

THE Chronicle

The Omaha District Dental Society Journal



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FIRST MEETING

Dr. Amy Killeen

"Contemporary Periodontics: The role
of inflammation and biofilms in the
pathogenesis of disease."

Tuesday, Sep. 11, 2012

Athony's Steakhouse

Minutes from the ODDS Board of
Directors and General Membership
meetings are available on the web site:
www.OmahaDistrictDS.com Click on
the Information and Resources tab on
the home page.

The Obligatory Pitch



*Dr. Joe Hurd,
ODDS President*

When I started my term of office as President of the ODDS, I wanted to use my column in the Chronicle to promote issues that were important to me, namely, Ethics and Quality in Dental Practice, Enjoying the Profession of Dentistry, and Mentoring.

I had hoped to avoid the "Get-Active-In-Organized-Dentistry" topic, because it is so often mentioned. However, as I wind up my term of office, my observations make me conclude that this topic is important enough to be covered again. Here is my pitch.

Let's talk membership first. Being a member of organized dentistry ought to be second nature. It ought to be as natural as knowing where to look on a bite-wing for class 2 caries. It's like citizenship. Yet it isn't.

The Omaha District has a large membership but only 67 percent of dentists in the Omaha area are dues-paying members.

Why is that?

You would have to be the most obstinate ostrich around to bury your head deep and long enough to avoid seeing what the ADA does for the profession. As a speaker at the NDA Annual Session pointed out, advocacy for our profession is the number one benefit of membership.

I need not remind you of the rapid change in health care now taking place

in the country. When government gets too overbearing, when bureaucrats make poor decisions or those decisions having negative consequences, who runs interference for us? Who comprises our first line of defense? Who has studied the issues in depth and has the expertise to bring dentistry's point of view forward? Do I have to tell you?

Were it not for the proactive and effective advocacy by the ADA, our practices would be far different, and I dare say, a good number of us would have already left the profession in frustration or disappointment.

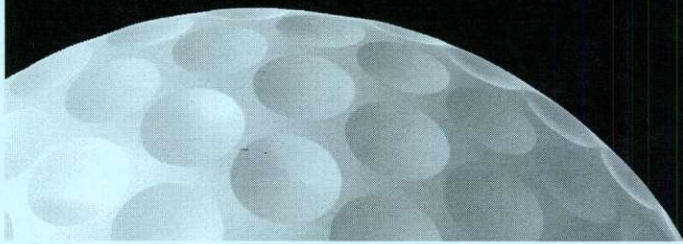
Perhaps I am preaching to the choir, since obviously since you are reading this publication, you're probably a member already. But what about your colleagues who are NOT members? Is it right that they should benefit from the ADA and NDA advocacy effort that is supported by YOUR dues, YOUR effort, and YOUR time? I say it is not.

Next time you are enjoying the company of your non-member fellow dentists, share what you know about organized dentistry with them. Encourage them to become a member.

I won't even mention the other benefits that the ADA make possible, such as accrediting dental schools, providing continuing education, monitoring the quality of dental materials, meetings on the national, regional, state levels, insurance, libraries, media presentations, etc, etc.

Let's talk leadership. Only a small fraction of the membership have accepted the responsibility for positions of leadership within the ODDS, the NDA

continued on page 4



GOLF OUTING

More than 100 golfers enjoyed a beautiful day on the links at Quarry Oaks in Ashland, making the 2012 Combined Golf Outing for the Omaha District and the Lincoln District Dental Associations the best ever.

“Committee co-chairs Dr. Randy Nordstrom and Dr. Chris Haag produced an event that was one for the history books,” said new ODDS President Dr. John Thomas,

who golfed in the event. “This event gets better every year!”

Fundraising activities including a putting contest and a cocktail sale generated approximately \$400 in donations for the Nebraska Mission of Mercy. Three golfers sunk the 25 ft plus putt during the course of play, and Dr. Brent Murphy from Lincoln won the putt-off and went home with a new putter.

This was the first year for an early-morning (8:30 am) tee off, and the first time the event was offered on a Friday. Both changes were well-received by participants.

A raffle of many high-quality items also helped defray the expense of the event. More than 40 prizes went home to happy golfers.

FOR MORE GOLF TOURNAMENT PHOTOS, VISIT OUR WEB SITE WWW.OMAHADISTRICTDS.COM

Dr. Chris Haag (pictured second from left above) co-chaired the event and encouraged many Lincoln District Dental Society members to participate. (Pictured L to R Melissa Tomasek Dr. Chris Haag, Dr. Cathy Alley and Dr. Paula Harre.)



