



Chronicle Monthly

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

AAWD
celebrates 100
years of women
in dentistry!

**Student
Representative
Nominations
Open Through
November.**

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Reason

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AAWD Director of Academic Affairs, Dr. Maria Maranga, also serves as first Vice President for the ADA. Dr. Maranga consistently promotes women dentists in all of her outreach and activities. We’re excited to have such an accoladed member of our AAWD team!

Photo taken at 2021 SmileCon in Las Vegas, NV



Left:

Past President, Dr. Tamara Berg, with Dr. Maria Maranga, AAWD Director of Academic Affairs and ADA 1st Vice President at 2021 SmileCon in Las Vegas, NV.

Below from left:

Drs. Krista Jones & Tamara Berg with Oklahoma chapter Executive Director, Lynn Means. They met for a Barry Manilow show during the 2021 ADA SmileCon in Las Vegas, NV.



ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Do you want to be more involved with AAWD?

AAWD needs a STUDENT LEADER to represent women dental students on the national board. If you, or a friend may be interested, submit a nomination form by the end of the month to info@awd.org.

[Apply Online](#)

We want to share these heartfelt words from a past AAWD Board Member, Dr. Mary Licking,
as she reflects and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of AAWD



Introduction: I received my first AAWD membership card after paying dues at U of Illinois in 1974. As part of the effort to commemorate the 100th anniversary of AAWD, what follows are my recollections from that time, 1974, until the start of the year 2021. I am writing this in November of 2021, in the midst of a global pandemic of the COVID-19 virus, one that led to a United States lockdown in March of 2020, followed months later by various stages of increased activity, yet the virus and the pall it has cast, persists. From March 2020, many organizations, including AAWD, have experienced little or no travel relied upon remote means to operate. The account below contains no names of the living except mine.

Backdrop: At the start of the time period, as a condition of receiving federal funds the dental schools were a year or two into a window where they were mandated to increase female enrollment. My class size was about 130 and started with 7 women and an 8th transferred in from another school. The class ahead of me was about the same size and had 4 women. Hospitals where dental students performed rotations did not always feature female locker rooms. All of organized dentistry was not under any mandate to increase female participation. Women in the class ahead of me were welcome in only one of the three dental fraternities. Women role models in leadership positions in organized dentistry were scarce. AAWD has had more than one leader who has reported that their attempts dating from the 1940's to through the 1970's to integrate fully into organized dentistry were rebuffed.

Linkages to other organizations: AAWD for decades has been linked with a nonprofit organization, the Gillette Hayden Memorial Foundation. The other nonprofit with which AAWD is associated, Smiles for Success Foundation, came about around half way through my time. Both have had periods of activity in carrying out their missions, despite obstacles and variations in funding. There was a women's dental sorority at the same time AAWD existed and that sorority was an organization apart from AAWD. Sometime in the early 1980's the sorority disbanded and turned its funds over to AAWD, which totaled somewhere in the mid-five figures. One who was instrumental in that effort on the sorority side was Dr. Jean Savage of California.

AAWD's Board of Directors has been committed, dedicated, and innovative in meeting the challenges of not only keeping the organization going, but in advancing it. Innovations have been made in funding, communicating, and exciting the membership. At least two Board members who served during the period have previous experience as presidents of their home state dental societies. At one point about half way through the time period, AAWD added two student member positions to the Board. With those student members came an infusion of energy and activity. Student chapters of AAWD have been founded in places where none previously existed. Reports of their activities in the AAWD Chronicle are uplifting.

Several methods of funding were involved to support AAWD and its nonprofits. Members paid dues to AAWD. There was the infusion of funds from the disbanded sorority. Members and probably others contributed to AAWD's foundations. Members of the Dental Trade Alliance have provided steady support in funding AAWD conventions. Individuals from DTA member organizations have also pitched in from time to time to offer other support and expertise. Other businesses aligned with the goals of women dentists have at times also contributed to AAWD meetings. Some of those businesses were from the worlds of finance, fashion, and make-up. Smiles for Success recently raised funds through a corporate matching effort. A charity associated with a professional football player found the website for Smiles for Success and offered to contribute a certain amount per touchdown made, an offer that Smiles for Success accepted.

