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ASSOCIATION

ADA®

A publication of the Nebraska Dental Association

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SEPT. 25-27, 2025

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NEBRASKA DHHS Oral Health & Dentistry

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Volunteer Registration

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President's Message

Leadership



**Dr. Adam
Lamprecht**

Greetings! I am very humbled to be writing my first President's message. I never thought I would be holding a leadership position within the Nebraska

Dental Association, but I am truly honored to be representing you as President. It wasn't that long ago that three of my mentors here in Fremont, **Dr. Robert Schlumberger, Richard Coke** and **Bob Roesch**, were picking me up for my first Tuesday night ODDS meeting. Those car rides to Anthony's included lots of stories about the glory days of the NDA and how things have changed over time. Along with sharing their experiences, and a few tall tales, they made sure to instill in me the benefits of organized dentistry and how it helped each one of them throughout their careers. I owe a great deal to those gentlemen as well as the past and current NDA leadership as they have made our organization what it is today.

In the spirit of cultivating leaders, I wanted to let you all know about an upcoming event that the NDA will be hosting. **Dr. Deb West** is spearheading a **Leadership Summit** on September 19th, 2025, at the LaVista Conference Center. Dr. West, along with representatives from the ADA, will be presenting material on self-assessment tools, information on diversity in generations within the dental workforce, as well as hosting a panel of NDA leaders who will be talking about their leadership journeys and how it has impacted their careers. This workshop is open to anyone to attend so please mark your calendars. We would love to see you all there.

I would be remiss if I didn't give a special thanks to our Past President, **Dr. Jessica Meeske** along with **Jody Cameron** and **David O'Doherty** for making this past year's Annual Session a memorable one. Seeing everyone pack the west stadium for the President's dinner in Memorial Stadium and kids playing down on Tom Osborne Field was awesome! It was reminiscent of those ODDS car ride stories where people came to celebrate together and join in a little fun at the Annual Session. It was also great to have ADA President, **Dr. Brett Kessler**, in attendance and hear about his personal struggles he overcame before becoming the leader of the ADA. He also talked about the direction that the ADA is going, challenges they are facing, and how we need continue to working together to explore new avenues to get our message out. It is more important than ever that we have a strong voice to stand up for our patients and profession. The ADA and NDA are that voice.

It wasn't long after the Annual Session that I had a chance to personally meet with our Executive Director, **David O'Doherty**. It was at this time David informed me of his intention to retire. As many of you know, David has passionately led our Association for over 20 years. He has done it with grace, dignity, and has always put the Association first. In my short stint on the board and getting to know David, he has always been quick to respond and ready to help. We have big shoes to fill in finding a new Executive Director, but it is nice to know that David will continue to support the NDA throughout our transition. Please reach out to David over the next couple of months to thank him for his dedicated service to the Association.

With that being said, we have assembled a search committee to

help find our next Executive Director. The members of this committee are myself, **Jody Cameron, Drs. Todd Wragge, Don Scheidel, Melanie Steckelberg, Scott Morrison, Deb West, Caitlyn Lastovica** and **Liz Papineau**. I feel like we were able to bring together a diverse group of individuals who cover the majority of our state. We have an early career dentist, dentists from rural areas, along with dental school faculty. We have multiple past presidents, Board of Trustee members, and a past Tenth District Trustee. It was my hope that we could bring together as many areas of our membership to ensure that we are not leaving anyone behind. We received the green light from the Board of Trustees to move forward with our next leader and have started the process. It is my hope that by the time you read this, we will be close to announcing our new NDA Executive Director. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to any member of the search committee. We want to make sure that our leadership represents you.

As you can see, we have been busy at the NDA and I haven't even talked about legislative topics, membership discussions, or member benefits. Those issues will continue to be addressed as always. We all understand that we are facing uphill battles with the anti-fluoride groups and the DLR fight, but know that the NDA will continue to work extremely hard for you and the profession.

In closing, I want to thank you for trusting me to help lead the NDA this year. It is truly an honor. I will do my best to look to the past to help make critical decisions, but also be forward thinking on how the NDA can reshape itself and continue to be the voice of Nebraska dentists into the future. It will be a great year, and I am looking forward to the challenge!

VetMOM 2025

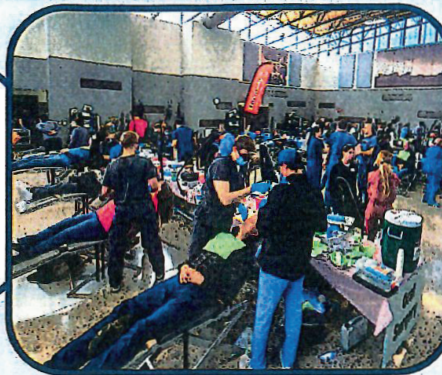
September 25 - 27 - Titan Army National Guard Readiness Center



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2,714

SERVICES PROVIDED



156

DENTURE SERVICES PROVIDED

2024 VETERANS MISSION OF MERCY DENTAL CLINIC IMPACT

\$653,487

WORTH OF CARE PROVIDED



30% OF ATTENDEES TRAVELED 100+ MILES

97%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS WERE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED



ADA Tenth District Trustee

Dr. Sara Stuefen



**Dr. Sara
Stuefen**

As we move further into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made together, the challenges

we continue to face, and the important work that lies ahead. Dentistry is evolving rapidly, and so is our Association.

