



Get ready to relive the rad vibes and iconic energy at the 2025 AzDHA Impact Conference, happening August 15-17 at the luxurious Omni Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Montelucia!

Join Arizona's finest dental hygienists for three unforgettable days of education, networking, and some serious 80's fun. Whether you're in for the CE courses, the connections, or just the nostalgia, this is THE can't-miss event of the year!

Let's make it totally tubular!

**Early Bird Registration** 





JoAnne Jones, RDH

WNL: Within Normal Limit or a Dangerous Assumption?

Sponsored by: LED Dental Inc., and Aquoral



Satish S. Kumar, DMD, MDSc, MS
Peri-Implant Diseases and Implant
Maintenance



Nancy Miller, RDH, BA
POWER OFF BIOFILM

Caitlin Parsons, RDH

The Aligned Practitioner: Ergonomic Excellence in Dentistry



Sponsored by: Andau Medical, PDT Instruments, Crown Seating



Antonia Teruel, DMD, MS, PhD

The Daily Grind - Insights into Bruxism



Susan S. Wingrove BS, RDH

Prevention is KEY! Implant
Maintenance, Home-Care & Disease
Treatment

Sponsored by: Ivoclar, PDT, Oral-B, and Sunstar



Tiffany Wuebben, RDH

Hygiene Mastery: Soaring to Success with the Power of Hygiene

Sponsored by: Care Credit

**Early Bird Registration** 



#### Things Are Slowing Down at the Legislature

As our lobbyist Jessie Armendt recently reported, committee work at the Capitol is largely over now so activity at the legislature is slowing down quite a bit. The Senate has moved to a 3-day work week. During both of the last two sessions, both chambers started taking more lengthy breaks in April and May, rather than requiring their members to come in every day. Attention is shifting to the

budget process, which will largely be negotiated by Republican leadership and Governor Hobbs. However, we understand that there is still significant disagreement within the Republican caucuses on the methodology for constructing the budget. Which is to say – it is not imminent!

#### **DDH Compact Bill Comes Back to Life!**

If you have seen the recent alerts, including those coming from the ADHA on our behalf, you know that our original bill, HB2190, sponsored by Representative Bliss died in the Senate due to an unfavorable committee assignment. Not to be undone, we were successful in securing a "strike everything" amendment to Senator Dunn's **SB1448** in the House Appropriations Committee which, as the name implies, removes all existing language of the bill and replaces it with all the language from HB2190. And just like that, we have a new bill number and a second life! It currently awaits approval in the House Rules Committee where the Rules chairman has indicated that he plans to put it through. We just don't know when. Once the Rules Committee determines the bill is in proper form and constitutional, it will go to caucus (a meeting of legislators of the same political party to consider legislation, policies and actions), then to a meeting of the entire House for final vote. However, we have recently faced an unforeseen complication. A staffer at the legislature flagged this bill as needing to wait until the budget is negotiated. We are vigorously challenging the reasoning for that action. If we can get things back on track, after the House passes the bill, it will be returned to the Senate for consideration in its amended form. No committee hearing will be necessary, instead, it will go to caucus, then to the entire Senate for final approval of the amended bill. As Jessie put it, "Nothing about this bill is easy, but we still have a path so we keep pressing!"

## **SB1124** Oral Preventive Assistant - What You Need to Know

It appears there are still some misunderstandings about this law. Let's clarify.

- This law does NOT allow dental assistants to probe, ever, under any circumstances.
- This law does NOT become effective until 90 days after the current legislative session ends. The session could end anytime between now and the end of June. We'll let you know the effective date when it is known.
- The average dental assistant is unlikely to be immediately eligible to be trained as an Oral Preventive Assistant (OPA). There are 4 requirements a dental assistant must meet BEFORE they take the required OPA course. See below.
- Required courses must meet certain criteria to be approved by the Board of Dental Examiners. A few of those requirements are stated in the law but the process

and many details have yet to be determined by the Board. The AzDHA has already engaged with the Board to provide input and will continue to do so.

- A patient must receive a periodontal evaluation by a dentist or dental hygienist BEFORE an OPA is permitted to remove plaque, calculus and stains with scalers or sonic or ultrasonic scaling devices.
- Only dentists and dental hygienists can decide IF it is appropriate for the OPA to provide this service (see limitations to follow). Everyone who worked on this bill understood and agreed that a very limited number of patients would qualify.

Click **HERE** for a summary of the law.

#### **SB1347 AHCCCS; comprehensive dental care - Shope**

The Arizona Oral Health Coalition shared this update: SB 1347 moves from "bill" to "budget". Throughout the year, we've advocated for a bill to include comprehensive dental care for adults as part of AHCCCS coverage. As an enhancement to Medicaid, these changes would require additional investment of state funds. Even if the bill passed, the state budget would need to reflect that additional investment; these budget funds are not automatically approved should the bill pass. For this reason, any bills that require additional investment often die around this point in the session. That's what happened in previous sessions, and that is what happened this year too. Leaders in the House signaled that the bill would not be proceeding, making the comprehensive dental bill effectively dead. However, this is not the end! Even though the bill is dead, comprehensive dental coverage would always need to be included as part of state budget negotiations. The momentum generated by the bill will hopefully inspire support from lawmakers in the budget in the future.

