

Texas Dental Assistants Association



EDUCATION - EFFICIENCY - LOYALTY - SERVICE



TDAA BULLETIN

August Issue

Volume I

Texas Dental Assistants Association



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Greetings to All Texas Dental Assistants Association!



PRESIDENT
Marthann Dafft

Dear Members,

It is with great excitement that I come to TDAA as your President for 2023-2025. These can be exciting times for us. We have seen a loss in our membership. The past two-three years our Association has seen the shut down due to Covid and many members became quite anxious of attending our open meetings. But we are now seeing things open back up and a time to get back to normal activities.

Your state association is here to continue to provide the Dental Assistant with CE that you can get that will keep everyone up to date on your renewing of your RDA. We are also here to help your work thru any problem you might have with your RDA. To do this we need you to step forward and take an active row in your local and state groups.

I am asking my TDAA Officers to also step forward and make monthly contacts with our members and membership. There are wonderful members out there. I, myself, have friends and close relationships with Dental Assistants that go back some 40 years. It is exciting to see these friends year after year.

Best Regards,
Marthann Dafft
TDAA President

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CURRENT OFFICERS OF TDAA 2023-2025

President	Marthann Dafft	ldymad@sbcglobal.net
President Elect	Sharon Dickinson	sdickins1@att.net
Vice President	Edith Kendall	edithkendall@gmail.com
Secretary	Elizabeth O'Reilly	oreillyea@gmail.com
Past President	Alyssa Russell	Alydal9259@gmail.com
Past President's Council	Carolyn Friend	edfreindc@aol.com
Exec. Sec./Treasurer	Kay Jukes	kljukes@aol.com
Editor	Ameera Qaddo	Ameera.qaddo@gmail.com
Meeting Coordinator	Sharon Dickinson	sdickins1@att.net
Website Manager	Mohanned Neamah	mohanned.neamah@gmail.com

LOCAL DIRECTORS

**Fort Worth District Dental Assistants Society
Dallas County Dental Assistants Society**

Lori Linger fashion1ng@SBCGLOBAL.NET

**Austin Dental Assistants Society
TDAA Student members**

Linda Mueller LJMTX@SBCGLOBAL.NET

**Greater Houston Dental Assistants Society
Coastal Bend Dental Assistants Society**

Ronda Lane VANTROBA@VERIZON.NET

State Members & West Texas (when formed)

Will Henard WILL.HENARD@TTUHSC.EDU

**State Members
San Antonio Dental Assistants Society**

Joy Pilant JOYLPILANT@YAHOO.COM

TEXAS DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION STANDING COMMITTEES 2023-2025

Committee	Chairperson	Members
Audit	Carolyn Friend	Joy Pilant
Membership and Public Relations	Edith Kendall	Alyssa Russell Lori Linger Ronda Lane
Clinics and Exhibits/Education	Kay Jukes	Eva Sepulveda
Finance	Sharon Dickinson	Elizabeth O'Reilly
Bylaws/Policies	Sharon Dickinson	Elizabeth O'Reilly
Manual of Procedures	Edith Kendall	Alyssa Russell
Necrology	Edith Kendall	
Program	Sharon Dickinson	Carolyn Friend
Legislative	Ronda Lane	Will Henard
Revenue/Scholarship	Lori Linger	Linda Mueller
Nominating	Linda Mueller	Brenda Olivarez
Social Media	Ronda Lane	Will Henard Liza Torres
Special Committees		
Certificates and ADAA Awards	Edith Kendall	
History	Dena Carr	

New Editor Introduction



Dear TDAA Team,

I hope you are all in good health and high spirits. I am thrilled to be joining the Texas Dental Assistants Association team.

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to Barbara for her exceptional work in keeping the Bulletin going. I am sure that it will be a challenge to fill her place, but I promise to give my best effort to continue the excellent work she has done.

My name is Ameera Qaddo, and I am originally from Iraq, where I worked as a dentist for almost 10 years. Additionally, I have a valuable experience in dental management, which I believe will contribute positively to my role as an editor. About 2 years ago, I moved to the US after getting married to Mohanned, and actually, we were classmates at Baghdad School of Dentistry in Iraq, where we both graduated.

