PRESIDENT’S NOTES
by Jim Weddell
I hope your summer was relaxing and enjoyable. It was a pleasure for me to be able to attend the graduation luncheon in late June for the Class of 2014. I presented each graduate with our association pin and welcomed them into our ranks. We later mailed graduation gifts to each recent graduate that included a letter about the IUPDAA. I wish all of our new graduates much success in their pediatric dental career and want them to know we are here for them if they need us.

September is the time we work on the alumni newsletter. I appreciate the work Dr. McDonald and all the writers put in to make sure we have timely news about our association. We welcome any news you would like to share with fellow members.

As we head into fall we turn our thoughts to the 2015 IUPDAA Biennial Conference in Indianapolis. I would like to again thank Chad Hazelrigg and Charlie Fuhrer for their efforts in planning our next biennial conference. Most of the details have been finished for the Biennial Conference. We plan to have the brochure out to you in the next few weeks. Please make your hotel reservation as soon as possible. Chad Hazelrigg has written an article in this newsletter with more details about hotel accommodations and the conference.

Greg Westman will oversee the suite in Seattle. We have not been assigned our space yet by the AAPD. As soon as this information becomes available we will share it with you. I know Greg would appreciate any ideas you might have for suite activities.

I want to thank all of you who responded earlier this year to my request for an annual donation. Our organization is funded entirely by our alumni. Donations allow us to continue to support the 14 residents, communicate with each other, and plan activities for both alumni and residents. I am very proud of our alumni association and the commitment we all have to this organization.

I hope you plan to attend the 2015 Biennial Conference in Indianapolis and the 2015 suite activities in Seattle during the AAPD meeting.

Finally, I would like to thank all the donors to the resident scholarship fund established in my name. It has been very important to me over the years to see the residents graduate and flourish in private practice.

2015 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE
by Chad Hazelrigg
As a reminder, our 2015 Biennial conference dates are: Friday April 17 - Saturday April 18. Please come back to Indianapolis to reunite with your IUPDAA friends and colleagues! The continuing education portion of the conference will occur on Friday morning and afternoon. Other events, including the biennial dinner, will take place on Saturday.

For your convenience, a limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Please contact this beautiful hotel at (317)631-2221 and reserve your room now! Ask for the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry block of rooms. Only a handful of rooms are currently reserved for our group and we would like to add additional rooms from the hotel as our block fills up. The IUPDAA is working in conjunction with the Indiana Society of Pediatric Dentistry in hopes to put on the largest biennial conference we’ve ever had. So don’t delay, reserve now!

Meeting registration materials will be mailed out later this Fall. Have a healthy, safe and wonderful end to 2014. I am looking forward to seeing you all in the Spring of 2015!

PEDODONTICS BOOK
Dr. McDonald’s first textbook (on the right) that started his run of pediatric dentistry editions was published in 1963. As of last year, this series “celebrated” a 50 year anniversary run! This very first book led to the publishing of his first edition of “Dentistry for the Child and Adolescent” in 1969.

WEDDELL SCHOLARSHIP
by Lauren Weddell
Dr. James Weddell is not just a dentist or an excellent clinician. He is an amazing teacher—for residents, colleagues, staff, and all those around him. He held high expectations for all the residents and taught them the importance and seriousness of treating patients at the highest level of care. He managed to keep all the residents “on their toes,” teaching them to think outside the box. He did not want residents to just become “safe” pediatric dentists or “good” pediatric dentists for that matter; he wanted each of them to become the best pediatric dentist he/she could be, to make our lives better, and to see the bigger picture in life. He went above and beyond his “teaching duties.” To honor our

Continued on pg 2
WEDDELL SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUED

father and the legacy he has left at IU during the many years he served as faculty (over 30!), Nicole and I have established a scholarship in his name. We hope that our father’s legacy, including his attention to detail, high standard of care, and excellent clinical skills continue to strive and keep IU as one of the best (if not the best) residency programs in the US.

