

Welcome New WSDLA Board Members!

Sherill Aumiller, CDT

Thorn Ford Dental Laboratory, LLC



How did you get into the dental laboratory industry?

I got into the dental laboratory industry in 1973, while I was in high school. My mother was working at Nakanishi Dental Lab, in the office, and she referred me for a summer job, working in the model room. At the end of the summer I was asked to stay on. After high school, I felt that working in a lab was a good fit for me, so I decided to pursue being a technician as a career. Over the years, I have worked in large labs, small labs in-house labs, and at one time I owned a lab for 9 years.

What do you love about the dental industry?

I love being in the industry, because, I enjoy challenges. This industry combines the skills of Art and Science, and a high level of thinking. The evolution into the digital world is fascinating to me, and I love working digitally. I also enjoy working with smile designs and implants. Seeing and working directly with patients and dentists is very rewarding to me, and seeing my work seated is a highlight of my day.

What challenges is our industry going to face in the coming years?

Dental Technology as an industry is going through a lot of changes, as we move into the digital world. We have been facing a skilled technician shortage for many years, and I feel it will be more of a problem as many technicians are getting close to retirement. We need to find a way to attract new technicians and fast track train them, so they will want to stay in the industry.

As a new WSDLA Board Member, what do you want our association to achieve this year?

As a new and returning Board member this year, I would like to see our WSDLA grow in membership numbers. We as an association can have a voice in the future in the industry and with our new technicians. There is strength in numbers.

What do you hope to bring to the WSDLA?

I hope my experience in the industry will be a positive influence with the board and the WSDLA. As a board member, I am here for the members. Tell me what you want, lets talk about it and create action. I want to be part of the future of our industry.

What does being a WSDLA member mean to you?

Being a member of the association over the years, as an owner and as a technician, has been an excellent avenue for networking. I have learned so much from my participation in WSDLA events, whether it is education, board, or social. Being a member has brought me many cherished friendships. Being a member has truly helped me grow into the technician that I am.

