SURVEY INFORMATION

There is still a definite need for those OPS members interested in an updated survey to submit questions which will be reviewed and condensed for the survey. As mentioned in the last NEWSLETTER, the survey should address:

1. Basic salaries
2. Benefits
3. Cost of living wage adjustments
4. Annual statistics of procedures performed
5. Non-photographic duties assigned and performed
6. Size of institution or referral source(s)

These are obviously important areas to discuss however I am sure there are several other areas we would all like to see brought out in survey form. Please feel free to jot down additional topics you would like to see presented and send them to me. Your participation is needed in order to accurately construct a meaningful survey.

Send your questions or ideas to:

John L. Johnson, Editor
OPS NEWSLETTER
3601 W. 13 Mile Road
Royal Oak, Michigan 48072
SEE YOU IN ATLANTA? OPHTHALMIC PHOTOGRAPHER'S SOCIETY

12TH ANNUAL MEETING

November 1-5, 1981

Atlanta, Georgia

Program: Gerald Hoover
Education: Csaba Martonyi
Pre Registration: Paul Montague
On Site Registration: Frank Lazenby

Please note there are four (4) Mariott Hotels in Atlanta
be sure to specify the downtown location address as listed.

Atlanta Marriott Hotel.

Location: One block off I-75/85 North. Just 15 minutes from
the Atlanta Airport by way of the North Expressway.
Centrally located to Atlanta Civic Center, World Congress
Center, Underground Atlanta.

Accommodations: 760 guest rooms.

Convention facilities: 22 meeting rooms for 10 to 2000.

Special Services: The Courtyard featuring a real Old
South atmosphere with antique brick, beautiful fountains,
and charming gazebos. Complete health club facilities
featuring hydrotherapy pool, indoor/outdoor pool,
universal gym work-out facilities, saunas, and racquet
ball. Car rental, babysitters, airline ticket desk, helicopter
service, airport limousine.

Restaurants: Harbour House® Restaurant, fine seafood;
Sirloin & Saddle® Restaurant, award-winning beef
entrees; Fairfield Inn®; Windjammer® Lounge, #1 spot in
Atlanta; Harbour House Lounge®; Courtyard Bar®.

Courtland & International Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 30043
OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERSHIP AT LARGE

FROM: Bruce W. Morris

SUBJECT: Committee Assignments

I welcome this opportunity to communicate to you the nature of current endeavors undertaken by various factions of the OPS. It is valuable for the general membership to be aware of business conducted during the course of the year. I am interested in encouraging individuals to participate in projects consistent with their interests and expertise. I intend that heretofore uninvited members of this Society become intrigued with the operations of the organization and choose to contribute the time, energy and skills required to promote continued growth and vitality. Through participation in various projects, programs and functions conducted by the OPS one may sharpen current skills, broaden the scope of experience to include totally new areas and declare his or her competency to an increasingly enthusiastic group of peers. Working on one of the committees and submitting material for presentation at the National Meetings are two of the most direct avenues. Each of you should realize that this Society of your contemporaries relies in a directly dependent manner on the totally volunteer efforts of individuals like yourself who work as ophthalmic photographers or technicians. Those who invest themselves in this way will develop the inclination and qualifications to seek positions of authority as Committee Chairs, Directors and Elected Officers. This inspirational letter describing ongoing activities will, I am sure, pique your interest.

November-December 1980

The conclusion of the 11th Annual Meeting at Chicago is a transition period as new committee members assume duties. This is a very busy time for the Exhibit Committee (Bill Ludwick 80, Kenneth Julian 81) and Program Committee (Jerry Sewell 80, Gerald Hoover 81). Paul Montague, Treasurer is the last to leave after concluding transactions with the Pick Congress Hotel and making an agreement for payment of expenses. Each of the new Committee Chairs, Directors and Officers returned home with assignments for 1981.
January-February 1981

At the invitation of Peter Y. Evans, M.D., President of the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology, and with sanction by the OPS Board of Directors, I traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada to attend a full Commission planning session. As you may know JCRAPO is a conglomerate of "National or International North American Ophthalmological or Ophthalmic Medical Assistant Societies". Nine organizations composed of physicians in ophthalmology constitute the regular membership. The American Association of Certified Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology enjoys associate membership within the Commission. Many of you are familiar with the education and examination for certification of Ophthalmic Assistants, Technicians, and Technologists offered by AACAPO at annual meetings concurrent with the American Academy of Ophthalmology Convention. Items of interest discussed at this meeting held February 2, 1981 include:

a) proposed By-Laws change to allow non-physicians (associate members) of JCRAPO to vote in an executive session

b) an enumeration of the various associate member (non-physicians) groups and a description of the activities conducted by these groups

c) the anticipated drastic increase in the fees to be charged by Atlanta hotels for meeting rooms

d) numerous aspects of certification programs for ophthalmic assistants, technicians and technologists

e) criteria for membership under the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies.

