2023 AADB Mid-Year Meeting

Final Program

April 21st – 22nd, 2023

President James A. Sparks, DDS

AADB Thanks Our Program Committee Chair:
James A. Sparks, DDS (OK)
Vice Chair:
Dale Chamberlain, DDS (MT)
Yvonne Bach (KY)
Brian Barnett (MO)
Sherry Campbell, RDH, CDHC (AL)
Bobby Carmen, DDS (OK)
Cliff Feingold, DDS (NC)
Martin Gillis, DDS (Liverpool)
Kristina Gomez, (AZ)
Arthur Chen-Shu Jee, DMD (MD)
Frank Maggio, DDS (IL)
Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD (NE)
Laura Rchoux, RDH (MS)
Tonia Socha-Mower, MBA, EdD (AADB)
Robert Zena, DMD (KY)

American Association of Dental Boards
1701 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20006

200 East Randolph Street, Suite 5100
Chicago, IL 60601

Updated 04/18/2023
About AADB

The American Association of Dental Boards is a national organization that encourages the highest standards of dental education. The AADB promotes higher and uniform standards of qualification for dental practitioners. Membership is composed of boards of dentistry, advanced education boards, present and past members of those boards, board administrators, board attorneys, educators, and oral health stakeholders.

Our Mission

To serve as a resource by providing a national forum for exchange, development, and dissemination of information to assist dental regulatory boards with their responsibility to protect the public.

About AADB’s Mid-Year Meeting

The AADB Meeting provides an excellent forum for keeping up-to-date with state board concerns. Programs are designed to allow opportunities for interaction among all participants, including board members, dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, educators, board attorneys, public members, investigators and dental specialty associations. Panels and small discussion groups exchange ideas and information. Participants take away valuable information on current issues and all aspects of dental and dental hygiene regulation.
Meeting Agenda

Friday, April 21

***Please note the times listed below are in Eastern Time***

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. New Member Orientation – *Breakout*
Robert B. Zena, DMD
AADB Immediate Past-President

12:00 p.m. - 12:10 p.m. AADB President’s Opening Remarks
James A. Sparks, DDS
AADB President

Manuel A. Cordero, DDS, CPH, MAGD
Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer
Hispanic Dental Association

Chris Fox, DMD, DMSc
Chief Executive Officer
International Association for Dental Research
American Association for Dental Research

Michael Windsor Johnson DDS, MPH
Rear Admiral (RDML), Assistant Surgeon General
Chief Dental Officer, U.S. Public Health Service
National Chief Dentist
Federal Bureau of Prisons

Timothy L. Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD
RADM (Ret.), U.S. Public Health Service
Former Chief Dental Officer
IHS Headquarters Division of Oral Health

12:10 p.m. - 12:25 p.m. Chief Executive Officer’s Welcome & Report
Tonia Socha-Mower, MBA, EdD
AADB Chief Executive Officer

12:25 p.m. - 1:25 p.m. Potential Violence in the Dental Community
David James
Deputy Mayor of Emergency Services
Louisville, Kentucky

1:25 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Break

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Marijuana: A Budding Concern for the Dental Professional
Christopher K. Finch, Pharm.D., FCCM, FCCP
Chair and Professor
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Translational Science

Updated 04/18/2023
2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.  AADB Forum: State/Territory Board Issues - Breakout
Frank Maggio, DDS
AADB Member and Moderator

This closed session is for individual voting members. State/Territory Board staff are encouraged to attend. If you have questions about your membership, please email info@dentalboards.org.

