

MINNESOTA

Estee Wang, President

Nellie Kim-Weroha, President-elect

Heather Horton, Secretary/Treasurer



The MAO Board meets year-round to continue planning and addressing critical issues that affect our fellow members. This year the board was especially busy as we pulled together to address COVID-19 related matters. Our president and the board rallied the members for a Happy Hour Discussion to gain feedback of struggles our members are facing as many offices were closed with no plans set to reopen. A group of MAO members, under the guidance of Dr. **Estee Wang** volunteered on the MAO COVID-19 Task Force. From the meeting, letters to our governor and the dental board were sent to inform them about our profession – specific issues and provide guidance for orthodontists to reopen.



On February 6, 2020, Dr. **Nellie Kim-Weroha** (as our President-Elect) and Dr. **Alisa Madson** (as one of 3 selected to represent MSO), attended the AAO Leadership Conference in Austin, Texas. In addition to providing leadership training skills, the meeting allowed future leaders of our profession to provide insight on challenges members (and non-members) face to AAO staff and the Board of Trustees.

On February 26, 2020, representing Minnesota were Dr. **Deb Lien** and Dr. **Todd Thayer** as they attended the AAO Professional Advocacy Conference on the Hill in Washington D.C. to advocate on various issues for our profession and members. We thank you for representing our state!

The MAO Annual Session scheduled on January 8, 2021 will be canceled. We are planning to offer a virtual seminar with **Paul Edwards** from CEDR HR Solutions Group on September 25, 2020 to our members. He will discuss various topics on team management and HR topics effecting healthcare professionals during these uncertain times.

Be sure to check our website, mnortho.org for membership information and updates on events. We thank our Executive Secretary, **Heidi Hemmen**, for her time and support in developing and maintaining the MAO website. We would like to thank the current committee members for their time and efforts in serving on behalf of our members. Dr. **Jim Haack** (Past-President and Nominating Committee), Dr. **Heather Carr** (Program

Committee), Dr. **Becky Maher** (Public and Professional Relations), Dr. **Greg Ross** (Dental Care Plans), Dr. **Deb Lien** (Legislative and Regulatory Affairs), Dr. **Alisa Madson** (Constitution and Bylaws), and Dr. **Rosemary Lelich** (Education Committee). We encourage members to contact these fellow board members with any concerns. If you would like to serve on the board, we'd love to have you. Please send us a note by email at maorthodontist@gmail.com or send a message on our Facebook page, Minnesota Association of Orthodontists.

Nellie Kim-Weroha
Rochester, Minnesota