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January 2014

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### ON THE COVER

MOM
Oregon Mission of Mercy IV
November 25 and 26, 2013

Plus Photos, Statistics, Leads, Chairs, Exit Interviews, and more!

### ODA bids farewell to Margaret Torgeson

Dr. Dave McMorine

PLUS Dr. McMorine’s technique for placement of dental sealants in developing areas

### Also Inside...

- Benefit of the Month: UPS
- Risk Management Case Study
- Oregon Dental Conference
- Dental Foundation of Oregon
- Inside OHSU
- Dental Classifieds
Oregon Dental Association
503.218.2010 • 800.452.5628 • Fax: 503.218.2009
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PO Box 3710, Wilsonville, OR 97070-3710

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8699 SW Sun Pl, Wilsonville, OR 97070

Dentist Health & Wellness Hotline 503.550.0190

Social networks
Look for the Oregon Dental Association group on:

Twitter Follow ODA President, Judd R. Larson, DDS: @ODAPrez
Blog www.TheToothOfTheMatter.org

Contact Us
Letters to the Editor
Letters to the editor are welcomed. All letters and other submissions to this publication become the property of the Oregon Dental Association. Send submissions to:
Editor, Membership Matters
Oregon Dental Association
PO Box 3710
Wilsonville, OR 97070-3710
barrytaylor1016@gmail.com

Articles
Are you interested in contributing to Membership Matters? For more information, please contact editor, Dr. Barry Taylor: barrytaylor1016@gmail.com.

Oda Calendar
Events & Meetings
For more information on these and other upcoming events, visit www.oregondental.org, and click ‘Calendar’ at the top of the page or call ODA at 503.218.2010.

Mar 7 9:00 am Leadership Seminar (ODA)
Mar 8 8:00 am Board of Trustees meeting (ODA)
Apr 3–5 Oregon Dental Conference (Oregon Convention Center—Portland)
Apr 6 8:00 am Board of Trustees meeting (DoubleTree Hotel By Hilton—Portland)
May 31 7:30 am Board of Trustees meeting (Salishan)
Jul 11–12 Oregon Mission of Mercy V (Salem)
Jul 25 10:00 am Board of Trustees meeting (Medford)
Sep 5–6 ODA House of Delegates (Riverhouse—Bend)
Sep 26 9:00 am Board of Trustees meeting (Portland)
Nov 1 8:00 am Board of Trustees meeting (ODA)

Salem
Save the Date
Mission of Mercy V
Salem, Oregon
July 11–12, 2014
Registration opening soon!

Component Ce Calendar
Compiled by Mehdi Salari, DMD
Send your component’s CE courses to bendsalari@yahoo.com.

Thur, Feb 6 Southern Oregon CE Hrs: 1.5
Managing the Challenging TMJ: What to look for, what to do, Bill Esser, MS, PT, CCTT & Justin Carson, DPT, CSCS, OCS
Location: Medford (Sunrise Café)
Info: www.sodsonline.org

Fri, Feb 7 Southern Oregon CE Hrs: 4
Do it Yourself Finance! Doug Carlsen
Info: Amanda Davenport, sodentalsociety@yahoo.com

Tues, Feb 11 Lane County CE Hrs: 1.5
Financial Principles for Dentists, Jake Paltzer
Location: Eugene (Downtown Athletic Club)
Info: www.lanedentalsociety.org

Tues, Feb 11 Marion & Polk CE Hrs: 2
A Day in Endodontics
Tuong Nguyen Nguyen, BDS, MSD
Location: West Salem (Roth’s)
Info: www.mpdentalcce.com, mpdentalcce@qwestoffice.net

Tues, Feb 11 Southern West CE Hrs: 1.5
Endodontics Update, Dr. Keith Kano
Location: Coos Bay (Red Lion Hotel)
Info: Dr. Roger Sims, roger@rgsims.com

Tues, Feb 25 Clackamas County CE Hrs: 1.5
Dental Screenings for Cancer and When to Refer Patients, Drs. Gross and Andersen
Info: www.clackamasdental.com

Fri, Mar 7 Central Oregon CE Hrs: 6
Critical Assessment of Dental Composite, Adhesive, Light Curing & Ceramic Technology, Jack Ferracane, PhD
Location: Redmond (Eagle Crest Resort)
Info: www.centraloregondentalsociety.org

Tues, Mar 11 Marion & Polk CE Hrs: 2
Evaluating the Need for Soft Tissue Augmentation: Guidelines and Materials
Sunny Drake, DMD, MS, Periodontist
Location: West Salem (Roth’s)
Info: www.mpdentalcce.com, mpdentalcce@qwestoffice.net

Tues, Mar 11 Southern West CE Hrs: 1.5
Oral Surgical Update, Dr. Scott Roberts
Location: Coos Bay (Red Lion Hotel)
Info: Dr. Roger Sims, roger@rgsims.com

