



NEWSLETTER

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Jimmie Howard

FALL MEETING

Sunday Sept 20, 2026
Hilton Garden Inn
Jonesboro,
Lynn Lawrence
Speaking

WINTER MEETING

Sunday Nov 15, 2026
DoubleTree Bentonville
Lynn Lawrence
Speaking

SPRING MEETING

Saturday May 15, 2027
Basic Optics

Sunday May 16, 2027
Wyndham Grand
(Holiday Inn Airport)
Andrew Bruce

Mark your calendar
and make plans to
attend.



The Fall meeting will be held on Sept 20, 2026 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Jonesboro, Arkansas. We will offer 4 hours of Arkansas State Board and ABO credits and the mandatory law class.

Please make your reservations as soon as possible for BOTH the WINTER and FALL Meetings to make sure you have a room if needed. It is a football weekend and rooms will be booked fast!

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

NEW OAA MAILING ADDRESS AND FAX

Opticians Association of Arkansas

Post Office Box 2523

West Helena, AR 72390

NEW FAX 601-706-8525

WWW.AROPTICIANS.ORG

Educational Reminder . . . Remember!!!!

You must have five hours of State Board approved EDUCATIONAL HOURS between July 1, 2026 and July 1, 2027 to renew your certificate July 1, 2027



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

FALL Meeting

Sunday, Sept 20, 2026

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Hilton Garden Inn Jonesboro

2840 South Caraway Road, Jonesboro, AR 72401

870-293-4435

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Form must be received in the Association office before 9/9/26

If payment is not received the amount due will be \$220.00

	BEFORE 9/9/26	TO PAY AT THE DOOR***	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
MEMBERS*	\$110.00	\$140.00	_____
NON-MEMBER	\$190.00	\$220.00	_____
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

***** TO PAY AT THE DOOR YOU MUST FAX YOUR REGISTRATION BEFORE 9/9/26**

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870-293-4435

Featured AGENDA for FALL Meeting

FALL Meeting CE Courses Presented by Lynn Lawrence

Lynn E. Lawrence, CMSgt, USAF(ret), MSOL, CPOT, ABOC, COA, OSC, is currently a leadership and staff development consultant, national lecturer, and an ophthalmic technician for Mills Eye and Facial Plastic Surgery. He has a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership.

Courses: Basic Optics | Dispensing Standards | Hints about the Tints | Making the Sale

President's Letter

Hello fellow Opticians!!

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. And hopefully you all have had a good summer and have been able to enjoy time with your family and friends.

It is almost time to register for our fall or winter convention hours. As you know, convention is your opportunity to obtain your continuing education hours that are required prior to license renewal. Fall is scheduled for September 20, 2026, in Jonesboro and Winter is November 15, 2026, in Bentonville. Please mark your calendar for the meeting that fits your schedule.

Please be sure to get your paperwork filled out and sent in, as soon as possible. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

Felicia Shepherd, OAA President

Opticians Association of Arkansas

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This is your
association please
help . . .

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

License Renewal Reminder & Continuing Education Update

As we move through the renewal cycle, the Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians would like to remind licensees of the annual requirements for maintaining active status.

Annual License Renewal

Dispensing optician licenses must be renewed by **July 1** each year. Licenses not renewed by that date automatically shift to **inactive status** under 17 CAR § 70-1009(a)(1). Opticians on inactive status will be notified and are not permitted to perform ophthalmic dispensing until their license has been renewed and reinstated.

Renewal and Late Penalties

To return to active status opticians must submit all required renewal materials, continuing education documentation, the renewal fee of \$60.00, and any applicable late penalties.

Under 17 CAR § 70-1007, the following late penalties apply to unpaid renewal fees:

- July 1 through July 31: \$25.00 | Aug 1 through Aug 31: \$50.00 | Sept 1 through Sept 30: \$75.00

Continuing Education Requirements

As a condition of renewal, licensees must comply with the continuing education requirements set forth in 17 CAR § 70-1002, including:

- Four (4) hours of approved continuing education in even-numbered years; or
- Five (5) hours of approved continuing education in odd-numbered years, including one (1) hour of jurisprudence.

Continuing education must be approved by the Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians and evidence of completion must be submitted to the Board.

Questions or Need Assistance? Email: aropticiansboard@hotmail.com
Jerry Himes, Secretary-Treasurer

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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NEW FAX 601-706-8525 **WWW.AROPTICIANS.ORG**



OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

WINTER Meeting

Sunday, November 15, 2026

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel Bentonville

301 SE Walton Blvd., Bentonville, AR 72712

479-845-7770

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

DISPENSARY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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