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Cover Photo: Iridocorneal Endothelial Syndrome (ICE)  
Linda C Goings, CRA  
Kellogg Eye Center  
Slit Lamp

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2012 Newsletter Deadlines

First Quarter ....................................................... Jan 14, 2012
Second Quarter ................................................. Apr 1, 2012
Third Quarter ..................................................... Jul 1, 2012
Fourth Quarter .................................................. Sep 9, 2012
Newsletter/Membership

Letters to the editor: We welcome your letters. Please email them to the editor. Please include your name, email address and telephone number. Letters may be edited for clarity and space.

Membership: The Ophthalmic Photographers Society is open to anyone having an interest in any aspect of photography of the eye. The membership is comprised of photographers, physicians, ophthalmic technicians, and scientists. If you would like to apply for membership, go to the webpage http://www.opsweb.org/Membership/OpsMembApp.html and complete an application or contact the Membership office.

Article Submissions: Submit articles or ideas for feature stories or techniques to the Editor for review. The OPSnews newsletter would like to publish articles of interest to our members, "How to" articles, research projects of interest or general information on members.

OPS Image Library: This is your opportunity to see your work in print on the OPS web site, program covers, or other OPS publications as they evolve.

The purpose of the OPS image library is to make available contributing photographers’ work for use in OPS marketing material, publications, and the annual education program cover. By having images on file from a variety of our members, this library will provide a cross section of the various imaging techniques we perform, and highlight our individual talents as these images are published. This ready library will credit the photographer when material is used, and when possible, the author will be contacted in advance to confirm the use. There is no submission fee. The image library will be accessed through the OPS Marketing Committee, and will not be open to general public distribution.

Submissions may be on CD or DVDs, in TIFF, PNG, or JPEG formats. Files should contain the photographer's name and image title. This will facilitate contacting you if your work is selected for use.

Digital images may be sent to:
Alan Frohlichstein
Retinal Angiography Services
5633 Crain Street
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053
E-mail questions to Alan at: alanfroh@gmail.com

Annual Membership Fee of $90.00 Includes:

The Journal of Ophthalmic Photography. Published twice yearly by the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society, this peer-reviewed journal is dedicated to ophthalmic diagnostic imaging.

The OPS Newsletter. The OPS Newsletter is published electronically four times per year and keeps members informed of upcoming meetings, special events, certification news, employment opportunities, and short articles of interest to diagnostic photographers. Members are notified via email when a new issue is published, with a direct link to the new edition.

The OPS E-mail List. Limited to OPS members, this email list informs members of job opportunities, educational programs and other pertinent announcements before they are released to the general public. This list of email addresses is never sold or released for use by any organization or business other than the OPS.

Discounts. OPS members benefit from reduced certification program application fee.

Membership

If you are not an OPS member and would like to join, select "New Membership" on the OPS web page under membership. You will first be asked to enter your contact information as you would like it to appear in the OPS directory. Submission of this form will forward your information to the Membership Office, and you will be given the opportunity to submit your payment information. If you choose not to provide a credit card number at this time, you will be contacted by the OPS Membership Office to furnish that information by phone.

Historical Archives: The archives began over 20 years ago as a legacy project by one of the OPS founding fathers, Mr. Don Wong. The archives represent a permanent collection of newsletters, programs, board minutes and photos going back to 1969. If you have old photographs, past educational meeting items, OPS social event images and would like to contribute to the historical archives, please contact Denice Barsness, CRA, COMT, ROUB, FOPS at (415)-600-3937

Discounts
Editor’s Thoughts

“Time waits for no man”

There are so many changes these days with the OPS: a new website, easier online and onsite registration for meetings, the ability to print course handouts even before the annual program, new ways to renew membership, and many more small changes with the OPS coming online this year. The OPS is revitalizing the organization for its members and as you read in this issue, you will see several of the enhancements the leadership Boards are making to enrich the Society for years to come.

In this issue we look at how wonderful our room monitors are and the job they perform during the annual educational program. (page 6—7) And on page 8 we are introduced to the 2011 Fellows of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society. These special people have worked hard and served on many boards over the years for the society. Each year all the current Fellows vote to honor and include well deserving people into the fellowship.

The Mid-Year Educational Program will be in Chapel Hill, North Carolina June 9 - 10; Michael Kelly and Sarah Moyer have arranged for an all-star cast of speakers. Two full days of non-stop talks.

Johnny Justice has a fantastic book review of Dr. David Paton who is one of the founding members of the Project ORBIS, the eye airplane which goes to many undeveloped nations and provides free eye care for the people.

It is also very sad that we have lost another wonderful ophthalmic imager. Holly Harwood Skolkin, CRA. She always had a smile when you saw her at the meetings.

