

Texas Dental Assistants Association



EDUCATION - EFFICIENCY - LOYALTY - SERVICE



TDAA BULLETIN

December Issue

Volume II

Texas Dental Assistants Association



EDUCATION - EFFICIENCY - LOYALTY - SERVICE

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PRESIDENT
Marthann Dafft

It's been a long, hot summer, and I am sure all have been working hard at their duties. We are trying to get personal contact with our inactive members and encouraging them to attend our meetings. It will take all of us to reach out to these members.

We are looking forward to our Board meeting coming up on Jan. 19-20. We did have a motion and vote of the Board on having a face-to-face meeting or a virtual meeting. The vote came out for a face-to-face meeting. I do strongly feel that this was a good outcome. The meeting will be held in Austin and Sharon Dickinson will have information on where and how you can make your arrangements. As members do feel free to contact any Board member with any questions or ideas you might have for discussion.

I do hope you viewed the ADAA 2023 Virtual Annual Session on Oct. 7th. They stated there were about 150 signed on. If you were unable to view it, I do hope you went online later and viewed it.

We as TDAA are very proud to see that our own Ronda Lane was elected for President Elect for 2023-2024.

We have a lot of work ahead of us and I am looking forward to our Mid-Year Board meeting in January and our Annual session in May.

Best Regards,

Marthann Dafft
TDAA President
214-534-1964
LDYMAD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

CURRENT OFFICERS OF TDAA 2023-2025

President	Marthann Dafft	ldymad@sbcglobal.net
President Elect	Sharon Dickinson	sdickins1@att.net
Vice President	Edith Kendall	edithmkendall@gmail.com
Secretary	Elizabeth O'Reilly	oreillyea731@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	



Congratulations!

Ronda V. Lane installed
President-Elect ADAA

Edith Kendall's niece,
Morgan, had a baby girl.
on September 18th

HCC Dental Assistant student Maren Jensen
won the 2023 Merit Scholar Award

Kay Jukes have been
chosen to receive the
2024 Anna Nelson, CDA,
RDA, MA Scholarship!

**With this scholarship, she will
receive:**

- 25% off the early-bird member registration rate for the 2024 OSAP Dental Infection Control Boot Camp™ (\$124.75 value)
- One (1) free year of the OSAP Premium Membership (\$120.00 value)



Wishing a **Happy Birthday** to those who've celebrated recently and to those with birthdays in the coming months!
May your days be filled with joy and special moments.

HAPPY
Holidays



2024



Please keep the following in your thoughts and Prayers

Marthann Dafft	Loss of her brother
Karen Madina	Loss of her father
Rona Staberg	Hurt in a mowing accident and broke her right leg. Fixed with titanium rod. Her fiancé Buck was hit by an 18 wheeler which total his new truck. Thankful he was not hurt. He was also recovering from surgery and rehab after a serious fall at his ranch
Cammie Munguia	Recovering from heart surgery but still having some medical issues
Sharon Dickerson	Recovering from sinus surgery
Linda Mueller	Had shoulder replacement surgery on November 1st
Cliffa Thomasson	Still working on her mobility
Kay Jukes	Her husband had knee replacement surgery
Kathleen Boyle	Her husband Jim was admitted to the hospital, he had fallen four times in one day. He has a broken vertebrae on his back. managed with a large brace and mobility aids like a walker or cane. And has a mass in the right kidney that is a major problem.

PICTURES FROM SWDC 2023 FOR ADAA

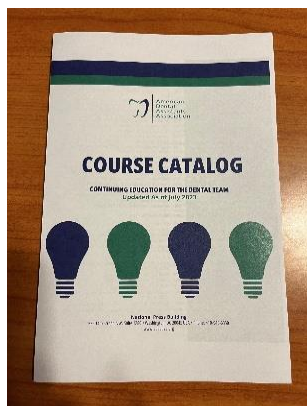
Texas Dental Assistants Association was in attendance at the Southwest Dental Conference in Dallas on August 25-26, 2023. Several state members volunteered at the Table. This year, our table was sponsored by our good friends Glen and Kim Balusek at Lone Star Handpiece. This is a family owned business that is friendly, fair and honest.

