

Transcript of the MICHIGAN DENTAL
ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL SESSION

DAY 1

Taken: 5/2/19

COBO HALL
DETROIT, MI

Reporter:

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MICHIGAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
2019 HOUSE OF DELEGATES
FIRST MEETING

Annual Session
Thursday, May 2, 2019 - 8:30 a.m.
Grand Ballroom A, Cobo Center
Detroit, Michigan

PRESENT:

DR. TODD CHRISTY, Speaker of the House
DR. DEBRA PETERS, President
DR. MARGARET GINGRICH, President-Elect
DR. MICHELE TULAK-GORECKI, Immediate Past President
DR. STEVE CONLON, Editor
DR. CLAYTON SHUNK, Secretary/Treasurer
MS. KAREN BURGESS, Executive Director
MR. DAN SCHULTE, Parliamentarian
DR. JULIO RODRIGUEZ, ADA Ninth District Trustee

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1 Detroit, Michigan
2 Thursday, May 2, 2019
3 8:30 a.m.
4 R E C O R D
5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Ladies and gentlemen, it is
6 now time to convene the House. Please take your seats
7 at this time.
8 Good morning. I am Todd Christy, Speaker of
9 the House. If you have not already done so, please
10 verify that your cell phones are in silent or vibrate
11 mode.
12 Please stand for the National Anthem.
13 Dr. John Frey will now lead the group in
14 singing the National Anthem.
15 (National Anthem sung.)
16 (Applause.)
17 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Frey.
18 You may be seated.
19 At this time I wish to introduce, Dr. Michele
20 Tulak-Gorecki who will provide the invocation.
21 Dr. Tulak-Gorecki.
22 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
23 Good morning, House.
24 Let's take a few moments to call upon our
25 Creator to invoke divine wisdom and blessings upon us

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1 Give us the ability to work together in
2 harmony even when there is honest disagreement.
3 Grant us personal peace in our lives and joy
4 in our work here this weekend.
5 Look at the agendas set before us here today.
6 Guide us with wisdom to make just decisions that will
7 benefit all the members of the Michigan Dental
8 Association.
9 In Your name we pray.
10 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you,
11 Dr. Tulak-Gorecki.
12 I'd like to take this opportunity to
13 introduce some of the distinguished people that are
14 here with us this morning, starting with our head
15 table. I'll begin on my far left.
16 Dr. Julio Rodriguez, our ADA Ninth District
17 Trustee.
18 (Applause.)
19 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Clayton Shunk, MDA
20 Secretary/Treasurer.
21 (Applause.)
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Ms. Karen Burgess, MDA
23 Executive Director.
24 (Applause.)
25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Mr. Dan Schulte, MDA Legal

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1 as we embark on this year's business in the MDA House.
2 Creator of the universe, thank you on behalf
3 of all those who are gathered here today.
4 Thank you for our many abundant blessings.
5 Thank you for life itself, for the measure of
6 health we need to fulfill our calling, for sustenance
7 and for friendship.
8 Thank you for the ability to be involved in
9 useful work and for the honor of bearing appropriate
10 responsibilities.
11 Bless all those gathered here for their hard
12 work and efforts throughout the year to help our
13 member dentists succeed.
14 Bless them for the hours spent away from
15 their offices and families in an effort to be the best
16 servant leaders they can be.
17 Bless all gathered here for all they do to
18 make the MDA the best it can be.
19 Grant us the wisdom to make good decisions
20 for the future of our organization and our profession.
21 Help us to listen to one another patiently.
22 Give us a good sense of the welfare and true
23 needs of our members.
24 Give us confidence in making decisions of
25 what is good and fitting for our Association.

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1 Counsel and Parliamentarian for the House.
2 (Applause.)
3 SPEAKER CHRISTY: To my immediate right,
4 Dr. Debra Peters, MDA President.
5 (Applause.)
6 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Margaret Gingrich, MDA
7 President-Elect.
8 (Applause.)
9 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki,
10 MDA Immediate Past President.
11 Dr. Steve Conlon, MDA Editor.
12 (Applause.)
13 SPEAKER CHRISTY: I also have the privilege
14 of recognizing some of the other individuals with us
15 who contribute to the success of our Association.
16 I would like to extend my personal thanks to
17 those individuals who very kindly agreed to help
18 ensure that this House proceeds in an efficient and
19 orderly manner. When I call your name or title,
20 please stand and be recognized.
21 Dr. Jason Mashni is serving as chief
22 sergeant-at-arms, with Dr. Alexa Vitek-Hitchcock
23 serving as sergeant.
24 (Applause.)
25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Gary Lukkari is serving

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1 as chief teller, with Doctors Toni Ausum, Kevin Rebhan
2 and Sabrina Shaouni serving as section tellers.
3 (Applause.)
4 SPEAKER CHRISTY: I would be remiss if I did
5 not acknowledge the considerable assistance that we
6 receive throughout the year from our dedicated and
7 hard-working MDA team. We are very fortunate to have
8 an incredible MDA staff.
9 Wherever you are in the House, would you
10 please stand and be recognized?
11 (Applause.)
12 SPEAKER CHRISTY: At this time I would like
13 to introduce the current members of the
14 Michigan Dental Association Board of Trustees who are
15 seated on the floor of the House. Board members, it
16 has been a privilege and honor working with you over
17 the course of your terms.
18 Would all the current members of the MDA
19 Board of Trustees please stand as a group and be
20 recognized?
21 (Applause.)
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: In consideration of the
23 dedicated work carried out by the Michigan Dental
24 Association committees, would the chairs please stand
25 and be recognized?

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1 (Applause.)
2 SPEAKER CHRISTY: It is now my pleasure to
3 acknowledge first time delegates and alternates to
4 this House as well as our student delegates and
5 alternates. Wherever you are in the room, please
6 rise.
7 (Applause.)
8 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Welcome to the House of
9 Delegates. We hope this is the first of many years of
10 involvement in the MDA. If there's anything we can do
11 to make this a rewarding experience, please feel free
12 to let us know. Please join me, and you already did,
13 in welcoming these new members.
14 Finally, on behalf of the Michigan Dental
15 Association, I wish to acknowledge all delegates and
16 alternate delegates for your volunteerism and service
17 to our Association and the profession of dentistry.
18 Thank you all.
19 I would like to remind the House of Delegates
20 of the Ethical Statement it approved last year. The
21 policy is on the screens in front of you today and
22 also there at your seats.
23 As members of the House, it is our
24 responsibility to act with integrity and exercise our
25 powers and perform our duties relating to professional

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1 (Applause.)
2 SPEAKER CHRISTY: I would like to introduce
3 the MDA members who serve on ADA Councils. Their
4 input from the national level is invaluable to the
5 MDA. Would the ADA Council members from Michigan
6 please stand and be recognized?
7 (Applause.)
8 SPEAKER CHRISTY: The states of Michigan and
9 Wisconsin comprise the Ninth District of the ADA.
10 Joining us today are three distinguished
11 guests from our sister state of Wisconsin. Please
12 hold your applause until all our guests are standing.
13 Dr. Patrick Tepe, President.
14 Dr. Thomas Raimann, President-Elect.
15 Mr. Mark Paget, Executive Director.
16 (Applause.)
17 SPEAKER CHRISTY: We enjoy a wonderful
18 working relationship. Thank you for making the trip
19 over with us this weekend.
20 Next, I have the privilege of introducing a
21 group of individuals who through their leadership and
22 volunteerism have provided a most significant role in
23 making this Association what it is today. Will the
24 former presidents of the MDA please stand as a group
25 and be recognized?

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1 matters in a manner consistent with the ADA/MDA
2 Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct.
3 By doing so, we can be certain that our obligations
4 and decision making authority will be discharged in
5 keeping with the profession's fiduciary obligations.
6 We must also be mindful of our responsibility
7 for our professionalism and respect for each other in
8 our work and deliberations.
9 At this time our agenda calls for the report
10 of the Committee on Credentials, Rules and Order.
11 Please have your voting cards ready.
12 I would like to remind each member of the
13 House to speak slowly, and clearly state your name and
14 component each time you speak at a microphone to
15 assist with the recording of the House proceedings.
16 Microphones will be turned off until that
17 microphone is recognized.
18 Dr. James Mashni is the chair of the
19 Committee on Credentials, Rules and Order with Doctors
20 Kerry Kaysserian and Katie Swan serving as members.
21 Dr. Mashni.
22 DR. JAMES MASHNI: Mr. Speaker, a quorum is
23 present.
24 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Mashni.
25 Please continue.

