

Christian Dental Society News-Brief October 2022



The CDS held its yearly, in-person Board Meeting on October 14, 2022, at the Houston First Baptist Church-Downtown, including several who attended by Zoom. The CDS thanked Dr. Denny Scharine for setting up the Zoom meeting. For the first time, all 11 of the CDS Board members were in attendance along with several Advisory Council members and guests.

After the opening prayer, Dr. Michael Vaughan called the Board meeting to order, members were introduced, and the minutes from the quarterly Board meeting from the last year were reviewed and approved. It was noted that the Christian Dental Society seeks to discover how God is leading as we support the CDS in performing a vital function of encouraging, assisting, training, and equipping dental mission teams for His glory.



CDS Board meeting (partial view going from the left) showing Dr. Randy Sanders (kit manager), Dr. Dave Moretz (equipment manager), Dr. Jim Wolf (President-Elect), Dr. Michael Vaughan (CDS President), and Dr. Bob Meyer (CDS Executive Director)



Others at the Board meeting from left to right. Dr. Chad Araki, Dr. Jon Spenn, Dr. Victor Bradford, Dr. James Carney, Dr. Jody Yarbrow, and Dr. Katy Barlow

1. CDS leadership changes.

a. The CDS Presidency changes will occur next year following the October, in-person, Board Meeting to be held in Orlando, Florida at the ADA meeting.

b. The CDS Board, with 100% approval, **forwards Dr. Randy Sanders to the CDS membership for a vote to become a CDS Board Member.** According to CDS by-laws, the CDS membership is represented by their Board Members, who are the policy-making body of the CDS, and must be approved by a majority vote. A vote of confidence was recently sent out to the membership.

c. The CDS Board, with 100% approval, voted to have Dr. Chad Araki, DDS and Mrs. Glynn Reser, RDH, CDA join the CDS Advisory Board and we are honored to have them contributing to the CDS. Following is a very brief biographical summary:

Dr. Chad Araki has been a Christian since Jr. High and is currently an Elder in his church. He has been involved with dental mission work since 2007 (primarily in Myanmar). He is interested in continuing mission work, assisting the CDS at exhibit booths which he has already been doing, and helping to train students. His father was a dentist and one of his seven children is a dentist and others are in dental and hygiene school.

Mrs. Glynn Reser, RDH, CDS was on a dental mission trip in Peru during the CDS Meetings in Houston or she would have been present. She has been a Christian since she was 13 and oversees her church's non-profit—Starfish Ministry of Texas. Glynn has been on over 30 dental mission trips to numerous countries in South and Central America. She loves bringing “newbies” into missions and is interested in getting more hygienists involved with the CDS and missions. The Board agreed that the CDS would be thrilled to involve more hygienists in the organization.

2. Surgical, Restorative, Hygiene, and Sterilization Report by Dr. Randy Sanders:

a. Due to COVID-19, all trips were canceled starting in mid-March 2020 until recently.

b. All kits are in storage and the number of kits remains the same: 24 Surgical, 24 Restorative, 11 Hygiene, and 6 pressure pots. We need to have more pressure pot rings made and Dr. Cheatwood is arranging to have more fabricated. The CDS is helping many teams sterilize effectively and efficiently with the addition of the ring weight.

c. The CDS has purchased new LED curing lights at \$34 each to replace the old halogen lights. Dr. Bob Meyer explained how the new lights were obtained from China and there was discussion concerning the lithium batteries, especially when placed in luggage on airplanes. Some of the old lights have been sent to Dr. Jim Carney to help with the expansion of the clinics in Jamaica. There are still some old lights left.

d. Countries impacted so far in 2022 include Africa, Guatemala, Greece, Honduras (2), Israel, Kenya (2), Lebanon, Peru, Senegal, Uganda, Ukraine, the US (2), and Zambia (2). Dr. Jim Wolf also told of the difficulties that resulted in his canceled trip to Nicaragua this year. Dr. Jim Carney mentioned the changes in Jamaica that impact his ability to ship supplies.

e. Dr. Gayle Cheatwood is getting more pressure pot rings for the CDS.

f. Dr. Randy Sanders has evaluation/checklist sheets for dental professionals to fill out concerning what should be provided in the kits. He appreciates feedback.



