

2019 Dental Day at the Legislature

Montana dentists put in a 14-hour day on Friday, January 25, 2019 for Dental Day at the Legislature. The non-stop schedule ran from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

See Page 8 for more photos



Montana dentists converged in the State Capitol building in Helena on January 25, 2019. Pictured (L-R): Dr. Kurt Lindemann, Dr. Leighton Holley, Al Garver, Dr. Lee Laeupple, Dr. Will Samson, Dr. Ron Jarvis, Dr. Dave Keim, Dr. Dave Bull, Dr. Doug Hadnot, Marlynn Holley, Dr. Ron Davis, Dr. Jane Gillette, Dr. Sven Bone, Dr. Andy Althausser, Dr. Joni Richmond Stevens, Dr. Mike Bowman, Dr. April Foster, Dr. Jason Tanguay, and Dr. Wendy Taber.

MDA Legislative Update from Helena

SB 157: Generally Revise Dental Auxiliary Laws. Sen Al Olszewski is sponsoring MDA's primary bill that would allow general supervision of dental auxiliaries who hold a certified dental assistant certification from DANB. It enables a certified dental assistant to perform certain tasks, even if the dentist is not on the premises. The Montana Board of Dentistry issued a letter voicing its unanimous support for this bill and will define the scope of allowed duties, following enactment of this legislation. The Montana Dental Hygienist Association formally supported the bill on the Senate side, but is now trying to kill the bill with help from AAO national.

JAN 25, 2019: The hearing for SB 157 was held in Senate Business & Labor, and the link to the MPAN video

Continued on Page 6

INSIDE

- 2 President's Message
- 4 ADA News: Class Action Lawsuit Settlement
- 8 More Dental Day at the Legislature Photos
- 10 MMA Health Plan
- 14 Great Falls Dentist Wins *Race to the Sky*
- 15 Missoula Project Community Connect
- 16 Classified
- 17 "Great CE for All!" May 9-10
- 18 MDA 2019 Conference Registration
- 20 Calendar

MDA on the Move...

By the time you read this issue of the MDA News we will be well into the 2019 legislative session, and it's been unbelievably busy. As you will see in the following pages, the MDA has taken action on legislation involving dentist licensure, assistant supervision, mid-level providers, prescription drug registry, opioid prescriptions, and fee transparency just to name a few.

The work that's been needed to successfully guide legislation has not been handled by just one person or even one committee. It has taken the collective efforts of the "MDA village". I want to thank all of you who attended legislative day, who sent emails to committee members, who have reached out to their legislators, who have testified at committee hearings. It's this collective effort and commitment by the "village" that guides legislation for the betterment of oral health in Montana.

I also want to do a shout out to the District 9 members and Dr. Jane Gillette, who responded on short notice to support a Medical/Dental Providers Roundtable discussion with U.S. Senator Steve Daines in Billings on

February 20th (see photo on page 7). District 9 also hosted Sen Daines after that event in the office of Dr. Jake Taylor, and the senator allowed the group to take a fun photo of him in a dental chair.

This demonstrates how important our local districts are in the tripartite.

Andy Althausen
President, Montana
Dental Association



DR. ANDREW ALTHAUSER
President

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • President: | Dr. Andrew Althausen |
| • President Elect: | Dr. Ronald Jarvis |
| • Vice President: | Dr. Jason Tanguay |
| • Secretary/Treasurer: | Dr. Douglas Hadnot |
| • Immediate Past President: | Dr. Kevin Rencher |
| • Delegates-at-large: | Dr. Jane Gillette
Dr. Kurt Lindemann |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Dr. Fred Anderson | • Dr. Katie Slocum |
| • Dr. Jessie Cole | • Dr. Tyson Smith |
| • Dr. Ronald Davis | • Dr. Lars Swensen |
| • Dr. Sarin McKenna | • Dr. Will Samson |
| • Dr. Ingrid McLellan | • Dr. Wade Wilde |
| • Dr. Joseph Meng | |

STAFF:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| • Executive Director: | Mr. Al Garver |
| • Executive Assistant: | Ms. Jean Strainer |
| • Administrative Assistant: | Ms. Pamela Maslanka |

CONTACT MDA

Telephone: (406) 443-2061
Toll Free (in-state): (800) 257-4988
Fax: (406) 443-1546
Email: info@montanadental.org
Website: www.MontanaDental.org

Mailing Address:
MDA News
Montana Dental Association
PO Box 1154
Helena, MT 59624

The MDA News is a copyrighted publication of the Montana Dental Association and is distributed bimonthly to its members as a direct benefit of membership. All views expressed herein are published on authority of the writer under whose name they appear and are not to be regarded as the views of the Association. MDA reserves the right to reduce, revise or reject any manuscript submitted for publication. Copy for publication should be mailed to the above address.



**9 out 10
dentists
recommend
PayneWest...**



Well, we don't know that exactly—but what we do know is that we've been the Montana Dental Association's endorsed agency for over 40 years! Look to an agency with experience in your industry. Look to PayneWest.

**Contact Nate Allie today
at (406) 238-1910 or
NAllie@PayneWest.com.**



PayneWest.com/Billings



NEWS YOU CAN USE

**ADA
News**

Dentists affected by class action lawsuit may be eligible for payment

February 25, 2019

PHILADELPHIA — Dentists who purchased supplies or equipment directly from Henry Schein, Inc., Patterson Companies, Inc. or Benco Dental Supply Company may be eligible for a portion of an \$80 million settlement reached following a lawsuit against the three companies.

The class action lawsuit alleged that the defendants agreed not to compete on prices for dental products. The defendants deny these claims, insist they did nothing wrong and a judge has not decided who is right.

