



NASDAD

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CONVENTION NEWS 2009

ALOHA FROM THE ISLAND OF ADVENTURE!

More than 100 people made the 66th Annual NASDAD convention in Kona, Hawaii an amazing event! Held on the Kona coast there were so many incredible sights to see, cuisines to enjoy and adventures to take. This year's extended timeframe gave NASDAD members, their families and friends time to relax, investigate local sites, participate in tours and ocean activities, and enjoy the huge Pacific waves crashing against the volcanic rock shoreline on which our Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort was located.

The island of Hawaii was born from five separate volcanoes and two of these volcanoes are still active with the last big eruption in 1984. Enthusiasts from beach goers, SCUBA divers, snorkelers, surfers, kayakers, hikers, horse-back riders, golfers, star gazers, to nature lovers can all satisfy their cravings for the best of the best on the big island. Science and technology has also found its way to the big island, which boasts 13 telescopes, including four of the biggest and most advanced telescopes. A majestic helicopter

tour enables visitors to view the 11 climate zones (out of 13), and determine where to spend more time. The pilots at Paradise Helicopters also offer great Hawaiian history lessons during the trip. From this birds-eye view one could see flowing lava, dense fern tree jungles, lush rainforests, numerous waterfalls, jagged lava cliffs, green and black sand beaches, macadamia nut and coffee plantations and of course beautiful silky white sand beaches with crystal clear turquoise-blue waters.

We were blessed to have a variety of special speakers and presentations which made this convention even more full of activity! Pastor Walt Groff brought us the spiritual emphasis for the weekend. Dr. Christopher Blount presented an information filled continuing education program on Sunday morning! On Sabbath evening we had a special presentation by Dr. Ray Damazo on the exciting new Maasai Dental Clinic project!! Following



Dr. Damazo's presentation we enjoyed a program by some children & young adults from the island's SDA schools demonstrating local Samoan culture. At the Sunday evening banquet we were entertained by Island Style Music with Joey Freitas and company, with particular beauty & grace provided by a hula dancer.

THANKYOU to everyone who attended the convention!! Special thanks to 4 of our missionary dentists who took time to attend the convention: Dr. Delphina Ovid, Trinidad; Drs. Ken & Crystal Pierson, Saipan; and Dr. Scott Parker, Guam. We hope everyone will make plans to join us in 2010 in Gatlinburg, TN from October 13-16.





From left: Ron Fritz, Robert Fritz, Bill Heisler, Maynard Lowry

From left: Chris Blount, Robert Deery, Roslyn Guenin, Dennis Meidinger

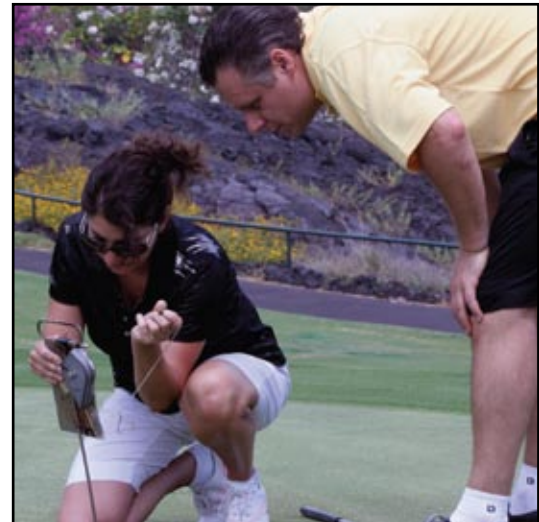
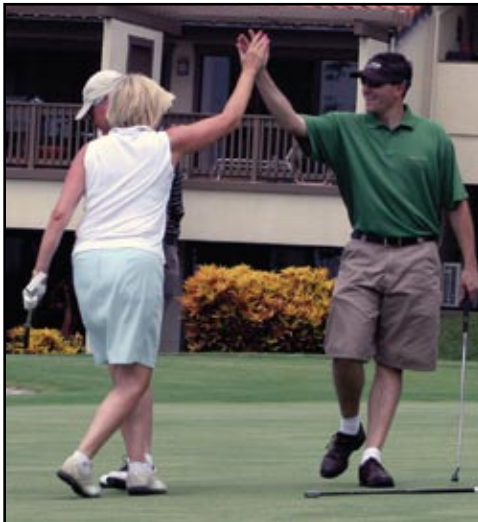
TEE TIME!

