



**Promote** : **Support**  
**Recognize**

# **Association of Army Dentistry (AAD)**

## **AAD Fall 2022 Newsletter**

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### **The US Army Dentistry Monument Dedication Date is Set - March 24, 2023**

The Association of Army Dentistry (AAD) is pleased to announce the dedication date for the Army Dentistry Monument is set for Friday, **March 24, 2023**. The ceremony will take place at the U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Museum in San Antonio, TX.

You are invited to join in and celebrate this historic event that commemorates your unique contribution to the U.S. Army and the Nation.

The AAD remains steadfastly committed to completing this lasting tribute to all the Soldiers, Civilians and Spouses who have served and continue to serve in the Army Dental Care System in support of the U.S. Army and the military mission. To date the cost of the Monument has been absorbed by a limited number of individual donors and a handful of corporate sponsors, but fund-raising is now expanding and ongoing. We encourage all AAD members and friends of Army Dentistry to be part of this special project and donate to the Monument Fund. Details about contributing to this historic project are found later in the newsletter.

You will receive additional information on the Dedication Ceremony and social events in future emails and newsletters. Meanwhile, stay connected with events through the Army Dental Corps Chief's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/armydentalcorpschief/>) and the AAD Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AssociationofArmyDentistry/>).

Come to Texas in March and be part of YOUR Monument Dedication and celebrate with YOUR organization.

### **Stay Army Strong!**

Francis ("Frank") E. Nasser, Jr.  
COL (USA DC ret)  
Member, AAD Board of Directors

# Membership

## Membership Year and Dues

The board of directors approved a motion to revert back to an annual membership of 1 January – 31 December, rather than a rolling membership based on when members last paid their dues. As part of the change, anyone who pays their dues in the last quarter of this year will be covered through the end of 2023. Current members will be billed for annual membership in late November, with subsequent reminder emails through Constant Contact. The change has been made to facilitate membership tracking by the AAD's treasurer, simplify accounting and membership renewals, and to match the membership year currently used by most professional organizations.

## Army Dentistry Monument

Originally conceived in 2017, the inspiration to honor and recognize the past, present, and future of Army Dentistry has evolved from a dream into a reality.

The Association of Army Dentistry (AAD) is pleased to announce the installation of the US Army Dentistry Monument at the US Army Medical Department Museum, Joint Base San Antonio, TX (Fort Sam Houston). This is the culmination of years of effort by the AAD to create a lasting tribute to the Soldiers and Civilians who have served and continue to serve in the Army Dental Care System in support of the U.S. Army and the military mission.

At the center of the Monument, the bronze sculptures commemorate the contributions of the U.S. Army Dental Corps in providing support in combat environments throughout the history of the Corps. The granite monoliths honor the history of Army Dentistry and the Soldiers and Civilians who are key to its success. The back wall will honor the generous donors who made this project possible.

The bronze statues of the dental officer, patient, and assistant, along with a backpack and supply chest were installed by sculptor, Stan Watts, and his assistant Tami Brooks, Atlas Bronze Casting, Kearns, Utah, on 23-24 August 2022. They were assisted by AAD Officers MG (Ret) Ted Wong, COLs (Ret) Ron Lambert, Art Scott, and Bob Stieneker; the US Army Dental Corps Chief's office team of COL Tamer Goksel, MAJ Ino Ruiz, and CPT James Cholewa; and PVT Murphy from the DENTAC.

The nine granite monoliths and two sitting benches were installed on 26 August by Mark Garza and his team from South Texas Memorials. The concrete pad for the statues, walking path, and back wall were installed in July by Adam Ortiz, Ortiz Construction. Video recordings of the narratives for each of the nine monoliths have been completed by U.S. Army Medical Department Television

(MEDVID-TV). Mr. Fran Trachta, Social Media Director, AMEDD Museum, then converted the recordings into QR codes. Bronze plaques with the QR codes will be attached to each of the monoliths, where they will direct visitors to the video recordings. Bronze plaques with the various categories of donors, including In Memoriam honorees, will be placed on the back wall after the fund-raising campaign for the Monument has concluded.

- Corporate and Marshall Society.
- President's Circle.
- Founder's Circle.
- Friends of Army Dentistry.
- In Remembrance.
- Individual.

The dedication is now set for **Friday, March 24, 2023**, as detailed in the introduction to this newsletter. Plans are underway to make this an historic and memorable experience. Details to follow for this long-awaited event.



The central statues of a dental officer, dental specialist, and Soldier patient in a field setting.





The central sculptures with the supporting monoliths.



The team which helped sculptor Stan Watts and his assistant, Tami Brooks, install the sculptures.





Positioning the sculptures prior to securing to the central base.



CPT Jim Cholewa, Executive Fellow, Dental Corps Chief's Office, drilling the anchoring holes with a one-inch drill bit.

## **Donations to Support the Army Dentistry Monument.**

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 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 Honorees	\$1,000
Individual	Up to \$999

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 impacted your careers and your lives. If specifying an "In Remembrance" donation, please specify the name of the person being honored.

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 for the Army Dentistry Monument.

# Active Component News

## Chief, Army Dental Corps AAD Liaison

Members of the Army Dental Corps and Army Dental Care Team welcomed COL Tamer Goksel, incoming Corps Specific Branch Component Officer (CSBPO) this summer. COL Goksel arrives from command in Germany. The Corps Chief's Office also welcomed the incoming Executive Fellow, CPT James Cholewa.

