

# Academy Examiner

THE ACADEMY OF LDS DENTISTS NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2006



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 15, 2006

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I sincerely hope that things are going well for you professionally and personally in 2006. The Academy of LDS Dentists is alive and well and quietly doing much good in many parts of the world.

In the hymn "Improve the Shining Moments" there is this statement: "Time flies on wings of lightning." Sometimes that is so true that it makes me sick. Remember when summer used to be three months long? Remember when Christmas vacation was days long instead of just a few hours? Last year we didn't have July. I don't know what happened, but we didn't have July.

We must *improve the shining moments*—improve our time. That means we increase the value of, take advantage of, or make good use of those moments.

So, how do we improve our time? Part of that has to do with how we choose to spend it—in what order and how much for which task or which project.

We have many chances to choose among a lot of things that are good, enjoyable, important, and exciting, not just between good and bad. If it were always a choice of doing good or bad, choosing would be easier, but mostly, it is a choice between many things, all of which are, to a degree, good, important, valuable, and enjoyable.

As you make *choices* for the summer months, please take a moment to renew your membership in the Academy and plan to join us at the annual conference August 17 and 18. The speakers are world class, and there is not a better value in continuing education to be found! Invite your non-Academy colleagues to join us and let them know what a great educational opportunity they are missing!

We appreciate your support and encourage your continued participation in charitable giving and service. The Academy would not be what it is without the interest, concern, generous contributions, and service of its members.

Elder Neal A. Maxwell said, "The highest challenge we have in mortality is to use our free agency well, making right choices in the interplay of time and talents.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be an outstanding conference this August. May the coming months bring you happiness and success.

And now I'll turn the time over to you. Use it well. Enjoy it. Appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Robert O. Boyer  
Academy President

## ACADEMY OF LDS DENTISTS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2005–2006

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Honduran dental student and missionary.

## HONDURAS HUMANITARIAN TRIP

Last May, Dr. Paul Glassett, 16 dentists, 15 pre-dental students, and approximately 35 others from various occupations visited Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras. The University of Honduras allowed the group the use of a clinic in the dental school that had been organized the previous year by another humanitarian group. This year's humanitarian service group was fortunate to have four oral and maxillofacial surgeons, two endodontists, eight general dentists, one periodontist, and four hygienists.

Although the goal was to provide dental services to the people of Tegucigalpa, the practitioners' experience was heightened by being able to treat 150 full-time missionaries. The oral surgeons worked hard all week performing everything from extractions of wisdom teeth to exposure of

implants which had been placed earlier. The endodontists were able to treat approximately 60 patients who would not otherwise have kept these teeth.

One student in particular was very interested in endo and spent many hours working side by side with Drs. Ross Stanford and Ray Tuckett. She was thrilled to have the experience of using rotary instruments. It was especially gratifying to hear later that she had been accepted into an endodontic program.



Dr. Paul Glassett works with Honduran dental students.

Many hours were spent with the undergraduate and post-graduate students teaching new concepts in restorative dentistry. The oral surgeons and the restorative doctors covered topics such as restorative bonding materials and digital radiography. The hygienists were invaluable, teaching techniques that the students had only known from textbooks.

Dr. Glassett said that it was truly a life-altering experience! He said, "It showed me that 'he who has been given much, he too must give.' The appreciation in a mother's eye and the tear of gratitude is what makes trips like these so wonderful. To see students grasp on to the teachings and to see that they too can progress and be accepted into a program are what make these trips fantastic."

The dean of the school as well as the professors and the students were very welcoming and open to the sharing of knowledge. The visit was very appreciated, and the group was invited to return the following year.

## MADAGASCAR NATIONAL DENTAL CONGRESS

Drs. Joel Janis and A. J. Smith traveled to Madagascar in August. They were the speakers for the scientific program of the Madagascar National Dental Congress, and they held training clinics in other public and private settings during their stay.

Drs. Janis and Smith were building on the sound foundation laid by missionaries Dr. Terry and Danne Morris. Elder and Sister

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2006 CONFERENCE, PLEASE CONTACT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS AT (801) 422-4853 OR VISIT [HTTP://LDSdentist.byu.edu](http://LDSdentist.byu.edu).**



Madagascar dentists observe Dr. Joel Janis.

Morris developed and introduced a wonderful program to teach basic nutrition and oral hygiene to elementary school children in Madagascar. At the request of the ministry of health, the missionaries gave those presentations to all elementary schools in cities where missionaries are assigned. More than 65,000 toothbrushes were dispensed to elementary school children during the process.

The national dental meeting was held in the city of Morondava on Madagascar's west coast. Drs. Janis and Smith presented the entire scientific program. Dr. Smith said, "The dentists attending were hungering for all of the advanced techniques and modern technology they could absorb."

The day before the national dental congress, Drs. Janis and Smith visited a free clinic sponsored by the Madagascar dentists. Over 850 teeth were extracted in one day. It is hoped that further training in modern restorative procedures can change the extraction mentality and reduce the necessity for them in this very poor nation.

The Academy of LDS Dentists donated two portable dental units,

one to the National Ministry of Health and the other to the National Dental Congress. The units will be used to provide dental care to the most needy in a terribly underserved population. Both organizations were incredibly appreciative.