Currently, I am diligently working on obtaining my dental license in the United States and it's a challenging and lengthy journey. Nevertheless, I am excited to embark on this new chapter in my professional journey with TDAA.

Over the years, I have seen firsthand how vital dental assistants are in providing exceptional patient experiences. Their dedication, knowledge, and support play a significant role in the success of any dental practice. I am eager to learn from all of you and collaborate to create informative and engaging content that fosters professional growth among our members.

Thank you for the warm welcome to the TDAA team. I'm genuinely excited to be part of this organization and to work together in elevating the voice of dental assistants.

Best regards,

Ameera Qaddo



Kay Jukes for her daughter
Madison marriage May 8th

Elizabeth O'Reilly for her son
Jonathon marriage May 27th

Happy Birthday to all
those who have
celebrated a birthday
since our last
correspondence.

Happy Birthday to all
those will be celebrating
in the coming months!!



Please keep the following in your thoughts and Prayers

Cliffa Thomasson

Emergency room visit. Dealing with gout in both ankles and swelling in her legs.

Mary Berry

Is home from the hospital.

Edith Kendall

Nephew Justin Kendall had a serious accident while vacationing with his children in Italy.

TDAА 2023 ANNUAL SESSION - SAN ANTONIO

A great time was had by all, and a lot of work done for TDAА



Edith Kendall received her award as 60 years of continuous membership



All hard at work during the 2023 Board of Directors meeting.



Alyssa Russell, Ronda Lane, Marthann Dafft, Edith Kendall, Carolyn Friend, and Sharon Dickinson attending our TDAА President's Reception.



Alyssa Russell
TDAА President 2022-2023
received TDAА Joan Keisel Award.



TDAA President 2023-2025 Marthann Dafft, installing 2023-2025 Directors: Will Henard, Ronda Lane, Linda Mueller, and Lori Linger.



2023-2025 Board of Directors hard at work with plans for the upcoming year.



By: Ronda Lane

The TDAA held their Annual Meeting May 4-6, 2023 in conjunction with the TDA meeting in San Antonio, Texas. As a fellow member of TDAA, we are excited to update you on the changes we made to our TDAA ByLaws.

We created new opportunities by focusing on inclusiveness, adaptability and a stronger emphasis on the individual member with these changes. In fact, the ADAA made these same changes to their ByLaws on February 20th, 2022. We are now in alignment with our national organizations ByLaws.

We will still be using Robert's Rules of Order to conduct our organizational business, but now we will spend less time on governance, and more time on building revenue and programs for Dental Assistants. These changes promote inclusiveness and create opportunities for individuals to become involved more easily and quickly.

The biggest change was removing the House of Delegates format to a General Assembly format. What this does is allow any member to be a voting member at our Annual Session meeting. In a nutshell, if you are a TDAA member, then you can come to the Annual Session and vote. Our previous format was a House of Delegates format which only allowed up to 3 people to represent a local organization in Texas and up to 3 people to vote if you were from a rural community that did not have a local organization near you. Everyone is welcome and now has a voice on what TDAA is focused on accomplishing.

The elected officers shall remain the same that includes President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary and 5 Directors. As a voting member you will be voting on the General Election for these positions stated above, passing a budget for where we want to spend our money and be involved in voicing where or how we should focus our efforts. We believe that more members will feel as if they are contributing and therefore be more invested in the TDAA.

Local organizations or study clubs can still be organized in a town, city, county, or district for the purpose of furthering the objectives of this Association. In fact, at the meeting a group of educators are looking to reactivate a local in the Corpus Christi area very soon. The TDAA officers want to hear your thoughts, your concerns, your ideas and move forward to help all dental assistants in Texas. For example: we created a Facebook page several years ago and help out of state dental assistants weed through the process of obtaining their Texas RDA.

In conclusion, we are opening our doors wider and allowing any and all members to have a voice to help TDAA succeed as a state chapter of the American Dental Assistants Association. Our objectives are the same:

To advance the careers of dental assistants and to advocate for the dental assisting profession in matters of education, professional activities, credentialing, and legislation. To promote the ideals and growth of the Association which aid in the accessibility and delivery of quality oral health care to the public.