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1 DR. JAMES MASHNI: As the first item of
 2 business, the Committee on Credentials, Rules and
 3 Order recommends adoption of a resolution to approve
 4 the agendas of the 2019 Michigan Dental Association
 5 House of Delegates, provided to delegates and
 6 alternates in a House mailing. Please turn to page
 7 6000, Resolution 01.
 8 Resolved, --
 9 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Go ahead.
 10 DR. JAMES MASHNI: Resolved, that the agendas
 11 for the 2019 Michigan Dental Association House of
 12 Delegates be adopted as the official order of business
 13 for this session.
 14 Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of Resolution
 15 01.
 16 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you.
 17 Discussion is now in order for Resolution 01.
 18 Seeing none, you are ready to vote.
 19 All those in favor of Resolution 01, please
 20 raise your voting cards. Thank you. Cards down. All
 21 those opposed to Resolution 01, please raise your
 22 voting cards.
 23 The vote is in the affirmative. The motion
 24 carries and you have adopted Resolution 01.
 25 Dr. Mashni, please continue.

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1 DR. WERSCHKY: Okay. We would so move. I
 2 think it has been distributed to the House.
 3 SPEAKER CHRISTY: You are looking for the
 4 presentation of Resolution 02-S1?
 5 DR. WERSCHKY: Correct.
 6 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Your motion is in order.
 7 Would you like to speak to it?
 8 DR. WERSCHKY: I would, if you don't mind.
 9 It's a simple resolution substitution, and it just
 10 asks that we have the option of getting paper instead
 11 of just having it on line.
 12 As I sit around and look today, we have a
 13 mixed House, several my age that like paper, and
 14 almost everybody has printed materials in front of
 15 them.
 16 The other thing that we've noticed over the
 17 years is a decline in the people that access the on
 18 line. You get reports saying, oh, you know, there's
 19 been 17 or 19 or 20 percent that actually opened their
 20 material sent. And for better communication, I think
 21 it's a great option just to have the ability to get
 22 upon request paper. That's our background. That's
 23 our request.
 24 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Great. Speaking in favor
 25 of the amendment.

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1 DR. JAMES MASHNI: The record of actions
 2 taken by the 2018 House of Delegates on April 26th and
 3 April 28th were approved by the House of Delegates via
 4 on-line voting in July 2018.
 5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Please continue.
 6 DR. JAMES MASHNI: Copies of the House -- of
 7 the Manual of the House of Delegates were provided to
 8 each delegate and alternate. The Committee on
 9 Credentials, Rules and Order recommends adoption of
 10 the Manual of the House of Delegates, dated May 2,
 11 2019. Please turn to page 6003, Resolution 02.
 12 Resolved, that the Manual of the House of
 13 Delegates, dated May 2, 2019 be adopted as the
 14 statement of conduct and the rules for the operation
 15 of the 2019 House of Delegates.
 16 Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of Resolution
 17 02.
 18 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you.
 19 Discussion is now in order for Resolution 02.
 20 Microphone 4.
 21 DR. WERSCHKY: Jay Werschky, Executive
 22 Director, Genesee District.
 23 Mr. Speaker, is it in order for us to put in
 24 our substitute resolution at this point then?
 25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: It is at this point, yes.

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1 Any other discussion? Seeing none, you are
 2 ready to vote on the amendment.
 3 Those in favor, please raise your voting
 4 cards. Thank you. Cards down. Those opposed. Thank
 5 you, cards down.
 6 You have amended.
 7 You have before you Resolution 02 as amended.
 8 Any further discussion? Seeing none, you are ready to
 9 vote.
 10 Those in favor of Resolution 02 as amended,
 11 please raise your voting cards. Thank you. Cards
 12 down. Those opposed, cards up. Thank you. Cards
 13 down.
 14 You have approved Resolution 02.
 15 By approving the 2019 House of Delegates
 16 Manual, you have agreed that moving forward House
 17 information will be provided electronically as well as
 18 by request paper form. The materials will be
 19 available electronically by downloading a zip folder
 20 from the House of Delegates website. Training for
 21 those interested will be provided later this year and
 22 may include a video demonstration, written
 23 instructions and one-on-one training.
 24 Thank you, Dr. Mashni.
 25 I will now turn the podium over to

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1 President Peters to present awards and then provide
2 her presidential address.
3 DR. PETERS: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
4 I am honored to preside over this year's
5 awards presentation. This is the Association's
6 opportunity to express its appreciation and, indeed,
7 the appreciation of the entire dental profession. I
8 am proud to honor the singular accomplishments of
9 members and non-dentists who have made contributions
10 to advance dental health. Background information on
11 all of the 2019 award recipients is contained in the
12 Speaker Announcements in front of you and I encourage
13 you to read the information as it is both inspiring
14 and uplifting.
15 In 2018, the MDA Foundation provided 16
16 student scholarships for dentistry, dental hygiene and
17 dental assisting totaling \$15,500. The names of the
18 recipients are on the screen.
19 In 2018, the MDA Foundation provided six
20 grants for access to care and education totaling
21 \$41,000, and the names of the recipients are also on
22 the screen.
23 The MDA Foundation held its annual reception
24 on Wednesday, May 1st. During the event, the
25 Foundation demonstrated how its gifts help Michigan's

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1 cultivate the desire to volunteer. The 12-month
2 program includes exposure to and participation in
3 leadership activities at the MDA, ADA and the local
4 society levels.
5 The outgoing LEAD participants are present
6 today and this is the last official function for the
7 group.
8 Members of the LEAD class, would you please
9 stand and be recognized?
10 (Applause.)
11 DR. PETERS: Now, I'd like to introduce the
12 incoming group of LEAD participants who began the
13 program in April of this year.
14 Would you please stand and be recognized?
15 (Applause.)
16 DR. PETERS: Moving along to our awards. The
17 Public Service Award recognizes exceptional
18 contributions to the public and the dental profession
19 in the field of dental health and related activities.
20 Two individuals are being honored this year
21 with a public service award.
22 Would Dr. Len Bartoszewicz please approach
23 the podium?
24 DR. BARTOSZEWICZ: Thank you so much for
25 this award. It's very humbling. One of the main

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1 underserved receive dental education and care and
2 asked for support to continue the impact the
3 Foundation is making through your generosity and
4 passion for all. Together, our gifts can help so many
5 more than they can when given alone.
6 Please stop by the Foundation booth near the
7 Welcome Center and make a gift. 100 percent of your
8 gift will go to the grant and scholarship program.
9 This gift is also considered a charitable donation
10 which can be tax deductible. And as a thank you for
11 stopping by the Foundation booth and making a gift,
12 the Foundation has a small gift for you to show that
13 you're part of the MDA Foundation family and a donor
14 supporting the work that we all make possible.
15 The Michigan Dental Association Leadership
16 Exploration and Development Program or LEAD is a
17 program designed to cultivate new volunteers into the
18 components, MDA, and its subsidiary organization
19 leadership pipelines. LEAD addresses the MDA
20 strategic plan goal which was to ensure sustainable
21 leadership and engage volunteerism throughout the MDA
22 and its components. It models many of the best
23 practices used for similar leadership institutes in
24 other state dental associations, with an added
25 emphasis on ensuring immersion experiences to

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1 things that really was a passion for me was hosting
2 the Mission of Mercy project in Grand Rapids last
3 year, so that's one of the things I really wanted to
4 speak about this morning if that's okay. I'll be
5 brief.
6 The Mission of Mercy is an incredible
7 project. It's main purpose is to help those who are
8 underserved providing dental work free of charge in
9 communities across our state where there is a need.
10 It doesn't just happen, though, it takes collective
11 efforts of hundreds and hundreds of volunteers giving
12 of their time, talents and money to make any endeavor
13 like that an enormous success. To be singled out
14 amongst those many people who have worked diligently
15 over these past years to receive this award is
16 flattering and humbling.
17 I want to start by thanking my colleagues in
18 West Michigan for nominating me for the award. Big
19 thank you goes to Elaine Fleming, our executive
20 secretary. Whatever our dental society does in
21 West Michigan, Elaine really, she always makes us look
22 good.
23 I appreciate all the support I always receive
24 from the MDA and the MDA Foundation, specifically
25 Andrea Sundermann and Nancy Maier. Whatever I asked

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1 for and needed, whenever I needed something they
2 always came through.
3 Calvin College was a great host site for
4 those of you who were at the MOM. I want to thank
5 Deanna Biernat and Donna Joyce. They were a pleasure
6 to work with. They started out with the initial site
7 search and continued until the very end when they
8 closed the doors at the track and tennis facility
9 where it was held.
10 I was very fortunate to have so many
11 wonderful and talented people too to help guide and
12 mentor me. Connie Verhagen and Steve Harris, they are
13 the dream team when it came to the MOM. They are!
14 Their experience and expertise is just unbelievable,
15 and they were willing to share all their wisdom with
16 me, and they always did it in such a caring and
17 encouraging manner.
18 Thank you, Margaret Gingrich. You always
19 kept me on task. You kept me calm when I was a little
20 bit overwhelmed and didn't think I was prepared, but
21 you were always there for me and I appreciate it.
22 I want to thank Scott Hodges. If you haven't
23 met Scott, he is one of the most incredibly passionate
24 people when it comes to helping serve the underserved.
25 Scott was actually, he told me Friday morning when we

