

AZOA



FOCAL POINT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION

Donald Jarnagin, O.D., Named Dean of Midwestern University's AZ College of Optometry

*LONG-TIME GLENDALE OPTOMETRIST GUIDES STUDENTS,
HEADS MWU EYE INSTITUTE*

Midwestern University is pleased to announce that Donald E. Jarnagin, O.D., has been named Dean of the Arizona College of Optometry (AZCOPT). Dr. Jarnagin previously served as AZCOPT's Interim Dean.

Dr. Jarnagin has practiced in Glendale since 1970 and has served as President of both the Arizona and American Optometric Associations. He was recognized as "O.D. of the Year" by the Central Arizona Optometry Society, the Arizona Optometric Association, and the Great Western Council of Optometry.

As Dean of the Arizona College of Optometry, Dr. Jarnagin also heads the state-of-the-art Midwestern University Eye Institute, one of the largest optometry clinics in the State of Arizona incorporating 61 exam rooms, classrooms, and specialty areas. Staffed by AZCOPT faculty and third- and fourth-year optometry students, the Institute offers standard eye exams for about half

the traditional cost and operates a full-featured Optical Retail Center that offers a wide selection of eyeglasses and contact lenses at competitive prices. The Eye Institute also provides disease screenings, sports vision care and vision enhancement for athletes, low-vision and rehabilitative vision services, pediatric care, and a 24 hour on-call optometrist.



Midwestern University is a graduate degree-granting institution specializing in the health sciences with nine colleges and two campuses. The Illinois campus, located on a 105-acre site in Downers Grove, is home to 2,160 students and four colleges: the Chicago College of

Osteopathic Medicine, the Chicago College of Pharmacy, the College of Health Sciences, and the College of Dental Medicine-Illinois. The Arizona campus, located on a 144-acre site in Glendale, is home to 2,464 students and five colleges: the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine, the College of Pharmacy-Glendale, the College of Health Sciences, the College of Dental Medicine-Arizona, and the Arizona College of Optometry. The University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, a Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. ■

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: BY DR. GILBERT WONG



The 114th Annual Congress of the American Optometric Association was held June 15-19, 2011 in Salt Lake City. Your Association was represented by Dr. Shannon Steinhauser, Dr. Chris Parot, Dr. Rand Siekert, Dr. Annette Hanian, Dr. Lil Vogl, Dr. Art Epstein, Dr. Ken

Johnson, Dr. Stacey Meier and myself. There were 23 student members from Midwestern Arizona College of Optometry, including Misty Cox, Erika Anderson, and Mary Beasnett.

The highlights of the meeting were:

- Dr. Dori Carlson was elected as the first female President of the American Optometric Association
- Dr. Barb Horn elected as a Trustee
- The legal defense fund was dissolved, with one third of the proceeds going to the AOA for the purpose of establishing an Association Management Software database. The remaining two thirds will be distributed to the states on a pro rata basis.
- A substantive motion was passed calling for the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education to expand its scope to include accreditation of providers of continuing professional optometric education for presentation and approval of the AOA House of Delegates in 2012.
- The AOA auditors have concluded that a control deficiency exists in that the states collect the AOA dues and then forward them. The auditors feel that AOA should collect the dues directly.

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2011 - 2012 Board of Directors

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Do you have questions about your membership? Need to change or confirm your contact information? Want to refer a colleague to the AZOA? Please contact us:

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Fax: (602) 264-6356 Email: azoa@azoa.org

www.azoa.org

APRIL - JUNE '11

MEMBERSHIP

The meeting opened with Erin Brockovich, the keynote speaker who extolled us to follow our conscience and to do the right thing. For the few that do not know the story, Ms. Brockovich is a single mom, twice divorced, has three children, and only a basic education. She loses a lawsuit in a personal injury case. Her attorney feels sorry for her and hires her to do clerical work. She discovers that PG and E has knowingly contaminated the groundwater of a small town and is hiding the fact that the residents are being poisoned. Against the odds, she perseveres and is able to win a lawsuit to compensate the victims.

The meeting closed with Wayne Brady and Kathleen Madigan. As you know, Wayne Brady is a master at Improv and Kathleen Madigan is one of America's funniest comedians.