Dr. Randy Sanders with some of the give-away instruments

g. Numerous people (usually those retiring) have donated instruments to the CDS and Dr. Randy, as well as Dr. Bob, have used the instruments to supplement CDS kits and to help mission teams. The CDS has boxes of excess instruments to get back in circulation and, at the mission banquet, there were several tables of these instruments to offer to the CDS membership. All instruments were taken by the end of the mission banquet evening.

h. **Much appreciation is expressed to Dr. Randy Sanders** for the ongoing work he does to make available clean, well-equipped kits and supplies to our members who rent them through the CDS. Dr. Randy often includes personal notes attached to the outgoing kits that tell the teams of his and CDS prayers. The Board applauded Dr. Randy's many efforts and Dr. Michael Vaughan commented that God is honored by all Dr. Randy does to help the CDS.

3. Equipment, Chairs, and Dental Operating Units Report by Dr. David Moretz:

a. There are some portable compressors, tower dental operating, and Adec tripod units that require compressed air that the CDS is not using. If anyone would like to purchase them, please contact Dr. Moretz at pamlicopop@yahoo.com. The suggested cost for the set is \$500.

b. Countries impacted in 2022 with equipment so far are Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Kenya, Morocco, Peru, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, the United States, and Zambia.

c. Much appreciation is expressed to Dr. David Moretz for his ongoing dedication to CDS in storing, shipping, and repairing equipment the CDS provides for the mission trips. Dr. David often includes personal notes attached to the outgoing equipment that tell the teams of his and CDS prayers. The Board applauded Dr. David's many efforts and Dr. Michael Vaughan commented that God is honored by all Dr. David does to help the CDS.

4. Financial Report by Dr. Robert Meyer and Dr. Jody Yarbro:

a. COVID-19 has deterred overseas travel and conference closures have affected the CDS mission greatly these past two years. Understandably, CDS membership and income have dropped significantly. It has been a tough two years financially, but the CDS is still solvent and very much alive.

b. The CDS upgraded the computer system for Mrs. Tina Wendell, Executive Secretary of the CDS.

c. Umal, who trained in surgical dentistry in Uganda with m-Power and in Kenya with I-TEC, has helped train others in South Sudan, and recently in Tanzania. He is the recipient of a CDS Endowment fund of \$10,565 to primarily finance his first two years of dental school which he has completed. Due to COVID-19, Umal's education was delayed and his income from working was not available to fund his third of five years of dental school. Efforts to procure funding were not forthcoming and he was facing expulsion from dental school unless he could come up with \$5,000. CDS leadership agreed to put out a special request for funds to support. Due to the generosity of CDS members, \$10,365 was raised and Umal was sent the \$5,000 he needed to complete his third year of school. Dr. Meyer recently e-mailed Umal and he has just completed his third-year examinations and has two more years to complete his dental degree. With COVID-19 restrictions loosening, Umal's income has increased to the extent that he is not expecting more funding from the CDS. The remaining \$5,365 has been put into the CDS endowment fund.

d. Dr. Frank Cho spoke about the CDS support he had received in Cambodia to train students there in past years.

e. The CDS continues to sell portable chairs, Camptime stools, and pressure pot weights as mission trips are picking up, which all bring in some income. We are always glad to accept donations but spend no resources trying to raise support.

f. Overall the CDS remains financially solid despite COVID-19.

5. A Discussion on the Effect of COVID-19 on Membership, Missions, and the CDS.

a. Dr. Michael Vaughan has written and Tina has sent a dues renewal letter out to the CDS membership which you should all have received unless you are a life member. If you did not receive a dues renewal letter, please contact Tina as the CDS may not have a current address. Dr. Michael coined the phrase, "**Reverse the Curve Campaign**" to

increase the CDS membership which has been falling since COVID-19 began. It was suggested that CDS members contact past members, recruit students, continue with conventions, and possibly send a donation letter to lifetime members, which Dr. Michael volunteered to write.

