



Association of Army Dentistry (AAD)

AAD Winter 2022 Newsletter

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As I reflect on my tenure as President of the AAD, I am continually impressed by the vision of MG Bill B. Lefler (TOG) and the founders of this organization. Initially established to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Army Dental Corps in 2011, the AAD serves as a gathering place and resource for past, present, and future members of the Army Dentistry Community. As we reach the 112th anniversary of the Army Dental Corps, the AAD offers great promise to fulfill that role in the future, maintain its relevance, and continue to serve the Army Dentistry community. I am excited by the Strategic Plan developed last year under the guidance of MG (Ret) Ted Wong. Work is ongoing by each of six Strategic Pillars committees to define the AAD's purpose and actualize the goals enunciated in them. The Vision and the Mission statements along with the Strategic Pillars are available at the end of this newsletter.

A major goal of the last five years has been the creation of a lasting tribute to past, present, and future members of the Army Dental Care Team. That goal will reach culmination this spring when the Army Dentistry Monument will be dedicated at the U.S. Army Medical Museum at Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, Texas on Friday, March 24. This accomplishment has been made possible by our donors – thank you for your generosity. We are in the final phase of fund raising - please consider contributing to this worthy project with a year-end tax-deductible contribution. Please see the next section of the newsletter for more details.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. I wish each of you and your families a Happy Holidays and a Healthy and Joyful New Year.

Ron Lambert, COL, USA (Ret)
President and Chairman of the Board
Association of Army Dentistry



Deployed Soldiers at Christmas.

Membership

2023 Board of Directors

The board of directors will hold elections for the 2023 board in early January. If you are interested in serving on the board, please let the AAD know at the email address at the end of the newsletter.

Membership Year and Dues

Members are encouraged to renew their 2023 memberships now if they have not already done so. Please support your organization with a modest \$25 annual membership fee.

Army Dentistry Monument

After five years of planning and with construction of the monument nearing completion, the Association of Army Dentistry (AAD) is pleased to announce the formal dedication date of the Army Dentistry Monument at 10 AM on Friday, **March 24, 2023**. The ceremony will take place at the U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Museum, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX, with a reception to follow.

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 generous support of our donors enabled the completion of this lasting tribute to the Soldiers, Civilians, Spouses, and Volunteers who have served and continue to serve the Army Dental Care System in support of the U.S. Army and the military mission.

Concomitant with the dedication are several other events. On Thursday evening on the 23rd of March, there will be a social at 6 PM at the Alamo Brewery. On Friday evening, the Fort Sam Houston Dental Health Activity will host the 112th Anniversary celebration of the U.S. Army Dental Corps at the historic Menger Hotel in downtown San Antonio. Members will receive an electronic invitation to the events as well as information regarding the Airport Crowne Plaza Hotel, which has given us an excellent group rate on rooms. If you plan to attend, you are encouraged to RSVP as soon as possible as seating at the Dental Corps Ball will be limited, as will be the number of rooms available at the Airport Crowne Plaza. Specific information regarding reservations for the three events, including hotel reservations will be included in the invitation.

Stay connected with the 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 the dedication of the Army Dentistry Monument on **Friday, March 24, 2023.**



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



The central sculptures with the supporting monoliths.

With each of the nine monoliths, there are QR codes with recordings to depict the proud history of Army Dentistry. The monoliths will each have a bronze QR code attached to easily access the respective recordings with a QR code reader on your smart phone. The individual recordings are available below by scanning the associated QR Code.

[Overview/Introduction](#)



[Leadership](#)



History



Spouses & Volunteers



Dental Research & Development



Enlisted and NCOs



Dental Laboratory System



Education & Training



Civilians



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 the past, present, and future of Army Dentistry, please consider providing a tax-free year-end donation to the AAD's Army Dentistry Monument Fund. With inflation increasing costs across the economy, initial estimates have required adjustment. We have raised nearly \$200,000 of the \$250,000 needed for the monument. 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

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.

Immediately below is the list of donors by category.