(Next year at graduation the first scholarship will be presented. If you wish to make a gift, please make check payable to IU Foundation and mail to: Pam Lovejoy, IU School of Dentistry, 1121 W Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.)

DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH UPDATE

James E. Jones, DMD, MSD, EdD, PhD
Professor and Chair
Department of Pediatric Dentistry
Indiana University School of Dentistry
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics
Indiana University School of Medicine

The following are topics identified by respective residents as research to be completed as part of the MSD degree. All second year residents have had their projects approved by the IUSD Graduate Committee for Research and the Human Subjects Committee for Indiana University.

SECOND YEAR RESIDENTS

Samantha Clark, DDS: The effects of commonly prescribed liquid medications on Streptococcus mutans biofilm development.
Matthew N. Damin, DMD: Effects of non-dairy milk beverages on Streptococcus mutans biofilm development.
Roger Dotsey, DMD: The effects of cola-flavored beverages on S. mutans biofilm formation and metabolism.
Laura Hinds, DDS: Effects of infant formula on Streptococcus mutans biofilm formation and biofilm metabolic activity.
Lauren Mummett, DDS: Effects of stannous fluoride on Porphyromonas gingivalis stimulated and unstimulated human gingival fibroblasts: Toxicity, matrix metalloproteinase expression and activity, and COL1A expression.
Jamie Orrick, DDS: The effects of cyclic fatigue on the fracture resistance of three primary esthetic crowns.
Devin Shone, DDS: Evaluating penetration of a fluoride solution through an established biofilm: A method development.

FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS

Megan R. Booe, MS, DDS: An investigation of an accurate, updated volume of local anesthetic in dental cartridges.
Kevin P. Brown, DMD: In progress
John R. Emhardt, MS, DDS: Validation of a dual imaging system for its use in enamel fluorosis detection.
Rebecca Frazer, DDS: In progress
Leah Rippy, DDS: In progress
Emily S. Taylor, DDS: Primary, secondary and tertiary smoke/nicotine exposure on S. mutans biofilm and effect of polyphenols.

The following four (4) research manuscripts, by current, past residents or faculty, have been accepted for publication or published:

1. “Stainless steel crown success using the Hall Technique: A retrospective study”
   Kevin Ludwig, Margherita Fontana, LaQuia Vinson, Jeffrey Platt and Jeffrey Dean

   Accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Dental Association

2. “Effect of human milk and its components on Streptococcus mutans biofilm formation”
   Lesa M. Allison, LaQuia A. Walker, Brian J. Sanders, Ziyi Yang, George Eckert and Richard L. Gregory

   Accepted for publication in the Journal of Clinical Pediatric Dentistry

3. “Antenatal and Intrapartum risk factors for use of emergency and restorative Medicaid Dental Services for Children”
   Juan Yepes, Heather Bush, Hsin-Fang Li, Jeffrey Talbert and David Nash

   Published in Pediatric Dentistry, 36(5): 250-254

   Lauren E. Mummett, James E. Jones and John Christopher

   Accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
THE RALPH E MCDONALD PROFESSORSHIP IN PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY- Riley Children's Foundation

Narrative report by Jeffrey A. Dean, August 2014

This has been a productive and exciting time for the advanced educational program in pediatric dentistry at the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. We’ve also had some significant transitions within the department as long time faculty member, Dr. Jim Weddell, retired in the Fall of 2013. But of course, while saying farewell and best wishes to Jim, we look forward to the start of Dr. Juan Yepes, who filled Jim’s old position starting July 2014. I’m pleased to provide this narrative report as an expression of my gratitude to the many donors that contributed to this endowment and to the continuing good work that is being accomplished because of your generosity. A few main areas of interest were undertaken this past year.

