



# DENTAL HYGIENISTS' SOCIETY

Committed to the  
Dental Health of the Community

FALL 2009

## President's Message

RAM USA came to Los Angeles in August to provide health and dental care and the Los Angeles Dental Hygienists' Society was there to help. With shared missions to provide health care to underserved populations, RAM, or Remote Access Medical, and LADHS with other regional hygienists, dentists and doctors, combined forces to provide free health, vision, and dental care for the uninsured, underinsured, and unemployed in the community.

In a relatively short period PJ Attebery, LADHS' newsletter editor, and I attended RAM planning meetings with five other local Los Angeles area dental societies, along with the USC Mobile Dental Clinic and faculty from the Loma Linda Dental Hygiene program. At the end of the 8-day event at The Forum over 6000 patients had been seen with over 14,000 patient procedures performed. Over half of the patients served sought dental care, culminating in approximately 2,200 extractions, 5,500 teeth saved, and 1,800 dental cleanings.

Many thanks to all of you who answered the call and came to The Forum to help. We are hoping RAM will be able to return next year and this time we will have ample time to notify you. Refer to our website to read some of the articles published about the event.

This is just one of the many reasons to become a member of ADHA. By being a member of LADHS and having your email on file with us,

you will receive timely information of interest to you as hygienists. All information about RAM was sent only via email. In addition, this year



LADHS has offered opportunities for 12 free CEU's with email reminders or announcements. These included a Simi Valley Fl varnish clinic, Remote Access Medical event at the Forum, Ventura HOD, and Minority AIDS seminar. For those of you that have not renewed your membership, ADHA will be returning to quarterly payments in the winter. Go to [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org).

We also have learned how important it is to get timely information out for these types of events. Getting and maintaining accurate emails is critical. If you are not getting periodic email notices from me through LADHS Google Groups, we do not have your email address. Please send your email address to me so you can get up to date messages and reminders

Finally, SAVE THE DATE. We will be offering you the mandatory courses in Infection Control and California Law on Saturday, November 7, 2009 in Marina del Rey, given by Tricia Osuna. See the enclosed flyer for more details.

Laurel Bleak RDH, BSDH, President  
PS. Many thanks to Erin Greenberg, recent WLAC grad and newly licensed RDH, for starting our new LADHS Facebook. We are just barely started but please visit and join us and contribute.

## Officers and Committee Chairs 2009-2010

President	Laurel Bleak	lbleak@verizon.net
1st VP Education,	Tricia Osuna	osunardh@aol.com
2nd VP, Accomodations	Sharie Mikolajczyk	smik@hotmail.com
Secretary	Gabrielle Quatieri	gabrielle@usa.com
Treasurer	Nancy Sakall	ronsak@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Mary Jo Irwin	irwinmaryjo@gmail.com
Trustee	Tricia Osuna	osunardh@aol.com
SADHA Liasion	Tricia Osuna	osunardh@aol.com
Newsletter	PJ Attebery	pjattebery@socal.rr.com
Community Health	Kelly Kennedy	kklortie@sbcglobal.net
Employment	Adrienne Martasin	adrhal101@msn.com

### Save the Date LADHS Continuing Education Seminar Sunday, February 7, 2010

CAMBRA: Caries Mangement by Risk Assessment

Speaker: Debi Gerger, RDH, MPH

Place: Marina del Rey Hotel

Marina del Rey, Cailifornia

### Community Dental Health Opportunities

- 👤 Volunteer at UCLA's Venice Dental Clinic
- 🚐 Get involved in USC's Mobile Dental Clinic
- ✈️ Reach out to rural Mexico with the "Flying Samaritans"
- 🏫 Share your profession at your local school on their Career Day

Give back to your community.  
To start now, email Kelly Kennedy:  
kklortie@sbcglobal.net with your interests.

### Membership and Renewal

If you have not renewed your membership, please consider doing so now to support the ongoing efforts of your professional organization. Please contact: [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org)

### Change of Address

If you have moved or changed your address, state law requires that you notify the

Dental Hygiene Committee  
of California within 30 days. Contact:  
[www.dhcc.ca.gov](http://www.dhcc.ca.gov)

In addition, please contact:  
LADHS Membership Chair  
MaryJo Irwin  
[irwinmaryjo@aol.com](mailto:irwinmaryjo@aol.com)

**California Dental Hygienists' Association**  
**8th Annual CE Extravaganza**  
**November 6 & 7, 2009**  
**Sofitel Hotel 223 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009**

**8:00 a.m. Registration**  
**8:30 a.m. Session Begins**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**"Managing the Medicated Patient: Practice Considerations for Oral Health Care Professionals"**  
**Featuring Ann Eshenaur Spolarich, RDH, PhD**

