# 2020 NADL VISION 21 MEETING JANUARY 16-18, 2020

PALMS CASINO RESORT & SPA | LAS VEGAS



# NADL ANNUAL AWARDS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2020

### **WELCOME TO THE 2020 NADL AWARDS!**



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE 2020 NADL AWARD WINNERS!

There are few greater honors than to be recognized by your peers for achievements in the profession that has meant so much to your life.

#### PRESENTED BY THE 2020 NADL PRESIDENT



#### BARBARA WARNER WOJDAN, CDT, AAACD

irst and foremost, thank you for attending Vision 21. This event serves as the annual meeting of the membership of the NADL and it is a great meeting to kick off the year. It helps set the tone and direction for all of our businesses for the coming year.

I have been honored to have served in volunteer capacities throughout my career having served as a Board member with the Florida Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry; former Board Chair for the Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology, board member with the Cal-Lab Group and a testing development volunteer with the National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology.

The annual NADL and NBC Awards program gives us all the opportunity to publicly recognize those individuals and companies that go above and beyond through their work in the marketplace, in the community and for the greater good.

We once again appreciate the wonderful honorees being recognized at the 2020 Vision 21 Meeting for their personal and organizational efforts.

# **HALL OF FAME**

#### R.J. DELAPA, JR.

J. DeLapa is the owner / manager of United Dental Laboratory in Tallmadge, Ohio. He ■ has over 30 years' experience owning and managing this full service Certified Dental Laboratory. His laboratory has been family owned and operated since 1923.

R.J. is a consummate volunteer leader. He is a past president of the Ohio Dental Laboratory Association; a past president of the National Association of Dental Laboratories, and a past Chair of the Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology. During his service with NADL, he has been a member of the Business Management Committee (he has served as the longest tenured member of this committee); Communications Advisory Board; Budget and Finance Committee; and Nominations Committee. R.J. also served 5 years of service with the American Dental Trade Association as the Laboratory Section Liaison before it became the Dental Trade Alliance. R.J. brings out the best in other volunteers using his quick wit, sharp mind and focus on the mission.

R.J.'s laboratory has been a member of NADL for nearly 40 years and a member of the Dental Resource Alliance for over 20 years.

R.J.'s tireless service in giving back to serve the common good comes without desire for recognition or accolades. R.J. is truly deserving as an NADL Hall of Fame recipient.



# **EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

#### **GREGORY C. WALTON, CDT**



reg Walton is a graduate of
East Carolina University with a
Bachelor's degree in Biology,
along with an Associate degree in Dental
Technique from Durham Technical
Community College, earning his CDT in
1997. Greg is currently serving as director of
Dental Laboratory Technology at Durham
Technical Community College. He was
tenured with the college for 18 years as an
instructor prior to becoming the Director.

Along with consistently contributing to future education of Dental Technique, Greg also owns and operates Dental Design Laboratory in Apex, North Carolina. When Greg is not operating in his dental lab, he is providing worthy services to his community, offering free dental prosthesis to the Samaritan Mission Clinic and educating students at Durham Technical Community College. He enjoys spending time with his wife and children.

#### **EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION - DENTAL LABORATORY**

#### TRIAD DENTAL STUDIO, INC., CDL, DAMAS

atthew Martin, CDT, and Martha Martin are President and CEO of Triad Dental Studio, CDL, DAMAS, located in Greensboro, North Carolina. Since 1983, Triad has made education and training a top priority within their dental laboratory.

Triad Dental Laboratory, CDL, DAMAS is a Full Service Dental Laboratory offering an extensive line of fixed and removable restorations with an emphasis on implant prostheses and complex restorative cases. Their dedication to technical excellence and continued education of its staff and clients has provided exceptional clinical results for the clients and patients Triad serves. Triad is a strong supporter of certification and education and encourages their technicians to obtain and maintain their CDT. Triad currently has 43 people on staff of which 28 are dental technicians. Nine of the technicians are CDTs and two are RGs preparing to take their CDT exams.

Triad also supports formal education and welcomes interns from Durham Technical Community College each year. They also open their doors to local hygiene, assisting and graduate prosthodontic programs to help educate clinical staff and build effective communication.

Triad also hosts and sponsors numerous study clubs and training seminars each year with education being a top priority. In addition to their strong support of education, Triad Dental Studio CDL, DAMAS participates in the North Carolina Missions of Mercy and Donated Dental Services as well as community endeavors such as the Salvation Army Food Drive, Adopt a Family and Stuff a Stocking.