1. Update of McDonald and Avery's Dentistry for the Child and Adolescent, 10th edition

All of the full-time faculty within the pediatric dentistry department at Indiana University have been actively engaged in production of the next edition of Ralph and David’s classic textbook. We are excited about this opportunity for a number of reasons, perhaps most notably because no other pediatric dentistry textbook in the world has gone into double digit edition production! This is another significant milestone for the book and we are all so proud and privileged to be able to participate in it. We are continuing our efforts to have as many color versus black and white figures as possible, and while many retiring authors will be rolling off the authorship list this edition, we have brought on many new, expert individuals to assist in our constant quest to improve the quality of the book. In addition, for the first time nearly all of the chapters of the book will have at least one case study available in an electronic format, and we will be providing approximately 10 video vignettes to include in the electronic version. These vignettes will be short videos showing and describing techniques that can’t be described nearly as well in print as might be shown in a short video. In this case, it’s a “video” is worth “10,000” words!

2. Mini-residency in pediatric dentistry

We plan on using the textbook as an outline and foundation for the offering of a brand-new continuing education offering for pediatric dentists around the globe in a mini-residency format. This mini-residency will include a high level CE experience, with hands-on workshops, lectures by experts in their fields related to pediatric dentistry and pediatrics, as well as simulation laboratory experiences. In addition, the faculty plan to offer events and meal experiences throughout the four or five day mini-residency to balance out the hard work being done by the participants during the continuing education. To enhance the experience, only a maximum of 30 participants will be enrolled. Look for announcements about this opportunity being planned for the Fall of 2015.

3. University of Kuwait Faculty of Dentistry Visit

This past January, I was fortunate to be invited to participate in the examination process for the graduating dentist dental students at Kuwait University. The country of Kuwait does not have a dental accreditation body, so they use four or five international invited experts to come in and examine their students for a 3 to 4 day process. This was quite an opportunity for me and I am certain the professorship helped me as I went about my duties during this visit. In addition, as the executive officer for the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, I hosted a reception for all of the ABPD board-certified Kuwaiti pediatric dentists. I was greatly assisted in setting up this reception by Dr. Mona Al-Sane. Please see the photo of her and her colleagues taken at the reception above.

4. Increase Needs for Education

With our increase each of the last two years of one additional resident per class year, we have increased the total number of pediatric dental residents from 12 to 14. This continues to be an exciting time in pediatric dentistry and we’re pleased to have many dedicated, energetic and talented applicants to our program. We are now rivaling the “glory days” of our program in terms of the total number of pediatric dental students being trained back in the 1970’s when we graduated 9 and 10 folks a year total from the “Riley Program” and the “Dental School Program”! All this does is further strengthen the need for using the McDonald Professorship funds for adding new textbooks to the McClure Library, bringing in outside speakers, and many other necessary items. Thanks so much!

Once again, thanks so much for your continued support. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A Dean, DDS, MSD
Chief of Staff, Office of the Chancellor
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Ralph E. McDonald Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Professor of Orthodontics
Indiana University School of Dentistry
Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health
355 N. Lansing Street, Suite 104 | Indianapolis, Indiana 46202
Ph: 317-278-3912  jadean1@iupui.edu
RESIDENT LIFE
by Lauren Mummert

CHIEF RESIDENT UPDATE
This summer we enjoyed meeting the new first year residents and were sad to say farewell to the graduating residents, who have since begun their careers as pediatric dentists across the country. There are a record-breaking 14 residents in the program this year, with seven first year and seven second year residents. We have enjoyed embarking on new rotations, including working in the Amish clinic in northern Indiana. We have also had the pleasure of treating patients in the new main operating rooms in Simon Family Tower. The new operating rooms have huge flat screen televisions that display radiographs, but more importantly, the movie, Frozen. We have greatly appreciated the support we receive from the alumni association and look forward to becoming active participants following graduation. For this newsletter, we have written short biographies of our fellow residents.

FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS

Megan Booe, written by Kevin Brown
Megan Booe is the resident commuter. Though she hails from Richland, Indiana, she currently calls Terre Haute home, making the 75+ mile journey to and from Riley on a daily basis. Megan is married to Justin, and together they have a 1 year old son named Landry, who is their world. When she’s not wrestling monkeys in the Riley clinic or at home, she loves to hone her green thumb skills. She loves gardening, growing a variety of vegetables, mowing the lawn, and doing yard work. And yes, she plans to build her own pediatric dentistry practice in Terre Haute and be her own landscaper and grounds keeper. Megan received her Bachelors of Arts and Masters of Biology degrees from the Purdue side of IUPUI and her DDS degree in 2014 from Indiana University School of Dentistry. She is loving her residency program and enjoys the innocence of her little patients. Dr. Megan fun fact: she’s slept with the same pillow for 22 YEARS! It’s more or less a pancake now. She claims to not have used the same pillow case for that entire duration, but that’s up for current debate.

Kevin Brown, written by John Emhardt
Dr. Kevin and his wife, Jenny, have completed their move from Louisville to the Southeast side of Indianapolis with their two sons, Bentley (3) and Jack (1). Jenny has yet to miss a day packing Kevin’s lunch, and Bentley and Jack have enjoyed the International Orangutan Center at the Indianapolis Zoo, fried snickers at the Indiana State Fair, and falling down. When his boys are not interrupting his sleep, Kevin enjoys playing call, and he currently holds the record for most pages received in a single night (10). On anesthesia rotation, Kevin shows off his intubation and IV techniques in the morning, and perfects his sandbagging golf technique in the afternoon. So far his favorite thing about pediatric dentistry is hygiene maintenance, and his least favorite thing about pediatric dentistry is the kids.

John Emhardt is a native Hoosier and IUSD grad. Outside of the pediatric residency program he enjoys taking his mountain bike out along the Fort Ben Harrison trails and getting some fresh Indianapolis air. John is one of our resident sports fanatics, a new Indy Eleven soccer fan (not a hooligan though), and he recently got back from a New York trip on which he watched some US Open tennis matches. Outside of sports and studying, John enjoys spending his spare time with his family here in Indianapolis.

Rebecca Frazer, written by Leah Rippy
Dr. Rebecca Frazer is a graduate from IUSD class of 2008. Following dental school she entered the Navy where she spent three years in Japan and three years practicing in North Chicago at a Navy boot camp clinic. Rebecca is married to her husband Thomas and has two little girls, Danielle and Evelyn.

Rebecca and her family love to travel and traveled to a lot of countries while they were stationed in Asia (highlights were climbing Mt. Fuji and hiking along Great Wall of China). They also enjoy visiting family in Ireland. Rebecca’s love of pediatric dentistry started early because she was born with her lower two front teeth.

Leah Rippy, written by Allison Spera
Leah Rippy is originally from Mahomet, Illinois, came to Indiana after graduating from Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine this summer. Leah has a wide array of interests, which include shopping, traveling, going to live auctions, and collecting antiques. Leah is also a star volleyball player and played throughout her undergraduate education at Murray State. Leah’s favorite food is Mexican, and if you ever find yourself at dinner with her you’ll be sharing a heaping plate of nachos. Leah is eagerly anticipating marrying her boyfriend of twelve years, Ben Davis, in September.

Allison Spera, written by Emily Taylor
Alli was born and raised in Tuscon, Arizona. She completed her undergrad at University of Arizona in 2008, receiving her B.S. in physiology. She then went on to finish her masters in physiology also at U of A in 2010. She attended dental school at Midwestern University, graduating in 2014. In her free time, she enjoys golfing. Alli’s new found hobby is being a spectator at local rodeos.