AAWD participated in the social media scene. AAWD has had its own restricted access channel on a video-based social media platform and a restricted access page on another social media platform.

An active awards program generated interest and from some reports, advanced careers of the recipients. The longest running award during the period has been the Lucy Hobbs Taylor award, and the recipients of that award on the whole

have had a reputation for being a role model but also for mentoring women dentists. Mentoring goes to the main reason AAWD exists, the precious commodity that those in their early years in the profession seek and that those in their middle to later years have to offer. There has been a military award and research awards for several years that came with monetary awards in different amounts. GHMF and Procter & Gamble contributed resources to a research award, and another research award funded by Colgate, was exclusively for undergraduate students.

AAWD Board members and former Board members have had contact with leadership in America and abroad and with women dentists in other countries. The president of AAWD has communed with United States presidents Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford. Dr. Jane Selbe met with the latter. Dr. Eleanor Bushee visited with women dentists of the United Kingdom both over there and in this country. A president of AAWD met with the president of the Canadian women dentists organization. One AAWD president met with the king of Norway. Two past presidents of AAWD visited with a group of women dentists in Japan and answered the Japanese women dentists' questions about AAWD.

The Board of AAWD receives many more requests than it can reasonably accommodate. The plethora of requests indicates the big need for AAWD to exist. The Board's members are volunteers and many are involved in other organizations besides AAWD. In the 1970's and 1980's those other organizations were churches. Beyond those years, additional organizations Board members were involved in often included other parts of organized dentistry.

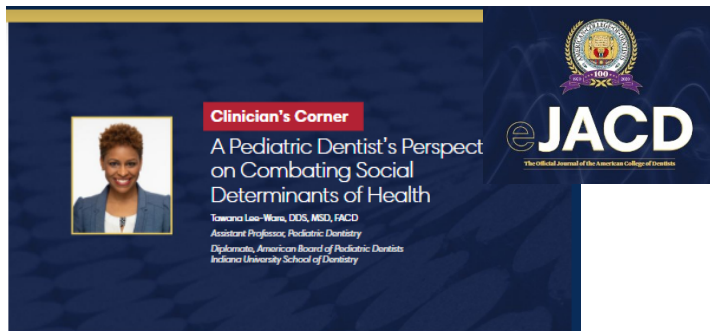
However, the volunteer Board continues to put together a record of accomplishment. That AAWD has existed for 100 years is no small feat. That long existence is the result of a membership willing to commit itself to the goals of AAWD and willing to dedicate itself to the tasks necessary to carry out that commitment. Along with the hard work, Board members have applied their expertise in performing duties.

For some reason, there persists on the part of at least one other dental organization a streak of misunderstanding about the need for AAWD to exist. That streak includes attempts to undermine AAWD. The Board, with a clear vision of the needs of its members, and an awareness of the wrongheadedness of doubting AAWD's potential for positive impact, continues to succeed in leading AAWD. Boards over the years seem to have an innate sense that there is no substitute for AAWD being able to have its own space to discuss ideas and to determine its own destiny. Whenever possible, AAWD has determined its own meeting times and places.

From 1974 through 2020, AAWD has been a place of action. More importantly, its presence has sent a message to those who pay attention. That message is that when AAWD succeeds, the profession of dentistry and those laboring within it are better for it. On the conclusion of an AAWD committee activity, an AAWD member with a record of success for decades said to me, "Keep that AAWD banner flying!"

Yours in dentistry,

Mary Licking, DDS



The global COVID-19 pandemic revealed deficits in health equity experienced by vulnerable and underrepresented populations on both a global and national level. In the United States, marginalized and minority populations suffered disproportionately due to the inequities in society and healthcare. The social determinants of health (SDoH) are increasingly recognized as a critical factor relating to health outcomes and general well-being. The practice of dentistry generally and the treatment of pediatric dentistry more specifically are impacted by the SDoH. Pediatric dentists are working to identify and address the complex components of SDoH across the dental public health and the overall emphasis on SDoH is limited.

