



American Academy of Optometry Section on Cornea & Contact Lenses

September 2007

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Wow! It's about a month away and the Academy annual meeting is upon us! It sure came fast, but we'll be ready. Our leadership has worked very hard to make this short year a booming success. We have fabulous programs scheduled, thanks to

Tim Edrington, our program chair and Doug Benoit. As Diplomate Award Chair, Loretta Szczotka-Flynn has worked diligently with her sub-chairs to get ready for a new class of incoming diplomates and candidates. The case reports came in and were graded on time (thank you Clarke Newman). Tests are updated and ready to go (Joel Silbert, Jenny Smythe, and Cristina Schnider). And Tim McMahon is prepared for potential oral examinations. All in time for our early meeting!

I hope you all made reservations and have registered for this fabulous meeting. I would like to personally invite all to come by the Cornea and Contact Lens Section suite for refreshments and good old fashion camaraderie.

We have a new position in our committee structure and I personally would like to welcome Des Fonn. Des will head up the committee on research diplomates. He has been working with Loretta as well as Barbara Fink to keep our research track up to date. Thank you all.

We have had good success with our Speakers Bureau, and Dave Hansen is doing a great job in keeping everyone informed on what a great pro-

gram it is for the schools of optometry and our fellow Diplomates.

There is terrific news from AOF. The Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses of the AAO has completed its endowment for a research fellowship. This was accomplished by the generous contributions of our section members. Thank you all who have participated and a special thank you to Peter Bergenske and Tim McMahon for championing this great fellowship that we can call our own. However, we still need to be aware that those contributions should keep on coming in order to keep up with the rising cost of research.

I am very excited that we might have our first Refractive Technologies Diplomate very soon. We have a few candidates that are working hard to accomplish this goal. Good Luck!!

As a reminder, everything is a day early this year: education, meetings, posters. Also I hope everyone will stay for the banquet on Saturday night. The good thing is that we all can go to the banquet and still travel home on Sunday.

Lastly, we are all saddened by the passing of Frank Fontana's beloved wife Dorris. Our hearts go out to Frank and his family. If you are making a contribution this year to AOF, a mention in honor of Dorris Fontana would be greatly appreciated.

See you in Tampa!

VICE CHAIR'S REMARKS (Ed Bennett)

I want to encourage everyone who is a member to become involved in the Section and, if not currently involved in the Diplomate process, to initiate this process. Please come visit our poster entitled: "How to Become a Diplomate in the Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses" in the

Exhibit Hall during all sessions as well as visit the website (aaopt.org) to learn the benefits and programs associated with membership. I'm sure any member of the leadership - who are all listed at the end of this newsletter - would be happy to assist you as would current Diplomates, all of whom are provided in the website. As a Diplomate you can assist with the educational programs provided at the Annual Meeting, be involved in the Diplomate testing process, as well as assist in the development of position papers. Currently we have position papers pertaining to children and contact lenses, monovision, orthokeratology, extended wear and healthy eyes (the latter three papers are currently under revision) as well as forthcoming position papers pertaining to presbyopia, ultraviolet-radiation, refractive technology and dry eye. If you are truly interested in being a leader in cornea and contact lens education as well as becoming a more educated and knowledgeable clinician or researcher, this is the right time to enter the Diplomate process.

SECRETARY REPORT **(Doug Benoit)**

The time for this years' Annual Academy Meeting is fast approaching. As a reminder, we not only are changing to the month of October, but the days of the week are also changing. The meeting will run from WEDNESDAY, October 24th through SATURDAY, October 27th. Section events will be moved up as a result of these changes. These events are listed at the end of this newsletter. As the Annual Meeting is moving up, the Academy Banquet will now be on SATURDAY evening. That means the Australia Party will be on Friday night. Please plan accordingly.

Diplomates in the news: Glenda Secor, Immediate Past-Chair of the Section, was named California OD of the Year. Clarke Newman, Case Reports Chair, was named Texas OD of the Year. Congratulations to both!

See you all in Tampa.