Emily Taylor, written by Megan Booe
Emily hails from the good ol’ state of Missouri where she grew up in Trimble, north of Kansas City. She attended Creighton University and graduated in 2010 with a degree in Environmental Science. She furthered her education at UMKC and graduated in 2014 with her DDS. When she is not dissecting in anatomy or cranking out new patient exams, she enjoys hunting and fishing, particularly deer and turkeys. She can even dress her own deer! Emily is not sure of what the future holds for her, but can possibly see herself in a private practice or maybe public health. Fun Fact: Emily and her father are currently building a RV-9A airplane and have an airstrip at her house! So whatever the future does hold...she can fly there!!
SECOND YEAR RESIDENTS

Samantha Clark, written by Matthew Damin
Brightening smiles by day and exploring her newfound love of Indy by night, Dr. Samantha Clark has been busy this past year. Sam has maintained her world traveler status venturing among mile high peaks, spending weekends on the water, and has even found time through all of this to explore her creative side by dabbling in ceramics. Even though she will admit this Midwest metropolis has grown on her, it’s the furry little bundle of joy that she runs home to every day we all know has her heart. Sam loves sharing pictures or video of Indy’s latest shenanigans, and of course her amazing puppy smile. Keep an eye out in the coming months for their Christmas card that is sure to give Hallmark a run for their money.

Matthew Damin, written by Roger Dotsey
What is there to say about Dr. Matthew Damin? Only that he is quickly becoming a pediatric dentistry extraordinaire here at Riley hospital. Dr. Damin hails from the great commonwealth of Kentucky, growing up in the small but exceptional town of Owensboro, KY. He became a Western Kentucky Hilltopper for his undergraduate education, and then sauntered over to Derby City, where he received his DMD at the great University of Louisville, when he graduated in 2013. Since then, Dr. Damin has employed his winning smile and approachable personality to the field he has chosen, delighting children of all ages in our program. Dr. Damin is often the first to arrive and the last to leave, requires no thanks, and has been known to drop what he’s doing to help another resident or assistant in need. But don’t let those facts fool you, he still likes to cut loose and have a good time. He’s a Kentucky boy born and bred, and his interests leave this in no doubt. He’s a bourbon connoisseur (and I don’t use that term lightly- the dude knows his stuff), and his idea of a good weekend ends with some fresh game in the back of his truck. When Dr. Damin wraps up this magical experience we call a residency, he’s hoping to move back to western Kentucky, back where it all began, where he can be a shining beacon of dental hope for all children under age 18.

Roger Dotsey, written by Laura Hinds
Dr. Roger Dotsey is a great asset to the residency program. His fun loving personality and easy-going attitude is contagious. Dr. Roger’s personality shines through when he is working with patients. Around the clinic, you can always count on Dr. Roger to put a smile on your face when things get tough. He also keeps the fellow residents well rounded by sharing his love for the latest in entertainment whether it is a great new movie or TV series. I think we were all sad when his favorite show, Breaking Bad, ended. Dr. Roger is admired for balancing residency life with his family life. He plans to move back to Kentucky with his wife Sarah and adorable oneyear old son, Bear. We are lucky to spend another year with Dr. Roger.

Laura Hinds, written by Lauren Mummert
Dr. Laura Hinds is a second year resident who completed both her bachelor’s degree and DDS at Indiana University. She left the Hoosier state for one year to do a GPR in Denver, Colorado before beginning residency at Riley. Laura is an avid fan of the internet sensation, “Grumpy Cat,” despite always having a positive attitude and having the ability to make all the residents laugh until they cry. She enjoys testing various behavior management techniques while providing her patients

with the highest caliber of preventive and restorative treatment. Outside of residency, Laura enjoys spending time with her family and this year hiked the Grand Canyon with her father and brother. In her spare time, she likes to golf, run, and exercise. She is even featured in a poster at the resident favorite gym, NIFS. Laura is enjoying her time as a second year resident but looks forward to beginning her career as a pediatric dentist.