Until next time,
Bill

Do you have something to say about this issue or anything you would like to share with the Membership? Let us know at the OPSnews Newsletter.
The President’s Niche

Dear OPS member,

What a year 2011 was – a year of great loss but also of great accomplishment. It was a time of great changes and challenges, and I am proud of the way the OPS has adapted and grown.

Much of that evolution has been the growing presence of the new OPS website! In step with the rest of the technological world, our website is absolutely THE place to go to learn about OPS educational programs and events, conduct membership business, get the latest information about certification, and just be a part of our great and growing community of imagers!

In keeping with our identity as a fiscally responsible Society of volunteers, our current website was built as a collaboration of dedicated members who formed its foundation from our groundbreaking original website, and loaded as much as they could to facilitate our inaugural launch in July of last year. How the website has grown since then – expanded, updated, and evolved!

The YourMembership website framework was designed to easily facilitate updates of material, allowing our site to be current and flexible. And now we have a large web team, each sharing the responsibility of managing the expanded features you will find on the site. Each Board has increased the material related to their duties, and many OPS committees have expanded their offerings as well.

Besides the topics represented on the initial new website, check out these new features as well:

- **Member Blogs** - hosted by the Professional Development committee
- **AAO & ASCRS Exhibit winner slide shows** - brought to you by the Scientific Exhibit committee
- **SocialConnect** – Integration with Social Media sites such as Facebook and Twitter
- **Online Community** - Use the built-in directory search and messaging options to establish connections, network, and share files and links with your colleagues.
- **General membership forum** – OPS Boards and committees are using website forums as our primary mode of communication while conducting OPS business
- **Interest groups** – brought to you by YOU! Join an existing group, or start a new topic
- **Outside member opportunities** – check out these proposals and see if one interests you
- **Resources** – the Historical committee has provided an archive of user manuals for many imaging instruments and devices, and more Resources are on the way
- **Ophthalmic Photography information modules** – there are currently 34 and more to come!

If you have found this newsletter, you are already there!

Please take the time to acquaint yourself with all the new and expanded professional and social features it has to offer. Come often and make it your mission to discover all the delights waiting for you.

And the next time you have the chance, why not thank the amazing people who have made this all possible: Tim Bennett, Barbara McCalley, Kirsten Locke and the BOE, Sarah Moyer, Alexis Smith, Jen Thomson, Rachel Hollar, Jim Strong, Denice Barsness, Beth Ann Benetz and the BOC, Jeannine Poulton, and Bill Anderson.

Welcome to the truly “new and improved” OPS website – we hope you will make it your home for all things related to our profession and our Society.

As always,
Paula
**Room Monitors are the wheels that keep the Annual Educational Program Running Smoothly**

There are many reasons to attend the OPS Annual Program. It is a welcome opportunity to connect with old friends and colleagues as well as make new acquaintances from within our field. It is a chance to share experiences, ideas and information with our peers. We see and are inspired by the exceptional award winning images at the scientific exhibit. The AAO exhibit hall is a place to check out new equipment, connect with vendors and purchase equipment. We travel to various cities where we (hopefully) are able to take some time to enjoy some of the sights. By far the primary reason to attend the OPS Annual Program is for the vast array of excellent educational courses and workshops that are offered. Not only do these courses provide information that helps us perform our jobs and much needed continuing education credits for those that are certified, but they are the reason that ophthalmic practices are able to justify sending us to the Program.

The Annual Program would not happen if it were not for the hard work of many volunteers. Members of the Board of Directors oversee the management of our society and assure it adheres to its mission and bylaws. Members of the Board of Certification spend many hours preparing for and testing applicants for the CRA and OCT-C exam. The Board of Education members plan the program and work hard to make it happen. Last, but not least, the Room Monitors work at each course collecting course tickets and distributing the evaluation cards. For each course they receive their continuing education credit at no charge. It has been said that Room Monitors are not "volunteers" because they receive their credits for "free". These visible duties are only a part of the responsibilities of the Room Monitors and the time they give to the society. At every Program each Room Monitor must attend an hour-long orientation/training meeting. There are Room Monitors busy at work preparing the classrooms at least one hour before classes start and sometimes long after the classes end in preparation for the next day. They are required to work shifts at the volunteer table to make sure that the other monitors can make it to their classes in time to collect the tickets. During the classes and workshops the monitors are the eyes and ears of the Board of Education, helping to make sure the speakers are taken care of and the en-
vironment of the classrooms is satisfactory. The most important part of their job is being the "keepers" of the evaluation cards. In order for the OPS to provide courses where attendees can obtain continuing education credits the society needs to adhere to the strict rules of the certifying agencies that award the credits. If these rules are not followed explicitly, the OPS could lose the right to offer courses for credits. The Room Monitors must verify that each attendee has been in the course for at least 50 minutes out of 60. To do this they are obligated to stamp each evaluation card when an attendee arrives late or leaves early much to the chagrin of the attendee.

