



NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS

President	Rick Rakotz
Vice President	Felicia Shepherd
Secretary	Mary Butler
Treasure	Jessica Grazier
Past- President	Debra Ball
Directors	Rusty Acebo Jimmie Howard Cayla Schmitz Jamie Harper

NEW OAA MAILING ADDRESS

**Opticians Association
of Arkansas
Post Office Box 2523
West Helena, AR 72390**

**FALL Meeting
Sunday
Sept 28, 2025
CEC Jonesboro**

**WINTER Meeting
Sunday
Nov 9, 2025
CEC Bentonville**

**SPRING Meeting
Sunday
May 17, 2026
CEC Location TBD**

Mark your calendar
and make plans to
attend.



**The Association new Address:
Optician Association of Arkansas
Post Office Box 2523
West Helena, Arkansas 72390**

The upcoming FALL and WINTER meetings
will be held:

Sunday, September 28 Jonesboro Hilton Garden Inn
and

Sunday, November 9 Bentonville Doubletree Hotel

We will offer Arkansas State Board, ABO and NCLE
credits as detailed in the agenda.

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

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

Educational Reminder . . . Remember!!!!

You must have four hours of State Board approved EDUCATIONAL HOURS between July 1, 2025 and
July 1, 2026 to renew your certificate July 1, 2026

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

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

**NEW OAA MAILING
ADDRESS**

Opticians Association of
Arkansas
Post Office Box 2523
West Helena, AR 72390

President's Welcome Letter

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our Continuing Education Meeting, hosted by the Arkansas Opticians Association. We are honored to have you here with us as we come together to grow professionally, connect as a community, and strengthen the standards of our industry.

This event reflects our commitment to lifelong learning and excellence in opticianry. The courses, speakers, and discussions planned are designed to not only meet your CE requirements, but to truly support you in providing the highest quality of care and service to your patients.

Whether you are a long-standing member or attending your first meeting, your presence here speaks volumes about your dedication to the profession. Together, we form a network of skilled, compassionate, and forward-thinking opticians who play a vital role in the eye care system of Arkansas.

On behalf of the Association, thank you for your continued support and engagement. I encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities available this weekend—ask questions, share your insights, and most of all, enjoy the camaraderie. Here's to a productive and inspiring meeting!

*Warm regards,
Rick Rakotz
President, Arkansas Opticians Association*

State Board Corner

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE STATE BOARD EXAMINATION IS
GIVEN DAILY.**

Don't forget you must always wear your badge when you are working as a Licensed or Apprentice Optician.

License Opticians that supervise Apprentice Opticians must be physically present while supervising the Apprentice Optician.

All Optical must have a valid office permit before opening. The office permit must be visible at all times, it is not only the owner's responsibility, it is also the licensed and apprentice opticians' responsibility.

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Opticians Association of Arkansas
Post Office Box 2523 West Helena, AR 72390
WWW.AROPTICIANS.ORG



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Fall Meeting

Sunday, Sept 28, 2025

7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Hilton Garden Inn

2840 South Caraway Road Jonesboro AR 72401

870-931-7727

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

**Form must be received in the Association office before 9/21/25
If payment is not received the amount due will be \$210.00**

REGISTRATION – Sunday, Sept 28, 2025

	BEFORE 9/21/25	TO PAY AT THE DOOR***	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
MEMBERS*	\$100.00	\$130.00	_____
NON-MEMBER	\$180.00	\$210.00	_____
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, Post Office Box 2523 West Helena, Arkansas 72390** or FAX TO **870-572-2847**

***** TO PAY AT THE DOOR YOU MUST FAX YOUR REGISTRATION TO 870-572-2847 BEFORE 9/21/25**



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Winter Meeting

Sunday, November 9, 2025

7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Bentonville Doubletree Hotel

also known as Doubletree Suites by Hilton

301 SE Walton Blvd Bentonville Arkansas 71712

479-845-7770

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Form must be received in the Association office before 10/29/25

If payment is not received the amount due will be \$210.00

REGISTRATION – Sunday, November 9, 2025

	BEFORE 10/29/25	TO PAY AT THE DOOR***	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
MEMBERS*	\$100.00	\$130.00	_____
NON-MEMBER	\$180.00	\$210.00	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED			_____

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Fall/Winter Meeting Agendas



Pete Hamlin Speaker

Jackie O'Keefe, LDO Speaker

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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