



August 2010

# PROBE

*Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY KATIE ROHR

Fall is right around the corner! I hope everyone enjoyed a summer filled with relaxation, family, and many 100+ degree days! As a new season draws near, I am honored to be the President of the Northern Virginia Dental Hygiene Association. With many opportunities on the horizon, I feel privileged to embark on this year's journey with you. The executive board and I have been working diligently over the summer to prepare for another outstanding year and look forward to sharing our ideas.

As we mark the fifty-first year of the Northern Virginia Dental Hygiene Association, we are pleased to announce the live broadcast of our new website. You can now locate us online at [www.nvrhdh.com](http://www.nvrhdh.com). The new site brings us into the digital age with access to more electronic communication. The website currently offers more electronic dissemination of materials and resources than ever before including: officer listings, upcoming events and continuing education opportunities, and opportunities to communicate directly with contacts.

This brings a new direction to the Association by reducing waste and respecting our environment. Efforts to conserve and preserve the world around us minimizes the footprints we leave behind for our children, future leaders, and hygienists. Environmental awareness takes time; but, if each of us can take small steps, over time they will add up to monumental leaps and bounds.

We continue to update and maintain the email database. If your contact information has changed, kindly send us your new information to be updated. To join our listing, please email your contact information to [nvdhainfo@aol.com](mailto:nvdhainfo@aol.com). This is a separate database from ADHA and is never shared with other parties.

I invite all hygienists who are not members of the Association to drop by a meeting or continuing education class. Please take the opportunity to meet and greet with other hygienists in the area and make sure to catch me and say Hello! We are always looking for new and returning minds alike to join the Association and provide input. As President, I intend to represent the Association with respect, dignity, and pride.

I look forward to meeting you as the year progresses!



## NVDHA 2010-2011 Calendar at a Glance

<b>September 1, 2010</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b>
<b>September 22, 2010</b>	<b>Fall Kickoff Meeting</b> Boomers and Seniors—Living Longer: Is Your Practice Ready
<b>October 16, 2010</b>	<b>Fall CE/ Pat Pine speaker</b>
<b>October 25, 2010</b>	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> NVCC Table Clinics/Speaker TBA
<b>November 3, 2010</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b>
<b>November 16, 2010</b>	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Providing Palliative Oral Care for the Oncology/Terminally Ill Patient
<b>December 2010</b>	<b>NVDHA Holiday Party</b>
<b>January 5, 2011</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b>
<b>January 12, 2011</b>	<b>OSHA UPDATE (Fairfax Cinema Deluxe)</b>
<b>January 21, 2011</b>	<b>Rally Day (Richmond, VA)</b>
<b>February 4, 2011</b>	<b>Give Kids a Smile</b>
<b>February 23, 2011</b>	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Sponsored by Oral B/Topic TBA
<b>March 21, 2011</b>	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Local Anesthesia Update/ guest speaker Rita Sheaves, VDHA Pres. Pres.dent
<b>March 11-12, 2011</b>	<b>Mission of Mercy</b>
<b>April 7-10, 2011</b>	<b>VDHA Annual Session (Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA)</b>
<b>May 2011</b>	<b>Installation Dinner</b>
<b>June 15-21, 2011</b>	<b>ADHA Center for Lifelong Learning</b> Nashville, TN Convention Center/ Renaissance Marriott

## HYGIENISTS WITHOUT BORDERS-GHANA TEAM 2010

*NVCC Dental Hygiene Students visit Ghana, Africa on a Global Community Outreach Project*

Director of NVCC Dental Clinic & Dental Hygiene Team Leader- **Howard L. Kelley DDS, MPH**; NVCC faculty **Mrs. Suzanne Shaw, RDH**, and **Voncile English Kelley RN, MED**; **Daria U. Amato, MSN, RN, CNE** Associate Professor of NVCC Nursing program piloted an International Studies class this summer that culminated in a 2 week trip, providing required dental treatment and oral health education to the impoverished indigenous population of Ghana, Africa.