... So the next time you watch a room monitor run to the classroom you are waiting to enter; interrupt your after-class conversation to get your evaluation card or pull out the dreaded red stamp to mark that you arrived 5 minutes late to the class, give them a smile and thank them for the work they do for you and your society.

This year's 35 room monitors did an exemplary job of keeping the program on track amidst unexpected challenges. They performed their duties and at times went "above and beyond" to keep things moving smoothly.

Kirsten Locke, RN, CRA, BOE Chair gives directions to the next educational course in Orlando.

Special Thanks!
The 2011 Room Monitors were

New Membership Renewal Procedures

The OPS is experiencing many changes this year. One significant change is that the membership renewal notices will be sent to you by email and you will need to sign-in to the OPS website to submit the payment or print out an invoice. Now more than ever, it is important to have an email address listed with the OPS.

Also, with the change to our new web-based data management system, the membership renewal dates are now based on the date you paid/renewed your membership in 2011 (i.e. payment on 3/5/11 will now expire on 3/5/12). We no longer will be using the old membership renewal system of June 1 through May 31.

The process to renew is easy. You will need to sign-in to the OPS website using your email address as your username unless you have already established a different username. If you don’t remember your password, just click on “Forgot Password” and you can reset the password to one you can easily remember.

Once signed in to the website, the gray shaded box on the right side of the page contains your profile menu choices. Select “Membership Info”. On the Membership Info page there will be a statement that says “Securely renew now”. Clicking on that link will take you to the payment information screens. About half way down the page you will see two payment options – Bill Me or Credit Card.

If you wish to pay by credit card, you may submit your credit card information and your receipt will be sent to the email address you listed in the payment screen. After completing the credit card information you will be asked to confirm the amount you are paying.

Once the payment has been processed, your membership expiration date will automatically be updated in the system. Your credit card receipt is the only receipt you will receive.

If you or your employer wish to pay by check, please remit a copy of the invoice with your payment so that the payment will be credited to the appropriate open invoice.

If you do not have an email address listed with the Society, please contact Barbara McCalley in the OPS Central Office now with that information. It will be necessary to have an email address to receive the membership notifications and other email notices that are sent to OPS members.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Barbara in the OPS Central Office at 800-403-1677, or by email at ops@opsweb.org.

Please visit the OPS website soon to renew your membership:

www.opsweb.org
2011
OPS
Annual
Educational
Program
Orlando, Fl
2011 Fellows of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society

James Gilman, CRA is a Project Manager at John Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. He graduated from RIT with a BS in Biomedical Communications, and has been an OPS member for nearly 30 years. He served on both the BOE and BOD in the early and mid 90’s. Jim counts a one week mentoring session with Don Wong in 1983 as one of the highlights of his career. He is a published author in the JOP and Archives of Ophthalmology, and won the Don Wong Scientific Session award in 1993 and the ASCRS Video Award in 2004. He wrote, directed and produced the documentary, “Discovering Fluorescein Angiography” for the OPS 40th anniversary.

Alen R. Katz, CRA, COT, OCT-C has been an OPS member for over 13 years. He is a graduate of Arizona State with a BA in Photography. He has served the OPS most actively as a member of the BOC. He has been instrumental in developing the CRA mentoring program and played an active role in developing the OCT-C certification program. Formerly, Alen worked for the University of Nebraska in Omaha and is currently an Application Specialist for Heidelberg Engineering. He is a CRA section chair and has been the co-author of numerous papers in various ophthalmic journals. He considers the “Excellence in Education” award given to him by the technical staff at the University of Nebraska Medical Center one of the most meaningful awards he has received.

Michael P Kelly, is currently the Director at the Duke Eye Center Lab. He is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Photography and has been a member of the OPS for over 20 years. He has served on multiple committees, is a member of the BOE and sits on the Editorial Board of the JOP. Michael has participated in multiple OPS workshops and was the co-chairman for the OPS 25th Anniversary Educational Program in San Francisco. He has been published in the JOP and authored a chapter on Fluorescein Angiography in Howard Schatz’s book, Retina, Vol 2. He is the recipient of the Secretariat Award by the AAO in 2010 and Faculty Award for distinguished service by JCAHPO.

