Upcoming OPS Educational Programs

Get out your calendars and schedules and get ready for the OPS educational programs taking place in the next few months. The Board of Education (BOE) has been busy putting together courses in 1995 that offer different formats, different settings, and different locations, to fit the interests of different photographers! In an effort to “spread out” the opportunities, the Annual Educational Program, which was held on the West coast in San Francisco, is being followed by a course on the East coast, and by a course in about as "middle" of the mid-west as you can get.

The first course, “Ophthalmic Digital Imaging,” to be held March 11, 1995 in New York City, is a collaboration with the New York Macula Society, and offers a full day of clinical electronic imaging topics. Dennis Orlock, CRA, the Education Chair for the program, has designed a full curriculum ranging from an overview of digital imaging basics, SLOs, optic nerve head analysis, and ICG angiography to the future of digital imaging in ophthalmology. This course, whose faculty includes both photographers and physicians who are currently using digital imaging, was designed for the intermediate to advanced level photographers, but those new to the electronic imaging fields should not feel discouraged from attending. For more information about location, registration, and housing possibilities, contact Kimberly Corbin at (212) 605-3761, Fax: (212) 753-7699. For hotel/housing information only, contact 1-800-964-6835 Ext. 150, specify NYC.

The second OPS course, “Fundus Photography,” will take place June 2-3, in St. Louis, at the Washington University Medical Center. Rhonda Curtis, CRA, is wearing two hats for this program, acting as both General and Education Chair. She has designed a two-day course which will include the standard fundus photography/fluorescein angiography topics, lectures on diseases of the retina and optic nerve, and hands-on fundus camera workshops. The faculty boasts photographers and physicians from the midwest, and provides an excellent opportunity for photographers who are just starting out, or who need to review and brush up their skills. Watch the mail for a brochure about this course in the near future, or contact Rhonda Curtis at (314) 362-3719 for registration and housing information.

Then, what could be nicer than a late October escape to beautiful Atlanta, and the 1995 Annual Education Program? Randy Verdick is the Education Chair and he is going out of his way to incorporate the views and requests expressed in the OPS member survey conducted by the Board of Directors last year—“Something for everyone.” Randy is introducing an entire timeline dedicated to electronic topics, and another timeline based on the theme of “How to Photograph Patients...” for the various ophthalmic sub-specialities. And, of course, the standard core curriculum for the various levels of certification will be presented as well. Vice-President Bill Anderson, CRA, has already established a special OPS Information hotline for the Annual Program: (214) 623-0100. If you have any questions or suggestions, or if you would like to be involved in the meeting, we are anxious for you to call the hotline.

The BOE is excited about these educational opportunities in 1995, and we hope you will be able to participate in at least one. And watch in the future for information regarding a special course on “Electronics in Ophthalmic Photography” to be held in Spring, 1996.
Message from the President

As your newly elected President I feel compelled to talk a bit about the year to come, a sort of "State of the Union" address if you will. Unless you've been living on Mars you can't help but be aware of the current events presently mesmerizing our country. In a smaller, but no less significant manner, our organization will be engaged in similar important issues in 1995.

Since November there has been a significant demographic shift in Washington. Likewise, our boards have elected or appointed new members who bring fresh energy to the tasks at hand. Never before in the history of the OPS has there been such a diverse representation of higher educational degrees, gender balance and organizational expertise. These 33 individuals are dedicated to serving our membership to the maximum.

Important issues on the table for this year include the formation of an International Federation of Ophthalmic Imagers, the first endowment of the Johnny Justice Award, continuing input to important organizations such as the AAO and AMA on financial issues that effect our craft and an ongoing campaign to recruit new members. Following acceptance of provisional membership by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology, three commissioners, one representative from each board—will attend the JCAHPO Commissioners meeting in Washington DC in April.

While Congress grapples with the balanced budget amendment, the Board of Directors recently met in January to review our working budget for 1995. I am proud to report that our society is financially sound when viewed in a conservative light, allow-
An Open Invitation to the Membership from the Boards

In an effort to promote a greater participation in the OPS from you the membership, may we encourage all members to feel comfortable contacting individual board members with your thoughts and questions concerning the administration of the society. We are all committed to working with you to maintain the highest level of quality leadership and membership interaction. The lists below are provided as an “At-A-Glance” resource—please tear it out, tack it up, and hang on to it.

We’re looking forward to hearing from you!

B.O.D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Denice Barsness, CRA, COMT
Tel and Fax: (415) 921-8595
E-Mail: denice@barsness.com

William Anderson, CRA
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E-Mail: meiji4a@prodigy.com

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B.O.C.

