



## OANY Views

- Join us for live monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and receive continuing education credits
- Socialize and network with your fellow Opticians and enjoy the camaraderie
- Special discounts from selected sponsors for members only

## The President's Corner

Fall is upon us and with a very little, if any, chill in the air, we are moving forward with our monthly meetings and continuing education programs. We had another great turnout at our October meeting and for that I would like to thank Barry Santini for putting together a last minute informative and fun seminar. I want to also extend a special thank you to our new sponsor Martin Ponce and Brian Kessler from Drill Specialty and Swiss Flex. It is a fantastic product and comes

along with many exciting designs and colors. Thank you for your support. One of the issues that

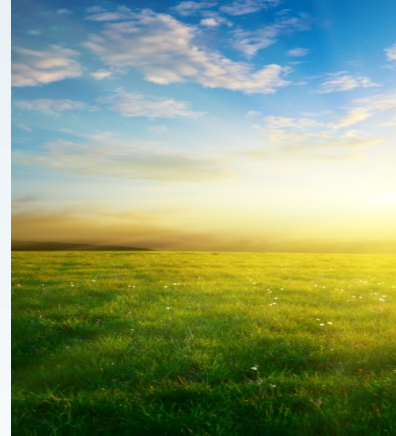
*"The organization seems committed to bettering opticianry and keeping up the standards"*

we had previously discussed was the elimination of the in person practical exam in Albany. A few weeks ago, Anthony, Mark and

myself had a virtual call with Jim Morris from the United Opticians Association. We found this call to be quite interesting and informative. The organization seems committed to bettering opticianry and keeping up the standards. The goal is to have more education nationwide. This is just the start and what will happen remains to be seen. A meeting is being planned for around June in a location to be shortly determined. I

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Never Taking Our Vision For Granted



### Our Mission

The Opticians Alliance of New York is an independent, not for profit organization, established to promote continuing competency and betterment of the optical health professional and to provide a standard of excellence in the optical health care for the consumer.

### Tentative 2024-2025 Schedule

Nov 20, 2024	Robert Russo
Dec. 18, 2024	IOT
Jan. 15, 2025	Jobson
Feb. 19, 2025	Herb Fletcher
Mar. 19, 2024	Save the Date
Apr. 16, 2025	Save the Date
May 21, 2025	Save the Date

JOIN US AT OUR UPCOMING MEETING AT  
DOMENICO'S RESTAURANT, LEVITTOWN, NY  
ON **WEDNESDAY**, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

Speaker: Robert Russo  
Presentation: Legal Concepts of Contact Lens Fitting  
CE Credit: 1 Contact Lens Credit  
Meeting Room: We will meet in the back room this month

### Inside Our Nov. Issue

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## *Dinner Options and Schedule For Our November Meeting*

### Schedule of Events

7:00 to 8:00PM	Social hour, meet with sponsor (Cash bar until 7:30PM)
8:00 to 8:30PM	Business meeting
8:30 to 10:00 PM	Continuing education and raffle

**Please note that no liquor can be ordered after 7:30 and no alcoholic beverages can be brought into the meeting room after 8:00**

#### **Appetizers**

**Bruschetta**  
**Stuffed Mushrooms**

#### **Salad Choice**

**Caesar or Garden**

#### **Entrée Choices**

**Spaghetti and Meatballs**  
**Chicken Parmigiana**  
**Eggplant Rollatini**  
**Rigatoni Ala Vodka\***

**Salmon**

**\*All served with Penne Pasta or Sautéed Broccoli except  
Rigatoni Ala Vodka**

#### **Dessert**

**Cake**  
**Coffee, Tea, Soda**



- Dinner is \$45 per person
- 50/50 raffle optional.
- Please bring exact cash or check for dinner.
- Can't make dinner? Come for the CE credits!

### General Information

- The Opticians Alliance of New York meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Schedule, sponsors, and speakers are subject to change.
- It is the responsibility of all members to sign in at the beginning of the meeting. This means sign-in on at least 2 sheets and sometimes 3. You will not receive credit for the continuing education course if you are not signed in. Our CE provider and that of the New York State Education Department prohibit issuance of credits to anyone who has not properly signed in or has not stayed for the complete course.
- If you have received a notice that your membership has to be renewed, please send in your check today. Better yet, if you're attending our upcoming meeting, you can pay by either check or credit card. If you're writing a check from your business, we kindly request that you *clearly print your name on your check* so we can properly credit you. We regret that if your dues is not paid and up to date, you will not receive your CE credits.
- Donated gifts for our raffle are greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged
- Check your e-mail daily or call any member of the Executive Board for updates to our schedule for our upcoming meeting.