**3 CEU's**  
*(Category I)*

*The purpose of this course is to review commonly prescribed medications from several major drug classes and their indications for use. Oral side effects, drug interactions and dental practice management considerations will be discussed. Medications used to treat respiratory, cardiovascular conditions, and diabetes will be highlighted in this program. Recommendations for treatment modifications and oral hygiene self-care programs will be provided.*

**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**"Bridging the Gap: Tips for Treating a Patient with Autism"**  
**Featuring Karen A. Raposa, RDH, MBA**

**3 CEU's**  
*(Category I)*

*The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is reporting that 1 in every 150 children today is born with some form of Autism. The need to better understand these patients and their unique abilities and gifts has never been greater. This course provides a review of the patient with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and the reasons why practitioners, from a legal and professional aspect, need to better understand these unique patients. Course objectives are: generate a basic understanding of ASD, provide a review of how to properly assess the patient's abilities, establish and review techniques for treatment that encompass creativity and the latest in technology, explore a comprehensive home care guidelines document for patient care takers and provide guidelines on how to easily incorporate the patient with ASD into a typical practice.*

**4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

~ **Exhibitors Product Showcase** ~  
**Hors D'Oeuvres/No Host Bar ~Open to All Attendees**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009**

**8:00 a.m. Registration**  
**8:30 a.m. Session Begins**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**"From the Morgue to the Courtroom: Forensic Dentistry CSI Style"**  
**Featuring Thomas P. Rumreich, DDS, MA**

**3 CEU's**  
*(Category I)*

*During this session several forensic cases will be presented. Homicides requiring identification of the victim or perpetrator will be discussed. Unusual accident or crime scenes will be presented and attendees will be challenged to determine what happened and to recognize that things aren't always what they appear to be. Child abuse cases as they relate to dental evidence will be examined. At the end of the seminar attendees will be able to recognize bite marks that have evidentiary value, understand the importance of forensic dentistry as an adjunct to law enforcement investigation, and appreciate the challenges of dental identification of deceased individuals.*

*(This is a graphic presentation and children are not allowed in this seminar).*

**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**"SBD... It Will Take Your Breath Away"**  
**Featuring Douglas G. Chase, DDS, FICCMO**

**3 CEU's**  
*(Category I)*

*This three hour course covers a wide array of terms, concepts and treatment modalities in the field of Sleep Breathing Disorders (SBD). Combining technology and basic physiology, listeners will learn of the pathology that develops in adults and children with obstructive sleep apnea. This particular sleep breathing disorder is the most common sleep apnea type and second most common of all sleep dysfunctions. Participants will learn how to screen, refer, and provide dental treatment options within their practice. Appliance utilization along with other treatment options will be discussed.*

## LADHS COMPONENT PARTICIPATES IN A MAJOR COMMUNITY HEALTH EVENT

As a charitable all volunteer organization, the focus of Remote Area Medical had been outside the United States, but recognizing the growing number of people lacking access to quality medical attention, it is now spending significant time and resources in the states. The Los Angeles event was its first urban and largest expedition yet.

Understanding the expansive scope and magnitude of the project, PJ Attebery and Laurel Bleak got to work immediately with logistical planning, communication and search for supplies. Laurel commented, "PJ and I knew right away we would need more hygienists and resources than LADHS alone could provide. The need was overwhelming and greater than we could have imagined. I loved working on this event where professionals and lay people came together in the face of what seemed like insurmountable logistics and turned The Forum into a health facility to meet an overwhelming need for health services" We estimate we had about 65 RDHs and 28 Loma Linda DH students participating over 8 days.