The dental hygiene students who participated in this project are: class of 2010 graduates **Punita Mangat Fielding RDH** and **Jennifer Miller, RDH**; along with **Dana Hampel, Constance Rice** and **Abby White**-second year dental hygiene students from the Class of 2011. The team provided oral health education, dental screenings, perio-debridements, prophylaxis and simple dental surgeries. They worked in an existing government hospital dental clinic in the town of *Half Assini*, and turned an empty room at the Solam Gospel Clinic in *Bonyere* into a temporary dental clinic.

The nine members of the pioneer dental team and allied health professionals were able to deliver care to over 300 patients of all ages during the time spent in the two clinics. In addition, the Ghana Team from NVCC had a rewarding opportunity to visit the *Word Alive Orphanage and Children's Home in the village of Esiama*; where dental education and dental screenings were performed on 32 wonderful children ranging from 5 -17 years of age. NVCC Ghana team feels extremely fortunate to have had this opportunity to make a difference in the world. The experience led to treating the needs as well as developing cultural awareness and learning which has forever altered their lives. The need for global dental care is so great that programs such as this cannot be underestimated. The NVCC Ghana team of 2010 fervently hopes that the International Studies class can continue in order to make future dental projects to Ghana and other countries possible.



## **A message concerning General Membership Meetings and Continuing Education:**

All details pertaining to the General Membership Meetings and Continuing Education that are outlined in the “Calendar at a Glance” are provided on our new website [www.nvrhdh.com](http://www.nvrhdh.com). The registration form can also be found there. If you cannot access the registration form, please contact Denise Elliott at [dellrdh@aol.com](mailto:dellrdh@aol.com) to request one to be emailed or faxed to you.

Please make note of the following changes regarding registration for the meetings:

1. If you claim current ADHA Membership for Free CEs or to receive the ADHA discounted price, you must present your ADHA card. You can either include a copy of your card with your registration, or you can present your card at the meeting at time of check in. If you don't have your current ADHA card, you can print a copy from [www.ADHA.org](http://www.ADHA.org).
2. In order to receive the “Early Bird Price” for continuing education, you must have your registration postmarked by the RSVP date. Any registrations received with a postmark after the RSVP date, or any walk-in registrations, will be asked to pay the regular price.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in the fall!

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

**Give Kids a Smile**

**February 4, 2011**

**8:00AM to 3:00 PM**

**Northern Virginia Community College  
Medical Education Campus**

**Mission Of Mercy**

**March 11 -12, 2011**

**Northern Virginia Community College  
Medical Education Campus**

Cut this reminder out about MOM and GKAS and put it on your calendar or refrigerator to help you remember to sign up for these important opportunities to help the less fortunate in our community.

## **MEMBERSHIP MEMORANDA**

**BY LUCY McFAUL, Membership Chair**

I hope all of you are managing to stay cool in this blistering summer—that three-foot snow we had this winter sounds real inviting right about now. And let’s hope the oil leak is finally plugged and that the drilling industry has learned some lessons. Speaking of drilling. ....

Our dental hygiene profession is very fortunate to have an organization that for over 87 years has been our voice and advocate on important national issues in the field of dentistry. The ADHA represents *our* interests and fights for the issues that impact *our* daily lives. Membership in ADHA keeps us strong and united when it comes time to take a stand on issues that can affect us in the workplace and our pocket-books.

Let’s face it—it’s a fact of political life that our legislatures listen to special interest groups and the ADHA is one such group. But to keep this voice active in pursuit of our professional interests, it needs your continued support. So that’s why I continue to be involved with membership and send out this little reminder every so often to renew your membership in the ADHA.

If you’re new to the profession, I urge you to join and become part of *our* organization. Did you know that HYPAC, the Political Action Committee (PAC) of ADHA, is the only PAC that represents us by helping to elect pro-dental hygiene candidates to the U.S. House and Senate? Well, they do, and it’s important that we support ADHA in these efforts by renewing our memberships.

In an ideal world, the dentists’ interests and ours would be perfectly aligned and mutually beneficial. Unfortunately, in the real world, we all know that this is often *not* the case and the ADHA is really the only organization that we can rely on to represent our interests fairly and effectively. This is the only national organization that truly understands our needs because, for the large part, they are made up of hygienists like you and me.