2011 OPS Fellows Group photograph. Each year the OPS fellows welcome the newest members with a group photograph at the annual educational program.
You don’t want to miss the OPS Mid-Year Program in beautiful Chapel Hill, NC. It will feature world-class speakers, vendor displays, a CRA exam and on Saturday night the much anticipated FIRST EVER OPS Home-Brew Reception featuring North Carolina-BBQ and a variety of home brews courtesy of our brew-master cousins. Top that off with a couple of Corn Hole competitions and it will be a night to remember! Lunch is provided each day from outstanding local restaurants. In your free time, plan to take a walk down famous Franklin Street with its myriad of stores, boutiques, restaurants of all sorts, coffee houses, bars, music venues and museums. Take an evening to explore the stars at the Morehead Planetarium which uses a massive and powerful Zeiss star projector -one of only a handful in the world. Speaking of Stars, our speakers are coming from all over the USA and as far away as Israel. Get ready to enjoy the show! Visit the OPS Mid-Year Program Page for more details:

http://www.opsweb.org/midyear

Michael P. Kelly, FOPS
Duke University Hospital
Duke Eye Center
2351 Erwin Road Box 3802
Wadsworth Building Room 209
Durham, NC USA 27710
919-684-3139

Sponsors
The OPS would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors, not only for their support, but for sharing their equipment and expertise during the program.

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Optos, Inc.
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Hotel Information
The Carolina Inn
211 Pittsboro Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 933-2001
www.carolinainn.com
Group Code: 257772
Rate: $155/night + tax
New and Varied Opportunities for OPS Members

In recent months, three different groups have approached the OPS with various opportunities for our members. In each case, participation would be absolutely voluntary, connection to each group made by individuals, not through the OPS. Because each opportunity is unique and of value, the Board of Directors is happy to share this information with our members, allowing individuals to proceed as their interest dictates.

Two opportunities provide an online venue for sharing non-copyrighted clinical ophthalmic images, and the third is an opportunity for free membership in a growing digital photography interest group.

The American Society of Retina Specialists, ASRS, has received funding to develop a free ASRS sponsored website, or image bank, where clinical images and cases can be shared in the ophthalmic community. Contributions to this bank may not be copyrighted, but would be fully credited to the imager, and their institution or place of employment. The intent is to create a self-sustaining program that will grow in stature and in content as the years progress. This site has not yet been launched so information on how to contact ASRS directly is still forthcoming. Check the OPS newsletter and the OPS website for future information. At some point, there may be a partnering of the OPS with ASRS in this endeavor.

RetinaGallery, is an independent free image sharing site that was created 18 months ago. It was developed to allow ophthalmic photographers, retina specialists, and allied personnel to share images of interesting cases online, and has 275 registered users, with 2000 visitors per week. Images may be shared by other RetinaGallery users, discussed in online forums, or stored for future presentations. RetinaGallery provides other features, including a new monthly Best Image Award. For more information about this opportunity, go to www.RetinaGallery.com

These two sites are completely independent of each other, but have similar missions, and that is to provide public access to high quality ophthalmic images.

The Digital Imaging Institute, DII, is an organization focused on providing education and training in the proper use of digital images outside the realm of diagnosis and treatment, and sharing knowledge between other imaging specialties in medicine. DII is offering free membership to any OPS member, for as long as they remain members of our Society. Members of DII have access to the many features on the DII interactive website, and receive the organization’s electronic magazine, Digital InSight, which addresses a broad spectrum of imaging topics in science, medicine, and research. To learn more about DII and their offer of free membership to OPS members, go to their website at www.digitalimaginginstitute.com

Again, participation in any of these opportunities is completely voluntary, but we encourage all OPS members to further investigate these groups and see what piques your interest!
OPS Board of Directors Sets Plans for the New Year

The OPS Board of Directors was busy the last week of January in Baltimore, Maryland going over the budget, website, annual meeting details and hundreds of other items necessary to keep the OPS running smooth during the year. Several board members came in a day early to work on the relaunch of the website rebuilding web pages. An added feature of the new website will be an archive of operating manuals for most ophthalmic imaging devices and instruments. Other discussions during the very intense budget session included ways to still provide quality service to the membership at an affordable cost in these troubled economic times. Due to the necessity of replacing outdated central office equipment and annual meeting projectors, and funding many other needed special projects, a very lean budget was approved for this year. The social connection additions to the website will help keep members up-to-date on Society news and provide a venue to connect with each other across the miles.

Stay tuned for many exciting changes in the coming months for the membership.

Finance Committee Meets in Cold and Snowy Chicago

The OPS Finance Committee braved a cold and snowy Chicago this past January to plan the 2012 budget for the coming year. Members were welcomed by hosts Alan and Diane Frohlichstein for the two sessions. The Finance Committee members look over all the requests for funding from the various OPS Boards and committees, and prepares a recommended budget for the BOD to review at their late January meeting. Despite shortfalls that will occur this year as we replace outdated equipment, the OPS is still in great financial shape due to the reserves that have been built in past years.

