1. The first McDonald's was opened in Chicago in 1955. The site is now a museum.

2. Buckingham Fountain in Grant Park, a spectacular display of light and water that jets 140 feet into the air, is controlled by a computer 700 miles away in Georgia.

3. Of the 10 tallest buildings in the nation, 3 are in Chicago: The John Hancock, The Sears Tower, and The Amoco Building.

4. A ride along Lincoln Avenue, the birthplace of the infamous "Route 66," will carry you through more than a dozen of Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods.

5. The Chicago River is the only river on Earth that flows backwards. It was reversed in 1900 by engineers to stop the pollution of Lake Michigan, the city's only source of drinking water.

6. The Water Tower, Chicago's famous landmark and survivor of the Chicago Fire, was no more than a shell built to conceal a standpipe 138 feet tall.

7. If you plan to attend a show at the Second City Theatre, catch the last performance of the night. The late show is usually followed by an extra hour of wild improvisation.

8. The Thompson machine gun, or "Tommy Gun," was not invented in Chicago, but was made famous there by Al Capone's mob.

9. Lincoln Park hosts the Lincoln Park Zoo, the oldest zoo in the nation. It was founded in 1868.

10. If you're a Chicago Bulls fan, hang out at Ada's Delicatessen just around the corner from the Berto Center. You may catch a few of your favorite players there enjoying a post game snack.

**OPS...**

...continuing a tradition of excellence in ophthalmic photography since 1969.
PHOTOGRAPHER NEEDED

Official OPS Photographer still needed for the Chicago Annual Educational Program.

If you have a 35mm camera and the desire to participate, I'm looking for you!

All film will be provided. Photographs of the educational and social events are needed for historical documentation.

Please contact:
Denise Barsness, CRA, COMT
VP and General Chair
(415) 923-3900
FAX (415) 387-9880

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The Indocyanine Green (ICG) Symposium which was originally scheduled for Sunday, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. has been changed.

Please note the new time of Sunday, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Please mark your meeting schedule accordingly!

Roommate Connection

Anyone looking for a roommate for the Chicago meeting is invited to list their name with Denise Barsness.

An informal "hot line" has been established to connect would be roommates.

Please FAX your name and room availability/requirements to Denise. All interested parties will be put in touch with same.

FAX: (415) 387-9880.

Don't Forget...

The Annual Cocktail Reception in Chicago will be a costume affair. All flappers, molls, dolls and just plain gangsters are encouraged to attend!

Start shuffling those feet as prizes will be awarded to the winner of the Charleston dance contest.

Saturday, November 13
7:00 p.m. - Midnight

Congratulations

Congratulations to Denise Cunningham for her remarkable achievements this summer. She obtained both her COPRA and RBP in one season! This is quite a feat-obtaining highest levels of certification in both major biocommunications societies!
Personal Photography Salon
Planned for Chicago

Over the years, many of us who do photography as an art form outside of our jobs discussed getting together during the annual meeting to share our photographs with one another. Last year in Dallas, we had our third exhibit of personal work in addition to an evening together where we discussed our photography. We learned from and about one another in addition to having a good time, so once again we have reserved a room in the Palmer House hotel during the annual meeting for a similar exchange of ideas.

We will get together on Tuesday evening from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. The room will be listed in the registration area where we also have an exhibit of our work. Everyone is welcome to participate. I set up the exhibit on Saturday morning and would appreciate help. Space is limited. We usually have room for everyone to hang one 11 x 14 or 16 x 20 (or 28 x 10) unframed prints. All work must be removed by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. Each photographer will be responsible for hanging and collecting their own work. On Tuesday evening, each photographer will have 15 minutes to show their images and talk about their work. We will have a 35mm slide projector, light tables for large format transparencies and lights for viewing prints. If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer to help me, I can be reached at the address and phone number listed below. I hope to see you in Chicago!

Mark Maio, FOPS, Ophthalmic Photography
462 Grider Street
Buffalo, NY 14215
(716) 898-3940

Certification Made Easy:
An Informational Seminar

The Board of Certification of the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society is hosting an informal seminar on the certification process for the Certified Retinal Angiographer (CRA) and Certified Retinal Angiographer and Ophthalmic Photographer (COPRA) at the Annual Meeting in Chicago. The seminar will be offered from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 13, and from 12:00-1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 14.

