



Dear NJDA Colleagues,

I'm feeling a lot of gratitude lately.

Recently a small package came to me from the NJDA. In it was a congratulatory note and a small lapel pin. I'm now an ADA Life Member, signifying over 30 years of continuous membership.

A surprising well of emotion rose up in me from that simple package - one of pride and gratitude to be included in this profession, and of the honor to be considered a peer among so many people I've come to admire.

Reflecting on my career, I realize that organized dentistry enhanced and enriched my working life in many ways both subtle and profound.

Being entrusted with the wellbeing of the public's health is a huge responsibility, and the ADA made meeting that responsibility possible. By setting professional standards and benchmarks to measure our quality of care, by providing an enormous range of resources and opportunities to grow, learn, and accomplish goals, by providing support for achieving business and technical excellence, and by protecting our autonomy and the public good at the same time, the ADA is absolutely essential.

I am especially grateful for the role models, support, sound advice, friendships and camaraderie I have enjoyed by being an ADA member all these years.

Thank you for all you have contributed towards that end.

In closing, I hope you feel as I do, and will continue to support our worthy organization with your membership.

With warm regards,

Doug Bush, DMD
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