In my last newsletter I discussed the association management system (AMS) transition and how we had fallen short in our initial promises. In March, a third-party AMS assessment identified significant issues that further validated concerns. At the ADA, we are committed to making things right and we have made great strides and improvements. We are continuing to work hand-in-hand with our states to meet our goal of a stable, standardized system that fully supports our membership processes.

As you may know, the ADA has been exploring innovative ways to increase membership. To that end, the Membership and Engagement Model pilot was launched in 2024 with five pilot states. The pilot's aim is to modernize the membership experience, lower cost barriers, and explore new strategies for engagement. New dues structures and value-added packages have been deployed in these states. At our April meeting, the ADA Board voted

to pause the onboarding of new states into the pilot. It is still too early in the program to fully assess the impact this pilot has had in membership retention and this will allow for more time for analysis. This will also allow for more system stabilization within our association management system before introducing more elements into the system.

An exciting collaborative agreement has been reached with the American Academy of Private Dental Practice (APDP) and the ADA. The APDP is a community of dentists dedicated to advancing private practice through relationship-based care, peer support, and leadership development. The APDP has a wealth of resources and expertise in this field. Through this collaboration with the APDP, the ADA will enhance its support of dentists in private practice with relevant resources, training opportunities, and practice management tools. This collaboration is still in process, but I encourage you to watch for more in the coming months.

Fluoride has been a hot-topic across the country and if you're practice is like mine, you've had an increase in questions from your patients about its safety. The ADA has provided a public facing site that can serve as a resource for you and even your patients if they are interested. Although sometimes the discussion can become disheartening, I encourage you to continue to educate and inform

your patients and communities as the need arises. The ADA will continue to advocate for the health of the public and to evaluate the validity of emerging evidence and research. Our communications team has been incredibly busy, and in Q1 2025, the ADA was cited in more than 6,000 news articles.

Our advocacy team has been extremely busy with the start of the 119th Congress and the new presidential administration. The ADA has been actively working on ERISA reform, supporting community water fluoridation, and is working hard to preserve adult dental Medicaid. Although there have been many reductions in workforce in relation to dentistry in the federal government, a big win for the ADA and dentistry was the preservation of the CMS Chief Dental Officer position. An opportunity for collaboration with the federal government is on sugar reduction in our diets. As dentists, we know the effects that sugar and processed foods have on our oral health and sugar reduction will be even more important if community water fluoridation disappears.

There's no doubt that we are navigating complex times, but I believe deeply in the strength of our profession and the resolve of our members. Thank you for your continued dedication, insight, and partnership. Together, we are building a stronger ADA and a healthier future for our patients and communities.

NDA Leadership Summit

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025



NDA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

EMBASSY SUITES – LAVISTA CONFERENCE CENTER

LAVISTA, NE.

LUNCH – 12:00 TO 1:00 P.M.

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT – 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

Everyone is invited!

Whether you are early career, mid-career, or nearing retirement, come and connect with other like-minded dentists!

Watch for registration information soon!

Legislative Update

PASSED!

LB148 - Adopt the **Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact** and change requirements for licensure and reciprocity under the Dentistry Practice Act. **LB 83** was amended into LB 148 and also passed. LB 83 changes the requirement to take the CRDTS practical exam to passing **a standardized national exam approved by the dental board**. A standardized national exam is defined as one that is simulation based or manikin based clinical competency psycho-motor exam that includes specific competencies. Such exams can be reviewed annually by the board and must be reviewed every three years. Clarifies language related to the jurisprudence examination. It also changes the reciprocity practice standard from three years with one year immediately preceding the application for reciprocity to one year.

LB9 - Change provisions relating to cigarette taxes and the Tobacco Products Tax Act and provide for regulation of products containing nicotine analogues. It applies the cigarette tax to a “nicotine analog” and defines it as a substance having a chemical structure similar to nicotine or that affects the nervous system in a substantially similar way. It also adjusts enforcement process if taxes are not properly paid under certain circumstances.

LB 415 - Made adjustments to the paid sick leave ballot initiative, including that the paid sick leave requirements will no longer apply to businesses with 10 or fewer employees.

