

The South Carolina Association of Opticians



Insight

Fall 2021 **Newsletter**

Winter 2022

The Winter Continuing Education meeting will be the weekend of January 22-23 in person at: Embassy Suites, 200 Stoneridge Dr, Columbia, SC 29210. 803-252-8700

Registration will open November 1st

Spring 2022

The Spring Continuing Education meeting will be the weekend of April 29-May 1 in person at: Ocean Creek Resort, 10600 North Kings Highway, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 800-303-6829

Registration will open February 1st*

If you plan to stay at Ocean Creek, let them know you're with the SCAO for discounted rooms.**

If interested in Basic Lensometry workshop; please contact Ronnie Harbert at 843-795-7917.

The association will hold a the Lensometry class and/or others if there is enough interest.

Please go to our website at scoptician.org for the latest information on area and statewide meetings, education classes, SCLLR updates



Know your officers and representatives:

SC Assn Officers

President

Ronnie Harbert

Vice President

Wesley S. Scott

Secretary

David Gosnell

Treasurer

Danny Gosnell

Past President

Amy Stutsman

Sergeant at Arms

Bill Russell

Website/ E-blast

George Lee

InSight Newsletter

Grant Brown

Area Representatives

Columbia Area

Rhody Spooner

Charleston Area

Jodi McGinnis

Florence Area

Skip Patterson

Greenville / Spartanburg

Maryellen Holliday

Myrtle Beach Area

Dawn Arnold

Rock Hill Area

Marisol Rodriguez

SC Board of Examiners

In Opticianry:

Keith Hayes, Chair

Wm. "Grant" Brown, Vice-Chair

Daniel B. Gosnell

Emily F. Mikell

James L. "Jimmy" Rhodes

The Association has enjoyed many positive comments about beginning our meetings with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Every officer and representative will tell you how much they have grown in ability and knowledge of how to better serve both opticians and the public.



Why male opticians don't wear ties anymore!

From our President

I hope that everyone has been as safe as possible through these difficult times; we are definitely learning new ways to conduct business and to be safe and forward thinking at the same time. We were able to conduct five in-person meeting days this year and finished our last one on August 8th. We appreciate everyone's patience as we try to provide education in person and to follow the guidelines in these constantly changing times.

We ran all our meetings this year at the Embassy Suites in Columbia because of space in the meeting rooms for social distancing, ease of access, and its central location. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to help make our meetings go smooth and be a big success. It's always comforting to have Bill Russell, our "work horse" running the schedule in the rooms. I want to thank Wesley Scott for going beyond his duties as vice president and I can't wait to see where he leads our association in the future.

This year we had great speakers as usual. Our first meetings in May we had Jackie O'Keefe presenting our ABO hours and B W Phillips doing our NCLE hours. The next meetings in June were taught by Phernell Walker, both ABO and NCLE. He had almost learned everyone's name in the room by the end of the day. We finished our meetings for the year in August with Pete Hanlin teaching our ABO and Roy Ferguson teaching our NCLE hour. It is always great seeing these speakers and their willingness to come to SC and lead us in CEC. Keith Hayes taught our apprentices in May and June. Grant Brown taught our lensometry class in June and August. Thanks to all our speakers that are willing to give up their time and travel during these uncertain times.

We are hoping that 2022 brings more stability to our lives and way of doing business. We will be having our winter education, January 22 and 23, 2022, in Columbia at the Embassy Suites. Our Spring Fling will be April 29 through May 1, 2022, at Ocean Creek Resort in Myrtle Beach. The education day for that meeting is Saturday, August 30, 2022. Of course, we will be adjusting our meetings and times if the situations deem necessary. Please keep checking our website for updates.

There is a lot going on in our industry and I feel that we have a great team to be able to keep up with these changes and move our association forward. All our area rep positions are filled with Mary Ellen Holliday (Greenville), Skip Patterson (Florence), Jodi McGinnis (Charleston), Rhody Spooner (Columbia), Dawn Arnold (Myrtle Beach) and Marisol Rodriguez (Rock Hill). Thank y'all for getting involved. The association is for all its members so please get involved in your area.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President and having patience with any mistakes I might make. It is an honor to be a part of this association.

Ron Harbert



Don't stress about your failing eyesight as you get older.
It's nature's way of protecting you from shock as you
walk by the mirror.