

# FIRST AADE

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION: ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF DISABILITY EXAMINERS (AADE)

FISCAL YEAR 2019 – JUNE ISSUE

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



- Kandy Flint Pope ('18-'20 AADE President)

It has been a huge honor to be the AADE President for the second time during my NADE/AADE membership. It is not a position that should be taken lightly. As AADE President, you represent a wide variety of different people at S01/V19 - Birmingham and Mobile, Alabama DDS offices who perform vital tasks day in and day out for the benefit of Alabama and other citizens of this great nation.

My term has been as successful as it has been due to all the hard work of the Board members, AADE members and other employee contributions to all AADE endeavors. If it were not for all the behind the scenes, hands-on assistance from several Board members, I would not have made it to today in one piece. When I volunteered to be AADE President-elect, a couple of years ago, my life was a little less hectic: I lived closer, my mom was still fighting the good fight; my dad and my husband were both in better health. I would never have imagined that since I volunteered: I would have moved over 70 miles from work; Malfunction Junction (I-20/59 Bridge) would get a complete overhaul with projected completion in 18 months (*if on schedule lol*); my husband would suffer a heart attack requiring a CABG; Dad would need a knee replacement AND knee cap replacement a year later; 'tiny house' living for almost 2 years; as well as my Mom's fight with MBC ending on her own terms. Not to mention the changes that come with being a Senior Disability Specialist on a daily basis. I learned a long ago, to just roll with the changes and take a *Gunny Highway* mentality - overcome, adapt.

As we go into the next NADE year, I am pleased to carry forward as your AADE Chapter President for a ***third term*** and encourage each of you to become involved or more involved in Your AADE Chapter and our NADE Organization.

## DIRECTOR'S DDS UPDATE

### Best in Class!

**Congratulations.** You are truly *fulgent* in your work for the DDS. As I have said before, all employees perform a vital role in the processing of disability claims. Helen Keller is quoted as saying, "Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much."

We welcome the new employees in Birmingham and Mobile. You will soon find yourself great contributors to the DDS in terms of quality work, being part of the team, and wanting to do the very best for the disabled citizens of Alabama. All of us have confidence in you.

Thanks to everyone for coming to work each day and putting forth your best effort.

-Jim Methvin (Director, AL DDS)  
(Excerpted from 06/2019 email correspondence)

### fulgent

adjective, ful·gent | \ 'fūl-jənt , 'fəl- \

**Definition of *fulgent* :** dazzlingly bright  
: radiant (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)

FY '19 – DDS WOTW

# MOBILE DDS

## MOBILE DDS COMPONENT

(SUBMITTED BY – DR. HAROLD VEITS)

Over the last year, the Mobile component of AADE experienced attrition, so that we came down to three (3) active members. This dwindling spurred us on to recruit new members; and, oh boy, we found some good ones. See attached photo for our four new members, with names left to right. We also decided to elect officers, to make it clear who-was-in-charge of what, rather than leave those responsibilities to float and hope someone would step up. We now know who has agreed to step up.



(L to R): –

Dr. H. Veits, E. Root, B. Madison, S. Manley, D. Gaddis, T. Perez,  
C. Pickens. (Not pictured: K. Pipkin and C. Davis)

### NADE/AADE 2019 MEMBERS (MOBILE)

- Carol Davis  
(Senior Member)
- Derrick Gaddis  
(President)
- Brandi Madison  
(Recruiter)
- Suzanne Manley  
(Vice President)
- Tara Perez  
(Assistant Treasurer)
- Crystal Pickens  
(Treasurer)
- Karin Pipkin  
(Senior Member)
- Elizabeth Root  
(Secretary)
- Dr. Harold Veits  
(In-Services Producer/Director)



## MOBILE DDS COMPONENT – (CONTINUED)

In the last six months, we have continued to sponsor fundraisers, and give that money to charities. We donated \$200 to the Mitchell Cancer Center in Mobile. We had a Valentine’s Day raffle, and just had an Easter drawing — where several hundred plastic eggs had a prize inside, such as candy or ticket to a bigger prize. Each egg sold for 25 cents. Another first for us, we had an outdoor Easter egg hunt at afternoon break, with more prizes including some gift cards, in the larger eggs. Tickets to hunt were \$1 each and we had 20 Easter egg hunters participate.