Optometry's Meeting 2012 will be in Chicago from June 27-July 01 2012. I urge all of you to attend. Members can view the House of Delegates in the gallery, or can attend as Delegates or Alternates. ■

Gilbert Wong, OD, AZOA President



SAVE THE DATE:

**AZOA's 2011 Fall Congress
November 11-13**

**Hilton Sedona Resort & Spa
\$219 room rate**

FOR RESERVATIONS: 1-877-273-3762

----- Please plan to attend! -----

AZOA Executive Director's Corner:

We have all heard the phrase, "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL". This could not be more appropriate now with the polarization of our members caused by the optometric board certification issue. A proposition was introduced at the AOA House of Delegates meeting last week in Salt Lake City which would have required the AOA to cease all relationships with the American Board of Optometry. This proposition was defeated. Board certification is here to stay and regardless of your position on this, we need to agree to disagree and move forward as one unified profession. Things are moving faster now than ever in Optometry and we need the help of our Association to help us navigate these challenging times. I could not imagine where the profession of Optometry would be today if not for the continued efforts of the AzOA/AOA. It was not long ago that we could not use diagnostic drugs, therapeutic agents or be part of medical eye care plans such as Medicare. These advances did not occur over night by chance. Our legislative efforts must be strong and vigilant, monitoring continued attacks from Ophthalmology on one side, and Optician refraction laws on the other.

There is a new sense of urgency and dedication from the AzOA leadership, led by your Board president Dr. Gilbert Wong, president-elect Dr. Chris Parot and Legislative committee chair Dr. Annette Hanian, to rally the membership and build a strong legislative presence at the State Capital. But we need everyone's help, beginning at the grassroots level and with the financial support of all Arizona Optometrists including non-members. Now is the time to step up to the plate and do your part when called upon.

I feel excited about the bright future of the AzOA. We have some very dedicated leaders, an enthusiastic, willing and committed membership, a steady increase in new members, an excellent working relationship with Margaret Whelan and Paula Hollins at the State Board office and the AzOA office is running efficiently. Hope you are having a nice summer and plan on attending the Fall Congress in Sedona, November 11-13. ■

Stacey Meier, OD, AZOA Executive Director

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: BY DR. ANNETTE HANIAN

2012 Legislation Plan Member Update

The Legislation Committee and our Lobbyists have finally completed all the leg work needed to be in a place where we can pursue access to group medical plans as a legislative agenda. We have spent much of the last 2.5 years meeting with various insurance companies, gathering information from Department of Insurance and other agencies. Now, we have a more complete view of our non-discrimination laws in AZ. We are covered against discrimination by 46-301 to 303 and also by 46-1406 and some AHCCCS Rules. In the 2012 Legislative session we plan to revise section 20-1406 of AZ Revised Statutes Prohibiting Denial of Certain Contract Benefits. Specifically, we plan to add language that requires any group insurance offering medical eye care coverage to offer both optometrists and ophthalmologists as providers to their insured.

We have successfully expanded scope of practice four times in the last three sessions (adding full RX ability for antihistamines, macrolides, antivirals and NSAIDS). We are now entering a different arena of insurance coverage and will be facing different committees prior to floor votes. If you know any of the following legislators, either through family, church, as patients or other means, please let us know.

Senate Banking and Insurance

Sen John McComish	R-20	Chair
Sen Michele Reagan	R-8	Vice Chair
Sen Adam Driggs	R-8	
Sen Linda Gray	R-10	
Sen Linda Lopez	D-29	
Sen Robert Meza	D-14	

House Banking & Insurance

Rep. Nancy McLain	R-3	Chair
Rep. Jeff Dial	R-20	Vice Chair
Rep. Debbie McCune Davis	D-14	
Rep. Richard Miranda	D-13	
Rep. Carl Seel	R-6	

Rep. David Smith	R-7
Rep. Vic Williams	R-26

Thank you for the continued support of our Doctors in participation and in financial contributions.

