



Certified Opticians Association of Texas

The Opticians Association of America State Society 

March/April 2015 Newsletter

Editor: L. Harmon, V. Cheney

LET'S EAT
DRINK
AND BE
IRISH

Tuesday, March 17, 2015



HOYA

Sponsors a
One Hour Technical ABO Seminar

Hoya ID Lifestyle 2: An Easy Way to Select the Right PAL

Presented by
Catherine Satterfield

Selecting a progressive design for a patient is a daunting decision because there are so many lens options from which to choose. Even though consumers are more educated than ever about optical materials, largely due to manufacturers marketing directly to consumers through multi-media outlets, in our patients' eyes we are still the experts when it comes to eyewear. They expect us to select lens designs that will meet their visual and lifestyle needs. But it's difficult to stay up-to-date on all the progressive designs in the industry because managing patient care leaves little time for researching product information. This ABO course will provide you with a clear guideline for selecting the appropriate design best suited for the patient's needs.

Lens Vouchers to the First 25 People to Register Online!
www.coat.tv

Get Your Green On!

Meeting Details on Page 8



Lisa's Lines



Greetings and Salutations!

COAT kicked off the new year with a phenomenally successful January meeting. More than 100 people convened at Fratelli's Italian Ristorante and enjoyed a delectable dinner provided by Alcon. Everyone was held captive by ABO speaker, Valerie Manso of Eye Solutions. She educated us on the science behind blue light and the solutions available to our patients. The damage blue light causes to the health of our eyes is something every eye care professional needs to be knowledgeable about. Many thanks to Alcon, Sally Welch, Eye Solutions, and Valerie Manso for their partnership and support of COAT.

February 5-7, Vice President Mustafa Asif and I traveled to the Opticians Association of America's Leadership Conference in Las Vegas. The OAA wanted to give back to the state associations that have supported them, so they created a grant to help subsidize the expense of sending a Vice President to the leadership conference. We took advantage of the opportunity, enjoyed an excellent conference, and returned with many great ideas and plans. It was a pleasure reconnecting with colleagues and industry leaders from all over America.



One of the highlights was OAA Executive Director Chris Allen's announcement that COAT placed third in the VisionWeb Royalty program. We received a check in the amount of \$650.93. Being a competitive type, it was a little disappointing dropping to third after being first last year; however, it is the fuel to ignite the drive to promote this marvelous program. VisionWeb not only makes life easier for the eyecare professional, it earns COAT royalties every time an order is sent online. If you haven't done so, please be sure to click on the OAA royalty icon and select COAT today.



Join us March 17, 2015 for the next COAT meeting sponsored by Hoya, located at Dave and Buster's on Richmond Avenue. Lens vouchers will be awarded to the first 25 people that register online. There will be food, fun, and prizes, so register today. Remember to get your green on because it will be St. Patrick's Day.

Sightfully yours,

Lisa Harmon, ABOC, NCLEC
COAT President



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS



ABO accredited speaker, Valerie Manso of Eye Solutions, captivated attendees with an in depth presentation about the science behind blue light.



More than 100 people attended the January 20th meeting at Fratelli's Italian Ristorante.



Eye Solutions' Valerie Manso and Marsha Rathjen present winner Yolanda Mijares with a Blue Tech Lens Display.



Alcon's Sally Welch shares information about contact lens technology and upcoming product releases.



Here's one very pleased winner of a \$50 Amazon gift card.



A happy winner of a Blue Tech Lens Display!



Valerie Manso accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from COAT President Lisa Harmon.

Thank You!



Hoya has revolutionized optics for over 50 years. Our innovations go beyond eyeglass lenses.

HOYA lenses are onboard the Space Shuttle, in medical imaging devices, even inside today's most popular LCD TV panels and portable music players. We combine specialized processes in optical engineering with high-tech knowledge of advanced materials to bend and manipulate light more precisely than ever before possible.

We believe the science of optics can benefit mankind in new ways, and we endeavor to discover them all.



About the Speaker



Catherine Satterfield is a Territory Sales Manager for the Hoya Free Form Company.

With over 20 years in the optical industry, Catherine brings an expansive degree of knowledge, particularly in premium product sales.

