President’s Letter

Convention 2012

Greetings all!! Welcome to Kearney and the NOA Fall convention. We are excited to have you here and hope that you have a fun and valuable learning experience. I’m looking forward to seeing all of you and spending time with friends and meeting new attendees.

I want to give a special thanks to the para board members, Brook, Doug, Brandy, Joanie, Jill as well as Dr. Dracklich and Alissa for all their hard work and time they have put into this event. Throughout the year we have been planning and preparing for this weekend. We have some excellent speakers and classes lined up again this year. Be sure to take note throughout the convention of what you enjoyed and what improvements you feel can be made to make your experience better. The para board encourages your feedback so we can continue to provide entertaining and educational material for next year.

I would like to also thank the NOA staff, doctors and vendors for putting together a great layout for the convention. Many have volunteered their time to teach classes, donated door prizes and organized activities to make this convention special.

We encourage everyone to “like” the NOA Paraoptometric Section on Facebook. If you are already a Facebook fan you will be entered into a drawing for a special prize at the para luncheon. You still have time to “like” us before Saturday’s luncheon to be entered into the drawing. We will be posting more educational questions, fun trivia, pictures and other information on our facebook site that you won’t want to miss throughout the year.

Being on the Para Board has been a rewarding experience and I encourage you to consider running for a position. If you like to make friends, feel good about completing a project with others, or want to make a difference, we encourage you to join the team on the para board. It is an experience you will cherish for years. We are taking nominations for President-Elect and Treasurer. If you or someone you know is interested in running for either position, please contact one of the current or past para board members.

It’s been an honor to serve as your Para Board President, I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Warm Regards,

Rhonda Gregory
NOA PS President

Don’t miss the NFCV Auction in the Exhibit Hall on Friday, Sept. 21.

Come bid up your friends and colleagues - and cash in on some of your favorite things!
Para Spotlight: Brandy Saltzman, CPOA

Brandy Saltzman has been employed for six years with Magnuson Hopkins Eyecare PC, Larry Magnuson and Josh Hopkins. She works at the Front Desk/Billing and has her CPOA certification. Along with her current skills, she previously has worked at the local grocery store, as a medication aide and performed office work at a retirement home. Brandy enjoys working with the public and helping others. The most rewarding part about her job is satisfying the patients and making their day better.

Brandy is the NOA para board treasurer. She wanted to make a difference in the optical industry and felt that getting involved would help. The most rewarding part of being on the board is when she sees others at convention who are excited about learning new things and knowing that the board as a whole made that possible.

Brandy is married and has a daughter, Joselyn 3. She likes to be outside and loves to garage sale. She recently took up scrapbooking and is excited to do more. Her hidden talent is playing the flute, something she hopes to do again someday.

Jill Luebbert, CPOT, ABOC Elected as AOA Paraoptometric Section Council Secretary

Jill Luebbert, CPOT, ABOC of Eye Site in Fremont was elected as Secretary of the AOA Paraoptometric Section Council at Optometry’s Meeting in June.

Jill has previously served as Secretary, Chair-Elect and Chair of the AOA Para Section. We congratulate Jill and applaud her for her willingness to serve.

NEW 2012 AOA Marketplace Catalog

Marketing and practice growth materials

The new 2012 AOA Marketplace catalog has everything you need for a successful practice including brochures, forms, stationery, displays, coding resources, practice growth kits and more. Visit the www.aoa.org/onlinestore.

Stop by the NOA Superbooth to pick up a copy.

Visit the NOA Superbooth in the Exhibit Hall

Booths 7-9; 12-14

Learn more about your membership with the Nebraska Optometric Association at the NOA Superbooth featuring:

• Member Benefits
• Public Relations Efforts
• Membership Survey
• Third Party
• NOA PAC
• NFCV
• EyeCare Council
• NOA Para Section
Paraoptometric Certification Examination Schedule

The Commission on Paraoptometric Certification (CPC) has announced the schedule for the 2012 regional examinations as well as the potential dates and locations for the Certified Paraoptometric Technician (CPOT™) Practical Examination. The CPO™, CPOA™, CPOT™, and CPOC™ examinations are administered during an established two-week testing period four times yearly, Monday through Saturday excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by PSI, in addition to a paper/pencil administration annually conducted at Optometry's Meeting* in June.

