

# REMEMBERING THE 73<sup>RD</sup> CONVENTION

NASDAD NEWS  
FALL 2016

October 13-17, 2016  
Colorado Springs,  
Colorado



## It Was Worth the 14 Hours

By: Mackinsie Flores, LLUSD DH c/o 2017

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, Signe Anderson, Lemuel Fecue, and I set out on an adventure to Colorado to attend the 73<sup>rd</sup> annual NASDAD convention. When we heard the meeting was taking place in Colorado Springs, we didn't hesitate to sign up. Many people thought we were crazy to drive fourteen hours (one way, I might add) just for a dental convention. What made this trip possible for us was the fact that we were granted up to five-hundred dollars per student to spend for transportation, food, lectures, and lodging (this ultimately allowed 5 dental hygiene students and 9 dental students to attend and participate in the convention weekend!!). Admittedly, all three of us did not know what we were getting into and were not totally aware of what NASDAD actually was. Once we got there, we

were pleasantly surprised that the whole purpose of this convention was to connect with other SDA dental professionals. We were thankful that we had the opportunity to talk to many different LLU alumni and friends who supported us and were very interested in our future plans as dental health care professionals. During the church service, the dental hygiene group was able to give a short talk and show a brief video about our mission trip this past summer to St. Vincent and how we grew from that experience.



It's amazing how many people we can make connections with and figure out how they somehow know your family members and friends. The Adventist community is a great network and gives us, as students, a great opportunity to broaden our horizons

and figure out ways to make the most of our career with the help of the members of NASDAD.

Although we had a great time getting to know everyone that came to the convention, we were able to travel around and see Colorado in the peak of Fall. We visited the Garden of the Gods, which was a natural attraction close by, and spent some quality time outdoors. In a way, the whole experience was very therapeutic and brought about the chance for us to take a break from school and refresh our minds on what our purpose is as a whole.

The journey home from Colorado was a little less therapeutic, but all the more evident that God watches over His children. About seven hours out from getting home, the sun was beginning to set and we were in no man’s land. Singing songs, laughing, telling stories and jokes, oblivious of the time and what was in store for us, all of a sudden the tire pressure monitor showed up in bright green on the dashboard. As I was driving along, the tire pressure began dropping rapidly. I slowly pulled off to the side and stopped. Sure enough, the tire was flat and air was shooting out a mile a minute. Unfortunately, this was not a quick fix. The car we rented did not come with a spare. The previous renter had stolen it. Additionally, we had no cell service and no way of calling for help.



We tried flagging people down, but that didn’t seem to work. “What to do next?” we all thought. Of course; let’s say a short prayer. After we prayed, I had a moment of relief and assurance that the problem would be resolved. We decided we weren’t going to get anywhere if we sat there waiting for something to happen. We hopped back in the car and slowly rolled along the side of the road, hazards flashing in the dark. Once we got to an area where there was a little cell service, we were able to call

AAA, and within 10 minutes, a tow truck came flashing its lights behind us. We were towed to his shop in the nearest town and thankfully he had one tire that was able to work with our truck. Instead of charging us the full amount he gave the tire to us for half the price. He was so kind and willing to help us out and understood the situation that we were in and thought it was ridiculous that a rental car company would give out a car with no spare. All of these encounters showed the three of us how much of a loving God we have and that He listens to our prayers, recognizes our faith, and supports a little adventure.



**Back Row:** Lemuel Feceu, Andi Chau, Signe Anderson, Kayla Perez, Chamandeep Brar, Michael Siy, Mel Bersaba, Jim Ervil,  
**Front Row:** Kyim Mung, Cheyrl Pactanac, Mackinsie Flores, Norma Juarez,  
 Not pictured: Darren La Madrid and Cara Jones

**Do you want to know more about what these students thought about the NASDAD convention? If so, check out their video here:**  
<https://youtu.be/4KS0lydlZjM>

**Share this link with other students who wonder if attending a NASDAD Convention is right for them!!**

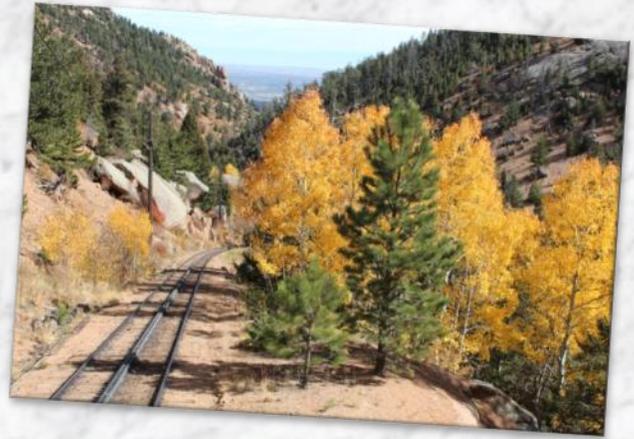
# NASDAD, HIGH ON PIKE'S PEAK

By Terrilynn Dunford

It was a picture perfect day when our NASDAD group boarded the Pike's Peak Cog Railway to begin our hour and a half journey to the top of Pike's Peak. The huge teeth of the railway miraculously allowed us to plod along on our very steep trek.



