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# Association of Army Dentistry (AAD)

## AAD Summer 2022 Newsletter

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The summer season holds several holidays of significance for the military and our country: Memorial Day, honoring those men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country while serving in our Armed Forces; Armed Forces Day celebrated on the third Saturday of May; Flag Day celebrated on 14 June; Juneteenth on 19 June, commemorating the end of slavery in 1865; and Independence Day on the Fourth of July. The U.S. Army, America's First National Institution, was officially established on June 14, 1775, and has played a vital role in the growth and development of the American nation over the last 247 years.

Originally conceived in 2017, the inspiration to honor and recognize the past, present and future of Army Dentistry is evolving from a dream into a reality. Construction commenced on 13 June 2022 on the long-awaited Army Dentistry Monument at the Army Medical Department Museum at Joint Base San Antonio, TX (AKA Fort Sam Houston). Details on the project follow in Membership News.

I wish to thank our members for continuing their memberships and supporting our mission. Please reach out to colleagues who are not members and encourage them to join the AAD.

Enjoy the summer season and the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday with family and friends as we celebrate the freedoms this great nation offers. God Bless America!

Ron Lambert, COL, USA (Ret)  
President and Chair, Association of Army Dentistry

# Membership

## Phishing and Spam Emails

We are aware that Association of Army Dentistry members receive spam messages. The latest I received was on 29 June from the same group that has been offering the AAD mailing list. The AAD does not maintain databases on our website. These email messages should be deleted without opening or responding to them. If they look suspicious, they are. If there are any questions, please contact the AAD.

## Army Dentistry Monument

The long and winding road to honor and recognize the past, present, and future of Army Dentistry is coming to fruition as groundbreaking began at the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Museum at JBSA, Fort Sam Houston, TX on 13 June 2022. COL (Ret) Bob Stieneker has been on the ground in San Antonio for the last month coordinating activities there with the Museum, installation staff, Ortiz Construction, South Texas Memorials, and Atlas Bronze.



Atlas Bronze, Kearns, Utah, has been busy preparing a clay model of the sculpture depicting a dental officer, dental specialist, and soldier patient, which will be the centerpiece of the monument. The clay model serves as the

precursor prior to fabrication of the actual bronze statue. They plan to cast and deliver the bronze statue to the AMEDD Museum later this summer.



COL Stieneker is also coordinating with Southwest Memorials for the nine monoliths and the bronze plaques which will be displayed on them. This photo from 28 June depicts the stone of the monoliths and the design of the plaques acknowledging its sponsor, in this case, MG (Ret) Ted Wong and his wife Jeannie.





Ms. Paulina Shrader, U.S. Army Medical Department Video (MEDVID), continues her work on finalizing the nine monument audiovisuals (AVs), which will tell the story of Army Dentistry.

The AAD has received many generous donations from members, and we are on the final push required to fully fund the project. For those members who wish to support this project honoring and recognizing the past, present and future of Army Dentistry, please consider providing a tax-free donation to the AAD's Army Dentistry Monument Fund. With inflation increasing costs across the economy, initial estimates have required adjustment, and require financing beyond initial cost projections. All contributions are greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged with a letter for tax purposes.

Contribution levels that will be recognized on bronze plaques on the monument are as follows:

Marshall Society - \$10,000 and above  
President's Circle - \$5,000 to \$9,999  
Founders Circle - \$2,500 to \$4,999  
Friends of Army Dentistry - \$1,000 to \$2,499  
In Remembrance - \$1,000

Checks should be made out to the Association of Army Dentistry, FOR Army Dentistry Monument, and mailed to the address below. "In Remembrance" donations can be made to honor colleagues who were significant influences,