3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.  ADEA Update
Gülsün Gül, DDS, MBA, MPH, MS
Chief Policy Officer, Office of Policy & Education Research
American Dental Education Association (ADEA)

3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  AADB Representative Reports
CDEL: Donald P. Bennett, DDS (SOUTH)
Catherine Watkins, DDS (SOUTH)
Maurice Miles, DDS (WEST)

CODA: Carolyn Brown, DMD (SOUTH)
Maxine Feinberg, DDS (EAST)
Burrell Tucker, DDS (WEST)

JCNDE: Mary A. Starziak, RN, DDS (NORTH)
Julie W. McKee, DMD (SOUTH)
Jeetendra Patel, DDS (SOUTH)
Mark Zajkowski, DDS, MD (EAST)

DANB: Frank A. Maggio, DDS (NORTH)

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  Impaired Practitioner Programs
William T. Kane, DDS, MDA, PC
Chairman of the Dentist Well-Being Committee
Missouri Dental Association

4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Business Meeting - Report from the Bylaws Committee
Frank A. Maggio, DDS
Chair of AADB

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Hygienist Caucus Meeting – Breakout
Laura Richoux, RDH
AADB Caucus Chair

This is a closed session for hygienists who serve or have served on a board of dentistry.
Saturday, April 22

***Please note the times listed below are in Eastern Time***

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  President/Vice-President/Executive Director Caucus Meeting – Breakout
Dale Chamberlain, DDS
AADB President-Elect

This is a closed session for Dental Board Leadership.

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Investigator Caucus Meeting – Breakout
W. Blake Strickland
Executive Director
Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

This is a closed session for Dental Board Investigators.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Regional Caucus Meetings
North Caucus – Breakout
South Caucus – Breakout
East Caucus – Breakout
West Caucus – Breakout

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.  Break

1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  Caucus Reports
North:  James A. Sparks, DDS, AADB President
South:  Melodie Jones, DMD, AADB Caucus Chair
East:  Arthur Chen-Shu Jee, DMD, AADB Vice President
West:  Dale Chamberlain, DDS, AADB President-Elect

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  Dental Compacts
Tammie L. Perreault
Northwest Regional Liaison (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY)
Department of Defense

Matthew Shafer
Deputy Policy Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Sponsorship Recognition

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Insights from Medical Healthcare Regulators
Lisa Robin
Chief Advocacy Officer
Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Biofilm & Waterline Updates for Dental Practices
Amanda Hill, BSDH, RDH
Industry Educator, Speaker, Author

5:00 p.m.  Adjournment
Biographies as received on 4/18/2023

Donald P. Bennett, DDS, AADB Representative (CDEL)
Dr. Bennett is a 1985 graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry and has been in private practice for 37 years. He is a continuous tri-partite member of the ADA, LDA, and NODA, as well as the Past President of the New Orleans Dental Association. Dr. Bennett was the 2020 recipient of the New Orleans Dental Association Honor Dentist award, Past General Chairman of the New Orleans Dental Conference, Member of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry since 2016 and current President. He is the current examiner for CIT and CDCA and member of the CIT Board of Directors and Quality Assurance Committee and a Fellow in the ACD and ICD.

Carolyn Brown, DDS, AADB Representative (CODA)
Dr. Carolyn Brown was appointed by the American Association of Dental Boards to serve as a Commissioner on the Commission on Dental Accreditation for the term 2021-2025. Dr. Brown received her undergraduate degree from Columbia College, Columbia, SC. She is a 1994 graduate of the Medical University of SC (MUSC) James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine and was recognized with the 2021 Distinguished Alumna Award. Following 22 years of private practice, Dr. Brown is currently a staff dentist in the Dental Service at the Columbia Veterans Affairs Health Care System, Columbia, SC. She is a fellow of the American College of Dentists. Dr. Brown is an alumnus of the ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership (2016-2017 Class). In 2015, SC Governor Nikki Haley appointed Dr. Brown to the SC Board of Dentistry. As past president and current board member serving under Governor Henry McMaster, Dr. Brown is the recipient of the Exemplary Service Award of the SC State Board of Dentistry. She is a member of the Admissions Committee of the MUSC James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine. Dr. Brown is a Federal Dental Services member of the American Dental Association and continues to serve in various capacities of organized dentistry.