As a graduate of the University of Minnesota - Neuroscience program, she also brings a diverse understanding of science and technology, helping to empower opticians through consulting and education. With a greater understanding of new technologies, opticians are empowered to differentiate themselves and their practice and guide patients through the ever changing optical landscape.

2015 Annual Membership Information



You are invited to join for the first time or renew your COAT Annual Membership for the low price of \$75. That equates to less than \$13 per meeting.

2015 Annual Membership includes six consecutive meetings (1-2 hours ABO and/or NCLE cec's), dinner, personalized name badge, annual membership certificate, and a bonus annual membership with the OAA (Opticians Association of America).

After January 31, 2015, the non-member meeting rate of \$25 (per meeting) will be in effect for the remainder of the year. For more information, visit www.coat.tv, call 713-890-2520 or email coatpresident@yahoo.com.

Turn in completed Annual Membership Form with Payment at the March 17th COAT meeting.

2015 Annual Membership Form

2015 Annual Membership Fees:
\$75 - January 1-31, 2015

Please print legibly.

- 2014 Member Renewal
- New Member

First Name

Last Name

Business

Home Address

Business Address

City, State, Zip Code

City, State, Zip Code

Personal Email

Work Email

Day Phone

Cell Phone

The price of annual membership is \$75 per calendar year (January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015). Payment may be made by check or money order, payable to COAT, P.O. Box 27630, Houston, TX 77227.

The Certified Opticians Association of Texas (COAT) is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization.

O.A.A. Leadership Conference



Leadership - a process of social influence in which a person can enlist the aid and support of others in the accomplishment of a common task.

That was the theme of the 2015 Opticians Association of America's Leadership Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada February 5-7, 2015. I, along with COAT President Lisa Harmon, had the opportunity to represent the Certified Opticians Association of Texas.



Ed De Gennaro, MEd, ABOM poses with COAT Vice President Mustafa Asif.

It was a fabulous experience interacting with the leaders of the optical profession; learning from their knowledge of the industry. This year's conference was attended by more than 180 leaders

from all over America. Corporate Partners were present to share innovative ideas about

business building, in addition to helping us better understand their products and services.

The most unique experience was what we learned in a variety of breakout sessions. These sessions helped us connect with other opticians who shared their knowledge and experiences. After each session, we realized that nearly every person had the same goals as opticians. Everyone expressed their gratification about the fact that as opticians "We love what we do".



As an optician, I have always believed that every day I help someone see better, look better and most of all feel better. We should promote a culture of professionalism along with care. Having a knowledgeable optician behind the fitting desk is an asset to society. That is why this year the Opticians Association of America introduced a new motto; OPTICIANS – Helping America See.

OPTICIANS



Helping America See

Mustafa Asif, ABOC
COAT Vice President

Mustafa Asif, ABOC
COAT Vice President



VisionWeb's

OAA Royalty Program

Streamline Your Practice and Support COAT!

By ordering ophthalmic products through VisionWeb, you can earn non-dues revenue for our state with the VisionWeb OAA Royalty Program. In addition to streamlining your practice through online ordering, every order you place will help our state association to earn royalties that will help fund membership building and practice enriching programs.

What's more, using VisionWeb to place your eye-care product orders online is FREE, and VisionWeb does not interfere with your supplier pricing relationships or buying group discounts, so you can continue to enjoy your discounts when you place your orders online through VisionWeb.

How Does the Program Work?

All OAA members who use VisionWeb are eligible to participate. To register, simply log in to www.visionweb.com and click the OAA Royalty Program registration button. Once you register, all orders placed by any member of your staff will count towards your practice's order total for the annual earning period, which runs from April - March each year.

Once your practice places 600 orders during the earning period, a 1% royalty is earned on the transaction fee paid by the 1200 suppliers with whom you order, approximately \$1 per order. Place orders during this time and we will increase the royalty percentage to 2%, place over 2,400 orders and we will increase the royalty percentage to 3%. Get Started Today!



COAT Treasurer Opening Nominations Accepted

If you are proficient in math and the type of person who knows exactly what your bank balance is, please consider volunteering for the COAT Treasurer position. Contact COAT President Lisa Harmon @ 832-483-4684 or coatpresident@yahoo.com. We need YOU!