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1 projects. I hope you will continue to do so. If you
2 haven't been to a MOM yet, please sign up. You'll
3 find out you not only change people's smiles but you
4 change people's lives. I guarantee you will love the
5 volunteering experience and you will get more out of
6 it than you can possibly imagine like any other
7 volunteering experience.
8 In closing, I want to thank you again for
9 giving me this honor. I accept it. I wish to share
10 it with these people, Shelly Jones, Jeff Dulude,
11 Margaret Gingrich, the late Dave Borlas, Chris
12 Gorecki, John Kamar, they also served as local leads
13 in Saginaw, Big Rapids and Macomb before it came to
14 Grand Rapids. Their efforts inspired me.
15 So I wish our newest leader for the MOM,
16 Denise Polk, who is in Flint, all the best in 2020.
17 I'm sure she and her team will do a fantastic job as
18 well. Thank you all very much.
19 (Standing ovation.)
20 DR. PETERS: As mentioned, we have two
21 recipients this year for our Public Service Award.
22 Would Dr. Michael Vilag please approach the
23 podium?
24 (Applause.)
25 DR. PETERS: The MDA has two awards this year

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1 started seeing patients at Calvin College he was going
2 to be there at three. I asked what time I should be
3 there. He said three a.m., and I just kind of shook
4 my head, but there he was. He was as energetic and
5 ready to get started. I couldn't believe it. This
6 type of leadership is inspiring.
7 I could go on and on and thank the 1,200,
8 1,300 volunteers who came to Grand Rapids and helped
9 make the MOM such an amazing experience. It was a
10 wonderful thing. Time won't allow for all that. I do
11 want to thank my staff and acknowledge them. They
12 helped me with all the little details and they showed
13 up at the MOM in full force as well. They were great.
14 I'm lucky to have them to work with every day.
15 I want to thank my wonderful wife Diane.
16 She's over on the side there. She's shy, so I won't
17 embarrass her too much. Without her love and support,
18 I wouldn't be able to spend as much time as I did not
19 only working on the MOM project but doing all the
20 other volunteer activities that I do. Thank you,
21 Diane, you're a blessing. I love you.
22 Before I finish, I'd like to put in a quick
23 plug for the next Michigan of Mercy. It will take
24 place May 28th through May 31st, 2020 in Flint. I
25 know many of you here volunteered for the previous MOM

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1 recognizing a dentist volunteer and a dental
2 laboratory volunteer participating in the Michigan
3 Donated Dental Services program who have been
4 exceptionally giving of their time and resources to
5 help improve the quality of life for the program's
6 patients.
7 This program is always looking for new
8 volunteers. Be sure to visit the Donated Dental
9 Services booth in the exhibit hall.
10 Would Dr. Robert Erhard please approach the
11 podium?
12 DR. ERHARD: Well, hello. I'm Robert Erhard,
13 and it's an honor and a privilege to be here today and
14 be a part of organized dentistry. I'm really not much
15 of a speaker.
16 Just think of all the places, all the things
17 that have gone into our life to be here at this moment
18 in time. I don't know about you, but I had a lot of
19 help from a lot of remarkable people to get to this
20 place.
21 Thinking about what I'd say today made me
22 realize the cumulative amount of knowledge that's been
23 passed on from person to person, from generation to
24 generation. None of us are really perfect, but we all
25 contribute in our own ways. I don't think I really

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1 appreciated that before this moment.
2 It's pretty wild when you think of the amount
3 of lives that we touch in a day and then you multiply
4 that by the number of years of our service.
5 We really all can make an impact on other
6 people's lives more than we realize. Also, it's so
7 easy to get caught up in what we're doing that we
8 don't really appreciate all we're capable of doing.
9 My wife Donna and my son Eric both have been
10 good examples to me with their work in pediatric
11 cancer.
12 But in relation to dentistry, when I put
13 aside expenses, time management, bottom line, I really
14 can feel a more purer sense of dentistry. That's why
15 I like Donated Dental. Domonique and the rest of the
16 staff do an excellent job of pre-screening. I find
17 the patients to be compliant and appreciative. The
18 patients I have seen have been through a lot in their
19 lives and they just need a little bit of help.
20 I was born to the working poor, though I
21 didn't even know it, and they worked very hard to make
22 my life better. I feel they succeeded.
23 So now I help others, and by doing so I feel
24 it perpetuates others to give back in their own ways
25 and ultimately leave the world in a better way for the

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1 unusual contributions or service to community, state
2 or country.
3 Would Dr. Connie Verhagen please approach the
4 podium?
5 DR. VERHAGEN: I want to thank you very much
6 for this high honor. It just, it's humbling to get an
7 award for something you just so enjoy doing, and
8 volunteering is my passion. It's so unique to stand
9 in front of a group of volunteers and get a volunteer
10 award. It's like, you know, talking to the choir, and
11 every now and then you let me lead the choir and I
12 appreciate that because it's a lot of fun.
13 One of the things that I've always learned in
14 life is, I have a favorite Bible verse. It's from
15 Proverbs 3. It says, "In all your ways acknowledge
16 Him and He will direct your path." And that has been
17 true for my life. I have just seen so many wonderful
18 avenues open up and met so many wonderful people, so
19 many great volunteers.
20 Special thanks to the Board for this award.
21 I really appreciate it.
22 I have a very special friend who nominated
23 me. Thank you so much, Barb Kolling. And, of course,
24 my husband, Mike. Our trophy husband. I tell you, he
25 just lets me do what I want to do. He'll just say you

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1 next generation.
2 In conclusion, I'd just like to say thank you
3 for this award. It means a lot to me, and let you
4 know it's pretty cool to get something for what you
5 like doing. Thank you.
6 (Standing ovation.)
7 DR. PETERS: Would Mr. David Turpin please
8 approach the podium?
9 Mr. Turpin is the owner of Spartan Dental
10 Labs and is our laboratory participant award winner.
11 MR. TURPIN: For those of you who don't know
12 me, I'm fourth generation owner of Spartan Dental Lab.
13 When my grandfather started the company in 1960,
14 things were very different than they are today, or I
15 guess so I'm told.
16 My grandfather and my father have always
17 taught me to be humble and give back to the community,
18 and so I want to thank the MDA and Donated Dental
19 Services for the ability to give back to people in the
20 community. So thank you guys.
21 (Standing ovation.)
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: The Emmett C. Bolden
23 Dentist Citizen of the Year Award provides public
24 recognition to a member of the Michigan Dental
25 Association who has demonstrated outstanding or

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1 didn't say no again, did you. I says, no, I didn't
2 say no again. Thank you, Michael. Thanks for all
3 your support. Thank you very much.
4 (Standing ovation.)
5 DR. PETERS: The John G. Nolen Meritorious
6 Award recognizes excellent contributions and
7 activities to the advancement of the art and science
8 of dentistry, and for other contributions and
9 activities which bring great credit to our profession.
10 This is our Association's highest honor.
11 Would Dr. Sherill Behnke please approach the
12 podium?
13 DR. BEHNKE: I really don't know where to
14 begin. I am so honored and privileged to be receiving
15 the John G. Nolen Meritorious Award. When I came to
16 Michigan over 30 years ago, John was still executive
17 director at that time, so I did get a chance to speak
18 with him and know him a little bit, plus he was from
19 East Lansing.
20 I have had the opportunity to serve the MDA
21 and local components over the last 30 years. This
22 opportunity has helped me to develop long-lasting
23 friendships throughout the state.
24 There are so many people that I would like to
25 thank today. I'd like to start with my local dental

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1 society, Central District. Without them, I would
 2 probably not be where I am today, and also the staff
 3 at MDA and everyone who is here today.
 4 I'd like to thank also my non-dental friends,
 5 my neighbors who listen to me all the time when I
 6 complain about everything and help drive me places and
 7 help stuffing and things like that with me.
 8 I'd also like to thank my family who,
 9 unfortunately, were unable to be here today. My
 10 husband has supported me over the last 50 years now,
 11 and he's been working in my office side by side with
 12 me for the last 15 years, and without his support and
 13 him letting me do what I need to do, I wouldn't be
 14 here today.
 15 Lastly, I'd like to thank God who has blessed
 16 me over the years and continues to and has helped me
 17 on a daily basis both with professional and personal,
 18 my life. Thank you.
 19 (Standing ovation.)
 20 DR. PETERS: Congratulations to all the award
 21 recipients. You may now exit the stage.
 22 It is my distinct honor and pleasure to be
 23 able to provide you with an overview of activities
 24 within the MDA since we last met.
 25 At last year's House meeting, I issued a

