

What a whirlwind!

I am so excited to be the new ASDHA president I hardly know what to say. That really isn't like me, I'm a chatterbox! I am thankful and weary of those who have put their faith and trust in me. I wonder if some didn't know they were voting when they raised a hand.

This whole process is new to me but I am dedicated to doing the best job I can. I have all the books passed down from Brandi Seagraves, and that's all I need... right?

I am so thankful to Brandi Seagraves, Royann Royer, Gail Walden, Lisa Wells, and especially Anjanette Watts-Walsh. Anje has been more of a "Co-President" than a Vice President and has kept me up to speed with the goings on of the city folk. Being down here on the Kenai Peninsula can seem somewhat disconnected, and I value that because I have something in common with all the members outside of Anchorage who may feel a little "out of the loop."

This coming year is going to be a bundle of new experiences for me, and I hope to fulfill the expectations of the membership. But, I assure you, it will be more difficult to fulfill my own expectations than yours. The goals I have set forth are as follows:

1. Increase membership. Our current 6-7% is much lower than I'd like, and my goal is to double that by January 2010. Lofty? Maybe. I think with our board and members it can be accomplished.
2. Work with the Anchorage Dental Society, Alaska Dental Action Committee, and the Dental Workforce in Alaska Committee to bring positive and complimentary relationships between dentists and hygienists in Alaska.

With that said, I imagine by the time I'm ready to pass the baton I'll have to ask Anje to slow down so I can get it to her.

Please feel free to contact my personal email zanyce @ gmail.com, with any questions or comments you may have. I am especially interested in hearing ideas to increase membership. Remember, even if you don't want to participate in association activities, your membership dues help maintain hygiene's current role in Alaska as well as support worthwhile projects geared toward getting the most out of our profession.

I hope you're as excited as I am!

ZBergRDH
President, ASDHA