



Mega - Bites

A Quarterly E-Newsletter free to subscribers through the
Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association webpage at <http://www.tndaa.org>

Volume 2, Number 3

Summer, 2006

2006 TNDAA Annual Session



The TNDAA Annual Session was again a Big Success

The TNDAA Annual session began Friday, May 19 with the Board of Trustees Breakfast meeting. Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs were reminded to have reports ready for Saturday's General Assembly. Final preparations were made for the General Assembly. Friday afternoon, Linda Harvey presented a 4-hour CE course to a packed room.

Saturday, May 20 at the General Assembly, special recognition was given to scholarship recipients Billie Hieatt from Vol State, Cassie Calbaugh from Chattanooga State, and Erin B. O'Malley from TTC Knoxville. Suzanne Dowdle from the TTC in Murfreesboro was recognized as the Educator of the Year. Special guests included Bettie Rogers, our ADAA Fourth District Trustee, Jennifer Albrecht, TNDAA lobbyist, and Evelyn Edwards from the TDHA. Items of discussion included delegates to the ADAA in Denver, proposed Bylaws revisions, and the status of the proposed dental assistant rules. Officers were elected. New officers, Trustees, and committee chairs were charged with tasks for the next year. Later that afternoon, a student reception and an Educators' Conference completed our Annual Session. Our booth was visited by dental professionals who bought novelty tooth-shaped pasta and learned about membership in the TNDAA.

Plans are being finalized for our Fall Conference October 14 in Nashville. Plan to attend for some great CE and volunteer to work with a committee or task force! More information will be posted on the [www.tndaa](http://www.tndaa.org) website – so visit often.

In this issue:

- Cover: TNDAA Annual Session Update
Spotlight on.....
- Page 2 Current Officers
CE Requirements
Earn your Degree in Health Services Management
- Page 3 On-line Chemical Dependency CE Course Available
- Page 4 DANB "How to Study"
Bylaws Report
Calendar of Events
Fall Conference Plans
Volunteer opportunity-RAM
- Page 5 Legislative Update
Criminal Background Checks
Sponsor Recognition
District News / Local Societies
FREE CLASSIFIEDS!
- Page 6 Subscription Information
General information

Spotlight on..... Karen Castleberry

Karen Castleberry, CDA, RDA, BS, is employed as an Associate Professor at Chattanooga State Technical Community College. She worked in private practice as a chairside dental assistant before devoting fulltime to dental assistant education. She continues to fill in as a chairside assistant during the summer. She began teaching in the Dental Assisting program at Chattanooga State in 1975. She is a member of the ADAA and is currently serving as president of the TNDAA. She is also very active in the local society where she has held many offices. Mrs. Castleberry is a driving force in providing the best education possible to the dental assisting students. She is also serves as a site visitor and on the Dental Assistant Review Committee of the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation team. Karen enjoys spending time with her husband, Bill and their two children April and Jon.

TNDAA Officers

TNDAA Elections were held in accordance with the bylaws/MOPs of the TNDAA at the General Assembly of the TNDAA Annual Session, May 20, 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 2 of the Chattanooga Convention Center. The new Officer for 2006-2007 are:

President-Karen Castleberry, Chattanooga
 Vice-president-Janice Harper, Memphis
 Secretary-Terri Rollins, Nashville
 Treasurer-Marcia Sivley, Chattanooga

Board of Trustees 1st District Trustee - Ruth Ottinger, alternate - Alice Myers; 2nd District trustee - Mary Ellen Vaughn; Chattanooga Trustee - Michelle Ehmling; 4th District Trustee - Suzanne Dowdle; Nashville Trustee - Terri Rollins; 6th District Trustee - contact Carol Herron; 7th District trustee – vacant; 8th District Trustee - Vivian Neeley; Memphis Trustee - Bettie Brooks.