Members of the Finance Committee HARD at work on the OPS 2012 Budget. Jeff Sobel, CFO, Beth Ann Benetz, BOC Chair, Bob Cavicchi, BOE Finance Officer, Paula Morris, Pres of the OPS, William Anderson, Treasurer, Not Pictured, Alan Frohlichstein, Chair Finance Committee
I was honored to be asked by the members of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society to fill the vacancy left by the loss of Paul Montague; a man with such huge shoes to fill that I am overwhelmed still by the amount he did for our OPS.

I attended my first OPS board meeting in the end of January in Baltimore. It was a busy weekend, and I just want to let the society know how hard the board and our Executive Director work for the members. The agenda was full. Those of us who arrived early enough on Thursday went to savor crab cakes. We worked all day Friday on the new website. First we had an introduction to the website. Then we broke into teams to fill in information on the “back end” to fill in some gaps we had identified.

This helped all of us feel more comfortable with the new website layout and see how easy it is to access information for the members! We went to a steak place for dinner, with the slowest service you can imagine…

Saturday, we went over officers’ reports, Board of Education and Board of Certification reports. With “old business” following these reports, it was decided to tackle the budget before talking about the “new business” which had been scheduled for discussion before the budget. Every line item was dissected in detail, and when there was “history” attached to that item, it was explained to me, so I would be able to make an informed decision. The budget discussion was tabled at 7pm, and we were still not finished! Everyone piled into the hotel van, glad to be out of the meeting room… We had Tex Mex for dinner, and I enjoyed spending time getting to know some board members better during that time. Just before and after dinner, we sampled Tim’s home brews! I really liked his dark beer and the Mexican brew with hot pepper and lime… Madam prez, “Paula Girl” modeled the jugs…

Sunday morning, fueled by the hotel breakfast (and the scariest bacon you have ever tried), bright and early, we tackled the budget once again. Some of the decisions were easy to make and just made sense. Others were tough, with much discussion. We finished the budget discussion finally and decided to continue through to new business, so people could make their flights home in time. Everyone left with their list of TO DO items…

Each person gave their all in time, energy and knowledge throughout the weekend. The Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society is lucky to have such a great team! I am honored to be a part of it! There are so many opportunities to volunteer with the society, and such great fellow members with whom to work. The new website was chosen for its great potential, which is just being tapped! Please explore it! Post your pictures! Join an interest group! Have fun!

Thanks
Libba
Elizabeth Look Affel
MS, OCT-C
The OPS Chicago Chapter and SOMAC, the Society of Ophthalmic Medical Assistants in Chicago, held a joint meeting January 11th, 2012, at Triton College. The title of the course was "The Use of the Heidelberg Spectralis for the Documentation of Retinal Pathology." The course was presented by Tim Steffens, CRA, Manager of Field Application Support for Heidelberg Engineering. Steve Eastman, Greater Chicago Area Sales Consultant at Heidelberg, provided a Spectralis OCT for demonstration and hands on experience. Debra Baker, MA, COMT, Program Director of the Ophthalmic Technician Program at Triton College, coordinated the meeting rooms and equipment use for the course. Diane Frohlichstein, BS, COMT, Director of SOMAC, coordinated all details for obtaining continuing education credit for OPS and SOMAC.

Tim’s presentation covered the history and theory of OCT, a brief comparison of the available technologies, and various approaches to pathology, and matching the appropriate diagnostic mode. Tim further expanded on detailed scan modalities, patient induced artifacts, and specific settings on the instrument beyond standard scan modalities.

This course covered documentation of Macular Degeneration, Diabetic Retinopathy, Choroidal Neovascularization, Macular Edema, Pigment Epithelial Detachment and Central Serous Chorioretinopathy. Images of retinal pathology, and the modalities used to acquire them were presented, including OCT, Autofluorescence, Fluorescein Angiography, and Indocyanine Green Angiography. Following the didactic session, a demonstration of the instrument was given, with an opportunity for attendees to gain some hands on experience with the instrument.

The course was approved for 2 hours of OPS and JCAHPO credit. The program had an attendance of 35 participants.