The settlement includes anyone in the U.S. who purchased dental products directly from the defendants or Burkhart Dental Supply between Aug. 31, 2008, and March 31, 2016. Dental products and equipment covered in the suit include such items as gloves, hand instruments, face masks, toothbrushes, anesthetic solutions, imaging devices, dental chairs, CAD/CAM systems and the like.

If the settlement is approved, those affected will receive a claim form in the mail. The settlement website, DentalSuppliesAntitrustClassAction.com, will also have information. Affected dentists and other dental professionals would have to file a claim by Sept. 19 in order to receive the proposed payment.

The final approval hearing is scheduled for May 22 at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, where it will consider whether to approve the settlement. A federal court preliminarily approved the settlement.

More complete information, including the settlement agreement and release of claims and instructions on filing a claim (when a claim form becomes available), is available on the settlement website or by calling 1-844-367-8807.

For more information on the case specifics, visit ADA.org and search for ADA News stories containing the words “\$80 million settlement.”



Practice Management Associates, LLC

Our Core Values
Integrity leads us in all we do. As your skilled and discreet confidants, we collaborate as liaisons with all involved while consistently protecting our client's best interest.

When selling your dental practice, we understand the importance of crossing the finish line unscathed with goodwill intact. We equip our clients with the knowledge and support they need to make solid decisions that will ensure their desired outcome while leaving the practice in a position to thrive.

Our Team



Lynne Nelson
Co-Founder



Donna Carlson Lowell
Co-Founder



Denise Jones
Client Coordinator

Please contact us today for your complimentary consultation.

(888) PMA-404U or (888) 762-4048

info@practicemanagementassociates.org • www.practicemanagementassociates.org

Editor's Note: Burkhart Dental Supply Company (“Burkhart”) was at one time named as a defendant in this lawsuit, but the case was subsequently dismissed against Burkhart on personal jurisdiction grounds. Because Burkhart is no longer a defendant in this action, it is not paying any portion of the settlement funds or otherwise participating in the settlement. This does not, however, affect the ability of any class members who were Burkhart customers to participate in the settlement.

ADA Requests Clarification and Exception from Medicare

On January 31, ADA requested clarification and exception on the surety bond requirement for dentists providing obstructive sleep apnea devices (oral

appliances) as DMEPOS providers under Medicare. For more information visit ADA.org.

Saint Apollonia: Patron Saint of Dentistry

Apollonia was born in Egypt in the 3rd century and died in the year 249, during the reign of Emperor Philip. She was an elderly deaconess, living in a refuge for Christians in Alexandria, Egypt. The account of her life and martyrdom was written by St. Dionysius to Fabian, Bishop of Antioch. Legend has it that local pagans began a riot and violently attacked believers of the faith. Apollonia had all her teeth knocked out and was threatened with fire unless she renounced her faith. Instead, she said a prayer and jumped into the flames voluntarily. St. Augustine adamantly defended her actions as representative of heroic faith and

not suicide, which would be unsaintly. She is considered the patron of dental diseases and is often invoked by those with toothaches. Ancient art depicts her with a golden tooth at the end of her necklace. Other art shows her with pincers holding a tooth. Parts of her jaw and many of her teeth are presently housed in churches across Europe.



*Painting of St. Apollonia, ca. 1470
Artist: Piero della Francesca
Original on display in National
Gallery of Art, West Building,
Washington, DC.*

MDA Accepting Applications for New Dentist Representative to Board of Directors

Serve as the voice of new dentists in Montana, learn more about organized dentistry, help guide and direct the mission of the organization.

Who is eligible? Any MDA member who graduated from dental school within three years before the application for appointment.

Term length: Selection of the New Dentist Representative occurs at the May 8, 2019, Board meeting. The one year term runs from May 13, 2019, to April 17, 2020. A representative is not eligible for election for more than two consecutive terms.

Time commitment: The Board of Directors meets face to face, three times a year, eight hours each time; fall, winter, and Wednesday of the Annual Meeting week. The Board also meets as needed via Zoom Teleconference. Board members are expected to familiarize themselves with all meeting materials sent to them prior to board meetings.

Chair of the New Dentist Committee: The New Dentist Committee typically meets three times per year via teleconference to provide recommendations on policies and programs that meet the needs of new dentists.

Continued on Page 13

AFTCO
TRANSITION CONSULTANTS
Since 1968

50 years strong
1968-2018

When success matters . . . you can depend on AFTCO, the oldest and largest dental practice transition consulting firm in the United States. AFTCO offers more than 150 practice transition programs custom designed to provide every dentist with a more secure future and a well-earned Quality of Life. Let our 50 years of experience provide you with the direction you need to make the most of your future.

www.AFTCO.net | 800.232.3826



MONTANA DENTAL Advocate

MDA Legislative Update...

(Continued from Page 1)

(with MDA member dentists testifying) is below:

<http://sg001-harmony.sliq.net/00309/Harmony/en/PowerBrowser/PowerBrowserV2/20190125/-1/33646>

JAN 30, 2019: The bill was approved by the Senate B&L Committee on a vote of 8-2.

FEB 1, 2019: The bill passed second reading on the Senate floor with a vote of 46-3.

FEB 2, 2019: The bill passed third reading in the Senate with a vote of 45-3.

FEB 5, 2019: The bill was assigned to the House Human Services Committee.

MAR 14, 2019: The bill was heard in House Human Services Committee. 95% of testimony was in favor of the bill. The only opposition was the American Academy of Orthodontists (national), who hired a local lobbyist. MDA secured Rep Ed Buttrey as the House sponsor.

