



TEXAS
DENTAL
ASSISTANTS
ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION-EFFICIENCY-LOYALTY-SERVICE



April Issue

2026 Volume 1

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March 2026

It is hard to believe that it is March; spring is right around the corner, and TDAA's Annual Meeting and General Assemblies are coming up soon. In my part of Texas, at least, as they say, just wait a day, and the weather will change. Since January, we have had wind, some rain, a little snow, cold and warm temperatures, and now more and more wind. But that is West Texas!

Your TDAA Board has been busy since last May and met for its Mid-Year Board of Directors meeting in Dallas last January.

This Board is awesome and doing some extraordinary work on your behalf. Please refer to Secretary O'Reilly's synopsis of the meeting, which she will add to her Board business report at the General Assembly. I do want to tell you about some, in my opinion, wonderful decisions made at the meeting. Most of these discussions and/or decisions will be voted on by the Assembly in May.

*As I discussed in the last newsletter, the Board voted on a new logo and rebranding, which is now being used. You will find it in this newsletter. I want to thank our Website Manager, Dr. Mohanned Neamah, for his valued assistance in the design. Without him, it could not have been done.

*Last May, during the 2025 general session, the Board distributed a membership survey. Those in attendance returned it. Please find a copy of that survey in this bulletin. I'm sorry you will not be able to fill it out on the bulletin, but please copy it and complete it. You can return it to me via email. I promise to cut off the sender and not store it in my memory. In other words, it will be anonymous. Your Board is seriously taking the members' concerns and wishes seriously, and I will be taking the

President



Sharon Dickinson

responses to the post-convention board meeting. I will have copies of the survey for those who did not fill out one last May and would prefer to have it there.

*The new Website/Sponsorship advertisement form has been approved by the Board, and it will be introduced at the General Assembly and available for your use at the meeting in May.

*The Resolutions committee task will be presenting new TDAA policies and procedures for a vote by the General Assembly in May. The TDAA Board approved these resolutions at the Mid-Year Board meeting.

*Something new in this Bulletin is an article *spotlighting a local organization!* How exciting it is to see what they are doing. This Bulletin is spotlighting the Dallas County Dental Assistants Association.

*I represented TDAA in speaking to the TSBDE Board in February. I will update the members and ask for your opinion regarding concerns related to assisting regulations and rules during the General Assembly in May.

I know that I am not the only member excited for our meeting May 7-9, 2026. I know that Dallas County has a wonderful meeting planned for us. As the Meeting Manager, I have an article about the meeting and a meeting agenda for your use. I look forward to seeing each one at the meeting. Remember to register with Dallas County; a registration form is found in the bulletin. Also, as a registered member, you have a vote in the association's affairs. Your Board is a two (2) year board and looks forward to your input as we meet to discuss the future.

Yours in TDAA,
Sharon

Sharon Dickinson, CDA, CDPMA, RDA, CRFDA, CPFDA, CDPIC
Texas Dental Assistants Association President

Current Officers of TDAA 2025-2027

President	Sharon Dickinson	sdickins1@att.net
President Elect	Kay Jukes	kljukes@aol.com
Vice President	Edith Kendall	edithmkendall@gmail.com
Secretary	Elizabeth O'Reilly	oreillyea731@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Marthann Dafft	ldymad@sbcglobal.net
Chairman of Past Presidents' Council, Parliamentarian	Carolyn Friend	edfreindc@aol.com
Executive 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

Dallas County Dental Assisting Society	Marthann Dafft	ldymad@sbcglobal.net
Greater Houston Dental Assistants Society	Angela Soto	avelasqu2@delmar.edu
Coastal Bend Dental Assistants Society		
Austin Dental Assistants Society	Linda Mueller	ljmtx@sbcglobal.net
TDAA Student members		
Dallas County and Students members:	Alyssa Russell	alydal9259@gmail.com
State Members & potential new organizations	Brenda Olivarez	bzblondetx@yahoo.com
State Members & San Antonio Dental Assistants Society	Lori Linger	fashion1ng@sbcglobal.net