We need this organization and we need you as a member. If you’re not currently an ADHA member, please give serious thought to joining, not only for yourself, but for the rest of us, as well. The ADHA has our interests at heart when it deals with the issues and initiatives that could threaten the profession that we have all worked so hard to build. We all know of events in the recent past where our ADHA membership provided an important base of support and political “clout” where and when it was needed.

If you are currently a member, not only will your membership renewal support our political voice in Washington, but it will also entitle you to some very practical benefits such as discounted insurance rates (liability, disability, major medical, home, and auto), discounted prices on continuing education courses, financial planning tools, loupe discounts, discounts on scrubs, a mileage plus program through ADHA’s credit card, and discounted room rates at over 4,000 hotels throughout the nation. These savings alone could pay for your entire annual dues!

And if you ever decide to move, the Employment Referral Service provided to ADHA members could help you find a new job or even substitute work. And, of course, membership includes subscriptions to two of the finest publications in our profession, the *Journal of Dental Hygiene* and *Access Magazine*. There’s now even a “Members Only” section of the ADHA website at [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org). Here are the benefits in a nutshell:

## Membership (continued)

Nationwide employment assistance

Continuing education to help you stay in the forefront of the profession

Invaluable informational resources including *Access* magazine and the *Journal of Dental Hygiene*

ADHA Online, which puts a whole range of professional resources as close as your computer

Leadership and recognition opportunities

Career-enhancing networking opportunities

A whole range of valuable discounts on everything from insurance to hotels

In essence, ADHA membership is a very worthwhile investment, both from an economic viewpoint as well as from a professional perspective. To keep it strong and vibrant, we need your support. ADHA membership only costs \$240 a year (That's only 65 cents a day!). Please renew now...and to make it even easier, you can do it all online by going to [www.adah.org](http://www.adah.org) and clicking on the REAL TIME banner at the right side of your screen and following the login instructions.

**Please feel free to call (703-620-9173) or email me (MsLucyRDH@aol.com) if you have any questions or need additional membership information. Thanks again! Lucy McFaul, R.D.H. - Membership Committee**

**Dental Clinic News**

**By Catherine Q. Johnson**

On September 7, 2010 the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic-Loudoun County is opening its doors for patients and volunteers. Northern Virginia is a large area that covers many jurisdictions and this will allow us to serve more people.

The clinics address is:

2 Pigeon Hill Drive, Suite 230, Sterling, Virginia, 20165.

Call the dental clinic and speak with Carmen or Ellie at 571-323-9098.

This has been accomplished through the hard work of Tom Wilson, executive director of the Northern Virginia Clinic, the NVDC board, business communities' donations, and many government and private agencies located in the Northern Virginia area.

This past Friday I had the opportunity to visit the new clinic. We have new dental equipment, a great space to work, and a lovely staff to assist our volunteers.

**Please check your calendars and consider volunteering at either Northern Virginia Dental Clinic in Falls Church or Loudoun County.**

The Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, Falls Church number is 703-820-7178.

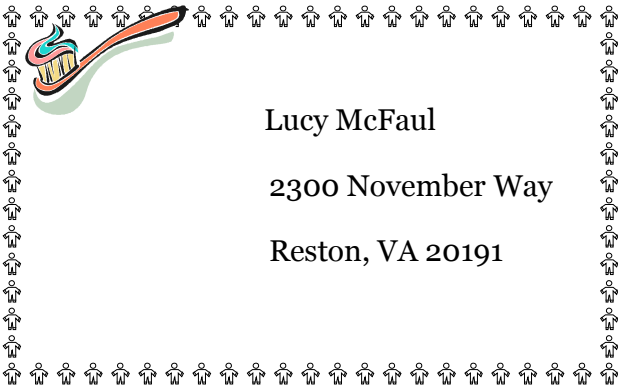
**REMEMBER: If you work 25 hours in the clinics calendar year (July 1 to June 30) you will receive a tax credit towards your Virginia state taxes.**

This is an opportunity for all dental personal to apply their dental knowledge, skill, time, expertise and have fun.

Any questions please contact me at [toothcathy@aol.com](mailto:toothcathy@aol.com) or my cell at 703-628-7160.

Our new President of the NVDHA , Katie Rohr,  
was on the June cover of RDH magazine.

Way to go Katie!!



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