Dale Chamberlain, DDS, President-Elect
AABD President-Elect, Dr. Dale Chamberlain, DDS, is an oral & maxillofacial surgery specialist in Helena. Dr. Chamberlain has been in private practice in Helena since 2012. He received his DDS degree from Creighton University in 1988. From 1989-2011, Chamberlain had a private practice in Lewistown. While in Lewistown he also set up the dental program and worked two days a month at NEXUS, a methamphetamine treatment center, for five years.

Dr. Chamberlain was awarded the Shampaine-Low Award by the CDCA-WREB-CITA in January.

Manuel A. Cordero, DDS, CPH, MAGD, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer (Hispanic Dental Association)
Dr. Manuel A. Cordero is the Executive Director and CEO of the Hispanic Dental Association since the third quarter of 2018. He had been the first Hispanic dental leader to become President of a National dental organization in the USA. As a dentist, he had always been an independent and early adopter of technology, science and safety measures that improve outcomes for the patients and provide more safety and efficiencies for the dental team. In his third year at Temple School of Dentistry, he started wearing latex gloves while treating his patients in the clinic and when he graduated in 1983, he was the first dentist in the Sewell area in NJ who used gloves and also practiced sterilization protocols that were adopted 6 years later with the onset of the AIDS epidemic. A year later he opened a second office in Vineland NJ, where he chose to serve a rural community with less economic means but greater oral healthcare needs. Early in his career, he felt the need to expand his clinical areas of expertise. That was when he was exposed to organized dentistry and its impact on the improvement and growth of the field of dentistry we know today. After training in all facets of dentistry, he pursued Public Health at the request of Dr. Rufus Caine, Director Of Public Health at UMDNJ. He planted the seeds of intellectual morsels from which he still benefits today. His perspective changed to what could be possible when confronting unlimited public needs, with scarce funding but empowered with efficient and effective tools as our secret weapon on this proven approach.

Dr. Cordero was one of 180 health professionals selected for the Surgeon General report workshop, which would highlight for the second time in 20 years, the importance of Oral Health on Systemic health. Two years later he was honored as the David Satcher Keynote Speaker in 2020. He has been part of the AGD, ADA, AOD, ARVTSC, ADI, ACD, ICD and they have nurtured and educated him to have the impact in dentistry that he has had in the health and well-being of those he has served. His hypothesis worked; a private dental practice focused on patient outcomes in two very distinct socioeconomic neighborhoods with almost identical outcomes. He encourages the patients to match the provider’s commitment in order to get the best outcomes since they should be one and the same. Color, ethnicity gender, and economic capacity are only demographics, actions are the ones that make the difference. He feels that It takes all involved to participate equally in order to achieve mutually desired outcomes.
In Review

She cares about career development. She completed a management program at Advanced School, MS, and Study in Pediatric Certificate and from Gül of Care Society, Society International. She served in healthcare journals and is well-recognized for her contributions. As a pharmacist, she served several roles in the field of medicine.

As a dentist, she served several roles in the American College of Dentistry and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. She was selected Pharmacist of the Year in 2019 by the Tennessee Pharmacist Association.

Dr. Feinberg graduated from New York University College of Arts and Sciences in 1977 and NYU's College of Dentistry in 1980. She returned to NYU after her residency in anesthesiology and working as a general dentist and treating patients confined in nursing homes to complete her certificate in Periodontics in 1984.

Dr. Feinberg is a past president of the New Jersey Dental Association and the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, where she served for 9 years. She has been a delegate in both the ADA and New Jersey Dental Associations House of Delegates. She initiated the New Jersey Give Kids A Smile campaign in 2002 and 2003. She remains active in both her component dental society and the NJDA.

Christopher K. Finch, Pharm.D., FCCM, FACC, Chair and Professor (University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Pharmacy) was born in Memphis, TN. He received a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Lambuth University in Jackson, Tennessee and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, Memphis. He completed a specialized residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Finch taught for two years at Auburn University, School of Pharmacy and the University of Alabama, School of Medicine before moving back to his hometown of Memphis in the summer of 2003. While in Memphis, Dr. Finch served in several roles during his 16 years at Methodist Healthcare, University Hospital, including the Director of Pharmacy for the last 5 years before leaving for UTHSC. As Chair, he continues to coordinate and teach in the Pharmacy Professional Development course and several other courses at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Pharmacy. His clinical interests include pulmonary disease, drug interactions, adverse drug events, and drug-induced disease. Dr. Finch has published over 70 manuscripts in several well-recognized pharmacy and medical journals and has been an invited speaker at several national medical and pharmacy conferences. He is a Fellow in both the American College of Critical Care Medicine and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. He was selected Pharmacist of the Year in 2019 by the Tennessee Pharmacist Association.