I am convinced my time was well spent in attendance at this meeting. I enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the joint commission. I was received in a gracious manner and given a very candid look at the way in which this organization conducts its business. On a personal note, I had the pleasure of getting to know Doris Clark Gaston, C.O.T., an associate representative to JCRAPO, Kenneth E. Woodworth, Jr., C.O.T., President of AACAPO, (both of whom are OPS members), and Michele Pett-Vaughn, Chair of the Joint Review Committee.
March-April 1981

Several committees are well into the year's assignments, a flurry of correspondence is generated and exchanged among officers, directors and committee personnel.

By-Laws, Frank Flanagan, Chair, continued diligent effort to modify, clarify and revise the content of the current draft. Composition of contemporary, universally applicable guide lines that are succinct and comprehensible is a task that is vitally important to the immediate future of this Society. This extensive reshaping of the By-Laws is demanded by the dynamic nature of an expanding scope of operations. This organization must develop expertise in sophisticated financial management, academic level publication, binding copyright for Society productions, encounters with extra organizational entities, professional medical and/or governmental organizations and a clearly designed profile for regional chapters.

I am advised by Mr. Flanagan that a comprehensive proposal has been prepared and is to be delivered to the full B.O.D. in early June. This will insure that the lengthy document will be scrutinized by each Board member allowing ample time for discussion, evaluation, objections, etc. In this way, I intend that the full Board will convene in Atlanta prior to the opening of the 12th Annual Meeting and ratify a By-Laws proposal that will be presented to the general membership for approval by majority vote.

Exhibit, Ken Julian, Chair, has prepared an abstract of this years exhibit and submitted this application to the American Academy of Ophthalmology in January. Confirmation was received from the AAO in March and an announcement and call for photographs will be sent to the OPS membership in June. Materials submitted by the membership will be received by the committee before the September 11 deadline. The material will be judged by members of the committee during the month of September, the photographs will be mounted and labeled and the exhibit will be assembled early in October and awards certificates will be prepared by late October. The exhibit will be packaged and shipped to Atlanta no later than October 23 and will be assembled in the Convention Hall by October 31.

Program Committee, Gerald Hoover, Vice-President, Chair, has primary responsibility for planning for facility accomodation requirements at the Atlanta hotel which will be the site of the 12th Annual Meeting. Among the tasks required are communi-
cation with the staff of the AAO, arrangements for audio-visual equipment through a contract agency, evaluation of program content, invitation to speakers (coordinated with Csaba Martonyi, Education Committee), and course registration (coordinated with Paul Montague and Frank Lazenby). Please refer to the attached announcement for specific information regarding the site of the 12th Annual OPS Meeting. Requisition forms for hotel accommodations assigned through the American Academy of Ophthalmology will be included with an information package prepared by the pre-registration committee and mailed to the membership on July 1, 1981.

I have described only a portion of the activities conducted during the course of the year by three of the committees. Important work is also being carried out in a very responsible manner by Research and Development, Marlene Fishman, Chair and Editorial, Tom Van Cader, Chair. In addition, numerous individuals are making unselfish contributions, I wish I could name them all here. I will communicate with you all in subsequent issues of the Newsletter in order that you may be well informed of the endeavors by various factions of the Society. In addition, items of business conducted and issues under examination by the Board of Directors will be explained in detail so that you may express your opinions and observations by letter or telephone directly to the representatives selected by you to serve you.

Continued best regards,

[Signature]

Bruce W. Morris, President
A METHOD OF TAKING PICTURES THROUGH AN UNDILATED PUPIL USING THE ZEISS FUNDUS CAMERA. by Eric Coyle, University of British Columbia

It is sometimes expedient to take photographs without dilating the patient's pupil. There are certain medical indications which may also make this a desirable tool—e.g., narrow angles. A method is described which works on many, but not all, patients providing they meet the following criteria:

1. have good or excellent fixation
2. are not using any miotic therapy
3. do not have any condition which would prevent the pupil from dilating

The patient is positioned on the camera as per normal procedure but a little bit more attention is given to ensure that the patient will be able to maintain a fixed position. Specific mention is made to the patient to keep extremely still and to keep his eyes open at all times. This is required because for a period of about 15 seconds before the photograph is taken, the photographer will not be able to view the fundus nor check to see that the patient is misaligned.