Standing Committee Chairs Budget and Finance - Marcia Sivley; Bylaws and MOP's - Lynda Gooden; Education - Janice Harper; Membership -Terri Rollins; Judicial/Legislative - Mary Ellen Vaughn;

Special Appointments: Annual Session - Karen Castleberry; Fall Conference: Eva Loring and Evelyn Stevens, co chairs: Michelle Ehmling; Managing Editor Mega-Bites Newsletter - Michelle Ehmling; Scholarship Committee - Suzanne Dowdle; Committee to study Joint TDHA Activities Terri Rollins, Chair; Mary Ellen Vaughn and Bettie Brooks; Delegate to ADA Annual Session: Rachel Obptande

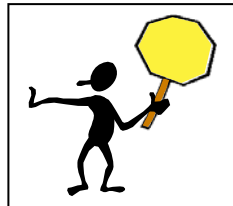
Congratulations to all the officers and committee chairs.

RDA's Earn Advanced Placement for Health Services Management Degree

Your Tennessee Registration as a Dental Assistants is now worth 24 semester credit hours of advanced placement toward an Associate of Science degree in Health Services Management at Chattanooga State Technical Community College. You're almost half way to that degree you've always wanted. Advance in your career! Create more career opportunities for yourself! ALL of the courses are available online and some of the courses will even meet your CE requirements For more information contact david.knopp@chattanoogastate.edu

CE Requirements must be met by December 31, 2006

According to the TBD website: All registered dental assistants are required to fulfill 24 hours of continuing education during the two calendar year cycle (January 1 of an odd year - December 31 of an even year) and keep a current C.P.R. card at all times. Dentists must fulfill 40 hours and registered dental hygienists are required to fulfill 30 hour of CE during the same two-year cycle. A minimum of 2 of the required biennial hours for all dental professionals must be obtained in the area of chemical dependency education.



CAUTION! Not all CE providers are approved by the Tennessee Board of Dentistry!

According to the rules of the Tennessee Board of Dentistry, acceptable continuing education is:

1. Courses sponsored or approved by any of the following organizations: American Dental Association or its constituent or component societies.
 - a. American Dental Association or its constituent or component societies.
 - b. Academy of General Dentistry or a state affiliate.
 - c. American Dental Hygienists' Association or its constituent or component societies.
 - d. Any national, regional or state academy or association of any of the recognized specialty branches of dentistry listed in T.C.A. § 63-5-112.
 - e. National Dental Association or its constituent or component societies.
 - f. National Dental Hygiene Association
 - g. Capital City Dental Society.
 - h. American Dental Assistants' Association or its constituent or component societies.
 - i. Tennessee Dental Hygienists Academy of Advance Study.
 - j. Tennessee Department of Health

Continued page 3, column 1, see CE Requirements

CE Requirements, continued from page 2

2. Educational courses sponsored by an accredited school of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting. If such course is taken for or assigned quarter or semester credit hours, three semester hours or equivalent quarter hours shall be equivalent to fifteen continuing education hours. No credits will be counted for courses failed.
3. Five hours of continuing education credit in any one calendar year shall be given for general attendance at state, regional, or national dental meetings. These hours are in addition to any continuing education courses attended at any of those meetings.

The Dental Board conducts random audits to verify C.P.R. certification and continuing education hours. You must retain these documents for a three-year period.

Congratulations~

Congratulations to Bettie Gail fox who was appointed by the governor to another 3-year term as the dental assistant member to the Tennessee Board of Dentistry

Congratulations to Victoria Richards, newly elected president of the TDHA. Victoria succeeds Evelyn Edwards who is also to be congratulated for a job well done.

And congratulations to Dr. Thomas S. Underwood, newly elected President of the TDA.

The TNDAA appreciates your support and wishes each of you a great new year!

Did you Know?

Auxiliary membership in the Tennessee Dental Association is not the same as membership in the Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association.. All members of the TNDAA are eligible to vote, hold and office, and take advantage of our FREE CE and other benefits! Join today! Get involved> For more info, go to <http://www.tndaa.org/tndaa/membership.html>

TNDAA's Online Chemical Dependency CE article and post test available at www.tndaa.org.

"Recognizing and Managing Substance Abuse in Healthcare Workers."