NEXT STEPS: HHS committee will likely vote the bill out of committee before this print edition hits the street. MDA staff will issue another blast to members asking them to contact their local house representative to vote for bill on the floor the week of March 25th.

HB 599: Community Health Aid Program (CHAP). HB 599 is seeking to authorize Medicaid funds to reimburse a new kind of mid-level dental care provider in Montana, known as a Dental Health Aid Therapist (DHAT), for dental work performed by these providers on reservations. Standards of care in Montana should not be lowered based on a patient's income or address, and the Montana Dental Association remains opposed to DHATs and other provider models that allow non-dentists to diagnose, develop treatment plans or perform irreversible surgical procedures. The Pew Charitable Trust and the Kellogg Foundation have been working with tribes in other states to advance this sub-standard mid-level provider model.

Though the DHAT model is not a new concept, there is no DHAT training program approved by the Council on Dental Accreditation (CODA) – the accrediting body recognized by the US Department of Education for dental care providers. Under HB 599, DHATs would be able to perform irreversible surgical and restorative procedures

including permanent fillings and extractions of both primary and permanent teeth, without the same level of training as dentists.

FEB 21, 2019: Bill was “hidden” in a placeholder bill since October and text first popped into the system on this date.

FEB 25, 2019: Proponents secured a hearing in House Human Services and it passed out of committee 14-5.

FEB 27, 2019: Second reading on House floor. Bill passed 74-26. This was when MDA became aware of the bill and mobilized members to action through an e-blast.

FEB 28, 2019: MDA members succeeded in persuading 14 representatives to change their vote, but the bill still passed on Third Reading in the House with 61-38.

MAR 18, 2019: MDA testified as an opponent in the Senate Public Health Committee. Substantive questions from committee members to proponents were not answered well. MDA staff and Government Affairs Committee are bringing all resources to bear to kill this bill in committee.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

HB 86: Restrictions on Opioid Prescriptions. Rep Vince Ricci is sponsoring this bill at the request of the Office of the Attorney General, intending to implement measures to combat over-prescription of opioids. MDA is formally supporting this bill, which mirrors ADA calls for action regarding opioid prescriptions.

JAN 23, 2019: MDA Executive Director Al Garver testified at the House Human Service Committee in support of the bill.

JAN 24, 2019: Billed passed out of committee, 19-0

JAN 31, 2019: Second reading in House, passed 87-12

FEB 1, 2019: Third reading in House, passed 76-24

FEB 11, 2019: Hearing in Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety. MDA Executive Director testified in support of the bill and thanked AG office for accommodating amendments requested by dentists.

FEB 20, 2019: Passed Senate Public Health, vote of 8-2.

MAR 12, 2019: Passed on Senate floor in third reading,

Continued on Page 7

MDA members (from left) Dr. Rod Griffith, Dr. Brian Fuller, Dr. Jake Taylor, Dr. Jane Gillette, and Dr. Cameron Townsend pose with U.S. Senator Steve Daines after a dental-medical roundtable event in Billings, Montana, on February 20, 2019. Dr. Jake Taylor's office sponsored a thank you event for Senator Daines co-sponsoring the U.S. Senate version of H.R. 372, the "Comprehensive Health Insurance Reform Act".



MDA Legislative Update...

(Continued from Page 6)

34-15. This bill will likely become law.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

HB 105: Revise Process for out-of-state licensure for Professional Licensing Board. Rep K. Sullivan is sponsoring bill by the Department of Labor with the intent of streamlining and speeding up licensing processes. MDA's official stand is "neutral" on this bill. The bill passed 97-3 in the House on third reading on February 13, 2019. It passed in the Senate on third reading on March 9 with a vote of 44-0. It will likely become law.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

HB 152: No Surprise Medical Bills. Rep K. Kelker is sponsoring this bill to ensure health care providers disclose costs of procedures. Known informally as the "transparency" bill in the 2017 session, MDA was pursuing an exception for dentists, since most dental providers already disclose costs and options in treatment plans. Dentists are not included in the bill language, meaning this bill, as passed in the Senate, does not apply to MDA members. It will likely to become law.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

HB 419: Requires prescribers to provide certain information about opioids. Representative Zach Brown is seeking to have the state to compel providers to provide information on the harmful and addictive properties of opioids when prescribing for acute and chronic pain conditions. The Montana Dental Association was formally opposed to this bill since the verbiage presumed that medical providers were not providing informed consent regarding opioids.

FEB 13, 2019: A hearing was held in House Human Services Committee. Five people spoke in favor of the bill. The Montana Medical Association and the Montana Dental Association spoke against the bill. The bill was tabled in committee on February 15, 2019, and is dead.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

SB 61: Revise prescription drug registry. This bill is sponsored by the Pharmacists Association with the intent of making the E-prescription drug registry system permanent, mandatory, and funded in-part by prescriber fees. The MDA is seeking a cap of \$30 on this fee to prevent the ability of state government of having the power to implement fee increases with no input of prescribers.

FEB 4, 2019. This bill passed on third reading in the Senate, 45 to 5.

MAR 14, 2019. MDA testified as a proponent of the bill, but requested the \$30 cap.

MAR 14, 2019. The bill passed out of committee with a vote of 17-2. The requested amendment to cap the fee at \$30 was not granted. This bill will likely go on to become law.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

MEDICAID INCREASE: Key committees approved a 0.9% Medicaid fee increase for multiple providers, including dentists. Because of the looming debate over Medicaid expansion, there is no viable path to pursue legislation to seek a larger increase this session.

No action is required of MDA members at this time.