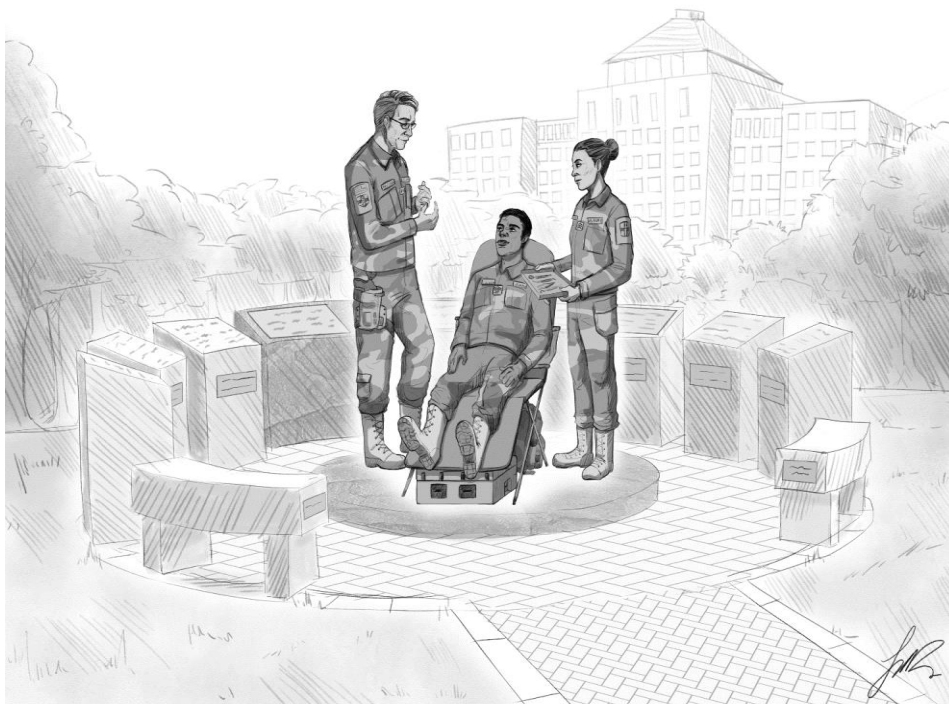
mentors, and/or greatly impacted your careers and your lives. If specifying an "In Remembrance" donation, please specify the name of the person being acknowledged.

Association of Army Dentistry  
914 P Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Alternately, those wishing to contribute with a credit or debit card, may go to the Association of Army Dentistry's website at the following web address:

[Custom Donation – Association of Army Dentistry](#)

On the website this is under the "Become a Member, Purchase, Renew a Membership," and simply make a custom donation.



# Active Component News

## Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps

3 June 2022

A message from the 28th Chief of the U.S. Army Dental Corps

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Dear Members of the Army Dental Care Family,  
Early last week The Army Surgeon General announced the appointment of the new Dental Corps Chief.

I want to thank the Army and the Dental Corps for allowing me to serve as your 28th Chief of the U.S. Army Dental Corps. The past few years have been a time of transition and transformation, but the Dental Corps has consistently demonstrated its relevancy and responsiveness to the challenges put before it. I am forever grateful to you for everything we have accomplished for the Corps.

The Secretary of the Army has appointed Colonel Stephen J. Tanner as the 29th Chief of the U.S. Army Dental Corps, effective 3 June 2022. This appointment is a testament to his tremendous contributions to Army Medicine and unwavering commitment to the Army Dental Corps, and reflects the supreme confidence and trust he has earned. I have no doubt he will serve selflessly and honorably in this critically important role. I am confident he will continue the strong traditions while ensuring avenues for future success of the Dental Corps. Please join me in congratulating Colonel Stephen J. Tanner on his selection and appointment as the 29th Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps.  
Army Medicine is Army Strong!

Brigadier General Shan K. Bagby  
Commanding General  
Regional Health Command - Central

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## Army Dental Corps Deputy Corps Chief

13 June 2022

From the OTSG Executive Office...

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Army Medicine Team,

We are honored to announce that the Deputy Surgeon General has approved COL Eric Danko as the new Dental Corps Deputy Corps Chief.

His selection is a testament to his tremendous contributions to Army Medicine and unwavering commitment to the Army Dental Corps and reflects the supreme confidence and trust he has earned.

Please join us in congratulating COL Danko on his selection as the Deputy Corps Chief of the Army Dental Corps.



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The Association of Army Dentistry would like to congratulate COL Tanner on his selection as the 29th Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps and COL Eric Danko on his selection as the Deputy Corps Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to BG Bagby on his stellar leadership during a time of rapid change within the Army and the Army Medical Department. Our best wishes to BG Bagby and his family for much happiness, good health, and success as you go on to future endeavors.

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Brigadier General Bagby's change of command of Regional Health Command-Central was on 23 June 2022. BG Bagby's retirement is on 4 August 2022.



