Thank you for the honor and privilege to serve as your ATDA President. I am deeply grateful for each of you and your membership in the alliance. I have been encouraged by your enthusiasm and willingness to serve in many areas where we have the opportunity to provide support to our spouses and foster a positive image of organized dentistry.

My theme for the year is “Be Wise! Give a Hoot for Dentistry!” There are around 200 different owl species and just as each of us is unique and individual, we still have the common bond of being dental spouses. The flattened facial disk of an owl funnels sound to the bird’s ears and magnifies it as much as ten times to help the bird hear sounds humans can’t detect. Therefore we must continue to pay attention to the needs across the state and help with programs such as “Give Kids a Smile,” “Healthy Smiles from the Start,” “Senior Smiles,” and Texas Missions of Mercy. Just as an owl can turn its head as much as 270 degrees, we need to look around for ways to help the underserved as well as give aid to our fellow dental friends that may be in need. Owls are farsighted….we must be forward thinking about ways to increase our membership and work in partnership with the Texas Dental Association. Not all owls hoot; they can screech, whistle, bark, growl, rattle or hiss. My hope is that we will only be of the variety that “Gives a Hoot!”

Our Impressions Editor, Karen Cox, has put together an outstanding newsletter to show-case the many wonderful ways we are serving our local and state alliances. Along the way, we have also had fun and fellowship and have strengthened that bond of friendship that is so special by being a dental spouse. I look forward to continuing my visits across the state to share with you all the great things we are accomplishing. Please remember “owl” of us are better than one of us, so Be Wise and Give a Hoot for Dentistry!

Thank you ATDA
Craig S. Armstrong, DDS, TDA President

One of the things I have enjoyed about serving as TDA President has been being able to peel back the layers of the TDA and look at its organizational structure and the relationships with the various groups that are associated with the TDA.

My interactions with the Alliance of the Texas Dental Association this year have been one of the most pleasant experiences to me. While I have always been a staunch supporter of the work that the ATDA does, I have honestly never personally experienced the passion that your members possess. That changed for me this year. At your Fall Board meeting in Fredericksburg I was honored to be able to address your members and I hope it was as enlightening for you as it was for me. I was thoroughly impressed with the questions that were asked and the knowledge ATDA members had of the subjects affecting dentistry in Texas. I enjoyed fielding questions from the audience and would love to have more opportunities to continue the dialog.

Interestingly, I see many similarities in the challenges that face both the TDA and ATDA with regards to membership. Attracting new members and retaining the ones we have is crucial to our survival. I have made membership a central theme of my Presidency this year. In order for both of our organizations to be successful we must attract a young, diverse membership while providing a positive value proposition. Herein lies the challenge.

I am encouraged however, when I travel around the state and see ATDA members at the El Paso Dental Conference, the Southwest Dental Conference in Dallas and various other dental events. Hats off to your leadership for making your President and President elect more visible, as I feel one of the keys to your success is being able to showcase what you do in front of dentists and young soon to be dentists.

Although at times our challenges may seem unsurmountable, I know that together there is no obstacle we cannot overcome. It has been an honor for me to serve as TDA President this year and an added benefit has been that I have witnessed firsthand the outstanding job that your organization does with and for the members of the TDA. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Alliance, I look forward to many successful years working together for the profession of Dentistry. I hope you all have a successful remainder of the year.
Alliance spouse working student of limited country.

Bri graduated a poor, you focus: result, help American schools each other. Bri served dental as source of knowledge, knew a limited source of support for herself and her fellow student spouses. That, she felt, needed to change. She wanted to create a student spouse alliance. Her research put her in contact with the Alliance of the American Dental Association. With AADA programs and Marquette’s blessing, Britney resurrected the Marquette student spouse alliance. “I served as President the first three years as I got it going and operating.”

During those three years of the student spouse alliance, Britney became involved with the AADA and attended conferences to learn more about how to further help dental student spouses. “They [AADA] knew I had a passion and I pitched an idea for a nationwide student spouse initiative, having [AADA] members go into dental schools and help get student spouse alliances up and running.” As a result, Britney now serves on the AADA Membership Committee—her focus: dental student spouse alliances!

“The student spouse alliance puts you in contact with spouses of upper classmen who help you know what to expect and they can help give advice on easier and less painful roads to take. It also puts you in contact with established dental families that live all over the country. Networking for work or just friendship among those with common interests and goals is so huge. We all have much to learn from each other but especially at the student spouse level and recently graduated levels.”