### OANY

P.O. Box 631  
Oceanside, NY 11572  
516-234-4040  
Email: [office@oany.org](mailto:office@oany.org)  
Website: [www.oany.org](http://www.oany.org)

### OANY Officers 2024-2025

<b>President:</b>	<b>Steven Lehrer</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Mark Cohen</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Judith Deucht</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>David Cohen</b>
<b>Directors:</b>	<b>Madeline Koenig</b> <b>Anthony Rebaldo</b> <b>Alan Smith</b>
<b>Directors at Large:</b>	<b>Phil Feldman</b> <b>Barry Santini</b>

#### **Past Presidents:**

**Paul Heller**  
2022-2024  
2016-2019  
**Anthony Fulco**  
2021-2022  
**Steven Lehrer**  
2014-2016  
**Judith Deucht**  
2012-2014  
**Joseph Monestere**  
2010-2012  
**Anthony Rebaldo**  
2008-2010  
**Peter Bacotti**  
2005-2008  
2019-2021

<b>Newsletter</b>	
<b>E-Mail Blast:</b>	<b>Mark Cohen</b>
<b>Official Photographer:</b>	<b>Drew Washton</b>

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# OANY News

## *Our November Meeting is Going to the Dogs*



We are pleased to let you know for those OANY members who will be attending our November meeting, we will have 2 representatives from the Guide Dog Foundation, one human and one dog attend our meeting. Ian, the human, will speak for around 20 minutes and do a demonstration and let us know what the Guide Foundation is all about. So, don't be surprised when you walk into our meeting and see a dog. Your OANY board is considering making a donation to the Guide Dog Foundation.



## *The Hidden Danger of Progressive Lenses*

In the AARP October Bulletin, there is an article on "The Hidden Danger of Progressive Lenses." Though this article may seem ominous for our industry, there is actually a silver lining to this with the conclusion that patients should seek out a **licensed** Optician to fit and dispense their Progressive Lenses. You can read the full story [here](#).



## *Winner of our 50/50 Raffle*

We could like to congratulate Paul Heller. He was the winner of our 50/50 raffle at our October meeting.

*(Continued from page 1)*

am looking forward to attending this meeting next year. We hope to have more updates at our November meeting.

I am planning on attending the November 19 meeting of our Hudson Valley chapter. Barry will be the speaker and hopefully Mark and Maddy will be with me as well. I'm looking forward to meeting Lisa and other members of OANY's Hudson Valley. My goal is to keep our members updated and informed about our field. I hope word will get out to some of the younger opticians in the area about the importance of keeping our license strong and our numbers continuing to grow. Please feel free to reach out to me or any other member of the board with any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing everyone November 20th.

*Steven Lehrer*



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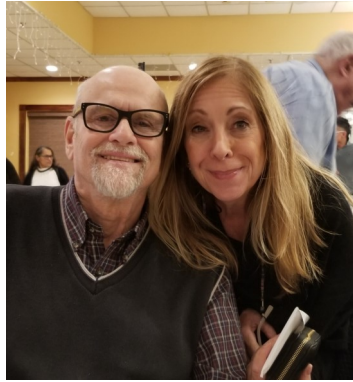
MEMBERS ONLY



# Pictures From Our Oct. Meeting



*Rick Miller, left  
and Brian Gerard*



*Chuck Abramson and  
Wendy Hollander*



*David Cohen, left and  
Bob Higgins*



*Lisa Greenwald*



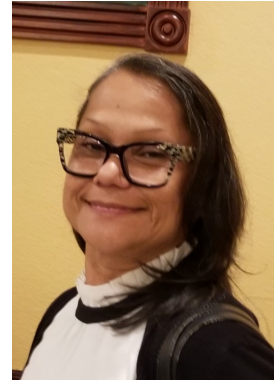
*Steven Lehrer, left and Anthony Rebaldo*



*Peter Bacotti*



*Alan Smith*



*Haydee Foos*

*Thank you to our sponsor and our speaker*



Thank you to  
**Martin Ponce**, left, and  
**Brian Kessler** from  
**Drill Specialty** for  
sponsoring our  
October meeting.