The AAD's primary conduit to the active component is through the CSBPO at the Office of the Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The Corps Chief's office has been of invaluable assistance in installing of the Army Dentistry Monument and planning for the dedication of the Monument.

## 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.

# Reserve Components News

## U.S ARMY RESERVE DENTAL CORPS ANNUAL TRAINING

Soldiers in the U.S. Army National Guard (ARNG) and Army Reserve participate in annual training events as part of their yearly service requirement. Typically, the training lasts for two weeks and includes skill level training through a military exercise, mission, or operations supporting the Active component.

## Innovative Readiness Training

The 455<sup>th</sup> Dental Company Area Support (DCAS) from Fort Devens, Massachusetts, participated in the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Tropic Care in June 2022. The IRT provides real-world mission essential training for service members while supporting the needs of underserved communities.

Tropic Care 2022 was a multiservice mission led by the Air National Guard. The mission provided medical, dental, behavioral health, and optometry skills training to the forces while providing care to the citizens of Kauai, Hawaii.





U.S. Marine Corps Reservist HM2 Junco, LTC Nguyen, Ohio Air National Guardsman dentist, and PFC Torres, dental technician (68E) from the 455<sup>th</sup> DCAS, work in the dental triage section to capture an x-ray for a pediatric patient.



Members of the 455<sup>th</sup> DCAS, SGT Bandeira (68E), dental clinic supervisor, observes as PFC Torres (68E), assists MAJ Endy (63D), periodontist, with an examination during triage.



On the right, SPC Romero (68E) from the 455<sup>th</sup> DCAS assists the dentist with a restorative dental procedure.





CPL Lydon (68E-X2), dental hygienist from the 455<sup>th</sup> DCAS, provides a patient with preventive care and dental cleaning.

### **Combat Support Training Exercise**

Soldiers of the 810<sup>th</sup> Medical Company Dental Service (MCDS) from Cary, North Carolina, participated in Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) in August 2022. The training event, held at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, provided live and virtual training scenarios.

The 810<sup>th</sup> MCDS set-up a field dental clinic and took part in settings aimed at developing and improving their training readiness and ability to perform in dynamic operational environments. Soldiers responded to scenarios that simulated Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) attacks, hostile environments, and managing difficult terrain. Evaluation by observer, coach/trainers ensured that the unit's performance met the commander's goals and intent, and that the unit is prepared for real-world missions.



810<sup>th</sup> MCDS 1SG Timothy White and Commander COL Jacqueline Ojimba don CBRN gear outside their field dental clinic.



810<sup>th</sup> MCDS Soldiers pose with their simulated patient at the field dental clinic.



810<sup>th</sup> MCDS Soldiers set-up their tent quarters at Fort McCoy training fields.

## 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 incredible job in informing AAD members and the Army Dental community with information as it happens.

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

# In Memoriam

**John E. Zweig, COL, USA (Ret)**

08-02-1947 – 09/22/2022

The AAD was saddened to hear of the passing of COL (Ret) John Zweig on 23 September. Col Zweig graduated from Washington University, St. Louis, MO, with a DMD degree, completed a General Dentistry Residency at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, WA, and served for 26 years as a comprehensive dentist in the U.S. Army Dental Corps. Among his assignments were Chief, Dental Services, Landstuhl Army Medical Center, Instructor, U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences, Director of Dental Services, Wuerzburg Military Community, and Deputy Commander/Chief, Professional Services, U.S. Army Dental Activity, Fort Campbell, KY. After retirement from active duty, COL Zweig retired to Wisconsin, where he practiced and served in leadership positions for Dental Associates of Wisconsin. As an AAD member, an honorary brick will be placed in his name at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum in San Antonio. The link to his obituary is below:

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Zweig%2C%20COL%20Ret%20John%20E.%20%208-2-1947%20--%209-23-2022.pdf>

**John Franklin Nelson, COL, USA (Ret)**

09/27/1934 – 07/12/2022

The AAD was saddened to hear of the passing of COL (Ret) John Nelson on 12 July 2022. His distinguished military career included assignments within the continental United States as well as overseas, including Germany, Hawaii, and as a unit commander in the Republic of Vietnam. COL Nelson received his specialty training in Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, becoming board certified in both specialties. After his retirement in 1980, Dr. Nelson accepted an appointment as a Full Professor of Oral Diagnosis and Pathology at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. In 1984, he accepted the position of Chairman of the Department of Oral Diagnosis and Radiology at Baylor College of Dentistry and subsequently became Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs and then Associate Dean. After retirement in 1994, he and his wife enjoyed traveling the world together. A link to his obituary is provided below:

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Nelson%2C%20COL%20Ret%20John%20Franklin%2C%209-27-1934%20--%207-12-2022.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/>

## **Conclusion:**

The AAD would like to thank each of you for your continued membership and support of our philanthropic mission. We look forward to seeing many of you in San Antonio in March 2023 for the long-awaited dedication of the Army Dentistry Monument.

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!

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

## **AAD Officers**

**Ron Lambert, COL USA (RET) – President**

**M. Ted Wong, MG USA (RET) – Vice-President**

**Art Scott, COL USA (RET) – Executive Director**

**Bob Stieneker, COL USA (RET) - Secretary**

**John Storz, COL USA (RET) - Treasurer**

**Association of Army Dentistry**

**914 P Street, NW**

**Washington, DC 20001**

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*The Association of Army Dentistry is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We are a philanthropic organization dedicated to honoring the past, staying involved in the present and inspiring the future of Army Dentistry.*



## **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.