Dr. Gül is a graduate of the ADEA Emerging Leaders Program (2018) and the ADEA Leadership Institute (2022). She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, District of Colombia Dental Society, American Dental Association, American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry, Special Care Dentistry Association, and American Dental Education Association.

Dr. Gül received her dental degree from Hacettepe University, School of Dentistry, Ankara, Turkey. In addition, she received her MBA from Suffolk Sawyer School of Management, an MPH degree from Tufts Medical School, a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Pediatric Dentistry, and an MS from Tufts Dental School, Boston, MA.

Amanda likes to describe her career in dental hygiene as an adventure. Growing up in and then marrying into the military, she has had the opportunity to experience life and dentistry all over the world. Amanda had the good fortune to begin her dental career in an office where excellence was the norm. She had the chance to be stretched and challenged while traveling for courses and learning the latest in clinical care and patient communication. Thus developing a love for learning. Through her adventures around the world, she became obsessed with finding ways to continue her education and stay current and in connection with the dental industry. She is an enthusiastic speaker, innovative consultant, and award-winning author. Recipient of OSAP’s Emerging Infection Control Leader award, a member of the Cellerent executive consulting team, an active participant with the advisory board for RDH magazine, Dentistry IQ, and OSAP’s Infection Control In Practice Editorial Review Board and membership committee, Amanda strives to make topics in dentistry accurate, accessible, and fun! She can be reached at www.amandahillrdh.com and AmandaHillRDH@gmail.com.

David James is a native of Louisville who is dedicated to community service, public safety, and public service.

In 1984, Mr. James joined the Louisville Police Department to begin his career in law enforcement and was the first African American to be awarded Rookie of the Year. Mr. James was also part of the United States Army Reserves between 1983 and 1989. As a Military Intelligence Specialist with a "Top Secret" clearance level, his responsibilities included gathering intelligence and evaluating military units for their combat readiness.
From 2004 to 2007, he was Commissioner of the Kentucky Bureau of Investigation, the investigative arm of the Kentucky Attorney General’s Office. He was elected on November 2, 2010, to serve as Councilman of the Metro Council’s Sixth District. In 2022, he was elected to serve a fifth term as President of the Metro Council. He has served two terms as Majority Leader, a position that elevated him to President Pro Tem of the Metro Council and the Chair of the 17-member Democratic Caucus.

In 2023, David was appointed to the Office of Metro Louisville Deputy Mayor, Emergency Services.

Mr. James was the first African American admitted into his Masonic Lodge and the Kosair Shriners.

David married his sweetheart, Michelle on July 9th, 2011 at the Old Louisville Women’s Club. Together, they have two beautiful daughters, two sons-in-law and three grandchildren. David and Michelle reside in historic Old Louisville where they enjoy long walks with their dog, Cooper.

**Melodie Jones, DMD, AADB Caucus Chair (South)**

Dr. Melodie Anderson Jones serves as a Board Member on the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama. She is also a Member of the State Committee on Public Health for the Alabama Department of Public Health and serves as Chair of the Council on Dental Health for the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Dr. Jones is a life member of the American Dental Association, the Alabama Dental Association, and the Second District Dental Society serving as an active member since 1992. She has served as President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Program Chair of the Second District Dental Society. She has served as a delegate to the House of Delegates of the Alabama Dental Association and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Dental Association.