Lauren Mummert, written by Devin Shone
Dr. Lauren Mummert truly is the chief resident in more ways than one. In fact, she quickly gained the nickname of “Mom” from the other second year residents. Among her duties as the parental figure, Lauren makes sure that none of the residents stray too far from the long, tumultuous path towards graduation. However, the most important contribution she brings to the program is her assortment of baked goods that never cease to amaze everyone. From pumpkin chocolate chip cookies to dental related cupcakes, Lauren always is trying to make sure that we have enough cushion on our bodies to survive the brutal Indiana winters. Lauren is your typical girl next door, and due to her time growing up in Arizona, New Jersey, and Indiana, she has had lots of lucky neighbors that have had the chance to get to know her. Lauren loves her Fighting Irish of Notre Dame due to the time she spent on campus as a student and as a cheer dancer. But don’t let her fool you. This sweet Midwestern gal has a tough gritty side that will sneak up on you. In fact, she is known as one of the best manual transmission drivers in all of Riley Hospital.

Devin Shone, written by Jaime Whitson
Devin Shone is a second year resident, Indiana native, and all around great guy. If you walk around campus, you will find that Devin is kind of a big deal. Someone knows him everywhere we go! When he’s not collecting donkey stickers for watching ESPN in the residents room, he’s out there on the front line fighting early childhood caries. In his spare time, he enjoys playing sports, refereeing football, dog sitting Indy and spending time with his beautiful wife Carmen. Hopefully, he will get his research topic nailed down soon so that he can graduate with the rest of us!

Jaime Whitson, written by Samantha Clark
Jaime Lynn Orrick (Whitson) was born and raised in the great Hoosier State and completed her undergraduate training at IUPUI. During her time at IUPUI, Jaime played softball for the Jaguars. She then continued her academic adventure at IUSD. After four years of hoop-jumping through dental school, she decided to join private practice for an educational reprieve. She lived and practiced in St. Louis for 6 years. One day while adjusting a denture, Jaime realized there is more to live than gold crowns and acrylic teeth. It was that fateful day she decided a life of being talked back to, spit on, vomited on, and bit would be more fulfilling. Jaime is now a second year resident in the program. Jaime is a devoted mother to her two kids, Callie and Cooper. Most weekends you can catch her buzzing down I-70 to see her husband, Rick, in St. Louis. Rick practices as an endodontist in the St. Louis area. After residency, Jaime plans to return to St. Louis and open a very specialized practice with her husband focusing on pediatric endodontics. She’s not quite sure about the market but describes the time and idea as, “exciting and innovative.”
MARK YOUR CALENDER FOR SEATTLE
by Greg Westman
Please plan to visit the IUPDAA Alumni Suite during the 2015 AAPD Annual Session, May 21-24, in Seattle. Presently we are working on securing a Suite in a hotel close to the conference. We will have the details of location, times and activities in the Spring newsletter. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in the “Emerald City”.

PRESENTATION OF THE RALPH E. MCDONALD AWARD
at the AAPD Annual Session in Boston. The recipient was Dr. Rosalyn Sulyanto with her research titled “Acquisition of the Oral Microbiome in Infants.” And, all the authors: Rosalyn Sulyanto DMD, MS; Zach Thompson; Clifford Beall, PhD; Haelia Holmes, RDH; Stephen Spirito; Paul Casamassimo, DDS, MS; Eugene Leys, PhD; Ann Griffen, DDS, MS

Hail & Farewell
2014 LUNCHEON
On June 27, 2014, the Class of 2014 officially became Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni. The graduation luncheon was held on campus and attended by faculty, staff, and fellow residents. Not only were they welcomed into the ranks of alumni but several traditional awards were presented. The photos and recipients are listed below.

