



Optician's Alliance of New York

Opticians Alliance of  
New York Inc.

Volume III, Issue I

**THURSDAY**  
Sept 20th 2007

**Milleridge Inn**  
**Jericho NY**

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE Peter Bacotti**

Last time I sat at my computer to write this column it was to announce the end of meetings till the fall and to write about the future of NY-YSO and OANY possibly co-existing and working together to strengthen the status of Ophthalmic Dispensing license. The temperature was hovering at 90 degrees and the iced tea was in hand.

Well the temperature today has started out with a nice 60 degrees and the day promises to be a beautiful one with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations about to start. I hope all of you are going to celebrate the birth of our Nation with a big bang and remember what has made it so strong.

As all who were at the June meeting know we had a rather productive get together with two great Continuing Education credits given by Jim Reavy of Balester Optical and Donna Heyer of Essilor. We, OANY members, Board of Directors, and Officers would like to thank them for their participation and continued support of our organization. The thunderstorms didn't dampen our spirits or keep too many OANY members from attending these lectures and hearing Laura Frezza give a us an idea of why all opticians in the State should be banning together to not only strengthen our profession, but to make sure we never lose our license to practice in the State of New York. I think that Laura presented her personal views in a light that made complete sense to everyone who was there and I want to thank her for the time and effort she made to come out and share her views with us. I hope that this can be start of communication between all Opticians in the State to work for our common benefits.

The Officers and Board apologize for not planning the summer event early enough to make it a worthwhile affair, help raise money for the blind and provide everything necessary for a successful time. The good news is that we learn by our mistakes and will be looking ahead to next year's event. The Board members and I are setting up next year's summer fun event and want it in place starting in September of this year. I would like to thank all our sponsors, lecturers, supporters of OANY for all that they have done for us and especially thank all the members of OANY for the continued support of me, the President and the rest of the Officers and Board Members. It is because of you that we are continuing to grow and can provide the things that make Ophthalmic Dispensing the profession it is. **THANKS FOR MAKING ME SO PROUD OF OANY.**

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday the 27th of September starting at 7:00PM at the Milleridge Inn. Please plan on attending and getting there early enough to enjoy the company of your peers.

Tonight's meeting will be Sponsored by **Match Eyewear** with there exciting line of Frames. Be there to examine what they have to offer. Match Eyewear has be an Charter Sponsor of our Organization since its inception and lets go all out to support them..

**Make Note that this year our meetings will be held on the Third Thursday of the Month with the exception of December which will be on the 4th Thursday**

### **Tonight's Meeting**

- Meeting Sponsored by
- **Match Eyewear**
- 
- Speaker
- Dr. Mark Hertzberg
- Course Title :  
TBA
- Continuing Education made possible by PD Ophthalmic Group NYSED Lic 032002-032005-II in conjunction with OANY



**Social Hour :** 7:00– 8:00 pm  
**Meet with Sponsor**  
**Open Pay Bar 7:PM to 7:45PM**

**Dinner:** *Appetizer*  
Melon Slices  
Mixed Green Salad  
*Chaffing Dishes*  
Grilled Vegetables  
Seafood Pasta  
  
*Choice of Entrée*  
Sliced London Broil  
Grilled Filet of Salmon  
Grilled Chicken Breast  
Vegetables Du Jour  
  
*Dessert*  
Seven Layer Cake & Coffee  
  
Price \$ 35.00 Per Person

**OANY**

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11572  
516-705-6523

**Office of Professional Discipline**

1121 Walt Whitman Blvd.  
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Attn: Jim Cuomo

**NYS Education Department**

**Claudia Alexander**  
Executive Secretary for the State Board  
In Ophthalmic Dispensing  
The New York State Education Department  
CEC, Room 3019, Albany, NY 12230  
Tele# 518-474-6374 Fax 518-473-6995

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516-248-5554

**Newsletter Coordinator:**  
**Business Manager** Andrew Cullen  
516-705-6523

**E-Mail** opticiansallianceofny@yahoo.com

**Next Meeting Dates**

**Thursday**  
**Sept 20th 2007**  
**October 18th 2007**



HI! My name is Anthony Rebaldo and I am a proud member and Officer of O.A.N.Y. since its inception.