6. Student Mission Trip Opportunities:

Students who participate in a student trip with CDS members are eligible for a free student membership into the CDS until December of their senior year graduation. It would be helpful to have them fill out membership forms (available on student trips) while they are on the student trips and take a phone picture of the forms to be e-mailed to Tina.

Dr. Michael Vaughan reported on opening a new dental student training site with Dr. T. Bob Davis in Matamoros, Mexico. He stated that the dorms need some work and Dr. Jody Yarbrow stated that he might be able to get a work/witness team from the men's group at his church to help with the dorms.

Dr. Jim Carney reported on dental student trips to Jamaica. He spoke of needing more students and thought about writing follow-up letters to those who participate. It was suggested that CDS send News-Briefs to students for some time after they volunteer to keep them connected. It was affirmed that non-Christians could come on the trips while the leaders of trips must be Christians.

Dr. Bob Meyer reported on the Guatemala student trip which opened the new 21-chair clinic this March. There will be another student trip on March 11-18, 2023, with information found at www.guatemalansmiles.com.

7. Dr. Jonathan Spenn reported on training indigenous people with I-Tec and mPower and mentioned upcoming trips (Liberia, Peru, Burundi). He also noted that CMDA has a Faith Prescription episode #15 which has dental topics, CMDA retreats, and GHO mission trips are available through CMDA.

8. The Dr. Ron Lamb Mission Award:

a. This year's award (which was last year's award and was delayed due to Jim's unavailability to attend last year's meeting) will be presented to Drs. Jim and Sue Carney for their life-long contributions to missionary dentistry. Dr. Carney is a past President of the CDS, an active CDS Board Member, and the leader of student trips to Jamaica. He established an 18-chair clinic in Jamaica and coordinated as many as 15 student trips to Jamaica each year before COVID-19. Dr. Sue, his dental wife, has been his rock and supporter in all he does and they have both been greatly blessed and used by God in significant and incalculable ways.



Drs. Jim and Sue Carney receiving the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary award with Dr. Bob Meyer on the right and Dr. Bill Griffin supporting

b. Dr. Ron Lamb’s World Dental Relief, after decades of supporting dental missions with equipment and supplies, has started the process of closing, although they still equip teams with limited supplies and surgical kits. They are not accepting more donations and are emptying the warehouses. Dr. Ron has always supported the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award with \$500 worth of dental supplies through World Dental Relief which will no longer happen. The CDS Board voted last year to continue with the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award. Recently Dr. Ron and the WDR Board donated \$5,000 to the CDS, which was placed in a CDS-designated, Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award fund to support the award with a \$500 cash prize for the next 10 years. CDS thanks Dr. Ron and WDR.

c. The Board was advised to think about a nomination for the 2023 Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award. If you have a worthy candidate for this CDS Mission award, please contact Dr. Bob Meyer at bdmeyer@comcast.net

9. The CDS Website:

a. The CDS encourages all members to contribute with stories, pictures, resources, international missions, and USA missions to continue to make the CDS website, Facebook, and Instagram a valued resource and outreach ministry of the CDS. Stories and pictures show how CDS impacts lives.