A Fond Farewell

Aloha Everyone! As many of you know, my husband has been transferred to Maui, Hawaii and we are moving! I will miss all of the friends I have made over the years through the COAT organization. I could not ask for a better group of people to be affiliated with, and was so honored to serve a short time as Vice President. I am very proud of Lisa and all she has done for COAT through the years. The professional relationships I have made could not have been possible without COAT.



Hawaii is a licensed state and it will require my ABO and NCLE in order to renew my license there. You never know when you will need those crucial certifications, and I am so glad COAT enabled me to get the continuing education I needed to maintain them since 1990.

I extend a big thank you to everyone for their friendship and support on all my charitable endeavors in Mexico. I would love for you guys to keep in touch with me. Feel free to email me at ypahu2@sbcglobal.net or call/text me at 281-352-9263. And if you are planning a trip to Maui, PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL! I will be your unofficial tour guide.

My family lives in Texas, so I will be back for visits. I wish you all the best of luck in your optical careers! Aloha and Mahalo.

Nui Loa,

Suzanne Murdock, ABOC NCLEC



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ABO and NCLE Certification Renewal



All ABO and NCLE certifications are for three (3) years. Continuing education credits (CECs) must be earned within the three year certification period and may not be accumulated and carried over from one period to another. All CECs and renewal fees are due on or before your expiration date. If you fail to complete the requirements on time, you have a 4th year to complete them. During that year, your certification is suspended. This suspension year is not an extension, but will overlap into your next certification period.

Continuing Education Renewal Requirements:

- **ABO Certified:** Send in 12 ABO approved CECs (up to 3 may be NCLE approved) and the \$85 fee.
- **NCLE Certified:** Send in 18 NCLE approved CECs (up to 6 may be ABO approved) and the \$85 fee.
- **ABO and NCLE Certified:** Send in 21 CECs (9 ABO approved and 12 NCLE approved) plus the \$170 fee.

Acceptable Continuing Education Credit:

For ABO:

- Spectacle related courses approved by ABO with an assigned course number.
- Advanced certification prerequisite courses (ABO or NCLE).

For NCLE:

- Contact lens related courses approved by NCLE with an assigned course number.
- Advanced certification prerequisite courses (ABO or NCLE).

Contact lens related courses approved by NCLE with an assigned course number. Advanced certification prerequisite courses (ABO or NCLE).

Alternate Renewal Methods:

- **New ABO:** You may submit proof of maintaining a valid state license if the state has a satisfactory provision for continuing education.
- **New NCLE:** You may submit proof of maintaining a valid state license if the license entitles you to fit contact lenses and the state has a satisfactory provision for continuing education.
- **For Either:** You may also retake and pass the exam for re certification instead of earning CECs, but only in the third or suspension year of your certification. You may not sit for the exam at any other time during your certification.

Send CEC's and renewal fees to:

ABO/NCLE - 6506 Loisdale Rd., Suite 209, Springfield, VA 22150, and include name, address and certificate number.

Check certification status 24/7 on the ABO-NCLE website.
www.abo-ncle.org

RSVP by March 11, 2015
Register Online Today!
www.coat.tv/meetings.htm



2015 ABO-NCLE Exam Dates

The ABO & NCLE Board's vision, from the beginning of computer-delivered administrations of the exams, has always been to offer the exams more frequently than twice a year. As ABO & NCLE work toward continuous testing, ABO & NCLE is very excited to advise each of you that it is now able to offer the National Opticianry Competency and the Contact Lens Registry Exams four times per year, commencing with the August 16 through August 30, 2014 time period. Beginning June 15, 2014, online registration will be open all year long, with an applicant being able to select from the next two exam administrations. When a registration window closes for a particular examination, the candidate will then be able to select from the next two exam administrations.

The online registration process will restrict anyone who fails an examination from attempting to retake the exam(s) in the next regular exam administration period.

2015 Exam Dates and Deadlines

February 14-28, 2015 Exam; Regular registration ends 1/10/15; Late registration ends 1/17/15.

May 9-23, 2015 Exam; Regular registration ends 4/4/15; Late registration ends 4/11/15.

August 15-29, 2015 Exam; Regular registration ends 7/11/15; Late registration ends 7/18/15.

November 7-21, 2015 Exam; Regular registration ends 10/3/15; Late registration ends 10/10/15.

