



Florida
Dental
Assistants
Association

Hosted by The Florida Dental Assistants Association: State Affiliate of the American Dental Assistants Association

Amplify Your Impact!

A Day for the Dental Team and Students to Engage, Ignite, and be Inspired

Saturday, January 31, 2026 9am - 4pm

Location: Daytona State College, Hosseini Center

1200 W. International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

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In-Kind Sponsors:





It is the honor of the Board of Directors of the Florida Dental Assistants Association to welcome you to Daytona Beach Florida for a day for the dental team to engage in a program sure to ignite and inspire. We are proud to bring back opportunities for growth sponsored by the professional association representing all dental assistants in the state of Florida. Whether you are a seasoned member FDAA or just learning about the association, we invite you to join our passionate members in their mission. As the Florida state affiliate of the American Dental Assistants Association, we work to support and advance the careers of dental assistants through education, advocacy, and connection while elevating the profession and improving the quality of patient care.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our host, Daytona State College, and the assistance of Dental Assisting Program Professor, Leslie Fehl, with local arrangements and the receiving and storing of the many deliveries of supplies, donations, and exhibits.

FDAA is also honored to have the support of its corporate sponsors who have made it possible for the FDAA to provide coffee service, lunch, and other items and amenities for attendees. Please be sure to visit with the on-site sponsors and learn about their products and services that are especially valuable to dental auxiliaries. For those sponsors who couldn't be with us, we hope you will explore their websites and take advantage of reviewing the digital content we have provided on their behalf.

Thank you to our speakers and panelists for their generous donation of their time, expertise, and support of the hard-working members of the dental team. FDAA truly appreciates their passion for supporting the association and the profession of dental assisting.

Finally, to our guests, on behalf of the FDAA Board of Directors, we thank you for taking one of your Saturdays to attend this exciting event. We look forward to sharing in a wonderful day of professional fellowship with you. We especially are grateful for the students who are here to expand their learning and experience to discover what can be possible when professionals engage in networking experiences. Here's to a great day of learning and celebration of the contributions made by all dental auxiliaries to the dental profession.

Kimberly Bland, M.Ed., B.S., CDA, EFDA
President, Florida Dental Assistants Association



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Saturday, January 31, 2026 Amplify Your Impact

Agenda

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Check-in and Coffee Social, Visit Sponsor Tables, Introductions
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	LECTURE: <i>Tips and Tools for Making Dental Equipment Maintenance Easy</i> Presenter: Tija Hunter, CDA, EFDA, CDIA, CDSO, MADAA (2.0 CDE)
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	Break, Network with Sponsors
11:15 AM – 12:45 PM	LECTURE: <i>Tools of the Trade, Smart Supply Management for the Dental Team</i> Presenter: Sherrie Busby, CDIPC, CDSO, EDDA-FL (1.5 CDE)
12:45 PM – 1:00 PM	Break, Box Lunch Pick-up (<i>Check your badge for your pre-order selection or assigned box lunch if no pre-order was received</i>)
1:00 PM – 1:50PM	LUNCH AND LEARN WITH SOLMETEX/STERISIL <i>What's in Your Water? DUWL Safety Management</i> Presenter: Bryan Fields
1:50 PM – 2:00	Break, Networking, Visit with Sponsors, FDAA Member Caucus- Annual Session Balloting
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION: <i>From Ambition to Achievement, Step-up to Stand Out</i> Moderator: Kimberly Bland, M.Ed., B.S, CDA, EFDA (2 CDE)

There will be door prize drawings throughout the day...

Hang on to your ticket issued at check-in!

Showing Off Your Superpowers:

Tips and Tools for Making Dental Equipment Management Easy (2.0 hrs CDE)

Presenter: Tija Hunter, CDA, EFDA, CDIA, CDSO, MADAA

January 31, 2026, 9am – 11am



There is so much to do in the dental office to maintain all the necessary equipment used in the delivery of dentistry today. Whether it is high-tech or low-tech equipment, there is always something special that must be done on a routine basis to assure that everything remains ready to go and stays in perfect working order. Together we will uncover maintenance routines that must be performed and the documentation that also goes with it. You will be given a comprehensive checklist and tips and tools to make your maintenance journey easier as well as safer for all. You will enjoy learning a stress-free way to do things.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the Benefits of a Robust Equipment Maintenance Plan:

Discuss the benefits of developing a formal preventive maintenance plan for dental equipment.

