

Assistant's View Vol. 4 No. 4 December 2009



If you are a CCOA in good standing and would like to receive this newsletter by fax or email, please send your name, year of certification, and contact information to terry@opto.ca.

New Grads!

CONGRATULATIONS to the **242** new Certified Optometric Assistants. We have broken *another* record for the largest graduating class yet! We're very happy to have you join the other 1,400+ of us. Think of all the people who benefit from having CCOA's on staff – our doctors, our co-workers, and our patients. And, of course, there is the benefit to oneself of having mastered the monumental amount of course material successfully.

AB

Gabrielle Anctil
Megan Belcourt
Aliaksandr Birulin
Christina Bosch
Ashley Brawn
Brooke Burke
Monique Burzuk
Margaret Cazemier
Jennifer Chambers
Marsha Chislett
Chelsay Christman
Jade Cunningham
Lacey Cunningham
Danielle Cuthbert
Shanda Desjarlais
Loretta Dowhan
Tracy Driver
Elizabeth Dugas
Kallyn Farrow
Erin Fleming
Kathelin Francis
Merilie Goudreau
Alysha Gurr
Kim Herring
Leighann Hoetmer
Jennifer Holub
Sharon Hopfauf
Shelly Hutchings

Crystal Burnett
Jean Cafik
Julia Caldwell
Lori Champagne
Linda Chan Afford
Helen Cheung
Lesley Chow
Haley Christensen
Julia Clemitson
Christina Corbett
Jamie Cordero
Lynn Daft
Tammy Deausy
Kayla DeMartini
Tamara Drift
Chrisoula Drossos-Kirk
Melanie Dube
Lorna Egresits
Victoria Ellendt
Jennifer Epp
Lilai Feng
Selina Garrison
Danielle Geneau
Taryn Gibbs
Christine Grueter
Laura Hanley
Lindsey Hansen
Trish Herzberg
Janet Holick

NB

Michelle Baisley
Gloria Baisley
Gertrude Baisley
Michelle Boudreau
Michelle Chamberlain
Karen Cook
Karen Corey
Tabitha Douglas
Alicia Foran
Lisa Hatheway
Alicia Hay
Beverly Hubbard
Brenda McKinley
Jennifer Poirier
Katrina Pond
Isabelle Vautour

NL

Lindsay Ballard
Heather Milley

NS

Julie Alexander
Robin Campbell
Kathleen Cassell
Pam Davidson
Stacey Denine

Rebecca Koutsoumbis
Monica Lamarche
Isabelle Landry
Laurie Lockington-Wong
Nicole Lockyer
Jenean Lush
Terrol Maciver
Venessa McClement
Heather Melvin
Sandra Mielke
Elena Milkson
Melissa Moore
Andrea Nickerson
Jennifer O'Connor
Julie Parks
Leslie Pate
Cathy Piotrowski
Pamela Powell
Meghan Prescott
Jeanette Richmond
Deborah Siertsema
Christina Sinnott
Amber Spence
Grazyna Szczotka
Jan Traquair
Wendy Vermilyea
Katharine Watts
Ashley Winegarden
Chrissy Wolf

Marie Johnson
Melissa Jones
Rhea Kasper
Laura Kent
Donna Lantz
Wanda Lucas
Sandy MacKay
Shayel Mackinnon
Morgan Madsen
Susan Mahovsky
Robyn Manderscheid
Sandra Marcoux
Katie Melanson
Emilie Mogg
Jennifer Mouser
Anne Mowry
Katie Napier
Cristen Nelson
Lisa Piche
Jeannie Polowick
Sherri Rowat
Monica Schindler
Samantha Sillito
Sheila Sinclair
Frankie Smith
Kimberly Storey
Natasha Tooke
Misha Tran
Kristen Wiebe
Arlene Wilson

BC

Debbie Anderson
Teresa Bampton
Michelle Bell
Jessica Bennett
Leah Bennewith
Susan Boss

Crystal Hornby
Robyn Jonson
Page Kean
Lindsay Kelly
Nicole Lane
Tara Lutsiak
Andrea MacVicar
Kavita Manoj
Chelsey Masini
Deanne McClain
Loral McLeod
Michelle Mehlenbacher
Jasmine Mierdel
Kim Nguyen
Taryn Northrup
Melissa Penner
Nicole Plant
Tammy Pottruff
David Runions
Patricia Simundson
Angela Unrau
Cheri VanOverbeke
Julia Verigin
Catherine Vincent
Nadine Wagner
Ashley Wuthrich

MB

Rose Boda
Audrey Cure
Kristin Fehr
Tammie Fehr
Kathleen Filuk
Melissa Moore
Lara Otaki
Carissa Penner
Eryn Wiebe

Jennifer Deveau
Tanya Dondale
Sharla Finanders
Melanie Hagen
Desiray Keddy
Rachel Langille
Phyllis McLean
Tanya Roy-Leslie
Stefanie Stanislow