Following initial registration on Thursday evening, the weekends official events began with our traditional golf tournament at the Kona Country Club spectacular Ocean Course. In addition, Andy Blount, who planned the tournament, but was unable to attend for health reasons, had provided ample prizes so that everyone “won” in the raffle held after the tournament. Twelve golfers vied with one another for the lowest score in the “Scramble Ball” tournament. Since there were only three foursomes, everyone got either first, second or third prize!



From left: Simon Trenchuck, Randal Elloway, Noura Elloway, Danny Casey

The ultimate golf shot is a hole in one, but the chances of making one is rare. According to Golf Digest, “A PGA Tour player will drop an ace once every 2,375 shots; an average golfer will make one every 12,000 shots.” With the beautiful (and distracting) views at the Kona Country Club, our group was thrilled with birdies.





From left: Dr. Ray Damazo & his wife Gail



SEIZE THE DAY! MAASAI DENTAL CLINIC

NASDAD has an exciting project which once again brings together the two great passions of NASDAD: 1) Christian dental education, and 2) mission service. It is our hope that you, too, will want to SEIZE THE DAY! by becoming part of this exciting venture. This is the most exciting NASDAD project since the School of Dentistry was built in the 1950's.

The Maasai Dental Clinic, established by Dr. Ray Damazo, is a permanent place where the Maasai People can obtain quality dental care. In July 2010, operation of the Maasai Dental Clinic will be turned over to NASDAD. Under an agreement with Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, NASDAD will staff the clinic in such a way that it will provide service learning experiences for dental students.

It is a first class facility and building with three fully-equipped dental operatories with brand-new state-of-the-art equipment and apartments for the volunteers! In addition to its original goal to provide quality dental care to the Maasai, the facility will also be used to educate and facilitate deep,

life-changing experiences for students in the educational program of Loma Linda University. Volunteer dentists who have a month or more available in their schedule may also serve at Maasai Dental Clinic.

To fund the operation, two funds have been established cooperatively by NASDAD and Loma Linda University.

PLEASE NOTE

\$5,000 is the amount needed to generate INCOME to fund operation and travel expenses of students, not what it costs to run the clinic for one day.

You may fulfill your pledge of support over a period of 1-5 years. You may partner with family members, colleagues, your



1) Annual operating fund – estimated to require \$100,000 per year. A portion funds student transportation to and from the facility.

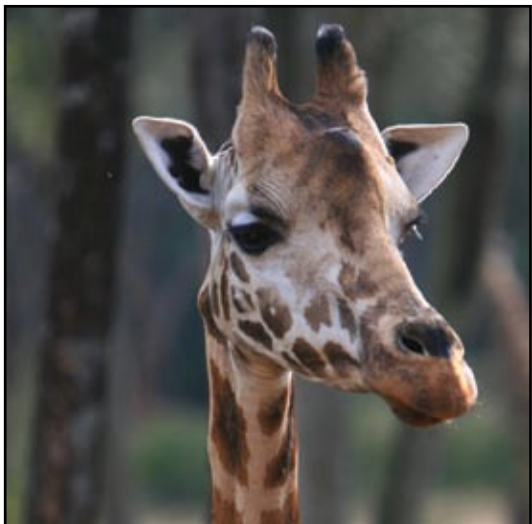
2) Endowment fund – Held at Loma Linda University Foundation, an endowment fund of \$2 million dollars is expected to generate enough income to operate the clinic into perpetuity, decreasing the urgency to continually campaign for operating funds. SEIZE THE DAY! Imagine funding the clinic for your birthday or some other special event. Every year as you celebrate, you can reflect on the good you are doing in providing dental care for the Maasai people.

practice staff, etc., to fund more time than you may be able to do by yourself.