Thank you to  
**James Spina**, left and  
**Barry Santini**  
for presenting our  
continuing education  
course in October,  
“Helping People  
Discover Their Sense of  
Style Through  
Customized Eyewear”



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# Hudson Valley News

## News From the Mid-Hudson Valley Chapter of OANY



**Join Us for Our Must-Attend Dinner on November 19th at Eleven 11 Restaurant in Fishkill. Earn 2 New York State Continuing Education Credits!**

The Mid-Hudson Valley OANY dinner meeting on November 19, 2024, is a must-attend event for all Opticians and Apprentices in the area! Join us at Eleven 11 for an evening of networking, delicious food, and insightful discussions. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with fellow

professionals and learn from industry experts. Mark your calendars and RSVP to secure your spot at this exciting event! IF you are involved with patients during any part of the eyewear selection, this is a MUST SEE!

Dinner provided to members, for non-members the cost is \$40 per person.

Registration is now open for our **November 19th** event. Register below to see the time, location, agenda and continuing education details.

[Register Here](#)

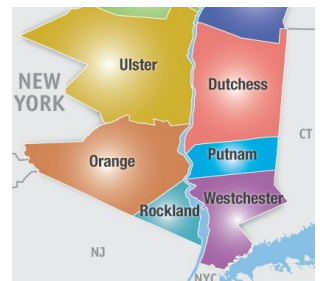
We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Barry Santini, ABOM, Licensed Optician and owner of Long Island Optical, Seafood, NY. He will be presenting our Continuing Education course and thank you to **Bolle for sponsoring our meeting.**

We look forward to seeing you again!!

If you have any questions, please contact us at the e-mail below.

**Lisa and Terri**

[mid.hudsonvalleyoany@gmail.com](mailto:mid.hudsonvalleyoany@gmail.com)





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# I Remember Momma, I Remember Papa

By The Old Geezer (AKA Peter Bacotti)



As we hit the Thanksgiving Holiday, I always remember fondly what the holiday

should mean, **FAMILY**. At Thanksgiving, we should all sit down and try to remember all the good times we have shared and enjoyed over the years. Not only that, but also maybe, set forth resolutions as to what we want to be thankful for in the coming year. What a better time than now, even though it may not be New Year's yet, there are many things to be thankful for and things that will make others thankful for what we can do. I remember when Thanksgiving came, Momma always made two turkeys. One was cooked in the old stove in the basement, the other in the kitchen and they were not small either. In those days, turkey was cheap and even free at the grocery when enough

money was spent on the groceries. All the family members loved fresh turkey and all the leftovers the following week or so. Turkey pot pie, crochets, turkey a la king, turkey salad and more.

Goodness, all the veggies and side dishes, do not forget the homemade pies. Everyone chipped in preparing, cleaning up and eating.

I remember what happened one year when I was still a young turkey, and we all sat down for dinner and passed the sliced turkey around the table. My brother Chip took three big slices of the breast meat and placed them on his plate. My father looked at him and said that is too much turkey for you to eat. Let's go back a little, my brother Chip always wanted tropical fish, but father told him no because of money constraints and because he was still too young to take care of them.

Ok on with the story. My brother

Chip argued that he could eat even more. Low and behold, after going back and forth my Papa made a wager with son Chip. The wager being tropical fish and fish tank set-ups but only if Chip could finish the turkey and still eat the same amount for the second serving. Boy those fish looked nice two weeks later. To this day we all remember Thanksgiving when sitting together at the Thanksgiving table for dinner. Let us all give thanks and share with others.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
In OANY,  
From the Old Turkey

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## Legislative Report and Other Important News in Our Industry

By Anthony Rebaldo, Legislative Committee

- The Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General recently published a detailed report calling for additional oversight of remote patient monitoring (RPM) in Medicare. Findings included increase of RPM adoption, flexibility in RPM service delivery, Medicare RPM oversight challenges. This puts the RPM industry as a whole supports efforts to identify and eliminate fraudulent operations as they undermine the credibility and effectiveness and better genuine RPM services.
- It is now official that the New York State practical exam in ophthalmic dispensing has become virtual. It will be given at different test sites in New York State at dates to be mentioned on website <http://www.op.nysed.gov>. Look for the Profession of Ophthalmic Dispensing exams.