Written by Chris Prater M.D., FAAFP
ASAM *certified*

This article offers dental assistants, hygienists and dentists one (1) hour of Continuing Education Credit in the category of Chemical Dependency as required by the Tennessee Board of Dentistry. To earn credit, read the article and follow the directions on the exam and answer sheet pages. The exam will be graded by an officer of the Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association, an approved continuing education provider. A score of 80% or better is required to earn the CE certificate, which will be mailed within 2 weeks of course completion

Let Focus Health Care provide your local Chemical Dependency CE requirements



7429 Shallowford Rd.
Chattanooga, TN 37421
(423)308-2560

www.focushealthcare.com

David Cunningham, LADAC, NCACI, QSAP
Clinical Outreach Director

Recovery Begins Here

Alcohol & Drug Abuse Treatment
A Center of Excellence

- **INPATIENT MEDICAL DETOXIFICATION**
- **INPATIENT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES**
- **PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION**
- **INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT SERVICES**
- **FAMILY PROGRAMS**
- **AFTERCARE SERVICES**
- **ALUMNI PROGRAMS**

Studying for the TNRDA and DANB CDA Exams: Advice from DANB

Sarah Atkinson, DANB's Project Writer has submitted an excellent article which students and educators will find helpful in preparing for the TNRDA exam. The entire article can be viewed at <http://www.tndaa.org/DANBNews.html> Please share this article with all who might benefit from it.

DANB has also given permission for TNDAA to post the TN RDA exam outline on our website at http://www.tndaa.org/Documents/TNRDA_ExamOutline_09_15_04.pdf

The TNDAA wishes to thank DANB for supporting Tennessee Dental Assistants. Visit www.DANB.org



Join us in Nashville for the TNDAA Fall Conference

Plans are being finalized for our Fall Conference and General Assembly in Nashville, the weekend of October 14th (UT is off that weekend). All dental professionals are welcome to attend but only members may vote.

Visit <http://www.tndaa.org/tndaa/FallConference.html> for details.

The Committee is planning to include:
General Assembly Send comments and suggestions to Lynda Gooden at fish1461@bellsouth.net
Educators' Conference
Strategic Planning/Legislative Update
CE courses and mini workshops Providers may include Care Credit, Shred-It, Life-Guard Medical Solutions, Patterson, DENTSPLY, others
Fun Murfreesboro's "Bath Junkie" will demonstrate products; view a presentation featuring Terri Rollins, "How to start a Local DA Society" – More!

Send your comments and suggestions to co-chairs Eva Loring at Eva.Loring@remingtoncollege.edu or Evelyn Stevens at evelyn.stevens@remingtoncollege.edu.



Plan your Calendar

August 2-6

ADAA Annual Session, Denver

September 21 and 22

Tennessee Board of Dentistry Meeting, Metro Plaza

October – weekend of the 14th

TNDAA Fall Conference (To be announced)

January 18-20, 2007

TDA Workshop, Franklin

March 15-19, 2007

Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting, Atlanta

May 17-20, 2007

TDA/TNDAA Annual Session Knoxville

Opportunities to volunteer with The Remote Area Medical Corps® 2006 Expedition Schedule

July 28-30 Wise County, VA at Wise Fair Grounds

Aug. 19-20 Johnson County at Mountain City, TN

Sept. 16-17 South Pittsburgh, TN

Oct. 14-15 Grundy, VA at Riverview Elementary School

Nov. TBD Roane County TN at Shiloh Baptist Church

For more information, visit
<http://www.ramusa.org/index.html>



Legislative Update

At the May 26 meeting of the Tennessee Board of Dentistry, the Board voted to approve the new rules for dental assistants. The rules will go to the Attorney General and to the Secretary of State for final approval and will likely soon be in effect. For details and updates, contact the Tennessee Board of Dentistry

Criminal Background Checks

Effective July 1, 2006 the Board of Dentistry will require applicants for registration as a dental assistant to complete a criminal background check. The Tennessee Board of Dentistry has contracted with Idenitix to perform this service for a fee of \$56. The background check is not required for registration renewal or reinstatement. More information is available at the Board's website.

<http://www2.state.tn.us/health/Boards/Dentistry/noteworthy.htm>

Support our Sponsors:

Dentedonline
Horizon Consulting Group
CareCredit
Shred-it
LIFE GUARD
Orasphere
the Practice Organizer

FREE CLASSIFIEDS!

Attention graduates!

Don't forget to post your availability for employment in the FREE CLASSIFIEDS!

Attention dentist/employers

Post your ad for a dental auxiliary employee on the FREE CLASSIFIEDS.

Dentedonline.com has allowed us to link to the FREE CLASSIFIEDS from www.tndaa.org. Go there and click on FREE CLASSIFIEDS.