Tues, Mar 11 Washington County CE Hrs: 1.5
How to Maximize the Profitability of your Practice, Kristi Harris, CPA and Mike Smith, CPA, MS
Location: Beaverton (Stockpot Broiler)
Info: www.wacountydental.org, wcdskathy@comcast.net

Fri, Mar 14 Lane County CE Hrs: 4
Bisphosphonates and Related Complications
Dr. Sean Benson and Dr. Mark Engelsd
Location: Eugene (Valley River Inn)
Info: www.lanedentalsociety.org

Tues, Mar 18 Clackamas County CE Hrs: 1.5
Finance, Jake Paltzer
Info: www.clackamasdental.com

Wed, Mar 19 Multnomah CE Hrs: 1
Smoking Cessation, Todd Beck, DMD
Location: Portland (McMenamin’s Kennedy School)
Info: www.multnomahdental.org, lora@multnomahdental.org

Sat, Mar 29 Southern Oregon CE Hrs: 4
Pharmacology in Dentistry Update
John Smith, PhD
Location: Medford (Smullin Center)
Info: www.sodsonline.org
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- George Abdelnour, DDS, McMinnville, OR

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— Maureen Gierucki DDS, Union City, MI

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MEMBER BENEFIT OF THE MONTH

UPS discounts for ADA members

The UPS Savings Program offers ADA members some of the most competitive rates available on shipping services, along with more service options, superior ground-delivery coverage, and overnight delivery by 10:30 am to more zip codes than any other carrier. Plus, with the convenience of more drop-off locations and innovative UPS technology to help streamline shipment processing, members can receive value that goes beyond cost and on-time delivery.

Through the program, ADA members can now save up to 36% on a broad portfolio of UPS shipping services, including:

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- Up to 32% on 2nd Day Air A.M. shipments
- Up to 24% on UPS Ground shipments

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- UPS delivers the one driver advantage. A single UPS driver handles all your package pickups and deliveries—ground, air, and international
- UPS On-Call Pickup. UPS offers later on-call air pickup to more businesses than anyone
- UPS Drop Boxes. With more than 40,000 convenient locations, each accepts ground, air, international and UPS Returns service shipments

Members can receive these discounts even if they already have a UPS account. Simply have your office manager visit www.savewithups.com/ada or call 1-800-MEMBERS (1-800-636-2377), M–F, 8 am – 6 pm EST to start saving on everything you ship.

Get the ODA Mobile App now!

Search for ‘Oregon Dental’ in the Apple App Store or Google Play.
The ODA councils and committees listed below currently have volunteer opportunities. All ODA members are encouraged to participate in the leadership of this organization. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and a one-page resume to:

Mail: ODA Leadership Development Committee
Jim Smith, DMD, Chair, Nominating Sub-Committee
PO Box 3710
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Email: leadership@oregondental.org

ODA Councils and Committees:
- Annual Meeting Council
- Membership Council
- New Dentist Committee
- Public and Professional Education Council
- Publications Advisory Committee

For more information, please call 503.218.2010.

 Volunteers NEEDED

Election held April 6, 2014
Elected by ODA Board of Trustees

ADA Alternate Delegate at Large
POSITIONS OPEN Four
TERM 1 Year
DECLARED CANDIDATES

Election held Nov. 1, 2014
Elected by ODA Board of Trustees

Health Services Group Board of Directors
- If interested, the deadline to submit materials is July 31, 2014.

POSITIONS OPEN Two dental directors
Two non-dental directors
TERM 4 years
INCUMBENTS Michael L. McKeel, DMD; Michael E. Biermann, DMD
DECLARED CANDIDATES

Leadership Development Committee
POSITIONS OPEN Four
TERM three 3-year terms; one 1-year term
INCUMBENTS Kevin J. Kwiecien DMD, MS, FAGD
William F. Warren Jr., DDS
Renee R. Watts, DDS
DECLARED CANDIDATES
**SUMMARY OF COMPLAINT** The complaint alleges that a dentist provided unacceptable patient care to a patient when the dentist “used a dental wedge which left a white spot of dead skin on the outside of [the patient’s] cheek.” The complaint alleges the patient returned to the dentist later for an emergency appointment, and, once again, a wedge was used and “caused the tissue around [the patient’s] mouth to die.” The complaint alleges food gets stuck in the hole caused by the wedge, touching the nerve, and causing pain.

**FINDINGS** The investigation showed that on several occasions during the course of treatment, the dentist failed to appropriately document his administration of nitrous oxide, and he also failed to document his placement of a base under a restoration he placed in tooth #30.

The final contour of the interproximal portion of the restoration that the dentist placed in tooth #30 was poor, but the subsequent death of the pulp of the tooth was due to the depth of the initial carious lesion, rather than unacceptable care on the part of the dentist.