ON

Aimee Aquilina-Wilton
Dayna Barber
Hazel Barcelon
Christine Barrett
Janet Batchelor
Kristen Britton
Rene Brousseau
Kara Buchwald
Melissa Campbell
Cherylann Caperchione
Sara Chadwick
Helena Cheung
Carla Costa
Lyndsay Cubitt
Rachel Davey
Nicole Di Pietro
Tracy Drysdale
Julie Farquhar
Karen Ferguson
Lesley Fulton
Kelly Gawel
Erin Girdler
Joanna Grant
Elizabeth Guarda
Kristi Hall
Kimberly Harting
Sherry Hogwood
Sonja Irwin
Jeffrey Jones

Susan Woodward
Sharon Wringe

SK

Sharon Armstrong
Brittany Bjerland
Sarah Cassidy
Courtney Chrétien
Trisena Cook
Alyssa Deschambeault
Kelly Ericson
Katie Goett
Emily Jarosz
Tara Johnson
Christine Kilborn
Chris Larter
Jenna Lee
Cheilon Millar
Colleen Millar
Lindsay Pederson
Lisa Pollock
Janelle Schaeffer
Elizabeth Shortland
Meagan Simonson
Lynn Sokolan
Jocelyn Tunncliffe

Award Granted

The winner of the 2009 Scholastic Achievement Award is **Lesley A. Chow, CCOA** from the practice of Dr. Larry Chow (her brother) in Port Coquitlam, BC. Lesley received the highest overall mark in the 2008-2009 Optometric Assistant Course. ***Congratulations, Lesley!*** We hope you will display your beautiful new plaque with pride – your commitment to scholarship is an inspiration to us all. We know how hard you worked to achieve this accomplishment.

Technical Tidbits

Occluding in Style — Visit www.drpatch.ca to see a reusable, completely opaque, adhesive yet residue-free film designed for individuals who require corrective eye treatment through the occlusion of one eye. This adhesive patch is affixed directly on the eyeglass lens and is made to fit all types of glasses. The product was first created for children and offered in a variety of bright, playful designs; today a more understated version is also available for adults. Ms. Lyse-Anne Roy, a graphic designer by trade, originally invented “DrPatch” to help her son Zacharie, who was diagnosed with strabismus at the age of three. 1-877- 919-0722.

GP Troubleshooting — The Gas Permeable Lens Institute (GPLI) in the US is probably the world’s best resource when it comes to GP lenses. One of the most useful resources on the GPLI website www.gpli.info is the Grand Rounds Troubleshooting Guide. It consists of a series of more than 50 case reports on all kinds of GP lens fits, ranging from spherical lenses to multifocals, high astigmatism, keratoconus/irregular cornea, post-surgical fitting and corneal reshaping. Go to the following website address to see the complete series with free and open access to all case reports: www.gpli.info/education/book.

– From *I-Site Newsletter*, November 2009

News from the Provinces

Alberta – The Hyatt Hotel in Calgary hosted 280 optometrists and 190 optometric assistants and opticians for the very successful AAO AGM and conference held in late October! We extend a big thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the evaluation forms; your opinions really do count, and your feedback is invaluable to help us plan future conferences. Next year's conference is already in the works and will take place at the Banff Springs Hotel in Banff from May 27-30, so be sure to mark your calendars! From all of the staff and council at the AAO, we wish you a joyous holiday season!

Saskatchewan – We were in Regina Nov. 6-7 for our convention this year, and it was great fun! Our motivational speaker, Darci Lang was amazing! She has a wonderful attitude and encouraged us to accept and better ourselves during both our home and work lives. We also had Joyce VanRooyen and Trudy Charest guiding us through our jobs by troubleshooting in the dispensary and also defining our different and unique work personalities, so we can get our teamwork goals realized in our offices! We had a very informative CE, and we met new colleagues and also said hi to familiar faces. Thanks to all of our doctors, reps, speakers and OAD Executive Council for a great environment to learn and get motivated in!

OAC & CE News

Reminder – If your 100% of your staff is certified by CAO, i.e., everyone is a CCOA in good standing or is currently enrolled in the Optometric Assistant Course, be sure to visit www.opto.ca/assistants (click on “OD Info”) to download the application. Return it to CAO, and we will issue you a certificate suitable for framing and hanging in a prominent place in your practice. If you have questions, please contact Terry Theiss at terry@opto.ca or 1-888-263-4676, ext. 218.

Notes from the Lensometer

Drivewear Sponsored by HOYA Vision Care, Canada

In the last newsletter, we talked about Transitions lenses. One of the complaints we get from our patients is that Transitions lenses do not change in the car. Transitions were never designed to do so and if they were, patients would be complaining that they change indoors too!

There is a second option however – Drivewear is a very unique product. It is a **polarized**, transitions lens that changes behind the windshield! The lens changes when exposed to both UV **and** visible light, so lighting conditions will affect how dark the lens becomes both inside and outside. For this reason, they do not lighten completely inside. And the polarization eliminates all glare. Drivewear only comes in one color – inside it is a green/yellow color, in the car it gets 70% copper and outside 90% brown. This color was chosen specifically because it increases color definition, making it very easy to look through.

Hoya can provide you with Drivewear lenses which include our PolAR package, Super Hi Vision on the back surface, and Clarity Shield and ViewProtect on the front. Your patients will love this lens and the coatings make it easy to clean and give them a long, scratch-free life.

– Joyce VanRooyen, CCOA, Professional Education Co-Ordinator, Hoya Vision Care Canada,
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