Focusing is accomplished in the normal way, but much more accuracy is required in placement of the optical axis. The pupil constricts to 1 to 2 mm in diameter, but an image of the disc and/or macula may be perceived if there are no intermediary opacities to interfere with viewing. The focusing accomplished, the camera assembly is tightly locked to the stand using the locks provided. The focus and alignment is checked again. The fixation light should be as dim as possible as should all room lights.

On the right hand side of the Zeiss fundus cameras, the viewing light socket is carefully slid out until the light goes out. If the viewing light is normally used on a "high" setting, it may be quite hot. Take care not to burn yourself. The bulb is never completely removed from the camera in this procedure, so there is a little protection against burning your fingers! Count to 15 or 20 then take the photograph. In the time interval between extinguishing the lamp and taking the photograph the pupil dilates sufficiently to obtain a reasonable photograph. A medically dilated pupil will give better photographs.

There is a feeling of uncertainty about this procedure, so if you wish to check and see if it is probably working, instead of pushing the button to take the photograph, simply look through the viewfinder and slide the viewing light back into place. You should see a reasonably clear image which rapidly darkens. If this is not visible, then either the patient or the camera has moved. Go back and try again.
The risk of not obtaining a good photograph increases with the eccentricity of the area to be photographed. The optic nerve provides sufficient contrast for focusing whereas the peripheral retina would do so only to the most finely tuned photographers eye. This technique is most likely to be utilized in glaucoma or general clinics where the areas of interest are probably more central than peripheral and specific retinal problems would generally require dilation for adequate photography, so it is not likely that this technique would be pushed beyond its limitations in general use.

If there is any dust on the camera objective, it will become even more apparent when using this method. Either replace the objective lens (Zeiss will sell you one on an exchange basis) or for the more adventurous, clean it yourself.

"THE HAZARDS OF THE USE OF POLYVINYLCHLORIDE SLIDE PAGES FOR STORAGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SLIDES" by Ronald E. Dykes, C.O.T.
Surgical Associates Foundation, Inc.
Department of Ophthalmology
Burlington, Vermont

It has come to my attention, via a newsletter for train enthusiasts, that there currently exists a danger to any slides stored in polyvinylchloride slide pages. Upon further investigation, it has proven true that polyvinylchloride pages do damage slides.

Mr. Robert MacClaren, the Chief Chemist, at the National Archives, in Washington, D.C., confirmed that slide pages made of polyvinylchloride are "unstable and will cause irreparable damage to slides stored in these pages". Mr. MacClaren has informed me that a chemical reaction takes place between the PVC (polyvinylchloride) and the emulsion on the slides, which causes the slide to adhere to the slide page. Moisture and temperature are also factors in this chemical reaction. The exact temperature and amount of moisture needed to induce this chemical reaction is unknown. However, it is my understanding that the ambient temperatures are sufficient to allow chemical reaction.

I am unaware of the percentage of slide pages currently made of polyvinylchloride, and the majority of the manufacturers are unwilling to honestly disclose the chemical makeup of their plastic products. However, there are several easy ways of determining chemical content of the slide pages you are currently using, and I will include the names of several slide pages that Mr. MacClaren was gracious enough to test for me, and were found to be safe.
One simple method of determining if the slide pages you are currently using are made of PVC is to obtain a xerox copy or a similar copy, which uses an equivalent toner in its copying process, then place the copy face down on the surface of the slide page. Place a book or similar object on top of the copy and the slide page and wait a period of 24 hours. If after 24 hours the copy has adhered to the slide page, the page you are using is made of polyvinylchloride.

A more scientific method would be to perform a Biostein test and if you are interested in ascertaining the exact chemical properties of the slide page you are currently using, contact any major university or college and have the chemistry department perform an analysis on it.

As I stated earlier there are two slide pages that were tested and proven safe, and the first one is manufactured by Twentieth Century Plastics, Incorporated, 3638 Crenshaw, Los Angeles, California. The second one tested was manufactured by Photo-Plastic Products, brand name is Print-File-Archival Slide Page, P. O. Box 507, Fairfax, Virginia, 22030.