The records documented that there was no mention by the patient of any trauma from his placement of the interproximal wedge in any subsequent appointments, and, in fact, the patient did not even mention the wedge issue with a subsequent appointment with another dentist.

**BOARD ACTION** The Board closed the matter with a Letter of Concern addressing the issue of ensuring that the administration of nitrous oxide is appropriately documented, that all treatment that is provided is documented, and that every effort is made to place restorations with appropriate contour and finishing.

**BOARD’S RATIONALE** The dentist’s chart documentation could have been better, as could the quality of the restoration that was placed by the dentist, but there was no evidence to support any of the allegations in the initial complaint.

As an example of the types of cases they see, and what could have been done to prevent the complaint, the Oregon Board of Dentistry has provided the preceding case summary.

As a member dentist, remember to suggest the ODA’s confidential Peer Review process to your patients as the best alternative to filing a complaint with the Board and/or taking legal action.
Another year of smiles!

By Barry Finnemore
“I have been without dental care due to lack of funds or insurance for years. A while ago my tooth broke due to decay, and I haven’t been able to afford care. I’m hoping to end the pain. Thank you!” — Will, of Bellingham, Wash.

“I’ve been waiting eight months for this event. I’m so grateful there are good people in the world.” — Aaron, of Medford

“I heard about this through a friend months ago. Glad there are still people out there willing to help the less fortunate.” — Danny, of Medford

OLIVIA STRONG doesn’t have dental insurance. In fact, the 29-year-old Portlander hasn’t had it for more than a year and a half. But thanks to more than 1,500 volunteers, and scores of sponsors, donors, and partners, that fact didn’t stand in the way of Strong and thousands of other underserved people receiving oral health care during the Oregon Dental Association’s fourth Mission of Mercy, Nov. 25 and 26 in Portland.

Strong had six teeth pulled and was eagerly anticipating a new partial and a new smile. “I’m very excited about that,” she said.

“It’s a great thing they do,” Strong said of OrMOM.

Professionals from the dental and medical fields joined with community volunteers, students, businesses, and community organizations in donating time, expertise, and funds to the highly anticipated event, which delivered more than $1.16 million in free dental care to almost 1,800 people at the Oregon Convention Center. The vast convention space hummed with activity as adults and youth, some of whom began lining up several hours before the doors opened to the public, received everything from

1,511 Volunteers

1,775 Patients

+ 9,120 Procedures

$1,165,172.80 Worth of Care
cleanings and fillings to extractions and limited-treatment partials, on a first-come, first-served basis.

The 2013 event built on the more than $2.8 million worth of free treatment three previous OrMOMs—two in Portland and one in Medford—have provided to thousands of patients since 2010.

Improved flow and efficiency were major themes of November’s OrMOM, in large part because of the institutional knowledge of and communication between the huge number of returning volunteers and lessons learned from previous events. Another major reason for the improved flow was the presence of an additional X-ray machine.

Teri Barichello, DMD, the 2013 OrMOM chair, said she is “incredibly proud of how smoothly the mission went.” She stressed that department leads and staff, through their extraordinary organization, dedication and leadership, overcame “with grace and enthusiasm” the challenges that each MOM brings.

In theory, such an event could be total chaos, with all its moving parts, Dr. Barichello added. “But what makes it all work is that collectively, those 1,500 people are all there for one reason: to help alleviate pain and infection for another human being. It’s amazing what we can do when we all come together, with our individual talents, for a common purpose.”

Mel Matsuda, DDS, one of several OrMOM leads who volunteered along with his wife and son, said the key to a smooth-running event is “seeing where the need is and making constant adjustments.” He said he volunteers at OrMOM “because I love it, and because it’s my Christmas present to myself.”

Eric Dierks, DMD, MD, an OrMOM lead in the tooth extractions area, said helping underserved people is a twofold reward because that population is where the vast needs are, and it reinforces his conviction to practice dental medicine and refine his skills. So many patients express their “profound gratitude” after receiving treatment and getting relief from pain, with some hugging their dentist.

“I’ve seen that more than once,” Dr. Dierks said.

OrMOM organizers stress that while much more needs to be done to improve access to care, such events...
are effective at providing immediate help to disadvantaged individuals and families. The personal interactions between practitioners and the public also help educate people about the importance of good daily oral hygiene practices, a healthy diet, and routine preventive dental care.

“Ideally, in the future, through oral health education and prevention-focused programs, there won’t be a need for patients to wait for hours in a line to get emergent care,” Dr. Barichello said.

Sean Benson, DDS, the ODA’s secretary-treasurer and interim executive director, who served as an OrMOM volunteer, said what he finds most rewarding are the meaningful connections he makes with patients, who share personal stories about their lives or careers.

