**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. If you would like to apply for membership, go to the webpage [www.opsweb.org](http://www.opsweb.org) and click on “JOIN OPS” in the upper right corner about the sign-in box to complete an application, or contact the membership Office at 800-403-1677.

**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.

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

**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.

**Annual Membership Fee of $90.00 Includes:**

If you are not an OPS member and would like to join, click on “Join OPS” in the upper right corner above the sign-in box on the OPS website ([www.opsweb.org](http://www.opsweb.org)). You will be asked to set up a username and password before completing the membership application. You will have the option to pay the membership fee securely online with a credit card, or select “Bill Me” to create an invoice which you may print out and send the payment by check to the OPS Membership Office. Membership applications will not be approved until the membership fee is paid.

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Barbara Klemenc, a Slovenian Visionary

While perusing my copy of yet another exceptional edition of the Journal of Ophthalmic Photography (JOP), I came across the Photo Essay section and was “blown away” with the extraordinary vision that Barbara Klemenc of Slovenia demonstrated in finding everyday images that revealed remarkable likenesses to selected ophthalmic images from her collection. (Go to pages, 36-37, Spring 2013, Vol. 35, of the JOP).

Barbara’s talent came to light when her submitted image of a “waterfall” leakage pattern from a ruptured retinal arterial macroaneurysm and an image of a real waterfall were judged by the OPS’s own Chris Barry, CRA, FOPS and Ditte Hess, CRA, FOPS. It was at the ICOP meeting in Oxford, U.K. in September 2011. At that meeting, Chris Barry, our all-time best editor of the (JOP) invited Barbara to submit other examples of her art for possible publication in an upcoming issue. In my view and that of others, her ophthalmic images confirm that Barbara is a world class ophthalmic photographer and that she is indeed a visionary.

Waterfall

Not knowing exactly what she wanted to become she decided to enroll for fashion school but the exams didn't go well so she signed up for the photography course. Barbara finished with the best grades and later she attended a school for portrait and landscape photography in England where she became enthusiastic about black and white photography.

Waterfall

After completing another course in photography, Barbara’s father, a dentistry professor at University Medical Center, Ljubljana, told her of a job opening for a medical photographer in the Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental department. She volunteered, and after a few months she was hired full time. Sadly as the years went by there was no plan for advancing into digital imaging so she resigned to seek a job in photography elsewhere. During this time she also worked Friday nights in a bar as a disc jockey where she met Emil. Emil and Barbara now have two children, a seven year old son, Filip and a three year old daughter, Lote.
When Dr. Peter Dovsak, the Director of the Eye Clinic Ljubljana, heard of her resignation he called and offered her a position in ophthalmology so in the year 2000, Barbara Klemenc became the first medical photographer in Slovenia to actually have a full time job in ophthalmology. At that time, the term ophthalmic photography was not and still is not officially recognized by the Slovenian government.

The doctors in the Eye Clinic taught her how to use the instruments but, like most of us, she improved her own techniques with practice and experimentation. She also made good use of the internet and gleaned important information from the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society website, www.opsweb.org and from other sources.

During her thirteen years at the Eye Clinic Ljubljana, Barbara has trained three other medical photographers in our specialty, including Darko Perovsek and Mitja Pipan. Nurse/photographer, Jernej Levstek “held down the fort” whilst the Slovenian three were at the ICOP UK meeting.

I am hoping that the international exposure and acceptance by her ophthalmic photography colleagues will help convince the public sector officials in Slovenia that ophthalmic photography is for the most part an internationally accepted profession and that they then will determine that it should officially exist in Slovenia.

In a telling commentary Professor CsabaL. Martonyi, CRA, FOPS said of Barbara Klemenc’s photo essay, “Your evaluation is right on the mark. This young lady is an excellent ophthalmic photographer with a marvelous imagination and apparent love of artistic connections. Her inventive presentation serves to encourage us to see the eye and the world in a different light: to look beyond the obvious. This is artistic ophthalmic photography in overdrive. It fires the imagination and stimulates a more intimate affair with what we do.” Need I say more?