Britney Checketts, welcome to the ATDA! We look forward to working with you, and are proud to have you as a member of the Alliance of the Texas Dental Association!!!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ATDA
www.tda.org/About-TDA/Contacts/TDA-Alliance

Do you have a question for the Alliance of the TDA?
Contact us at our HOME email address: atda@tda.org

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT!
BRITTNEY CHECKETTS
Meet Britney Checketts, ATDA member. She, her husband Wyatt Checketts, DDS, along with their three children Brecken age 7, Oliver age 4, and Adilae age 1, moved to Whitehouse, TX this spring after Wyatt graduated from Marquette School of Dentistry. Britney reflected, “Being a student spouse is hard. You are poor, and know very little about what to expect next.” She found a limited source of support for herself and her fellow student spouses. That, she felt, needed to change. She wanted to create a student spouse alliance. Her research put her in contact with the Alliance of the American Dental Association. With AADA programs and Marquette’s blessing, Britney resurrected the Marquette student spouse alliance. “I served as President the first three years as I got it going and operating.”

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Britney Checketts, welcome to the ATDA! We look forward to working with you, and are proud to have you as a member of the Alliance of the Texas Dental Association!!!

Interested in reactivating your inactive ATDA District?
Not sure how?
Your inactive ATDA district has funds available for your district dental health project!

Here is how to request funds:
Submit a letter written by two Members-at-Large from the inactive district. Please include:
1. Request for Member-at-Large funds
2. Intended use of funds (toothbrushes for under privileged children, tooth fairy costume, local TMOM help, etc.)
3. Entity to whom check should be written (inactive Alliance or the area Dental Society)
4. Letter must be signed by two ATDA Members-at-Large from the inactive district and by the local dental society president/board member.

Time to request funds for 2015 is running short, so act fast! Submit your requests before December 31, 2015 to:
Julia Martin, Membership Chair
1201 Glenbury Court
Arlington, TX 76006

Questions?? Email Julia directly at: alliancetda@hotmail.com

All ATDA Members: You Are Invited!
2016 Annual ATDA - Sponsored Cooking Class & Tasting
Interactive, Fun & Delicious!
2016 TDA Convention - Thursday, May 6th
2:30 – 4:00 pm
(Sign up in your Texas Meeting Registration Form)

One of our own ATDA members, Paula Owen, with Chef Donald Hoffman @ Marriott RiverWalk Hotel.
**Protecting the Profession**

**TDA Legislative Day – February 25, 2015**

On February 24, 2015, the day before TDA’s Legislative Day, Janet Crow, Legislative Committee Chair, and over a dozen ATDA members walked the halls of the State Capitol and entered the offices of all State Representatives and Senators.

They politely introduced themselves, informed office staff of who they represented and passed out Goody Bags, all with a smile of course!

Items included toothbrushes, paste, floss, gum, mouthwash, and the ever-popular hand stressors... in the shape of molars, of course.

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**TDA President’s Award**

Janet Crow (Mrs. Richard) was presented the prestigious TDA President’s Award by Dr. Craig Armstrong at the House of Delegates Assembly, 2015 Annual Session.

Janet has given many years of service and dedication to the Texas Dental Association’s legislative efforts. As Chair of the ATDA Legislative committee, she also serves as the Alliance Liaison to the TDA Council on Legislative and Regulatory Affairs (CLRA).

She is grateful for the opportunity to be a resource to the ATDA on legislative issues and looking forward to working with her experienced committee members for the next 2017 TDA Legislative Day.

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“Thank you to ATDA”

“Our Alliance has become synonymous with Legislative Day and the job you do with the Legislators’ gift bags is remarkable. Legislative staffers and Legislators alike look forward to receiving their bag of “goodies” each session. The contents of this year’s bags were so innovative and well received by everyone.

Thank you for being such a valuable partner with TDA. I am humbled by all of your actions and dedication to the profession of dentistry and the TDA.”

From TDA President, Dr. Craig Armstrong
ATDA Membership is on the Move!

Focus: TEXAS DENTAL SCHOOLS

CONNECTING WITH STUDENTS

The University of Texas School of Dentistry (Houston)

ATDA sponsored its first “Lunch and Learn” for Junior, Senior and Post-Grad Students @ Baylor College of Dentistry recently. Approximately 45 students were fed lunch and given opportunity to hear from the Alliance members of the ATDA. Thank you to Leeanna Bartlett, Liaison to the school, for arranging the event.

District 8 members visited students at UT School of Dentistry, Houston. Members spoke on Affiliation, Dental Health, Silver Lining, Endowed Scholarships offered through ATDA and the “Smile Texas Style” Texas License Plate project. Shown are: Diane Bogan, Heide Heath, Janet Crow, Terri Shepherd and Dr. Boyd Shepherd, part-time instructor at UTSD.