“I can sense the level of trust,” Dr. Benson said. “I think that’s a function of the vibe that is there.”

As at past OrMOMs, patients received dental and medical screenings. Children were treated in a “Kids Town” area, which featured the Tooth Taxi as well as the Medical Teams International mobile dental clinic. For the first time, November’s OrMOM provided 151 free flu vaccinations, thanks to a State of Oregon/Immunize Oregon Coalition grant, secured by pharmacist Robert Lee, medications lead for the event.

OrMOM provided patients with highly personalized attention, right down to community volunteers who escorted them through the convention halls as they received care. One of those volunteers, Melanie Eaton, was serving at OrMOM for the first time as a Spanish-language interpreter and marveled at the community need.

“We could do this once a month and not serve everyone who needs dental care,” she said.

Eaton offered her comments while escorting Eleana Rocio Neyra of Beaverton, who had a tooth extracted and another filled, and also was getting a dental flipper repaired. Neyra’s husband was poised to have
his teeth cleaned. The couple had arrived at the convention center at 10 the previous night, anxious to receive care.

Through Eaton, Neyra said how impressed she was with the kindness of the volunteers and the quality of care she received at OrMOM.

The fact that so many people line up hours early for care, sometimes in harsh weather conditions, “speaks to the need” among underserved people, Dr. Benson said.

“It’s pretty humbling as a provider to be involved in safety net care for folks,” he said.

Also involved in November’s event were volunteers who will spearhead the next OrMOM, slated for July 11–12, 2014, at Chemeketa Community College, and volunteers organizing Alaska’s first MOM scheduled for April 11–12. They were capitalizing on the event to shadow OrMOM leads.

**Travis Baskerville**, a dental student at the OHSU School of Dentistry, also was getting his first exposure to OrMOM as a volunteer helping with waste management.

“I’m the kind of person that when I see a dirty job I throw up my hand for it,” he said.

Baskerville noted how “thoroughly impressed” he was with the event’s organization and services, adding that he already was looking forward to the 2014 OrMOM and working more directly with patients.

“I can’t wait to come back next year,” he said.

Taylor Still, a high school senior who traveled from Texas to serve as an OrMOM volunteer for a second time, said she loves the spirit of cooperation between volunteers and the direct service that results from it. “You can see the impact you have,” she said. “You can see people are better.”

Dr. Benson praised the efforts of ODA staff members and event volunteers who make the free dental clinics possible, stressing the importance of community volunteers. The events actually stretch multiple days with setup and cleanup.

“It couldn’t exist if it were just dentists” volunteering, Dr. Benson said. “It truly takes a village to put this event on in an efficient and compassionate way.”

---

**Save the Date! OR MOM 2014 will be held July 11–12, in Salem, Oregon.**

---

**Volunteers**

- **Dentists**: 231
- **Assistants**: 213
- **Hygienists**: 141
- **Lab Techs**: 21
- **Pharmacy Field**: 28
- **Medical Field**: 29
- **Community**: 549
- **Students**: 299
A heart-felt thank you to the following individuals for sharing their time and talents with OrMOM before, during and after the event. Even before the long days on the clinic floor, these volunteer leaders spent the months prior to OrMOM helping with logistics and recruiting volunteers. This event could not have been a success without them.

**Volunteer Leads & Clinic Chairs**

**Dental Chair**

**Teri Barichello, DMD**

ODS

**Community Chair**

**Weston Heringer, DMD**

---

- **Stephanie Arnold**
  - Oregon Convention Center
  - OCC Liaison

- **Rick Asai, DMD**
  - Patient Routing Lead

- **Patty Barichello**
  - Patient Exit Lead

- **Wayne Barichello, DMD**
  - X-Ray Lead

- **Dale Barker, DDS**
  - Endodontics Co-Lead

- **Josette Beach**
  - Portland Community College
  - Sterilization Lead

- **Karley Bedford**
  - OHSU School of Dentistry
    - Student Lead & Waste Management Co-Lead

- **Andrea Beltzner**
  - Pediatrics Co-Lead

- **Marc Beyer, DWA**
  - Set up / Tear down Co-Lead

- **Patty Beyer, DWA**
  - Set up / Tear down Co-Lead

- **Matthew Biermann, DMD**
  - Routing Lead
  - Designate/Shadow

- **Christina Bodamer, ODA**
  - Legislative, PR & Entertainment Lead

- **Doug Boyd, DMD**
  - Endodontics Lead

- **Bruce Burton, DMD**
  - Restorative Co-Lead

- **Margie Campbell**
  - OHSU School of Dentistry
    - Waste Management Co-Lead

- **Trent Crollard**
  - Patterson Dental Supply
    - Floor Plan Lead

- **Mary Daly**
  - Dental Foundation of Oregon
    - Pediatric Line Lead

- **Valerie DeFrain**
  - Patterson Dental Supply
    - Central Supply & Equipment Co-Lead