You may also choose to become one of 20 remarkable volunteers who will work with colleagues, special patients, granting organizations, etc. to raise 20 days of support into perpetuity for the endowment fund.

SEIZE THE DAY! Be a blessing to the Maasai people and form the foundation for selfless service by hundreds of future dentists.

- ½ day \$ 2,500
- a whole day \$ 5,000
- a week \$ 35,000
- a full month \$105,000





Back row:Katie Andreassen, Mark Porco, Bill Heisler, Ralph Roberts, Ken Pierson, Sr., Doyle Nick, Robert Stacey

Front row: Anne Golden, Ray Damazo, Sharon Boggs, Quint Nicola, Eldon Dickinson, Louise Guenin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

On Thursday afternoon the NASDAD board gathered for their semi-annual meeting. The meeting opened with prayer, introduction of members and guests and approval of the minutes of the February meeting. Also approved were minutes of the May teleconference meeting at which time a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, NASDAD and the World Dental Health Organization was approved. (See article on Maasai Mara Dental Clinic)

Treasurer Sharon Boggs, RDH, reported that although year-to-date spending is well below budget our balance sheet as of August 31 still shows a \$1,200 deficit. This is due to a decrease in income, with dues income down over \$8,000 from last year. The board discussed the high cost

of the NASDAD News publication. It was voted to change to an Online NASDAD News beginning with the Spring issue. A concerted effort will be made to secure the email addresses of all 3000+ persons currently on the mailing list.

The membership report, submitted by Bill Heisler, DDS, revealed that, while Life (264) and Student (76) memberships are up, the Annual Paid Membership is lagging behind last year, 272 vs 304 at the end of 2008. Bill Heisler stated that an effort will be made to increase paid membership so that the year will end on a positive note.

Doyle Nick, DDS and Quint Nicola, DDS gave a very positive Mission Committee report with more than \$100,000 invested in our world-wide mission clinic and dental education

network since our meeting in Gatlinburg, TN in 2008. They then presented requests totaling approximately \$120,000. These requests will be funded based on priority of need and as funds are received.

Board members nominated by the board, acting as a Nominating Committee, and subsequently elected at the business meeting included continuing members Louis Guenin, DDS, and Anne Golden, RDH. New board members include Ray Damazo, DDS and Ralph Roberts, DDS.

The board also recommended to the membership the names of those NASDAD members previously nominated by the board to serve as directors of the World Dental Health Organization.



Dr. Delphina Ovid,
Missionary in Trinidad & Tobago



From left: Duncan Heisler, David Porco, Payton Heisler



Dr. Scott Parker, Missionary in Guam



SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS

The spiritual emphasis was brought to us by Pastor Walt Groff, pastor of the Rocklin, CA, SDA Church. His wife, Brenda, accompanied him. Together they had honeymooned in Kona 24 years ago! His two presentations were titled “What Touches the Heart of God” and “Revealing the Heart of God.” The Friday evening message drew lessons from the story of the Widow with her “Two Mites” offering. The lesson was that we really touch the Heart of God when we give our “All”-our lives, professions, objectives, aims and goals to the service of God.

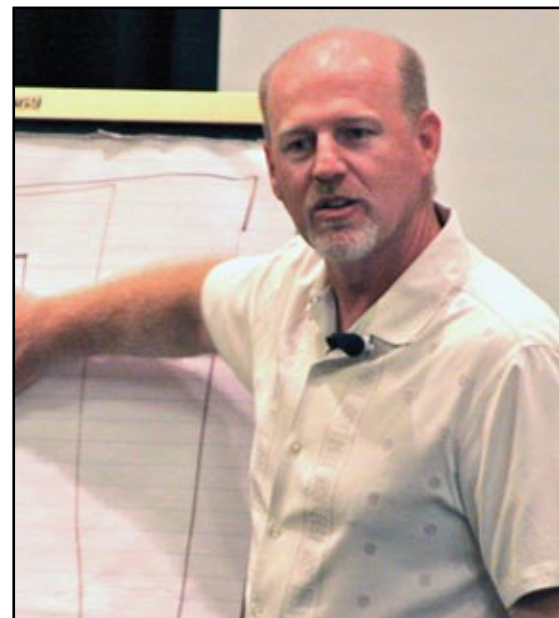
The Sabbath morning sermon drew lessons from the Jewish rituals and regimentation of the Old Testament sanctuary service that, by the time of Christ, had become a terrible burden to the common people. Into this scene walked Jesus, overturning the tables of the moneychangers and



