for the workers compensation agreement. The dividend will be paid toward the principle on the building mortgage.

Upon an inquiry by the president of the Alliance to the ODA, staff will contact Joe Strunk to investigate the possibility of including the Alliance under the umbrella of the ODA insurance policy for directors and officers liability insurance. The Alliance will pay its portion.

The purchasing entity will be provided all written content and one DVD, to be duplicated at their expense.

Example: Wyoming Dental Association has 850 members x $4.00 ($3,400), provide a 25% discount ($2,550)

Constituent Society    Total sum of all members at $4.00 per member and provide a 25% discount

Example: Dallas County Dental Society has 2,225 members x $4.00 ($8,900)

The Board voted to nominate Dr. Raymond Cohlmia for the ODA’s outstanding editor award.

All future membership status reports will include the number of licensed dentists included in the “active member” number.

Signs that read “contact management to disable alarm before servicing units” will be posted on the air conditioning unit fences outside the ODA building.

The Board adopted the following resolutions:

**Government Affairs**
- Miranda Ruleford (TC-1-11)
- Brian Drew (C-1-11)
- Jack Sheets (E-1-11)

**Membership and Membership Services**
- Carrie Chastain (NW-1-11)
- Kenneth Hammond (E-1-11)

**Technology and Electronic Communications**
- Stephen Mayer (N-2-11)
- Jonathan Cooper (TC-2-11)
- Tim Rudd (OC-1-11)

**Resolution H-TEC(2007-08)-4, ADA Online CE Program**
Resolved, that the ODA participate in the ADA Online CE program.

**Financial Implication: Non dues income**

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**Constituent Society** | **Total sum of all members at $4.00 per member and provide a 25% discount**
--- | ---
Example: Wyoming Dental Association has 850 members x $4.00 ($3,400), provide a 25% discount ($2,550)

**Component Society** | **Total sum of all members at $4.00 per member**
--- | ---
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The Board adopted the following resolutions:
Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.

- Andrew Carnegie

ODA Journal recently sat down with Dr. Ward and here is what she had to say:

ODA: **Describe your first involvement with the ODA.**

JMW: Oddly enough, I can't remember! It's just always “been”…my 1st memories of the ODA are of my mom being President of the Alliance in 1991. When I was a second-year dental student at OUCOD, I wanted to see Dr. Gordon Christensen speak at the ODA meeting. In order to be excused from class that day, I had to come back with notes and report to my instructor (who shall remain nameless). At that time, it was rare for a dental student to attend the ODA Annual Meeting and especially to go for CE. I have not missed an Annual Meeting since.

ODA: **Who has been the most influential in your participation in organized dentistry?**

JMW: That’s an easy one, my dad! I never questioned being active in the ODA; it is just something that I was always expected to do. I was always taught that serving was an important part of dentistry. A few other dentists that I would like to name as mentors are Drs. Jerry Miller, Jim Torchia and Larson Keso. There are many more “greats” who offered their support whenever I needed it, but those mentioned above have gone above and beyond. I would be totally remiss if I didn’t mention the Oil Capital Study Club in Tulsa (though I’m not a member). They have been very supportive of my leadership endeavors.

ODA: **What are the greatest strengths of the ODA?**

JMW: Our strength is in our membership. We have such a high membership percentage and we can truly say we speak as a group for Oklahoma dentistry. The ODA is on the cutting edge of so many of its projects and issues.

Working together is a concept Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward is all too familiar living. With three young boys in tow, she not only juggles the duties of motherhood, but also of organized dentistry.

She currently serves as the third consecutive woman president and holds the title of the youngest president in the Association’s history.

Dr. Ward believes that the old adage “it takes a village to raise a child” also holds true for organized dentistry. Raised in a dental family, she learned at a young age the importance of working together for a common goal. Her mother, Janene, served as President of the ODA Alliance and her father, Dr. Stephen Mayer, has served as president of the Oklahoma Dental Foundation in addition to numerous councils of the Oklahoma Dental Association.

During her term, Dr. Ward hopes to encourage a teamwork mentality throughout, for both the ODA and dentistry as a whole. She would like to guide the ODA as “quarterback” of the team, knowing that individual dentists cannot play the game alone.

Her teamwork mentality not only relates to dentistry; Dr. Ward also applies her approach to the environment. In March of 2008 she started the Vinita chapter of Freecycle, an organization that provides new homes for items other people throw out. Recycling these items not only helps other families, but keeps trash from cluttering the landfill.

She feels it her responsibility to teach her children and others to be more mindful of individual impacts on the environment.
Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward Fun Facts!