My thanks to Tim Steffens, Steve Eastman, Debra Baker, and Diane Frohlichstein for making this program a tremendous success.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Frohlichstein, BFA, BS, CRA, FOPS
President, OPS Chicago Chapter
DON'T JUST MAXIMIZE YOUR WINDOWS—GO FULL SCREEN

When you need a really big window for viewing photos and videos, don't just maximize it: go full screen! This tip works great for viewing photos and videos at maximum size in Windows Explorer or Windows Media Player, utilizing screen space usually occupied by the header at the top of the screen and the taskbar at the bottom. Here's how:

Open any photo in Windows Explorer, or open a photo or video clip in Windows Media Player. Do one of the following:

In Windows 7 and Windows XP, click the F11 key at the top of your keyboard.

The photo or video image enlarges to its maximum size and the title bar and taskbar are hidden.

To undo full-screen mode and restore the window to its normal view, press the Esc (Escape) key at the top of your keyboard.

Tip from Microsoft at Home

Switch to a projector

Windows 7 now provides a standard way to switch your display from one monitor to another, or a projector - just press Win+P or run DisplaySwitch.exe and choose your preferred display. (This will have no effect if you've only one display connected.)

TechRadar

Calibrate your screen

The colors you see on your screen will vary depending on your monitor, graphics cards settings, lighting and more, yet most people use the same default Windows colour profile. And that means a digital photo you think looks perfect might appear very poor to everybody else. Fortunately Windows 7 now provides a Display Colour Calibration Wizard that helps you properly set up your brightness, contrast and colour settings, and a ClearType tuner to ensure text is crisp and sharp. Click Start, type DCCW and press Enter to give it a try.

TechRadar
Certified Retinal Angiographers who were certified or recertified in 2009, this is the third (2010-2012) and final year that your certification remains valid. Recertification postcards outlining the 2012 recertification requirements will be mailed in February of 2012. The OPS-BOC certification website includes detailed instructions concerning the Continuing Education Credits, current CPR requirements, and current Recertification fees.

You must visit the Recertification Page on the OPS Website: http://www.opsweb.org/Certif/Recert.html and PRINT your Application and Instructions. No application will be mailed.

Please review your membership status (dues payment) with the membership office prior to mailing in your completed application. The OPS membership office may be reached at 1-800-403-1677.

Please check that your OPS mailing address is correct. The BOC sends mail to the home address. If you do not receive a 2012 recertification postcard and your certification is to expire, please contact the BOC. Our goal is 100% recertification. Do not wait until December 31, 2012 to address your recertification concerns. Certification is important and may someday be mandatory.

If I may be of any assistance, please call or write to the Chairman CRA Recertification.

Phone: 216-844-3615

Peter Hay,
Chairman,
Recertification Section
UHCMC
11100 Euclid Ave, WRN 644
Cleveland, OH 44106

The Board of Certification - Recertification Section would like to recognize and congratulate the following individuals for an outstanding 2011 recertification effort. The individuals listed have shown a deep commitment to their continued education and have submitted twice as many CEC hours for their recertification documentation.

The BOC is proud of all the CRAs who work to maintain their certification and to those who have recertified at twice the number of CECs required; OUTSTANDING!

Peter Hay, CRA, FOPS

Timothy Bennett, FOPS, CRA
Sheila Bousson, CRA
Craig Bridges, CRA
Denise Cunningham, FOPS, CRA
Cyrie Fry, CRA
James Gilman, CRA, FOPS
Charles Hamm, CRA
Mohammad Harb, CRA
Jean Holm, CRA
Deborah Kanduch, CRA
Karen Klima, CRA
A. Kathy Konkel, CRA
Anda Krist, CRA
Honey Marsh, CRA
Gary Miller, CRA
Robert Prusak, CRA
Sherrie Reed, CRA
Catherine Shaffer, CRA
Alexis Smith, CRA
Timothy Steffens, CRA
James Thomas, CRA
Timothy Tivnan, CRA
Cynthia Vandenhoven, CRA
Robert Yerrington, CRA

2011 OUTSTANDING RECERTIFICATION
Meet Your OPS Members:

Joe Territo

Take him out to the ballgame, literally! When he’s not busy behind the lens at Retina Associates of Western New York, you can find Joe Territo somewhere in or near the dugout. He’s passionate about baseball, and in fact, collects antique baseball paraphernalia. He plays third baseman for the Rochester’s Baseball Club and says at his age, that makes him vintage as well! This club was founded in 1870 and follows the model of playing barehanded (and you thought handling anxious patients was tough...) His club has also had the privilege of being invited to play exhibition matches on the grounds of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY and at the historic Doubleday Field.

Joe got his training at the RIT in their Applied Industrial Studies Department. With his degree in Mechanical Drafting and Design perhaps he will be the next fundus camera designer on the scene. In years gone by he was a surgical technician in the local hospital where he got his first exposure to ophthalmology assisting in scleral buckling procedures. His proximity to one of the radiologists led to conversations regarding his hockey photography and from there he branched out into weddings, sports photography and owning his own studio. His work in the OR eventually led him to a position as an ophthalmic imager in a local ophthalmic diagnostic center.