This seminar will cover the steps to becoming a CRA or COPRA. Emphasis will be placed on how to submit an acceptable portfolio and the portfolio grading process. Also covered will be how to approach study for the written examination and how to prepare for the practical examination. Recertification will also be addressed. Participants are encouraged to bring examples of portfolio work for an informal critique.

OPS Issues

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their CRA and COPRA in 1993!

CRA
James Wyer
Susan Waida
Karen Gasparian
Diane Donahoe
Steven Martinez
Diane Djuren
Dennis Zukosky
Linda Wright
James Gendron
James Perron
Ricky Murphy
Joe Carlin
James Scott
Margaret Watson
Paul Karr
William McVerry
Mark Erickson
George Tener

COPRA
Denise Cunningham

CompuServe Offers
Bio-Med SIG

Facilities for a special interest group for Bio-Medical and Ophthalmic Photographers have been made available in the Health and Fitness Forum (GOODHEALTH) on CompuServe. Message board, library, and "Conference Room" capabilities are offered.

For further information or a free CompuServe Intro Pack, contact Chuck Etienne at (513) 294-7047 or E-mail communication at 76711.100@COMPU_SERVE.COM.
Professional Opportunities

Position Desired: CRA with 14 years experience in FA, Fundus, SL, videography, gonioscopy, specular microscopy, Humphrey VF and digital imaging. Strong patient interaction, coordinating all aspects of maintaining a one person department. Familiar with IBM PCs, Microsoft and Word Perfect programs. 7 years at Jules Stein, 5 years with a private practice. Please contact Audrey Jorgensen, 18924 Saticy St., Reseda CA 91335. (818) 345-6645.

Position Desired: CRA seeking full time employment in Baltimore, Maryland area. Experienced in Fundus, VAs and ICG Angiography. Also knowledgeable in darkroom and general photography. Contact Michele Heroux, PO Box 185, Upper Falls, MD 21156.


Director of Ophthalmic Photography: Case Western Reserve University/Tulane University Hospitals of Cleveland. Immediate opening for a dynamic, experienced, self-motivated ophthalmic photographer to direct ophthalmic services. Candidate should have at least three years experience, current CRA and ability to be certified for NIH/FDA studies. Expertise in FA, SL, XT, Gonio, ONH, color, darkroom, record/file management, slide production are required. Audio-visual, digital imaging, computer experience desired but not necessary. Competitive salary with excellent benefits. Will interview now and at AAO/OPIS/Chicago. Send resume to Mark Wolinsky, Dept. of Ophthalmology, University Hospitals of Cleveland, 2074 Abington Rd., Cleveland, OH 44106 (216) 844-7039.

Ophthalmic Photographer: Excellent full time opportunity for an experienced ophthalmic photographer to manage the photography service at Montefiore Medical Center. Other responsibilities include performing a full range of ophthalmology photographic tests and insuring the availability of all equipment and supplies. The successful candidate will have 3 years related experience with expertise in FA and SL photography. CRA a plus. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. Send resume to: Staffing Dept., JD Montefiore Medical Center, Henry and Lucy Moses Division, 111 E. 210th St., Bronx, NY 10467 or call Laurie Conway (718) 920-2446. EOE.

Classified Marketplace

For Sale: Zeiss Photo Slit lamp. Solid gray base with flat bottom, two photo adapters, dual sequencing device, endo attachment, 840 WS FS, coffee can. Inquiries (708) 864-6748 leave name and address.

Wanted: Older Books on or about Ophthalmic Photography. Single volumes or libraries. Especially looking for books by Thorner, Dimmer, and Hansell. Please contact Pat Saine at (608) 282-2180 (W) or (608) 836-9706 (H). Thank you.

OPHTHALMIC PHOTOGRAPHERS' SOCIETY

Colleen Eardley Mulder
Grand Rapids Ophthalmology
750 East Beltline, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Deadline for next newsletter: DECEMBER 1, 1993
Positions Available
Inquire Within...

The 1994 Meeting Planning Team will be assembled in Chicago.