- **Eric Dierks, DMD, MD**
  - Oral Surgery Lead

- **Cindy Fletcher, ODA**
  - Volunteer Registration & Data Entry Lead

- **Brian Fredricks, ODA**
  - Accounting Lead & Parking Lead

- **Patrick Glancy**
  - Patient Escort Lead

- **Mark Jensen, DMD**
  - Restorative Co-Lead

- **Ginny Jorgensen, CDA**
  - Assistants Lead

- **Susan Lavier, RDH**
  - Dental Hygiene Co-Lead

- **Robert Lee, RPh**
  - Moda Health
    - Pharmacy Co-Lead

- **Derrick Luksch**
  - O’Brien Dental Lab
    - Lab Co-Lead

- **Karen Luksch**
  - Food & Beverage Co-Lead

- **Lauren Malone, ODA**
  - Facilities Co-Lead

- **Matthew Malone**
  - Facilities Co-Lead

- **Mel Matsuda, DDS**
  - Anesthesia Co-Lead

- **Michael Matsuda, DDS**
  - Anesthesia Co-Lead

- **Stacy Matsuda, RDH**
  - Dental Hygiene Co-Lead

- **Mark Miller, DMD**
  - Post Op Lead

- **Matthew Park, DMD**
  - Routing Lead
    - Designate/Shadow

- **Hai Pham**
  - Pediatrics Co-Lead

- **Bud Pierce, MD**
  - Medical Triage Lead

- **Linda Pope, LLM Publications**
  - Patient Registration Lead

- **Jill Price, DMD**
  - Post Op Lead

- **Jeana Randall**
  - Permanente Dental Associates
    - Onsite Volunteer Registration Lead

- **Dan Reynolds**
  - Waiting Room Lead

- **Robin Richardson, RPh**
  - Moda Health
    - Pharmacy Co-Lead
The Oregon Dental Association’s fourth Mission of Mercy provided more than $1,165,172.80 in free dental care to 1,775 people on November 25 and 26, 2013, at the Oregon Convention Center. The event spanned four days from set-up to clean-up, and was made possible with more than $250,000 in monetary and in-kind donations.

A very special thanks to:

SPONSORS, DONORS, AND PARTNERS

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- Dentsply Tulsa Dental Specialties
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- DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton
- DWA Trade Show & Exposition Services
- Barry & Melody Finnermore
- Cindy Fletcher
- Franz Bakery
- GC America
- Henry Schein Dental
- Nancy & Weston Herring, Jr., DMD
- Ivoclar Vivadent
- Kerr
- Kimberly Clark
- KLS Martin LP
- Koldkist
- Kuraray Dental
- Leavitt Machinery USA, Inc.
- Lee Lehman
- McDonald’s
- Medical Teams International
- Messinger
- MODA
- Multnomah Dental Society
- New Seasons Market
- O’Brien Dental Lab
- Oregon Convention Center
- Oregon Dental Association
- Oregon Dental Services
- Oregonian
- Pacific Office Automation
- PACT-ONE Solutions, Inc.
- Patterson Dental Supply
- Permanente Dental Associates, PC
- Peterson Sales and Marketing
- Pierre Fauchard Academy
- Planmeca
- Prographics Services
- Providence Health and Services
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- Medical Innovations
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- Safeway Pharmacy
- Septodont
- Roger G. Sims, DDS
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Sybron Endo
- United Site Services
- Voca
- Washington County Dental Society

Erik Richmond, DMD, MD
Oral Surgery Co-Lead
Mary Robinson
Kaiser Permanente
Line and Security Lead
Lindsey Rooks
Moda Health
Community Health & Information
Tiffani Saxton
Patterson Dental Supply
Central Supply & Equipment Co-Lead
Jim Smith, DMD
Kaiser Permanente
Dental Triage Lead
Jeffrey Stewart, DDS, MS
OHSU School of Dentistry
Education Co-Lead
Riona Tiley
Patient Exit Shadow
Anna Velasco, ODA
Food & Beverage Co-Lead
Mike Wilson, O’Brien Dental Lab
Lab Co-Lead

Visit www.OregonDental.org for more information and photos of Mission of Mercy, along with helpful oral health tips.
Exit Survey Results

What, if any, insurance do you have that pays for dental care?

- None: 88.4%
- Government assisted (Medicare, Title 19): 5.5%
- Insurance from my job or my spouse’s job: 3.1%
- A plan I purchased on my own: 0.8%
- Other: 2.2%

If you were unable to receive all of the recommended dental care at the clinic today, what was the reason?

- 340: Not enough time
- 108: Type of service needed is not offered
- 30: Chose not to receive the recommended treatment
How did you hear about the clinic?