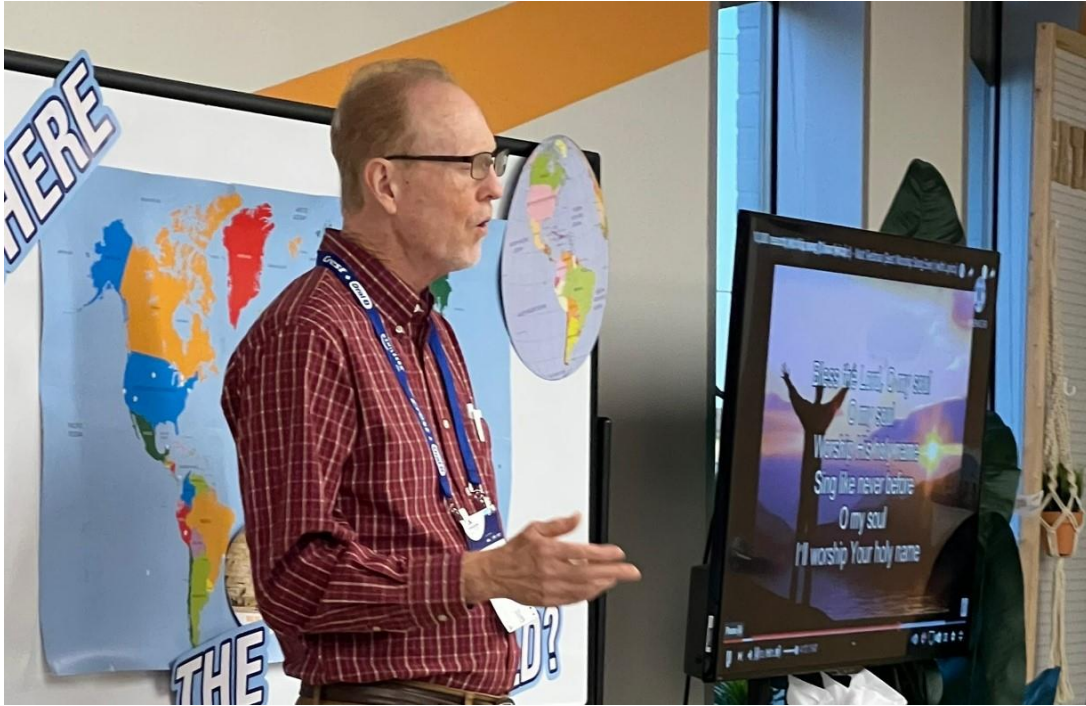
- b. The CDS website allows members to sign up for automatic dues renewal either on the website or through the mail with their bank or credit card.
- c. Everyone is asked to update their database with phone, e-mail, or address changes.
- d. Please use the mission trip opportunity form to advertise missions needing personnel.
- e. The Curtis Group, Mark and Susan Curtis have designed and managed the oversight of the CDS website at no cost. They have made it easy to add CDS trip information. They are part of the CDS ministry and we thank them for all they do to support us. We praise the Lord for their invaluable contributions to the CDS.

10. The CDS Informational Handout: The CDS, tri-fold handout combines the larger informational handout and the smaller, pamphlet which are handed out primarily at exhibit booths. It beautifully consolidates information about the CDS mission and provides information concerning valuable resources for missions. Look under “About Us” on the CDS website for this handout and past editions of CDS News-Briefs.

11. The CDS Joint Mission Banquet with the CDA was held on Friday, October 14, at the Houston First Baptist Church Downtown. Much appreciation is given to Dr. Chad and Sharyn Araki and their three youngest children who came from Hawaii to not only prepare and cater, but gifted all the food, for the outstanding Hawaiian Buffet (which modeled and taught the young people to serve in a giving Christian atmosphere).