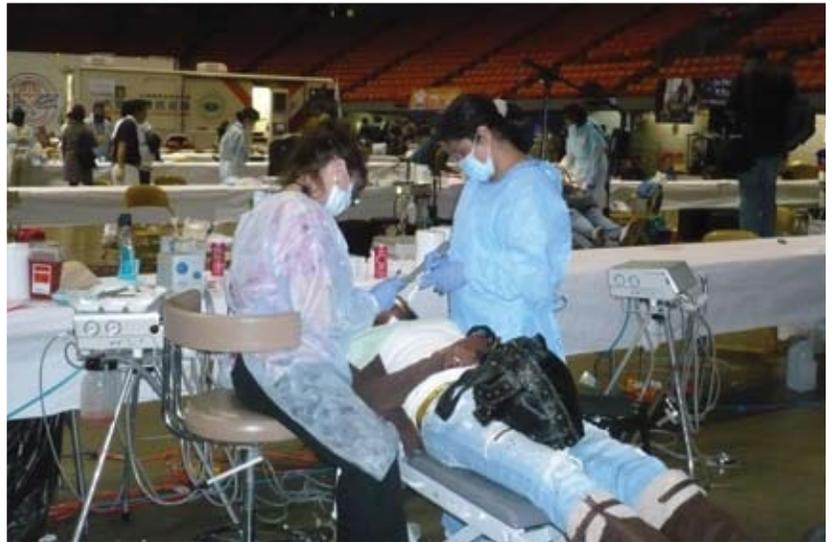


Dental and medical care providers came to The Forum in Inglewood in the wee hours of the morning on August 11th and were met with hundreds of people waiting in line overnight to seek medical attention. All priority numbers for patients were completely given out by the 4th day of the 8-day event. LADHS member Sharie Mikolajczyk observed, "It was an amazing experience being involved with such a large scale volunteer event. Many patients waited hours or even days to be seen, but appreciated what we were able to do for them. The hardest part was knowing how many people were turned away because we didn't have enough hygienists and dentists. The best part was getting a hug from a happy patient who was thrilled to have someone help them improve their health."



PJ remarked, "The experience of planning and delivering dental care was rewarding and transforming. We saw the direct benefits of our intervention. To be able to participate in such a positive event in an environment where health care for all is inadequate was deeply gratifying. Participating in the event gave you a first hand view of the urgency of the need for the most basic of dental care. While feeling a great sense of accomplishment and pride for what we collectively did, it was equally heartbreaking that so many in need were turned away".

LADHS became involved in the planning in June 2009. We came together as a community to do something quite miraculous in three months. This is what the California Dental Hygiene Association and all of its components are all about.



LADHS  
COMPONENT  
PARTICIPATES  
IN A MAJOR  
COMMUNITY  
HEALTH  
EVENT

## **Congratulations!**

LADHS President, Laurel Bleak, RDH has been chosen to attend a special ADHA leadership workshop called "Unleashing Your Potential". It was a nationwide application process and only twenty people were selected to go. Laurel will attend the workshop in Chicago, all expenses paid. It is a wonderful honor.

### **Dental Hygiene Volunteerism Simi Valley Dental Health Clinic June 27, 2009**



Community dental health presentation and fluoride varnish clinic led by Noel Kelsch, RDHAP.

LADHS members volunteered their time to provide preventive dental hygiene services and education to children at the Simi Valley Dental health Clinic



The 2009 CDHA House of Delegates was held in Ventura this past May. PJ Attebery, RDH was honored to receive the CDHA Outstanding Component Member Award for her contributions to the Los Angeles Dental Hygiene Society. Also pictured is Megan Drake, RDH, LADHS Treasurer for 2008-2009.



**West Los Angeles College  
 Department of Dental Hygiene  
 2009 RDHAP Fall Symposium  
 and/or  
 RDHAP Business Plan Workshop II**

**Saturday, October 24- 3 CEUs- Category II**

**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Symposium**  
 HLRC 4<sup>th</sup> Floor (Library)

**1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Workshop**  
 Room CE105A

West Los Angeles College  
 9000 Overland Ave.  
 Culver City, CA 90230

Parking in South Parking Structure

Map available online at [http://www.wlac.edu/mapdirectory/maps\\_directions.html](http://www.wlac.edu/mapdirectory/maps_directions.html)

The morning symposium will highlight RDHAP Owner Independent Practice. Speakers will discuss how they started their RDHAP Practice, insurance/Denti-Cal billing, and patient care delivery. The RDHAP scope of practice and requirements for licensure will be presented.

The afternoon workshop will focus on developing a Business Plan to establish an RDHAP business. This course will provide on-line resources, links, and hands-on computer skills using a template for the business plan. It is designed for current RDHAP's and future RDHAP students.

**Registration and Payment Information:**

**Make Checks Payable to: West LA College**  
*Mail registration form and payment information to:*  
 West Los Angeles College  
 Department of Dental Hygiene  
 RDHAP Program  
 9000 Overland Avenue  
 Culver City, CA 90230-3519

**Contact Information:**

Natalie Ferrigno, RDH, BS  
 RDHAP Coordinator  
 310-287-4464  
[ferrignr@wlaac.edu](mailto:ferrignr@wlaac.edu)  
 Ginny Williams, Sr. Office Assistant  
 310-287-4464 Fax: 310-287-4461  
[alliedhealth@wlaac.edu](mailto:alliedhealth@wlaac.edu)

Morning Course Fee \$45.00 includes: symposium, continental breakfast and 3 CEU's  
 Current Dental Hygiene Students can attend free of charge.

Afternoon Workshop Fee \$300.00 includes: a light snack, RDHAP business plan template CD, and 2 CEU's.  
 For those wishing to enroll in our 2010 RDHAP program, the \$300.00 will be applied toward the tuition fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Designation:  RDH  RDHAP  DDS  RDA  Student

California License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_