

The Visionary

Ventura ∞ Santa Barbara ∞ San Luis Obispo

Winter 2013-2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

TCOS WINTER CE 2014

SUNDAY JANUARY 26TH, 2014

THE TOWER CLUB,

OXNARD

TCOS SPRING CE 2014

SUNDAY MAY 18TH, 2014

SANTA BARBARA POLO GROUNDS,

SANTA BARBARA

Register now for CE at tcosvision.org!

The close of 2013 continued to be as eventful as the rest of the year with several exciting TCOS events. In October TCOS invited local Congresswoman Lois Capps to attend our meeting at Sycamore Mineral Springs in Avila Beach. Rep. Capps has co-sponsored the Optometric Equity in Medicaid Act and we wanted to acknowledge that in front of her Central Coast constituents. Although scheduling conflicts arising from the government shutdown prevented Congresswoman Capps from attending in person, she did graciously send her district healthcare staff member, Betsy Umhofer, who shared Lois Capps' vision of optometry's vital role in healthcare: providing the vast majority of primary eye health and vision care for those in her district, in California, and across the country. Rep. Capps gave a commendation to the doctors of the TCOS, and the TCOS awarded Congresswoman Capps the title of Honorary Optometrist.

The October event also featured a town-hall meeting attended by COA trustees Sage Hider and Steve Langsford as well as COA executive director Bill Howe. We had a lively and interactive discussion about important recent and upcoming issues in optometry. The COA leaders also shared a presentation on the benefits and resources available to COA/TCOS members. For those who have not yet had the opportunity to attend a COA House of Delegates, it was an excellent synopsis on the value of membership.

In December we enjoyed the opportunity to socialize with members and spouses at the TCOS Christmas Party held at the elegant Biltmore Four Season in Santa Barbara. And December also marked the launch of the updated TCOS web site at tcosvision.org. The enhanced web site offers new features including the ability to register online for TCOS CE Events with a credit card. I hope you will visit the site to learn about our upcoming Winter CE Event on January 26th at the Tower Club in Oxnard. The Tower Club meeting was a very successful event last year and is back by popular demand. We will have four hours of CE as well as the swearing-in of the 2014-2015 TCOS board member, I look forward to seeing you there!

James Weitkamp, OD
President
Tri-County Optometric Society

TCOS Winter 2014 Continuing Education Meeting

Date: Sunday, January 26th, 2014

Place: The Tower Club

805-983-7777

300 East Esplanade Drive, Suite 1455

Oxnard, CA 93036

Directions: From 101 South or North, take *Vineyard Avenue* exit towards Oxnard. Turn left onto *East Esplanade Drive*. 300 E. Esplanade is the tallest building immediately to your right.

Schedule: 10:00 - 10:30 – Registration and Continental Breakfast
10:30 - 11:20 – Joseph Chang, MD – “Oculoplastic Issues”
11:30 - 12:20 – Paul Dougherty, MD – “Refractive Surgery Innovations”
12:30 - 1:30 – Lunch and TCOS General Meeting
1:30 - 2:00 – A Word from our Sponsors
2:00 - 2:50 – Linda Pang, OD – “Atypical Retinitis Pigmentosa”
3:00 - 3:50 – Linda Pang, OD – “Atypical Retinitis Pigmentosa”
4:00 - 4:30 – Light Dinner and Swearing in of 2014-2015 TCOS Board

Sponsored by: CALIFORNIA RETINAL CONSULTANTS
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NOTE: The TCOS would like to extend an invitation for you to attend one CE event this year for FREE! Take advantage of this opportunity to receive complimentary CE and an enjoyable day in the company of your fellow optometrists. Simply register my email and indicate that you are using your complimentary one-time meeting invitation. This is for COA members AND non-members.

Cost: COA Members \$40
Non-Members \$70

Register online at tcosvision.org

or

RSVP and send check (payable to “TCOS”) to: Dr Kris Skromme, 801 S. Victoria Ave.,
Ventura, CA 93003. skrommeod@gmail.com.

Menu

Continental Breakfast

Croissants, muffins, bagels, coffee, orange juice, water and tea.

Lunch

Grilled Irish Salmon with Fruikake crust, Passion Fruit Basil Sauce, rice pilaf and vegetables.