THE CLASS OF 2014
Fulltime faculty, Drs. Sanders, Vinson, and Jones with graduates Lesa Allison, Kevin Ludwig, Kurt Truong, Amy Goodlett and Andrea VanCleave

ART KLEIN RESEARCH AWARD
Presented by Dr. Weddell to Dr. Jaime Orrick, Dr. Lauren Mummert, Dr. Laura Hinds & Dr. Samantha Clark

G.R. BAKER AWARD
Presented by Dr. Vinson to Dr. Kevin Ludwig

MCDONALD SCHOLAR AWARD
Presented by Dr. Jones to Dr. Lesa Allison and Dr. Andrea VanCleave
**BOSTON SUITE**

We had a great turnout for our suite in Boston. Alumni were able to meet the residents, attend a special retirement reception for Dr. Weddell, and reconnect with each other. Thank you to everyone who supported the suite and stopped by for a visit.

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**1974 IU PEDO CLASS 40TH REUNION IN BOSTON, MA, DURING THE AAPD ANNUAL MEETING**

*From left to right: Gaye and John Deppen, Judy and Harry Bopp, Eleanor and Arthur Mourino, Barbara Ann and Dennis Duffield, Stephanie and Patrick Fleege, and Abby and Fred Simmons.*

*The celebration continued in the alumni suite. Eleanor and Art Mourino hosted the IU Hospitality Room in 1973 in Hollywood, CA.*
“This makes my heart so happy!”
A day in the park shows kids the fun side of dentistry
by Mary Anne Litwicki

OUR UNIVERSITY PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY BOOTH AT THE WYFI KIDS IN THE PARK EVENT

This was the second year that University Pediatric Dentistry Associates participated in WYFI Kids in the Park. With the event moved to White River State Park, attendance was at an all-time high! We wanted the public to know about us because people don’t associate dental with Riley Hospital and IU Health. Our message is that dental decay is a disease that is 100 percent preventable.

DENTAL HEALTH SHOW AND TELL

Blocks doubled as teeth, Play-Doh symbolized plaque, and yarn represented floss

This year we distributed 300 backpacks, as well as toothbrushes and child dental care literature. It was so much fun working with the children—we had a great time! We used Mega Bloks to represent teeth, Play-Doh to mimic plaque, an over-sized brush to serve as a toothbrush, and yarn to demonstrate floss. Kids could see that between the “teeth” the gunk wouldn’t come out with just brushing, so they needed to floss correctly. This, I must say, was a BIG hit! Kids giggled when they got it, and some would high five our volunteer. The teachers who came by said they were going to use that idea in the classroom.

A LONG, FUN AND REWARDING DAY

At the end of the day, Charlotte (our OR coordinator and volunteer) and Dr. Sanders were making plans for next year. This made my heart so happy! It is a long day, and I always fear I can’t get volunteers to stay more than an hour, but they all had a ball. Dr. Matt Damin, the dental resident, stayed all day. Dr. Amy Goodlett wished she could have stayed longer. My daughter Katie came with the intention of helping me at the end of the day to tear down. She got right in on the brushing activity, and just loved interacting with the kids. She said, “I’ll help all day next year, Mom!”

OUR YOUNGEST VOLUNTEERS

Dental assistant Heather Sodgrass (second from left) with her daughters Phia and Lillie Steele, and dental assistant Rachael Goldstein (right) kept the day fun and active

The two volunteers that really made me most proud were the young daughters of my co-worker, Heather Sodgrass. Phia and Lillie were AWESOME. I think because they were kids, the children came to our booth more willingly. They did everything from unloading supplies, to showing how to brush, to face and hand-painting. It was a great way to reach the public, answer questions and get kids headed toward dental health. My volunteers were great advocates for Riley and IU Health at this event. They all make me so proud!

DID YOU KNOW?

Riley Children’s Foundation provides philanthropic support for the Riley Dentistry team through the Ralph E. McDonald Professorship in Pediatric Dentistry. This fund supports Dr. Jeffrey Dean and has also paid for things such as guest lecturers, new dentistry textbooks and an online archive showcasing the work of pediatric dentistry graduate students.

To read more stories or share your story, go to: http://www.rileykids.org/