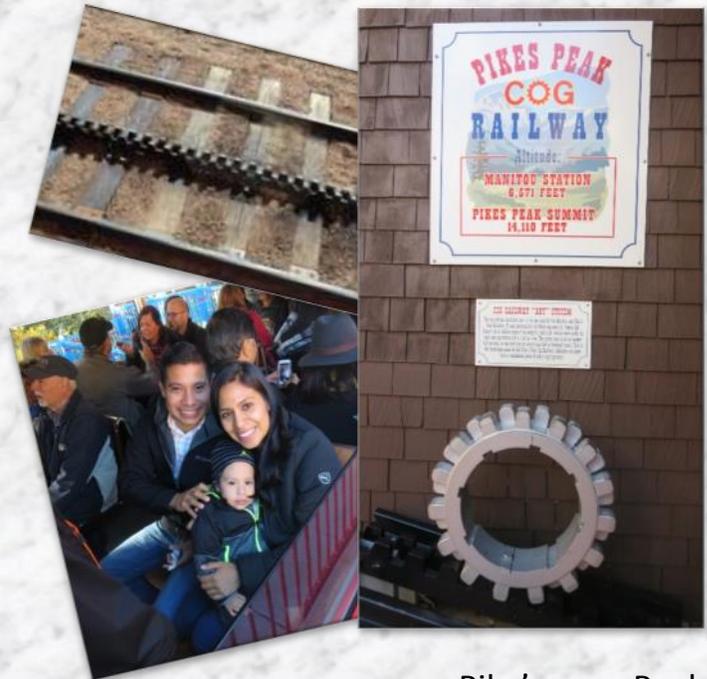
The scenery on the way up was majestic, with signs of fall exploding in bursts of bright yellow in the midst of the evergreen trees along the way. The display of Rocky Mountains on either side also kept us more than entertained. The friends and members of NASDAD also provided their own 'entertainment,' while our journey passed, all too quickly, to the top.



Our morning began sunny and warm, but towards the end of our trip the coats and sweaters came out. Once we arrived at the Peak and stepped out of our cog rail train, the chilly winds of the Peak slapped us into the reality of where we were... 14,110 - 14,115 feet high! We stepped over occasional patches of ice, while strong winds tilted our freezing bodies, as we struggled to walk out to the lookout platforms. Or was



that the high altitude causing us to walk strangely and our surroundings to blur and spin while taking our breath way? Some of us felt instantly old, beyond our years, lightly gasping for air, (Hopefully this was only



due to the high altitude??) and realized that we were not physically equipped for high mountain living.

However, the amazing view from the peak was worth this challenge of the elements, as it seemed that we could see forever! You could identify the mountains of New Mexico off in the distance, along with distant lakes and cities. We were, for a moment, on top of the world!

The visitor center served us snacks, including much welcomed hot chocolate, and their special

Pike's Peak yummy donuts. We all hung out inside to keep warm before re-boarding our train for our steep trip back to the little town of Manitou.

We all had such an enjoyable experience with our friends, and want to thank those who planned this very special event.



# A PERSONAL REFLECTION ON THE 73RD NASDAD CONVENTION

Upon arriving at the Cheyenne Mountain resort in Colorado Springs, I was truly impressed by the surroundings and the Resort facility. We were graciously greeted in the resort lobby by Katie Layon and Sharon Boggs. Also there were Dr. and Mrs. Pierson and Dr. and Mrs. I. Keith Corbett to which we



exchanged renewed greetings. I had some inner excitement to being there in anticipation of an enjoyable weekend. We received our name badges, weekend program, goodie bags, and important instructions for Friday's morning activities. On Friday morning, we all met at the base of Pike's Peak in preparation for a 3 1/2 hr. Cog train ride. to the 14,110 feet

summit. We all sat in one section of the train, which made it great for reacquainting conversations with fellow alumni Dr. Larry Dunford and Dr. Steve Baker. The trip literally