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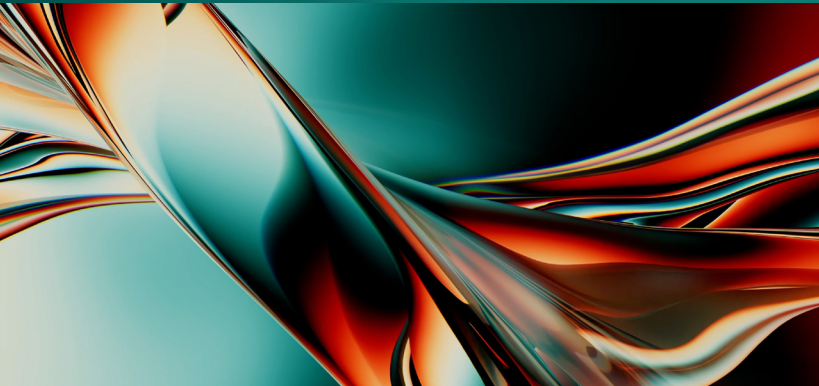
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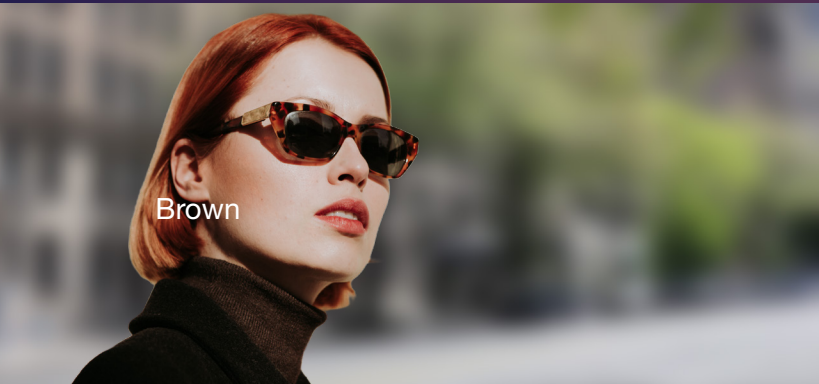
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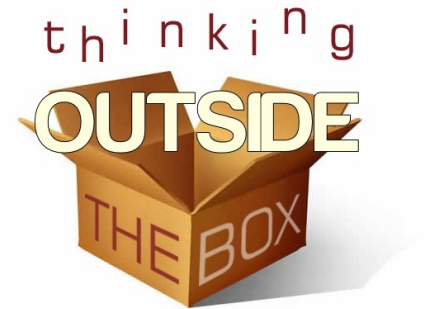


## Attention OANY Members

### Think Outside the Box

**Help one of our members solve the following dispensing issues**

1. Help, please let me know if you or a reader can solve my problem. I have a patient with an old frame they love and want to continue using and parts or a new replacement frame is no longer available. The end of the temple that butts against the frame front had a metal cover there and fell off getting lost. Is there anyway of replacing or having a fix that will allow the temple to close properly and come in the same as the other side?
2. Anyone have a remedy to the problem of eyewire and temple screws that keep loosening up or falling out. Patients are not always happy to have to come back and have them tightened all the time.



***We encourage our members to join the conversation and create some dialog.***

*If you can help this OANY member with a suggestion or solution to these 2 dispensing issues, Please send your comments to me at [moodymet@aol.com](mailto:moodymet@aol.com).*

*We'll pass them along and possibly discuss them at our next meeting.*

## Pictures of Vintage Frames -A Blast From the Past

At our last meeting, Barry Santini and James Spina, presented our CE course "Helping People Discover Their Sense of Style Through Customized Eyewear." The presentation inspired a conversation with OANY member Drew Washton and myself. Drew mentioned that he had quite a few Vintage Frames in his office. I asked him to take pictures of several of these frames and I would publish them in our newsletter, which are shown below. With that in mind, if you have any vintage frames in your office, why not take a picture of them and send them to me at [moodymet@aol.com](mailto:moodymet@aol.com). We'll publish them in our next newsletter. Thanks, Drew.-Editor

See if you recognize any of these Vintage frames.





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## ***Opticians Alliance of New York (OANY)***

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- Annual Membership fee is \$125. Please enclose your check made out to the **Opticians Alliance of New York**. You can also make a one-time credit card payment by filling out the information on the reverse side of this application.
- As an added benefit when you join our organization, your first year's membership is 14 months starting with the date your application is accepted for membership. Thereafter, membership is for 1 year and is renewed on your anniversary date. Your anniversary date is 14 months after your application is accepted for membership.

**Mail application and check to:**  
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