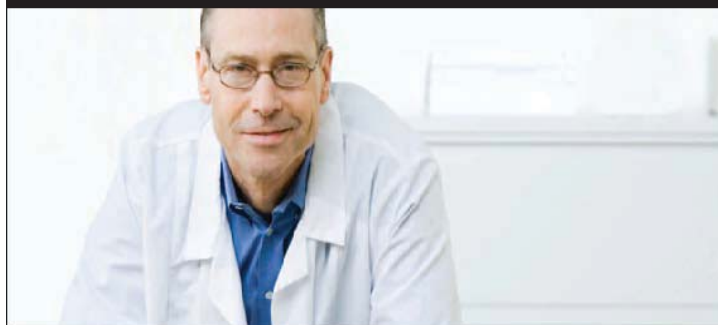
It is easy to make OPACA (Optometric Political Action Committee) contributions at our website

www.azoa.org/

The following have made political contributions this legislative session (since last election):

Joel Ackerman, Frank Akers, Pat Barry, Gail Bass-Derscheid, Henry Bogen, Lindsey Clyde, Lincoln Daynes, Amy Dechant, Curtis Dechant, Beth Deemer, Tom Determan, Kim Fornara, Jim Frank, Aleta Gong, Gary Greene, Caroline Griego, Annette Hanian, Larry Holle, Marla Husz, Don Jarnagin, Steven Kantor, Maury Kessler, Michael Lamb, Tami Lang, Brian Mach, Stephanie Mastores, Bob Maynard, Stacey Meier, Kelly Moffat, Gary Morgan, Robert Mulgrew, Ken O'Daniel, Christina Olivetti, Mark Page, Chris Parot, Bart Pemberton, Loc Pham, Robert Pinkert, David Rockwell, Amanda Mendez Roberts, Mike Sellers, Cheryl Schmitt, Tania Sobchuk, Todd Smith, Stephen Spencer, Heather Thompson, Megan Van Over, Lil Vogl, Gilbert Wong. ■

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National Academies of Practice inducts 11 Optometrists for 2011

The National Academies of Practice (NAP) announced the election of the following optometrists as distinguished practitioner-members of the NAP: Douglas Benoit, OD; Larry Davis, OD; David Heath, OD; Dominick Maino, OD; Douglas Penisten, OD, Ph.D; Richard Phillips, OD; Christopher Quinn, OD; **Christina Sorenson, OD**; Mary Jo Stiegemeier, OD; Andrea Thau, OD; and John Whitener, OD, MPH. The 11 optometrists were installed on March 26, 2011 along with new members from nine other health care professions. The NAP was founded in 1981 in recognition of the need for interdisciplinary collaboration in health care. It consists of distinguished practitioners and scholars from all the primary care professions now including: dentistry, nursing, optometry, osteopathic medicine, medicine, psychology, podiatric medicine, social work, veterinary medicine and pharmacy.

Congratulations to the AZOA's Christina Sorenson, OD!

InfantSEE Assessment Opens Eyes (article reprinted from the April 2011 AOA News)

Arizona InfantSEE provider **Caroline Griego, OD** averages about three InfantSEE assessments per month. One of her patients last month was 7-month-old Josie Sullivan-Wiltz who was born two months premature. Josie's mom, Jennifer, said vision was a "topic that came up during pregnancy because Josie was genetically predisposed to minor vision issues. However, neither her mother or father inherited those issues. So we were curious as to where she would fall."

Dr. Griego explained what she was doing throughout the assessment and assured Jennifer that her daughter's eyes looked very good.

"InfantSEE assessments are easy if you do a lot of them," said Dr. Griego. "When I first started my practice, half my patients were children so it's a natural thing for us."

APRIL - JUNE '11

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Lynne Noon, OD, FAAO
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Kevin Huff, OD



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10001 West Bell Road
Suite 115
Sun City, Arizona 85351
623.583.2800

Practice Limited to Low Vision Rehabilitation

Our doctors also see patients at several satellite offices throughout the state of Arizona. Our toll-free number is 866.924.8755

www.ViewFinderLowVision.com

Dr. Griego keeps the appointments short and simple. "I used to have all the bells and whistles, but now I pull them out only if I have to. It's much easier."