I have been licensed in New York State since 1973 for Ophthalmic Dispensing and certified for contact lenses as well and hold licenses in Massachusetts and Vermont. I am ABO-NCLE certified and I have worked in the optical field for over 42 years with experience in surfacing, bench work, and retail sales. I have been a member of the State Board and served on the Advisory Board at City Tech and Westinghouse High School for many years. Nothing has given me more pleasure than helping students excel in their studies and endeavors to be Opticians.

I have enjoyed my time and experiences in the optical profession and with all my associates and colleagues through out the State and hope that I have earned some of their respect and can be remembered during my lifetime for being there for anyone in need. It is thanks to my family upbringing and the sacrifices we made that I can consider myself a worthy New York Ophthalmic Dispenser. Thanks Mom and Dad and the rest of my family for being there when I needed you



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# Opticians Alliance of New York

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Membership in the Opticians Alliance of New York is for one year beginning with The Date you're application is accepted for membership and running one year hence

Membership fee is 75.00

Make checks payable to Opticians Alliance of New York

Mail Application to Opticians Alliance of New York

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516-705-6523

Please indicate to which you belong

- American Board of Opticianry Certified (ABO)
- Contact Lens Society of America (CLSA)
- Fellow, National Academy of Opticianry (FNAO)
- Opticians Association of America (OAA)
- National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE)
- NYSSO Which Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

### *What is the Opticians Alliance of New York doing for you?*

- Providing access to free Continuing Education credits thru our regular monthly meetings
- Monthly Newsletter
- Web site [www.oany.org](http://www.oany.org)
- Email notification of timely messages

Payment Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



This is an email that we received from the Texas State Opticians Society ROTEX

### **“RAISE THE BAR” Campaign starts simultaneously in Four States**

The Tenth of August, 2007 may go down in the history of Opticianry as the date when the leadership of four Optician State Societies (Georgia, Nebraska , Pennsylvania , and Texas ) started the campaign to “RAISE THE BAR” for all Opticians in every state to have at least a two year college education in Optical Science. The tenth of August will be remembered as the date when all the right pieces fell together. It will be the date that the leadership of each of the previously mentioned state societies set aside their differences and became dedicated to the common goal of encouraging all Opticians in every state to earn academic credentials from one of the many fine colleges that offer an Optical Science education. The tenth of August will be the date that will be remembered as when technology finally made it possible for the average working Optician to attend college classes in Optical Science via their home computer where ever they now live. The tenth of August will probably even be a date that will be asked as part of entry level examinations in the future.

There is no longer a good excuse for not having at least a two year college education in Optical Science. If you are new to the industry, earning a two year college education in your new profession should be considered a minimum requirement. If you have been working in the Optical industry twenty or more years and know a lot about what an Optician should know, then the two year college education should be nothing more than a review and should not put too much of a burden on you.

Some of the colleges offer credit for life experience or industry certifications, which mean that a two year Optical Science education may only require one year effort and expense.

If we as professional Opticians are ever going to earn the respect of the other optical professions in the United States , we must enter the ranks of the other academically educated professionals. Our profession has hung on to the old ways of apprenticeship and OJT for way to long. All we have to do is look around and see how the old ways have not served our profession well in the last twenty or thirty years. **The time has come for all Opticians to pull together and encourage each other to take a step towards academic credentials. I believe that if most Opticians could agree that it is necessary for all Opticians to have academic credentials in order for our profession to survive into the future and start working towards this goal, we could accomplish this most worthy goal within the next six to eight years.**

“RAISE THE BAR”,



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