



## INTRODUCING...

MARK ALDER, D.M.D. '80  
Alumni Outreach Committee Chair

### Where did you grow up?

In Portland's Raleigh Hills area. I'd like to say I didn't fall too far from the tree. I went to Beaverton High School, and on to Oregon State, and didn't even have to change my colors. I graduated with a bachelor of science in science.

### Why did you go to dental school?

I wanted to be a dentist because I was from a family of dentists, not because I couldn't think of anything else to do, but because I saw my dad [Ralph Alder, DMD '44, who died in 2007] come home from work happy. I also wanted to do something where I could help people and it seemed like dentistry was a great combo. [Dr. Alder is the cousin of immediate past president, Jim Alder, DMD '82].

### Where do you practice?

Beaverton, Ore. I'm in private practice.

### What do you hope for the OHSU School of Dentistry?

I would like to see the dental school continue its run as one of the best places to get a great education. The cost seems so huge compared to when I went to school that it's kind of hard to imagine. I think one of the best things the school has going for it is an alumni base that cares about students coming through the school behind them. Keeping alumni involved through events like the Phonathon, where they get the chance to financially give back to the school, Cantwell and Ryan golf and lectures, and the Dean's Gold circle, for example keep alums connected with the school. I also feel Jack Clinton [DMD '64, Dean] goes the extra mile to keep connected with alums and to let them know what is happening at the school, especially through these tough fiscal times.

### How do you spend your spare time?

I love to fish. I love the ocean on a morning with the sun coming up, guys in a boat telling each other stories, some of which are even true. I also enjoy gardening. My wife, Cathy, and I enjoy walking with our golden retriever and spending time at the coast. I also love music.