PROGRAMS **(Tim Edrington)**

This years' presentations should be very stimulating from an intellectual point of view. The ARVO/AAO Joint Symposium, sponsored by the Section on Cornea & Contact Lenses and the Public Health & Environmental Vision Section, entitled "Advances in Dry Eye Disease: Women, Nutrition, and Impact on Vision and Quality of Life" will be held on Thursday, October 25th, from 1:30 - 5:30 PM, in Room 13/14 of the Convention Center. This cutting edge seminar is a must for everyone! The Section Awards Program, to be followed by the Presentation "Kids and Contact Lenses", will be held on Friday, October 26th, from 2 - 4 PM, in Room 15/16 of the Convention Center. Please come and honor our award recipients.

DIPLOMATE AWARD CHAIR **(Loretta Szczołka-Flynn)**

This year we may have a bumper crop of new Diplomates! There are 8 Candidates who could be ready to sit for their Oral Examination in Tampa. Two of these potential Diplomates are from the new Refractive Technologies track, and the other 6 are in the Clinical track. There are also 3 Research track Candidates who may be taking their Oral Examinations this year.

There has been a big increase in case reports being turned in, and Case Reports Sub-Chair Clarke Newman has been very busy getting these cases reviewed and getting the results back to the Candidates.

All Candidates are encouraged to come to the Orientation Breakfast on Wednesday morning, 6:30 - 8:00 AM, in Florida Ballroom 1 - 3 at the Marriott. It is there that more detail about times and locations of the other parts of the testing process will be discussed. Also at the breakfast, every Candidate should sign up for a time to meet with Chair Steve Grant and myself, to review progress made and discuss any areas of concern.

DIPLOMATE RENEWAL (Rob Davis)

Diplomates in the Section on Cornea & Contact Lenses are required to renew their Diplomat status every five years. New Diplomates who received their Diploma in the third, fourth, or fifth year of the renewal period will be exempt from the renewal process until the next renewal period. During the five year term you need to acquire twenty-five points to successfully renew your Academy Diplomat status. This year the Section Executive Committee has reviewed the renewal process and has implemented changes in the points system. These points are acquired by attending the Annual Meeting of the Academy and attending lectures and/or scientific sessions; presenting lectures, scientific papers or posters; publishing articles, position papers or book chapters; participating in the Diplomat Awards program; or serving on the Section Executive Committee or the AAO Executive Council.

A copy of the form (and this letter) is located on our section's Web site at:
http://www.aaopt.org/section/cl/news/index.asp?record_id=77

The points you have acquired at this year's Annual Meeting of the Academy in Tampa should be tabulated and sent to me. Each of you should be congratulated for maintaining excellence in vision care and promoting the field of Optometry through education.

This year we are keeping track on the year you were inducted into the Corneal and Contact Lens Diplomat Section. Please e-mail me the year you were inducted.

My personal e-mail address is: eyemanage@msn.com. My office phone number is: 708-636-0600 and my Fax is 708-636-0606. Feel free to contact me to discuss any questions.

AWARDS COMMITTEE (Glenda Secor- Immediate Past Chair)

One of the nicest things any organization does is recognizing colleagues who have made contributions to our profession. We have the distinct honor to acknowledge those who have truly influenced the cornea and contact lens arena in exceptional ways. The Awards presentation will be held on Friday from 2 - 4 PM, in Room 15/16 of the Convention Center.

Our Founders' Award will be presented to both Perry Rosenthal, M.D. and Vistakon, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc., on the 20th anniversary of the introduction of its ACUVUE disposable contact lens.

Dr Perry Rosenthal is assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School and a recognized authority in the therapeutic and vision-rehabilitative use of contact lenses. Dr. Rosenthal led the breakthrough development of a new generation of gas permeable lenses known as The Boston Lens® that addressed corneal edema. The acquisition of his company by Bausch & Lomb in 1983 provided the means by which Dr. Rosenthal was able to pursue the development of his lenses and the founding of the nonprofit Boston Foundation for Sight.

The introduction of single-use disposable extended wear contact lenses into the global marketplace is viewed by many as a paradigm change to the contact lens field. It triggered a major increase in the number of patients wearing contact lenses. It quickly moved ACUVUE as the #1 contact lens brand in the world. All of the other major contact lens manufacturers jumped on the "bandwagon" to offer up their versions of disposable contact lenses, validating the new contact lens category. The industry has continued to expand the parameter base of contact lenses based on this original concept of disposability.