In November 2018, we sponsored an office wide food drive through “Feeding the Coast”, an organization that is committed to seeing that families do not go without food over the holidays. We were able to contribute 183 pounds (lbs.) of food. We received a warm thank you letter from the organization’s leaders.

We have continued to sponsor NADE In-Service presentations for the DDS staff, on a variety of topics. Phyllis Rinks, Supervisor and Dr. Veits did “Intellectual Disability — getting it right” in February, and about 50 staff attended. Then, Camilla Jordan-Graves, Administrator and Dr. Veits did “Stages of Adult Development”. We also had a young psychiatrist come in, Tina Jackson, MD, to talk about the ACE (Adverse Child Experiences) and the role ACE play in disability. We now have three (3) more in-services on the drawing board, including a talk by a pulmonologist about topics related to the DDS listing.



*(L to R): Mobile AADE members with the Easter Baskets – Dr. Veits, C. Pickens, and T. Perez.*

# OUTREACH: WORKING WELL WITH OTHERS

## AADE & ASEA OUTREACH (-SUBMITTED BY CHERYL JONES)

The Birmingham AADE Chapter made a call for action and service, and once again, the Alabama DDS answered. The Birmingham DDS staff showed overwhelming support to *Family Connection, Inc.* Our most recent contributions to the mission of building positive futures took the form of a silent auction to raise money for needed items for youth in crisis. AADE & ASEA (ALABAMA'S STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION) sponsored a coat drive to help keep the homeless youth warm. It is easy to take for granted the importance that warm clothing plays in our overall health and well-being. For many people, the gift of warmth is something of luxury, though a necessity most of us take for granted. Together we were able to collect 110 coats and jackets!

The silent auction allowed AADE to donate just over three hundred and sixty dollars (\$360) designated specifically to purchase undergarments, socks, outerwear, toiletries and personal care items. There is no doubt of the expressed gratitude from *Family Connection, Inc.* for this overflowing of kindness, as this is what the kids needed most. AADE would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the silent auction and coat drive. No contribution for a worthwhile cause if felt to be greater than the next if given from the heart. However, on the day of hearts-Valentine's Day- one SAMC's contribution of twenty \$10.00 McDonald's gift cards were used as Valentine's gifts for the youth. They called looking for presents again this year since last year they were gifted with the 100 back backs filled with personal items and snacks obtained from another AADE charitable drive. Due to this SAMC's particular contribution, they were not disappointed. We may have started a budding tradition for Valentine's Day with these homeless teens!

What we do for another, we do for ourselves. Let us continue to improve each other's lives. Join NADE & ASEA today to continue this endeavor to change all our lives for the better.

## APPRECIATION: SOMETHING OUT OF THE BLUE!

At Alabama DDS, a number of members hold dual/triple membership statuses in various organizations and groups. In April 2019, members of both AADE and ASEA collaborated in presenting a basket - "*Something out of the Blue*" to the DDS Director just to say thank you for his encouragement, support and participation in the various organizations. Thank you.



*You know, I really appreciate the purpose, the work and the involvement of both organizations at the DDS. The DDS is a better agency because of the employee participation opportunities by ASEA and NADE. And, thank you for working here and for your caring spirit. All of you deserve bouquets of appreciation.*

*Sincerely, Jim (April 2019)*

(L to R):-

*M. Collins, P. Davis, T. Relph (ASEA, President), J. Methvin, T. Fleming, E. Hooks, J. Palmer (ASEA), D. King, S. Robinson, C. Burton.*



# AADE YEAR IN REVIEW (2018-2019)

SERVICE, SERVICE, SERVICE

## (EXCERPTED FAREWELL EMAIL GREETINGS FROM PAST AADE CHAPTER PRESIDENT – (2017-2018))

Greetings AADE Chapter Members,

It was my pleasure to serve as AADE Chapter President (2017-2018) and I look forward to an exciting new NADE/AADE year, as Kandy Pope becomes Chapter President August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. I will remain on the AADE Executive Board as Past President for the upcoming year (2018-2019) and I am happy to help out, answer questions, take suggestions, etc.