Texas Dental Assistants Association

Standing and Special Committees 2025-2027

Committee	Chairperson	Members
Audit	Carolyn Friend	Elizabeth O'Reilly Linda Mueller Kay Jukes, EX-Officio
Membership and Public Relations	Edith Kendall	Elizabeth O'Reilly Carolyn Friend Angela Soto Carmen Santiago
Education	Angela Soto	Liza Torres
Finance	Elizabeth O'Reilly	Linda Mueller Angela Soto Kay Jukes, EX-Officio
Scholarship	Brenda Olivarez	Lori Linger
By-Laws/MOP	Marthann Dafft	Elizabeth O'Reilly Alyssa Russell
Necrology	Edith Kendall	
Strategic Planning	Elizabeth O'Reilly	TDAA Board of Directors
Programs	Kay Jukes	Carolyn Friend
Legislative	Ronda Lane	
Revenue	Kay Jukes	Linda Mueller
Scholarship	Brenda Olivarez	Lori Linger
Nominating	Linda Mueller	Brenda Olivarez
Social Media	Ronda Lane	Brenda Olivarez
Resolutions	Elizabeth O'Reilly	Sharon Dickinson
Special Committees		
Certificates and ADAA Awards	Edith Kendall	
TDAA Task Force Scholarship	Sharon Dickinson	Elizabeth O'Reilly Kay Jukes
History	Dena Carr	Kay Jukes

Happy Birthday

Best wishes to all who have recently celebrated their special day, as well as to those with upcoming birthdays. May the year ahead bring you continued success, joy, and many cherished moments.



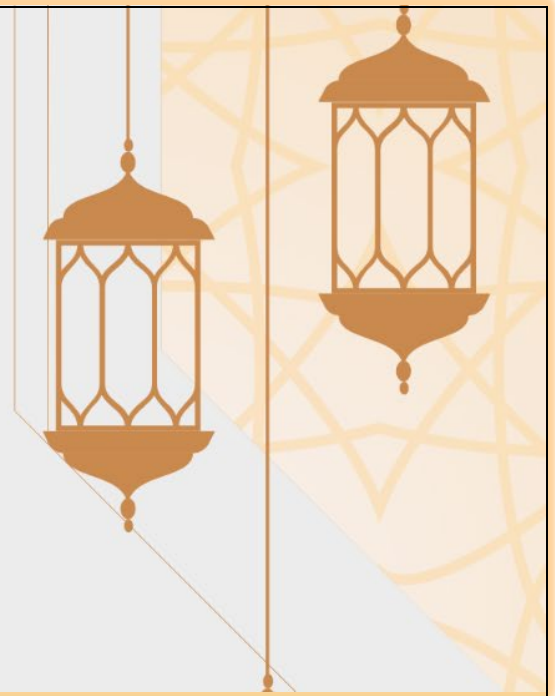
Congratulations

Ronda and Larry Lane
celebrated 44 years of marriage on
March 13th.



رمضان كريم
Ramadan
Kareem

EID
Mubarak



HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY



happy
easter



Happy dental assistant appreciation week

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR
HARD WORK AND DEDICATION





Please keep the following in your thoughts and Prayers

Edith Kendall

Her brother Roger is recovering from knee replacement surgery, and her niece is recovering from seizures.

Lori Linger's

Her father is having palliative care.

Kathleen Boyle

Continue to manage multiple medical conditions.

Jim Boyle

Has finished his rehabilitation and is now receiving care at home.

Cliffa Thomasson

Doing well following mastectomy.
& was in the hospital for four days due to complications of vertigo.

Dena Carr

Improving with multiple health issues.

Linda Mueller

Recovering from surgery after breaking her leg.

Amy Mueller

Will undergo surgery on her rotator cuff.

Local Organization Spotlight

Dallas County Dental Assistants Society



From: Alyssa Russell, President

Sharing a roadmap of Meetings to Professional Growth & Lifelong Friendship
Traveling Together with our Passion for Dental Assisting

