

## The Rich History of the Alliance

In 2005, the Alliance celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. “Thelma J. Neff worked extraordinarily hard to make her shared vision a reality and was rewarded by becoming the first WAADA [Women’s Auxiliary to the American Dental Association] President in 1955.

She said, “We need a national auxiliary. Why? Strength of numbers and unity. We have a job to do in dental health education. A national organization would be a clearinghouse of ideas, help extend the aims of the dental profession of all organizations which seek the advancement of dental health and education.”

[Read more](#) in the November 2005 KEY issue on pages 18 – 22 about the birth of your national organization.



Appropriate attire for early 1960's annual session meeting (l to r) unknown, Bonnie Fitzgerald, Iola Smith, Dorothea Denault