Respectfully submitted,
Professor Johnny Justice, Jr., CRA, FOPS

To view more of Barbara’s ophthalmic images and adjacent general photos copy the below link and paste into your browser window .

Google Slovenia to see spectacular images of their beautiful country. Click on: Images.

https://plus.google.com/u/0/photos/101609579410579929317/albums/5672980809840631793
OPS ENDOWMENT FUND
RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The OPS Endowment Fund was established to provide funding for philanthropic activities such as the JJJ Scholarship. One way we raise money for the Endowment Fund is to hold a raffle at the Annual Education Program. Prizes for the raffle are usually donated by the vendors who support our educational programs. Anyone may purchase a raffle ticket for the raffle, even if you will not be attending the annual program. Winners not in attendance will be notified after the annual program. Here is a raffle ticket you may use to enter the raffle. Just complete your contact information, and mail the ticket along with your contribution to the OPS Membership Office, 1887 W. Ranch Rd, Nixa, MO 65714 USA. Raffle tickets may also be purchased through the Online Store on the OPS website (www.opsweb.org).

RAFFLE TICKET
OPS Endowment Fund

Name________________________________________
Address______________________________________
City, State,
Zip__________________________________________
Country______________________________________
Telephone____________________________________

Suggested donation $10.00 per ticket (payable to OPS). Photocopies of raffle ticket are accepted. Mail donation and raffle ticket(s) to the OPS Membership Office, 1887 W. Ranch Rd, Nixa, MO 65714.

44th Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society Annual Educational Program
New Orleans, LA

InterContinental of New Orleans
November 15—19, 2013
(Washington, D.C. – Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012) The U.S. Department of Education announced today the launch of the “IDEAL Currency Identifier,” a free downloadable application (app) to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired to denominate U.S. currency on some mobile devices.

The IDEAL Currency Identifier was developed by IDEAL Group, IQ Engines, and the Wireless Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) at the Georgia Institute of Technology through a grant from the Department of Education’s National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), a component of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. NIDRR is the primary U.S. government agency focused on disability and rehabilitation research. Its mission is to generate research knowledge and assistive technologies while promoting their effective use in improving the abilities and opportunities of individuals with disabilities in performing activities of their choice in the community. The initiative supports the Department of Treasury’s Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) in its mandate to provide increased access to U.S. currency for persons who are blind and visually impaired.

Dr. Charlie Lakin, the Director of NIDRR, issued the following statement: “Through our dialogue with the BEP, a special opportunity emerged to fulfill our mission in support of persons who are blind and visually impaired. The IDEAL Currency Identifier uses advanced image recognition technology to read a note and, in a matter of seconds, provides users with an audible response indicating the note’s denomination.”

Treasurer of the United States Rosie Rios applauded the Department of Education’s role in the app’s development. “Treasury is committed to providing meaningful access to U.S. currency and, by using technology, we can help hundreds of thousands of individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Our collaboration with the Department of Education allowed us to be resourceful and, in turn, more individuals will have the means to independently denominate the U.S. currency they use in daily commerce.”

The app, which interacts with Google’s “Eyes-Free” applications, can be downloaded for free on more than 1,250 different wireless devices. The IDEAL Currency Identifier was developed by Apps4Android, Inc., a subsidiary of IDEAL Group that develops mobile applications. Android-based devices are produced by 48 manufacturers and distributed by 60 wireless service providers in 136 countries.

This new app is one of several measures the government is developing to assist people with vision impairments to denominate currency. In April 2011, the BEP introduced EyeNote®, a similar currency reading mobile app. There have been more than 8,000 free downloads of the EyeNote® app since its introduction.

In May 2011, Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner approved three measures to provide accessibility to U.S. currency for those who are blind or visually impaired. These measures include implementing a Currency Reader Program to distribute a currency reader device to blind and visually impaired U.S. citizens; continuing to add large high-contrast numerals and different background colors to redesigned currency the BEP may lawfully change; and adding a raised tactile feature to U.S. currency unique to each U.S. Federal Reserve note that BEP may lawfully change, which would provide users with a means of identifying each denomination via touch.