BOARD OF CERTIFICATION
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B.O.E.

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Fax: (305) 326-6084

Marshall Tyler, CRA, FOPS
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Fax: (910) 716-7994
E-Mail: mtyler@pbs.bgsm.wfu.edu
New Policy of Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for Recertification

On January 1, 1995, the new policy regarding CEC's for Certified Retinal Angiographers (CRA) went into effect. A copy of the official policy is sent out with the application for recertification, but the following highlights the major points:

- Recertification is required every 3 years. A total of 15 hours of CECs is required for each 3-year period.

- A minimum of 5 hours must be earned by attending OPS or OPS approved courses or workshops.

- A maximum of 10 hours may be earned by teaching OPS or OPS approved courses or workshops.

- A maximum of 10 hours may be earned by attending JCAHPO or AMA courses or workshops. Each hour of JCAHPO or AMA CEC will be equal to one half hour (1/2) of OPS CEC. Please note: JCAHPO and AMA courses and workshops taken at the annual AAO meeting may not be OPS approved. Therefore, students should check with the course director for the OPS approval status before attending any classes.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this new policy contact Peter Hay. (Telephone and address listed in the adjacent article)

REMEMBER
Attention: Those individuals (CRA or COPRA) certified and recertified in 1992, this is the third and final year that the certificate remains valid. Recertification packets outlining the 1995 recertification requirements, including Continuing Education Credits, current CPR registration, letter of employment, and the fees have already been mailed. If you have changed your address or did not receive a packet by the end of February, or if you do not intend to recertify, please let me know. Our goal is to have 100% recertification. Certification and continuing education is important and may someday become mandatory by employers.

If I may be of any assistance, please call or write to me.

Peter B. Hay, CRA
Chairman, Recertification Section
Director of Photography • Retina Vascular Surgeons of CNY, PC
3107 East Genesee Street • Syracuse, NY 13224
Tel: (315) 445-8166 • Fax: (315) 445-2697

The Board of Certification is holding its mid-year meeting March 24-26, 1995. Please contact Terrance L. Tomer at (215) 928-3405 if there are any items you would like added to the agenda.

The Board of Certification is accepting applications from anyone interested in serving on the BOC. If you are interested in running for BOC election, please contact: Sandra Anderson at (814) 437-7000 x5251. She will tell you where to send your current CV and a letter expressing your desire to serve on the BOC.

1995 Examination Dates and Deadlines

Certified Retinal Angiographer (CRA)

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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 20-21</td>
<td>Examination in Miami, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 5-6</td>
<td>Examination in Philadelphia, PA</td>
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Contact: R. Mackenzie Timby, CRA, FOPS
Tel: (616) 373-8803

To apply for a CRA exam test site the following Eligibility Requirements must be met: (1) Letter of satisfactory submission of portfolio from Portfolio Committee 30 days prior to the exam. (2) A letter from the employing physician/institution addressed to the Chairman of the CRA Section verifying the applicant's employment as a Retinal Angiographer for at least 2 years. (3) Current certification in CPR (American Red Cross or American Heart Association preferred.)

Certified Ophthalmic Photographer & Retinal Angiographer (COPRA)

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</tbody>
</table>

Contact: Terrance L. Tomer, COPRA, FOPS Tel: (215) 928-3405

To apply for a COPRA exam test site the following Eligibility Requirements must be met: (1) Letter of satisfactory submission of portfolio from Portfolio Committee 30 days prior to the exam. (2) Current Certified Retinal Angiographer (3) A letter from the employing physician or institution addressed to the Chairman of the COPRA Section verifying the applicant's employment as a Retinal Angiographer for at least 5 years. (4) Current certification in CPR (American Red Cross or American Heart Association preferred.)
Ophthalmology World News

Carol Strickland, Editor of the new AAO publication *Ophthalmology World News*, is proud to announce that Csaba Martonyi, COPRA, FOPS and Director of Ophthalmic Photography at the University of Michigan, will edit a regular column in the internationally distributed monthly magazine. Each column will feature an image that sets a high standard of quality and usefulness for documentation, diagnosis, or treatment of an ophthalmological disorder.

Members of the OPS are encouraged to submit slides or prints with a written explanation of the image to: Csaba Martonyi, W.K. Kellogg Eye Center, 1000 Wall Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. The text may include discussion of distinguishing or representative features of the photograph, as well as information on techniques required to produce the image, particular difficulties encountered, etc. For the most effective color reproductions, please send photos that are as close to the original image as possible.