2019 Dental Day at the Legislature



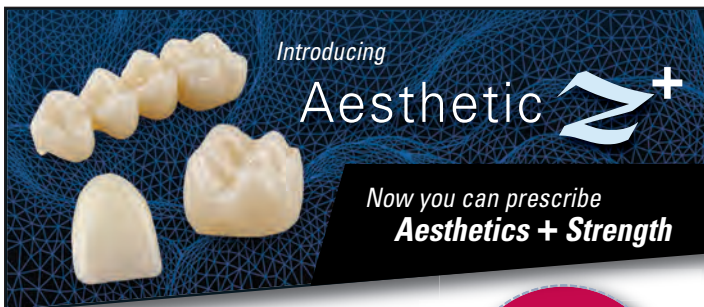
MDA President Dr. Andy Althaus and Dr. April Foster wait for the dental group to assemble on the first floor of the Capitol.



Senator Al Olszewski prepares to give remarks at the opening breakfast at the Delta Colonial Hotel. 90 minutes later he was introducing Senate Bill 157 in the Senate Business and Labor Committee to allow for general supervision of DANB certified dental assistants.



MDA lobbyists Erin McGowan and Jackie Boyle Jones prepare for a busy day with dentists at the Capitol.



Aesthetic Z+ represents a technological advancement that provides the assurance of higher strength and better aesthetics, resulting in fewer fractures while mimicking the aesthetics of natural dentin.

Aesthetic Z+ offers more translucency than other zirconia products and the incredible flexural strength of 1250 Mpa; **it's truly a viable restorative solution.**

NADL National Association of Dental Laboratories **Accepting digital scans**

Quality Products at Amazing Prices. Case after Case.

Assured Dental Lab®

www.assuredentallab.com 877.283.5351

Receive
\$50 OFF
your first case & SEE
the Difference!



Senator Dianne Sands discusses the Montana Womens' Mural on the second floor of the Capitol with assembled dentists.



Senator Bob Keenan (R-Bigfork) addresses Montana dentists during the legislative luncheon.



All Legislative Day photos provided by Dr. John Smith, Helena

Montana Representatives look up in the gallery to see Montana dentists recognized from the House floor.



Dr. Dave Keim and Dr. Kevin Miltko enjoy a drink at the Legislative Banquet Reception.



Francois Zanni, General Manager of the Silver Star Steak Company, pours one of four selected wines for Montana legislators, who thoroughly enjoyed the MDA wine-pairing dinner.



Representative Mary Caferro and Al Garver confer during the wine pairing dinner. More than 70 guests enjoyed a four-course premium meal paired with four fine wines.

What's your next step?

KDT KEYSTONE DENTAL TRANSITIONS

Helping dentists buy and sell their practices
406.413.0635 KeystoneDentalTransitions.com



HEALTH PLAN

The vision of the MMA Health Plan is to be your primary choice for health benefits in Montana.

Your partner for peace of mind

The MMA Health Plan is dedicated to serving professionals in the healthcare industry.

Our mission is to provide quality health benefits at cost effective prices with a focus on strong customer service.

VALUES

OUTSTANDING SERVICE — prompt and thorough support the day you enroll and each day thereafter

INTEGRITY — we are transparent and responsible in our management of the Trust

INNOVATION — we are flexible and creative in our ability to deliver solutions

PROGRESS — we work hard to improve and grow

WELLNESS — we are committed to the wellbeing of our members

BENEFITS

- Not an insurance company, we are a TRUST.
- Created and managed by providers, for providers.
- Members have a voice through an elected board of providers and administrators.
- Maintains a strong financial position through attentive and conservative management.
- Flexibility to contract with vendors that best meet the needs of our members.
- Plans that are customized to meet the needs of health care providers vs. marketplace products.
- Strong focus on customer service.

TO OBTAIN A QUOTE

Call Marcia Ellermeyer 406/443-4919 or 866/339-7245 for information on how to obtain a quote for your group.



The MMAHCPT strives to provide flexible, innovative services to meet the needs of the health care provider.

HEALTH PLAN

FEATURES

- No out of network penalties. Other plans may have separate deductibles and out of pocket maximums, or totally different benefit structures that apply to out of network services. MMA Health Plan does not.
- HSA qualifying HDHP plans include “safe harbor” preventative drug list. Includes certain chronic conditions such as high blood pressure or asthma. Members are not required to meet deductible and only pay the copay amount for these drugs.
- All plans include pediatric preventative dental and vision for dependents up to the age of 18.
- Alternative care, which includes acupuncture, chiropractic, naturopathic or podiatry claims, requires a referral from a physician, physicians’ assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.

PROGRAM OFFERS

ACCESS — the largest network of participating providers in the U.S

- 100% of hospitals and 96% providers in Montana
- More than 990,000 providers and 5,550 hospitals across the nation through BlueCard network

CHOICE — Numerous benefit plan options to choose from, all of which include prescription drug coverage

OPTIONS — Dental and Vision programs available.

CONVENIENCE — Benefits, claims, eligibility, robust wellness information and tips are just a click away with Blue Access for Members

MEMBER FOCUS — Care programs targeted to engage members to help them meet their health and wellness goals, regardless of where they are on the spectrum of care.

QUESTIONS? Contact...

Marcia Ellermeyer, Account Executive

406/443-4919 | 866/339-7245 | melleremeyer@mmaoffice.org

Virtual Dental Insurance Billing



Maximize Reimbursement and Increase Cash Flow

INCREASE YOUR OVERALL PROFITABILITY THROUGH BETTER BILLING AND COLLECTIONS PROCESSES WHILE ALSO REDUCING YOUR STRESS.

