ADHA to host nation’s largest gathering of dental hygienists

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) will serve as the host for North America’s largest meeting of dental hygiene professionals at the 93rd ADHA Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) at the 93rd Annual Session (AS).

Some 2,000-plus attendees are expected during the week-long event, which takes place June 8–14, at the David Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. This year’s program and elect to follow a specific track or diversify their selections based on interest and educational requirements. In addition, for the first time ever, the ADHA’s Institute for Oral Health is hosting the inaugural In Motion 5K Run/Walk/Fun. This event, which will take place on Thursday, June 9, at 8 p.m. along Pittsburgh’s riverfront, will enable attendees to participate in a unique event that raises funds for the foundation commitment to empowering, supporting and developing education and research opportunities for dental hygiene professionals.

“ADHA’s CLL at the 93rd Annual Session is a one-of-a-kind, all-encompassing event for dental hygiene professionals and students,” said ADHA President Jill Rethman, RDH, MA. “Each year, this signature event offers outstanding opportunities that include excellent educational content, fun networking events and a rewarding community outreach project. With the introduction of the In Motion 5K Run/Walk/Fun, we’re engaging dental hygienists to participate in an exciting event that supports overall health and wellness. In addition, this event promotes opportunities for dental hygiene research and education by benefiting the ADHA’s Institute for Oral Health.”

This year’s CLL again features a community service day on June 8, a pair of inspiring plenary sessions slated for June 9 and 11, as well as a product exhibition hall showcasing more than 250 companies involved in oral health and dental hygiene — affording dental hygienists from around the globe the opportunity to view, learn and discover the latest products and technologies over two full days from June 10–11. CLL is an event that offers a unique opportunity in the oral health and dental hygiene community,” added ADHA CEO Ann Battrell, MSDH. “All of our attendees benefit from not just the content, but the experience, the networking, the engagement. They have the opportunity to interact with their peers, corporate sponsors and mentors in the field to build their knowledge in oral health and create new career opportunities.”

To learn more about the ADHA’s CLL at the 93rd Annual Session, you can visit www.adha.org/annual-session.

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) is the largest national organization representing the professional interests of more than 185,000 dental hygienists across the country. 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. For more information about the ADHA, dental hygiene or the link between oral health and general health, visit the ADHA at www.adha.org.

Founded in 1927, the ADHA Institute for Oral Health is the philanthropic foundation to advance professional excellence in dental hygiene education and research. Working for the dental hygiene community, the institute provides opportunities for academic achievement through scholarships and fellowships, resources to advance the professional field through research grants and support for dental hygienists to improve the public’s health through community service grants. For more information, visit www.adha.org/institute-for-oral-health.

ABC Studios scolded over hygienist references

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association and the Canadian Dental Hygienists’ Association sent separate letters to ABC Studios and “The Bachelor” in response to a social media posting by the show that depicted the dental hygiene profession in a questionable context. An illustration in the posting was meant to humorously depict some of the “silly, nonexistent” jobs that contestants on the show have listed in their bios, including jobs such as “professional snuggler” and “hashtag enthusiast.” Oddly included among the obviously nonexistent jobs was “dental hygienist.”

In response to the associations’ letters and hundreds of comments on the social media site, ABC quickly removed the “dental hygienist” reference. ADHA President Jill Rethman, RDH, and ADHA CEO Ann Battrell, MSDH, co-signed a letter to ABC Entertainment President Ben Sherwood. CDHA President Donna Scott, RDH, and CDHA CEO Ondina Love, CAE, co-signed a separate letter. The leaders from each organization strongly defended the profession, noting the extensive education and testing requirements for licensing—as well as the value of the services that licensees provide.

Excerpts from the ADHA letter:

“On behalf of the over 185,000 registered dental hygienists across the country, the American Dental Hygienists’ Association is outraged that ABC and The Bachelor would take aim at the dental hygiene profession on its social media platforms. Dental hygienists are formally educated and licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Dental hygienists graduate from one of the nation’s 335 accredited dental hygiene education programs, and successfully complete both a national written examination and a state or regional clinical examination. The average entry-level dental hygiene education program is 84 credits, or about three academic years, in duration. Presently, in 49 states and the District of Columbia, dental hygienists are required to undertake continuing education as a part of the licensure renewal process to maintain and demonstrate continued professional competence.”