Dr. Jones has served on the Oral Health Coalition of Alabama and the Council on Dental Health of the Alabama Department of Public Health. Dr. Jones has practiced general dentistry for over 30 years providing comprehensive dental care to patients of all ages. Dr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry from Auburn University and a Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry, class of 1992. Dr. Jones is on the Executive Alumni Council of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association and is currently the Secretary-Treasurer of the Alumni Association.

**William T. Kane, DDS, MBA, PC, Chairman of the Dentist Well-Being Committee (Missouri Dental Association)**

Dr. Kane graduated from the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Dentistry in 1980. He maintains a general practice in rural Dexter, Missouri. In addition to practicing dentistry, Dr. Kane’s interest and passion have been in the area of recovery and wellness. Dr. Kane served as Chairman of the Dental Well-Being Committee for the Missouri Dental Association from 1987 to 2016. Additionally, Dr. Kane served as a member of the Dental Wellness Advisory Committee (DWAC) with the American Dental Association. Dr. Kane is very familiar with issues facing dental professionals and patients with addictive diseases. He also completed an MBA in 1992 from Southeast Missouri State University. In 2013, Dr. Kane was selected by the Missouri Dental Association as “Missouri Dentist of the Year.” In May 2016, Dr. Kane was appointed to serve on the Missouri Dental Board, he served as President in 2018 and 2019. Currently, he is the Representative of the Missouri Dental Board on The Prescription Drug Monitoring Task Force. Dr. Kane co-founded The Smiles of Hope Clinic in Dexter, Missouri in 2010 which provides emergency dental care for individuals who have difficulty accessing care.

**Frank Maggio, DDS, AADB Member and Moderator**

The AADB Board Member Forum will be facilitated by Frank A. Maggio, DDS. This lively, interactive session will provide the General Assembly an opportunity to discuss regulatory concerns and other important topics encountered by state boards in a spontaneous, free-flowing setting. Participate in the AADB Board Member Forum by asking questions, discussing challenges, and sharing your successful practices and innovations.

**Julie McKee, DMD, AADB Representative (JCNDE)**

Dr. McKee received a degree in Biology from the University of Kentucky and received a Dental Degree from the University of Louisville in 1983. She practiced General Dentistry for 10 years in Mount Sterling, Kentucky and worked in state government, focusing on healthcare policy and regulation. Dr. McKee has managed a four-county district health department for 12 years and held the position of State Dental Director since 2007. She was awarded the Presidential Award of the Kentucky Dental Association in the fall of 2020 and the President’s Award for Outstanding Merit in Public Health Dentistry, Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, in April 2022.
Jeetendra Patel, DDS, AADB Representative (JCNDE)
Dr. Jeetendra Patel received his BS in 1995 from the Louisiana State University-Shreveport (LSU-S) in Biology and his DDS from the LSU School of Dentistry in 2001. He also completed a 1-year hospital-based residency (GPR) at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Biloxi, MS. In 2019, Dr. Patel was appointed by the Governor of Louisiana, John Bel Edwards, to serve on the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. In December 2021, Dr. Patel was appointed as a Commissioner to the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE). Besides being on the State Board and JCNDE, Dr. Patel has been in private practice since 2003 and currently owns a dental practice in Monroe, Louisiana. Dr. Patel was born in Birmingham, England and lived there for 10 years before moving to the United States in 1982. He has lived in Louisiana for 39 years.

Tammy L. Perreault, Northwest Regional Liaison (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY) (Department of Defense)
Tamme has served as the Regional Liaison for the Defense-State Liaison Office working with the State Legislatures of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Tammie currently leads the coordination between the Department of Defense and the Council of State Governments to develop occupational licensure compacts through a congressionally authorized cooperative agreement.

As a Regional Liaison she provides reliable information and research, knowledge of policies and processes, and assistance with legislation — all to support service members and their families.

She is an Operation Iraqi Freedom Combat Veteran where she earned a Bronze Star and Combat Action Badge. Prior to joining the Defense-State Liaison Office, Tammie focused on natural resource and forest policy at the international, national, state and local level. Tammie is a graduate of the Gonzaga University ROTC program and holds a Master's in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College. She is a graduate of AgForestry Class 38 and is an Excellence in Government Fellow for 2022-23.