took my breath away as starting at about 9,800 ft elevation, I began to feel the affects of the altitude changes, then more so at the



top. Barbara (my wife) and I truly enjoyed the trip and the fellowship during the cog train ride. Following

lunch and a little rest, we met for our board meeting. It was informative, concise, meaningful



and thought provoking. I think one of the most important discussed items was how to stimulate more interest in our colleagues (not only LLUSD Alumni), but all SDA Dental Professionals to be involved in NASDAD. We have this incredible and unique organization (NASDAD), where all SDA Dental professionals and those who feel comfortable in association with can come together in like causes and support the efforts of LLUSD and be continually updated in the progress of the school and its mission emphasis. I feel privileged and excited to be a member of this organization. On

**“I know our LLUSD students went away with a great weekend experience and lifelong memories. “**

Friday evening, we all shared in a buffet dinner. The dinner was good, but the fellowship and reacquainting in conversations with colleagues was

even more enjoyable. Our Friday evening and Sabbath morning messages were brought to us by Dr. Allan Handysides, father of Dr. Robert Handysides, LLUSD's Associate Dean of



Academic Affairs. His messages were very inspiring and stimulating. Current LLUSD students and a Missionary Dentist from Angola shared incredible mission experiences with the congregation. After lunch, Barbara and I drove to the Gardens of the Gods to see the natural rock formations--

**“Let's all work together to get more of our fellow alumni and colleagues excited and involved to make NASDAD even stronger and more successful.”**

incredible sites to see! We returned from our short excursion to sit in on the meeting with Dean Dailey. It was quite informative and a very good use of time. Our last involvement with the group was the Saturday night Banquet. Again, the group was not too large, but the spirit and the fellowship among the NASDAD members and LLUSD student was priceless. I know our LLUSD students went away with a great weekend experience and lifelong memories. Thank you to NASDAD and all its worldwide members for your continue support of this organization. Let's all work together to get more of our fellow alumni and colleagues excited and involved to make NASDAD even stronger and more successful.

Respectfully,

Dr. Gary Kerstetter  
LLUSD Program Director, Service Learning  
NASDAD Board Member

## Remembering the NASDAD 73rd Convention

The 73rd NASDAD convention was destined to be a huge success thanks to months and months of careful planning, the amazing continuing education, the blessing brought by the spiritual speaker and musicians, an exciting excursion to Pikes Peak, and fellowship with the numerous dentists, dental hygienists, and students from Loma Linda University who attended. All who attended the meeting in Colorado Springs can attest to this fact: ***THE WEEKEND WAS AMAZING!***

On Friday afternoon, the Board of Directors met to discuss plans for NASDAD's future: Projects, annual meetings, collaborations, and more. A few but not exhaustive highlights include: Dr. Larry Coffee, representing the Donated Dental Services Program, was invited to make a short presentation about an opportunity for NASDAD members to collaborate with their organization. The Board of Directors agreed to consider the idea of collaborating with the Donated Dental Services Program so watch your email and the

NASDAD.org website in the coming weeks and months about how you can be involved. Also, Dr. Gary Kerstetter, LLUSD Program Director, Service Learning *and* NASDAD Board Member, brought appreciation from the Service Learning Department for NASDAD's long and continued support of the student mission trip (Service Learning) program at LLUSD. He indicated that between 60-80% of each dental class is involved in an over-



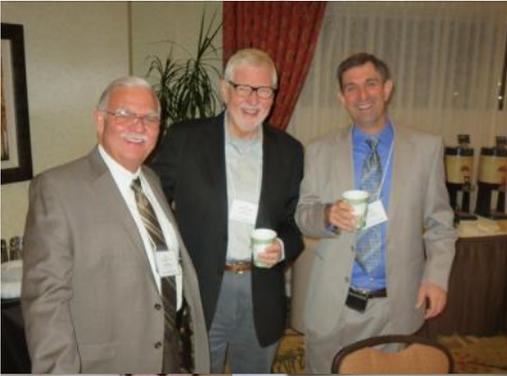
seas mission dental trip and NASDAD helps make this possible! The Board discussed the upcoming 75th NASDAD Convention that will take place in the year 2018 and are considering holding the meeting in Hawaii, while following the American Dental Association's annual meeting!! The board meeting wrapped up with an update about a Dental Mission Book that has been taking shape under the leadership and direction of some very dedicated individuals. This dental mission book will tell stories of NASDAD, LLUSD, missionaries, alumni, and much more. It was reported that there is a good chance this book will be available for purchase by the All School Alumni Convention in March 2017.