As for his career in Ophthalmic Imaging, Joe says “I have been an ophthalmic imager for over twenty years. If my memory serves me, on my first day of training, my mentor, friend and long time OPS member David Welker, suggested I join the OPS. It was probably the most important bit of advice he gave me - career wise” He’s also a consultant in ophthalmic photography and adjunct faculty at RIT for their Biomedical Communications Department. No doubt some of our RIT alumni have worked with Joe before.

In his “spare” time, he plays dad to Nick (24) and Stephanie (22) with occasional date nights with wife Kim. Home is Rochester, New York ( might explain those trips to RIT! ) where he is also a member of the American Baseball Re-
I am one of those ophthalmic photographers who entered this field from another career path. My bachelor’s degree is in design with a major in product design, though with a strong grounding in photography. As with many of my colleagues, photography, now imaging, is something of a passion as well as the way I make a living.

However, the product designer side of me has not been idle. Boats represent an area which has caught my interest. Building them offered both a creative outlet and a recreational pursuit. I have made four canoes from plywood, two sea kayaks (one still under construction) and a strip built canoe. Having had to make room for the fleet, I built a “boat file” onto my garage. It has rolling frames which let me access whichever vessel is needed.

The rivers and lakes of the upper midwest provide diverse opportunities for paddling adventures. There is everything from rivers or ponds, to white water, to ocean scale reaches on the Great Lakes.

The tandem sea kayak to my left has carried my wife and I safely out into Lakes Superior and Michigan. As with flying, take offs and landings are the hardest part. Near shore surf can broach you and roll you in an instant.

I use the canoes on smaller waters; however, they can become quite tricky in their own right. Downed trees are unexpected and always at the worst possible point. Rivers in narrow valleys can build quickly from a sudden rain, forming standing waves within usually easy riffles. It’s very sobering to glide over the hull of someone else’s canoe submerged around a rock on a remote section of river. But hey, it beats work, even our kind of work.
Second Sight: Views From an Eye Doctor's Odyssey

Book Review by Johnny Justice, Jr.

Second Sight is a wonderful story of the life of an amazing eye doctor, David Paton, who followed his famous physician father into medicine, and then like, his dad, on into ophthalmology. After rising to a full-time faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Wilmer Eye Institute he pieced together a global odyssey that led to the founding of ORBIS, a "flying hospital", that would provide doctors diagnosing, treating and performing surgeries on people with diseased eyes in a world class mobile facility (a DC-8)n that was designed to teach and thus serve thousands in Third World countries.

Capitalizing on a privileged upbringing, he and his family enjoyed their happiness but also experienced tragedy at times, including the loss of a beloved sister to a horrible accident. His dedication to his career hurt his first two marriages. All of the ups and downs of his personal life are honestly described in this beautifully written book.

At the end of the book, Dr. Paton explains being bored with writing about himself, there is an essay about his evolutionary relationship to Dr. Charles Kelman, the inventor of phacoemulsification, a technique that revolutionized cataract surgery. Paton and Kelman were two very different men of the same age, differently dedicated to their medical specialty. Kelman becomes one of the greats of medical history. This "PS" added to the book may be Kelman's most memorable eulogy, written by his former harsh opponent.

Finally this was the best autobiography that I have read in years and I highly recommend it to everyone.

“Imagine a man confined to a hut, living in horrendous poverty with no means to take care of himself nor provide payment for his daily food. Then one day, a quick operation takes place and he regains normal sight. He cries wonder-filled tears. Now imagine the effect on the surgeon able to enlighten the lives of thousands of other people. Then imagine how it might feel if such a doctor’s imagination led to restoration of eyesight to millions of people. That’s fee-free professional ecstasy. Let me tell you the whole “selfish” odyssey that has brought the kind of success that reaches beyond anyone’s wildest dreams.” -The author
This is a short version of how Johnny Justice, Jr. happened to blossom. Unlike the start of my own extensively advantaged past, Johnny’s remarkable career arose from the basic initiative to survive in a North Carolina orphanage and then with a persistent determination to improve his lot from the ground level of an uninspiring high school education. He could have leveled off at that point, leading a life of mediocrity commensurate with a lack of privileged opportunity. Two components of his makeup account for what was to follow: A healthy ambition from unwillingness to accept the status quo; and a susceptibility to the influence of three key doctors, J. Donald M. Gass, Edward W. D. Norton, and J. Lawton Smith. Any doctor under the leadership of only one of those individuals could not fail to feel that doctor’s influence; but so far as I know, Johnny Justice was the only self-appointed non-professional disciple of all three of those mentors – each of whom, in turn, valued and respected his contributions immensely. It was a productive, mutually appreciated two-way street.