- Insurance claim submissions and follow-up
- Accurate, timely accounting through secure systems
- Patient-insurance verification
- Patient-statement management
- Credentialing



Free Yourself from the Administrative Burden.

Is business administration bogging you down and preventing you from spending time with patients and growing your practice? Let us shoulder the administrative burden for you.

AVITUS GROUP'S FULL SUITE OF PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS SERVICES:

- Payroll Administration
- Accounting
- Tax Planning & Preparation
- Human Resources
- Benefits Administration
- Co-Employment
- Risk & Safety Management
- Recruiting
- Branding & Marketing
- Information Technology



AVITUS DENTAL
Simplify, Strengthen and Grow Your Practice

Visit our website
or give us a call



avitusdental.com
888.249.2197

Puns for Patients

Question: What is the Easter Bunny's favorite type of music?

Answer: Hip hop.

Question: What do you get if you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

Answer: A hot cross bunny.

Question: What do you get when you cross an anesthesiologist with a rabbit?

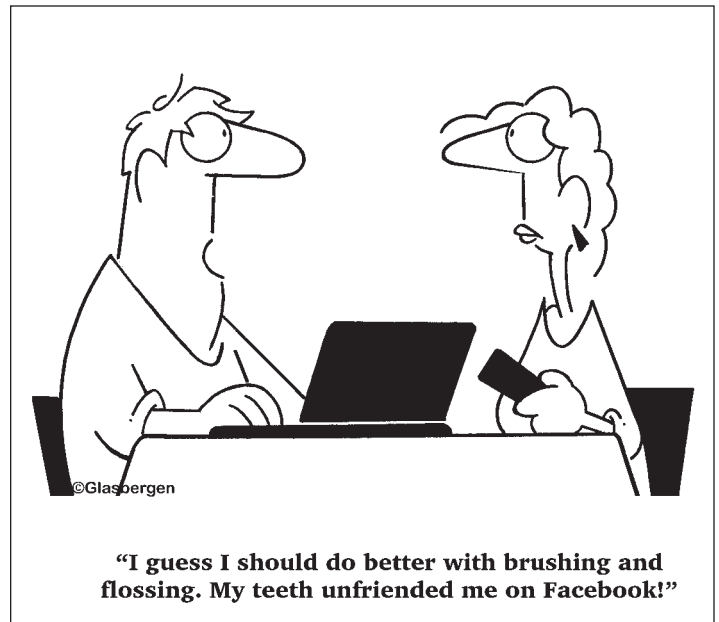
Answer: An ether bunny.

MDA Accepting Applications...

(Continued from Page 5)

Member of the MDA Membership Committee:

The Committee meets quarterly to promote membership recruitment and retention, encourage membership involvement, support local district dental society membership activities, and assess and recommend member benefit services.



Reprinted with permission by Randy Glasbergen

Return the application to MDA no later than April 12. Feel free to contact Jean Strainer or any MDA Director with questions you might have about the New Dentist Representative position.

So Long and Thank You!

After 18 years of helping dentists transition, the time has come for Robert & I to accomplish our own transition. We will be retiring as of September 1, 2018. We have loved working with all of the buying and selling doctors in Montana. You have become friends as well as clients, and it would be more than an understatement to say we are going to miss you all. The good news is that **Jared Franson, DMD** is joining the Consani team. Dr. Franson graduated from Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in 2003. Over the course of his dental career, he did a startup and bought and sold several practices. Dr. Franson will do a wonderful job and will continue to give you the personal service you have come to expect.

Thank you for your trust and confidence. We have so much enjoyed our time serving you and the Montana dental community.

Best wishes, Wendy & Robert Hirai



**Thinking about your own transition?
Call for a complimentary practice analysis!**

208.949.0868

www.mydentalbroker.com
jared@mydentalbroker.com

Great Falls Dentist Wins 2019 *Race to the Sky* after Nibbling Snow to Stay Awake

Reprinted with permission by the Missoulian. This article appeared in the Feb. 13, 2019 issue.

MISSOULA — He nibbled on snow to keep from nodding off, but Brett Bruggeman of Great Falls turned the 34th *Race to the Sky* dogsled race into a yawner.

Through epic dumps of snow and some of the coldest days and nights in race history, Bruggeman led a field of five almost from the start to win the 300-miler early Tuesday by more than three hours.

“It’s been a long time coming,” said Bruggeman, who has mushed in every *Race to the Sky* since 2013 and finished as high as second in 2016. “It was great to win and even better to see how nice and happy the dogs came in.”

Siblings Greg and Slugger and their father, Plugger, led Bruggeman’s winning team under the finish archway at Hi-Country Snack Foods near Lincoln at 6:02 a.m.

Darby’s Gabe Dunham, competing in her first *Race to the Sky*, was next at 9:18 a.m., followed by Clayton Perry of Power at 9:38 a.m. The final two teams guided by Damon Ramaker of Fountain, Minnesota, and Cindy Gallea of Wykoff, Minnesota, crossed at 11:39 a.m. and 11:40 a.m., respectively.

Bruggeman, 48, snapped a string of seven straight wins by female mushers in *Race to the Sky*. It marked the first time the top three finishers were Montanans.

It was the second win in 10 days for Bruggeman, who’s preparing for his second 1,000-mile Iditarod Trail race in Alaska next month. He captured the Idaho Sled Dog Challenge in McCall, Idaho, in early February after finishing second to his son, Spencer, at the Eagle Cap Extreme in Oregon a week earlier.

The Montana win was “kind of bittersweet,” Bruggeman said. “Usually I’m running with Spencer.”