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1 argument against dental therapy won on every level
 2 except for some political maneuvering by some
 3 legislators that occurred in the final hours in
 4 December. While we know the outcome, I will focus on
 5 some of the key efforts taken during this process.
 6 First, there were over 3,000 e-mail responses
 7 sent through our action alert system to Michigan
 8 legislators. Nearly every member of the House of
 9 Delegates from last year contributed their voice.
 10 Also noticeable were the 46 in-district
 11 meetings attended by 137 MDA members. The MDA
 12 legislative and lobbying team met with virtually every
 13 legislator in 2018. Combine this with Facebook ads
 14 targeting legislators and media efforts to round out
 15 our message.
 16 Lastly, the bill passed by only 12 votes in
 17 the House, and, as reported last year, by only one
 18 vote in the Senate. Still a win in their column, but
 19 goes to show the amount of effort put into this one
 20 cause.
 21 Currently, the Board of Dentistry is in the
 22 process of writing the rules for the governance of a
 23 dental therapist, and the MDA has been in attendance
 24 at the public comment portion of the meetings with a
 25 mission to advocate for our profession and to be the

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1 series of challenges along with music orchestra
 2 metaphors. You may recall that we ended with our
 3 first rehearsal, playing your chosen air instruments
 4 to the opening measures of Beethoven's 5th Symphony.
 5 The point was like all orchestras, it takes everyone
 6 to play his or her part to provide the music that the
 7 conductor is attempting to get off the pages and into
 8 the air. We knew the score from which we played would
 9 be challenging. Like so many great symphonies written
 10 with three to four movements, let's take our time this
 11 morning to listen to the MDA 2018-2019 orchestral
 12 piece.
 13 For the first movement, I've titled it
 14 advocacy. We know from surveys, members report
 15 advocacy is one of the key and desirable benefits of
 16 joining the MDA.
 17 Most of 2018 was dedicated to the legislative
 18 tango with dental therapy. While the outcome was not
 19 as we had hoped, I am particularly proud of the
 20 efforts displayed by many, including greatly improved
 21 member engagement. It was our position that the
 22 dental therapist was not the answer to the access
 23 issues or a sustainable model for delivery of dental
 24 care. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees made the
 25 decision to not compromise on our policy. We had the

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1 oral health authority, to protect our patients
 2 demonstrating our concerns over vague portions in the
 3 statute. We will continue to be present and with a
 4 voice.
 5 Recently, we have been made aware of an
 6 educational institution that has been authorized by
 7 the school president to develop a clinic for a patient
 8 treatment model for dental therapists. As these items
 9 evolve, please stay informed.
 10 Not all news from the legislature is about
 11 the dental therapist. So let's take a listen to some
 12 of the MDA wins in this arena.
 13 First, we successfully advocated for the
 14 elimination of the sales tax on dental prosthetics
 15 saving dentists an estimated \$10,000,000 according to
 16 the Michigan Treasury Department.
 17 Next, there was the expansion for general use
 18 of the dental hand-held x-ray device.
 19 And also, the MDA joined in a coalition to
 20 exempt most dental employers from the newly mandated
 21 paid sick leave.
 22 All of these efforts were initiated by a
 23 single call from a member dentist. Prompt attention
 24 ensued and results were delivered. Your calls matter.
 25 Of course, there is MDA strategy for the

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1 current budget priorities within our state, and the
 2 MDA will invest time and energy in the following five
 3 areas:
 4 Maintaining current funding for the Healthy
 5 Kids Dental program.
 6 Maintaining funding for the Michigan Donated
 7 Dental program.
 8 Invest more money in the student loan
 9 repayment program. This was one of our key principles
 10 when explaining access to care solutions to the
 11 legislators, and after spending some time with some
 12 incredible students lately at Lobby Day, I am
 13 impressed with their knowledge and their desire to
 14 give back to the community. This is one critical
 15 avenue that will allow for greater success.
 16 And the fourth is to increase Medicaid
 17 funding for adults by creating a Healthy Kids
 18 Dental-type program for this population, which will
 19 result in an increase of provider networks and higher
 20 reimbursements.
 21 Lastly, invest new money in pre-kindergarten
 22 dental screening. We have always been the profession
 23 that stresses prevention, and this is one more avenue
 24 to promote oral health.
 25 The last issue in our advocacy movement is

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1 Perhaps you are familiar with his speech given
 2 post-presidency and commonly referred to as "The Man
 3 in the Arena," as I believe it's particularly relevant
 4 to our work in advocacy. I quote:
 5 "It is not the critic who counts; not the man
 6 who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where
 7 the doer of deeds could have done them better. The
 8 credit belongs to the man who is actually in the
 9 arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and
 10 blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes
 11 short again and again, because there is no effort
 12 without error and shortcoming; but who does actually
 13 strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms,
 14 the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy
 15 cause; who at the best in the end knows the triumph of
 16 high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails,
 17 at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place
 18 shall never be with those cold and timid souls who
 19 neither know victory or defeat."
 20 The MDA is in the arena. It is filled with
 21 great members like you listening here today, and our
 22 wonderful team under the direction of our executive
 23 director, Ms. Karen Burgess.
 24 So, the moment ends and the conductor
 25 indicates the beginning of the second movement. The

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1 the number one concern voiced by our colleagues when I
 2 visited components or answered e-mails. This entails
 3 reimbursement levels and policies of dental benefit
 4 companies. The MDA does not roll over for any dental
 5 benefit company. Unfortunately, we do not have the
 6 same level playing field, but there has been some
 7 movement in this area.
 8 First, we are now participating in quarterly
 9 meetings with representatives from Delta Dental of
 10 Michigan. By having regular conversations, we have
 11 been able to interject dentist's concerns with some
 12 policies, formerly referred to as disallow policies,
 13 resulting in some agreement by both parties in better
 14 compliance and successful payment of claims.
 15 Second, recognizing the challenges to the
 16 current fee for service practice, the Committee on
 17 Government and Insurance Affairs has been diligently
 18 investigating and now writing a template that may be
 19 utilized by our members who wish to offer an in-office
 20 benefit plan. Making this easy is one of the goals of
 21 the committee as it allows doctors to have more
 22 control over fee reimbursement. Please look for more
 23 information in the months to come.
 24 As I close this movement titled advocacy, I
 25 would like to quote President Teddy Roosevelt.

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1 second movement is titled governance.
 2 Let me begin by praising and thanking the
 3 Board of Trustees for their dedication and hard work
 4 this year. While striving to improve processes for
 5 focusing on topics at the Board meetings, the agenda
 6 was modified to include time for leadership
 7 development, time to discuss strategic issues, and
 8 topics to promote generative discussion. These goals
 9 assist the Board in becoming proactive rather than
 10 reactive to issues. There was fantastic engagement
 11 across a variety of topics.
 12 Second, there was greater awareness and
 13 alignment of the MDA strategic plan and how it relates
 14 to the work of the committees. It is the strength of
 15 the volunteers within our committee structure which
 16 allows for the MDA to be and sustain as a
 17 member-driven organization. The utilization of Zoom
 18 video conferencing has assisted in bringing committee
 19 members together throughout the state. This body is
 20 vital to the work of the Board by delving deeper into
 21 the topics forwarded to them or by fulfilling the
 22 charges assigned annually. If you are a member of an
 23 MDA committee or work group, please stand and be
 24 recognized. We have many. Please stand. I want to
 25 thank you for your dedication.

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1 (Applause.)
2 DR. PETERS: And your time. Thank you.
3 Earlier I commented that some advocacy
4 efforts were initiated by a call from one member,
5 communication. This year the MDA continued to explore
6 avenues to assist with communication across all
7 levels, component leadership, MDA House of Delegate
8 members and members in general. Much effort was
9 expended to encourage members to register and utilize
10 the legislative action alert system which now prompts
11 you with a convenient text message to engage.
12 Webinars, on-line communication tools through social
13 media, Board member personal outreach, Zoom video
14 conferencing and print publications act as vehicles
15 for this message. Several years ago, the gap
16 identified with communication suggested a solution by
17 ensuring communication in both directions. This will
18 always be a moving target.
19 I was reminded of this recently during a
20 component work group meeting, when a member made the
21 comparison of change and adaptability to the book,
22 "Who Moved My Cheese," by Spencer Johnson. The
23 characters in this fable, Sniff and Scurry, or the
24 mice, were joined by the Littlemen, Hem and Haw, both
25 humans. As the story goes, the characters were

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1 Last year I issued the challenge to explore
2 opportunities to build a better understanding and
3 knowledge peer to peer. The New Dentist Committee has
4 developed an on-line MDA mentorship program. This is
5 the song new dentists are requesting. Will you engage
6 with members so the information may be shared? So
7 that we not only listen to our new dentists, but also
8 hear with our hearts resulting in a different level of
9 servant leadership.
10 In a similar fashion, allow me to repeat
11 another challenge from last year, whereby we have 26
12 components within 12 regions, each responding to
13 member needs differently.
14 What if we combined resources, unified
15 leadership so that there is less duplication and more
16 creation?
17 This year, because of a request from one
18 component president delivered via the regular
19 interaction prior to Board meetings, the next step in
20 this exploration began with the formation of the
21 component work group. Many issues were discussed. As
22 mentioned earlier in the analogy with "Who Moved My
23 Cheese", we know that time and stress on our volunteer
24 dentists is not lessening. I look forward to
25 opportunities and solutions that will address some of

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1 content with their position in the maze as a large,
2 seemingly never-ending supply of cheese was available
3 at their present location. Unfortunately, the
4 Littlemen did not notice its size decreasing and did
5 not venture out as Sniff and Scurry did to explore new
6 territory. One day the cheese was gone. While the
7 mice understood that the situation had changed and the
8 cheese had moved, they adapted discovering new cheese.
9 It took much longer for the Littlemen, but eventually
10 Haw ventured out, further each day writing
11 motivational messages on the wall to encourage himself
12 in case Hem ever decided to venture out as well. Haw
13 found Sniff and Scurry and a whole new supply of
14 cheese with different smells and flavors. And so the
15 story goes, and several points have been drawn on it
16 by many. While communication efforts are continually
17 developing, we must all venture out to participate and
18 hear the message because we know if we break through
19 the fear and insecurity of the risk for change, we may
20 discover new opportunities. In this pace of societal
21 trends, we must be ready to change quickly and enjoy
22 it because again, they keep moving the cheese.
23 Now, let's transition into the third movement
24 as we listen to some of the opportunities for
25 development.