If you need a handpiece repaired, go to www.LoneStarHandpiece.com and they can help you out.

Our table location this year was not in the best place, so we did not see the traffic we did in 2022, but met up with a few dental assistants from several parts of the state. We gave out the new mini CE catalog with our business cards attached that many appreciated receiving. In addition to this new catalog, ADAA has added a Member Welcome Packet that is located on your profile page after you login to your account on the ADAA website (www.adaausa.org). It is important that Dental Assistants see TDA at every opportunity and know that we are there for each other, supporting ALL dental assistants.

Some highlights from our meeting, a Hands-On 3 stations rotation model by Benco Dental.

- **Station one:** was about Dental Unit Waterline testing and waterline treatments.
- **Station two:** was about Autoclave maintenance, loading & operation tips.
- **Station three:** was about Handpiece maintenance, lubrication & tips for longer life.





Meeting on sleep disorder

Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

CHANGES & UPDATES



Report By: Ronda Lane

RDA Applications Change to Online Process

On August 28, 2023, TDAA was notified that TSBDE is anticipating removing the paper application and move toward applicants applying online and uploading their documents to the online application, with the exception of the NPDB self-query report. This report must continue to be received in a sealed unopened envelope. The purpose of this change, as noted by TSBDE, is the elimination of going back and forth with applicants about what TSBDE has received and what they have not.

On September 28, 2023, the TDAA noted that the change is already being implemented, as the website page has been altered to reflect this change.

Incomplete RDA Application Documentation

TSBDE notified TDAA of incomplete documentation is being received when dental assistants submit RDA applications. There are over 190 TWC approved dental assisting programs in Texas and several are not fully aware of correct documentation needed for students to successfully complete the RDA application. Many of these students try to complete the application independently, but do not understand what documents are actually needed or for example how to determine what RDA course/exam the Board has approved. At a summer Board meeting, the licensing director reported that as of August 7, 2023, the TSBDE received over 8,000 RDA applications and only 5,900 were approved. This left over 2,100 still pending and this does not include the hundreds that were returned monthly that did not get entered into the database due to application deficiencies.



Recently TDAA became aware that if a dental assistant had let their RDA cancel, then he/she must submit a notarized signed affidavit explaining the lapse in the previous registration. The TSBDE will return the entire application to the applicant if this is not included in the application. Specifically, this is addressed under the

background questions (question #2) in the application. It reads: “Have you ever had a dental assistant or professional license, registration, certification or permit revoked, suspended, or cancelled, by any licensing authority or government agency, or voluntarily surrendered?” In addition, the applicant must complete the section on page 1 of the application that asks you to “List all states (yes this includes TX) and/or Jurisdiction(s) in which you have ever held a Dental Assistant Permit/Registration.” If you have ever worked in another state that you held a license, permit, registration, etc. you must provide a verification of licensure from each state dental board. This is called a VOL. The VOL must be on that state dental boards’ official letterhead, and also must be received at TSBDE in a sealed unopened envelope.

The Verification of Licensure (VOL) will typically include the following information:

- Applicant full name & address.
- License/registration type.
- Date of birth.
- License/registration issue date.
- License/registration expiration date.
- Any disciplinary action.
- School attended.
- Graduation date.

This information differs from state to state and usually has a fee associated with generating this information. If you are an RDA in Texas and moving to another state, it might be wise to obtain this information before you move. The link to request this letter by TSBDE is:

https://tsbde.texas.gov/78i8ljbj/VERIFICATION-OF-LICENSURE-or-REGISTRATION_20190916-1.pdf

****The current fee is \$11.00.**



➔ The Moral of this article: ➔

DO NOT let your RDA expire and get cancelled.

Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

BOARD MEETING REPORT

November 3, 2023

By: Ronda V. Lane, BS, CDA, RDA, FADAA

The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners meets quarterly, and at their November 3rd 2023 meeting they discussed and voted on several new rules concerning dental assistants.

1. **Rule 114.13** – Allowing RDA's to apply to the Board for RDA reinstatement if it is cancelled.
By invitation by TSBDE Executive Director, Ms. Casey Nichols, I provided testimony at the Licensing Committee meeting the day before with the following points:
 - Texas has a very restrictive policy on reinstating DA's registration/license compared to other states such as AR, MA, CA, TN.
 - Testified in favor of re-evaluating the process of reinstating an expired registration in Texas due to serious staff shortages.
 - Out of state DA's moving to Texas have multiple steps to complete when applying for Texas RDA.
2. **Rule 114.8** Retirement of an RDA registration number.
3. **Rule 114.5** Coronal Polishing requirement of 2 years experience changed to 1 year experience.
 - Board Vote: The TSBDE Board voted in favor of Rule 114.13 establishing an RDA reinstatement rule if it was cancelled.
Go to TSBDE website under licensing committee to see proposed language.
 - Board Vote: The TSBDE Board voted in favor of Rule 114.8 allowing registered dental assistants to apply to the Board to retire their registrations.
 - Board Vote: The TSBDE Board voted in favor of amendment to 22 TAC §114.5 which changes the amount of work experience (from 2 years to one year) a dental assistant must have before performing coronal polishing.

These proposed changes will be published in the Texas State Register for public comment for 30 days, then the TSBDE will review comments before final rule change can be made.

In Addition to these rule-change discussions:

- The **Board voted** in favor of raising the RDA application fee from \$39 to \$40.
- The **Board voted** to not grant Dallas College request for N2O course for RDA's. Board member Dr. Henderson questioned the core curriculum of their submitted course.

The Board was pleased to hear that Tarrant County College (as presented by Amy Cooper) will be offering the Coronal Polishing and Pit & Fissure Sealant course again very soon for dental assistants. She also reported that TCC is working on getting their Dental Assisting Program CODA accredited.

Attention!

Do not forget to visit [TDAA Facebook Group](#) for weekly updates on Dental Assistant regulations in Texas.



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

Some recent topics include:

- Can a dental assistant start IV's under direct supervision of a dentist?
- Can a non-registered assistant monitor the administration of nitrous oxide?
- TSBDE denied an RDA application because the CPR course was not accepted
- What is the expiration date of a dental assistant RDA course & exam?

Can a non-registered assistant monitor nitrous oxide?

This has come up in several cases involving DDS. (Remember when a DDS is brought to the board the assistants are looked up as well. Including their CE/CPR.

Answer: NO

Dental Practice Act Section 265.001 registration required for certain dental acts

a) Unless the dental assistant is registered under this chapter, a dental assistant may Not

- 1) Take X-rays
- 2) Monitor the administration of nitrous oxide.



Helpful Hints

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.



BOARD MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting

President Daft is excited to announce that this year's Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting will be the first face-to-face meeting since the pandemic!

- Board of Directors and Committee Chairman meeting
 - Saturday Jan 20, 2024.
 - Held at the offices of Skg, 6301 E Stassney Lane Bldg. 9-100
- Audit and Finance Committees meeting
 - Friday Jan 19, 2024.
 - Held at the hotel.



Meeting Coordinator Dickinson has made hotel arrangements at the Embassy Suites. She will be sending hotel registration information closer to the meeting. Sharon will send directions to the office when she sends the hotel information.

2024 TDAA Annuals Session and General Assembly

This meeting will be held on May 16-18, 2024, and once again we will be meeting at the Marriott Riverwalk.

Stay tuned for more information!!



TEXAS
MISSION
of MERCY

February 23-24, 2024
Lumberton, TX

July 19-20, 2024
Marlin, TX

April 12-13, 2024
El Paso, TX

November 8-9, 2024
Amarillo, TX

To volunteer: www.tmomvolunteer.org