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<td>Flyer/poster</td>
<td>Social media</td>
<td>Other</td>
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If you or a family member has not been to a dentist in more than 6 months, what has kept you from getting care?

- No dentist available where I live (1.5%)
- Can't find a dentist to take my insurance (1.3%)
- Dentist offered appointment, but I could not take it. (1.0%)
- Cannot find a dentist who will take a payment plan (1.8%)
- Did not think I needed to go (2.4%)
- Don't like receiving dental care/afraid of dentist (2.7%)
- Didn't know who to call (1.5%)
- Other (7.9%)

1,258 responses
80% of responses
No insurance, and I didn’t think I could afford it.
For more photos, visit our Facebook page. Search 'Oregon Mission of Mercy'
Thank You!
A fond farewell to a familiar face

Margaret Torgeson, ODA Director of Membership, retires after 15 years of helping dentists and their patients

By Melody Finnemore

Of the handful of ODA Peer Review Committee members asked to talk about Margaret Torgeson, each had different anecdotes to share and a common theme that connected them.

Margaret, the ODA director of membership and consumer affairs, recently retired from a 15-year career with the association. Her colleagues on the Peer Review Committee called her a consummate professional who kept the committee focused, while helping dental students see the value of organized dentistry, and guiding dissatisfied patients toward positive resolutions.

Timothy Edvalson, DMD, a Lake Oswego general dentist, has chaired the Peer Review Committee for several years and previously worked with Margaret when he chaired the Clackamas County Dental Society Peer Review Committee.

“In all those years, Margaret has always been a pleasure to work with,” he said. “She has been the public’s ‘face’ of the ODA in regard to peer review, and fielded many queries from both patients and doctors in regards to dealing with this benefit of ODA membership. Her gentle nature has helped the ODA be well-represented in this facet of its mission.”

Dr. Edvalson added that Margaret was always ready at a moment’s notice to answer questions and guide the process along to resolution.
“She has been familiar with how peer review operates, and has known many of the longtime committee members and, as such, always knew who to contact to help guide the process along,” he said. “In what is frequently a thankless job, [Margaret] did a great service!”

Ernest Meshack-Hart, DDS, a former ODA New Dentist Committee chair, who now lives and practices in Montana, first started working with Margaret in 2007 and credited her with mentoring him as he learned the ropes.

“She also would make us aware of opportunities to serve and volunteer in ways that were beneficial to the committee and to us as professionals,” he said.

Dr. Meshack-Hart appreciated Margaret’s personal touch as well, especially as he and his family prepared to leave Oregon.

“When I let her know I was leaving, and obviously stepping down from the committee, I could tell she was most interested in my welfare, and the welfare of my family,” he said. “She took time out of her day to meet with me before we moved, took me out to lunch and bought a book for my kids, which was very thoughtful.”

**Daren Goin, DMD,** a Stayton general dentist who chaired the Peer Review Committee for eight years and has known Margaret since she joined the ODA, said he admires her resilience in coming back from personal struggles, including being hit by a car in 2002, while walking her dog.

“That injury was very trying and she struggled to overcome that and really came through,” he said, adding that Margaret piqued his interest in salsa by teaching him a few steps of the dance she enjoys. The mini dance session led Dr. Goin and his wife to take salsa lessons.

**Don Sirianni, DMD,** a Happy Valley practitioner who is an assistant professor at OHSU School of Dentistry, has worked with Margaret since she joined the ODA, said he admires her resilience in coming back from personal struggles, including being hit by a car in 2002, while walking her dog.

“Her friendly smile was always a delight; she had a passion to learn and do the job very well,” he said. “She was often the first person at the ODA to talk to the dissatisfied patients. Margaret is a very good listener. She developed an excellent style to communicate with patients and explain the peer review process very well, so the patients knew where and how we could help.”

Dr. Sirianni said that, over the years, he enjoyed his casual conversations with Margaret as they wrapped up ODA business. He learned that Margaret is devoted to her elderly mother and her church, loves to travel, and is committed to those who are close to her.

“I felt her late husband was her best friend, and they seemed to have so much in common. She was very taken and down when he passed away. I remember her giving me a special history book of his, knowing that I enjoyed world history. I still treasure her thoughtfulness and the wonderful gift,” he said. “I have had the pleasure to work with many people in my life, and consider Margaret one of the most enjoyable. I would do it all over again. She is a wonderful friend.”

A descendant of Oregon pioneers, Margaret has blazed a colorful trail of her own. She was born in Oregon and spent part of her childhood here—she attended the Beatle’s first concert in Seattle in 1964—before her family moved to Missouri when she was in the eighth grade.

Margaret worked at factory jobs in Missouri before moving to Northfield, Minn., to attend Carleton College, where she earned a degree in sociology and anthropology. She also learned several jokes about Scandinavians while she lived in Minnesota, she said with a laugh, adding that the Torgeson lineage is part Norwegian.