2. Discuss Role of the Dental Assistant in Dental Equipment Maintenance:

Identify the common daily and periodic equipment maintenance routines that are traditionally assigned to the dental auxiliaries.

3. Ensure Compliance, Safety, the Standard for Patient Care:

Identify regulations, safety practices, and recordkeeping protocols designed to protect both workers and patients that must be integrated into dental equipment maintenance routines.

4. Develop Appropriate Routines and Schedules for Dental Equipment Maintenance:

Discuss how manufacturer recommendations, regulatory requirements, and office policies drive the timelines and techniques adopted for routine dental equipment maintenance procedures.

5. Define the Elements of an Efficient, Comprehensive Dental Equipment Maintenance Plan:

List and describe the elements of a comprehensive equipment maintenance plan that supports the efforts of the dental team in the delivery of quality dental care.



This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the standards of the Academy of General Dentistry Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE) through the joint program provider approval of The American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) and The Florida Dental Assistants Association. The American Dental Assistants Association is approved for awarding FAGD/MAGD credit.

Tools of the Trade:

Smart Supply Management for the Dental Team (1.5hrs CDE)

Presenter: Sherrie Busby, CDIPC, CDSO, EDDA-FL

January 31, 2026, 11:15 am – 12:45 pm



Effective dental supplies management is essential for ensuring smooth clinical operations, maintaining high standards of patient care, and optimizing practice profitability. This presentation will explore the key principles, best practices, and tools used in managing dental supply inventory efficiently. Together we will describe the role of dental auxiliaries in the management of supplies for both clinical and administrative operations while learning to analyze and optimize costs.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the Fundamentals:

Describe the role and importance of dental supplies management in clinical and administrative operations.

2. Analyze and Optimize Costs:

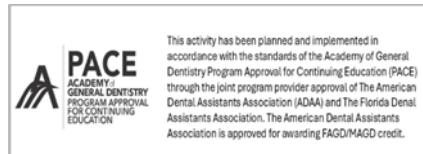
Use data to monitor usage trends, reduce waste, and make informed purchasing decisions.

3. Ensure Compliance and Safety:

Understand regulatory requirements and best practices for storing and handling dental materials safely.

4. Implement Inventory Control Techniques:

Apply methods such as par levels, FIFO (First In, First Out), and automated tracking systems to manage stock effectively.





From Ambition to Achievement, Step Up to Stand Out (2.0hrs CDE)

Panel Discussion Moderator: Kimberly Bland, M.Ed., B.S., CDA, EFDA

January 31, 2026, 2 pm – 4 pm



Kimberly Bland, Moderator



Hanna Aronovich,
Chief Marketing
and Strategy
Officer, Dental
Assisting
National Board
(DANB)



Linda Harvey,
RDH, MS, LHRM,
DFASHRM,
President and
Founder of the
Dental Compliance
Institute and the
Compliance Divas

PANELISTS:



Linda Miles, CSP,
CMC, Founder,
Speaking
Consulting
Network (CSN),
and Co-Founder
of the Oral Cancer
Cause, a 501(c)3
non-profit



Tija Hunter, CDA,
EFDA, CDTA,
CDSO, MADAA,
Speaker, Author,
Consultant



Sherrie Busby,
CDIPC, CDSO,
EDDA-FL, Dental
Assistant
Trainer, Mentor,
Speaker

This interactive session will inspire all attendees to seek out the information, opportunities, and the connections they need to advance their careers to the highest level. A panel of five well-known and successful subject matter experts have been assembled to share their expertise and wisdom while giving advice regarding those seemingly daunting issues that look like obstacles. Attendees will walk away with new professional tools that will help dental assistants stand out and begin their own personal journey toward a successful dental assisting career.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. **Identify challenges related to the current shortage of the dental assisting workforce**
 - a. Discuss the nationwide impact to the dental profession and to the public as it relates to a notable decrease in qualified dental assisting and dental hygiene personnel.
 - b. Recognize the benefits of establishing a uniform model for educating and credentialing dental assistants.
2. **Examine opportunities for dental auxiliaries to advance their careers:**
 - a. Discover leadership opportunities for dental auxiliaries that occur during the workday that have the potential to elevate their positions and their careers.
 - b. Recognize opportunities for dental auxiliaries to increase their value to the practice by expanding their expertise and leadership skills related to dental compliance and risk management.
 - c. Identify the power of professional networks in elevating the careers of dental auxiliaries.
 - d. Discuss the emergence of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and how it impacts dental auxiliaries.
3. **Recognize the power of interpersonal communications and attitude as it relates to career satisfaction and advancement:**
 - a. Discuss ineffective communication styles that lead to stress and decreased job satisfaction.
 - b. Identify the characteristics of a well-functioning dental team that will complement your personal and professional attributes while supporting your ambitions.
 - c. Identify opportunities for elevating your own communication skills and mindset toward your career.