Regional Health Command-Central Change of Command Ceremony – 23 June 2022

<https://www.facebook.com/RHCCentral/videos/5434400996583046>

## 2022 Dental Corps Chief's Awards of Excellence

In May, BG Shan Bagby announced the recipients of the 2022 Dental Corps Chief's Awards of Excellence. Each of the recipients received a letter of congratulations from the Association of Army Dentistry, an AAD challenge coin, a one-year membership in the AAD, and a gift card. Awards of Excellence 2022 winners include the following:

- Dental Education: LTC Walter G. Dimalanta, Prosthodontics Program Director, DHC-C, Fort Gordon, GA.
- Exceptional Service and Leadership: COL Paul Colthirst, DENTAC Commander, DHC-C, Fort Hood, TX.
- Junior Officer: MAJ Jesse Thietten, Chief of Operative Dentistry, DiLorenzo Pentagon Health Clinic.
- Noncommissioned Officer: SFC Kristen M. Browning, First Sergeant, 257<sup>th</sup> DCAS, Fort Bragg, NC.
- Federal Civilian-Category I: Ms. Edith Harris, Dental Assistant, DHC-A, Fort Gordon, GA.
- Federal Civilian-Category II: Ms. Candace Speed, Readiness Specialist, DHC-A, Fort Steward, GA.

### Chief, Army Dental Corps AAD Liaison

Members of the Army Dental Corps and Army Dental Care Team bid farewell to the COL Peter Guevara, outgoing Corps Specific Branch Component Officer (CSBPO). COL Guevara will be assuming command at the Fort Carson DENTAC later this summer. His replacement, COL Tamer Goksel, will be arriving later this summer from command in Germany.

The AAD's primary conduit to the active component is through the Corps CSBPO at the Office of the Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. As the primary liaison with the Association of Army Dentistry, the CSBPO attends AAD virtual board meetings as a non-voting member. The AAD would like to thank COL Guevara for his invaluable assistance to the association.

### Army Dental Corps Bulletin

The *Dental Corps Bulletins* are added to our website when they are received, courtesy of MAJ Ino M. Ruiz, who serves as the Executive Officer, Office of the Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps. The bulletins can be found at the following link or under the *Home* or *News* headers on the AAD website. The link provides access to both Dental Corps Bulletins and the AAD Newsletters.

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/the-dental-corps-bulletin-2/>



Additionally, newsletters and bulletins are posted on the AAD's Facebook Page and sent to members through Constant Contact.

## Leadership Corner



COL (Ret) Art Scott, Association of Army Dentistry (AAD) Executive Director, and COL (Ret) Larry Hanson, AAD Board of Directors, shared information about the AAD and their experiences in leadership roles throughout the Army Dental Care System with the May 2022 AMEDD Pre-Command Course attendees. Pictured are COL's Scott Rankin, Peter Guevara, and Jeffery Hambrice, and LTC's Peter Drouillard and Amanda Nelson. Many thanks to COL Scott Rankin and MAJ(P) Benjamin Thompson, leaders in the Department of Dental Science, for inviting COL's Scott and Hanson to speak with each group of Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC) and Pre-Command Course (PCC) attendees this past year, to share information about the AAD.

## VOLUNTEERS

The AAD is actively seeking volunteers for Social Director(s) to help plan and execute events, including the Army Dentistry Monument dedication at JBSA, San Antonio, TX this fall, as well as someone with expertise in information technology (IT) to assist with our IT requirements. If you are interested, please contact the AAD at [assoc.army.dentistry@gmail.com](mailto:assoc.army.dentistry@gmail.com)

## Social Media

Please visit the AAD's Facebook page to receive the latest news from throughout the Army Dental Care System and Army Medicine. LTC Mike Hoffman, the AAD's Facebook page administrator, has done an admirable job in informing AAD members and the Army Dentistry community with information as it happens.

<https://www.facebook.com/AssociationofArmyDentistry>

## In Memoriam

**E. "Mac" Eddington, COL, USA (Ret)**

04/15/1938 – 04/12/2022

The AAD was saddened to hear of the passing of COL (Ret) "Mac" Eddington on 12 April 2022. His distinguished military career included commands at Fort Knox, KY, Fort Campbell, KY, West Point, 8<sup>th</sup> Army and US Forces Korea. As a captain, Mac served as Commander of the 151<sup>st</sup> Medical Detachment, Vietnam. In the civilian community, COL Eddington's service was extensive. He served as the President of the Academy of General Dentistry, and in Clarksville, TN, was a member of the Rotary Club, served as a volunteer dentist at the Good Samaritan Ministries Dental Clinic, and was VP and chief financial officer of Action Enterprises, Inc, among other contributions. To read more about his distinguished military service and his accomplishments after retirement, please follow the link below. A tribute to "Mac" follows by COL (Ret) Ernie DeWald.

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Edington%2C%20COL%20Ret%20Ernest%20McElroy%20Eddington%2C%20Jr.%204-15-1938%20--%204-12-2022.pdf>

We post the obituaries that are brought to our attention; if there are others that you wish to share on our website, please forward them to the AAD. The link to the obituaries on our website is at the following web address:

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/about/in-memoriam/>

### 36 YEARS

It was 36 years ago in 1986 that I met Mac Edington at an Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) meeting in Philadelphia. There was a garbage strike at the time so eating "al fresco" was not high on the list of things to do. Indoor activity was top on the list.