Examination Dates
Application Deadline
Nov 3-17, 2012
Oct 12, 2012

Practical Exam Dates
Nov TBD 2012 in Wilmington, NC

Instructions for finding a PSI testing location
• To find a testing site, select this link www.ptcny.com/cbt/sites.htm
• Click on “Certification/Professional Associations” link
• Select the sponsor of the examination you are taking from list (AOA/CPC).
• Click on “Test Centers” under Information Links section on right.
• Select the sponsor of the examination again (AOA/CPC)
• Fill out the form to see up to 20 Testing Centers matching your specified criteria.

To see “Testing Software Demo”
• Go to http://www.psiexams.com
• Click on “Certification/Professional Associations” link
• Select the Sponsor of examination you are taking from list.
• Click on “Testing Software Demo” under Information Links section on right.
• Select “Software Demo” in the window.
• Press “Start Online Demo Test” button.

2012 Paraoptometric Certification Renewal Reminder

Attention all paraoptometrics: It’s not too early to start preparing to renew your paraoptometric certification. You are due to renew if you earned or renewed your certification in 2009 and have not yet advanced to the next certification level. The Commission on Paraoptometric Certification (CPC) is dedicated to helping you earn the required amount of continuing education (CE) credits to renew your certification on time. If you are due to renew in 2012, here’s what you need to know.

1. Eighteen hours of acceptable CE will be due.
   • You may submit CE from:
     - The CPC
     - Optometry’s Meeting*
     - The AOA Paraoptometric Section (PS)
     - The American Board of Opticianry (ABO)
     - The National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE)
     - The Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO)
     - The Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE)
     - The College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)
     - State optometric and paraoptometric meetings
     - Colleges of optometry
   • A maximum of four hours CE each for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and/or first aid will be accepted.
   • Additional CE credits may be issued at the CPC administrator’s discretion for eye care related activities.
   • Check with your state optometric or paraoptometric association for upcoming CE meetings.
   • For a list of approved classroom and online courses available on the AOA website, go to http://www.aoa.org/x18320.xml.
   • Visit the CPC on Facebook for more information.
   • Contact your industry representatives to see if their instructional visits have CPC approval.

2. All renewals are due Nov. 1, 2012 and the renewal fee is $90. A $25 late fee is imposed after Nov. 15, 2012.

Requests for a time extension to complete the requirements are acceptable. Requests must be received no later than Nov. 15, 2012.

Failing to renew by Dec. 31, 2012 will result in loss of your paraoptometric certification credential and you will be required to retest in order to regain your certification. No exceptions will be made. The CPC may grant a full or partial waiver of requirements under extenuating circumstances only. Documentation is required and must be submitted to the CPC administrator by the Nov. 1, 2012 renewal deadline.

Notify the CPC if you have moved, changed employers, or have updated your email address within the last three years.

If you have any questions about CPC renewal, send an email to cpc@aoa.org.

Need Help Studying for Your Para Certification Exam?
Attend one of the Review Sessions at Fall Convention.
• CPO Review - Jill Luebbert, ABO, CPOT
• CPOA Review - Dr. Joseph Shetler
• CPOT Review - Dr. Darren Wright
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By: Marisol Fernandez

As we students and families get ready for another school year, we have to take in consideration the fact that many children have not even received their first eye exam; furthermore many may be inadequately examined. According to the president of College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD), Dr. David A. Damari "We are well into the 21st century, yet we are still using benchmark from the 1800s to determine if a child can see well enough to learn. Standing 20 feet from an eye chart is not enough to adequately test children's vision." We also have to take into account that there is a critical link between vision and learning.

Enfermera de la escuela – school nurse
Hijo (a) – son, daughter
Bother - molestar

When was the last vision exam of your son/daughter? ¿Cuándo fue el último examen de visión de su hijo(a)?

How long has that been bothering you? ¿Cuánto tiempo le ha molestado eso?

Did you bring the paper that the school nurse gave you? ¿Trae el papel que le dio la enfermera de la escuela?

Can you read this? ¿Puedes leer esto?