Donors by Category

Marshall Society

COL (Ret) Michael & Gilia Rethman
MG (Ret) Ted and Jeannie Wong
COL (Ret) Gary and Susan Allen
COL (Ret) Russell and Michelle Czerw
SFC (Ret) Jimbo Dycus
Brett Brocki
Henry Schein and Zahn Dental
MG (Ret) Thomas R. and Elaine Tempel
COL (Ret) Ron and Edna Lambert
COL (Ret) Theresa S. Gonzales
Dr Patricia L. Blanton

President's Circle

COL(Ret) Robert Stieneker
COL (Ret) Peter Tan
American College of Dentists
COL (Ret) John Zweig
MG (Ret) John J. and Bonnie Cuddy
MG (Ret) Joseph and Ann Webb

Founders Circle

COL (Ret) Nazrin Mazuji
COL (Ret) Priscilla H Hamilton
MG (Ret) T. Rob Tempel, Kathy Tempel & Family
Drs. Carl and Rita Tempel
COL (Ret) & Mrs. Samuel J. Angulo
COL (Ret) Robert L. Keeler
COL (Ret) William A. Krantz
COL(Ret) Richard D. and Kathy Shipley

Friends of Army Dentistry

COL (Ret) David Ferguson
COL (Ret) John P. Storz
COL (Ret) Mary A. Licking
COL (Ret) Lesley A. West
COL (Ret) Arthur C and Linda Scott
COL (Ret) Karen Keith
COL (Ret) Robert C. and Carole Leeds
MG (Ret) Patrick and Peggy Sculley ---
Sculley Family Fund
COL(Ret) William W. and Patti Nagy
COL (Ret) Francis and Kathleen Nasser Jr
COL(Ret) Joseph and Cheryl Wineman
(COL) Ret Leonard Mueninghoff
COL (Ret) Mark N. and Fran H. McDonald
COL (Ret) Craig and Tamara Patterson

In Remembrance

Col (Ret) Steve Kenney
MG (Ret) Carl W Tempel & Ruth Tempel
COL (Ret) William F. Bowles
COL (Ret) Leo Broering
LTG (Ret) Alcide M. And Beth LaNoue
LTG (Ret) Frank F. Ledford, Jr.
MG (Ret) H. Thomas Chandler
MG (Ret) Bill B. Lefler
COL (Ret) Ed Knights
COL (Ret) Jim Fay
COL (Ret) Jack Sidney Trawick

History Corner



Medics at Bastogne, 1945. Painting by Olin Dows.

The Christmas Truce of 1914

It seems appropriate at this time of year to once again relive the well documented events that occurred during the Christmas season of 1914 in the early days of World War I. The famous Christmas Truce, also known as the *Weihnachtsfrieden* (German) or *Trêve de Noël* (French), are the popular names given to the extraordinary impromptu cease fire that occurred along the Western Front. By December 1914, German advances stalled, and the conflict had devolved into trench warfare. The sheer volume of bullets and artillery flying all around forced the combatants to seek shelter in the open fields of battle in the only place they could...the ground. Trench warfare, while not new to combat, became advanced in WW I. The Germans were particularly adept in the construction of an elaborate system of trenches, reinforced and designed to withstand the artillery of British and French forces. It is interesting to note that this defensive tactic continued to be used in virtually every modern conflict since then. Even as recent as 2014, Ukrainian and Russian-backed forces faced off along a system of trenches that constituted the front line.

So here they were, late December 1914, dug in deep. The weather was typically miserable; cold and wet. British and German troops were separated by less than 50 yards in some areas. The area between the trenches became known as "No Man's Land," a muddy morass littered with bodies of the fallen. Writers and the movies have created a slightly embellished version of what happened next, but historical facts and the uncensored written journals from the participants provide honest testimony to the events that began to unfold beginning December 23, 1914. An earlier request for truce during the holidays by Pope Benedict XV was ignored. Military leadership on both sides, particularly the French, whose country had been invaded, were not supportive. Kaiser Wilhelm II, seeking to boost morale, sent Christmas trees to the front lines,

which German troops displayed over the edges of their trenches. Journal entries from the British support the claim that German soldiers began singing Silent Night (Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht in German) and the British troops responded with their own Christmas carols. Several German soldiers who were able to speak English are credited with opening a dialogue with the enemy. It is not entirely clear who was the brave soul to first venture out of trenches to engage their enemy in a little Christmas spirit, but it is known that lower ranking British Officers ordered their soldiers not to fire unless fired upon. An unofficial policy that was known as "live and let live." Senior British leadership was not happy with the policy but chose not to take adverse action against the junior ranks for fear of demoralizing the troops.