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1 these component issues.
2 Lastly, I'll close this movement of
3 development with another challenge from last year when
4 I said today we have a governance structure which
5 allows greater nimbleness but still presents with
6 challenges of leadership development, transparency and
7 inclusion.
8 What if we develop leaders to inspire trust
9 by encouraging a diverse group of dentists to bring
10 experiences, grow our Association and enhance our
11 viewpoints?
12 One aspect of this opportunity may be
13 discovered at the MDA Leadership Forum on Friday,
14 September 27th. I would like to see leaders from all
15 levels in attendance. After all, the EC elected for
16 no cost to the attendees. But more importantly, there
17 will also be a tract more closely integrated for
18 component leadership. This is your opportunity, let's
19 grow in leadership together.
20 And so we move into our closing movement for
21 our symphony, and I bring us back to the view of the
22 full orchestra. No matter if you are discussing
23 advocacy, governance or development, it takes a team
24 of members and MDA staff to play, to sing, to develop
25 the notes of the music.

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1 We are a professional association with many
2 sections. Listen carefully on Saturday to the pieces
3 presented by MDA Insurance & Financial Group, by your
4 MDA Dental PAC and your MDA Foundation. Along with
5 all of you, they complete our orchestra.
6 There will be challenges ahead that will also
7 be filled with surprises and joy. As I pass the baton
8 to our new conductor, I encourage us to listen for the
9 harmony in the music as Dr. Margaret Gingrich takes
10 her time at the podium to bring the notes from the
11 score to music in the air. She is well prepared.
12 Two final comments on a personal note as my
13 time dwindles down. First would be to thank all of
14 the wonderful support people or musicians in my life
15 this past year.
16 Providing me with back-up support was the
17 incredible team from the MDA staff. To name just a
18 few would not be adequate to thank the band in Okemos.
19 So wherever you are, please know how much I appreciate
20 you and please help me in extending my gratitude to
21 your fellow players.
22 They deserve applause, I agree.
23 (Applause.)
24 DR. PETERS: A president does not get to
25 place her practice on hold as she ventures out for a

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1 understanding and passion for the principles of
2 parliamentary procedure. Many of you here today were
3 influential in my journey. Because of the many gifts
4 I have received and the joy and knowledge that I have
5 gained through my service here, I have forwarded my
6 application for the office of Speaker of the House of
7 Delegates for the ADA to be determined this fall in
8 San Francisco.
9 (Applause.)
10 DR. PETERS: John Maxwell, motivational
11 author and speaker said, "Leadership is not about
12 titles, positions or flow charts. It's about one life
13 influencing another." Members of the House of
14 Delegates, you have inspired me to play on, and for
15 all of your influence, I am eternally grateful.
16 So as I came into this role last year with
17 Ode to Joy, I leave you with this tune in your head.
18 It's much more dramatic if it happened on the click.
19 All right. I'll say it again because, you know, I
20 practiced this line.
21 So as I came into this role last year with
22 Ode to Joy, I leave you with this tune in your head.
23 (Standing ovation.)
24 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Peters.
25 I have the pleasure of introducing the

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1 year. So to my team at Peters Family Dentistry, I'll
2 always be thankful for their support, and to the other
3 doctor in our practice, Dr. Liz White, a member of
4 this House of Delegates, for working some long days to
5 allow me to participate fully as your orchestra
6 conductor. My team is in class but will be present
7 tomorrow evening, as we will sing the night away. And
8 I hope that many of you will join us for the dueling
9 piano event. Tickets may still be purchased at
10 registration. Thank you, Dr. Liz.
11 And last but not least, to my family. Our
12 children, Maddie and Kyle make me proud to be their
13 mom, and their love and support not only this year but
14 for many years is very gratifying. To my husband Dan,
15 we often joke that if not for him I would be naked and
16 hungry. Besides so many daily essentials, my life
17 partner, Dr. Dan Peters is my concert master. He
18 keeps me going and his support often comes in the form
19 of allowing me to have more time on my side and an ear
20 to listen. Thank you, Dan.
21 (Applause.)
22 DR. PETERS: Lastly, my time began in this
23 House of Delegates many years ago as a dental student.
24 I've observed five Michigan Speakers of the House of
25 Delegates and three from the ADA. I've grown in my

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1 secretary/treasurer of the MDA, Dr. Clayton Shunk, to
2 provide the House with a brief report on the financial
3 status of the MDA.
4 Dr. Shunk.
5 (Applause.)
6 DR. SHUNK: Thank you, Dr. Christy. Deb,
7 you're a hard act to follow, but I'll do my best.
8 Good morning to the House. Hello. As
9 Speaker Christy has said that I will give a brief
10 report. I want to just make it well known that I am
11 available for anyone who has any questions at any time
12 throughout this meeting, at any date during the year,
13 e-mail me and I can get back to you.
14 So, this morning I will review the unaudited
15 MDA finances for 2018. Normally, we have audited
16 figures, however, this year we switched to a new
17 auditor and things have taken a little bit longer. I
18 will also look at membership numbers and take a look
19 at a couple of financial trends.
20 This information you see on the slide was
21 included in our fiscal facts that was sent out to the
22 members of the House. As you can see, there is a lot
23 of red on this slide. In the financial world red is
24 not good. The largest red figure is the unrealized
25 losses on investments. This was due to a tumble in

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1 the stock market in December, and you will see in an
2 upcoming slide that we have recouped these losses.
3 For 2018, actual MDA revenue came in at \$6.96
4 million. Here we have a number of different
5 categories where the revenue came from. For
6 simplicity, I tend to look at two. There is dues
7 income and non-dues income. This shows a five-year
8 trend for MDA non-dues revenue, and as you can see
9 that we started off and it's been growing, growing,
10 growing and then it started in 2017, 2018 to kind of
11 level off, and this is a trend we'll see in that our
12 non-dues revenue has kind of, the trend has kind of
13 flattened out a little bit. And when you consider
14 that you will see that our dues income is also
15 slightly decreasing, it is not a good sign and that we
16 are showing, we are starting to see maybe revenue
17 growth is going to be more difficult.
18 So our actual expenses for 2018 came at just
19 a tad over \$7,000,000. Also expenses can also be
20 categorized, and because this is a brief report, we
21 will not go into all the categories and all the
22 expenses.
23 This shows our reserves at the end of 2018.
24 Our policy is to try to have 75 percent of our annual
25 expenses in reserves. This shows that we have our 75

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1 This is an interesting slide. So if you look
2 at the green it shows that over the last five years
3 our dues income has actually decreased about \$100,000.
4 So that's kind of a troubling trend, but it's the
5 reality that we have to deal with. And also, the
6 number of full dues paying members have also decreased
7 over that time. This is all due to the baby boomers
8 reaching retirement age. Members are transitioning
9 into working life, life membership or retired
10 category, which do not pay full dues and we do not
11 have enough young dentists moving into the full dues
12 paying category. We shouldn't be surprised. We knew
13 this was coming. When I was on the Board in 2005,
14 Dr. Jackson Brown from the ADA spoke to us about
15 future dental force in Michigan and also discussed
16 demographic changes that would be occurring. At the
17 time what he was saying seemed a long ways off. Well,
18 the future is here. The youngest baby boomers are
19 just turning 60, so we can expect this trend to
20 continue for several more years.
21 This is our 2019 budget, quick very brief
22 review. We are showing revenue of \$6.76 million,
23 which is lower than our revenue from last year so we
24 are budgeting kind of for reality, we are budgeting
25 for what we think will be coming in even though it's a

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1 percent plus 8.91 percent extra in reserves, so our
2 reserves are fully funded.
3 This is a history of our reserves over the
4 last six years, and we can see that our goal is to
5 have 75 percent, and every year we have been above 75
6 percent. In 2018 we are at 83.9 percent.
7 This just kind of goes back to showing what
8 the actual amount is in our reserves, and we can see
9 that from the first of the year to the end of March
10 our reserves were up 400,000, which is essentially
11 what our losses were for 2018. So essentially, things
12 are kind of back to where they were.
13 Here we have a review of our dues over the
14 last five years, assessment and dues, and we can see
15 that in those five years we've had one dues increase
16 of \$4.00. That is pretty good.
17 Here we are showing our membership market
18 share. The MDA member on top is right around 75
19 percent. That also is an outstanding number, and when
20 you compare to other states our size I think there are
21 very few states that have a better market share than
22 we have. Even on the bottom, the ADA market share has
23 increased this year, so that's a good sign, and we are
24 hoping that that trend for the ADA will continue
25 because they have worked very hard in membership.