Do you have frequent headaches? ¿Tiene dolores de cabeza frecuentemente?

Questions, Comments, & Concerns marisolfernande@unomaha.edu

Resources for Communicating with Hispanic Patients

Providing Patient Care to Non-English Speaking Hispanics

Did you know the majority of Hispanic patients you meet during your career are likely receiving their first comprehensive eye care through you for the very first time in their lives?

The United States is currently home to over 40 million Hispanics, and the population growth is expected to be four times that of the general population, a rate of more than 1.5 million annually*.

NEW “Communicating with Hispanic Patients” Booklet

To help with the growing demand for Hispanic patient care and marketing materials, the AOA’s Paraoptometric Section has developed a new booklet, “Communicating with Hispanic Patients” to assist with your non-English speaking Hispanic patient vision examinations.

- Each step of the vision examination is written in English and Spanish.
- Phonetic pronunciation is included to make communication easier.

For more Hispanic resources, go to http://aoa.org/x21707.xml
Pech Free Form

Pech Pro lenses are available in:

DIGITAL PROGRESSIVES

Pech Elite lenses are available in three categories:

ELITE SINGLE VISION

ELITE PERFORMANCE
(Task Specific)

DIGITAL PROGRESSIVES
Elite, Elite Advanced, Elite Ultimate

Contact customer service at 800-831-2352 for pricing and additional information!

PECH OPTICAL CORP.
Phone: 800-831-2352 • Fax: 800-227-3081 • Web: www.pechoptical.com
There’s More to 3D than Meets the Eye
Consider it a practice-building opportunity

There are three to nine million people in the U.S. with binocular vision problems. Viewing 3D TV and movies can help detect problems and open the door to treatment.

Trends Toward 3D

The 3D world of Hollywood, cable networks, television and gaming is more than exhilarating. It also can lend itself to increased 3D learning opportunities in the classroom, 3D-related employment opportunities, and improved reading skills. In fact, the trends toward this new 3D technology are hard to miss – except for the millions of Americans who literally can’t see it.

You can help your patients as well as boost your bottom line. Make sure your patients understand how 3D affects them, especially school-aged children. Ensure that your patients understand the 3Ds of the 3D viewing experience: If they experience dizziness, discomfort, or lack of depth, they should make an appointment immediately. To help you inform your patients about 3D and how it may affect them, the AOA has developed a new patient education resource, “The 3Ds of 3D Viewing.” To purchase and use this printed piece within your practice and community, visit www.aoa.org/onlinestore.

“3D in the Classroom” Report

Classrooms around the country are becoming increasingly high-tech, and teachers are incorporating 3D imaging, digital devices and the latest computer applications into their daily curriculum. While these devices can greatly enhance learning, they also increase the importance of proper eye and vision care. To address parental concerns, the AOA recently launched its “Ready for School” public relations campaign, which focuses on technology in the classroom and how it can impact students’ vision.

In fact, the AOA has published a new “3D in the Classroom” report available for download. Post cards will be distributed to school districts nationally this fall inviting teachers and staff to access the online report. “3D in the Classroom” is being underwritten by the Consumer Electronics Association, DLP ® Texas Instruments, and the AOA. To download a free copy of this report, go to http://www.3deyehealth.org/classroom.html.

3D technology can enhance the viewing experience. Although it is safe and does not cause damage to the eyes, good vision care can ensure the 3D experience is comfortable and effective. For more information on 3D vision, visit www.3deyehealth.org.

For additional information visit the AOA’s Web site at www.aoa.org. For more information about optometric vision therapy, visit the College of Optometrists in Vision Development Web site at www.covd.org.

Please close this browser window or use your back arrow button to return to the Teamwork newsletter.
NOA is Proud of All of Our Paraoptometric Section Members.  
Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

Mark Your Calendars  
2013 Fall Convention  
Sept. 27-29, 2013  
Younes Conference Center  
Kearney, NE

PARAOPTOMETRIC Recognition Week
Recognize the Best, Inspire the Rest  
September 16 – 22, 2012

To fill out the online evaluation, go to 
http://nebraska.aoa.org/fallconvention and click on 
“Convention Survey”