She is no “newbie” to the position of President. Dr. Ward has been president of four groups: the OUHSC Student Association during nursing school, the OUCOD Student Council during dental school, her Senior Dental Class, and the Vinita Rotary (two times). She also is a past board member of the Vinita Chamber of Commerce.

She created a side business called PW3 Creations in which she sells custom art work.

She is an avid recycler and believes in being environmentally responsible.

She graduated from nursing school in 1996.

Dr. Ward was born August 7th - making her a Leo.

Dr. Ward has lived in two states, Oklahoma and Texas.

She and her husband, Grady, met online.

She and her husband Grady are the proud parents of three young boys who range in age from 8-5. The boys all share common initials of P.G.W.

- Parker Glenn
- Payton Grant
- Price Garret

Grady and Jandra

Dr. Ward painted the murals on the wall in the OUCOD Pedo Clinic during dental school.

She is no “newbie” to the position of President. Dr. Ward has been president of four groups: the OUHSC Student Association during nursing school, the OUCOD Student Council during dental school, her Senior Dental Class, and the Vinita Rotary (two times). She also is a past board member of the Vinita Chamber of Commerce.

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I take great pride in our ODA Journal — Raymond has such great vision! The Digital Dental Office project Dr. Beddoe heads up meets a great need for our members; technology can be intimidating and finding unbiased information can be difficult. The Digital Dental Office takes some of the ‘unknown’ away. ODA leaders try hard to think out-of-the-box to find innovative projects and solutions to address today’s issues in dentistry.

**ODA:** What goals have you set to be accomplished during your presidency?

**JMW:** Aside from finishing up the final year of our three-year strategic plan, I hope to continue to foster the idea of including the dental team. I strongly believe that the ODA must be THE voice for Oklahoma dentistry. The dentists are the leaders of our offices and we need to be leaders of the profession statewide. But every team captain needs the rest of the team to perform to the best of his/her ability. The more we include our staff in the “plays” the more successful we will all be.

**ODA:** What are three major changes to dental practices that have occurred since you started practicing and what has stayed the same?

**JMW:** The “mainstream” use of computers in dental offices is a big change. In fact, that is the umbrella that two major changes fit under.

1) **Scheduling:** I don’t think there are many offices that still use a paper scheduling book. Just fewer than ten years ago, we had to pry a scheduling book out of my grandmother’s hands. It would be utterly impossible to go back.

2) **Digital Radiographs:** My dad was the first dentist I heard of to jump on the digital x-ray bandwagon. Slowly but surely, doctors are finding that the addition of this tool pays for itself very quickly, especially if you do any endodontics.
My Husband & I at a winetasting!

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The 2008 ODA Annual Meeting took place May 15-17, 2008, at the Cox Convention Center and Renaissance Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. The following are just a few of the highlights from the meeting:

**2008 Award Winners**

**James A. Saddoris Lifetime of Leadership Award**
Dr. Jerome Miller

**Dentist of the Year**
Dr. Mike Morgan

**Young Dentist of the Year**
Dr. Andrea Montgomery

**President’s Leadership Awards** *(sponsored by the Jerome B. Miller Family Foundation)*
Dr. Kevin Haney and Dr. Ray Beddoe

**Thomas Jefferson Award for Citizenship**
Dr. Gary Gardner

**Robert K. Wynne Award for Dental Education and Public Information**
Dr. Thai-An Doan

**Dan E. Brannin Award for Professionalism and Ethics**
Dr. Larson Keso

**Richard T. Oliver Legislative Award**
Dr. Kurt Gibson

**Benjamin Franklin Scroll Award**
Dr. Theresa White and Dr. Kevin Haney

Congratulations to the 2008 ODA Award Winners!

**ODA 2008-2009 Officers**

**Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward**
Vinita
President
president@okda.org

**Dr. C. Rieger Wood, III**
Tulsa
President-elect
presidentelect@okda.org

**Dr. Tamara Berg**
Yukon
Vice-President
vicepresident@okda.org

**Dr. Stephen O. Glenn**
Tulsa
Speaker of the House
soglenn@swbell.net

**Dr. Doug Auld**
McAlester
Secretary/Treasurer
treasurer@okda.org

**Dr. Raymond A. Cohlmia**
Oklahoma City
Editor
rcohlmia@okda.org
PRESIDENT’S DINNER / CENTENNIAL GALA

On Saturday evening, the Annual Meeting culminated in the traditional ODA President’s Dinner. Friends and family joined Dr. Krista Jones in celebrating another great year for the ODA. The Caribbean-themed evening began with the sounds of a steel drum band and shortly thereafter, the 2008-2009 officers were installed by Dr. Wayne Thompson, ADA 12th District Trustee, from Kansas. Dr. Pamela Low presented the ODA Past President’s plaque and pin to Dr. Jones. After the presentations, everyone danced the night away to the fabulous sounds of the band Souled Out.