And the winner is . . .

Gary Vagstad, CRA

Gary Vagstad was the lucky winner of this year's *Angiolith* Premium Films Hasselblad Sweepstakes. The drawing was held October 29th in front of a standing room only audience at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco. The ever-lovely Holly Harwood-Skolkin, CRA, picked the winning entry form.

Gary works at Pittsburgh Retina Photography and is the recipient of many honors and awards for excellence as an ophthalmic photographer. Although Gary was the big winner that night—everybody had a great time shmoozing over wine and cheese hosted by *Angiolith* Premium Films.

Ophthalmology Times

Larry Merin recently authored a very flattering article on the history of the OPS published by *Ophthalmology Times*. The article is titled “Society Celebrates 25 Years of Service to Ophthalmic Photographers.” This is a highly recommended reading, and certainly worth the effort to look through your clinic's or department's library for the September 15, 1994 issue.

PHOTO Electronic Imaging


Congratulations Doug!!

SHOPPER’S CORNER

If you missed ordering 25th OPS Anniversary memorabilia, T-Shirts and posters are still available by special order.

**T-SHIRTS:** All shirts are white with black/gray/silver logo. Please indicate S, M, L, or X-L and allow 5 weeks for delivery. **Contact:** Denice Barness, Tel. & Fax (415) 921-8595, E-Mail: denicebars@aol.com

| Polo Style | $18.00 |
| T-Shirt    | $12.00 |

**POSTERS:** Decorate your clinic's white walls with a full-color, 24"x30" poster featuring all the past covers of the Journal. Only $20 plus $5 shipping. **Contact:** Donna Rae Sutherland (216) 498-4040.
Sadly, the OPS Newsletter reports that one of our dedicated members passed away recently. Bruce Maxell, died Sunday, January 1, 1995 in his native home of Portland, Maine at age 45. Bruce started his career as a Junior High School science teacher, and shifted into an ophthalmic-related career in 1982 after he graduated from Georgetown University Eye Technician Program and went to work at the Maine Eye Center. He was a past president of the Maine Ophthalmic Medical Assistants Association, and an active OPS member. Bruce was a friend to many in the Society and we will miss his contributions.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Maxell Children Education Fund should contact:
Bruce Maxell
C/O Fleet Bank • One City Center
PO Box 1280
Portland, ME 04104
Attn: Dave Cummings

The Don Wong Award

Randall E. Verdick and William D. Mathers, M.D. were the recent winners of The Don Wong Award. Their paper, “Infrared Video Meibography” was among many which received high praise by the five judge panel at the Scientific Paper Session at the Academy in San Francisco. In addition to this announcement, Coordinator Kirby Miller wishes to thank the many participants who made this past year’s event particularly successful.

EyeSpy

Tis that time of year when those New Years’ resolutions may still be fresh in the mind and the will is strong. EyeSpy has been busy collecting the top resolutions for OPS members and associates in 1995:

Resolve to find a new travel agent goes to Donna Rae Sutherland who is currently “wintering” in Cleveland. Eyespy’s geography lessons may be a bit rusty but isn’t Cleveland only a mere -20 degrees warmer than her native Buffalo? Unclear on the concept here....

Resolve to take it easy in 1995 goes to Csaba Martonyi, who’s not only editing a new column in a brand new magazine (see page 5), but also has two major exhibits this year at prestigious institutions. Casba’s outstanding images, all of which come from the W.K. Kellogg Eye Center at the University of Michigan, were recently featured at a special exhibit at the Rochester Institute of Technology, and will go to West Virginia University, University Eye Center, Department of Ophthalmology for a show in May.

Resolve to read up on how the Internet works goes to the unnamed individual who accidently broadcast their love letter via the Optimal network. Is this how Elizabeth Browning might have worked in the 20th Century?

Resolve to enter more contests goes to Gary Vagstad, the lucky winner of a Hasselblad camera at the Angiolith party in San Francisco. Gary is busy clipping those Publisher’s House coupons as we speak...
Bits of News:

The Board of Directors wishes to announce the resignation of George Weir, CRA from the Board of Directors on January 12, 1995. He was initiated as an At-Large member in November 1992. Laurie Conway of the Montefiore Medical Center in New York has been appointed as his replacement, and she will complete Mr. Weir’s term through 1996. Please welcome Laurie Conway to the OPS BOD!