### ***"Love of God"***

The spiritual atmosphere of the NASDAD convention was enhanced by the wonderful presentations by Dr. Allan Handysides, Immediate past director of the General Conference Health Ministries Department. He drew on years of world-wide experience to help us understand, empathize, and identify with people who may be undervalued by society and who need several kinds of healing. His Friday vespers and sermon on Sabbath brought to us information and inspiration about the healing of which, Christ is the example and inspiration. Each of us left the convention with a clearer view of the health ministry in which we each have the privilege of participation and a determination to be more effective with God's help. There are 2 offerings that are collected during the Sabbath Services: Year Around Mission Money (YAMM) offering *and* Mitchell Fund offering. The YAMM offering is for in support of the various mission projects that NASDAD supports annually. The Mitchell Fund is used to assist outgoing Deferred Mission Appointees (DMA). Attendees this year were very generous during the YAMM *and* Mitchell Fund offering with \$11,413 *And* \$913, respectively.

The Sabbath services were graced by many talented musician sand speakers! Drs. Steve Baker and Dennis Starkey energetically lead the congregation during the song services. On piano they were accompanied by local talent, Dottie Spann during vespers and John Redmon for SS/Church. The 4th year dental students provided 2 special music numbers. To shed light on mission trip opportunities available to LLU School of Dentistry students, five 2nd year dental hygiene students presented a report on a recent trip to St. Lucia...which actually ended





up in St. Vincent. Other mission trips presentations were given by 4th year dental students.

A special treat that all enjoyed during the weekend was the opportunity to become acquainted with Dr. Miguel Obed Rodriguez, wife Maydi, and son David. Dr. Rodriguez graduated from Montemorelos University School of Dentistry in 2011 and has been serving in Huambo, Angola since September 2013. This wonderful family traveled all the way to Colorado Springs from Huambo in order to thank NASDAD for donating the dental equipment that he uses in the clinic in Huambo. He presented during Sabbath School about the work they are doing in Huambo including photos and stories to show how the work is progressing. He expressed sincere appreciation for NASDAD's generosity and that his work would be much inhibited without the equipment.

Saturday afternoon Dr. Ron Dailey, Dean of LLU School of Dentistry, presented an update on what is going on around the school. This was an enjoyable time where alumni and friends were able to catch up with LLUSD.

On Saturday evening was the annual banquet. This year we were lucky to have special entertainment by "Helmdini" performed by Christian magician Dean Helm. Helmdini had the entire room rolling with laughter while various participants helped him with various tricks. He was so entertaining we laughed so much that we drew the attention of at least a dozen people who were not associated with NASDAD. They gathered and watched through the open door to the banquet room. During the banquet, Life Membership Awards were announced. The

Richard Barnes, DDS	Walter Hadley, DDS	David J. Reeves, DDS
Gloria Buckwalter, DDS	Chip Ingraham, DDS	Harry Suekert, DDS
Susan Crawford, DDS	James Klim, DDS	Wayne Ward, DDS
Victor Gill, DDS	Danene Mercill, DDS	Robert Weaver, DDS

following individuals received Life Membership in 2016 after paying annual dues for 25 years!

Thank you to all of our LIFE MEMBERS for consistent and generous support.

***“Problems and Solutions: Cracked Teeth; Root Resorption”***

Twenty-three dentists and students started the morning with light refreshments just outside of the continuing education room while, waiting inside, was an expertly prepared presentation by an expert in his field! Dr. Leif Bakland, Emeritus Professor of Endodontics at Loma Linda University where he has taught for 40 years, provided an amazing continuing education course. Cracked teeth and teeth with root resorption are challenging situations both for patients and their dentists. This course covered current concepts in diagnosing and managing the various types of dental fractures and resorptions, richly illustrated with clinical cases and current best evi-



**Thank you to those who  
contributed to this newsletter  
by taking pictures, writing, and  
editing!**

**Mackinsie Flores  
Terrilynn Dunford  
Gary Kerstetter  
Gary Golden  
Keith Corbett  
Dennis Starkey  
Doyle Nick  
Katie Layon  
Sharon Boggs**

02-02-2009 BY DR LEIF BAKLAND 02-02-2009 EDUCATION



BANQUET ENTERTAINMENT BY HELMDINI



# 74th NASDAD CONVENTION

October 4-8  
2017



Westin Hotel



City Hall

## Pasadena, California

\$179/night

Valet Parking: \$17/night

# Westin Pasadena

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Contact NASDAD office if you're a musician and want to participate in the music portion of the program!