For more info visit www.abo-ncle.org.

2015 Advertising Sponsorship

Option 1: \$695 annual fee and includes:

- ☐ One-half page ad (7.5" x 4.5") in 6 consecutive newsletters
- ☐ Logo on website sponsor page linked to company website
- ☐ Logo on sidebar of five web pages
- ☐ Limited to the first three paid ads

Option 2: \$495 annual fee and includes:

- ☐ One-fourth page ad (3.5"x4.5") in 6 consecutive newsletters
- ☐ Logo on website sponsor page
- ☐ Logo on sidebar of five web pages

Option 3: \$295 annual fee and includes:

- ☐ Business card size ad (3.5"x2") in 6 consecutive newsletters
- ☐ Logo on website sponsor page
- ☐ Logo on sidebar of five web pages

For Info: 713-890-2520 or coatpresident@yahoo.com

Job Bank

***OPTICAL SALES ASSISTANT** -Optical experience preferred. but not required. Vibrant sales personality. Family owned optical boutique in the Rice Village area. Email your resume to MKolodny@sbcglobal.net or call 713-522-2007

***OPTICIAN**-Full-Time, Experienced, Organized, Responsible & Reliable Optician needed. Must be able to frame style, troubleshoot and have great sales techniques. Must be knowledgeable, friendly, up-beat and professional. Benefits include Competitive Salary, Health Insurance and Commission. No Saturdays. Please e-mail resume to srxo@aol.com, fax to 713-647-8298 or call 713-647-0900 and ask for Martin or Matt.

***OPTICIAN**-Upscale optometric boutique in Memorial Park/Heights area seeks an energetic, experienced full time Optician for frame styling, adjustments, scheduling appointments, insurance verifications and other front desk duties. Competitive pay rate and excellent bonus opportunities. Please email resume to eyeimpactouston@gmail.com, or fax to 832-319-7737.

***OPTICIAN** -UT Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, TX Be part of life-changing experiences! Now is the best time to join our clinical team at UT Southwestern Department of Ophthalmology in Dallas. This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced optician to assist our patients and clients by ordering, adapting, and fitting frames and lenses. In this key role, you will maintain the inventory level of glasses and frames for a range of styles and price points; design and adapt lenses and frames in accordance with written prescriptions and patients' visual requirements; recommend lenses for safety and efficiency; assist patients in selecting appropriate frames according to style and color; prepare work orders for grinding lenses and fabricating spectacles; verify exactness of finished spectacles; adjust frames and lens positions to fit patients by heating, shaping, or bending frames; instruct patients about the correct wear of and care for glasses; and maintain patients' optical records as well as inventory and bookkeeping records.
Job Requirements: Registered and/or certified by American Board of Opticians or Texas Department of Health with a minimum of two years related experience.
Company Overview: With over 20 physicians on staff, we offer state-of-the-art patient care in all subspecialty areas of Ophthalmology, in addition to complete refractive, optometric and optical services. As a high-volume clinic, we treat thousands of patients each year from all over the world, which allows for a unique opportunity for our staff to learn and grow within the department. As one of the premier academic medical centers in the world, UT Southwestern leads the way in patient care, research, and medical education. With 11 specialties earning national recognition from *U.S. News & World Report* for 2014-15, UT Southwestern is a dynamic institution in which to advance your career. Our eye clinic

employs a range of professionals, including: keratorefractive technicians, certified ophthalmic assistants, ophthalmic technicians, ophthalmic coordinators, medical office assistants, opticians, and others. We offer competitive salaries and work hours that are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Our excellent benefits include medical, dental, vision, and a retirement plan that begin the first day of employment. The environment is supportive and culturally diverse. UT Southwestern is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Response Information: Please send your resume to marvin.gomez@utsouthwestern.edu or apply online at jobs.UTSouthwestern.edu today.