ING WRAP UP

OUR THANKS:

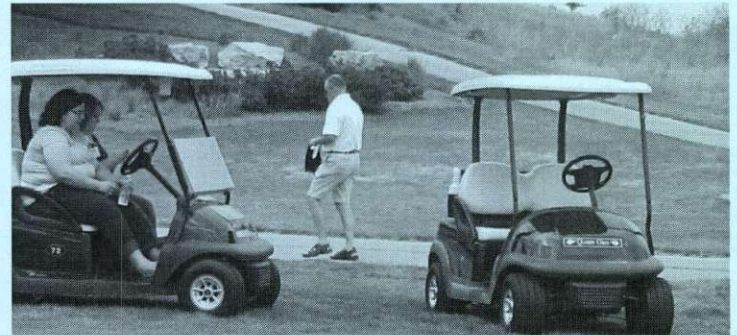
- The wonderful staff at Quarry Oaks
- The Golf Outing Committee:
Dr. Tom Beeson, Dr. Pat Burchfiel,
Dr. Taryn Chesire, Dr. Mike Danahay,
Dr. Mark Frill, Dr. Chris Haag,
Dr. Ben Hardy, Dr. Mike Hermsen,
Dr. Scott Morrison, Dr. Rich Nolte
and Dr. Randy Nordstrom.
- Our Presenting Sponsors:
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- Misty's Restaurant in Lincoln
- Nebraska Brewing Company
- Pine Ridge Golf
- Scheels
- Shuck's Fish House and Oyster Bar
- Tanner's Sport's Bar



*The winning foursome included Dr. Shawn Witney (Endo Resident),
Dr. Paul Blecha, Dr. Mike Hermsen and Dr. Chris Redd*



*Enjoying the day with friends: Dr. Brian Foral, Dave Montgomery,
Dr. Dave Olson, Dr. Tyler Smith*



*The putting contest was new this year, and raised more than
\$375 for Nebraska Mission of Mercy.*

Looking Ahead to 2012-2013 Program Year

Please mark your calendar for next year's ODDS general membership meetings and special events. President-Elect Dr. Carolyn Taggart-Burns is working hard to find a calendar full of interesting and relevant continuing education. The speakers will be announced in the next issue of the Chronicle, but please plan to spend these evenings with us:

Tuesday, September 11

Tuesday, October 9

Tuesday, November 13 Bring Your Dental Team to Dinner Night

Friday, December 7 Holiday Party

No ODDS Gen Mem meeting in December

Tuesday, January 8, 2013

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

Friday/Saturday, April 26-27 NDA Annual Session at the Cornhusker Marriott in Lincoln

No ODDS Gen Mem meeting in April

THANK YOU to the ODDS 2011-2012 Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors: \$5,000



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Meeting Sponsors:
January 2012 Dental Design

President's Letter continued...

or the ADA. Those volunteers have done an extraordinary job of moving the profession of dentistry forward. It is disheartening indeed to realize that of the huge pool of talented dentists and leaders in our district, few step forward. And the same volunteers step forward again and again.

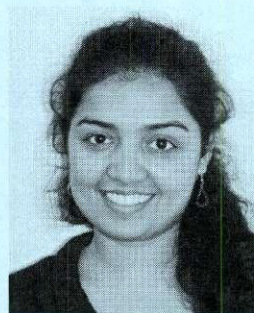
If you want the ADA to reflect your priorities or interests, it's time to step up. Yes, it takes time, but probably less

than you'd think. It takes effort but the work is rewarding. Hold up a mirror and take a good long look. YOU are the ADA.

So let's not hear the old refrain: What do I get out of it?

Let's once again warp John Kennedy's words, "Ask not what organized dentistry can do for you, ask what you can do for organized dentistry!" Get your colleges to join, to participate, and to lead.

Survey Assesses Opportunity for ODDS Community Involvement



Sheetal Sawant

A masters-degree student in the UNMC College of Public Health is assessing opportunities for ODDS to increase its visibility in the greater Omaha area through community education and involvement. As her Capstone Project, Ms. Sheetal Sawant will survey and interview a variety of different organizations in the Omaha District to determine what, if any, dental screening or oral health education events occur on a regular basis.

The results of the survey will provide a list of community events such as Health Fairs provided by area employers, health organizations, schools and not-for-profit organizations. "The main reason for my great interest in this project is that I am a dentist from India," Ms. Sawant said. She and her husband, Hemant M. Vishwasrao (a doctoral student at UNMC School of Nanomedicine), hope to return to Mumbai eventually.

ODDS Board Member and Secretary Dr. Kathy DeFord serves as the Preceptor for Ms. Sawant on this project.

"We hope to provide a planning tool that will help ODDS members identify where the areas of greatest need are in the community," said Dr. DeFord. "In addition, by posting these events on our web site, we hope to provide the general public with a calendar of events where they can receive screenings, treatment or oral health education."

Results of the survey will be available by mid-September. Watch this space for more information!



Dr. Rusty Lewis took home an awesome wedge after the Golf Outing Raffle!