

Brigham Young University
Academy of LDS Dentists
Conferences and Workshops
136 Harman Continuing Education Building
Provo, Utah 84602

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Academy Examiner

THE ACADEMY OF LDS DENTISTS NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2006



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thirty years ago I was completing my last year of dental school and looking forward to graduating in the spring. I had been offered a commission in the Public Health Service and was looking forward to the new experience of being a real dentist. Our third son had just been born, and Jimmy Carter had just been elected president. The New York Yankees beat the Los Angeles Dodgers four games to two to win the World Series, and the Oakland Raiders defeated the Minnesota Vikings 32-14 in Super Bowl XI in Pasadena. The minimum wage was increased to \$2.65 per hour, and gas was \$.65 a gallon. You could buy a gallon of milk for \$1.44 and a loaf of bread for \$.32. The average new car cost \$4,317, and you could purchase a nice house for \$58,000. Way off in Provo, Utah, Dr. Gordon Christensen had started CRA and was formulating plans for an academy of LDS dentists. Many of us have been the beneficiaries of his vision. Thanks, Gordon!

This August will be the 30th conference of the Academy of LDS Dentists. We would like to request your help to make it a special year. My e-mail, phone number, and address are listed below. If you have attended all 30 of the conferences, please let us know. Hey, if you have attended 29, 28, or even 25, let us know! We would like a list of longtime attendees. Second request: please plan to attend the 30th conference on August 17 and 18, 2007, and bring a friend. In fact, invite everyone you know. As usual, Gordon has lined up a wonderful program. Third request: we would like to reach out to as many LDS dentists as possible. If you have addresses for any of your colleagues, we would love to have them. We would like to know about both active and retired dentists, dental students and hygienists, old and young, ugly and handsome.

There have been some wonderful things occur over the last 30 years. It is impossible to thank everyone who has been involved and has contributed to this effort. I would just like to thank five people who are currently working behind the scenes: John Gerritsen and Gerald Summerhays for their continuing efforts in the area of humanitarian service, David Wright for his vision and work in raising funds for that service, Karl Koerner for his efforts in China, and Eileen Johnston for her work on this newsletter.

Eileen has just sold her practice and is visiting family and making plans for school and service abroad. We want to thank her for her contributions to the executive committee and the Academy. She will be missed. If anyone out there has wanted to edit a newsletter, please let us know. We need a new editor!

Finally, thanks to each of you. You are the strength and the spirit of the Academy of LDS Dentists. It is the way you live and what you give every day that makes this such a special organization. Help us share this with your colleagues and acquaintances. Look for the new DVD in the mail soon which will help you reach out to others. Share it with your friends!

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ACADEMY OF LDS DENTISTS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2005–2006

Founder: Gordon J. Christensen

President: Albert Clark

President Elect: David Geddes

Vice President: John Gerritsen

Secretary/Treasurer: Robert J. Capener

Immediate Past President:
Robert Boyer

Spouses' President: Jolene Chadwick

Hygienist President: Kristen Kinatered

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Mission Development
Councilor: Rick Meyers

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Service Development Councilor:
Gerald Summerhays

Service Funds Councilor:
David Wright

International Advisory: Gary West

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THE 29TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ANOTHER EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP SUCCESS!

Is it possible? Yes! This was the 29th year that LDS dentists have come together to enjoy two days of excellent academic courses, uplifting performances and spiritual and practical presentations for the spouses, and fellowship and fun for the entire family. All this was possible due to Dr. Gordon Christensen's vision and leadership that began the Academy 29 years ago and that continues to inspire the current Academy leadership today.

This year's Academy of LDS Dentists conference was well attended by dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, office staff, and dental students. As in past years, the August 2006 conference was another great success.

This conference is unusual in that the speakers give an overview of their area of interest in the morning. In the afternoon, conference attendees can chose two sessions in which the speakers give a more in-depth review of their subject. This format provides an opportunity for general dentists and specialists to get an overview of what is going on in all fields of dentistry. The hardest decision for the afternoon is choosing which two among the three or four excellent presentations to attend.

Attendance at the conference continues to grow. Last year the dental lectures were moved from the auditorium to two combined conference rooms with double screens on each side. Thankfully, all the audio and visual equipment worked perfectly. Topics covered this year were



Friday's speakers: Drs. Gordon Christensen, Kit Weathers, and Fred Margolis; Mr. Richard Collier; and Dr. Terry Green. (Dr. Christensen spoke on Saturday.)

tax-saving ideas, implant prosthodontics, dental care for the disabled, digital photography, dentin and enamel bonding, insurance coding, and endodontics. On Saturday, Dr. Christensen presented an update on dental materials and equipment, important to all dentists, regardless of interest or specialty.



Saturday's speakers: Drs. Gordon Christensen and Edward Swift; Ms. Carol Tekavec; and Dr. Stephen Snow.