Dr. Griego said the best part about performing the assessments is getting to educate parents about children's vision and encouraging the whole family to come in. She recommends infants return at age 2 and again before starting school. Dr. Griego has been as InfantSEE provider since the program's inception in 2005. She was the Arizona Optometric Association's president at the time. During that period, she noted two instances where she detected something abnormal during an appointment; once it was a cataract and the other was amblyopia. To sign up as a provider, contact infantsee@aoa.org

OD WANTED

■ **FT. OPTOMETRIST NEEDED IN TUCSON:** We are an Optometrist-owned company. We offer a high guaranteed salary and a full benefit package. We are the largest employer of ODs in the state. Our offices are well-equipped and managed with a professional, trained staff. All offices use EMR's and we practice to the extent that our license allows. For information call Mark Peller, @ 602-524-4397 or email mpeller@cox.net

■ **PART-TIME OPTOMETRIST NEEDED IN YUMA:** We are an Optometrist-owned company. We offer a high guaranteed salary. We are the largest employer of ODs in the state. Our offices are well-equipped and managed with a professional, trained staff. All offices use EMR's and we practice to the extent that our license allows. For information call Mark Peller, @ 602-524-4397 or email mpeller@cox.net

■ We are looking for an OD/FT/PT/Main Dr. minimum three days a week for a growing establishment located on the west side of the valley. Interested, please contact Willy Charles at 480-593-8847 or 623-486-0089. Thank you.

■ Looking for doctor to fill-in the following dates: July 16th, August 5th, 6th, 19th and 20th. Please call or e-mail Michael Duong OD at 408.218.2595 or mduong912@gmail.com. Base + Bonus. Thank you

■ Regular Fill in OD wanted: Looking for 1-2 days per week. Private, independent office in Glendale. Please fax your resume to 623-979-8876.

■ **PT OPTOMETRIST NEEDED immediately** for Central Phoenix location. 1-3 days/wk. Daily Bonuses available. Flexible hours. Please contact/send CV resume to jjeyedoc@gmail.com.

■ **OPTOMETRIST NEEDED FOR 4 DAYS/WEEK.** Our office is located in Goodyear, AZ and is looking for an OD

to cover for 6-8 weeks of maternity leave starting in July. Please email questions, resumes and contact number to KathyVuOD@gmail.com

■ **OPTOMETRIST NEEDED 2-3 DAYS PER WEEK:** Vista Eye Care is seeking a part-time optometrist in Green Valley, AZ starting in July. Our office has 4 exam lanes equipped with the new Marco TRS refracting system, Cirrus OCT, Optomap retinal imaging, visual field testing, etc. Our technicians perform complete pre-testing including case history, autolensmeter, autorefractor, topography, Optomap, confrontation visual fields, EOMs, pupils. Please contact Dr. Christine Bartoletti at 520-625-5673 or email cbartoletti@vistaeyecare.net

■ Fill in needed for Friday May 20th. Patients will be pretested by trained staff. EMR/Topcon Fundus Camera/Reseevit SL Camera/FDT/Humphrey VF. Please call Dr. Irene @480-820-3813 or email loonbird3@cox.net

■ I am looking for P/T permanent optometric coverage for Monday's here in Tucson-northside. Contact Dr. Goldman at Classiceyesinc@gmail.com

OD AVAILABLE

■ Updated June 2011: Professional Locum Tenens Coverage for your professional practice. Vacation, illness, "mental-health days", etc. Even last-minute! Regular PT also considered. 30+ yrs experience including 16 yrs with a large hospital/medical center.

Range: Northern AZ as far south as (and including) Phoenix metro area. Phone 1-800-734-5804 or 1-206-498-0636, or email drpaulkanter@comcast.net

■ Optometrist Available: Enthusiastically efficient and charismatic PA-certified optometrist available for full-time, part-time or temporary position in Phoenix and the greater metropolitan area.

Seasoned in primary care, contact lenses, surgical co-management and EMR with ancillary training in and a personal love for pediatric and binocular vision. For more information, please email minieyedoc@yahoo.com.

■ **OD AVAILABLE EARLY SUMMER 2011** - New graduate looking to relocate to AZ. I am ambitious and have interests in contact lenses, ocular disease and practice management. Experienced with many EHR types. Open to all types of opportunities including: employee, associate, partial or full practice acquisition. For CV contact, John Peterson petersonod@gmail.com

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

■ Prominent Goodyear Optometric practice is expanding and is in need of experienced opticians. 2 positions available for full time, starting immediately.

We use the most up to date technology and want our patients to have the best.

Our opticians enjoy a fun work environment, with non-commissioned sales.

Applicant must be professional, enthusiastic, positive, reliable, and have a good sense of style. Bilingual is always a plus!

Our office offers highly competitive wages, quarterly bonuses, 401K, Group medical insurance, and paid vacation time.