Laura Richoux, RDH, Dental Hygiene Member
Laura Richoux is a dental hygienist on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. After graduating from the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s Dental Hygiene program, she practiced her first four years in South Louisiana and has spent the last fifteen years practicing in Mississippi. Laura served as the Dental Hygienist at Large on the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners for six years and is currently serving as the Dental Hygienist member of the American Association of Dental Boards.

Lisa Robin, Chief Advocacy Officer, Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)
Ms. Robin currently leads the FSMB Washington, DC office. Ms. Robin earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Texas Christian University. During her tenure with the FSMB, Ms. Robin has been active in policy development and promulgation on issues including telehealth and license portability, pain management and addiction treatment, medical marijuana, stem cell and regenerative medicine, regulatory structure and function, and issues related to ethics and professionalism. In addition to policy development, Ms. Robin, as an executive member of the C-Suite, is involved with the overall administration of the FSMB and is directly responsible for FSMB’s state and federal government affairs and policy, communications/public affairs and the FSMB Research and Education Foundation.

Matt Shafer, Deputy Policy Director (National Center for Interstate Compacts)
Matt Shafer currently serves as the Deputy Director at the National Center for Interstate Compacts at The Council of State Governments. Matt manages interstate compact development projects for teaching, cosmetology, massage therapy, social work and dentistry. Matt also works with state legislators and stakeholder groups to support the enactment of compacts for counseling, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology. Matt has vast experience developing and building consensus on policy options for state legislators. Matt has a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Kentucky.

Tonia Socha-Mower, MBA, EdD, AADB Chief Executive Officer
A pioneer in the public health arena, Dr. Socha-Mower is the CEO of the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB). She first gained national attention when she started the first dental clinic in the United States that was embedded in a medical and mental health clinic in a student health center on a college campus in eastern Kentucky. She ultimately was promoted to the Director of Counseling, Medical and Dental Services at Morehead State University.
W. Blake Strickland, Executive Director, Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Director Strickland began his public safety career in 1987 working as an EMT with an ambulance company to put himself through college. After graduating with a Bachelor’s in Criminal Justice and a minor in Forensic Sciences, Director Strickland continued his public safety career by working as an EMT and a Police Officer. Over the course of a 30+ year career, he has served as a trainer, tactical medic and tactical supervisor, public information officer, internal affairs supervisor, robbery/homicide detective and, ultimately, rose to the rank of Deputy Chief of Police. Director Strickland has taught regionally and nationally on investigations, use-of-force, weapons, and internal affairs. In 2015, he accepted the position of investigator with the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama and was named the executive director for the agency in 2022.

James A. Sparks, DDS, AADB President

Dr. James A. Sparks is a dentist in private practice in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. A graduate of Oklahoma University College of Dentistry, class of 1986, where he is and has been part-time faculty in Oral Diagnosis and Radiology ever since, and is currently a Clinical Associate Professor. He was elected to six terms (18 years) on the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry and served as President for 8 years. Currently, Dr. Sparks is serving as President of the American Association of Dental Boards.

Mary A. Starckiak, RN, DDS, AADB Representative (JCNDE)

Dr. Mary A. Starckiak is a graduate of Loyola University Dental School in 1984. Her undergraduate degree is a BSN, RN from the College of St. Teresa associated with the Mayo Clinic in Rochester Minnesota. She worked as an ICU nurse during dental school plus a few years after and maintains her RN license today. She is the daughter of a general dentist and a sister of an oral surgeon. She has her own private practice of general dentistry since 1984.