The central focus of this paper is to provide a means of identifying clinical implications of SDoH and strategies to address this dilemma for the underserved at risk pediatric dental population. While the focus here is the pediatric patient population, these implications and strategies are applicable across our dental patient population spectrum (from pediatric to geriatric dentistry).

pandemic "lifting the veil" and exposing the realities of health inequalities inherent to our national healthcare challenges with systemic racism and challenges of healthcare systems.

Past President, Dr. Tawana Ware and 2021 President, Dr. Daphne Ferguson-Young were among several authors in the Official Journal of the American College of Dentists Autumn 2021 edition. The journal focused on Diversity & Inclusion.

Link to read full articles:

<https://www.acd.org/publications-2/publications/jacd/>



The American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) was formally organized in 1921 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with a delegation of twelve (12) women dentists. The organization was not focused on separating themselves from the male dentists but focused on building a network of women who could discuss the issues which are/were important to and for women dentists.

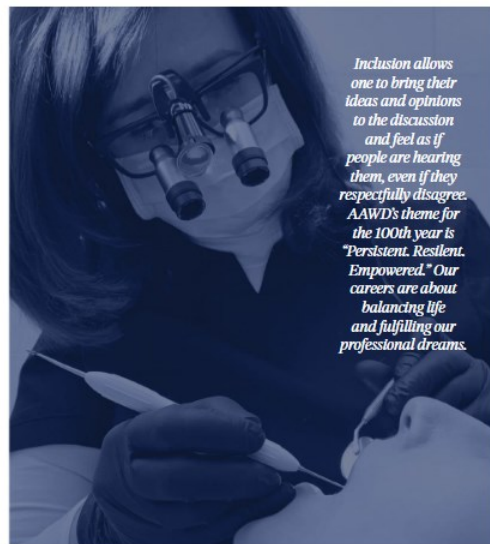
This year as AAWD celebrates the organization's 100th year, we will sponsor an interdisciplinary workshop on September 18 and October 23 from 10 am - 2 pm (EST). The workshop will discuss not only dental topics but will include workshops on business management and women's health.

Dentistry has evolved greatly over the last one hundred years. The practice of dentistry includes more technology and business savvy. Women are being accepted into dental schools where classes are now close to, if not 50% women. An organization which started out with 12 dedicated dentists now includes dental students, dental faculty, practicing dentists, armed services dentists, and retired dentists. With the multigenerational groups actively involved in AAWD, there is a wealth of experience and knowledge as well as a source for mentoring. The foundational principles which were present in 1921 are the foundation which still supports AAWD as it expands globally.

Worldwide, professional women are still challenged in their prospective careers. Not only are we dentists, but we are also business owners, spouses, parents (pets or children), caregivers, community volunteers as well as engaged in family activities. We are a diverse group of professionals. All are included in the AAWD as the

organization reflects the diversity of our country. Inclusion is about empowering and involving our members to ensure that everyone feels valued. Inclusion allows one to bring their ideas and opinions to the discussion and feel as if people are hearing them, even if they respectfully disagree. AAWD's theme for the 100th year is "Persistent. Resilient. Empowered." Our careers are about balancing life and fulfilling our professional dreams. It is about the support of sister dentists that we can depend on as we network and share ideas, skills and knowledge.

As profound as AAWD is with a diverse membership, which includes but is not limited to, the factors of race, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background, and age, the organization realizes that the other important part to add to diversity is inclusion. AAWD realizes that diversity + inclusion = organizational success. When an organization is 100 years old, AAWD knows that members have different skills, knowledge and interest.



Inclusion allows one to bring their ideas and opinions to the discussion and feel as if people are hearing them, even if they respectfully disagree. AAWD's theme for the 100th year is "Persistent. Resilient. Empowered." Our careers are about balancing life and fulfilling our professional dreams.

Our Board of Directors is designed to address every aspect of our membership. We have a director for each of these areas: Corporate Relations, Membership and Chapters, Federal Services, Member Benefits, Academic Affairs and a Student Representative. It is important that everyone has a representative.

As AAWD starts the next 100 years, we are committed to our mission and vision of the organization. We will continue to be the leading resource advancing, connecting and enriching the lives for women dentists.

Journal of the American College of Dentists

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Thank you to all of our partners!

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