A&M - Baylor College of Dentistry (Dallas)

Julia Martin (ATDA Membership Officer), Janell Dunsworth (ATDA President), Leeanna Bartlett, Paula Owens, Dr. Danette McNew (Past President of Dallas County Dental Society and instructor at the school) and Nancy Cartwright (President of the Dallas Dental Alliance)

UT-Health Science Center (San Antonio)

Kathy Gureckis, San Antonio Alliance member and Liaison to the UT Dental School, speaks to spouses of first year dental students. This gathering is always held in conjunction with the annual “Great Expectations” mentoring event. This year it was held at the home of Dr. Rise’ Martin, SADDS Coordinator for the event.
Debbie Moore
Immediate Past President, ATDA

Kowabunga! What an incredible ride I had “Catching the Wave of Dentistry” this past year!!!! And I thank you all for paddling out to support me and our spouses’ great profession of Dentistry! It was a hugely successful Legislative year and The Alliance of the Texas Dental Association, as always, played a significant role in making that possible. I’ve loved my visits across the state and hearing the wonderful stories of friendships forged over the years because of their Local and State Alliances. The friends I’ve made because of this are life-long. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President this past year. I love you all and wish you smooth seas ahead!

Top left: Debbie enjoying a moment together with TDA President, Dr. David McCarley and wife, Lee Ann. Bottom Left: TDA Executive Director, Mike Geeslin, posing with Debbie and her 2 granddaughters Right: Debbie and her husband, Dr. Terri Moore at her ATDA President’s Reception at Convention.

Right: District 8 honored ATDA President, Debbie Moore and past Presidents of District 8 at a Luncheon in March at the beautiful Junior League of Houston.
Below Right: Decorating for Convention at Grand Hyatt Hotel: (L-R) Jill Kralicke, Tina Magness, Karen Cox, and Debbie Moore

Above: Debbie visiting Alliance members of El Paso, District 16

Above: President Debbie “Riding on Wave of Dentistry” with the Capital Area Dental Alliance members in Austin, Texas

Left: Debbie surrounded by supportive members from her home District 12 - Fort Worth. (L to R) Julia Martin, Paula Owens and her granddaughter, Sophie, Debbie and Barbara Coats.

Below, top left: San Antonio visit, Debbie accepting the La Villita Alcalde Award from Chita Harris, District 20, San Antonio Alliance member. Susan Shults, Local Alliance President, looking on in background Bottom left: Dallas visit, standing with Alliance members: Elaine Simmons, District 5 President, and Nancy Baldwin. Bottom right: Debbie addressing the House of Delegates at the 2015 Convention.

ATDA is grateful to Eric Tiedtke and TDA Financial Services Insurance Program for underwriting the annual Past Presidents’ Luncheon at the TDA Convention.
“Catch the Wave of Dentistry”
2014 Fall Board Meeting - The Overton Hotel – Lubbock
Hosted by District 10 (South Plains)
Debbie Moore (Mrs. Terri) - Presiding

“The Rainbow over Lubbock”...
A promise of a successful Fall Board meeting

Susan Hunter (Dental Hygienist) and Kelly Rodgers, spokesman for the international program gave information on “TeethSavers International.” Pictured with Jeanette Kostohryz, Dental Health Chair, and Debbie Moore, President.

(L-R) President Debbie Moore with Lubbock Alliance Hostesses
Marcella Lovette and Paula Loveless

“Doc McPherson”, considered to be the Father of the Texas Wine Industry founded McPherson winery. Doc was one of the state’s prime grape growers and was the first in Texas to plant Sangiovese in his Sagmor Vineyard. The family converted Lubbock’s historic 1930s era Coca Cola Bottling plant downtown into a winery and opened in the Fall of 2008.

ATDA Board Members & Spouses
Enjoying Evening at McPherson Cellars and Winery

Terri Shepherd, Debbie Moore and Beth Moore arriving at Tech Club. Beth Potter happy to be on Texas Tech soil!

TDA President, Dr. David McCarley & Dr. Richard Crow visiting

Janell Dunsworth (ATDA President-Elect) posing with her aunt, Clara McPherson, who was married to the late Doc McPherson.

(L-R) Sharon Bryant, Julia Martin, Conni Durbin, Marthiel Russell, Angela Estes, Diane Bogan & Lee Ann McCarley

(L-R) Carol McCluer, Karen Cox, Jill Kralicke, Janell Dunsworth and Janet Hooten

Wednesday Dutch Dinner at the Chancellor’s Suite at the Tech Club at Texas Tech University
“BE WISE....
GIVE A HOOT FOR DENTISTRY”
2015 Fall Board – Inn on Barons Creek Hotel – Fredericksburg
Hosted by District 20 (San Antonio)
Janell Dunsworth (Mrs. Arlet) - Presiding

Willkommen!

ATDA Board to Fredericksburg!

Dr. Arlet and Janell enjoying Bratwurst & polkas on grounds of the Pioneer Museum

Elaine Simmons (Dallas) & Marthiel Russell (Winters)

During Executive Board Meeting, Dr. Craig Armstrong, TDA President, addressed the Executive Board and fielded questions affecting dentistry.