Indeed, Johnny’s luck was not just from a path that crossed with certain outstanding doctors but from having the humility and eagerness to adapt these academicians as his teachers. Whereas I can attribute numerous discrepant advantages accounting for the progression of my own career, Johnny’s career path was as pure as any clinical investigator could hope to find in seeking proof for the hypothesis that ambition plus “mentor appreciation” constitute the most powerful combination of ingredients for successful careers in any specialty. We academic physicians have a lot to be thankful to Johnny Justice for, and it is not just the breakthroughs he helped to create.

David Paton MD
Holly Harwood Skolkin, CRA 1952-2012

With a grieving heart I announce the recent passing of our fellow colleague and past BOD member, Holly Harwood Skolkin. Surrounded by friends and family she peacefully succumbed to her long struggle with cancer on February 10.

Following college graduation in 1974 with a degree in photojournalism, she began a distinguished career in medical photography. Holly worked in the Ophthalmology Department at the University of Texas-Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, and Emory University where she won numerous awards for her slit lamp photography.

She served as a BOD member from 1991-1994 as well as working tirelessly on numerous committees throughout the years. Together she and I were anointed the de facto Historical Committee by none other than the late great Don Wong in 1987.

Many of us will remember Holly as an effervescent pistol of a Texas Gal, barely 5 feet tall and packing a heart 6 feet wide while we will forever conjure up her big hair and infectious spirit, most in the OPS have not been privy to the more private side of Holly and her many charitable works. She gave up her professional aspirations to become the devoted mother to daughter Dayna and son Emory. In addition to raising her family she gave tirelessly of her time to her many mitzvah projects, including The River and Aishel House, two organizations for which she was a founding member. She was extremely proud of making her adult Bat Mitzvah.

Her spirituality and optimistic attitude helped her battle stage 4 breast cancer for nearly 15 years. She was a role model, companion, and confidante for numerous cancer patients and their loved ones. It was often a difficult journey, one that inspired the creation of the Rose Ribbon project for families dealing with cancer. This project will now bear her name. She deeply believed that in doing good works good things would come to her as indeed they did, giving her the years to see her young children grow into loving and compassionate young adults.

To her friends, Holly will be remembered for her wicked sense of humor, her riotous spirit and compassionate heart. To me, she was the truest of friends. There are no words for me today in expressing my grief and I share this with you, my OPS family.

She was proud to be a member of the OPS and in the last year of her life, despite her illness, it was extremely important to her to preserve her CRA.

Those who wish to make a memorial contribution are encouraged to support the Aishel House, Rose Ribbon Foundation, Congregation Beth Yeshurun, or the Friends of Nursing at St. Lukes Episcopal Hospital.

To my friend I say L’Hitraot. Rest peacefully, Holly Dolly, and know that we will miss you. The love you made WAS so much more than the love you took..

Submitted by Denice Barsness, CRA, FOPS, COMT, ROUB
Emery Billings, CRA, FOPS Honored by University of Maryland

As a wonderful expression of respect and appreciation, University Eye Care at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, has dedicated their Ophthalmic Photography Suite in the name of Emery S. Billings, CRA, FOPS.

Emery, who served the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society as the first Chair of the Board of Education, and also served on the Board of Certification and for many years as a treasured slit lamp photography, and specular photomicrography instructor, passed away in November, 2010.

Keith Addicks, Director of Photography at University Eye Care, attended the June 23rd dedication ceremony and said, “It was a wonderful celebration of Emery’s life. His family and a good part of our staff attended a Chinese luncheon, which Emery would have approved of. Lots of great memories were shared as we dedicated the photography suite to him. He is greatly missed. He was a great friend and mentor to me.”

Emery was a great friend and mentor to many ophthalmic imagers. A large “thank you” goes to those at the University of Maryland who recognize the contributions of this wonderful gentleman and have chosen to honor him in this special way.

In Memory
Noble J. David, MD

Noble J. David, MD, one of the early pioneers in the use of fluorescein angiography and an Honorary Life Member of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society, passed away on November 30, 2011 in Rotterdam, Holland at the age of 83.

Dr. David’s contributions to the early days of ophthalmic imaging are recounted in two articles on the history of fluorescein angiography and indocyanine green angiography. Dr. David is also featured in the documentary film, Discovering Fluorescein Angiography.


In Memory
William Ludwick, FOPS.

Bill was a valued and respected member of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society for many years. He was elected a Fellow of the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society (FOPS) in 1978, in recognition of the many contributions he made in the early years of the Society.