MAILING PAPER CHECKS IS RISKY

By: Ronda Lane

Mailing paper checks is risky, now more than ever. They are not a secure form of payment anymore. In fact, according to security experts, it might be the least secure payment method for exchanging money and completing transactions.

The reasons are numerous, and criminals are finding ways to create fake checks, alter checks with household chemicals (check washing), or stealing a victims identity by mail theft.

There is a lot of information a thief can obtain by your check. Your name, address, phone number, your bank's name, address and your bank account number, routing number and your signature. Businesses who accept checks might also ask for your driver license number and date of birth too. These are all key components for identity theft. Criminals have been increasingly targeting mailboxes to commit check fraud. In fact, the USPS is now recommending that you take your mail that includes a check directly to the post office and not leave it in your mailbox or drop it off at one of the blue postal collection boxes.

In an effort to keep our national association safe from this type of criminal activity, the ADAA has had to re-evaluate how they receive and disperse funds (such as rebate checks to states).

Last year, reports of check fraud filed by banks nearly doubled to 680,000, from 350,000 in 2021 according to an article published in the New York Times on January 5, 2022. It's a big deal right now and it's getting worse. There is a reason why government issued funds are done by direct deposit; it is a safe, secure, efficient, and less expensive than paper check payments and collections.

The purpose of why this information is being brought to every TDAA members attention is [to notify you to pay your ADAA membership with another form of payment than a check in the mail](#). ADAA accepts credit card payments on their website which is totally secure. Do not take the risk of having your check stolen and used by a criminal who could empty your checking account or steal your identity.

Attention!



Be sure to visit [TDAA Facebook Group](#) for weekly updates on Dental Assistant regulations in Texas.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/190442111004697>

Some recent topics include:

- Fingerprinting instructions for new applicants
- CDA's instructions on applying for Texas RDA
- TSBDE conducting CE Audits on Dental Assistants
- Window of time to renew your RDA
- Who is legally allowed to perform the EPE on CBCT machines

Manual of Procedures

All comments for the proposed changes needed for TDAA MOP must be sent to Edith Kendall by October 1, 2023 deadline.

Bulletin submissions deadline dates:

July 15 For Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov.

Nov 15 For Dec. Jan. Feb. March.

March 15 For April, May, June, July.

NEWS & UPDATES FROM:



I. Education-

- A. Webinar attendance is up 75% compared to last year.
- B. CE Topics & Speakers are “Outstanding” according to reviews.
- C. TX Dental Board accepts ADAA Continuing Education for RDA renewals.
- D. **Next Webinar:** 8-17-23 “Dental Burs, The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly”

Invite a friend to attend. Registration opens on July 20, 2023 to attend.

II. Publications-

- A. The Dental Assistant Journal Link: <https://online.pubhtml5.com/cwig/xvid/index.html#p=1>
Texas local: Dallas made this publication on page 24 for DARW
- B. The ADAA Update- a monthly (emailed 15th of each month) E-Newsletter
great information about ADAA Benefits, News and Insights
- C. ADAA ONLINE 24/7 – A weekly publication on Industry News, snippets of dental articles

III. Membership-

- A. New Initiatives
 - 1. New Mini CE Catalog flyer
 - 2. New “Welcome Packets” for students and new members coming soon.
 - 3. New Digital Badges for fellowship/mastership, students and more are coming soon.
 - 4. TDAA will have a membership booth at **Southwest Dental Conference-Dallas - Aug 25-26, 2023** and free patches for members when they stop by table
 - 5. Custom letters are going out to lapsed members, students & webinar attendees since March.
 - 6. TDAA Officers now have custom business cards.

IV. Social Media-

- A. Audience growth up 313% on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn
- B. Increased postings to 2-3 per week now
- C. Attracting younger potential members (ages 25-34)
- D. Submit photos, videos, educational opportunities, advocacy to Hana at ADAA:
HNguyen@kellencompany.com