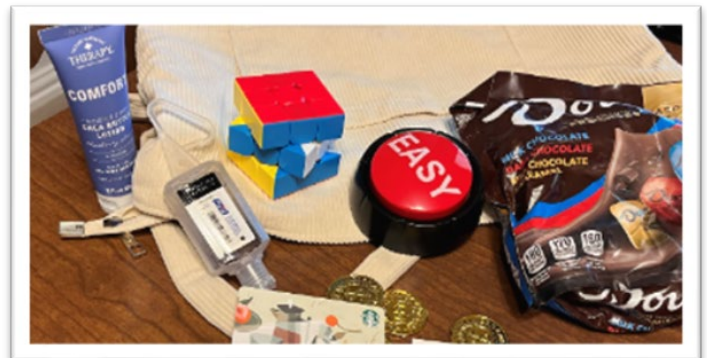
SEPTEMBER

In-Office Anesthesia by Dr. Jeff Plagenhoef



OCTOBER

Supply Reps supporting Dental Assistants by Colby Eldredge



NOVEMBER

Optimal Handpiece Longevity & Performance by Lone Star Handpiece

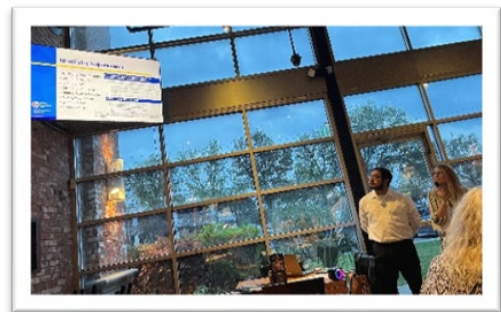


FEBRUARY

DA Expanded Functions in Texas by Dr. Roxanne Tarapore



MARCH



Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

Board Meeting Report

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



The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners meets quarterly. The most current meeting was on **February 20, 2026**. Anyone can live stream and see these meetings online and is welcome to make public comments.

To see this meeting, you can go to YouTube. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6EtQ0gEvWY&t=1378s>

Several issues were discussed at the February 20, 2026 meeting that will affect Dental Assistants, including:

1. **Do Not Edit your TSBDE-issued Registration**, as this alteration may result in criminal repercussions and is a violation. If your registration has incorrect information, contact licensinghelp@tsbde.texas.gov for assistance.
2. **At every dental board meeting, disciplinary proceedings are being voted upon**. For example, the Board voted to dismiss a registration, deny an application (2), and revoke an RDA registration at this meeting.
3. **TSBDE voted on several Dental Assistant Rules:**
 - a. **Rule 114.2 Registration of Dental Assistants**
This rule was updated to include digital X-rays and delete other outdated portions of the RDA course objectives, such as mounting X-rays.
 - b. **Rule 114.3 Pit and Fissure Sealants**
The TDAA provided comments on this rule, as well as testimony from President Dickinson. The TDAA position was to ask the Board to require Texas RDA prior to allowing delegation of Pit & Fissure Sealants (an expanded function) and requiring CE biannually. Legal council to TSBDE stated that this would require a law/statute change before this could move forward. Board members thanked Ms. Dickinson for providing testimony and encouraged TDAA to work with the Texas Congress to make this change.
 - c. **Rule 114.12 Continuing Education of RDAs.**
The Texas Academy of General Dentistry (TAGD) provided testimony to change the requirement of "live" continuing education (CE) to allow all online learning and eliminating any "live" CE requirement. TDAA opposes this recommendation because many tasks performed by dental assistants involve direct patient care tasks (many manual dexterity tasks) that need to be learned, practiced, mastered, and allow for answers to questions presented, which can only be accomplished through live interactive courses. This TAGD proposal will be posted on the Texas Register soon for comments. We encourage all dental assistants that believe that the current requirement of "live" CE stay in the rule. **Please see example** of emailing TSBDE and expressing your feedback to them, as Dental Assistants have only this one avenue of voicing their opinions to the Board without a representative on the Board.

4. **Discussion and concern about companies marketing to dental assistants to perform procedures relating to lasers and Curodont application.** These procedures can only be performed by DDS or RDH in Texas no matter what manufacturers tell you.
5. **TSBDE Dental Practice Committee Discussion relating to HB4070, relating to the sale, design, and manufacture of orthodontic devices.** This bill specifies in-person evaluation, monitoring treatment, risks associated with the appliance, and presentation of alternative treatment options with full consent. The rule will include a specification to keep records for a min. of 7 years vs. 5 years.
6. **Discussion to Senate Bill 912 verification of health care practitioner CE compliance: Notice of upcoming changes. A CE depository new platform is coming.** A new platform will soon (launch date TBA) will go into effect that will require RDAs to upload all CE taken in order to renew their registration. This new platform will be developed by eStrategy Solutions (currently the company who manages audits by TSBDE). The expense of the program will probably be passed onto the licensee/registrant at an additional minimal fee.
7. **Office of Attorney General mandated that all state occupationally licensing authorities must require all applicants to provide SS number.**

SAMPLE COMMENT TO TSBDE

Email: cnichols@tsbde.texas.gov

To: SBDE

Attention: Ms. Casey Nichols, TSBDE Executive Director

From: (your name & email)

