

Our annual Indiana Association of Orthodontists meeting was held in conjunction with the Burstone Symposium in Indianapolis on August 12th. New officers were elected and are as follows:

President: Dr. Andrew Raber
Vice-President: Dr. Ariel Wong
Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Joe Deek
Director-at-Large 1: Dr. Serkis Isikbay
Director-at-Large 2: Dr. Jim Thompson
Northern Director: Dr. Chris Crane
Central Director: Dr. Paul Ellis
Southern Director: Dr. Kevin Coghlan
GLAO Representative: Dr. Lana Helms
Immediate Past President: Dr. Tasha Hall

Membership: The Indiana Association of Orthodontists currently has 217 members, 142 actives, 22 students, and 53 retired members
IAO dues are currently \$75. The IAO Board recently passed a dues increase to cover credit card processing fees that are being passed on to the IAO during the AAO dues payment processing. (they were formerly paid by the AAO). The dues increase of \$100 will begin with the cycle which bills in May, 2023. This is the first IAO dues increase in over 10 years.

In the past year we have discussed as a board and with the membership, how to engage new and younger members to be active in leadership in the IAO/GLAO/AAO. We discussed doing a lunch and learn with the residents at IU to discuss membership and leadership. Also we discussed regional directors assisting the Component representative in engaging new practitioners in their regions. Since most of our communication is by email, we encouraged IAO members to review their email addresses listed with the AAO.

Currently the Indiana legislature is considering reform of the Healthy Indiana Plan to decrease HIP reimbursements and equalize them with Medicaid reimbursements. HIP which was started in 2015 in Indiana was incentivized by beginning reimbursement rates at 130% of equivalent Medicaid rates. Since December, 2015 Indiana Medicaid providers have declined from 1483 to 876. Indiana Medicaid currently pays about 60% of the UCR for comprehensive orthodontic services, and only for qualifying individuals. Indiana HIP does not currently pay for orthodontic services.

The Indiana Association of Orthodontists website remains active complete with an orthodontist locator. The website may be viewed at www.iaotoday.com.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Lana R. Helms, DDS MSD