In 1973, Margaret returned to Portland as a married woman with a husband enrolled in law school. She launched a career that began with working in the mail room at Merrill Lynch before being promoted to a position as a supervisor and then a bookkeeper. As a bookkeeper, she gained accounting experience that benefited her personally.

“I almost said no to the bookkeeping job, but I’m so glad I said yes because I had a wonderful colleague who taught me so many life skills,” she said.

Margaret also worked in a rehabilitation center and an investment firm. She had a lengthy stint at OHSU, which ranged from working as a glasses clerk in the ophthalmology department to...
financial work for University Medical Group. When the ODA started searching for a director of membership and consumer affairs, some of Margaret’s professional acquaintances encouraged her to apply for the position.

“My dentist, Robert Leon, DMD, is a personal friend, and we were neighbors when he was in dental school. I quizzed him about the ODA, and it sounded like a good fit,” she said.

Since joining the ODA staff in 1998, Margaret has been charged with building its membership, referring the public to helpful resources, and overseeing the association’s peer review process. She has worked with dental school students and new dentists just starting their practices. Her work also has involved communicating and collaborating with component societies, and serving as a liaison for various councils and committees over the years.

“My favorite part [of the job] has been to work on the events for the dental students, like the mentor dinner we hold each January,” Margaret said. “It’s an opportunity for students to see the collegiality and the collaboration that happens through organized dentistry.”

Margaret also finds it rewarding when she can talk with dissatisfied patients and provide alternatives to a formal complaint to the Oregon Board of Dentistry. She has appreciated the opportunity to be involved with the Oregon Missions of Mercy, though the events generate a mixed bag of emotions.

“One of the hardest parts of the job is knowing that there is a real need. Dental pain is terrible, and some people just really have a hard time getting the services they need,” she said.

Among the changes that have occurred during her time with the association is the culture of volunteerism, which Margaret attributes to generational and cultural differences.

“Young dentists are busy and are getting their careers started, and there is more of a culture of shared parenting, so [the young dentists] have to be at home, and can’t be at dental society meetings,” she said. “Many new graduates are going into large group practice, and that can be a challenge in terms of letting them know what they get for their return on investment and membership benefits. And that is a national trend.”

Another aspect of ODA’s evolution Margaret witnessed was the election of its first female president. Since then, two more women have led the organization.

Margaret said that while she looks forward to having more time to spend with her elderly mother, and to read and exercise in her retirement, the milestone is bittersweet because she has enjoyed her job so much, and the colleagues who became friends. She laughed as she recalled the time Dr. Goin gave her a balloon bouquet for her 50th birthday in front of a large audience gathered for a peer review training session.

“It’s really been a privilege to work with the Peer Review Committee because they tend to be good listeners, and they really enhanced my ability to do my work and understand the profession,” she said. “I’m kind of emotional because I’ve worked with some amazing people.”

“One of the hardest parts of the job is knowing that there is a real need. Dental pain is terrible, and some people just really have a hard time getting the services they need.”
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Retirement opens the door for Dr. McMorine to help out around the globe

About a decade after graduating from OHSU School of Dentistry, Dave McMorine, DMD, discovered a passion for scuba diving in remote places. It was 1975 and his travels carried him to locales few had heard of and gave him a chance to learn about little-known cultures.

Since then, Dr. McMorine has nearly filled six passports through his travels, which has included scuba diving in Fiji and backpacking in Australia, among many other adventures.

In 1994, Dr. McMorine undertook an adventure of another kind. He answered an ad published by the American Dental Association that was seeking volunteers to travel to Nepal to provide free dental care.

“At that time, the average annual per capita income was $180. There were seven doctors, we walked for four days over passes at 13,000 or 14,000 feet, and we served 800 to 900 people,” he said.

Dr. McMorine, who retired from full-time practice in 1997, has returned to Nepal several times since then. He said he tries to get there every other year, and he raises money for the trips by asking friends for contributions and seeking donations from dental supply companies. For his last trip to Nepal in 2012, he started out with $2,200 and ultimately raised $42,000 through donations of cash, supplies and equipment.

His biggest accomplishments to date include raising enough money over about four years to provide all of the dental supplies and equipment—including two chairs, a generator and a compressor—for a dental clinic housed in a new hospital in Nepal. In addition, he taught dental providers how to do sealants for local schoolchildren there.

Dr. McMorine, who also has provided free dental services in Brazil and Thailand, often sleeps in tents and empty hospital rooms during his volunteer trips. While he gives up the comforts of home, he gains the reward of helping some of the poorest people in the world.

“As far as I’m concerned, nobody is better than anyone else. Luckier yes, but not better,” he says.