She serves on the Joint Commission on National Dental Exams as an AADB representative at this time being a member of AADB. She is a Past President of the Central Regional Testing Agency (CRDTS) and has served on the CRDTS Steering Committee and Officer track leading up to President. She has served as a member of the State of Illinois Board of Dentistry from 2009 and served as its chair from 2012-2014 and 2016-2017. She has served as a Board Examiner for the CDCA-WREB-CITA; and Central Regional Testing Agency (CRDTS)

She is the Regent of the International College of Dentistry District VIII and served as the Program Chair for the Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting 2022. She has served on numerous Boards and Committees including the Illinois State Dental Society; Chicago Dental Society; was a Founding member of the Chicago Dental Society Foundation; The American Dental Association Council of Communication; Odontographic Society of Chicago and President of the Dental Arts Club of Chicago. She has also served on the Resurrection Healthcare Foundation Board along with Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center Advisory Board.

She is a fellow of the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists, the Academy of Dentistry International, the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the Academy of General Dentistry and the Odontographic Society. She has been awarded the Raffaele Suriano Award in 2014 from the University of Illinois/Loyola Alumni Society for her work with geriatric patients. She was a past dentist/ consultant at Chicagoland Methodist Senior Services since 1994.

Catherine Watkins, DDS, AADB Representative (CDEL)

Dr. Watkins attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she earned a Master's Degree in Geriatric Dentistry and a PH.D. in Oral Epidemiology.

Dr. Watkins serves as the dentist for the special management patients at dental care. From June 2003 until September 2004, she established the Special Needs Dental Program at Wake Forest University Baptist Hospital Medical Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Dr. Watkins was an assistant professor in the Department of Preventive and Community Dentistry at the College of Dentistry at the University of Iowa from August 1995 to June 2003. For over 20 years her dental practice and training have focused on Geriatric Dentistry. Dr. Watkins has authored numerous research articles related to oral health among older adults. She was recently recognized as a diplomate of the American Board of Special Care Dentistry. She is committed to improving the quality of oral health care for seniors and currently works as an oral health consultant for the Ssjogren’s Support Group of the Triad.

Mark Zajkowski, DDS, AADB Representative (JCNDE)

Dr. Mark Zajkowski is an oral & maxillofacial surgeon practicing in South Portland, Maine. He is a graduate of the UCLA School of Dentistry, Harvard Medical School and the Isenberg School of Business at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He completed his surgical residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1999.

Mark currently serves as the Chair of the Maine Board of Dental Practice and serves on the board of OMSNIC, the leading malpractice carrier for oral surgeons. He has also served as an examiner, director and President of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and President of the Maine Dental Association. He has also remained active in many committees with AAOMS and the Joint Commission.
His clinical interests include dentoalveolar surgery, cleft lip and palate reconstruction, head and neck pathology, outpatient anesthesia, and patient safety.

Robert B. Zena, DMD, AADB Immediate Past-President
Dr. Robert Zena has a very diversified background from his four decades of devotion to the dental profession. He has assumed the roles of clinician, educator, consultant, researcher, author, lecturer, editor, inventor, and most of all leader. As a graduate of the University of Kentucky’s College of Dentistry, he practiced for seven years as a general dentist. He then gained more education through a residency in the Postgraduate Prosthodontics Program at the University of Louisville’s School of Dentistry.
Refund Policy:
Notification of cancellation must be submitted in writing to srojas@dentalboards.org. Cancellations are subject to a $75 cancellation charge. No refunds will be given after March 15, 2023. Substitutions are allowed at any time but must be submitted in writing and must be of the same membership status.

Continuing Education:
The ACE Program is a service of the AADB to assist dental boards in identifying quality continuing education courses to help protect the public. ACE accreditation may not be accepted by particular boards of dentistry. Questions or comments can be directed to the AADB at info@dentalboards.org.

Unauthorized recording policy
The American Association of Dental Boards is committed to providing a professional environment that is open to the free expression of views and ideas and cultivating a learning community. Recording conversations, phone calls, images, or organizational meetings with any recording device (including but not limited to a cellular telephone, PDA, digital recording device, digital camera, etc.) unless all parties to the conversation give their consent in advance is hereby prohibited. A violation of this policy will result in corrective action which can include being removed from the conference.
## Caucuses by State

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Updated 04/18/2023
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Please note the American Association of Dental Boards does not endorse or advocate any of the positions discussed in this meeting.