

I remember one particular session where Jim Beck and the group from Iowa were presenting results from the Iowa survey. After I asked a question about interexaminer reliability, Hersch Horowitz, who was sitting next to me, turned to me and asked "Who are you?"

Fortunately for us, Jane held on and now most everyone knows who she is. I also asked Jane about her most important contributions to dental public health. She identified three areas:

First, education—both direct interaction with students and activities that improve dental public health education, such as competencies, standards,

and accreditation and commission activities. Second, research—usually directed toward prevention of oral disease and health policy activities, such as lobbying on Capitol Hill for money for dental public health residency programs. And third, raising the consciousness of dental public health to people in other dental fields and outside of dentistry. We would all do well to follow her lead.

Many of you know that at last year's meeting, I presented Jane with the President's Award. At that ceremony I asked for a show of hands of individuals who had benefited from Jane's commitment to teaching and service. I'd like to do that again. If you have

ever taken her board course, been her student, or benefited in some other way from Jane's guidance, would you please raise your hand? Jane, that's quite a tribute to you.

Marion Wright Edelman once said: "Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time." Caring, commitment to and concern for the cause, and collegiality are words that many use to characterize Jane. These are also words that Jane uses to describe her experiences with AAPHD. We're fortunate, indeed, to have members like Jane, and I'm delighted to present her with the 1999 Special Merit Award.

## Remarks on Receiving the Special Merit Award

### Jane A. Weintraub, DDS, MPH

I am very honored to receive this award. I would like to take this special opportunity to publicly thank many people who have been mentors, role models, friends, and colleagues. When I was a child, one of my favorite books was about a little girl who had lots of dolls, but wanted one that combined her favorite characteristic of each doll—the blue eyes of one doll, the dark hair of another, the smile of a third, etc. She went to the doll maker and he made a doll for her with the best characteristic of each of the others. If it were possible, I would like to be like that doll. I would like to incorporate into my dental public health practice the attributes of the many people that I've learned from and worked with in my dental public health career.

I would like to have:

**D**edication to public health goals, like Dushanka Kleinman,

**E**nergy and ability to provide encouragement, like Gary Leske.

I've learned about:

**N**onconformity from my sister Susan Pepperwood,

**T**eaching skills from Dave Striffler,

**A**ttitude, as in having a positive attitude, from Dick Adelson



Jane A. Weintraub

**L**ove, from my parents.

I've learned about:

**P**rofessionalism from Gary Rozier and Alex White,

**U**nderstanding from many friends including Melody Hobbs, Peggy Wurm, Linda Kaste, and Susan Hyde,

**B**ook publishing and seeing the big picture from Chet Douglass,

**L**oyalty and commitment to dental public health from Joe and Helen Doherty and Stan Lotzkar.

I've received:

**I**nspiration from Jim Dunning,

**C**ourage from Alexia Antczak-Bouckoms.

I've learned about:

**H**umor from Helene Bednarsh

**E**pidemiology from Jim Beck,

**A**ltruism and data analysis from Stuart Gansky,

**L**eadership from John Greene and John Stamm,

**T**horoughness from Brian Burt, and

**H**ealth department issues from Myron Allukian, Jay Kumar, and Samantha Stephen.

Put it together, and what do we have? The best of Dental Public Health. Although I am out of letters in this anagram, there are many other wonderful people whom I have worked with at Harvard, Michigan, North Carolina, and the University of California, San Francisco, or whom I have gotten to know through AAPHD or other public health activities. Thank you very much for this recognition. I plan to continue to serve this organization so that someday I might deserve the Distinguished Service Award, like Alice Horowitz.