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Bios of Speakers and Panelists

Tija Hunter, CDA, EFDA, CDIA, MADAA



Tija was named one of the Top 25 Women in Dentistry by Dental Products Report Magazine and a 2023 DENOBI award recipient. She is a member of the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) where she holds the honor of Master. Tija is former Vice President and sits on national councils. She is also the Illinois Dental Assistants Association Past President and has served as Vice Present. She is the director of the Dental Careers Institute. Tija is also the author of ten CE study courses, a book on motivation “Rock Star Dental Assistant” and a dental compliance calendar. She is an international speaker and is a certified trainer in nitrous oxide in several states. Her passion is educating, equipping and empowering dental assistants. She can be reached at tijaefda@gmail.com

Sherrie Busby, CDIPC, CDSO, EDDA-FL



Sherrie Busby has been a dental assistant for over 40 years and has always had a thirst for learning and teaching. She recently retired from Heartland Dental after 10 years serving as Heartland's Dental Assistant Training Developer. Her duties with Heartland Dental included developing and facilitating all training related to OSHA, Infection Control, and general dental assisting. Sherrie recently earned the prestigious Certified in Dental Infection Prevention and Control (CDIPC) credential through a nationwide program sponsored by OSAP and the DALE Foundations. She is a graduate of the Dental Compliance Institute (DCI), earning DCI's CDSO credential (Certified Dental Specialist in OSHA). Sherrie is a Florida Expanded Duties Dental Assistant (EDDA) and truly enjoys taking countless hours of ongoing infection control and general dentistry continuing education. With a passion for general dentistry, occupational safety and infection prevention, Sherrie continues to seek out opportunities to grow professionally while sharing her extensive knowledge with dental assistants nationwide.



Hanna Aronovich

Hanna Aronovich is the Chief Marketing & Strategy Officer for the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) and Dental Advancement through Learning and Education (DALE) Foundation. She oversees all marketing and communication initiatives, as well as strategic projects, product strategy, and education product development.

Bios of Speakers and Panelists

Linda Miles, CSP, CMC



Spanning a career of five decades in dentistry with 35 years as a speaker, consultant, and author, Linda is also the Co-Founder of OCC (Oral Cancer Cause Foundation) a nonprofit to enhance awareness and early detection of oral cancer and to financially assist the families of oral cancer patients. In addition to being an Honorary Lifetime member of the Academy of Dental Management Consultants, Linda is a 33-year member of the National Speakers Association, earning her CSP award in 1983. She also earned her Certified Management Consultant designation of the Institute of Management Consultants in 1993. She is the founder of the Speaking Consulting Network, an annual conference for those wishing to start or enhance their exposure as speakers and consultants. In 2014, Linda was bestowed an Honorary Lifetime Membership to the American Dental Assistants Association during the last in-person meeting of the ADAA House of Delegates.

Linda Harvey, RDH, MS, LHRM, DFASHRM



Linda's career in dentistry began as a dental hygienist over 40 years ago. Since that time, she expanded beyond the four walls of an operatory into risk management and compliance. Over the years, Linda has worked with practices and DSOs across the country helping them with core compliance requirements. She now focuses solely on developing and elevating compliance talent in dentistry through the Dental Compliance Institute (DCI.) Linda founded DCI eleven years ago. DCI specializes in train-the-trainer compliance programs along with membership in a vibrant community of compliance-minded peers and dental innovators. DCI training programs bear the Quality Matters™ mark of distinction. And best of all, DCI augments—not replaces—a practice's current compliance program.