Subject: Re: "Rule 114.12" Elimination of "live" CE requirements for RDAs

Dear Ms. Nichols,

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my objection to eliminating "live" CE requirements to Rule 114.12. Please do not remove this requirement, as I learn so very much more when I take in - person CE courses, which give me an opportunity to do hands-on training, asking a presenter questions while learning a new skill or regulatory requirement, or even learning from others taking a course with me. I also believe that in person courses or workshops are imperative to motivate myself to continue to learn, grow, and improve and reignite my passion in dentistry. Team building courses are the best when attending in person with my co-workers, and I feel that if this requirement is reduced to online learning, the entire office will lose the benefit of better patient care.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns to the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

Sincerely,
(your name)

TDAA MID-YEAR BOARD MEETING UPDATE

From the Desk of TDAA Secretary, Elizabeth O'Reilly

The TDAA mid-year Board meeting was held on January 17, 2026, in Dallas at the Embassy Suites Hotel near the Galleria. Many topics were discussed during the day-long meeting, and significant progress was made.

A summary of the key topics discussed includes:

- The revised Joan Kisel Scholarship form and funding
- The new sponsorship and website advertisement form
- TDAA regulations

These items, along with others, will be presented during the May 2026 General Assemblies, which will be held [May 7–9 in San Antonio](#).

The pre-convention Board of Directors meeting will take place on [May 7](#).



Attention TDAA Board and Officers

All reports must be sent to Edith Kendall and Ronda Lane for The 2026 TDAA Annual Meeting and General Assemblies by [April 18, 2026](#).

Please email to:

Edithmkendall@gmail.com

vantroba@verizon.net

2026 TDAA ANNUAL SESSION AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

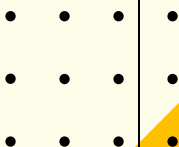
The TDAA Meeting and General Assemblies will commence on [May 7, 2026](#), at the [Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in beautiful San Antonio](#). All meetings will be held at the hotel in the Valero Room.

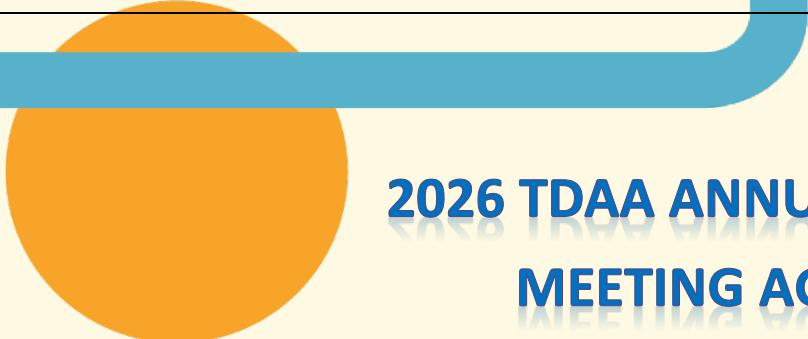
- The meeting will begin with the TDAA Board of Directors meeting on [May 7](#) to begin developing a new strategic plan for our association, followed by the finance meeting and the pre-convention board meeting. Friday.
- As a reminder, any member can attend the Board and committee meetings.
- On [May 8](#), the TDAA opening session and the general assembly will be convened.
- As a reminder, the 2023 House of Delegates voted to change the structure of the previous year's House of Delegates Meetings. Currently, no delegates or alternates are voting on the association's business; only those members in attendance.
- All TDAA members registered to attend the meeting may participate and vote on the business of their Association.
- This newsletter includes the registration form and meeting agenda for the Meeting.
- Registration deadline is 2026.
- This is a unique opportunity for all members to have a representation in the business of the association, so please make plans to attend.
- Please note that to attend the Texas Meeting (TDA) you must also register with TDA. The link is [TDAmeeeting.org](#). The housing link is also available on the TDA meeting site.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (Sharon Dickinson, 915-526-5992, Sdickins1@att.net). I look forward to seeing ALL our members at this year's meeting.

The host organizations, Dallas County, are ready to get the party started!

