Meet the DDOK Board of Directors

Interview with Board Member

Dr. Stephen Glenn

Dr. Stephen Glenn, a general dentist who has practiced in Tulsa for 38 years, has been a member of the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Board of Directors for the last 25 years. During his tenure, Dr. Glenn has served on all of the board’s committees, but his primary assignments have been in Dental Policy, Governance, and the Oral Health Foundation.

Dr. Glenn said he first became a member of the board because he wanted to help in the design and administration of dental benefits that reflect the care being delivered and enhance the relationship between dentists and their patients, all while providing value to dental benefit purchasers.

Dr. Glenn said he feels the main difference between Delta Dental and other carriers is the fact that DDOK places dentists on their board and listens to their input. “Because dentists are the experts on dental care, they can provide unique perspectives for patients, benefit purchasers and plan administrators for the betterment of all,” he said.

The Delta Dental Oral Health Foundation is another way in which DDOK distinguishes itself from other carriers, said Dr. Glenn. “Of all the accomplishments of Delta Dental of Oklahoma, I may be the most proud of the contributions Delta Dental has made to provide dental care for the less fortunate and underserved within our state,” he said.

As for the future of dentistry, Dr. Glenn said he sees things changing the most in the areas of legislation and technology. “Health care legislation is creating changes in the marketplace for all medical benefits and that can impact dental benefits,” he said. “The environment in which a company like Delta Dental operates is subject to major shifts whenever Congress enacts new policy.” Dr. Glenn added, “Information technology will be of particular value in two primary ways. First, the development of the electronic health record will greatly improve the coordination of every patient’s comprehensive care and the dental component of that record will be a vital element. Secondly, better information can only improve outcomes research and our understanding of effective treatment modalities.”

In addition to the time he’s spent with his dental practice and DDOK’s board, Dr. Glenn has also been active in organized dentistry. He has served as the president of the Tulsa County Dental Society, President of the Oklahoma Dental Association, and Chair of the American Dental Association Council on Dental Practice. He and his wife, Mella, have five adult children and nine grandchildren. In their spare time, they enjoy spending time at Grand Lake with family and friends.

RAM Oklahoma Delivers Care

Starting junior high is tough. When you have a chipped front tooth, it’s even tougher. 12-year-old Alexis knows just how that feels. And now, thanks to volunteer dental professionals, she has a beautiful, restored smile!

Alexis is one of more than 1,500 Oklahomans who received free dental, vision and medical services at the Remote Area Medical (RAM) Oklahoma event held at the state fairgrounds Aug. 25 and 26.

Volunteer dental professionals served 1,016 dental patients with 1,325 extractions, 243 fillings and 153 cleanings. Delta Dental of Oklahoma employees teamed up with dental hygiene and assisting students to provide the patients with important education and resources for future care.

“Delta Dental is proud to be a title sponsor of the RAM Oklahoma event,” said John Gladden, president and CEO. “Supporting the efforts of volunteer dental professionals who are on the front lines providing care to those in need is at the very heart of our Foundation’s mission.”
Foundation Spotlight

Volunteer Registration Open for OkMOM 2013

The 2013 Oklahoma Mission of Mercy will be held Feb. 1-2 in Lawton and volunteer registration is now open at www.okmom.org. Since 2010, OkMOM has treated 5,739 Oklahomans, providing more than $3 million in donated dental services. The event has become annual tradition for many volunteers, who follow it throughout the state.

OkMOM is co-sponsored by Oklahoma Dental Association, Delta Dental of Oklahoma Oral Health Foundation, and Oklahoma Dental Foundation.

Singleton Named one of Top 25 Women in Dentistry

Terrisa Singleton, manager of Delta Dental of Oklahoma Oral Health Foundation, has been named to Dental Products Report’s Top 25 Women in Dentistry. Singleton oversees Delta Dental of Oklahoma’s annual community contributions of $1.2 million and the Foundation’s work with more than 25 agencies and nonprofits across the state that provide free and low-cost dental care to people in Oklahoma. Singleton joined DDK in 2009 as a foundation specialist.

“Terrisa works extensively with free and low-cost dental clinics and programs throughout the state and is a key player in helping patients who otherwise might not have access to dental care,” said John Gladden, president and CEO for Delta Dental of Oklahoma. “This honor recognizes her hard work, often behind the scenes and on evenings and weekends, to extend care to those who need it most.”

Dental Products Report is a dental product news publication covering advances in equipment, materials, supplies, and services in the dental industry. In its third year recognizing the Top 25 Women in Dentistry, DPR accepts nominations in five categories: dentists, team members, dental lab, research and education, and industry. Singleton and the other honorees were featured in DPR’s September edition.

Singleton is a resident of southwest Oklahoma City and a graduate of Southern Nazarene University. She currently serves as chair of the Children’s Oral Health Coalition and treasurer of the Oklahoma Charitable Clinics Association.

Delta Dental Distinguished Service Award Presented to Dental Hygienist

Angie Cook, RDH, of Broken Arrow, has received the first Delta Dental Distinguished Service award for a dental hygienist. Cook has been in the dental hygiene field for 15 years and works in the Tulsa office of Dr. Ray Beddoe. She volunteered for the Neighbor to Neighbor free dental clinic for ten years and is now the co-volunteer coordinator for the Catholic Charities dental clinic. She has also volunteered for the Oklahoma Mission of Mercy, ODF Mobile Dental Care Program, and various health fairs.

“My motto to recruit other RDH volunteers is, ‘No one else can do what we do!’” said Cook. “We have a specific, amazing skill that helps improve the health of those in need.”

Foundation manager Terrisa Singleton presented the award to Cook at the Oklahoma Dental Hygienists Association annual meeting in September. Cook received a prize package of items to help facilitate her volunteer work including a $200 gift certificate to Practicon and 200 toothbrushes.

Oklahoman Installed as President of American College of Dentists

Congratulations to Edmond dentist Dr. Scott Waugh for his new position as president of the American College of Dentists. The American College of Dentists is the oldest honorary dental society, founded in 1920. It is referred to as the “Conscience of Dentistry.” The mission of the college is to promote excellence, ethics, professionalism and leadership. Dr. Waugh is past president of the Oklahoma Dental Association, and has been providing dental care to his patients in Edmond since 1974. He was the ODA Dentist of the Year in 2009, and frequently volunteers his time and services on the ODF Mobile Dental Unit and at Oklahoma Mission of Mercy events.