John Johnson, CRA, FOPS has left his position as technical director and chief of ophthalmic photography at a Michigan eye institute for a position with Veatch Ophthalmic Instruments where he will be working with computerized digital video imaging systems. If anyone has any questions regarding this state-of-the-art technology, don’t hesitate to call him at 1-800-447-7511.

RED ALERT! RED ALERT!

The OPS Scientific Session Chair is now accepting submission proposals for oral papers at the 26th Annual OPS Educational Program in Atlanta. The purpose of the OPS Scientific Session is to expand the horizons of ophthalmic photography. We are looking for quality papers from experienced and advanced workers who are pushing the boundaries of our field (that means YOU!).

Doing something new you want to share with others? Solve an interesting problem lately? Have some specific ideas on electronics imaging—where it is or where it should be? Are you asking questions about our field which have never been asked—or if they have—have not been answered in sufficient detail? Tired of that Basic Fundus Class you’ve been attending and want to delve into meater subjects? Whatever the reason—trust me on this, you do want to participate in this year’s Scientific Session.

So—how do you sign up? Call, Fax, or E-Mail me a topic or title. The abstract can come later. If you have some suggestions for a special topic or focus this year please share them with me. All ideas will be considered.

Act now to obtain the best place on the program. Call before midnight tonight!

Patrick J. Saine, M.Ed., CRA
Office: (608) 282-2180
Fax: (608) 282-2172
E-Mail: 74252.24@compuserv.com

The Historical Committee Needs You!

Work on assembling the OPS archives continues.

Original Newsletters for the period of 1975-84 are needed to complete our collection. If you are interested in donating a copy to the OPS archives, please mail material or contact:

Denise Barsness, CRA, COMT Historian
(415) 921-8595
E-Mail: denicebars@aol.com

Letter from the Editor

I would sincerely like my first words as the new editor of the OPS Newsletter to be “Thank you.”

I’d like to thank Mark Mao and Sheila Smith-Brewer for supporting my desire to take on this responsibility; Colleen Eardley Mulder and Denise Barsness for their tremendous amount of help in getting me going in all the right directions; and to D. Rae Sutherland for planting the idea and encouraging me to go for it.

In my two short years as a member of the OPS, I have always enjoyed this Newsletter and found it to be a useful tool. My editorial philosophy is to preserve this, and I hope that all those who read the OPS Newsletter will also find it both enjoyable and useful.

I look forward to this rewarding, and I’m sure, challenging experience as the Newsletter Editor. However, I fear this challenge will be an unsurmountable one without the help of you—the membership. On behalf of the OPS and the Newsletter, please feel encouraged to contact me with any questions, concerns or useful information.

Best Regards-

John DaBois
Editor
**Position Desired:** RIT graduate with BS in Biomedical Photographic Communications graduate seeks full-time position in Ophthalmic Photography. Educational skills and clinical experience in fluorescein angiography, fundus, and SL photography. Please contact George Dudley, 22-21 Fairwood Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. Tel. and Fax: (716) 475-9885

**Ophthalmic Photographer:** The New England Eye Center is seeking candidates with strong darkroom skills and formal education or work experience in photography to perform fundus, fluorescein angiography, slit lamp and anterior segment photography. You'll be responsible for producing prints, slides and computer-generated slides as well as copy stand work. Previous experience in ophthalmology preferred. E-6 experience essential.

Please send/fax resumes to: Maxine Sao, Human Resources, New England Medical Center, NEMCH Box # 795, 750 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111; Fax: (617) 636-4658. We are an equal opportunity employer m/f/h/v. We support diversity in the workplace.

**Position Desired:** RIT graduate with BS in Biomedical Photographic Communications seeks full time position in Ophthalmic Photography. Educational skills and clinical experience in fluorescein angiography, fundus, SL photography and video production. Please contact: Zbigniew Krasan, 329 E 160 N, American Fork, UT 84003 Business phone: (801) 581-6219, Home phone: (801) 756-2036, E-Mail: zkrasan@jmeec.med.utah.edu

**Classified Marketplace**

**For Sale:** Used Zeiss FF4 fundus camera, 3 years old. Less than 150 angiograms taken with this camera. Complete with table, internal fixation, 2 Contax 35 mm 8 pin configuration camera backs. $20,000. Call Scott or Glen (810) 683-8890 or Fax: (810) 683-9215. We buy cameras!!

**For Sale:** AHDIA - Lighted Slide Storage. For a catalog call 1-800-950-7775.

**REMINDER**

The OPS now has a central office. For general information regarding membership, contact:

Barbara McCalley at 1-800-403-1677