

# THE VOICE



The Newsletter of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

Summer 2011



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...**

**BEING PART OF THE TEAM: D-E-F-E-N-S-E GO!**

Greetings one and all! I hope you are enjoying these beautiful days of summer. Your delegation recently returned from the ADHA Center for Life-Long Learning and the 88th Annual Session business meeting in Nashville "Music City", USA. It was my honor this year as your President, to serve as head of the delegation. Accompanying me was our Treasurer: El-lie Kelley-Miyashiro as the second delegate and President-Elect Jill Rethman and past President Diane Brucato-Thomas as alternates.



It is very exciting to be part of our national professional organization. There was so much information that my head was spinning most of the days. Many things are happening across the United States within the field of dental hygiene. Several states now have advanced dental hygiene practitioners, dental health therapists and expanded functions for dental hygienists. We hope to have these positions in Hawaii someday.

I encourage you to go to the ADHA website at [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org) and spend some time looking at the various sections for information that you could find useful.

If you are already a member of ADHA/HDHA, I applaud you! You are demonstrating your level of commitment to your profession. I have spoken with some who say they are not members because it “costs too much”, but it really doesn’t. When you consider the daily cost of your membership it amounts to about 68¢. I can’t think of much of anything that costs less than that. The value of membership far exceeds the cost. You’ve spent a great deal of time, effort, energy, money, blood, sweat and tears getting your dental hygiene education and your license to practice. Don’t let it slip away, it is far too valuable!



Our profession is under attack and ADHA/HDHA is your defense. I don’t think you would want to see dental hygiene jobs in the traditional setting be lost to untrained individuals, or lose your job because the workplace market is over-saturated. These are just two of the major issues we are facing.

On a brighter note—there are alternate work settings that we are pursuing, so if jobs in the traditional setting are hard to come by, there will be other options. Thank you for your support, we cannot survive as an organization without it!

Joyfully Yours,  
Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH  
HDHA President 2010-2011



## National Dental Hygiene Month will be here soon. Are you ready?

The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) is excited to announce that once again, this year, we are partnering with the Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company, manufacturer of Orbit gum to celebrate National Dental Hygiene Month (NDHM) in October!

### It's What We Do for Our Patients Every Day

This year's theme, "It's Simple. Healthy Habits for a Healthy Smile," continues last year's emphasis on incorporating a simple oral health regimen into a busy active lifestyle. Prevention is once again the focal point of the NDHM consumer message. ADHA is committed through its strategic plan to raise awareness of the dental hygiene profession and ADHA. In addition, ADHA stresses the value of working to increase public awareness about the importance of good oral hygiene and developing and following a simple daily oral health routine.

**All ADHA Members were provided with a FREE POSTER promoting this year's campaign with their August issue of Access magazine.**

### It's About You!

National Dental Hygiene Month is an opportunity to share with the world the wonderful services which you, as a dental hygienist, provide to your patients and the community at large, but it's also a time to be recognized for that contribution.

### It's About Your Community!

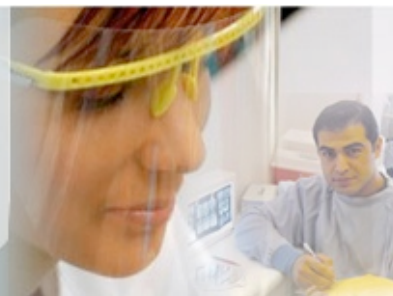
Last year, in addition to the NDHM activities, the Wrigley Foundation also chose to support dental hygienists in the work that they do in the community and partnered with the ADHA Institute for Oral Health to offer a new program of community service grants designed to improve the public's oral health. Through this program, 12 grants of \$5,000 were made available to ADHA's local organizations, one for each of ADHA's twelve districts to provide a community service project in their area. Look for more information about this year's program in the weeks to come.



--American Dental Hygienists' Association: Update news



American  
Dental  
Hygienists'  
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## Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Plan Zumba Fundraiser



(Honolulu, Hawaii, Tuesday, October 4) —Dental hygienists' from across Hawaii will participate in a Zumba fundraiser for their Political Action Committee (HI HY PAC) on Tuesday, October 4 at 6:00 pm. Open to the public, this fun, high-energy event will take place at Kalihi Waena Elementary School, 1240 Gulick Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii.