He recalled a young woman who, during a dental exam, was found

continues on page 26
A TECHNIQUE BORN OF NECESSITY

Placement of dental sealants in rural third-world areas

By Dave McMorine, DMD

As most dental professionals know, sealants can reduce dental decay by 68–72 percent. Especially in rural areas, they can save a lot of pain and suffering. These areas usually do not have clean running water and/or electricity. I started doing sealants like these in Nepal beginning in 2008.

The equipment needed includes the standard sealant and etchant materials: toothbrushes, explorers, cotton pliers, tongue blades, cotton rolls, 2 x 2 cotton gauze, and blunt periodontal irrigation needles. In addition, an air mattress foot pump works great for drying the teeth. When traveling, I also take a voltage regulator and surge protector. These are used to recharge the batteries for the headlamps, flashlights, and the LED light curing units. Standard AA batteries are better than the rechargeable batteries, and, generally, are available just about everywhere in the world.

It is best to place the patient on a cot or bed. It is so much easier for the patient and the operator. Examine the teeth to be sealed, then dry brush them, and rinse with clean water. Isolate the tooth to be sealed by using 2 x 2s, cotton rolls, and tongue blades. Now place the etchant, then rinse it with clean water using the blunt periodontal irrigation needle. Then dry the tooth using cotton and use the air mattress foot pump. Place the sealant material and use the LED light curing unit.

For cleaning the LED light curing unit, the air mattress pump tip, and irrigating syringe, use Birex or other cold sterilizing solution. Birex comes concentrated for easy shipping.

Be sure to bring some high-quality extracted teeth in order to teach the local dental health care providers how to place sealants.

Here are my steps for placing sealants:

✓ Clean the tooth surface using a toothbrush and dry brush the teeth.
✓ Rinse with water for 20 seconds.
✓ Isolate and dry the tooth using 2 x 2s, cotton rolls, and the air mattress foot pump. If the tooth surface is contaminated with a single drop of saliva, it is absolutely necessary to repeat the etching process.
✓ Apply the etchant for 20 seconds.
✓ Rinse and dry.
✓ Apply the sealant for 20 seconds.
✓ Light cure for 30 seconds.
to have a heart murmur. She was taken to the hospital, treated and released—and the village threw a party for the visiting dentists who had saved her life by detecting the problem. Dr. McMorine has a framed photo in his home that shows a man giving thanks for his dental care through gestures rather than words, a treasure Dr. McMorine prizes each time he looks at the photo.

He also highly values the friendships he has established with dental professionals and patients in far-flung locales, as well as the opportunities for new experiences that retirement has provided.

“I have a skill that allows me to travel around the world and get people to pay my way since I’m so sweet and humble,” he said with a laugh. “I’m just waiting for the next adventure.”
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A-dec Delivers Operators to New Dental Building

By Sydney Clevenger

TRUCK AFTER TRUCK OF OPERATORY EQUIPMENT has been arriving at OHSU School of Dentistry’s new facility on South Waterfront (66 SW Meade Street, in Portland) for installation before the expected move in summer of 2014. The operatory equipment is part of a nearly $4 million gift from A-dec to the school’s $43 million “Our Moment is Here” campaign. A-dec has also contributed $1 million in cash to the campaign, bringing...
its total commitment to nearly $5 million. “It looks beautiful,” said A-dec Inc. President Scott Parrish, on a recent tour. “It is a luxury to start from scratch in outfitting an entire dental school.”

For dental students, providing care in the generously-size operatories—each 10’ x 12’—will be like stepping out into the real world, said Dean Emeritus Jack Clinton, DMD. With its light oak cabinetry, built-in instrumentation, sink, dental unit and light, and 5.5 foot walls for privacy, “the operatories are incredible,” he said. “Each one looks exactly alike, which is what you want in a clinical setting.”

The pre-doctoral clinic has six “group practices” divided between floors eight and nine of the dental school’s north tower. There are 63 open and three closed operatories serving three group practices on each floor.

The Broadway, Fremont, and Hawthorne group practices are on the eighth floor, with the Sellwood, Steel, and St. Johns on the ninth.

“OHSU School of Dentistry’s multi-decades long relationship with A-dec is invaluable,” said Dean Phillip Marucha, DMD. “We so appreciate A-dec’s generosity in helping to make our new dental facility state-of-the-art for dental students and patients. We look forward to building upon our foundation with A-dec in the years to come.”

A-dec trucks are currently delivering equipment for floors 10, 11, and 12, which includes the school’s new simulation space, postgraduate programs, and faculty dental practice.

To make a gift to the $43 million Our Moment is Here campaign, please contact Patrick Regan, OHSU School of Dentistry Director of Development, 503.494.0980, reganp@ohsu.edu.

Sydney Clevenger is Communications Coordinator for the OHSU School of Dentistry. She can be reached at clevenge@ohsu.edu.
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