The Max Schapero Memorial Lecture will be presented by Oliver D. Schein, M.D. M.P.H. Dr Schein is the Burton E. Grossman Professor of Ophthalmology at The Wilmer Eye Institute (Johns Hopkins School of Medicine) and he has a joint appointment in the Department of Epidemiology at the Boonberg School of Public

Health. His research interests are directed toward the epidemiology of major ocular diseases including contact lens related microbial keratitis. Dr. Schein's clinical interests and expertise is the medical and surgical conditions of the anterior segment. He has published several landmark studies on contact lens related infections.

The awards presentation will be followed by a fascinating program on "Kids and Contact Lenses."

IN MEMORIAM

Optometry lost a great friend when Dorris Fontana passed away peacefully on July 23, 2007. She was known affectionately by hundreds of members of the ophthalmic community, both nationally and internationally.

She was the faithful and loving spouse of Dr. Frank Fontana (AKA Uncle Frank) of St. Louis, Missouri. She was and will remain the backbone and inspiration behind Frank's long career in vision care.

She will be missed by her friends, her family and especially by her husband Frank.

EVENT SCHEDULE IN TAMPA

DIPLOMATE EXAMINATIONS

Practical Examination:

Wednesday, October 24th: Noon - 5:00PM
(approx.)

Written Examination:

Thursday, October 25th:
8 - 10AM (Meeting Room 2, Marriott)

Slide Examination:

Thursday, October 25th:
10AM - Noon: (Meeting Room 2, Marriott)

RECEPTIONS

Past Chairs Reception:

Wednesday, October 24th: 6:00 - 7:00PM

Cornea & Contact Lens Section Reception

Friday, October 26th:

MEETINGS

Diplomate Candidate Orientation Breakfast:

Wednesday, October 24th: 6:30 - 8AM:

Florida Ballroom 1-3, Marriott

Cornea & Contact Lens Section Meeting

Saturday, October 27th: 7:00 - 8:00 AM

Meeting Room 7, Marriott

PROGRAMS

Thursday, October 25th 1:30 - 5:30PM:

Rooms 13/14, Convention Center: "Advances in Dry Eye Disease: Women, Nutrition, and Impact on Vision and Quality of Life"

Friday, October 26th 2 - 4 PM, Rooms 15/16, Convention Center

Founders Awards: Dr. Perry Rosenthal and Vistakon

Max Schapero Memorial Award :

Dr. Oliver M. Schein

"Kids and Contact Lenses"

American Academy of Optometry Cornea and Contact Lens Section Leadership

CHAIR

Steve Grant, OD
RX4U2C@aol.com

PAST CHAIR

Glenda Secor, OD
gbsod@aol.com

VICE CHAIR

Ed Bennett, OD, MSED
Ebennett@umsl.edu

SECRETARY

Doug Benoit, OD
kdbenoit@comcast.net

PROGRAM CHAIR

Tim Edrington, OD, MS
tedrington@scco.edu

TREASURER

Chris Snyder, OD, MS
csnyder.od@gmail.com

DIPLOMATE AWARD CHAIR

Loretta Szczotka-Flynn, OD, MS
Loretta.Szczotka@uhhs.com

CASE REPORTS

Clarke Newman, OD
cdnewman@earthlink.net

PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

Cristina Schnider, OD, MSc, MBA
cschnide@visus.jnj.com

CLINICAL/SLIDE EXAMINATION

Jenny Smythe, OD, MS
smythej@pacific.edu

WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Joel Silbert, OD
joel@pco.edu

ORAL EXAMINATION

Tim McMahan, OD
timomcma@uic.edu

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Dave Hansen, OD
dave.hansen@amo-inc.com

WEBMASTER

Sally Dillehay, OD, EdD
sally.dillehay@cibavision.com

RESIDENT TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

Harue Marsden, OD, MS
hmarsden@scco.edu

RENEWAL

Rob Davis, OD
eyemanage@aol.com

SPECIAL ADVISOR

Joe Barr, OD, MS
barr.2@osu.edu

BOARD OF DIRECTORS LIAISON

Joe Shovlin, OD
jpshovlin@gmail.com

AAO STAFF LIAISON

Helen Viksnins
helenv@aaoptom.org