The 17-year-old is the main reason Bruggeman got into sled dog racing in the first place. Together they started their kennel, Skinny Leg Sled Dog, a nod to a birth defect that kept Spencer from competing in mainstream sports. He came down with the flu last week after the Idaho race and had to turn over his team in the 100-mile race to James Pilcher of Fairfield.

Brett Bruggeman said he owed much of his success to handler Miriam Osredkar, and a “pit crew” consisting of Pilcher, Willy Stewart and Trevor Ose.

“I want to thank my wife (Suzette) for putting up with us and for letting Spencer and I do this,” Bruggeman said. “And Spencer for getting me into it.”

Teams took off Saturday afternoon in temperatures between 15 and 20 below zero and howling winds.

“By far the coldest *Race to the Sky* I’ve been in,” Bruggeman said. “Usually it’s a pretty warm race, but this was actually good. I wanted to have some cold weather



Dr. Brett Bruggeman checks one of his dogs.

for once to hopefully get me ready for the north in Alaska. The dogs did fine. They seemed to relish the cold weather to the point.”

Bruggeman had a full team of 12 dogs until he dropped one at the last checkpoint Monday night. Given the conditions, it was a successful race for man and beast.

“It presented a lot of challenges, with cold and a lot of snow,” he said.

The combination made for slow going. In the five years since *Race to the Sky* went from a 350-mile race to 300 miles, it was the first one to spill over into Tuesday.

“We had snow machines most of the time during the race going out in front of them,” race secretary Pam Beckstrom said. “It’s been snowing most of the time, so I’m sure Brett ran into some deep stuff.”

Averaging 7 miles per hour for much of the race, Bruggeman took 8½ hours to go the final 51 miles from the final checkpoint at the Whitetail Ranch, over Huckleberry Pass and down to Lincoln.

“I got really tired this race as far as trying to stay awake,” he admitted. “There were a lot of times during the last leg, maybe because we were going so slow, that I kept dozing out and had to eat snow to stay awake.”

The race was dedicated to Jack Beckstrom of Olney, who died unexpectedly last March of a heart attack. He had a lifelong impact on dog mushing in Montana and was one of the organizers in the first one in 1986, when it was called the Governor’s Cup 500 and started on the steps of the Capitol building in Helena.

It was Beckstrom’s lead husky Jingles who was first to depart in that inaugural race. Like this one, it was plagued by massive snowfall and blinding wind. The 500-mile race was shortened by 60 miles as mushers and their sled dogs were trucked from Lincoln to Blossburg at the base of Mullan Pass north of the Helena.

Missoula Project Community Connect



MDA members Dr. Joe Byington and Dr. Dan McFarland were joined by Missoula area dental hygienists, dental assistants, Linda Miller, CEO and Founder of PDT Instruments, and Great Falls College MSU dental hygiene students to provide dental care to individuals in need.

UPS Offers MDA Members Flat Rate Pricing, Shipping Cost Savings



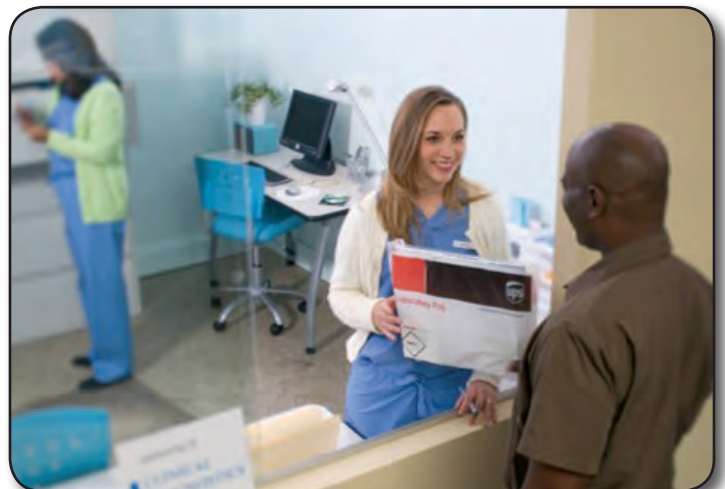
February 2019

UPS, the shipping company endorsed by MDA, announced in February that MDA members who are enrolled in its shipping program can receive increased savings.

Through UPS, MDA members can enroll in the program to receive new lower flat rate pricing with savings of:

- 45 percent on domestic next day/deferred shipping costs.
- 25 percent savings on ground commercial/residential.
- 10 percent savings on UPS Next Day Air Early.
- And free UPS Smart Pickup service through the flat-rate pricing program.

Current program enrollees must call 1-800-MEMBERS to receive the improved shipping rates. If you're already



a UPS customer, call the same number to check to see if your current UPS account is linked to the ADA Member program. First time enrollees in the UPS savings program can also call or visit savewithups.com/ada.



CAREER CENTER

Practices for Sale

Bozeman Part-Time RDH - Relatively new dental practice in beautiful Bozeman is seeking a part-time dental hygienist to join the Suite Dental family. If you are passionate about your work and the people you serve, please apply. Need to relocate? Moving incentive offered; first 3-6 months rent paid. Contact Michele at 406-224-2638 for more information.

Dental Office Space Available in East Helena - Be the only dentist in town. Established dental office for 50+ years, three ops, and fully plumbed for your equipment. Low lease options, great full-time or satellite location. Contact Amory at 406-438-6543 or amory.aichlmayr@mail.helenacollege.edu

Helena - Well established general dental office is looking for a full-time associate with potential to partner/purchase, 4 days/week. A large volume of existing patients providing a unique opportunity for built-in referrals with limited external marketing. Located in the heart of Montana for outdoor enthusiasts offering hiking, fishing, hunting, boating, skiing, golf, and a myriad of youth sports. Call April at 406-461-2212.

