



NEWSLETTER

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OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION
OF ARKANSAS

POST OFFICE BOX 1

LEXA, ARKANSAS 72355

WWW.AROPTICIANS.AORG

SPRING Meeting

May 18, 2025

CEC Little Rock

FALL Meeting

Sept 28, 2025

CEC Jonesboro

WINTER

Meeting

Nov 16, 2025

CEC Bentonville



Special Olympics

Volunteer

May 23, 2025

Special Olympics!
Want to join in on an
awesome volunteer
opportunity?

Call Jerry Himes
601-954-1278

Mark your calendar
and make plans to
attend.



The Spring meeting will be held on May 18, 2025 at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock, Arkansas. We will offer 4 hours of Arkansas State Board and ABO credits and the mandatory law class.

The Annual business meeting will be held at noon on Sunday May 18, 2025. If you would like to run for an office or a board seat, please contact, Christy Seaton, our nomination chairman.

Please make your reservations as soon as possible to make sure you have a room if needed.

You will find the registration for the meetings in this newsletter.

If you want to volunteer on May 23, 2025 for the Special Olympics – call Jerry Himes at 601-954-1278.

Educational Reminder . . . Remember!!!!

You must have five hours of State Board approved EDUCATIONAL HOURS between July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025 to renew your certificate July 1, 2025

RENEWAL FEE FOR 2025-2026 WILL BE \$3.00 IF PAID BEFORE JUNE 10, 2025.



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Spring Meeting

Sunday, May 18, 2025

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Embassy Suites

**11301 Financial Centre Parkway Little
Rock, AR 72211 501-312-9000**

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

BEFORE 5/10/25

TO PAY AT THE DOOR***

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Either Form must be received in the Association office before 5/10/25 If payment is not received the amount due will be \$210.00

REGISTRATION – Sunday, May 18, 2025

MEMBERS*	\$100.00	\$130.00	_____
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NON-MEMBER	\$180.00	\$210.00	_____
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TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

IF PAYING FOR MORE THAN ONE PERSON, PLEASE FILL OUT A FORM FOR EACH PERSON. YOU MAY COPY THIS FORM.
COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO: **Opticians Association of Arkansas, PO Box 1, Lexa, AR 72355 or FAX TO
870-572-2847 *** TO PAY AT THE DOOR YOU MUST FAX YOUR REGISTRATION TO 870-572-2847 BEFORE 5/10/25**

**This is your
association please
help . . .**

**Send all information for
newsletter and classes
at the meetings to the
association office.
We need your input**

President's Letter

Hello fellow Opticians!!

Spring is just around the corner and I am ready for it. It is also time for our Spring Meeting. We have the opportunity to learn, discuss and fellowship with our fellow operations.

Please make sure you fill out and submit your paperwork as soon as possible so you have a reserved seat.

Remember there will be no paying at the door.

Look forward to seeing each of you.

NEVER STOP LEARNING

Sincerely

Debra Ball, OAA President

State Board Corner

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE STATE BOARD EXAMINATION IS GIVEN DAILY. Once you have completed all your requirements (which includes passing the ABO Exam), you can apply to take the Arkansas State Board of Dispensing Opticians Licensed Exam. Once the application is approved you can schedule to take the exam at a testing service. Most testing services are open Mon-Sat 8 am 7 pm

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU DO NOT SENT A COPY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT WITH YOUR APPRENTICE OR LICENSE APPLICATION, OR YOU DO NOT COMPLETE THE APPLICATION CORRECTLY, IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU FIRST CLASS MAIL. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

Exciting News! The board has updated all forms, as of January 1, 2025 only the new forms will be accepted

APPRENTICE OPTICIANS REMEMBER

You may not work alone, you must have direct personal physical supervision, by a Licensed or Registered Optician at all times.

Licensed opticians can supervise 3 apprentice opticians at one time. Remember you MUST be able to give them supervision at ALL times. The board is now a part of the department of health and lots of changes have happened, so make sure you have the correct information about apprentice applications, license applications, office permit applications, renewals, and testing process.

2025-2026 RENEWAL FEE WILL BE \$3.00 IF PAID BEFORE JUNE 10, 2025. FEE WILL GO BACK TO \$60.00 PLUS LATE FEE IF PAID AFTER JUNE 10.

OFFICE PERMITS due June 10 and the fee is \$60. Dispensers MUST be sure that the office they work in has a valid office permit. **It is illegal to work in an office that does not have a current office permit.**



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Spring Meeting

Sunday, May 18, 2025

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Embassy Suites

11301 Financial Centre Parkway Little Rock, AR 72211

501-312-9000

AGENDA

May 18, 2025 ABO Speaker: Pete Hanlin

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 7:30 am - 8:00 am | Seating and Questions |
| 8:00 am –9:00 am | Making Life Easier (by reducing redos)

Focus: reducing redos by addressing the main reasons we see remakes |
| 9:00 am - 10:00 am | Ocular Ramifications of Diabetes |
| 10:00 am - 11:00 pm | Ophthalmic Merchandising

Learn how to increase patient compliance with practitioner recommendations

through merchandising |
| 11:00 am –12:00 noon | Contrast Sensitivity & Visual Perception

Focus: The role contrast plays in vision |
| 12:00 noon | Mandatory Law Class / Business Meeting |

Thanks to Essilor for Sponsoring our Speaker Pete Hanlin

Pete Hanlin began his ophthalmic career in 1989 as a lab technician. Over the next 13 years, he managed optometric practices in Pennsylvania and Florida before joining Essilor of America in 2002- where he is currently Vice President of Professional Services. Designated a Master Optician by the American Board of Opticianry, Pete serves as an industry representative on the ANSI Z80 committee. A graduate of Lee University, he lives in Hickory Creek, Texas with his wife and grandson.

CEC Courses are Arkansas State Board and ABO Approved

Please make sure you get the proper educational certificates stamped before you leave the class

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