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1 little bit less, and for 2019 we have a budget of
2 \$6.76 million for expenses, essentially a break even
3 budget.
4 In summary, our reserves are strong and we
5 are working hard to meet our budget projections.
6 I need to thank my finance committee,
7 Dr. Steve Meraw, Dr. Lisa Knowles, Dr.
8 Erick Rupprecht, Dr. Eric Knudsen. Also, I'd like to
9 thank Mr. Brian Stump and his staff for keeping all
10 the numbers straight. And mostly, I'd like to thank
11 Ms. Karen Burgess for her leadership in keeping the
12 MDA going in the right direction.
13 With that, I'll turn the podium back to
14 Speaker Christy. Thank you.
15 (Applause.)
16 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Shunk.
17 I have the pleasure of introducing the MDA's
18 Executive Director, Dr. Karen Burgess, to provide the
19 House with a brief report on the MDA.
20 Ms. Burgess.
21 MS. BURGESS: It's a pleasure to be with you
22 here this morning, and I really truly appreciate the
23 opportunity to talk with you about the Michigan Dental
24 Association.
25 I was chatting with our esteemed court

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1 reporter who said, "Gosh, this is your 6th Annual
2 Session, your 6th House of Delegates" and I said,
3 "Yeah, it is", and she reminded me that this was her
4 29th, and so it's like trumped again, but that's cool.
5 And one of the reasons why I want to talk
6 about Michigan Dental Association by the numbers was
7 because when I talk to members, so often they say, oh,
8 I didn't know that about the MDA, I didn't know you
9 did that, I didn't know you had that. In fact, I was
10 talking to a former MDA president who said that one of
11 the best things about being president was the fact
12 that you had so much contact in your year of
13 presidency that you really kind of got to know exactly
14 what was going on in the building. So I suppose
15 Dr. Deb had that same experience. You know, Dr. Shunk
16 has given you some numbers that were a little
17 sobering, although I do think we are doing our best to
18 meet the challenges of the demographics. I'm going to
19 give you some numbers that are a little bit more fun.
20 So let's do that.
21 He mentioned our membership numbers and the
22 statistical analysis on what that is doing to our dues
23 revenue. Still we are at a very high number of
24 members. 3,966 active members, 560 active life and,
25 it's simple math, the more people go to age 65 and

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1 the toughest questions go to our membership concierge
2 who just loves to research the most complicated
3 questions. But every one of our staff are dedicated
4 to your success, so let's keep those phone calls
5 coming.
6 Now, you heard from Dr. Peters about our
7 advocacy and how hard the MDA, its members and
8 leadership worked on the dental therapy legislation.
9 We had 46 in-district meetings last year related to
10 dental therapy. Over 137 dentists took part in this.
11 The legislative contacts last year, huge number of
12 legislative contacts on all the different activities.
13 So my number is higher than hers because we are
14 including some of the other activities that we
15 undertook.
16 So far, we have 3,616 people signed up for
17 our Phone2Action text alerts. If you can do the math
18 and take 5,906 minus 3,616, this will tell you that
19 there are some people who have not signed up. So, if
20 this is you, you can look on the screen. That's what
21 you have to do to become a part of our legislative
22 action alerts, and I encourage you to do so.
23 Congratulations are in order. This is
24 another happy number. One hundred years of continuous
25 publication for our MDA Journal, and in that time

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1 continue practicing, the more people we're going to
2 have right in that category. We only have 169 people
3 paying the retired rate because those folks are under
4 65, right? They are under 65. If they were over 65,
5 they'd be paying retired life. And we've got 1,211
6 people who are maintaining their MDA membership in the
7 life category after retirement.
8 Now, I will comment when Dr. Shunk said, you
9 know, we are among the best for our size in the ADA
10 tripartite in terms of market share, 75.4 percent.
11 Since I have been at the MDA, we have labored to catch
12 up to Massachusetts. We did it this year. We are
13 both at 75.4 percent, and as far as I'm concerned,
14 they should watch out because we are still going up.
15 So 5,906, a good number of members.
16 Because we've got so many members, what do we
17 get? We get a lot of phone calls, a lot of phone
18 calls, 120 phone calls a day come in through
19 Regina Simmons, our capable receptionist. That's over
20 30,000 member phone calls a year, and that doesn't
21 even include the people who call Brandy Ryan directly,
22 also MDA insurance and all the other MDA staffers that
23 people know directly.
24 Common calls are about HIPAA, OSHA, HR,
25 practice management, MDA products and services, and

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1 we've had just 19 editors, so for an average five-year
2 tenure. So it's a very prestigious publication. We
3 have won many awards, and I look forward to the next
4 hundred years of MDA dominance in the journal field.
5 Good luck to our new editor.
6 We also heard a little bit about the Mission
7 of Mercy this morning. You know, Mission of Mercy is
8 something that touches so many peoples' hearts, and
9 the very fact that organized dentistry can come
10 together for two days and deliver almost a million
11 dollars in care to some of the most grateful patients
12 is just amazingly impressive. There were well over
13 900 patient visits and more than 6,500 individual
14 procedures were performed. Dr. Bartoszewicz said it
15 very, very well. It's something that if you have not
16 been a part of, you simply cannot believe it. So,
17 thank you for all who volunteered and to those who
18 will be with us next year in Flint.
19 We also had the fun of acknowledging our new
20 LEAD class coming in. Twenty-nine leaders so far in
21 our Leadership Exploration and Development Program,
22 and here's a picture of our current LEAD class. You
23 can look around you right now, graduates are serving
24 in this ADA -- pardon me, gosh, golly, I'm going ahead
25 to San Francisco -- MDA House of Delegates as

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1 volunteers in our component societies, on MDA
2 committees, and the IFG Endorsed Services Committee
3 and on the MDA Foundation Board. This program helps
4 us ensure our future. So thank you to all 29 of our
5 graduates for being a part of it.

6 Here's a number, 91. This is another area
7 where the Michigan Dental Association shines. In
8 2018, we offered 91 CE programs, 55 sessions at our
9 2018 Annual Session, 25 programs in our seminar series
10 and 11 on-line courses because, let's face it, a lot
11 of the future is digital, right? Registration for all
12 these activities totaled over 6,800, and that doesn't
13 even include our relationship with the World
14 Continuing Education Alliance, which offers dozens of
15 ADA/CERP recognized programs just at the touch of a
16 mouse. And of course, here we are back in Detroit for
17 Dentistry in the D. Is the excitement level pretty
18 high? I'm waiting. Yes, yes, yes. So I went through
19 and I counted them. We have 71 courses. If you can't
20 find something awesome here to see, you are not
21 looking very hard. That includes 14 courses that are
22 free of charge. So, you know, for all our members who
23 said what am I getting for my dues dollar, there you
24 go.

25 All those courses are meant to help you

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1 series of courses, some of them in person, some on
2 line, that cover what your business staff need to help
3 your business be more successful. We just had our
4 first participant complete the entire series, so
5 that's really fun. Several more will be fulfilling
6 their final requirements right here at MDA Annual
7 Session. It's getting rave reviews from participants
8 and I'm certainly expecting positive feedback from the
9 dentists that employ them.

10 Another thing that's getting rave reviews,
11 you heard from Dr. Deb about all the money that the
12 MDA is saving our member dentists and, let's face it,
13 even the non-members, right? Thanks to MDA advocacy,
14 dental prosthetics are exempted from the Michigan
15 sales tax. That means Michigan dentists are saving
16 almost \$10,000,000 a year, and, as Dr. Deb pointed
17 out, we didn't just draw that number out of a hat,
18 that is a number that the Michigan Treasury Department
19 indicated that the financial impact would be. That's
20 all money that can stay in your pocket. Got to like
21 that.

22 Maybe that success is what helps you be a
23 part of the Donated Dental Services Program. I have
24 to tell you, I had not seen these little mitten cookie
25 cutters till I got here this morning. And I'm seeing

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1 succeed, whether it's becoming a better dentist by
2 upping your clinical skills, or enhancing your
3 practice management ability. Helping members succeed
4 is what the MDA is all about, right?