Announcing two new Local Dental Assistants Societies:

Nashville Dental Assistants' Association

For more information contact Terri Rollins, at (615)690-5400 or at rollinlo66@yahoo.com

You can also view the Nashville District web page at <http://www.tndaa.org/Nashville.html>

Sixth District Dental Assistants' Society

For more information, contact Carol Herron at ckherron@twlakes.net or visit the Sixth District web page at <http://www.tndaa.org/SixthDistrict.html>

Not sure to which District you belong? Visit <http://www.tndaa.org/DistrictNews.html> to check out your district's news. Many districts offer FREE CE to members!

First District serves: Carter, Greene, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties

Second District serves: Hancock, Claiborne, Campbell, Scott, Grainger, Hamblen, Union, Anderson, Cocke, Sevier, Jefferson, Blount, Knox, Monroe, Loudon, Roane, and Morgan Counties

Third District (Chattanooga Area) serves: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, Marion, Meigs, McMinn, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, and Van Buren Counties

Fourth District serves: Giles, Marshall, Rutherford, Bedford, Lincoln, Franklin, Moore, and Coffee Counties

Fifth District serves (Nashville Area) : Sumner, Macon, Trousdale, Wilson, Davidson, Cheatham, Dickson, Hickman, Williamson, Maury, Lewis, Lawrence Counties

Sixth District serves: Pickett, Fentress, Clay, Jackson, Overton, Smith, Putman, DeKalb, White, Cumberland, Cannon, and Warren Counties

Seventh District serves: Lake, Obion, Weakley, Henry, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll, Benton, Lauderdale, Crockett, Tipton, Haywood, Madison, Henderson, Decatur, Perry, Hardeman, McNairy, Marin, and Wayne Counties

Eighth District serves: Stewart, Montgomery, Robertson, Houston, and Humphreys Counties

Ninth District (Memphis Area) serves: Fayette and Shelby Counties

Join the  Today!

www.dentalassistant.org

**The ADAA's
Statement of Professional Commitment:**

"As a professional dental assistant, I will promote the advancement of the careers of dental assistants and the dental assisting profession in matters of education, legislation, credentialing and professional activities which enhance the delivery of quality dental health care to the public."

**TENNESSEE DENTAL
ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION**

The Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association's objectives shall be:

- To share in the responsibility for quality dental health care delivery to all;
- To advance the practice of dental assisting toward the highest standards of performance obtainable by supporting and encouraging formal education and in providing quality continuing education;
- To support educationally-based national and/or state credentialing for the dental assisting profession; and
- To communicate effectively with all members of the health-related professions.


Subscription Information

For a free subscription to this quarterly newsletter, send a blank e-mail to subscribe@tndaa.org. Submit articles and comments to mega-bites@tndaa.org. The TDAA Board and/or the managing editor must approve all content prior to publication and distribution.

Publication of articles submitted to and approved by the "Mega-Bites" Editorial Review Board does not imply endorsement of any particular products or service. The views reflected in this newsletter are not necessarily intended to be official statements of the Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association.

You DO have permission to print, photocopy, FAX, e-mail, or otherwise distribute this newsletter provided it is done so in its entirety.

Michelle Ehmling, CDA, RDA, BS
Managing Editor, Mega-Bites Newsletter

General information

New address for the Tennessee Board of Dentistry

Regarding Registration, license verifications, license renewal, CE requirements, proposed rules, to file a complaint, delegable duties, etc.

State of Tennessee
Department of Health
Bureau of Health Licensure and Regulation
Division of Health Related Boards
Board of Dentistry
French Landing, Suite 300
Heritage Place Metro Center
Nashville, TN 37243

Call 615-532-3202 local or 1-800-778-4123 or visit
[Http://www2.state.tn.us/health/Boards/Dentistry/index.htm](http://www2.state.tn.us/health/Boards/Dentistry/index.htm)

New address for DANB

Regarding Certification, renewal requirements, etc.

Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.
444 N. Michigan Ave, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60611-3985

Call 1-800-FOR-DANB Fax: (312) 642-1475
www.danb.org Email: danbmail@danb.org

To contact the

Tennessee Dental Assistants' Association
visit www.tndaa.org or e-mail info@tndaa.org



Have a Great Summer!