Please contact Mary at 623-932-2020

■ We are currently looking for a part-time Vision Therapist to work Mon-Wed. We are very flexible with hours and can adjust the schedule accordingly. Training will be provided.

Please call Vivian Gonzalez at 602-863-2223 for more information

CLASSIFIEDS

■ Nationwide Vision Medical Eye Center is looking for an enthusiastic individual with Ophthalmological experience. We have a high volume medical practice that focuses on diagnoses and treatment of eye related conditions such as glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, and more. The position requires knowledge of medical insurances: HMO, prior authorizations, co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles. You must feel comfortable handling multiple phone lines, checking patients in and out, and scheduling appointments. The position requires 2-3 years experience with an ophthalmology or optometry practice. Other positions available include Asst Manager, Ft/Pt Opticians, Optometric Assistants, and Patient Service Representatives. See a list of all 61 Nationwide Vision locations in Arizona at nationwidevision.com.

Bi-lingual applicants with all experience levels are encouraged to apply.

Nationwide Vision's commitment to their patients and to the Arizona community is reflected in their employees. Our employees are professionally trained, sincerely caring to our patients and dedicated to excellent service. Our employees are the number one asset to Nationwide Vision. For positions available valley-wide, please respond.

Please respond to medicalcenter95@gmail.com

■ We are looking for a bilingual (Spanish speaking), personable, people friendly candidate to join our working team. Someone who can multi-task, is self-motivated, is excited about a long career opportunity, and puts our patients first.

Summary: Administrative Assistant or Doctors Assistant that provides support in the front office and pre-examination areas. The position reports to the Sr. Administrative Assistant. Essential Duties and Responsibilities: Assist in training of

clinical interns, assist with data entry, maintain clinical supplies, assist with organization, assist with scheduling and insurance eligibility. Meet regularly with Sr. Administrative Assistant. Establish a positive welcoming atmosphere to improve morale and promote teamwork among staff. Other duties may be assigned.

Position Requirements: Education and/or Experience: High school degree, Associate's degree (AA) or experience. A minimum of 1-2 years of work experience in a front office setting, administrative assistant or doctor's assistant setting. Preference will be given to candidates with eye care background or knowledge of OfficeMate. Knowledge of Word, Excel and a minimum typing speed of 30 WPM are highly recommended. The individual should be a person committed to ensuring that a work-friendly environment exists with team members and clinical interns. Bilingual (Spanish speaking) is highly recommended.

Apply to:

rjuarez.eyedoc@gmail.com

Please email for fax number if you prefer to fax in your resume or CV.

PRACTICE FOR SALE

■ Optometric practice in Somerton, Arizona for Sale. Very successful practice for 12 years. family owned. Great patient base. priced at 150k. average gross income over past couple years 400k. price includes exam equipment; chair, slit lamp, phoropter. pre- testing equipment; visual fields- humphrey matrix, Auto ref/ kerato/ tonometer- Nidek RKT 7700, fundus photography Nidek NM200D, and inventory. Please call Nancy at 928-627-4525

■ Parker Optical in Parker Arizona is for sale after 16 years. price is \$75,000.00 including exam lane with equipment. Haag-Streit slit lamp. in house edging equipment with briot

patternless edger. all stock and inventory. retiring due to health. rent currently \$452.00 a month. Please contact Dennis at 928-669-6971

■ Albuquerque, NM Practice for Sale. Very nice office location in the pleasant east end of Albuquerque. Please contact Monte Stump at 505-296-5481 or via regular mail at 1925 Juan Tabo Blvd, NE, Ste A. Albuquerque, NM 87112

YOUR HELP NEEDED

■ VOSH Arizona is in need of phoropters, auto lensometers and auto refractors for our trips to Mexico. If you can donate equipment, please call John Reed, OD at 480/545.9120 or Deon Whipple at 480/545.8985.

To place a classified ad, please email the AZOA at kate@azoa.org

Good & Welfare

If you have any Good & Welfare notices that you would like published in upcoming Focal Point issues, please contact Kate at the AZOA office at:

602.279.0055 or via email:
kate@azoa.org

Maricopa County Attorney's Office Offers Free Service to Victims of Bad Checks

A Bad Check Doesn't Have to Mean Bad News

It is a crime in Arizona to knowingly write a bad check, and it is one of the many ways thieves attempt to make a dishonest living. Fortunately, there is a place victims of bad checks can turn to for help. Through its Check Enforcement Program, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office helps victims of bad checks get financial restitution from bad check writers, and also prosecutes these offenders for Non-Sufficient Funds, Account Closed, Unable to Locate and many other types of bad checks.