Sharyn Araki with Sarah, Sean, and Clara



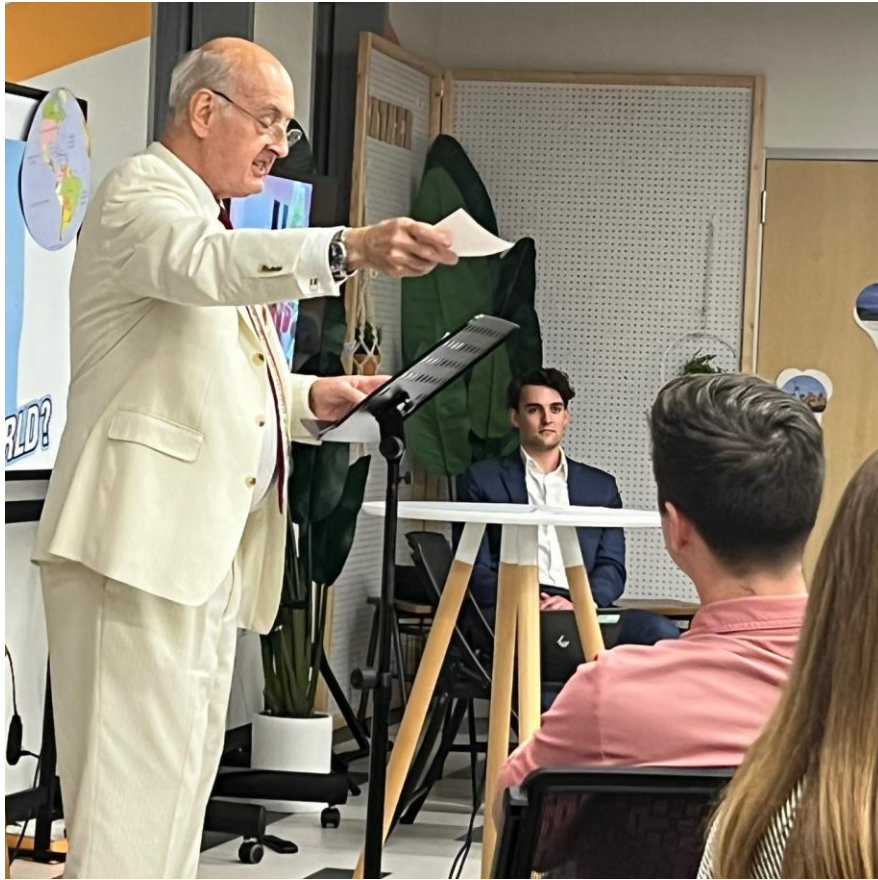
Dr. Jody leading the music at the Banquet

We appreciate Dr. Jody Yarbro's assistance with music as he led worshipful singing by those present. There were four outstanding featured speakers.



Dr. James Carney Presenting

Drs. James and Sue Carney gave an inspirational, heartfelt presentation on their family's decades-long journey leading student trips and setting up clinics in Jamaica.



Dr. T. Bob Davis Presenting

Dr. T. Bob Davis shared about his 40+ years leading student trips culminating with his building a 21-chair clinic in San Raymundo, Guatemala which opened this March. He shared his pearls of wisdom with the audience which included several dental students.



Dr. Bob Meyer introduces Dr. Ryan Bowles and his book

Dr. Ryan Bowles moved his family of five to Jordan for 14 years as full-time, dental missionaries with hearts for unreached people groups in the Middle East. He wrote a fascinating book, *Speaking the Tooth in Love*, under the pen name Adam Amalgam, DDS. His amazing presentation about his real-life challenges in Jordan as he devoted himself to God is further amplified in the stories, joys, and trials of his book.

Dr. Michael Vaughan shared about a new student mission opportunity in Matamoros, Mexico in which there is a new clinic being built with opportunities for student mission trips in the future. Dr. Michael encouraged all present with inspiring Scriptures and closed the evening in prayer.



Dr. Michael Vaughn presenting

11. The CDS Exhibit Booths at Major Dental Conventions: Exhibiting at dental conventions has been an extremely valuable opportunity to encourage, assist, and connect. Thank you to those who have participated in various conferences. The CDS participated in 11 conferences during the past year and plans to attend these conferences in the upcoming year.

1. October 21-22, 2022, **Global Medical Missions** conference in Irvine, California with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer, Dr. Frank Cho, and Ronni Araki (a junior dental student). Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer presented concerning short-term missions on Friday and Saturday.

2. October 23, 2022, **National Association of Seventh-Day Adventist Dentists (NASDAD)** conference with the Loma Linda College where Dr. Ron Fritz and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer set up a portable clinic and talked about CDS' mission.

3. November 10-12, 2022 **Pacific Northwest** conference in Seattle, WA where Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer will have an exhibit booth and present to the local Christian Dental Society concerning short-term missions.