Sharon Dickinson
TDAA Meeting Manager
915-526-5992
Sdickins1@att.net





2026 TDAA ANNUAL SESSION MEETING AGENDA



May 7-10, 2026
at [Marriott Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas](#)

Thursday, May 7, 2026

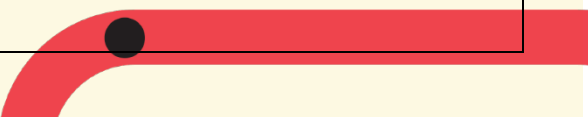
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	TDAA Registration	Valero Room
12:00 PM - 2:30 PM	TDAA Strategic Planning Meeting	Valero Room
2:30 PM - 5:30 PM	TDAA Pre-Convention Board Meeting	Valero Room

Friday, May 8, 2026

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	TDAA Registration	Valero Room
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	TDAA Opening Session	Valero Room
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	TDAA First General Assembly	Valero Room
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	TDAA Balloting	Valero Room
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	TDAA Past Presidents' Luncheon and Meeting	TBA
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Dental Assisting Educator's Meeting	Valero Room

Saturday, May 9, 2026

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	TDAA Registration	Valero Room
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Second General Assembly	Valero Room
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM	TDAA Post Convention Board Meeting	Valero Room





2026 TDAA ANNUAL SESSION REGISTRATION FORM

SUBMIT BY **APRIL 18, 2026**

Please use one name per form. Print additional copies if required.

Name:

Component Society:

Address:

Check all that apply

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ☐ TDAA Member | ☐ Credentials (CDA, RDA, CDPMA, etc.) | ☐ Student Member |
| ☐ Guest | ☐ Life Member | ☐ TDAA President |
| ☐ TDAA Past President | ☐ Local President | ☐ ADAA Officer |
| ☐ State Officer | ☐ Director | ☐ |

Friday, May 8th, 2026

12:00 – 1:30 pm

TDAA Past Presidents Luncheon

Honoring: Shelia Churchman 2001

Cost: \$20



PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO DCDAS

Mail Form, along with payment to:

TDAA General Arrangements Committee – C/O EDITH KENDALL
48 Misty Pond Dr. Frisco, TX 75034-8577

Board meetings and General Assemblies will be held in the Valero room, mezzanine level.

Attention!

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.



Stay Connected: TDAA Facebook Group Updates:

- Speak out to TSBDE to preserve “live” continuing education (CE) for dental assistants.
- Learn about recent fraud involving altered registrations or licenses.
- Access valuable resources from the Dallas County Dental Assistants Society meeting.
- Recognize Patient Safety Awareness Week (PSAW) and the important role of dental assistants.
- Important HIPAA update
- Watch live streams: Follow instructions on the TSBDE website for meetings held February 19–20.
- Learn how and why dental assistants should track updates to TSBDE rules and regulations.
- Get answers: Do you need to retake a human trafficking prevention course before renewing your RDA? Does it matter where you take it?
- The New Year is a great time to complete important annual office checks.



Visit us on
Facebook

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Members! Be checking your records and if you have been a member of TDAA for 10,15,20,25.... (increments of 5 years) or more, a Certificate of Appreciation is due!

The Texas Dental Assistants Association would like to honor those members who have maintained continuous membership and award them a certificate at our State Meeting on May 9, 2026.

Contact Edith Kendall at edithmkendall@gmail.com and she will gladly send you a form to complete so that we can acknowledge your years of service at our meeting.

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



Why Bother Joining Your Association?

The ADAA (National) & TDAA (State) Dental Assisting Organizations match your interests and goals and help you grow and develop professionally, and to perform better for those we serve.

Key Reasons to be a Member:

- **Networking & Community:** Connect with peers and leaders at local, state, national levels & build relationships. Together, we advocate for our future. **You will need these connections today and tomorrow!**
- **Professional Development & Education:** **Access specialized training, webinars, Courses** that enhance qualifications and sets you apart from peers.
Our ADAA **Career Center** & **Advancing Your Career & Salary Recordings**, **100+ CE Courses** are available 24/7, and **FREE** to members!
- **Industry Knowledge & Insights:** Stay updated on industry trends, state/national regulations, and new technologies through regular publications.

Hint: **TX Dental Board is changing rules about Assisting-Are you informed?**

JOIN US NOW



VOLUNTEER

As TDAA President, I am looking for those members who would like to volunteer for a committee position for 2026 - 2027.

There is always room for a few new members to all committees. This year, I anticipate all Committees to have an exciting year working toward the continued betterment of TDAA.

Please contact me (Sharon Dickinson)

- 915-526-5992 | president@tdaa.org
- or my personal email sdickins1@att.net

I look forward to hearing from you