"Our staff will work with you or your business to collect payment for a bad check and we will also provide instruction on how to 'check out the check' before accepting a check for payment," said Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery. "I encourage all eligible business, public agencies, government programs and individual victims of bad checks to use this free service to fight financial crime in Maricopa County," he adds.

Since the late 1980s, the Check Enforcement Program has returned over \$40 million in restitution and repays an average of \$1.2 million a year to victims of bad checks. Funds for the program are generated entirely from fees and payments levied on bad check writers and involve no cost to the taxpayer. The program will pursue a bad check writer to recover funds even if it takes a long time.

"Someone issued us a bad check back in 2001 and we wrote it off quite a while ago," recalls Evelyn Ellis, Office Manager at Broadway Central Hardware in Phoenix. "This past February, we received full payment from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. That made us very happy."

"It's a very user-friendly service," says Melissa Hyde, Business Manager for the Check Enforcement Program. "Victims simply download the appropriate form from our website, fill it out, submit it to our office along with the bad check and we take it from there."

Retailers can also download a free, printable poster to place in their establishments, warning bad check writers of the penalties associated with passing a bad check. Hyde is available to meet with business associations, trade organizations and other local groups to provide

an overview of the program and answer any questions. The Check Enforcement Program brochure, guidebook and warning poster for retailers are available online under the "Community Programs" tab at www.maricopacountyattorney.org. For more information or to request a presentation, contact Melissa Hyde at (602) 372-7300. ■

National Diabetes Awareness Campaign Kicks off in Phoenix

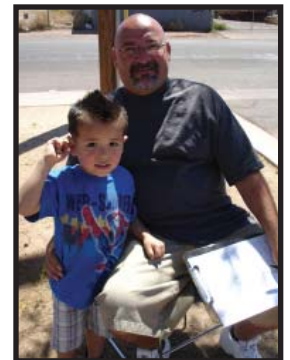


Today, nearly 26 million people—that's 8% of the U.S. population—live with diabetes and another 79 million are estimated to be prediabetic.

In partnership with the Arizona Optometric Association, VSP® Vision Care, launched the 2011 Eye on Diabetes campaign

in Phoenix March 2011 to create awareness about the connection between eyecare and the early detection of diabetes and other chronic healthcare conditions. The campaign also highlights the important role eye doctors play in the detection and treatment of diabetes.

VSP's 45-foot mobile eye clinic spent three days in Phoenix to provide free eye exams, glasses, and screenings for diabetes and high blood pressure to underserved/uninsured residents. VSP network doctors volunteered their time to help residents in need receive access to quality eyecare they would otherwise not have access to.



A total of 108 residents received a comprehensive eye exam and glasses on board the mobile clinic. An additional 272 gift certificates were distributed to residents who will be able to visit any VSP network doctor in their area to receive a free eye exam and glasses.

IN THE NEWS

The doctors that volunteered with VSP Mobile Eyes in March were:

Mar 28, San Luis, in cooperation with :

Tom Determan, OD
Stephen Spencer, OD

Mar 29, Mesa, in cooperation with Central Christian Church:

Jack Hostetler, OD
Jonathan Wold, OD
Terri Gieske, OD
Frank Akers, OD

Mar 31, Phoenix, in cooperation with Society of St. Vincent DePaul:

George Sanchez, OD
Dawn Heffelfinger, OD
David Stacy, OD
Cathy Hollenbach, OD

Apr 1, Phoenix, in cooperation the Arizona Informant Foundation, Health Choice and Healthcare Connect

Richard Wood, OD
Chad Burton, OD
John Chrisagis, OD

We appreciate the doctors' willingness to volunteer - We helped a lot of people that week!



To support the important role optometrists play in the detection and treatment of diabetes, VSP sponsored a half day of free COPE-approved

continuing education with nationally known educators Jeffrey Gerson, OD and Paul Chous, OD, both recognized as experts in the areas of systemic and ocular disease. 114 doctors, a campaign record, received practical tools they could implement in their practices on how to treat patients with or at-risk for diabetes.