Should any of you wish to have the teaching experience of a lifetime in a unique and wonderful country, please contact Dr. A. J. Smith (801-581-0145).

## **HYGIENIST KRISTEN KINATEDER RETURNS TO GHANA**

In December, Kristen Kinatader, an instructor in dental hygiene at Utah Valley State College, returned to Ghana for a second time. Her week at the University of Ghana at Korle Bu in Accra was spent teaching, consulting, and evaluating the progress of a new dental hygiene program in Ghana. On this visit another hygienist, Carla Lindblom, accompanied Kristen.

Kristen and Carla brought much-needed supplies with them. The UVSC dental hygiene program donated textbooks, sharpening

guides, and supplies. The Hu Friedy Company donated over \$2,000 worth of dental instruments. Carla, through fundraisers, donated \$800 worth of instruments so that each of the eight Ghanaian hygiene students could have her own set of hygiene instruments. Kristen purchased over \$200 worth of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss for distribution at the dental school and also to give to the Relief Society president for distribution at church. Dr. George Bailey donated another Bobcat ultrasonic machine.

Ghana has a severe periodontal problem, particularly with aggressive forms of periodontitis. Kristen described it as "some of the most tenacious calculus I have ever experienced!" The dean of the dental school and other health professionals recognize the need for dental hygiene, and Kristen's goal continues to be helping them develop a quality dental hygiene program for Ghanaian students.

Kristen's work in Ghana is also a great work spiritually. She said, "The main purpose for serving the people of Ghana is to show them how much I love them as fellow brothers and sisters. I hope to be a positive representative of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and help them to know how much we love them, regardless of their religious beliefs.



Each Ghanaian hygiene student was given her own set of instruments.



Kristen Kinateter and Carla Lindblom outside the Ghana Dental School.

I hope that by knowing me and what I believe, as well as by seeing the support and sponsorship of the Church members in my efforts, that they will want to learn more about the Church.”

Kristen is excited to go back this summer and is organizing other hygienists and former hygiene students to go with her. She and her students are working hard to raise money for their airfare and for products and supplies to donate. Throughout the past year she has gathered textbooks, PowerPoint presentations, visual aids, ultrasonic units, ultrasonic inserts, hand instruments, and sharpening supplies.

The students, dental school faculty, and dean at the University of Ghana have indicated that they would appreciate further help in the area of dental hygiene.

## **LECTURE TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA**

Drs. Gordon J. Christensen, Michael Christensen, Karl Koerner, Scott Healey, and Dale Linton will represent the Academy of LDS Dentists as dental lecturers in Campinas and São Paulo, Brazil, and in Santiago, Chile. The trip is planned for June 2006.

Last year's trip to India was a great success. More than 2,000 Indian dentists and, indirectly, possibly thousands more of their patients learned more about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Many friendships and contacts were made with government officials and dental school administrators. This year's trip will provide another opportunity for those in Brazil and Chile to learn more about the gospel.

## **PLAN NOW FOR THE AUGUST 18–19, 2006, CONFERENCE**

Dr. Christensen has planned an exciting conference. Topics include endodontics, practice and financial management, esthetic dentistry for teens and children, implant dentistry for routine use in practice, digital photography, effective use of dental insurance benefits, and bonding and bonding agents. Of course, Dr. Christensen will bring us up to date on the new aspects of dentistry.

More details are available on BYU's Web site <http://ldsdentist.byu.edu>.

## **ACADEMY OF LDS DENTISTS HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION**

### **Help the Academy Fund Unmet Humanitarian Needs**

The Academy of LDS Dentists has been involved in humanitarian efforts for over 20 years. The Academy of LDS Dentists Humanitarian Foundation funds humanitarian needs throughout the world. The activities of the foundation are too numerous to fully detail, but, in brief, they

include sponsoring establishing dental clinics in third-world nations near missionary training centers, developing educational missions and expeditions, and designing a loan program to help third-world dentists establish clinics.

For more information about the Academy's humanitarian efforts, you may visit the Academy Web site [www.academyofldsdentists.com](http://www.academyofldsdentists.com).

Please consider giving your support. A donation form is included with this newsletter.

Visit the Web site for information on the August 2006 conference and other Academy news: <http://ldsdentist.byu.edu>.

The Academy Web site, [www.academyofldsdentists.com](http://www.academyofldsdentists.com), is an excellent place to obtain information about academy news; service and missionary opportunities for dentists and others, both here and abroad; equipment that can be borrowed for dental service projects; a bulletin board for notices about practices for sale, members seeking jobs, and position openings; and many other areas of interest. There is even a Spanish-language page.

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The editor appreciates news tips, corrections, and comments from the newsletter readers.

# Academy of LDS Dentists Humanitarian Dental Service Fund



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136 Harman Continuing Education Building  
Provo, Utah 84602

- I would like to discuss a potential donation with the fund leadership.
- I have enclosed my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .
- I will make an annual donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ during the month of \_\_\_\_\_ .
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\_\_\_\_\_ arrange to make an automatic payment.
- I would like an accounting of where my funds have been used and a periodic update on the status of current projects.
- I may be in a position to donate equipment in good condition and/or supplies. Please contact me.
- I am aware of other potential contributors. Please contact me.
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## HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

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