In Bozeman - An almost turn key 3-operatory dental suite, 1,200 sq ft +/- with full infrastructure in place: N₂O, water, air, and vac all plumbed in walls; some cabinetry; > 20 years as a dental

office. Great access and parking at one of Bozeman's most busy intersections. Fine for GP, specialist, or as a satellite. Priced just right for sale or lease. Contact broker Dennis Erickson at 406-579-8967 for more details and/or for tour of space.

Great Falls - Dental office space available, many options available. Primary site for 1 or 2 dentists or satellite office. Some equipment included. Contact 406-453-1043.

North Central Montana - Lots left to do in this growing practice collecting \$900,000. Fully digital office has six ops and is loaded with technology. Plenty of room to grow. Strong hygiene program. Walk away sale. Contact Dr. Jared Franson 208-949-0868 or email jared@mydentalbroker.com.

South Central - Associate to Partner opportunity with multiple doctors, great opportunity in large practice. Buy in within 1-2 years with excellent beginning salary considerations. Doctors are eager to bring in associate to help with the growth of this well-established practice. Please email CV to jared@mydentalbroker.com Consani and Associates. Or call 208-949-0868.

Northern Montana - A small town is a great place to raise a family. And a gorgeous six operatory building is a great place to have a practice collecting \$1.2 million. With all of the technology that you could want, yet only 50% overhead you just can't go wrong. Doctor refers out

endo, extractions and some implants. Definitely room and opportunity to grow this wonderful practice. Hunting, skiing, hiking, snowmobiling and fishing all within an hour's drive or less. Great farming community. Contact Dr. Jared Franson 208-949-0868 or email jared@mydentalbroker.com.

Southwest Montana - Flexible seller would stay on for 6-9 months and then walk away. Well laid out three operatory practice with plenty of storage and great exposure in multi-tenant, condominiumized building. Seller's suite available for sale also. Bread and butter family practice with tremendous opportunity for growth. Contact Dr. Jared Franson at 208-949-0868 or email jared@mydentalbroker.com.

Western Montana - Centrally located to just about everything in Western Montana. Near-by world class fishing and skiing. Efficient, four operatory practice generating \$500,000 - \$600,000 on only 10-12 days per month. Great cash flow - very low overhead. Fully digital with CBCT; some implants referred out, as well as some endo and complicated 3rds. Owner does a small amount of ortho. Contact Dr. Jared Franson 208-949-0868 or email jared@mydentalbroker.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

Locum Dentist

LOCUM DENTIST WITH 20 YEARS of experience available to assist you with all aspects of general dentistry while you must be away from your practice. Butte native. Please contact Dr. Murphy at 406-299-3596.

Repair Services

INTRAORAL X-RAY SENSOR REPAIR/SALES. Repairs with rapid turnaround. Save thousands over replacement costs. We specialize in Kodak/Carestream, Dexis Platinum, and Gendex sensors. We also buy/sell dental sensors. Call us 919-229-0483, www.repairsensor.com

For Sale

GENDEX X-RAY HEAD in perfect working order, and 4 over lights, all in good working order, prices negotiable. For more details and photos, call 406-257-5696.

NO COST DENTAL EQUIPMENT available for dental outreach events. Looking to host a dental mission or community-based event, such as

programs in nursing homes, for veterans, or the homeless? We have ALL the equipment you would need including beautiful new portable ADEC delivery units, a Nomad x-ray unit, and sterilizers. Equipment is available to dentists at NO COST, just return the items in good condition. Contact Dr. Jane Gillette at drjillette@SproutOralHealth.org or 406-868-1549.

Classified ads are available at no charge to MDA members. Contact MDA at 800-257-4988 or info@montanadental.org. Visit www.MontanaDental.org for more information and opportunities.

“Great CE for All!” at May 9-10 Annual Meeting

Dr. J. William Robbins and noted continuing education speaker Dr. Roger Levin will headline MDA’s 2019 annual meeting May 9-10 in Helena. Two full days of speakers, receptions, events for ACD, ICD, the Montana Oral Health Foundation Auction and more await you and your dental team.

Dr. Robbins’ presentation “Global Diagnosis, A New Vision of Dental Diagnosis and Treatment Planning” provides a systemic approach to diagnosis and treatment planning the complex interdisciplinary dental patient with a common language that may be used by orthodontist, periodontist, oral surgeon, and restorative dentist. Dr. Levin’s “The Successful 21st Century Practice” is dedicated to showing any dentist and the dental team the right way to accelerate practice growth and success in a vastly more challenging environment.



Dr. J. William Robbins



Dr. Roger Levin

The best dental technology and practice services will be on display by more than 50 at Montana’s biggest dental trade show. You can’t afford to miss this opportunity to window shop and purchase the latest tools for practice management and care of your patients.

A full range of additional courses will benefit dentists and all staff, including radiography review for dental assistants, Danica Luedtke, and Jennifer Hoff, Salish Kootenai College dental assisting instructors; Risk Management, Mike Terrell, Cincinnati Insurance Company; “3 Steps to Motivate and Empower Your Team,” Kim McCleskey, Manager, Avitus Dental; “Head & Neck Oral Cancer Screening: It’s More than What Catches the Eye,” Susan Cotton, RDH; and more. Val Eyssen, ADA Dental Society Outreach Client Services Manager, will be available to answer your questions. Be sure to stop by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) booth to visit with their representative, Hanna Aronovich.