On May 3, VSP Global CEO Rob Lynch and VP of Optometric Programs and former Board chair Dr. Dan Mannen hosted 38 Phoenix doctors at a town hall event at the Phoenix Airport

Marriott. During the event VSP shared strategies to continue connecting patients with private practice doctors and held a very open and direct Q&A session regarding Costco, online optical and contact lens programs.



Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief is Ready to Assist Tornado Victims

Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief, administered by Optometry Cares, is ready to assist optometrists whose practices and/or homes were impacted by recent tornadoes in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Tennessee. The Fund provides immediate assistance in the aftermath of natural disasters.

Optometrists may contact their state association or Optometry Cares directly to initiate financial assistance.

To ensure that funds are available for all who need assistance, AOA members are encouraged to make a donation to Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief. Your contribution is deductible to the fullest extent of the law, as no goods or services are furnished by the Optometry Cares – The AOA Foundation, a 501(c) (3) organization, in exchange for the gift to Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief.

To contribute, simply mail your check to Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., First Floor, St. Louis, MO 63141.

Spring Congress 2011 - May 20-22

Hilton Tucson El Conquistador

Below: Dr. Annette Hanian, AZOA Board Member, Dr. Lil Vogl & Dr. Marla Husz



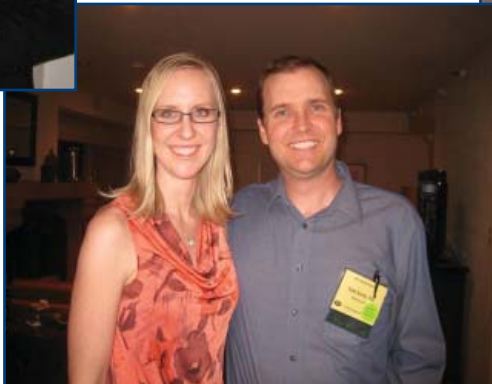
Below: Attendees hanging with Essilor Reps



Below: AZOA Exec Director, Dr. Stacey Meier & AZOA President, Dr. Gilbert Wong



Right: Dr. Beth Deemer and AZOA Board Member, Dr. Todd Smith



Above: Bausch & Lomb Reps & Dr. Van Kesteren



Above: Speaker Laurie Sorrenson presenting to attendees



Above: 2011 Legislative Key Person of Year, Dr. Joel Ackerman & wife Michelle



Above: AOA Trustee Dr. David Cockrell



Above: AZOA Vice President, Dr. Frank Akers & Senator Rick Murphy



Above: AZCOPT Dean, Dr. Don Jarnagin & some AZCOPT students

Below: Kate Diedrickson, Michelle Ackerman & OCUSOFT Reps



Above: Installation of the 2011-2012 AZOA Board Officers & Directors



Left: Dr. Gilbert Wong & feline friend



Above: 2011 Legislator of the Year, Senator Rick Murphy & AZOA Legislative Committee Chair Dr. Annette Hanian



Above: 2011 OD of the Year, Dr. John Rinehart (picture taken later as he was unable to attend Spring Congress)



Above: 2010 Young OD of Year recipient Dr. Jeff Bergeson & 2011 Young OD of Year recipient and new AZOA Board Member, Dr. Dave Coulson

Right: Magician Norm Marini performing at the Saturday night award's dinner



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In Memoriam



Michael Lightle (1956-2011)

As you know Mike Lightle, with Veatch Ophthalmic Instruments, had been suffering from GIST cancer and it took its final toll on him as he passed away Friday, June 3rd at 1:07 am. Mike was such a special person in so many people's lives and I know we will all feel the pain of loss with his passing. I also know Mike would want us to spend this time celebrating his life and we all have so many fond memories to celebrate. Our

hearts are hurting, and things will just not feel the same without our "Mike." He was surrounded by family, and passed away peacefully in "his own bed."

Mike was ambitious, capable, charming, cheerful, compassionate, courageous, credible, dashing, delightful, determined, diligent, dynamic, eager, encouraging, entertaining, enthusiastic, excellent, fair, faithful, friendly, funny, generous, good, happy, kind-hearted, knowledgeable, likeable, loving, lucky, nice, productive, protective, proud, romantic, sensitive, sincere, skillful, successful, talented, thoughtful, trustworthy, upbeat, warm, willing, wise, witty, wonderful...

...we will all miss him.

Arizona Optometric Association

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