By Christmas day, German troops felt comfortable enough to emerge from their trenches without weapons and enter No Man's Land. The British were quick to join in. From the journals of these British soldiers, it is known that the 'enemies' exchanged food, drinks, cigarettes, and uniform buttons. There are reports of spontaneous soccer matches, although those claims have never been fully corroborated. There is no doubt in the journals, that the time was used to appropriately care for fallen soldiers and to shore up trench defenses. This remarkable cease-fire persisted in some fashion and in some areas until after New Year's Day. The memory of what happened lingered in the minds of opposing soldiers for decades and became a cause for celebration that continues to this day.

The Christmas Truce was never to be repeated for the rest of WWI, the savagery of which was yet to be experienced. While the event is unique in the annals of modern warfare, the Christmas Truce of 1914 still stands as a lasting symbol of the desire for peace at this special time of year.

References:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/trench-warfare>

<https://time.com/3643889/christmas-truce-1914/>

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/significant-events/western-front-christmas-truce-1914/>

The Army Dental Corps in WW I

When the U.S. entered WWI, the Army Dental Corps (DC) had 86 Regular officers. By November 1918, the number of dental officers peaked at 4,620, with 1,864 stationed in Europe. The mission of the Corps was to expand with qualified members and to examine the millions of Soldiers entering military service.

From July 1917 to May 1919, dental officers provided 1,505,424 restorations, 384,427 extractions, 60,386 crowns, and 13,140 dentures. Additionally, dental maxillofacial surgery teams provided much needed reconstructive surgery for the wounded. Seven dental officers and seven enlisted dental assistants were killed in action. Eight dental officers died of disease; thirty-six dental officers and enlisted dental assistants were wounded in combat.

WWI dentist, 1LT Robert O. Smith was attached to the 356th Infantry Regiment, 89th Infantry Division. He earned the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action near the Meuse River, France, from November 6 – 11 1918. His citation read "After all the medical officers of the battalion had been wounded, Lieutenant Smith for six days efficiently performed their duties, repeatedly moving his first aid station forward and administering to the wounded under perilous shell fire. After caring for the wounded, he personally searched the field of action for further casualties."

Active Component News

Chief, Army Dental Corps AAD Liaison

The AAD has been blessed to have the assistance of The Dental Corps Chief's office of COL Tamer Goksel, Corps Specific Branch Component Officer (CSBPO), MAJ Ino Ruiz, Executive Officer, and CPT James Cholewa, Executive Fellow, in coordinating all of the events related to the dedication of the Army Dentistry Monument next March. Their help has been invaluable and without it, this event would not be possible. The Fort Sam Houston Dental Health Activity has the lead on 112th Army Dental Corps Anniversary and is planning the myriad of details involved with that event.

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, and CPT James, Cholewa, the Executive Fellow. The bulletins can be found at the following link or under the *Home* or *News* headers on the AAD website. The link below provides access to both Dental Corps Bulletins and the AAD Newsletters.

<https://www.associationofarmydentistry.org/dental-corps-bulletin/army-dentistry-the-dental-corps-bulletin-november-2022-vol-6-no-10/>

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

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, informs AAD members and the Army Dental community with information as it happens.

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

In Memoriam

Obituaries that are brought to our attention are posted on the AAD's website; if there are others that you wish to share, please forward that information to the AAD so we can share it with our members. 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 during this holiday season as they continue their missions around the world at this critical time - God Bless America!

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

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.



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.