



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

SPRING Meeting
Sunday
May 17, 2026
 Wyndham Grand
 (Holiday Inn Airport)

FALL Meeting
Sunday
Sept 20, 2026
 Jonesboro
 Hilton Garden Inn

WINTER Meeting
Sunday
Nov 15, 2026
 Bentonville
 Location TBD



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

The Spring meeting will be held May 17 at the Wyndham Grand

You will find the registration forms for the meetings in this newsletter. The Wyndham Grand is offering a \$100 dollar room rate, so please make you reservations early. We will have a business meeting at noon. Officers and two board members will be elected. If you are interested in becoming a officer or board member, please let Debra Ball or Jerry Himes know.

NEW OAA MAILING ADDRESS

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

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

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 Members of the Arkansas Opticians Association,

On behalf of the Arkansas Opticians Association, I would like to personally welcome you to our annual convention. This event is always a great opportunity to come together as professionals, share knowledge, and strengthen our community.

As a reminder, this convention is the final opportunity to obtain the continuing education hours required prior to license renewal. I encourage everyone to ensure their CE requirements are completed during this time.

Supervising opticians, please take a moment to verify that all apprentices under your supervision have completed their registrations properly and in a timely manner. Your guidance is essential to keeping everyone on track and compliant.

I truly look forward to seeing you all at the convention and appreciate your continued commitment to our profession and association.

*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.

NEW OAA MAILING ADDRESS

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



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Spring Meeting

Sunday, May 17, 2026

7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Wyndham Grand (Holiday Inn Airport)

3201 Bankhead Drive

Little Rock, Arkansas 72206 501-490-1000

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

**Form must be received in the Association office before 5/7/26
If payment is not received the amount due will be \$210.00**

REGISTRATION – Sunday, May 17, 2026

	BEFORE 5/7/26	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 5/7/26**

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

OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Spring Meeting Agenda



AGENDA

Sunday, May 17 Little Rock, Arkansas

Jackie O'Keefe Lincoln Speaker

- 7:30 am - 8:00 am Seating and Questions
- 8:00 am –9:00 am True Multifocal Lenses: Natural Accommodative Lenses
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am What is Good Vision?
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Hug Your Patients
- 11:00 am –12:00 noon Identifying Ophthalmic Lenses Without a Lensometer
- 12:00 noon – Business Meeting

Special Thanks to Our Sponsor for the Spring Meeting:

THE HOME of OMNILUX



Speaker: Jackie O'Keefe Lincoln

Jackie O'Keefe, ABOC is licensed in Virginia and has been in the Optical industry since 1981. Jackie is a course preparer on quantumoptical.com and an ABO/NCLE/AOA speaker. She is a second-generation Optician along with her two sisters, Candace O'Keefe and Laure O'Keefe Pierce. She was active in the International Association of Lions Clubs, a volunteer for Maine's Prevention of Blindness Programs, Inc. and the Suicide Prevention Awareness & Resource Council. Jackie is Past President of the Opticians Association of Virginia and a founding member and Past President of the Opticians Association of Maine. She resides and consults in the Virginia Beach, VA area.

CEC Courses are Arkansas State Board and ABO Approved

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