Louis and Roslyn Guenin, London, England

driving out the “temple trade.” Rather than the “unapproachable” God of the old Sanctuary, God now dwells among all of us and is available to us without the intermediary of anyone other than Jesus.

Pastor Groff finished his discussion by stating that he is familiar with the work of NASDAD and its outreach to those in need around the world through reading our NASDAD News and listening to our mission report. He encouraged each of us, individually, to make this a part of our personal lives and daily walk with God.



Pastor, Walt Groff, Rocklin, CA

CONTINUING EDUCATION

On Sunday morning approximately 40 dental professionals gave their full attention as Chris Blount, DDS, MAJ USADC, presented a very well organized presentation. His lectures included a great discussion on the treatment of the more serious oral-facial infections and complications from trauma or simple dental procedures that might be encountered in the dental practice. The second part of his presentation covered the treatment of Sleep Apnea. Dr. Chris Blount discussed several appliances used in the treatment of this troublesome condition as well as two common surgical approaches to the problem.



Dr. Chris Blount, Richmond Hill, GA

MAASAI DENTAL CLINIC, KENYA, AFRICA

Volunteer Dentist July 15-30, 2009

by: Stuart Rich, DDS, LLU Class of 1987



Namoidu's face is etched with 6 decades of living the hardscrabble life of a Maasai. Her lower right neck and jaw area were grossly swollen where the skin was drawn tight. She sat sidesaddle on the dental chair, to avoid touching the upholstery with her travel worn and laceless plastic shoes.

An x-ray reveals numbers 31 and 32 are grossly decayed. My dental assistant Eunice explains in Maasai, as I prepare to give an Akinosi block. After the anesthetic, I removed the teeth responsible for her weeks of constant pain and was rewarded by a healthy flow of vile pus from the sockets. After some manual decompression and suction, the effect on her appearance is immediate and dramatic. She leaves with antibiotics, Vitamin C, and instructions to return in a few days for a post-op check.

The Maasai are not known for being especially demonstrative, but Namoidu clasps one of my large and smooth white hands with both of her thin and rough ebony ones. She says quietly, "Asante Sana," which means "Thank you very much," before shuffling out the door.

Namoidu is one of the 60,000 people living in the Maasai Mara area who live within "walking" distance (40 kilometers!) of the new Siana Springs dental clinic. A long walk coupled with sharp quartz, two inch acacia thorns, snakes, scorpions and predators. Namoidu was my first patient on my first day in Siana Springs, and she could have died from that infection had it spread further into her head and neck. Another patient, Manja confidently showed off his newly restored smile to everyone as he left, chuckling to himself. Routine procedures in Auburn were viewed with wonder and amazement by patients in the African bush.



Overall, the procedures were predictable; primarily pain relief through extracting grossly decayed molars, usually followed by my encouragement to return for the restoration of several other teeth. I was encouraged by the number of patients who did return the following week.

In Siana Springs, triage trumps time management. No one complains, "I was here first", when we selected the most urgent cases for priority treatment. They recognize the clinic for what it is, an oasis of First World care on the isolated plains of East Africa

There are many reasons to consider volunteering here: the facility is modern and well equipped, the living quarters are comfortable and the lodge food is excellent. Nearby are some of the best African Safari game drive opportunities anywhere. We were especially privileged to see the great wildebeest/ zebra migration into the Mara Game Reserve along with a pride of lions feasting on a carcass. You may receive a complimentary sunrise hot air balloon ride over the Mara by a grateful patient who is also a balloon pilot. These are all understandable and compelling reasons to come to Siana Springs. Your sense of adventure will be more than satisfied and you will leave with a lifetime of memories.