I am excited for you to see the 2018 edition of the NADE Advocate (past publication) (*note: the new 2019 NADE Advocate is available now*). Please take an opportunity to read about the exciting visit NADE President, Jennifer Pounds and Legislative Director, Jeff Price made to DC when NADE was asked to testify before the House Ways and Means Subcommittee for Social Security on July 25, 2018! NADE IS WORKING FOR YOU.

The Alabama Chapter has passion for NADE's mission and I encourage each of you to spread your passion to our co-workers and encourage them to join NADE today. There is still time to renew and/or join NADE for the exciting upcoming year. Please, if you have not already renewed your membership, visit the NADE website [www.NADE.Org](http://www.NADE.Org) and renew today. Again, I have enjoyed serving as AADE Chapter President for 2017-2018. Thank you all for being members of our important professional organization, which serves to advance the art and science of disability evaluation.

*-Tena Fleming, (2017-2018) PAST AADE Chapter President ☺*

*Past AADE President Tena Fleming with President's Award – AL Chapter. From NADE Training Conference 2018.*



## 2018 RECAP: AWARDS & RECOGNITION

AUGUST 2018

(August 11<sup>th</sup> – August 16<sup>th</sup>)

**2018** NADE Awards from that National Training Conference Held in Arlington, Virginia – August 11-August 16, 2018.

The AL chapter/members won the following awards at this year's National Conference:

- -President's Award—AL Chapter
- Director's Award—Tena Fleming
- NADE Award—Jennifer Haddock
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Organ Donation week (certificate and \$25)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Newsletter (certificate and \$40)

# AADE YEAR IN REVIEW (2018-2019)

## ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

### SOME 2018- 2019 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- AADE BEACH BLAST (August 16th -17<sup>th</sup> 2018)
- Held Quarterly Luncheon Thursday- 08/30/2018 at Dale's Southern Grill in Hoover, AL.
- Breast Cancer
- New Employees Meet & Greet – February 2019.
- Quarterly Luncheon – Thursday 03/21/19 @ El Poblano, Vestavia Hills, AL.
- AADE PERKS: Parking Space Winner: Sandra Robinson. She will use the space from July 1<sup>st</sup> until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018;
- CURRENT PARKING WINNER: Arnetta Willis!

### OCTOBER 2018: OIG FRAUD PRESENTATION

- AADE proudly welcomed an Alabama native, Ms. Gale Stallworth-Stone, Acting Inspector General in the OIG (Office of the Inspector General) for an informative presentation on the important work conducted by the OIG with DDS input in fraud prevention and detection. - Oct. 09, 2018.

### OCTOBER 2018: BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- AADE/ NADE chapter held a STOMP OUT CANCER event to help raise much-needed funds to help research breast cancer cures. BCRFA has contributed over 5.1 MILLION dollars to breast cancer research since its inception in 1996. In keeping with our tradition, AADE is proud to help do our part with the **BCRFA T-SHIRT SALE!** – Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> – Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 2018.

### DECEMBER 2018 -JANUARY 2019: COAT COLLECTION DRIVE

The combined AADE/ASEA coat collection for Family Connection was successful with donations of 110 coats/jackets, additional hygiene items, and an SAMC staff contribution of twenty \$10 McDonald's gift cards for Family Connection to distribute as needed. – Dec. 2018 – Jan. 2019. --

# AADE YEAR IN REVIEW (2018-2019)

## ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

### APRIL 2019: ORGAN DONATION MONTH

- Held an Easter Basket Raffle Event – centered on the theme “Life is a Beautiful Ride” where two kids bikes were raffled off and proceeds presented to Alabama’s **Legacy of Hope**, formerly Alabama Organ Center. – April 15-19, 2019.