5 Here is another way, 40,000 ways we want to
6 help MDA members succeed. How many of you were aware
7 that the MDA Services recently entered into an
8 alliance with the California Dental Association, TDSC,
9 The Dentists Supply Company? Did everybody know? I
10 had a dentist ask me last night when can I order. And
11 I'm like right now. She was very excited. We just
12 launched the service for our members and for all the
13 endorsing societies across the country that have
14 previously endorsed Association Gloves. We are
15 transitioning as many of them as possible into TDSC.
16 This means lower prices for you, 23 to 28 percent
17 lower on average, and over 40,000 dental products
18 available. Take a few minutes, not right now, to
19 visit tdsc.com or stop by the TDSC booth on the
20 exhibit floor. It's what you need for continued
21 practice success.

22 And speaking of making your practice
23 successful, here's a number that's super exciting - we
24 have 239 dental team members enrolled in our Certified
25 Dental Business Professional Program. It's a 30-hour

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1 the recipe for success, two caring coordinators, 824
2 outstanding dentists, 199 generous volunteer dental
3 laboratories, 245 grateful patients. Well done
4 whoever did this cookie guy because those numbers for
5 Donated Dental Services are really, really impressive.
6 Over a million dollars in care to some of the neediest
7 people in our state, and the return on investment is
8 insane. \$7.60 in care for every dollar in operating
9 cost. That's awesome. And we're funded by a grant
10 from the State of Michigan, who, I understand, will be
11 continuing to fund this in perpetuity just because
12 it's so darn smart. So, if you have not donated yet
13 or become a part of the program and you are
14 interested, please do stop by the Donated Dental
15 Services booth. They would love to talk to you about
16 it.

17 Moving on to a really big number, almost
18 350,000 page views on our professional website,
19 michigandental.org. MDA dentists are relying more and
20 more on our MDA website. Over 78,000 visits last year
21 with more than four pages viewed per visit. And it's
22 no surprise when you consider that our on-line
23 resources include a ton of useful information, not
24 just on-line CE but information on dental benefits
25 plans, pending legislation, HR resources, a link to

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1 our radiography training course, resources for
 2 volunteer leadership, even Leadership Central where
 3 people can volunteer to be a part of organized
 4 dentistry leadership corps. The latest on-line
 5 resources is MDA Job Board, which is just taking off
 6 in a major way. As of Tuesday, I counted them myself,
 7 there were 125 job listings on the MDA Job Board for
 8 dentists, dental assistants, dental hygiene, front
 9 office staff, and the MDA's digital advertising is
 10 delivering hundreds of potential applicants to the
 11 site daily. So, if you have an opening in your office
 12 for a dentist or a dental team member, you might want
 13 to visit jobs.michigandental.org.

14 Now, does this look familiar to people? Have
 15 you guys seen our Sugary Truth video? This is our
 16 take on kind of sip all day, get decay in a way that
 17 is, you know, very accessible to the kids as well as
 18 the parents. And you guys probably know, in fact, I'm
 19 sure you know that the Michigan Dental Association has
 20 been educating the public about oral health and
 21 guiding them to MDA member dentists for many years,
 22 and back in the day it was all traditional media,
 23 right, TV, some print ads, maybe a billboard, but now
 24 we have to go where the eyeballs are, right? And
 25 where are the eyeballs? On line. Our latest just

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1 I now call upon Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki,
 2 immediate past president of the MDA, who will pay
 3 tribute to those MDA members who have passed in the
 4 last year.

5 Dr. Tulak-Gorecki.

6 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: We respectfully pay
 7 tribute to those members who have gone before us. We
 8 appreciate their collective contributions to organized
 9 dentistry which has created the foundation upon which
 10 we stand.

11 It is with deep gratitude that we thank them;
 12 they will be missed.

13 * * *

14 CENTRAL
 15 Dr. Richard Edwin Bailey Dr. William Earl Knecht
 16 Dr. Roderick W. Stepter
 17 DETROIT
 18 Dr. Maria Baltarowich Dr. Edward Richard Borninski
 19 Dr. William J. Cosgrove Dr. Raymond Allen Fortson
 20 Dr. Donald Eugene Gale Dr. Robert Roy Kasper
 21 Dr. Charles Joel King Dr. Harry Joseph Komajda
 22 Dr. Robert Marion Lewandowski Dr. Israel Saginaw
 23 Dr. Edward Joseph Skalski Dr. Edward S. Watko
 24 Dr. Lawrence Erwin Wenokur.
 25 GENESEE

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1 launched video is helping kids and parents
 2 understanding the downside of sugar, particularly in
 3 sugar sweetened beverages. So far this year 629,000
 4 people saw it for a combined 1,831 hours of viewing.
 5 That's a lot of messages. We've got brochures,
 6 stickers and coloring books too for your in-office
 7 tie-in. If you treat kids, you might want to check it
 8 out.

9 Then last but not least, Dr. Peters mentioned
 10 it, our zero dollar fee for our Leadership Forum.
 11 That's the registration fee for this year's forum. I
 12 really hope you will consider going. The brochure is
 13 in front of you, and you can see all the great stuff
 14 that we're offering, wonderful speakers, wonderful
 15 topics and three great tracts. Registration is open
 16 now.

17 Finally, the number one thank is you for all
 18 you do. Whether you have many years of experience or
 19 this is your first year in the House or as a
 20 volunteer, I want to thank you for your commitment to
 21 organized dentistry. Your leadership on behalf of the
 22 Michigan Dental Association and the dental profession
 23 is very much appreciated. Thank you.
 24 (Applause.)
 25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Ms. Burgess.

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1 Dr. McClellan B. Conover Dr. Raymond McDonald Hagan
 2 Dr. Norman H. Hollman Dr. John Michael McKenna
 3 Dr. Paul H. Williams
 4 JACKSON
 5 Dr. Donald H. Fox Dr. Glenn Carlton Lehr
 6 Dr. Robert James Murray
 7 KALAMAZOO VALLEY
 8 Dr. Terence R. Comar Dr. George Stiglich
 9 Dr. Timothy G. Walbridge
 10 LAKELAND VALLEY
 11 Dr. William John Armstrong Dr. James Lenard Pittman
 12 MACOMB
 13 Dr. Robert P. Baker Dr. David P. Borlas
 14 Dr. Michael J. Kratochwill Dr. James F. Oles
 15 MANISTEE-MASON
 16 Dr. Clifford Scott Rose
 17 MUSKEGON
 18 Dr. Robert Neal Boelkins Dr. Robert Wilson Christie,
 19 Dr. Robert Allen Rector
 20 NINTH DISTRICT
 21 Dr. Merrill F. Hutchins
 22 OAKLAND
 23 Dr. Ronald Frederick Huey Dr. Richard J. Meldrum
 24 Dr. William Lloyd Warren
 25

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1 RESORT
2 Dr. Richard Keith Borton
3 SAGINAW VALLEY
4 Dr. Russel D. Warren
5 SOUTHWESTERN
6 Dr. Ralph Lawrence Puchalski
7 SUPERIOR
8 Dr. Paul Timothy Zhulkie
9 WASHTENAW
10 Dr. Frank W. Comstock Dr. William Colin Godwin
11 Dr. Gerald Lynn Howe Dr. Gloria James Kerry
12 Dr. Michael E. Krause Dr. James W. Reese
13 Dr. Lloyd Harold Traffon Dr. Francis Stanton Williams
14 WEST MICHIGAN
15 Dr. Gary Allen Baker Dr. Arthur Victor Gingrich,
16 Dr. Richard Kinsel Grover
17 * * *
18 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr.
19 Tulak-Gorecki.
20 Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki, chair of the
21 Nominating Committee, will now provide a brief report
22 and formally nominate the candidates for office.
23 Dr. Tulak-Gorecki.
24 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
25 According to the Bylaws, the purpose of the

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1 Nominating Committee is to carefully review the
2 credentials of each potential candidate, seek out the
3 most qualified candidates for each position and
4 ensure, to the greatest degree possible, that the
5 slate offered reflects the diversity of the
6 Association membership.
7 The Nominating Committee met three times to
8 engage in dialogue and debate regarding the merits of
9 potential candidates.
10 After interviewing and vetting the
11 applicants, the Committee selected the slate of
12 candidates for your consideration.
13 I would like to remind regions that the name
14 of their Nom Com representative for next year is due
15 to the MDA by June 15. Keep in mind that it is
16 critical that your representative is available to
17 attend all meetings of the Committee. The dates are
18 August 16, 2019, November 14, 2019 and January 10,
19 2020.
20 The Ninth District, Michigan and Wisconsin,
21 rotate the ADA Trustee position every four years. The
22 Michigan Dental Association House of Delegates holds
23 an election every eight years.
24 The 2019-2020 Nominating Committee will vet
25 applicants for the ADA Ninth District Trustee with the

