

**REPORT OF NORTHWEST DENTISTRY  
EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD**

**2024**

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**Duties**

It is the duty of this Advisory Board to:

1. Provide for publication of Northwest Dentistry, the official journal of this Association;
2. Establish and review editorial policy for the journal; and
3. Ensure the copyright integrity of the journal and all articles/exhibits within.

**Activities**

I think it best to begin this year’s report by giving a kiss on the forehead to the Elephant in the Room: You voted me the 2024 MDA Guest of Honor. A huge surprise, a phenomenal honor, and a perfect focus for this report. Thank you so much for what this award tells us all about Northwest Dentistry.

As of 2024 and hopefully well beyond, our journal has become a growing, thriving destination for this association’s Institutional Knowledge. We had begun this focus, in fact, when the challenge of AI burst onto the scene, and we are meeting both topics with fresh eyes and articles which consider issues each raises, as discussed and selected by our EAB members. We have considerable development on “the human side” to keep our readers grounded in the day-by-day challenge of being their best, healthiest, and hopefully happiest individual selves. That is where they can discover the range and depth of their own potential contributions.

Among these directions are:

- The EAB has given a directive to incorporate art in all its forms.
- EAB member Dr. Michael Kurkowski has followed his passion project in retirement exploring mental health issues, to the benefit of all.

We get fan mail, not just from our core readers, but from all over. At the President’s Reception at the Star of the North Meeting, Dr. Tim Langguth, now an officer in the USA section of the International College of Dentists (ICD), told me the current ICD president tells him *every time they are together* how much he admires and enjoys NWD. Those are two verbs worth highlighting. This year the ICD honored our work with the following awards: The Golden Pen, the Leadership award, and the Humanitarian Service Honorable Mention award. Almost all the authors are members of the NWD Editorial Advisory Board. We are very, very proud of all those folk, a number of whom we recruited via their own initial interest in the journal. This year we welcomed pediatric dentist Jasmine Yesil of Winona, and as with each who joins us, we recognize the willingness to make the commitment and thank her for it.

1 In conclusion, I want to circle back to the evening of the President’s Reception. Called to the podium,  
 2 after unfolding my speech and taking a deep breath, I looked out into the room. There straight in  
 3 front of me was “my table,” filled with people I have been lucky enough to love and who, in 20/20  
 4 hindsight, represent so much of what NWD is:

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 6 Dr. Michael Till, my mentor by example, which continues to be modelled by all who join us.

7  
 8 NWD Art Director June Olson, who shows us what is possible on the printed page.

9  
 10 NWD Executive Editor Emeritus Bill Stein, who created so much of the joy and laughter that  
 11 supports us as we take that day-by-day journey.

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 13 NWD Executive Editor John Lueth, who cultivates it, and us, all, to the greater good and benefit of  
 14 our readers.

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 16 MDA Executive Director Carmelo Cinqueonce, who always has his eye on us in the best, strongest  
 17 way.

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 19 And my sister Lisa, representative of all the families who give us precious time so their people can  
 20 contribute to the journal and the MDA.

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 22 We hear the phrase “a place at the table” a lot. This was my version, my vision: a place for anyone  
 23 who has something to offer. I do believe that “what you send out comes back to you three times  
 24 over.” Our readers are smart, caring, and generous, and it is our hope that we reflect that in every  
 25 volume we create.

26  
 27 Respectfully submitted by,

28  
 29 Sue Miller  
 30 Managing Editor

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 32 Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Executive Editor of Northwest Dentistry. But more  
 33 importantly, from my perspective, thank you for permitting me to serve as a messenger yet once  
 34 again to acknowledge so much positive about your journal!

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 36 Foremost in my report to you, the recognition of Northwest Dentistry’s editor Sue Miller as the  
 37 MDA’s Guest of Honor is so well and richly deserved! Sue’s deft hand is key to the formulation of  
 38 every issue of NWD, not to mention the overall presentation and publication of the journal.

39  
 40 Northwest Dentistry is not a purely clinical one, nor a slim publication comprised primarily of  
 41 advertisements with a smattering of opinion pieces. It is, by intention, a marvelous mix of writing  
 42 and images that appeal to – and often move – readers and is what the Editorial Advisory Board feel  
 43 reflect the needs, wants, and real lives of MDA members. And, as Sue points out in her comments  
 44 to you, recognition of the high quality and value of the journal comes from many directions. I view  
 45 THAT as a wonderfully positive reflection and validation of the many active, engaged, involved,  
 46 dedicated, and giving members of the Minnesota Dental Association. If that were not true, our  
 47 publication would not be what it is nor recognized as such. Sue’s talents speak for themselves in a  
 48 number of ways, and in only one tiny way this can be seen through the awards NWD has received  
 49 annually.

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1 Sue's behind the scenes talents are extraordinary as it is through her guidance, nurturing and  
2 encouragement that so many individuals are able to share their own expertise, care, skill and  
3 judgement. Your recognition was not only sincerely appreciated by Sue, but by those of us who are  
4 fortunate enough to interact with her in production of the journal, as well as by so very many of our  
5 colleagues, readers of our journal, and people outside of our realm.

6  
7 Having said that, no one person can make that all happen ... even Sue. So let me applaud the many  
8 and varied talents and contributions of the members of the Editorial Advisory Board, the district  
9 Associate Editors (these are the folks who really are on the ground, down in the trenches!) and the  
10 other contributors to Northwest Dentistry. Let me also particularly thank Stephanie Leclair for her  
11 work for and support of the EAB.

12  
13 And as is ever my challenge, let me invite you as leaders - along with all members of our association  
14 - to say thank you to those individuals of that group. Read their names where listed. Thank, support  
15 and encourage those whom you may know ... and get to know the ones you don't! Finally,  
16 understand that no matter how you view your own writing skills, you too can contribute and add  
17 value to our journal through sharing your stories, photos, ideas, and suggestions. You can also refer  
18 talent to the EAB so that our professional association's publication, beyond the recognition it has  
19 received, remains valuable to our members!

20  
21 Submitted by,  
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23 John Lueth, D.D.S.  
24 Executive Editor