(AADE members K. Pope and J. Haddock generously donated the bikes and other members contributed to the Easter baskets).

### SUMMER FUN



- Hosted: Beach Blast – Start of Summer – June 2019, Fundraising Sale Event.
- Quarterly Luncheon – Thursday Thursday- 06/20/19.at the Cajun Seafood House, Vestavia Hills, AL.

### NATIONAL DISABILITY PROFESSIONAL WEEK CELEBRATION NDPW – JUNE 17- 20<sup>th</sup> 2019

THEME: “Flashback to the 80’s.”

- FIVE DAYS OF 80’s TRIVIA (TYPES OF CANDIES; TYPES OF BOARD GAMES; 80’s MUSIC; 80’s MOVIE QUOTES; 80’s TOYS) WITH GIFT CARD PRIZES EACH DAY FOR ONE WINNER
- NDPW DIRECTOR'S CHOICE: BRAIN TEASER!!!  
(Choose a number – any number and write it down + (Add) 3, (Subtract) 5, + (Add) 7, (Subtract) the original “chosen” number, + (Add) 5 X (Multiply) by 2 + (Add) 1. Ask someone to do the same number exercise with you and compare your answers!!!!)

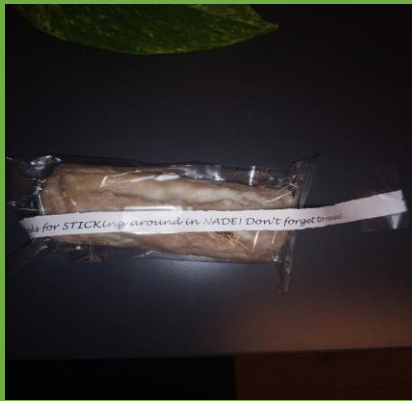
### AUGUST 2019:: NATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

When: August 18-21, 2019 - Where: Crowne Plaza-Midtown Atlanta, GA

**Three Days of Powerful Talks** - NADE welcomes speakers from all areas of the Social Security Administration, Disability Determination Services Agencies, and other supporting agencies. This annual conference provides a wealth of information and updates about the disability program through a series of information sessions and seminars. We encourage NADE members and supporters from all chapters to partake in this three-day event as we bring together representatives and disability examiners from across the nation to share ideas, grow professionally, and increase our knowledge of the disability program.

# PICTORIALS: SAY CHEESE!

JUNE 2019



## NDPW 2019

*Sweet Treats and Beach Blast Event Pictures.*

*(Top Left to Right: - L. Turner and T. Fleming; E. Hooks; Group: M. Williamson, K. Pope, T Fleming, E. Hooks.*



## NADE/AADE 2019 BOARD MEMBERS (BIRMINGHAM)

- PRESIDENT: Kandy Pope
- PAST PRESIDENT: Tena Fleming
- SE REGIONAL BRANCH: Cecile Burton
- TREASURER: Elizabeth Hooks
  - SECRETARY: Melissa Williamson
- BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE:
  - ❖ Dave King
  - ❖ M. Collins
  - ❖ Priscilla Davis





# KNOW YOUR HISTORY

## THE HISTORY OF NADE

*BY FRANK GIORDANO, CHARTER MEMBER OF NADE, NEW JERSEY (SUBMITTED BY TENA FLEMING)*

In 1963, a group of DDS directors meeting in Philadelphia founded the National Association of Disability Examiners (the generic name by which the organization is still known today) as a division of the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA). In the early days, the major direction for the organization came from the DDS Directors, most of whom were part of State Vocational Rehabilitation agencies. The National Rehabilitation Association adequately represented the NADE interests of the early days and organized annual conferences at which NADE was given a small segment of time for conducting organizational business.