EXHIBIT HALL

The Exhibit Hall featured over 130 booths of various vendors exhibiting the latest goods and services related to the practice of dentistry and the business of running a dental practice. Attendees in the Exhibit Hall participated for the first time in the ODA Bingo! game, had an opportunity to tour the ODF Mobile Dental Unit and the ODA Digital Dental Office, and participated in the DENPAC Silent Auction, always one of the most popular events at the Annual Meeting. This year’s Silent Auction raised over $8,000 for DENPAC, the Oklahoma Dental Association’s Political Action Committee.

DIGITAL DENTAL OFFICE

Back by popular demand, and bigger and better than 2007, was the ODA Digital Dental Office, located in the Exhibit Hall. It is a project born of necessity to effect a transition from the traditional way of doing things, to expediting those same processes electronically. ODA members were present, helping less tech-savvy attendees set up email and use the Internet. Look for the ODA Digital Dental Office again in 2009!
Dr. Krista Jones presents Dr. Jerome Miller with the ODA's James A. Saddoris Lifetime of Leadership Award.

Dr. Pamela Low (ODA Past President) congratulates Dr. Tamara Berg on winning the ODA Vice President election.

Dr. Krista Jones congratulates Dr. Jandra Mayer-Ward on becoming the 2008-2009 ODA President.

Dr. Ray Beddoe enjoys a glass of vino during the winetasting held on Friday night of the Annual Meeting.

(Right) Drs. Steve Glenn and Phil Abshere take “island attire” to a whole new level at the 2008 President's Dinner.

(Left) Dr. Krista Jones dances the night away at the 2008 President’s Dinner.
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This year’s “Dentist of the Year” is a public health dentist who has a long history of contributions to his profession and his community through his many positions of leadership and volunteerism. Dr. Michael Morgan graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry, and later earned a Master of Public Administration degree from OU. As Oklahoma’s Public Health Dental Director for 32 years, he was involved in most of the state’s successful water fluoridation projects, and was instrumental in other statewide public health programs involving dental health education, tobacco use prevention, dental clinical care, and the dental loan repayment program. Dr. Morgan has also served on the Governor’s Task Force on Tobacco and Youth and the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Advisory Committee. He is a Past President of the National Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, the Oklahoma Public Health Association, and the Oklahoma Dental Foundation. Dr. Morgan retired in 2007.
Mark Your Calendar for the 2009 ODA Annual Meeting!

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Resolved, that the Oklahoma Dental Association endorse the two new insurance products offered by Alexander & Strunk, Inc.

Background Statement: Alexander & Strunk, Inc. is offering two new insurance products, Employment Practices Liability and Accidental Death and Dismemberment.

The Employment Practices Liability product will provide employer coverage for allegations/negligence from employees against discrimination, harassment and wrongful termination. The product also provides third-party coverage for allegations/negligence from patients, clients, vendors, etc.

The Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance product will cover the insured in the case of death or dismemberment due to an accident.

The Board recommends that the House adopt the following resolutions:

Resolution H-DEPI(2007-2008)-12, Continuing Education Policy
Resolved, that the attached revised Continuing Education Policy be adopted.

Background Statement: The ODA now offers electronically mediated/distance learning, continuing education courses. In compliance with current ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP) requirements, the Council on Dental Education and Public Information has revised the ODA Continuing Education Policy to include a policy on electronically mediated/distance learning courses.

The ADA recently amended their Bylaws to provide new applicants with ADA interim member services before they are officially accepted into tripartite membership. The ADA Bylaws now specify that applicants may receive interim services on a one-time basis for up to six months. The services specified include subscriptions to JADA and ADA News, access to the member’s only sections of ADA.org and member’s only pricing in the ADA catalog. The ADA sent correspondence to all the constituent societies requesting that we utilize our capability to provide interim services to new members, as well.

The ODA Council on Membership and Membership Services has scheduled an ODA “Mini” New Dentist Conference for Friday, November 21, 2008, at the ODA Building. All ODA members in practice ten (10) or less years are invited! Come for the CE and networking! Watch your mail for more information soon!

ODA Risk Management Seminar
Register today for the 2008 ODA Risk Management Seminar, scheduled for Friday, September 26, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, at the Quail Creek Golf & Country Club, 3501 Quail Creek Road, in Oklahoma City. Attendees will receive three (3) continuing education credits for completing this course and Fortress insureds will receive a 10% premium discount for the next three policy periods. The seminar is open to any member of the dental team and dental spouses. Visit the ODA website at www.okda.org to download a Registration Form.
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