You can earn up to 15 CE credits, save the time and expense of out-of-state continuing education and have a great time. All conveniently located in Helena on May 9-10.

For the complete schedule of courses and events, please view the annual meeting registration brochure and register online at MontanaDental.org, or you may use the registration form on page 19. For further information contact MDA at (800) 257-4988.

2019 Tripartite Membership Dues

Renew your tripartite membership today.
Dues are payable by March 31.

Continue to enjoy the many services designed to add value to your membership. ADA, MDA and your local district dental society enhance your ability to achieve success and your excellence as a dentist. Together, they ensure a strong future for the profession.

Please call the Montana Dental Association for more information. Visit MontanaDental.org to view your statement and pay your dues online.

Montana Dental Association, 800-257-4988.

 **Montana Dental Association**

 **American Dental Association®**
America’s leading advocate for oral health



The best value in MONTANA for Continuing Dental Education

Register Now and Save \$25

Fee increases after April 8

Register online at
www.MontanaDental.org
OR complete the registration
form and mail to MDA.

How to Register

All attendees must be registered to participate in courses or events.

1. Include all names of attendees as you would like them to appear on the conference badge. Use additional sheets if necessary.
2. Fill in Registration Code and Fee for each attendee.
3. Fill in Course and Event Codes that each participant will attend. Please include the daily luncheon buffets you plan to attend.
4. Total conference fees for all participants and complete the payment form.

Lodging

Convention Site
Marriott Delta Colonial Hotel
2301 Colonial Dr.
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 443-2100

Fees

	By April 8	After April 8
① MDA Member or ADA 11th District Member of (AK, ID, OR, WA)	\$350	\$375
② MDA Member using CE Credit	\$325	\$350
③ MDA Retired Member	\$85	\$110
④ ADA Member outside 11th District	\$355	\$380
⑤ Non-Member Dentist	\$750	\$775
⑥ Hygienist	\$120	\$145
⑦ Dental Assistant	\$120	\$145
⑧ Lab Technician or Office Staff	\$120	\$145
⑨ Guest Attending Class, Breaks, Lunch	\$120	\$145
⑩ Dental school, hygiene or assistant student	\$30	\$30

Registration Codes

Thursday Courses

Ⓐ Dr. J. William Robbins | 6 CEC

Ⓑ Dental Radiography Review | 2 CEC

Ⓒ Risk Management | 1 CEC

Ⓓ 3 Steps to Motivate and Empower Your Team | 3 CEC

Ⓔ Group Health Benefits for Your Practice | 1 CEC

Friday Courses

Ⓕ Dr. Roger Levin | 6 CEC

Ⓖ The Business of Dentistry | 3 CEC

Ⓗ Head & Neck Oral Cancer Screening | 3 CEC

Ⓘ Medicaid Updates | 1.5 CEC

Thursday Events

Ⓙ President's Lunch/General Assembly (dentists only)

Ⓚ Thursday Trade Show Buffet

Ⓛ President's Reception/Award Ceremony

Friday Events

Ⓜ MoDePAC Breakfast

Ⓝ Friday Trade Show Buffet

Special Events

Ⓞ Golf

Ⓟ Wine Tasting

Ⓠ Poker

MDA Conference Registration

Dentist Name or Employer Name _____

Phone _____ Primary Email _____

Badge Name: First _____ Last _____

Email _____

Registration Code (circle number) **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10** Fee \$ _____

Course Codes (circle letters) **A B C D E F G H I** Event Codes (circle letters) **J K L M N O P Q**

Badge Name: First _____ Last _____

Email _____

Registration Code (circle number) **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10** Fee \$ _____

Course Codes (circle letters) **A B C D E F G H I** Event Codes (circle letters) **J K L M N O P Q**

Badge Name: First _____ Last _____

Email _____

Registration Code (circle number) **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10** Fee \$ _____

Course Codes (circle letters) **A B C D E F G H I** Event Codes (circle letters) **J K L M N O P Q**

Payment Options

MDA, PO Box 1154, Helena, MT 59624
(800) 257-4988 | (406) 443-2061 | fax (406) 443-1546
MDAoffice@MontanaDental.org

Total Registration Fee

\$ _____
payment options below

Check made payable to MDA MasterCard | Visa | Discover | AMEX

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

CVV Code _____ Signature _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email (required for receipt) _____

- Cancellations must be made by April 30, 2019 to receive a refund. No refunds will be issued after that date.

- Partial registration is not permitted.

- No refunds can be issued for unattended events or meals.

- Meeting packets will be available at the registration counter and will be filed by the name of each attendee.



Lee Metcalf Wilderness, photo submitted by Dr. John Smith, Helena

2019

- Apr 14-16** • ADA Lobby Days, Washington, DC
- Apr 24** • 4th District, 2-hr CE, TMJ & Sleep Therapy, info@TMJSleepMontana.com
- May 8** • MDA Board of Directors, Helena
- May 9-10** • MDA Annual Meeting, Helena
See pages 18-19
- June 7** • Board of Dentistry
- July 31-Aug 2** • WSPC, Santa Fe
- Aug 16-17** • 11th District Caucus, Seattle
- Sept 4-9** • ADA Annual Session/House of Delegates, San Francisco

- Sept 6** • Board of Dentistry
- Sept 13** • 2nd District, CE, TBA
- Sept 20** • MDA Board of Directors, Helena
- Sept 27** • MDA CE featuring Dr. Edward Feinberg
- Oct 4-5** • Annual AGD CE, contact Dr. Leslie Hayes, 406-586-0622

2020

- April 16-17** • MDA Annual Meeting, Big Sky

2021

- May 6-7** • MDA Annual Meeting, Missoula