For more information about the IDEAL Currency Identifier and other accessibility apps, please visit www.moneyfactory.gov
The Board of Education is proud to announce that we now have 10 courses available on ACTIONed! The Online Education Committee has created these modules using three different methods: interactive modules created with Viewlet Builder Enterprise, recorded lectures from past OPS Educational Program, and PDFs of past Journal of Ophthalmic Photography articles. In order to receive OPS credit, all modules will have a few test questions at the end to ensure your understanding of the material. If you are unable to attend an OPS Educational Program, our online courses are the next best thing!

Introduction to Fundus Photography - An Interactive Guide by Kirsten Locke, CRA, RN, FOPS
Imaging in Pediatric Vitreoretinal Disease by William Tasman, MD
Optical Coherence Tomography - An Introduction to Vitreoretional Applications by Greg Hoffmeyer
Time Domain and Spectral Domain OCT: A Comparison of Images by Ethan Priel, FOPS
How Anterior Segment Imaging Guides Treatment by Kenneth L. Cohen, MD
Wacky World of Neuro-Ophthalmology by M. Tariq Bhatti, MD
Anterior Segment OCT for Specialty Contact Lens Design by Bruce Baldwin, OD, PhD
Invasion of the Parasites by Richard Hackel, CRA, FOPS
Adobe Lightroom by Tamera Schoenholz, CRA, OCT-C
Introduction to Fluorescein Angiography by Stephanie Attebery, CRA

For additional information, go to the Online Education for CECs page.

http://www.opsweb.org/?page=onlineedu4CEC

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Indocyanine Green for Injections USP vials and six 10-mL
Sterile Water for Injection vials

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We appreciate your continued business and we are proud to support the Ophthalmic Photographers Society.
Interested in Cultural Exchange in Cuba?

Interested in Cultural Exchange in Cuba? Travel to Cuba for a cultural exchange is now possible, if we have a group of 8-12 people. You can get on the list to travel to Cuba as part of this project next winter. Email me: Michael Coppiner to join the group and when we have sufficient numbers to receive more details.

jmceyephoto@gmail.com

Testing at Test Centers

NOW AVAILABLE

The CRA Written and the OCT-C Examinations are available to be taken by eligible candidates at approved test centers both within the United States and Internationally. Please contact boc@opsweb.org for details.

Listing of available test centers:

http://www.isoqualitytesting.com/mlocations.aspx

Please do not contact the test centers directly but work with cra@opsweb.org to schedule the CRA examination or oct@opsweb.org to schedule the OCT-C exam.
Certified Retinal Angiographers and Optical Coherence Tomography - Certifiers who were certified or recertified in 2010, this is the third (2011-2013) and final year that your certification remains valid. 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/?page=Recertification 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 aren't sure about your recertification date, you can either check online at: http://www.opsweb.org/?page=currentcraocts, or contact the BOC Recertification Chair. Our goal is 100% recertification. Do not wait until December 31, 2013 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 Jim Strong, the BOC Recertification Chairman.
On June 10th, 2013 the Chicago Chapter of the OPS in conjunction with the Society of Ophthalmic Medical Assistants in Chicago (SOMAC) held the course, "A Comprehensive Review of Intravitreal Injections" presented by Richard Zak, MD of the Aurora Eye Clinic, Aurora, Illinois. The 2 hour program held at Bolingbrook Hospital in Bolingbrook, Illinois covered the history of intravitreal injections, including the therapeutic agents used such as antibiotics, antivirals, steroids and anti-VEGF agents. The clinical necessity for injections, injection protocols and procedures, post-injection complications and their management were covered. A brief review of ocular anatomy was given followed by an explanation of the various injectables including Lucentis, Avastin, Eylea, Macugen, and Jetrea. The mechanism of interaction within the retina of each injectable was explained in detail, making distinctions between antibody fragments such as Lucentis, and modified enzymes as in Jetrea.

Our thanks to Dr. Zak for the wonderful presentation, to Diane Tentler of Bolingbrook Hospital for making the room reservations, to Gloria Anderson for asking Dr. Zak to speak and to Diane Frohlichstein for coordinating all aspects of the course, including obtaining C.E. credits.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Alan Frohlichstein, CRA, FOPS, BFA, BS
Retinal Angiography Services
Morton Grove, Illinois.