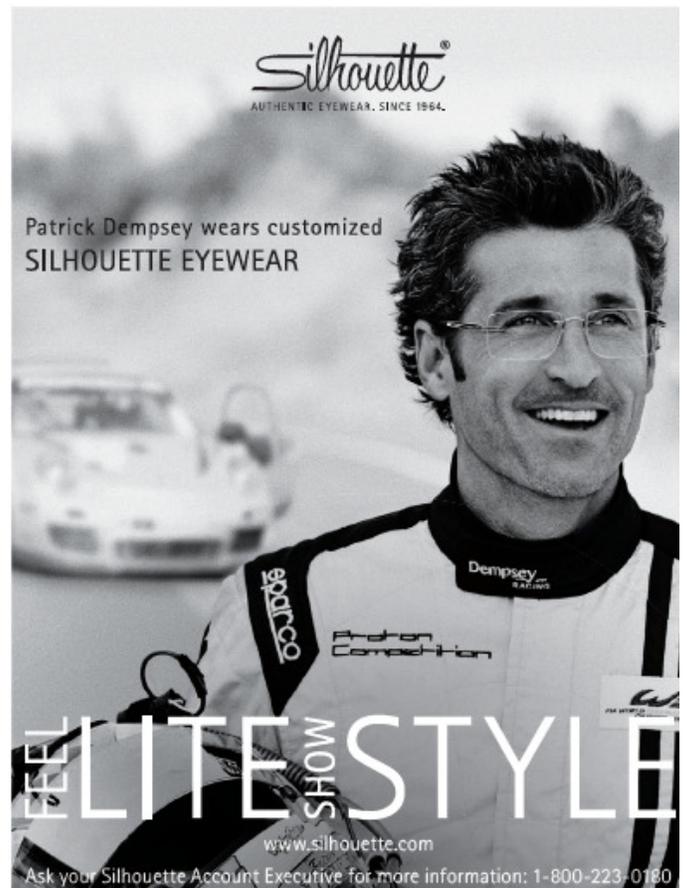
FEE SCHEDULE

50 words or less	- \$40
51-69 words	- \$50
70-85 words	- \$60
86-95 words	- \$70
96 and up	- \$80

Ads will be posted online for sixty days and in one bimonthly newsletter upon receipt of payment.

1. Email ad to coatsecretary@yahoo.com
2. Enclose a copy of the ad & check payable to COAT
3. Mail to COAT - P.O. Box 27630 - Houston, TX 77227

RSVP by March 11, 2015
Register Online Today!
www.coat.tv/meetings.htm





Certified Opticians Association of Texas
PO Box 27630
Houston, TX 77227

Mission Statement

Certified Opticians Association of Texas provides educational opportunities to certified and non-certified eye care providers, promoting opticianry as a Texas healthcare profession.

**LET'S EAT
DRINK
AND BE
IRISH**

GET YOUR GREEN ON
AND JOIN US!

Tuesday, March 17, 2015



HOYA

Sponsors a
One Hour Technical ABO Seminar

**Hoya ID Lifestyle 2:
An Easy Way to Select the Right PAL**

Presented by
Catherine Satterfield

Location: Dave and Buster's
6010 Richmond Avenue
Houston, TX 77057
713-952-2233

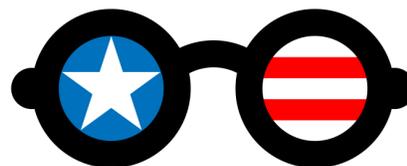


Registration: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Seminar: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Cost: 2015 Annual Membership Fee - \$75
Non-member meeting rate- \$25 Cash /checks only

RSVP by March 11, 2015
Register online on www.coat.tv
713-890-2520

Lens Vouchers to the First 25 People to Register Online!
Get Your Green On!

OPTICIANS



Helping America See

2015 Calendar

March

- 9-13 Kids Vision for Life Delivery-Good Neighbor Clinic
- 17 - COAT Meeting—Hoya Vision Care
- 23-27 Kids Vision for Life Delivery-Good Neighbor Clinic
- 30 -April 3 Kids Vision for Life Delivery-Good Neighbor Clinic

May

- 19- COAT Meeting - VSP

July

- 21- COAT Meeting - Zeiss

September

- 15 - COAT Meeting - Vision-Ease Lens

November

- 17- COAT Meeting - EyeCare Express Lab

2015 BOARD of DIRECTORS

- President:** Lisa Harmon, ABOC, NCLEC
- Vice President:** Mustafa Asif, ABOC
- Treasurer:** Austin Rath, ABOC
- Secretary:** Vikki Cheney, ABOC