Any member interested in participating is encouraged to contact the General Chair.

Needed:
Workshop Equipment Coordinator
Equipment Management Coordinator
Support Team Coordinator
Scientific Session Coordinator
Special Projects Coordinator

Contact:
Denice Barsness, CRA, COMT
General Chair
San Francisco 1994

C.R.A. Portfolio Preparation

Producing a quality portfolio is essential for professional advancement in the field of ophthalmic photography. It is an ideal way to demonstrate your skills in ophthalmic photography and perhaps even to "show off" a little! Portfolios are necessary both for certification and when competing in the job market. These two goals require somewhat different strategies of portfolio preparation.

A standard portfolio is one of the major requirements for certification as a Certified Retinal Angiographer. The portfolio is at least as important as the written and practical examinations; in demonstrating a professional level of competence in retinal angiography. For many OPS members, preparing for certification provides their first experience in putting a portfolio together. For anyone interested in becoming certified, here are some suggestions on how to assemble a portfolio specifically for certification and some insight on how C.R.A. portfolios are graded.

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A Note of Thanks
From The BOE

Following our recent elections, the Board of Education membership will change at the end of the BOE Business meeting in Chicago, Saturday, November 13th. Five current members of the Board will be retiring, and five new OPS members will take their places; (one member has been re-elected for another term).

We are delighted that so many qualified people chose to run for the Board of Education: nine individuals ran to fill six positions. There was a tie for one position so a run-off election is being held. The new BOE members will be introduced at the Annual meeting.

The five BOE members ending their terms of service on the Board of Education will be hard to replace. Each has made significant contributions to the educational programs and pursuits of the OPS, with their expertise, skills, time and sometimes even their piece of mind, to fulfilling the commitments of the BOE.

I am pleased to be able to publicly thank these wonderful people for all they have done in our behalf:

DENNIS CAIN, CRA: one term-BOE Vice Chair; Education Chair, Miami, '93; Chair, Course Evaluation Committee; Host, BOE Business Meetings, '92, '93.

DENISE CUNNINGHAM, COPRA, RBP: one term-BOE Secretary; Education Chair, Annual Meeting, '91; General Chair, Hershey Regional meetings, '92, '93; Chair, Election Committee.

MARK MAIO, FOPS: two terms - General Chair, Rochester, '89, '90; Vice Chair, St. Louis, '91; Long Range Planning Committee - all while serving as President of the OPS!

PAT SAIN, CRA: one+ term - General Chair, Annual Meetings, '91, '92 as OPS Vice President; Chair, Long Range Planning Committee.

JOE WARNICKI: Education Chair, Santa Barbara, '92; Long Range Planning Committee.

The titles and descriptions do not begin to describe the effort put into each of these tasks. The OPS is lucky to benefit from the hard work and dedication of each of these individuals.

Thanks for all you have done for the BOE and OPS, and for all you'll do for us in the future.

Paula Morris
C.R.A. Portfolio Preparation

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There are certain principles that are common to presenting any portfolio. A portfolio should reflect the pride, skill and professionalism of the photographer. In fine art or commercial photography, a portfolio represents your best work to date. It is a personal statement of your knowledge and ability. This is something that we should strive for in ophthalmic photography as well, but at the same time we also need to demonstrate some basic skills. The C.R.A. portfolio requirements are designed to demonstrate a photographer's ability to perform the everyday tasks required in ophthalmic photography.

Preparing a portfolio for certification can be approached in two different ways. One approach is to consider each portfolio requirement as an individual photo assignment and shoot photographs specifically for this purpose. The alternative approach is to try to find photographs done in the normal course of your job or from your personal collection that already meet the requirements listed in the C.R.A. Program Guide. It is important to note that either way you choose, the portfolio must follow the specific guidelines outlined in the program guide. These guidelines were established to allow for fair and objective review of portfolio requirements. This insures that each applicant's work is judged by the same set of standards.