Both organizations stressed how members of the profession play a critical role in overall health care.

From the CDHA letter:

“As members of the sixth largest registered health profession in Canada, dental hygienists play a vital role in helping to ensure optimal oral and overall health for Canadians. Poor oral health can cause pain, diminish quality of life, and contribute to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and lung disease. Dental hygienists focus on a wellness approach, using health promotion and disease prevention strategies to improve the lives of people of all ages and circumstances.”

(Source: ADHA)

(Source: CDHA)
Mouthguard has athletes smiling

Keystone Industries, the U.S.-based company that manufacturers some of the world’s top mouthguard products, has launched the latest product in its Pro-Form Mouthguard line — the PF2 mouthguard.

Unlike laminated mouthguard products that require a dentist to custom fit to the patient, the PF2 mouthguard is a do-it-yourself guard that provides an accurate custom fit without any need to take impressions of the teeth.

With the elimination of dentist appointments and impressions, the price of this guard is significantly lower than custom-fit mouthguards while still providing high-impact protection, according to the company. The PF2’s unique design also enables it to be re-fit by the user multiple times.

“Being a leader in this field means we need to set the bar high for new products and innovation,” said Michael Prozzillo, vice president of sales for Keystone. “The PF2 will change the way athletes buy mouthguards, but also how the dentist sells them.”

The PF2 mouthguard is available in either black or white. The company reports that there will be bulk purchasing available in the near future, which will include a display piece and literature on the product suited for dental offices.

Multiple color options will also be available soon, similar to the Pro-Form line of color options, according to the company.

Custom fit in less than a minute

“You just won’t be able to get ahold of another mouthguard that can be custom fit in under a minute and provide the same beneficial features,” said Derek Keene, Keystone’s vice president of marketing and product development. “We’re excited to watch PF2 take off and

*See MOUTHGUARD, page B3*
‘WireLess’ headlight goes everywhere

Designs for Vision’s new LED DayLite® WireLess™ not only frees you from being tethered to a battery pack, but the simple modular design also uncouples the “WireLess” light from a specific frame or single pair of loupes. Prior technology married a cordless light to one pair of loupes via a cumbersome integration of the batteries and electronics into the frame. The compact design of the DayLite WireLess is independent of any frame/loupes.

The patent-pending design of the LED DayLite WireLess is a new concept: a self-contained headlight that can integrate with various platforms, including your existing loupes, safety eyewear, lightweight headbands and future loupes or eyewear purchases.

The LED DayLite WireLess is not limited to just one pair of loupes or built into a single, specific eyeglass frame. The LED DayLite WireLess can be transferred from one platform to another, expanding your “WireLess” illumination possibilities across all of your eyewear options.

1.4 ounces
The LED DayLite WireLess weighs only 1.4 ounces and, when attached to a pair of loupes, the combined weight is half the weight of integrated cordless lights/loupes.

The LED DayLite WireLess produces more than 40,000 lux at high intensity and 27,000 lux at medium intensity. The spot size of the LED DayLite WireLess will illuminate the entire oral cavity. The function of the headlight is controlled via capacitive touch.

The LED DayLite WireLess is powered by a compact, rechargeable lithium-ion power pod. It comes with three power pods. The charging cradle enables you to independently recharge two power pods at the same time and it clearly displays the progress of each charge cycle.

The LED DayLite WireLess headlight can integrate with various platforms, including your existing loupes, safety eyewear, lightweight headbands and future loupes or eyewear purchases. You can “See the Visible Difference®” yourself by visiting the Designs for Vision booths, Nos. 1937 and 1226, at the Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting in Atlanta. Or arrange a visit in your office by telephoning (800) 345-4009 or emailing info@dvimail.com.

You also can follow the company on all the major social media platforms.

About Keystone Industries
Keystone Industries, a privately held company founded in 1908, has maintained a reputation for producing innovative, high-tech dental products in both the operatory and laboratory realms. The company is committed to providing customers with the finest quality materials while developing products that surpass customer expectations. As this commitment has been met, the company has moved forward with expansion around the globe.

(Source: Designs For Vision)

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Photography and Dentistry by: Ross Nash, DDS

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