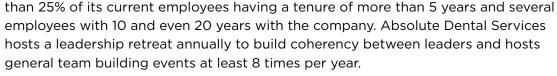
## LABORATORY MEMBER OF THE YEAR

#### **ABSOLUTE DENTAL SERVICES**

bsolute Dental Services started as a oneman dental laboratory in the Triangle area of North Carolina in April 1994. After managing the dental laboratory since 1999, the current owners Drew Van Aarde and Conrad Rensburg purchased the dental laboratory as a 6-person operation in September 2004.

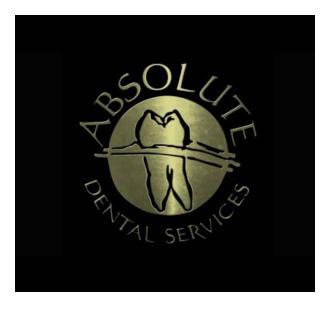
Absolute Dental Services has experienced exponential growth over the last 15 years. Current 2019 revenue numbers show Absolute growth to be more than 1500% since 2004. Today with 4 locations in Charleston, Wilmington, the Triangle and the Triad and with more than 110 employees the company continues to experience extremely healthy revenue and profit growth.

In addition to its strong growth, Absolute Dental Services puts its people first with more



Absolute Dental Services places a strong focus on customer service, support and education and an emphasis on delivering innovative, high quality products supported by an accessible, knowledgeable team of dedicated technicians.

Absolute Dental Services also works to support their community through The Absolute Care Foundation, a 501(c) non-profit arm of Absolute Dental Services Inc. The Foundation's mission statement is "change the lives of deserving people". With a tag line "a dental lab that cares" the Absolute family of technicians and clinicians have been involved with multiple outreach projects; from multiple life changing smaller projects, a complete home makeover to an extensive redo of a local park in a poverty-stricken part of Durham.



## SUPPLIER MEMBER OF THE YEAR

#### GC AMERICA INC.

ounded in 1921, GC Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of innovative materials, devices and equipment designed for use by oral care professionals, laboratories, and consumers. GC America, a subsidiary of GC Corporation for over 25 years, employs nearly 300 people in the United States and will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2021.

GC, as a dental manufacturer, considers excellence in its core business to be the most important mission. GC products are made with the core values of safety and effectiveness, in line with the company's ethos of putting quality first, believing that protecting the global environment is a major part of its mission.

Associates are also empowered to increase their knowledge base and career development through its Educational Development Program, which helps to underwrite a portion of the cost of college education, as well as via their in-house training and external learning opportunities related to their respective job function.

Naturally, GC seeks to minimize any adverse effects, paying maximum attention to the issue of the environment from the time each product is developed until its use by the consumer. As a result of GC's endeavors in this respect, the company earned ISO 9001 Quality Systems certification in 1994, and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certification in 1998. GC topped this in 2000, by becoming the first company in the dental industry to be awarded the Deming Application Prize. In 2003, GC was certified for ISO 13485, and in 2004, GC became only the 18th company in the world to have won the Japan Quality Medal, the pinnacle of quality control. As a further mark of the company's reputation, the global marketplace has come to recognize GC's products as being synonymous with quality and eco-friendliness.



# **CDT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

#### **DENISE BURRIS, CDT**

enise Burris, CDT has worked in the dental laboratory profession for over 27 years. She currently holds the position of Vice President and Co-Owner of Design Dental Studio, CDL in Atlanta, Georgia, where she specializes in ceramics and crown & bridge.

Denise began her career in dental laboratory technology in 1992, working at Trippe Porcelain Laboratory in Lubbock, Texas and has continued her advancement with numerous educational courses, certifications and credentials. Denise has given back to the profession in a multitude of ways including, but not limited to, serving as a current board member for the NADL, NBC past chair, vice chair, secretary/fiscal officer and trustee and past president of the Southeastern Conference of Dental Laboratories.

Denise also has served in many other volunteer roles including the NBC Marketing Committee, 2017 Branding Committee, NADL Public Awareness Committee, CDT Fest Committee, JDT Advisory Committee, CAD/CAM Task Force Committee, CDL Task Force Committee, CDL Restructuring Committee, JDT Advisory Committee, NADL What's in Your Mouth Campaign Committee and the NADL Membership Committee.

Denise has remained actively involved in the dental community by encouraging many of those around her of the importance of Certified Dental Technicians. She also mentors other to earn and maintain their Certified Dental Technician designation by helping to host the written and practical exams annually and by being a frequent proctor for numerous NBC examinations. She is also a participant with the Georgia Mission of Mercy helping to serve over 2,000 deserving patients and is a volunteer for the Pankey Institute's Give Back to the Community Dental Clinic.





Congratulations Denise Burris, CDT, Our 2020 CDT of the Year!