4. November 28-December 2, 2022 **Greater New York** dental meeting in NYC with Dr. Vic Bradford and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer.

5. January 19-21, 2023, **Rocky Mountain** dental conference, in Denver, CO with Dr. Randy Sanders and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer. The Meyers will present on short-term missions for two hours.

6. January 26-28, 2023, **Yankee** dental meeting in Boston, MA with Dr. Kunio Chan and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer.

7. March 17-19, 2023, **Hinman** dental meeting in Atlanta, GA with Dr. David and Gail Moretz, and Dr. Randy Sanders.

8. April 13-15, 2023, **Oregon** Dental Meeting in Portland, OR with Dr. Andrew Walls and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer. Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer will present on short-term missions for three hours.

9. April 20-23, 2023, **Western Regional** dental meeting in Glendale, Arizona with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer.

10. April 27-29, 2023, **Star of the North** dental meeting in St Paul, MN with Dr. Denny Scharine and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer. This meeting has a \$500 exhibiting fee and the CDS has never attended this meeting before due to costs. Dr. Tom Love has volunteered to pay the booth fee for this conference.

11. May 4-6, 2023, **Texas Dental Association** Meeting in San Antonio, TX with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer and Mrs. Glynn Reser. TDA made a special exception for the CDS to obtain a booth rather than a table for \$150 so we could display the dental clinic. Dr. Tom Love has agreed to also pay for this booth fee.

12. May 18-20, 2023, **California** dental meeting in **Anaheim**, CA with Dr. Frank and Tina Cho, Dr. Gayle and Nita Cheatwood, and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer. This event carries a \$500 fee which Dr. Tom Love paid last year and volunteered to pay again this year.

13. June 29-July 1, 2023, **Florida** dental meeting at Gaylord Resort in Florida with Dr. Jonathan and Amy Spenn and Dr. Katy Barlow. The Florida Dental Society said they were going to have a separate meeting from the ADA.

14. July TBD 2023, **National Dental Association** meeting, TBD with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer

15. September 15-17, 2023, **Ohio** dental meeting in Columbus, OH with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer.

16. October 5-7, 2023, **ADA meeting in Orlando, Florida** with various CDS members. The CDS is hosting its annual, in-person Board Meeting and a Mission Banquet at a nearby church TBD.

12. Additional Items for Discussion:

a. The CDS e-mails **monthly News-Briefs** to keep the membership informed. If members are not getting News-Briefs or e-mail correspondence from the CDS, please check the CDS website to see if the-mails are correct. Dr. Bob Meyer invites all to

contribute to the News-Briefs and asks members to send contributions to him by email, including pictures, mission trip reports, ideas, and Scripture verses.

b. The CDS manual *Dental Mission Manual--For Portable Short-term Dental Trips* is still selling well as it encourages and helps those interested in dental missions. The manual was published by Create Space and Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer welcome additions and corrections to the manual, as there are plans for a future edition to keep the manual updated.

c. The **CDS Facebook**: Please send contributions for the CDS Facebook page to bdmeyer@comcast.net whenever possible. Please “Like” items on the CDS Facebook page.

d. Drs. Diane and Bob Meyer’s newest book *Encouraging Missions: Transforming Lives, Especially Yours!* is now available. The mission article forming the background of the book was published in the Journal of the American Dental Association in December 2020 and titled, “*Recruitment Considerations for Dental, Short-Term Missions Relating to the Holistic Development of Dentists.*” The article was also included in the Dental Abstracts official publication of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, Vol 66, Number 4, July/August 2021 (www.dentalabstracts.com) titled “*Volunteering, Short-Term Missions Contribute to Dentists’ Development.*”

e. **Amazon Smile income generates income for the CDS--\$450 this past year.** Please consider logging on to “Amazon/smile” for your purchases to be tagged with a charitable percentage going to the CDS. You only need to sign up for CDS once as your charity.

13. The annual CDS Board Meeting adjourned with a closing prayer by Dr. Jim Wolf, CDS President-Elect.