As the years went on, the membership of NADE became mostly examiner and other line staff and the direction of the organization became mostly examiner oriented. In fact, the majority of the DDS directors encouraged this change. However, the changing interests of the NADE membership and growing divergent membership base found NADE more and more at odds with its parent organization. The membership eventually concluded that NRA could no longer effectively serve the organization and in Salt Lake City in 1978, the Delegate Assembly adopted a resolution amending the NADE Constitution and By-Laws to delete all references to NRA, thereby rendering the organization in non-compliance with the NRA Constitution and By-Laws and effectively establishing NADE as an independent organization. Despite predictions of NADE's demise, the organization survived bitter opposition, maintained a sizeable membership base, and organized its first separate annual conference in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1979, devoting a full program of medical and other sessions, as well as conducting its organizational business. Not only did NADE survive, but it grew beyond all expectations not only in numbers but more importantly in status and influence. Soon NADE became recognized as the effective voice of professionals in the field of disability adjudication, encompassing examiners, administrators, physicians, support staff and others involved in the disability program. Legislative activity took on increasing importance to the point where it is today, sought by legislative committee to present testimony on a wide variety of program issues. SSA officials and legislative representatives meet regularly with the NADE Board and there is ongoing dialogue between these officials and representatives and NADE leaders.

The road to growth and increasing stature was not easy. NADE had to go through organizational problems which created some deep divisions, but overcame them and developed a sound financial structure and administrative accountability. NADE was able to maintain stability and come together to pursue its interests. The annual conference regularly featured interchange between NADE leadership and the DDS Directors working through the National Council of Disability Determination Directors (NCDDD). Joint legislative agenda were developed. Communication, both internal and external, was recognized as a priority. The NADE Advocate, established long before NADE's withdrawal from NRA, was and still is the primary tool for passing on information to all its members. But NADE kept pace with technology, establishing a web site and making increase use of faxes and E-mail and other means of quick communication. Information to and from the membership was and is a top priority of NADE leaders.

NADE's history is that of growth and continuity, of fighting through organizational problems to establish stability and credibility, of assuring the interest of the members were not pushed aside but ably represented by its leaders, of communicating both to the membership and to those who affect our lives and the lives of those we serve, and of awareness of the need to keep up with new and better ways of serving our constituency. It is an organization proud of its past and looking always to its future. Our past is our strength and the ground work for our tomorrow.

# MEMBERSHIP: ROLL CALL

M. BIZZELL	J. HADDOCK	J. METHVIN
L. BOOKER	A. HAGOOD	T. PEREZ
R. BOTHWELL	K. HAND	W. PERKEY
C. BURTON	V. HAYNE	C. PICKENS
M. CARTER	R. HICKS	D. PICKETT
M. COLLINS	V. HOGAN	K. PIPKIN
M. CRITTENDEN	E. HOOKS	S. ROBINSON
C. DAVIS	T. JOHNSON	E. ROOT
P. DAVIS	C. JONES	L. RUTLEDGE
L. EULER	K. KELLEY	E. THOMAS
A. FINCH	D. KING	H. VEITS
T. FLEMING	T. KING	M. WHITING
K. POPE	B. MADISON	M. WILLIAMSON
L. FOSTER	S. MANLEY	A. WILLIS
D. GADDIS	C. MAYE	



**WE NEED YOU!  
JOIN TODAY!**

## MEMBERSHIP TERMS

NADE's membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Your membership will expire on June 30th each year. All new membership applications received between January and June will receive an expiration date of June 30 of the following year. NADE does not prorate dues.

Corporate membership duration: 12 calendar months from join date.

### Membership Dues:

Full \$50.00

Associate \$50.00

Full Support \$25.00

Retiree \$25.00

To join AADE, contact any Birmingham or Mobile AADE member, or specific membership committee contacts in each office.

**NADE**  
National Association of Disability  
Examiners  
**NADE.ORG**  
PO BOX 453 Arnold, MO 63010

*I am excited! I am absolutely delighted and looking forward to working with AADE to provide service to DDS and the community. Thank you! – Rosemary (New AADE Member 2019, Birmingham DDS)*

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT CARD PRESENTATION WAS MADE TO AADE RETIRED MEMBER ERNEST THOMAS FOR HIS MANY INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND CONTINUOUS SUPPORT – THANK YOU!**