I was being assigned to Fort Campbell, KY, to form a 1-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program and since Mac was the commander, I wanted to introduce myself to him in more relaxed surroundings. He was easy to find; just go the Army Caucus meeting. And there it started. I was impressed with his depth of knowledge on any random subject and the innumerable people that he knew. He could, and would, offer anyone a slew of knowledge that would help them better navigate whatever the situation they may be in. It was never given in a demeaning manner, but as instructional. It wasn't that you were stupid but just hadn't been shown the right way to approach it. You had to "think outside the box". I got lost I was outside of the box so much.

Well, the right way for him was always the "High Road". He would not demean himself to step to a lower level of behavior but would always advocate the high road. When running for President of the AGD and there was innuendo of one thing or another, he never wavered from this direction and although at first it seemed unwise, it always turned out to be "the high road always wins".

He had the talent to know whom he could trust to get something done and would surround himself, when he could, with the worker bees who shared his vision and drive but were not automatons. If some of his staff had ideas that weren't congruent with his, he would listen to their rational and incorporate that which would enhance his vision. He wasn't secretive in giving credit when credit was due, nor did he shy away from thoughtful instruction.

His highest praise to a person was to listen to what they planned and then let them run with it with, only asking to be kept up to date. He was not a helicopter type of commander, but you didn't want a "Mac Attack"; if there was a problem, it was best to let him know quickly, no surprises allowed!...unless you wanted fries with that.

So, it went for four years, and after three more years, it was suddenly time for retirement, what to do now?

You know there were plans for the Clarksville Dental Center, a group practice in Clarksville, TN, even before it happened, actually starting nine months before retirement. Of course, it was not to be a mundane, ho-hum business, but something that was unique and "out of the box" We carried on from December 1994 through October 2018, when he retired after a medical diagnosis that would prevent his returning "to the chair".



His "mac mannerism" continued on with his concern and intelligent suggestions.

He loved dentistry, but most of all the personal instructions. I can't tell you how often assistants would have to go and pry him out of a hygiene check to get him back to his other patients because he just wanted to talk with them. He had his faithful following who always wanted the older gentleman with the silver hair; I only overlapped on one of those attributes.

He may have been out of the service, but not out of dentistry. He had a frenetic "get it done yesterday" personality. He held all offices in Region XVII of the AGD and went on to become President of the AGD.

But no MacArthur types of fadeaway for this Mac; he continued to work behind and in front of the scenes when he felt someone should really run for an office. Not just any office, but all offices, including supporting local politicians like Marsha Blackburn and Mark Green before they were key people in government.

Mac just "knew" who was someone with the "right stuff". He was rabid for the Tennessee Vols; he bled orange.. which was two strikes against me as I was one of those "damn Yankees" and the only orange I had was my N.Y. Mets logo. Thank God, I didn't tell him I was related to General Sherman.

Eight years in the military together, 29 years in a civilian business partnership; it was longer than many people are married.

True friendship not a friendship of convenience was everything to him. He was a truly outstanding dental officer, a compassionate dentist, (sharp) businessperson and trusted friend.

It just doesn't get better than this. Go Vols Mac!

## Conclusion:

The AAD would like to thank each of you for your continued membership and support of our charitable mission.

Please keep our men and women in uniform in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their missions around the world at this critical time - God Bless America as you celebrate the Independence Day weekend!

Editor, AAD Newsletter, Ron Lambert, COL, USA (Ret)

## AAD Officers

Ron Lambert, COL USA (RET) - President

Art Scott, COL USA (RET) – Executive Director

Bob Stieneker, COL USA (RET) - Secretary

John Storz, COL USA (RET) - Treasurer

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## The Association of Army Dentistry

### VISION

"The Association of Army Dentistry honors our past, prepares for the present, and inspires the future of Army Dentistry."

### MISSION

"The mission of the Association of Army Dentistry is to advance Army Dentistry by promoting morale, esprit de corps; supporting activities focused on recruitment and retention; providing dental education, and coaching/mentoring; recognizing those who serve and have served the Nation via Army Dentistry; and fostering an appreciation of the history and accomplishments of Army Dentistry."

### STRATEGIC PILLARS

1. Morale and Esprit de Corps.
2. Recruitment and Retention.
3. Dental Education.
4. Coaching and Mentoring.
5. Honoring Service.
6. Army Dentistry History.