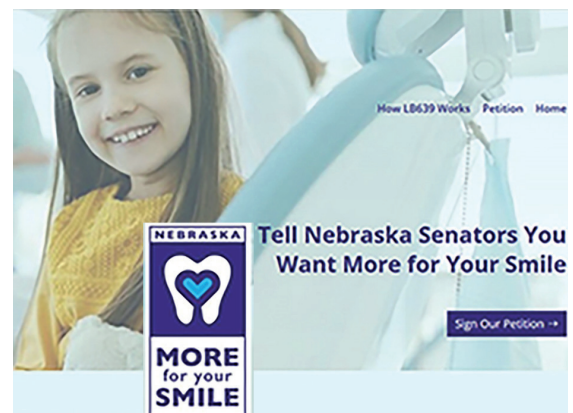
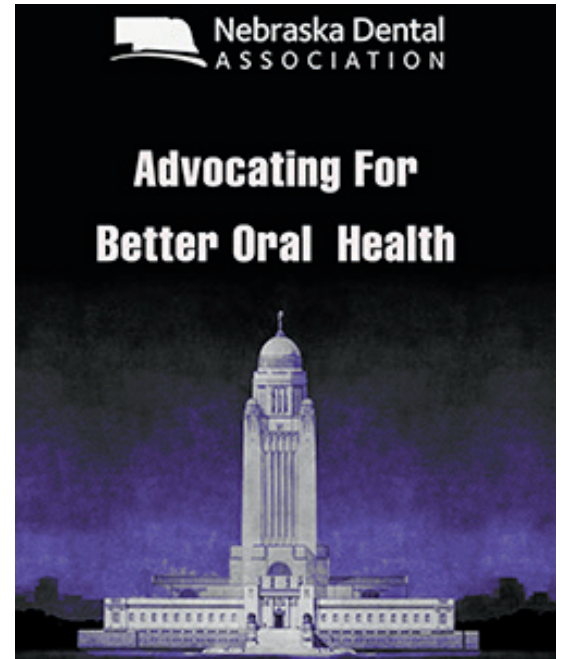
LB119 - Amended into LB 332, the bill provided requirements for the Rural Health Opportunity Program to provide tuition waivers. It also codifies RHOP program for the University of Nebraska and directs intent to provide state appropriation to pay for the waived tuition.

Still in Committee - Returning for the 2026 Legislative Session

LB146 - 12.5% Medicaid rate increase for dental services.

LB639 - Require dental plan carriers to meet a minimum dental loss ratio and provide a report. Requires dental plans to spend 85% of their premiums on dental care.

LB27 - Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act. Appropriates \$1.5M from the Medicaid Excess Profit Fund to fund loan repayment for dentists who see disproportionate amounts of Medicaid patients. Dentists would be eligible for \$60,000 per year for five years.



Annual Session - Welcome Party



Before the Welcome Party, the NDA 2025-2026 NDA Board of Trustees were sworn into office by **Dr. Sara Stuefen**, ADA 10th District Trustee and ADA President, **Dr. Brett Kessler**.



Above: Athletic Director **Troy Dannen** spoke at the Welcome Party about all things NU Athletics, taking questions for about ten minutes. Following A.D. Dannen, ADA President **Dr. Brett Kessler** addressed the attendees.

Awards Ceremony

University of Nebraska West Stadium



Left: 50 years of dentistry – Drs. Kenneth Hermsen, Ernest Sigler, John Reinhardt and Henry St. Germain. Not pictured: Drs. Michael McDermott, Larry Cameron, David Higgins, Kenneth Donlan, John Giddings, James Palmer, David Spann, Mark Taylor and Paul Gilinsky. **Middle – ADA Life Status: Drs. Brett Thomsen, Diane Ochuba and Dr. Michael Hoover;** Not pictured: Drs. Claire Haag; Thomas Lewis; Shay McGowan; Steven Miller; Stacy Moffenbier; Trent States; Larry Swanson and Derek Walrod. **Right: NDA Hall of Fame – Dr. Dennis Anderson.**



Left: Outstanding Young Professional – Dr. Natalie Frost. **Middle: President Awards – Drs. Holly Randone, Megan Millea, and Morgan Horst.** **Right: Legislator of the Year Award – Lynne Walz (center) with Dr. Adam Lamprecht (right).**

Awards Ceremony

University of Nebraska West Stadium



Left: Humanitarian of the Year Award – Dr. James Jenkins. Receives a check from the Omaha District Dental Society Executive Administrator, **Erika Kampschnieder**. **Center: Dr. Beth Kampschnieder** welcomes members to the ODDS Casino Night supporting VetMOM 2025. **Right: Drs. Fritz Craft and James Jenkins** at Casino Night.





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IN MEMORY

The NDA would like to extend its sincere sympathy to the families of **Dr. G. Kent Powers** of Lincoln, Nebraska, who passed away on March 4, 2025; **Dr. John Hauserman** of Lincoln, Nebraska, who passed away on March 6, 2025; **Dr. Bryce Bonness** of Lincoln, Nebraska, who passed away on March 25, 2025; **Dr. Stephen Dent** of North Platte, Nebraska, who passed away on March 27, 2025; **Dr. David Zalewski** of Lincoln, Nebraska, who passed away on April 26, 2025; **Dr. Tom Fangman** of Omaha, Nebraska, who passed away on June 5, 2025; and **Scott DiLorenzo** who passed away on June 11, 2025.



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