THE ACADEMY'S NEW PRESIDENT



Dr. Robert Boyer, immediate past president, and the Academy's new president, Dr. Albert Clark.

Dr. Albert Clark was sustained during the Friday business meeting as the new president of the Academy; he will serve for two years. The Academy is very grateful for the service of Dr. Robert Boyer who now assumes the position of past president.

SPOUSES' MEETING: "And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Camille Olson, the opening speaker, introduced the theme of the spouses' meeting which was based on Esther 4:14, "and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" The topics covered were a mixture



The new spouses' president, Jolane Chadwick, and past president, Kari Sanford.

of spiritual and practical. Some examples included making gift boxes by Shauna Markle, "Preserving Family Life" by Ann Kerr, and "Jesus and the Popular Media" by Richard Holzapfel.

This year's spouses' conference was especially rich in music and the performing arts. Dr. Geddes's five daughters presented a delightful violin performance at the lunch break on Friday. Sharon Wiest gave a presentation on using puppets for service, and the musical group Providence entertained the spouses with contemporary music.

At this meeting, the spouses organized a display of colorful scrapbooks, a greatly appreciated addition to the conference.



A colorful service project puppet show for the spouses.

EACH PRESENTER GIVEN A BOOK OF MORMON

The presenters often have little familiarity with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the conference gives them the opportunity to meet LDS dentists and learn more about the Church, BYU, and Utah. A BYU pre-dental student is assigned to assist each presenter while at the conference. These students are wonderful ambassadors for the Academy, BYU, and especially the

Church. As at past conferences, Dr. Christensen gave each of this year's presenters a Book of Mormon with his or her name inscribed on the front cover.



Dr. Christensen gave a Book of Mormon to Dr. Fred Margolis.

YOUNGER CHILDREN AND OLDER YOUTH: FUN FOR ALL!

The experienced BYU Conferences and Workshops counselors know what kids like, and the youth and youngsters enjoyed two full days of adventure and fun.

Friday's activity was a trip to Lagoon that included lunch and dinner. On Saturday, both the teens and younger children enjoyed a trip to Seven Peaks, a sunscreen party, and field games on the Conference Center lawn. The youth were easy to spot, since all wore bright orange T-shirts with a happy tooth on the front.

YUMMY FOOD AND SNACKS, DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT, AND INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS

Delicious lunches and snacks were provided by the BYU Conferences and Workshops staff. The spacious patio and tents provided the opportunity for dentists and spouses and their children to meet for fellowship. Attendance at the conference is growing, so this year there were two tents.



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The elegant banquet on Friday evening was held at the Provo Marriott Hotel. The attendees were entertained and inspired by a beautiful and spiritually uplifting violin performance by the five daughters of Dr. David and Anavon Geddes. Dr. Grover and Carol Hoops, recently returned from a mission in Mongolia, gave their testimonies. Dr. Matthew Richardson, a professor at BYU, provided a delightfully humorous fireside that also contained a serious but encouraging message on the importance of personal spirituality.

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE AWARDS



Dr. A J Smith (left) and Dr. Steven Sorensen and his wife, Joann, with their Compassionate Service Award plaques.

Compassionate Service awards were presented by the Academy to Dr. A J Smith and to Dr. Steven Sorensen and his wife, Joann.

The Academy presented the Compassionate Service Award to Dr. A J Smith in recognition of many years of service in Academy leadership, including president of the organization. He has also held many positions in organized dentistry, and his influence has made an impact at every level of the profession and upon many people personally.

Steven J. Sorensen, DDS, and Joann A. Sorensen, RDH, have served in many locations throughout the world as missionaries and as humanitarian leaders and volunteers. In recognition of this service, the Academy was pleased to present them with the Compassionate Service Award.

The enthusiasm of Dr. Smith and Dr. Steven and Joann Sorensen has been inspirational to our entire membership. Their service is greatly appreciated by all the members.

AUGUST 17-18, 2007 PLAN NOW FOR NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE

Next year will mark the very special 30th annual meeting of the Academy of LDS Dentists. Imagine that! LDS dentists have been meeting together on the beautiful BYU campus for three decades. This will be a wonderful meeting, and Dr. Christensen has already invited very exciting speakers.

Many plan vacations around the conference to see the magnificent wonders of Utah or to renew ties with family and friends who may live in the area. Many stay after the conference to attend BYU's Campus Education Week that begins the Monday immediately following the conference.

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR MORE ON THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER ACADEMY NEWS

For more information on the August 2007 conference, please visit www.academyofldsdentists.com.

The Academy Web site is an excellent place to keep up to date. Information can be found there about the next conference; 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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2007 CONFERENCE, PLEASE CONTACT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS AT (801) 422-4853 OR VISIT [HTTP://LDSdentist.byu.edu](http://LDSdentist.byu.edu).