Afternoon

Cookies, soft drinks, brownies, coffee and water.

Light Dinner

Taco bar.

Featured Speakers



Linda Pang, OD
Chief of Low Vision
Rehabilitation Services
Western University
College of Optometry



Paul J. Dougherty, MD
Board-Certified Ophthalmologist
Dougherty Laser Vision



Joseph H. Chang, MD
Board-Certified Ophthalmologist
Montecito Aesthetic Institute

MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 19, 2013 GENERAL MEETING

President Weitkamp called the meeting to order at the Sycamore Hot Springs Resort in Avila Beach at 1:00pm. SECRETARY'S REPORT: (Mayhew) The minutes from the August 11, 2013 meeting at the Firestone Brewery were approved by the membership (Chowins/Lowry).

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Alford) The Union Bank checking account balance is \$38,750 and \$8734 in the vision One Credit Union Savings Account. Our 2013 income to date is \$21,153 where \$15,250 of that amount was from Sponsorship checks. Our expenses year to date are \$13,494. The treasurer's report was approved by the membership (Hider/Chowins).

MEMEBERSHIP REPORT: (Lowry) Membership is stable for the TCOS. There are two new graduates in the area and we will invite them to join.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: (Weitkamp for Gronquist) The COA met with OMD's to form a committee to monitor the subject of Optometrists giving vaccinations.

-SB 305 allows our previous bill not to sunset

-SB 430 would require children to get their eyes examined before they enter school and every three years until the eighth grade. This was held in the Assembly as due to opposition from pediatricians.

-SB 491 the measure would have allowed nurse practitioners to practice without direct physician supervision. This bill was held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

-SB 492 redefines the practice of Optometry. The COA will be working with the legislature to come up with a certification process to perform advanced procedures.

-SB 493 expands the scope of practice of pharmacists. It allows them to give vaccinations and fill some prescriptions without doctor supervision. This bill was signed into law.

-SB 724 provides limited immunity from liability to non-profit organizations and volunteers that provide vision screenings. This bill was signed into law.

-SB 809 would have raised fees on health care providers to pay for a database that monitors scheduled drug prescriptions. There was a request to amend the bill to more fairly distribute the costs of the database. The bill was signed into law.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (Weitkamp) The Christmas party will be at the Biltmore in Montecito on December 7, 2013. More information will follow.

-The next meeting will be on January 26th 2014 at the Tower Club in Oxnard.

-The NOOR free clinic in San Luis Obispo has received a visual field machine and an HRT but is in need of a pachymeter.

The meeting was adjourned by President Weitkamp at 1:10pm.

Lois Capps' District Representative Betsy Umhofer read a statement from the Legislator and this is a summary from that statement:

Ms. Capps feels that she has a valued relationship with Optometry. More people are looking at healthcare in a holistic way and Optometry being a primary care profession is a first line of eye care in most patients' lives. More people will be able to get to obtain eye exams through the Affordable Health Care Act. Lois Capps is proud to be one of 80 bi-partisan co-sponsors of HR-855 which is attempting to get parity in Medicaid with physician payments. We have been recognized by Medicare for 25 years as equal care providers and it is time Medicaid did the same.

Bill Howe, executive director for the COA also spoke to us:

-The House of Delegates will on April 4 – 5th in Indian Wells. Legislative Day will be on May 13, 2014 in Sacramento. This is a great opportunity for all Optometrists to meet with their legislators and help them to understand what Optometrists are trained to do.

-SB-492 Protects what we are already doing

1) It will eliminate the medication list

2) It expands primary care role (Vaccinations, Diagnosis of diabetes, hypertension, and hyper cholesterol)

3) Advanced procedures:

-New certification will be a 32 hour course

-Lumps and bumps

-Lasers (SLT and Capsulotomy)

-Injections

Continuing Education:

Dr. Dhoot and Dr. Steinle (California Retinal Consultants)

-What is a Retina Emergency?

-Retinal Detachment, Surgical Management

-Retina Update

Respectfully Submitted
Teresa Mayhew, O.D.

The Visionary Info:

The Visionary is published several times per year by the Tri-County Optometric Society; serving Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties.

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