



## ***President's Message for 2011-2012***

Hello and Welcome to a new and exciting year with the Howard County Dental Hygienists' Association! It is an honor and a privilege for me to serve as your President for the 2011-2012 year. I want to thank, whole heartily, the previous leadership for the amazing job they did last year. They leave tough shoes to fill! We appreciate your service over the years and will look forward to your continued support and mentoring. I also want to thank the new leadership for stepping up to the plate and accepting their new roles. Not only will this new board build upon the previous activities and traditions of HCDHA, but we will create some of our own new traditions!

With this in mind, I invite you to check out our new look on the HCDHA website. We have added some new features on the site that will encourage more interactivity with you, the health care provider and with the public we work with:

1. We've added a link called "Consumer Information", that is devoted solely to those outside of dental hygiene! This is where we can direct patients and other stakeholders to find pertinent information about dental hygiene. *The HCDHA board felt it was time to educate our community!* (And this may be a first- I don't believe any other dental hygiene websites have this feature!)
2. We have also added a Facebook link for quicker and more interactive communications with our membership. Don't hesitate to join if you are not already a 'friend'!

Continuing with our "new" theme, the HCDHA is co-hosting a dinner meeting in September with the HCDA. We are very excited about this opportunity to not only socialize but to network with our partners in dental health.

I'm going to conclude by saying that Dental Hygiene in Maryland is movin' and groovin'!!! Many of you are aware of our recent legislative changes that improve access to care and also improves the quality in which we can give that care. Let's keep the momentum going! I not only encourage but also challenge you to get involved!!! We need to hear your voices – share your thoughts, give us direction and most of all help us create smiles!

Thank you and I look forward to meeting you in September!

Janet Weber  
HCDHA President