Kimberly Bland, M.Ed., B.S., CDA, EFDA



Kimberly Bland is a professional dental assisting educator and brings over 43 continuous years of experience from the world of dentistry. Before earning her master's degree in educational leadership, her early dental career experience included general and orthodontic chairside assisting, dental laboratory assisting, and dental practice management. Having been a member of the American Dental Assistants Association for 44 years, Kimberly Bland has served in all elected leadership positions on the local, state, and national levels. She has served two terms as ADAA President: 2007-2008, then again in 2014-2015. She currently serves as President of the Florida Dental Assistants Association, President-Elect of the American Dental Assistants Association, and Treasurer of the Professional Dental Assistants Education Foundation (PDAEF). She will serve again as ADAA President for the 2026-2027 term.

You are invited to become part of something great!

The American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) is the original professional organization established to represent dental assistants in the United States, celebrating its 100th year in 2024. The ADAA remains the oldest and largest professional association devoted to the dental assisting profession. The Association works tirelessly to advance the careers of dental assistants through education, advocacy, and connection while elevating the profession and improving the quality of patient care.



The ADAA is a tripartite association in that each member belongs to the national association, their state component, and any local society or study club that has been organized in one of the cities or counties within the state. The annual dues for ADAA professional membership includes the base fee set for national affiliation (\$135) plus any dues amount determined by the individual state (\$25 for Florida.) Therefore, annual dues for Florida ADAA professional members is \$160. Students can join ADAA/FDAA with a student membership for only \$45 annually after verification from their instructor. All memberships are up for renewal each year during the month the member first joined.

From now until February 14, ADAA and FDAA are offering a discount to any dental assistant joining as a new professional member of the ADAA and the Florida Dental Assistants Association. The Professional Member category national and state dues combined will be only **\$99 for the first year** using discount code **ADAAFL** when joining on the ADAA website. That's a savings of \$61. As an ADAA and FDAA member you will gain access to quality continuing education designed for dental assistants, national and state advocacy for issues of importance to dental assistants, career resources, and a strong community dedicated to supporting dental assistants.



Dental Assistants Recognition Week™ (also known as DARW) is held **the first full week in March every year**, and was designated by the American Dental Assistants Association and recognized by the American Dental Association and organized dentistry nationwide. DARW is the perfect time to acknowledge and recognize the versatile, multi-talented member of the dental team. Dentists in the United States and Canada will celebrate by honoring their dental assistants for their various duties and helping them provide patients with quality dental care.

The theme for 2026 is **“Superheroes behind the Smiles”** and highlights the essential role dental assistants play in ensuring exceptional patient care and enhancing the overall dental experience. Dental assistants are a key part of the dental practice year-round and strengthen the entire practice while enhancing patient satisfaction. Dental assistants are committed to professional development and quality dental care.

Take photos of your celebration and email them to socialmedia@adaausa.org! Make sure to also fill out the [Photo Release Form](#) when submitting your content (One photo release form must be signed for each participant identified in a photo).

THE VALUE of AN ADAA MEMBERSHIP



**American
Dental
Assistants
Association**

**Join the People Who Make
Dental Assisting a Profession**

WHO ARE WE?

Celebrating our 100th year in 2024, ADAA is the oldest and largest group representing professional dental assistants in the United States.

Our mission is to advance the careers of dental assistants through education, credentialing, legislative advocacy, and professional activities that improve the delivery of quality dental health care.

We are committed building a community where dental assistants are respected and viewed as integral members of the dental team.



“ADAA will be the first resource I use to find pertinent topics for CEs and to stay connected to the DA community.”

**Mollie McClelland (GA)
Student Member**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Leadership Service
- State and Local Chapter Involvement
- Premium Job Search

EDUCATION

- ADAA E-Learning Center
- Fellowship and Mastership Program
- Anna Nelson Webinar Series
- Continuing Education Courses
- Scholarship Opportunities

NETWORKING

- ADAA Member Search
- Awards & Recognition Programs

COMMUNICATION SERVICES

- ADAA Update (Monthly E-Newsletter)
- The Dental Assistant Journal (Bi-Monthly Digital Publication)
- Social Media Channels
- 24/7 E-News Articles

MEMBER SAVINGS & OTHER DISCOUNTS

- Dental PPO Plan
- Vision Savings
- Travel Discounts

Join Today



Visit ADAAUSA.ORG to learn about the value of an ADAA membership.

Thank you from the FDAA Board!

Board of Directors of the Florida Dental Assistants Association



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