#### **Oral Health Day at the Capitol 2025**





AzoHc Once again, the Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association (AzDHA) teamed up with the **Arizona Oral Health Coalition** (AZOHC) and Children's Action Alliance (CAA) to host Oral Health Day at the Capitol on March 13th. Dental hygienists comprised the majority of the 49 oral health advocates who attended 23 meetings with legislators. We focused mainly on garnering support for AHCCCS comprehensive dental care for adults (SB1347) as well as the AzDHA-backed Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact bill (Now SB1448). Some also spoke to their legislators about the OPA bill. Please plan to join

#### us next year!





















Arizona DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

# online CE COURSE



Let Us Take You To A Better Place: **Elevating Patient Care In the Dental Hygiene Opt** 

**Amanda Nash and Kristie Michel** 

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30** 6:00 - 7:30 PM

**Members FREE** Non-Members \$10

### **Professionally and Clinically**

Arizona dental hygienists, mark your calendars! On Wednesday, April 30th from 6:00–7:30 PM, the Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association (AzDHA) invites you to an inspiring online CE course you won't want to miss: "Let Us Take You To A Better Place: Elevating Patient Care in the Dental Hygiene Opt" presented by the dynamic duo Amanda Nash and Kristie Michel of The Social Six Thirty. This exclusive session is free for AzDHA members and just \$10 for non-members—a small investment for a major upgrade in patient care strategies and professional growth.

- Wednesday, April 30 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Online, via Zoom
- Amanda Nash & Kristi Michel of The Social Six Thirty,
   Dental Hygiene Society, Study Club, RDH, OMT
- AzDHA members: FREE Non-members: \$10

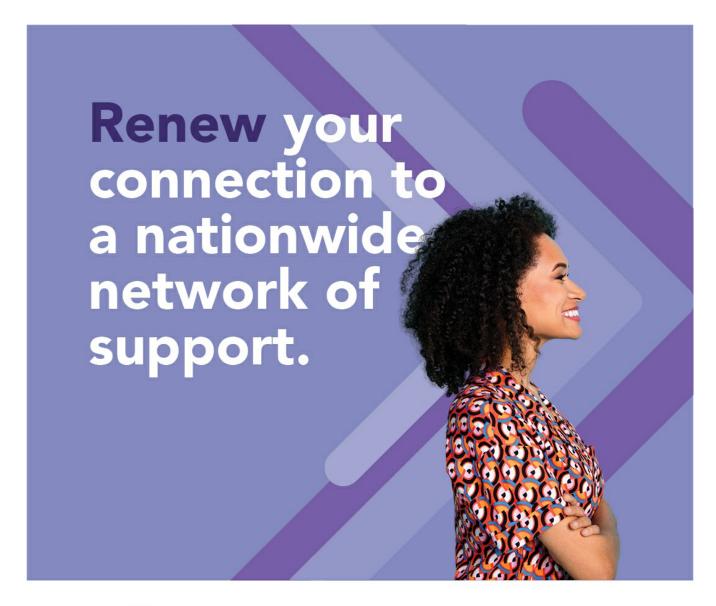
**Member Registration** 

Non-Member Registration



The AZOHC Annual Virtual Conference 2025 is being held on May 9th and all are invited. As you may know, we partner with the Arizona Oral Health Coalition in advocating for oral health for all Arizonans and they make Oral Health Day at the Capitol a reality! **There is no fee to attend**. Check out the panelists, topics for discussion, and a link to register . . .

**Register Today** 





Let's stick together >

## RENEW YOUR ADHA MEMBERSHIP

Keep your edge in 2025! Renew your ADHA membership and unlock another year of the best resources, continuing education, and networking opportunities available for dental hygienists.

Renew at <a href="mailto:mymembership.adha.org">mymembership.adha.org</a> today! ♥

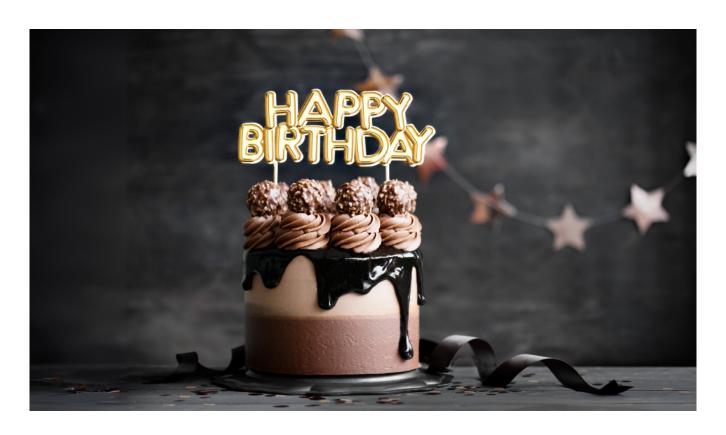


Ready to make a difference and elevate your leadership journey? The AzDHA is calling *YOU* to join the 2025 Board of Directors! We have **4 open positions** offering an incredible opportunity to **shape the future of dental hygiene**, grow your professional network, and **amplify your voice** in our vibrant community. Whether you're passionate about advancing our profession or eager to develop new leadership skills, this is your chance to step up, inspire, and **lead with impact**.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to make a difference! Contact Davy Evans for **DETAILS**! <<< click today!



Alyssia Ayala
Patience Barkhurst
Katie Bertolucci
Deniese Carollo
Cesar Espinoza
Kamila Haynes
Gloria McCarty
Nichole Schaller
Lynn Thompson



## Happy Birthday to All our Members with Birthdays in April

(Click here if your birthday should have been listed)

Lynn Brooks
Cassandra Cardenas
Laura Corbin
Joy Dunn
Monique Farnum
Michelle Gross-Panico
Jan Grutzius
Natalie Kelly

Dawn Mace Elena Mershon Christine Miner Katherine Obert Sara Oleson Jenny Witthoft Janet Woldt

Do you have something to share with other AZDHA members, contact Michelle Schwantes at <a href="michelle@amgoldman.com">michelle@amgoldman.com</a>

Talk to us Today

813-444-1011

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