Mary Coleman & Gloria Morales (San Antonio Hostesses) at registration

Anyone care to dance the Zillertalle Hochzeitmarsch? ATDA thoroughly enjoyed listening to polkas, waltzes, western swing & the classics by Paul Schlesinger and The Knights of Texas Swing. Paul is on staff at TDA Office by day....and a lithesome, talented musician by night!

Alliance members posing with Julie Reger, far right, (Fall Board Co-Chair) during Thursday’s Committee meetings in the President’s Suite

Ladies touring historic buildings at the Pioneer Museum

Conni Durbin...Hoot, Hoot, Hooting it up!

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Conni Durbin...Hoot, Hoot, Hooting it up!
ATDA, AADA & ICD
Partner @ ADA Convention

3 Groups Collect $6200 in Gift Cards to Army Fisher Houses of San Antonio

The ATDA, AADA (Alliance of ADA) and the ICD (International College of Dentists) partnered together at the 2014 ADA Convention in San Antonio to benefit 4 Army Fisher Houses at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

“ICD has a program that signs up volunteer dentists to provide free emergency treatment to families of Fisher Houses across the United States. It was a unique opportunity and perfect timing for the three dental communities to come together and give back to our military soldiers and their families while here at ADA Convention” said project coordinator, Karen Cox (Mrs. David).

Helping to collect gift cards at the ADA Convention is ATDA & AADA Member, April Cobb and her two sons: Michael and Nathan

Beulak K. Spencer Honorees

Leadership award presented to Alliance members of ADA of ten years or less, whose Alliance involvement, commitment and volunteer efforts are making a significant impact to organized dentistry.

At-Large AADA Members & Texas Alliance Recipients

2014 – Mrs. Diane Bogan (Doug)
2015 – Mrs. Karen Cox (David)

Texas Delegation at the The Peabody Hotel in Memphis - AADA Leadership Conference

Janell Dunsworth (Dallas), Lisa Burns (Seguin), Karen Cox (San Antonio), Marthiel Russell (Winters), Debbie Moore (Fort Worth), Sharon Bryant (Santa Anna), Brittany Checketts (Tyler)
Spreading Dental Health in Dallas
District 5 – Dallas Alliance members make sure thousands of children are reached with Dental Health programs every year. Seniors are also provided programs on “Oral Longevity” that provide gift bags and info on dental health care.
Nancy Cartwright, 2015-16 Alliance President said, “I believe that it is our members that make us what we have become over the last 91 years and we will continue to promote dentistry by providing dental health programs for the citizens of District 5.”

ATDA Silver Lining Committee
Unexpected illness, death, natural disaster. When someone in our Texas dental family encounters unforeseen circumstances, ATDA can help! Applications are confidential and considered on case-by-case basis. Contributions are welcome as well! The Alliance has granted over $181,000. To recommend an individual or family, contact: heideheath@comcast.net

ATDA MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Each year the committee awards scholarships to Junior Dental Students at each of the three Texas Dental Schools. Pictured are several of the recipients who attended the ATDA Annual Luncheon at 2015 Convention.

ATDA to Sponsor Dr. Warren Karp
Prof Emeritus at Georgia Health Sciences University
May 8, 2016 - Annual Session
“Use and Facilitation of Nutrition Counseling in the Dental Setting”
Sign up in your Texas Meeting Registration

HAPPY TO WIN!
Dental Health Award to purchase dental health kits for “Senior Smiles”project in Austin, District 10 (Capitol Area Dental Alliance). Shown: Janet Hooten presenting check to Carrin Katz, CADA
AMOM—SAN ANTONIO

Carol McCluer and Beth Potter—working their first TMOM (Abilene)

TMOM (Mesquite) ATDA members and the newly donated operator chair

Miss Smile (from San Antonio District) working the crowds at a TMOM

TMOM (Georgetown)
Alliance of the TDA Remembers........

Dr. Michael Stuart and Dr. David McCarley, who, as Presidents of the TDA, supported, encouraged and acknowledged the Alliance of the TDA as a valuable partner of Texas’ Organized Dentistry.

And who, along with Dr. John Eads and Dr. Fred Potter, as Doctors of Dentistry, affectionately and unequivocally considered their wives an integral part of their dental profession.

They each leave a legacy of countless lives that were touched by each of them.

We will miss you.

Dr. John S. Eads III 1933 – 2014
TDA President 1995-96
Surviving spouse: Connie Eads

Dr. Michael L. Stuart 1952-2015
TDA President 2012-13
Surviving Spouse: Kathy Stuart

Dr. Fred H. Potter 1956-2015
Surviving Spouse: Beth Potter

Dr. David H. McCarley 1953-2015
TDA President 2014-15
Surviving Spouse: Lee Ann McCarley
86th Annual Session  
May 6-7, 2016 - San Antonio, Texas  
Headquarters: Grand Hyatt San Antonio

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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