



**Contact Info:**

Bronwyn Barrera

(312) 440-8913

[communications@adha.net](mailto:communications@adha.net)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **American Dental Hygienists' Association Announces New Leadership for 2022-2023**

**CHICAGO, July 20, 2022** – On June 26, 2022, the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) installed Dawn Ann Dean, RDH, MSDH, of Wheeling, West Virginia, as the organization's 2022-2023 president, along with ADHA's new slate of officers for the upcoming year.

Dean graduated with an Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene from West Liberty State College in 1984. She then earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from West Virginia University, Eberly College of Arts & Sciences, in 1986, and subsequently a Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Research & Administration from the West Virginia University, School of Dentistry, in 1992. Dean's professional career includes work as a clinical dental hygienist, clinical instructor at West Liberty University, Sarah Whitaker Glass School of Dental Hygiene, and an RDH expert witness and entrepreneur. She has held numerous leadership positions on the local, state and national levels, including ADHA District III Trustee from 2016-2020 and the 2020-2021 ADHA Vice President.

Currently, Dean is an Assistant Professor at the WVU School of Dentistry, Department of Dental Hygiene, in Morgantown, West Virginia.

"Becoming President as we kick off ADHA's 100th celebration is an incredible honor," says Dean. "We have come a long way as a profession and I look forward to making strides in the way we come together as a community to advocate, govern and provide education opportunities for all dental hygienists."

Dean succeeds Sharlee Burch, RDH, MPH, EdD of Lexington, Kentucky who is now serving as ADHA Immediate Past President.

Additional ADHA officers newly installed at ADHA's House of Delegates meeting include:

- Becky Smith, CRDH, EdD, a Miami, Florida native, is the President Elect 2022-2023
- Erin Haley-Hitz, RDH, BSDH, MS of Lincoln, Nebraska, is the 2022-2023 Vice President

- Jeanna Secrist, RDH of Twin Falls, Idaho is the Treasurer 2021-2023
- Valoree Althoff, MHA, BSDH, CPP-T PRP of Farmington, New Mexico, is the 2022-2024 Speaker of the House of Delegates (HOD)

Along with the president, president-elect, vice-president, treasurer and immediate past president, the following directors make up the ADHA Board of Directors and are currently serving to conduct national association business:

**District I Director** E. Jane Crocker, RDH  
**District II Director** Carolynn Wahl, BSDH, RDH, PHDHP  
**District III Director** Sheri Moore, RDH, BSHS  
**District IV Director** Renee Spencer, RDH  
**District V Director** Beth Tronolone, RDH, BS, MOL  
**District VI Director** *Pending Appointment*  
**District VII Director** Carissa Renae Regnerus, RDH, MA  
**District VIII Director** Christina Emmert, RDH, PRP  
**District IX Director** LeeAnn Winkler, RDH, BSDH  
**District X Director** Cara Reck, BS, RDH, LAP  
**District XI Director** Pamela Larrabee, RDH, BAS, MA  
**District XII Director** Jennifer Frame, RDH, BSDH  
**Speaker of the House** Valoree Althoff, MHA, BSDH, CPP-T PRP  
**Chief Executive Officer** Ann Battrell, MSDH

###

### **About the American Dental Hygienists' Association**

The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) is the only organization representing the professional interests of the more than 200,000 dental hygienists in the United States. Dental hygienists are preventive oral health professionals, licensed in dental hygiene, who provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services that support total health through the promotion of optimal oral health. To learn more about the ADHA, dental hygiene or the link between oral health and general health, visit [adha.org](http://adha.org).