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1 MDA House electing the position in 2020. While the
2 position won't become vacant until October 2021, the
3 ADA begins onboarding in January 2021 and recommends
4 that the MDA elect the position in 2020.
5 The offices open for nomination are
6 president-elect, editor, speaker of the house,
7 secretary/treasurer, three trustee positions for a
8 three-year term, three ADA delegate positions and
9 eight ADA alternate positions.
10 The Nominating Committee nominates
11 Dr. Stephen Meraw for President-Elect of the
12 Michigan Dental Association.
13 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
14 nominations for president-elect?
15 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
16 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
17 Dr. Stephen Meraw as president-elect of the
18 Michigan Dental Association.
19 (Applause.)
20 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: The Nominating Committee
21 nominates Dr. Christopher Smiley for editor of the
22 Michigan Dental Association.
23 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
24 nominations for editor?
25 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be

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1 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
2 Dr. Christopher Smiley as editor of the Michigan
3 Dental Association.
4 (Applause.)
5 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: The Nominating Committee
6 nominates Dr. Todd Christy for Speaker of the House of
7 the Michigan Dental Association.
8 I will now turn the podium over to
9 President Peters to complete the nomination process
10 for Speaker of the House.
11 DR. PETERS: Are there any other nominations?
12 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
13 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
14 Dr. Todd Christy as Speaker for the Michigan Dental
15 Association. Congratulations.
16 (Applause.)
17 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: The Nominating Committee
18 nominates Dr. Clayton Shunk for secretary/treasurer of
19 the Michigan Dental Association.
20 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
21 nominations?
22 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
23 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
24 Dr. Clayton Shunk as secretary/treasurer of the
25 Michigan Dental Association.

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1 (Applause.)
2 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: The Nominating Committee
3 nominates the following individuals for a three-year
4 term as trustee of the Michigan Dental Association:
5 * Dr. Vincent Benivegna
6 * Dr. Naila Farooq
7 * Dr. Christopher Gorecki
8 * Dr. Vincent Lizzio
9 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
10 nominations?
11 Hearing none, nominations are closed and
12 voting will take place on Saturday.
13 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: The MDA has budgeted for
14 26 ADA delegation positions, 18 delegates and eight
15 alternates.
16 According to the Bylaws, officers of the
17 Association are required to serve as delegates and
18 trustees have the option to serve as delegates.
19 The Nominating Committee contacted all
20 trustee candidates and, if elected, they have agreed
21 to serve as ADA delegates. The officers and trustees
22 will comprise 15 of the 18 delegate positions.
23 Therefore, the House of Delegates will elect three
24 delegates and eight alternate positions from the list
25 of candidates.

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1 Dr. Tulak-Gorecki.
2 The next item on the agenda is new business.
3 This is the last time that new business can be
4 introduced except by unanimous consent.
5 Does any delegate have new business to
6 introduce?
7 Before we adjourn, there are a few
8 announcements.
9 I have made an effort to make communications
10 with the House more user-friendly by utilizing videos
11 and being mindful of the content and frequency of the
12 communication.
13 I am able to determine the percentage of
14 House members that open the Delegate Digest and the
15 percentage that actually click through to view the
16 website.
17 47.8 percent of the House of Delegates opened
18 the March 12th Delegate Digest. Of that 47.8 percent,
19 only 19.1 percent actually clicked through to the
20 website. These Digests are sent so that House members
21 can be fully informed of the activities of the MDA and
22 its Board of Trustees. As elected leaders, it is
23 important to read all of the information that is
24 provided.
25 The metrics will be continued to be reviewed

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1 The Nominating Committee nominates the
2 following individuals for the ADA delegation:
3 * Dr. Larissa Bishop
4 * Dr. Lisa Christy
5 * Dr. Curles Colbert
6 * Dr. Andrew DeHaan
7 * Dr. Christopher Gorecki
8 * Dr. Gabriel Holdwick
9 * Dr. Mark Johnston
10 * Dr. Jerry Kohen
11 * Dr. Martin Makowski
12 * Dr. Jason Mashni
13 * Dr. Melanie Mayberry
14 * Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki
15 * Dr. Alexa Vitek-Hitchcock
16 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
17 nominations?
18 Hearing none, nominations are closed. Voting
19 will take place on Saturday.
20 DR. TULAK-GORECKI: I would like to thank the
21 members of the Nominating Committee for all their hard
22 work and diligence in vetting this year's candidates.
23 That completes the nominations for elective
24 positions in the Michigan Dental Association.
25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you,

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1 following every Delegate Digest. It is my hope that
2 the members of the House of Delegates will do due
3 diligence and read the information provided.
4 Anti-trust law is a collection of federal and
5 state government laws that regulates the conduct and
6 organization of business corporations generally to
7 promote fair competition for the benefit of consumers.
8 The MDA has policy on anti-trust and a hard copy is in
9 front of you today.
10 As your Speaker, I will be alert to and stop
11 any discussions that I believe cross the line. MDA
12 legal counsel will assist me.
13 Appreciation is extended to MDA Insurance and
14 MDA Services for sponsoring a portion of today's
15 meeting.
16 Annual Session is the perfect time to explore
17 what's available from MDA Insurance, MDA Services and
18 our ever-expanding Dental Supplies Program. Please
19 make time to visit the MDA-endorsed vendor aisle in
20 the exhibit hall to discover new ways to help you and
21 your practice succeed.
22 Visit the Dentists Supply Company, a
23 comprehensive supply program, at booths 169 and 170
24 for savings on major brand dental supplies.
25 Appreciation is also extended to MDA Donated

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1 Dental Services for the gift that was at each seat
2 this morning.

3 Everyone is invited to the MDA welcome
4 reception today from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in Hall D. Enjoy
5 complimentary hors d'oeuvres along with a cash bar
6 while touring the MDA Exhibit Hall featuring nearly
7 200 exhibitors. The exhibitors help support the
8 MDA Annual Session and appreciate our business.

9 While you are at it, make a point of visiting
10 the Welcome Center at the front of the exhibit hall
11 entrance.

12 The MDA Dental PAC is again doing the PAC
13 competition. Your House of Delegate Regions will be
14 competing for the most money raised and highest
15 participation rate per region. The winning regions
16 will be announced on Saturday and recognized in the
17 MDA Journal. Also, all donors will be entered in a
18 drawing to win an Apple product based on the amount
19 donated.

20 Make sure you make a donation at the PAC
21 booth before Saturday! There is a PAC booth today at
22 the House Floor entrance and one in the exhibit hall
23 near the Welcome Center.

24 Visit the MDA Welcome Center inside Hall D to
25 take your best shot at being crowned MDA's ultimate

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1 voting on Saturday to include the elections. It is my
2 intention to use the keypads judiciously. Not every
3 vote will be taken on the keypads in the essence of
4 saving time. However, House members will be able to
5 vote for candidates for office using the electronic
6 system. There will be instructions at your seat at
7 Saturday's House session.

8 The electronic keypads will be distributed to
9 delegates on Saturday when your badge is scanned for
10 entrance to the floor of the House. Please allow for
11 additional time for the keypads to be distributed.

12 The Candidate Forum will be moderated by
13 Dr. Margaret Gingrich and will begin in five minutes.
14 Candidates for trustee should be seated behind the
15 head table. You are welcome to move forward into the
16 House of Delegates seating area. One moment please.

17 Dr. Sabrina Shaouni, Oakland, microphone
18 three.

19 DR. SHAOUNI: I move that the first meeting
20 of the 2019 House of Delegates meeting be adjourned.

21 SPEAKER CHRISTY: The House of Delegates
22 stands recessed until one p.m. on Saturday.
23 (First session concluded at 10:11 a.m.)
24
25

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1 basketball champion!

2 It's "Dentistry in the D! B-Ball Challenge".

3 Qualifying rounds take place Thursday between
4 noon and six and Friday between ten a.m. and five p.m.

5 If you qualify, you will be invited back to
6 the final round. Four winners will receive Visa gift
7 cards.

8 Stop by the Welcome Center for rules and
9 details.

10 The Candidate Forum for the trustee positions
11 will be held five minutes following adjournment of
12 this meeting.

13 Following the Candidate Forum, there will be
14 a brief introduction of candidates for the ADA
15 delegation candidates.

16 Lunch will be provided following the
17 introduction of ADA delegation candidates.

18 Following lunch, the reference committee
19 hearing will take place here.

20 Reference committee reports will be
21 distributed to the caucus rooms on Saturday, May 4th
22 at seven a.m. The packets will have instructions on
23 how to e-mail proposed amendments to House staff on
24 Saturday morning.

25 We will be using electronic keypads for

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1 STATE OF MICHIGAN)
2) ss
3 COUNTY OF EATON)

4 I certify that this transcript, consisting of
5 68 pages, is a complete, true, and correct record of the
6 proceedings held in this matter on May 2, 2019.

7 I also certify that I am not a relative or
8 employee of an attorney for a party or financially
9 interested in the action.

10 May 23, 2019

11
12
13 _____
14 Joan Farhat Byrnes, CSR-2062
15 Notary Public
16 Eaton County, Michigan
17 My commission expires: 4-10-25.
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25