We are all aware of the intricate part photography plays in the documentary and research aspects of ophthalmology. Hopefully, this information will be of some service in the preservation of valuable ophthalmological slides.

Thank you for allowing me to share this information with you.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

For those of you needing plastic pages for holding Polaroid photos from ultrasound, VER-ERG, fundus photography and OPG-CPA, Twentieth Century Plastics as well as Bardes Products 5225 W. Clinton Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53223, manufacture these in addition to various other plastic products. Bardes Products is a sustaining member in the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society.
MIDWESTERN OPS MEETING HELD

The Midwestern Division of the OPS met recently in Kansas City for their third annual meeting. For geographic orientation of those unfamiliar with the midwest, Kansas City is the gateway to the Land of OZ.

Truman Medical Center hosted the meeting which was coordinated by Gary Galimore, Kansas City. In attendance were photographers and ophthalmologists from Kansas and Missouri.

Papers presented by participating ophthalmologists examined the importance of retinal fluorescein angiography for evaluation and follow-up of diabetes and histoplasmosis. Presenting OPS members provided information on instrumentation and techniques for the beginning and advanced ophthalmic photographer. Topics covered included Fundus, Slit-lamp, and external photography, and photo-darkroom procedures.

Newly elected officers are:

Mary Dobbs - President
Carl Locke - Vice-President
Rhonda Curtis - Secretary-Treasurer

The next annual meeting will be held in St. Louis. Workshops on Fundus and Slit-lamp photography techniques will be offered in addition to papers presented by OPS members.

If you are wondering where St. Louis is - just consult your local AAA representative.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Johnson:
I would like to commend you for outstanding news coverage of our Ophthalmic Photographers' Society. You have been doing this for some time and I appreciate the deep sensitivity and your devotion to our Society. I personally thank you.
In addition, I am proud to announce for myself, the degree of B.S. in Health Care from the University of Redlands. I will be graduating this month. Courses covered in the Health Care program include historical aspects of health care, current trends on management and psychological insights for caring of patients.

Sincerely,

Steve Shapiro
Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center
Los Angeles, CA

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CLASSIFIED ADS, ETC.

29 Kernwood Ave.
Beverly, MA 01915

FOR YOUR RECORDS...

Santa Ana-Tustin Community Hospital has changed its name. It is now the Western Medical Center, 1001 North Tustin Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705. Make a note of this change in your directory under Mr. Ogden Frazier's name and address. Also, for Mr. Paul L. Artman, Mr. Jeffrey B. Elliott, Mr. Donald R. Fox, make similar changes.

WANTED: OPTHALMIC PHOTOGRAPHER OR TECHNICIAN
in rural living with sophisticated ophthalmology. Two man clinic; referrals only. Corporate benefits, salary negotiable. Position is available immediately. Contact: Milan Van Newkirk, M.D.
Oregon Trail Eye Clinic
4009 Avenue B
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Or call collect-(308)635-3911
WANTED: OPHTHALMIC RESEARCH TECHNOLOGIST
Position available in the Department of Ophthalmology, University of South Florida. Please contact the Personnel Office (813) 974-2576, or write: Personnel Offices
University of South Florida
College of Medicine, MDC Box 28
12901 North 30th Street
Tampa, Florida 33612
The university of South Florida is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

POSITION WANTED:
British Ophthalmic Photographer, 11 years experience, seeks 6 months exchange of employment and accommodation in the United States. ASAP.
Write: Sue Ford, Western Ophthalmic Hospital, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5YE

WANTED:
Vivitar 90 mm., f2.8 Macro lens. Will consider any mount.
Contact: Thomas Egnatz, C.R.A.
Vitreoretinal Associates
Suite 488, 1633 North Capitol Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 926-1517

FOR SALE:
One Topcon auto winder (cat. #14702, $390. new) with auto winder solenoid, ($55. new). Used once to make sure it worked, kept as a spare, never used since. Fits Topcon TRC-FE and TRC-PET fundus cameras and Topcon photoslittlamp (and possibly earlier fundus cameras.) Price: $290.00
Will consider trade involving Vivitar 90 mm Macro lens, Minolta Rokkor 100 mm, f3.5 Macro lens, or Minolta XK body.
Contact: Thomas Egnatz, C.R.A.
Vitreoretinal Associates
Suite 488, 1633 North Capitol Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 926-1517

LARRY MERIN HAS AN EYEDEA FOR BRINGING ATTENTION TO OUR PROFESSION...