Knowing the criteria that will be used by reviewers to grade your work can be quite helpful when preparing a portfolio. The C.R.A. portfolio committee grades each portfolio on field definition, exposure, sharpness, contrast and lack of artifacts. You can apply the same standards yourself, when selecting items for your portfolio. Look at your work carefully and ask yourself the following questions:

- Does the photograph show the specified field of view?
- Is the slide or print exposure within an acceptable range?
- Is the area of interest in focus?
- Is the photograph free from undesirable artifacts?
- Is the black and white print contrast within an acceptable range?

If you can honestly answer yes to these questions, then your portfolio is probably ready for submission. In the event that any of your photographs do not meet the standards for certification, they will be returned to you with a list of any items that need correction. Occasionally, portfolio reviewers will also offer specific suggestions on how to rectify these problems.

Preparing a portfolio is more than just a requirement for certification. Putting the portfolio together actually helps you prepare for the examination. Applicants who produce good portfolios, generally do well on the examination. Beginning in 1991, submission of an acceptable portfolio became a prerequisite for taking the C.R.A. examination. Prior to this change in policy, applicants could complete the requirements for certification in any order. When required beforehand, preparation of the portfolio can become an important educational step in the certification process.

This simple change in procedure has had a noticeable affect on test performance. Applicants seem more confident and prepared, especially for the darkroom section of the practical exam. The darkroom section has traditionally caused problems for many applicants. Due to the use of digital imaging and outside processing services, some photographers were entering the C.R.A. program with little or no darkroom experience. Unfortunately, this was being reflected in their examination results. By producing the portfolio in advance, applicants are learning the necessary skills before taking the test. This can help avoid the embarrassment and expense of repeating the examination. It is more cost effective to learn at the expense of resubmitting some portfolio requirements, rather than failing the test and paying another examination fee. All applicants are encouraged to take advantage of the educational value that portfolio preparation presents.

The benefits of producing a C.R.A. portfolio can go far beyond the attainment of certification. It can be a valuable learning experience. It also provides an opportunity to measure yourself against the standards of the profession. A well prepared certification portfolio can become the foundation on which a quality professional portfolio can be built. The requirements of the C.R.A. and C.O.P.R.A. portfolios will give you a good idea of what type of skills should be included in a job hunting portfolio. Again, it's important to show your ability to perform everyday photographic skills. Once you establish the basics, then you can get creative and demonstrate your unique skills. For some more helpful hints on C.R.A. portfolio preparation, see the accompanying list of tips suggested by members of the C.R.A. Portfolio Committee.

Tim Bennett, C.O.P.R.A.
C.R.A. Portfolio Committee

PORTFOLIO TIPS

- It is important to follow directions closely. This reflects upon an applicant's ability to also follow directions from an employer or physician.
- Take the same care in organizing the portfolio as you did in producing the individual photos. The entire portfolio should be neat, organized and properly labeled.
- Be decisive. Extra photographs are not necessary and will not be reviewed.
- A pre-submission portfolio review with co-workers or physician is suggested. This is a good way to receive objective feedback before submission.
- The portfolio should stand on its own merit. If the applicant feels that excuses or explanations are necessary for any part of it, then it is not ready for submission.
- Photographic quality is far more important than pathology shown. Portfolio reviewers are more impressed with good photos of average subjects, than with poor photos of interesting subjects. Of course great photos of interesting subjects are also acceptable!
- Required stereo pairs should exhibit obvious stereo separation.
- Refer to Seven Standard Fields of View of the Diabetic Series for field definition.
- Fluorescein angiogram portfolio print quality will be graded critically. This is due to the fact that prints made during the practical portion of the examination are done under time constraints and in an unfamiliar setting. During the practical, you must demonstrate your ability to make a print. In the portfolio you must demonstrate your ability to print well.
- Fluorescein angiogram portfolio enlargements should be representative of early, mid, and late phases. Too often, early frames submitted are not "early" enough.
- Do not crop out timer numbers from fluorescein angiogram enlargements. The timer helps reviewers identify which frames were chosen for enlargement from the contact sheet.
- The use of side loading slide pages is strongly suggested. They are more secure than the top loading type. The pages should be easy to remove for review on a light box.
- The portfolio should be securely assembled to withstand handling by multiple reviewers.
- If you have questions about the portfolio requirements contact a member of the Board of Certification or a C.R.A.
- Have fun! Preparing a portfolio can and should be an enjoyable learning experience.