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## ADA President 1961-1962: John Reinhart Abel

American Dental Association

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*John R. Abel*

# John Reinhart Abel

## 1961-1962

Doctor Abel, of Los Angeles, became the ninety-eighth president of the Association at the 1961 meeting in Philadelphia. He presided over the 1962 meeting, the theme of which was "Better Dental Health in the Americas." Much of the program was simultaneously translated into Spanish and Portuguese for the benefit of the hundreds of Latin American dentists in attendance.

Doctor Abel, an orthodontist, was a member of the Board of Trustees for six years. He served many years as a member of the House of Delegates. He was president and treasurer of the Southern California State Dental Association, president of the Los Angeles Dental Society, and a director of the American Association of Orthodontists. Doctor Abel was an instructor at the University of California Extension Division. He was born in Wisconsin in 1906 and died in 1972.

Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr., in February 1962 became the first American to orbit the earth. French President Charles de Gaulle declared Algeria independent. President Kennedy revealed a Soviet military buildup in Cuba and ordered an air-sea blockade to stop shipment of offensive weapons to the island. Russia agreed to dismantle its missile bases in Cuba.