However, on the day we left I looked out the plane window one last time at my new friends and put my palm to the glass. William waved exuberantly with both hands and Eunice beamed her warm broad smile. I smiled back as their images blurred both from the dust that blew past my window, and from the moisture accumulating in my eyes. I turned to my wife—her condition was no better. My two boys were no help either. Our family was profoundly changed, not just by the adventure, but by the people we met, the patients we helped and the perspective we gained. It's an experience we will never forget. I have a much larger family now...and some of them live in Kenya.





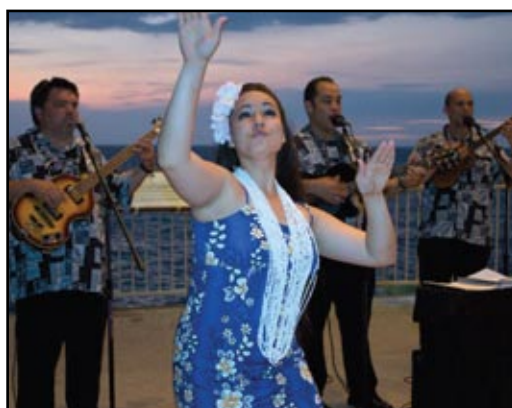
LIFE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AT THE BANQUET:

Back row: Quint Nicola, Charles Goodacre, William Heisler, Jack Sloan, Richard Parker, Wiley Elick
 Middle row: Calvin Devnich, Dennis Meidinger, Ralph Roberts, Ken Pierson, Sr.
 Front row: James Joseph, Dennis Starkey, Simon Trenchuck, Peter Nelson, Eldon Dickinson, Veryl Drury
 Below from left: Jana Fritz, Margie Arnett



NEW NASDAD PRESIDENT:

Dr. Ken Pierson, Sr. (second from Left) and Gloria with their son Dr. Ken & wife Dr. Crystal Pierson



NEW LIFE MEMBER

Dr. Mark Porco, President, congratulates Dr. Dennis Starkey on becoming a Life Member of NASDAD.



NASDAD News Going Green!!

The NASDAD Newsletter will be sent out electronically beginning with the Spring 2010 issue!! Please update your email address with the NASDAD office so we can be sure to get the newsletter to you!! We will email the newsletter to you as soon as it is completed. It will also be available for download from NEWSLETTER tab on NASDAD.org, or you may call the office and have a printed copy mailed to you. With your help, we can save the environment while saving precious NASDAD dollars!

Convention Photos on Flickr!!

Convention photos are now available at our new Flickr account and you do not need a Flickr account to view the photos! For anyone unfamiliar with Flickr.com, it is an online photo album where you can view & download photos. Visit the following link to access the photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/nasdad>

Or you may visit the NASDAD website for a link that will take you directly to the photos!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✦ *MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST - LOMA LINDA, CA - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010*
- ✦ *LLUSD ALUMNI STUDENT CONVENTION - FEBRUARY 4-8, 2010*
- ✦ *2010 ADA ANNUAL SESSION- ORLANDO, FLORIDA - OCTOBER 9-12, 2010*
- ✦ *68TH ANNUAL NASDAD CONVENTION 2011 - LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - DATES & LOCATION TBA*
- ✦ *2011 ADA ANNUAL SESSION - LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - OCTOBER 10-14, 2011*



67TH ANNUAL NASDAD CONVENTION

In conjunction with the Southern Union Medical Dental Retreat

October 13-16, 2010

Fantastic programming for the kids & grandkids!
Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Located in the beautiful Smokey Mountains!!

National Association of Seventh-day Adventist Dentists



Loma Linda, CA 92364-0101
PO BOX 101

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