WITH THE THEME, "HEALTHY SMILES, HEALTHY BODIES," the Zumba event will be taught by the Secretary of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA) Chanda Park, RDH, BS. The cost to participate is \$10 pre-paid and \$12 at the door, with all funds going to HI HY PAC. Pre-paid tickets are available from HDHA officers. HDHA President Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH explains "October is National Dental Hygiene Month and we want to increase people's awareness of the impact that oral health has on total health, especially on the heart and arteries."

For additional information and to buy pre-paid tickets: [grethman@hotmail.com](mailto:grethman@hotmail.com) or [zumba808@ymail.com](mailto:zumba808@ymail.com)

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS: University of Hawaii at Manoa



This past May 2011, Dental Hygienists', Dental Hygiene students, local dentist got a chance to volunteer their time in helping the athletes increase their dental awareness.

Oral Exams provided by the dentist helped to point out urgent care that was necessary for some athletes. Dental Hygienists' were there to point out healthy snack choices and how to care for your teeth based on needs. Upon leaving, athletes were given toothbrush kits to get them started!

-Submitted by:

Michele McTague, RDH, BS





## Graduation Recognition Dinner: June 26 Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki



Left to Right:

Jennifer Takata, Kristy Gannon, Orange Quero, Noelani Greene, Alyssa Young, Nikkie (Ha) Au, Ami Balecah, Larilyn Alota, Kamaile Stevens, Kim Tandarich, Melinda Lau, and Sarah Li



-Submitted by: Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH

## American Dental Hygienists' Association in Nashville 2011



The Center for Life-Long Learning and Annual Session for the American Dental Hygienists' Association was held June 15th through June 21st in Nashville, "Music City". Hygienists and students from all fifty states attended the vast offering of continuing education courses, social events, district meetings and the House of Delegates.



session to present their posters. Melinda Lau, Jen Takata, Noelani Greene, and Crystal Bell were the new graduates from University of Hawaii at Manoa, who were sponsored to attend this ADHA



Here is a brief overview of some of the events. On Wednesday and Thursday, students from all twelve districts displayed their posters. Melinda Lau, Jen Takata, Noelani Greene, and Crystal Bell were the new graduates from University of Hawaii at Manoa, who were sponsored to attend this ADHA

Julie Omori was the faculty member who accompanied them.



On Thursday evening, Dimensions sponsored the Esther Wilkins Award reception. We all enjoyed visiting and getting photos with this icon of dental hygiene.



On Friday night, the Institute of Oral Health and ADHA President: Caryn Soile hosted a honky-tonk themed event complete with a live band and plenty of line dancing. It was a blast!



The Saturday morning Plenary Session featured "Minnie Pearl" and keynote speaker, Taylor Hicks of American Idol fame.





That evening, HDHA Treasurer: Ellie Kelley-Miyashiro and President: Gayle Rubino hosted Faculty Member: Julee Omori and the new graduates to dinner at Prince's Hot Chicken. This small "hole-in-the-wall" eatery is famous for its southern style fried chicken and a favorite among many local celebrities. Adam from television's Man vs. Food filmed an episode at the diner, making it even more popular.



On Sunday, the House of Delegates began the first session, and District XII sponsored the President's Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. HDHA Past President: Diane Brucato-Thomas, presented ADHA President: Caryn Soile with a Maile lei and performed a "paniolo" hula. It was the highlight of the hour!



The House of Delegates, the Reference Committees and the District Caucuses went very well. The House of Delegates finished up all business ahead of schedule. If you have never attended an ADHA Annual Session, you should plan on going at least once. Just know that once you go, you'll want to go again and again!



The colleagues you meet and the friendships formed will enrich your life both professionally and personally. It is an enlightening experience that will give you many wonderful memories for years to come.

-Submitted by: Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH

THANK YOU FOR READING THIS EDITION OF: THE VOICE.



**SUMMER 2011**

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Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

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