



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

Just like that, in the blink of an eye, the holidays are upon us. It's hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 2024. Hopefully everyone had a healthy, happy and profitable year. As we inch closer to 2025 and OANY's 20th anniversary, your board members are working hard to bring you exciting and uplifting new seminars and sponsors. I would first like to thank our own, Professor Robert Russo for taking the long drive and bringing us an excellent continuing

education program. I'm throwing in an apology for the technical difficulties we encountered and hope

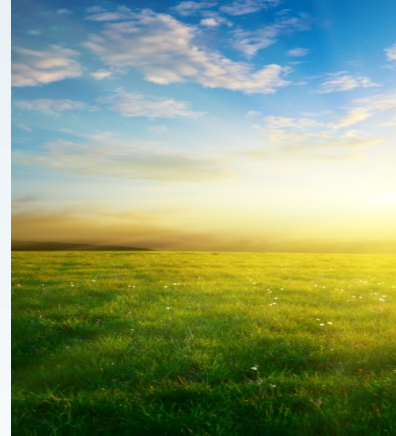
"There were about 20 people in attendance, and it was very nice to see our other chapter members in person."

you'll return soon to see us. Mark and I had the pleasure of accompanying Barry to his seminar at the

Hudson Valley Chapter on November 19th. It ended up being an excellent seminar and everyone up there was exceptionally pleased with Barry and appreciated our appearance at this event. The location was in Fishkill, New York and it was an excellent restaurant with a buffet dinner. There were about 20 people in attendance, and it was very nice to see our other chapter members in person. We are hoping that they will

(Continued on page 8)

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

Dec. 18, 2024	IOT
Jan. 15, 2025	Hoya
Feb. 19, 2025	Herb Fletcher
Mar. 19, 2024	Save the Date
Apr. 23, 2025	Change in Date
May 21, 2025	Save the Date
Jun. 18, 2025	Save the Date

JOIN US AT OUR UPCOMING MEETING AT
DOMENICO'S RESTAURANT, LEVITTOWN, NY
ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

Sponsor: **IOT**
Speaker: Barb Malobabich
Presentation: Social Media and the ECP
CE Credit: 1 Practice Management Credit
Meeting Room: We will meet in the back room this month

Inside Our Dec. Issue

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Dinner Options and Schedule For Our December 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
Mozzarella Sticks

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 and Spaghetti and Meatballs**

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
Website: www.oany.org

OANY Officers 2024-2025

President:	Steven Lehrer
Vice President	Mark Cohen
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OANY News

Our Condolences

**Robert Higgins, Jr.
(1948-2024)**



It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Robert (Bob) Higgins Jr., Optician and long-time member of the Opticians Association of New York (OANY). He was a charter member and served on our OANY board. Bob was always present at our monthly meetings.

Bob operated Robert F. Higgins Optical in Hicksville for over forty years. Raised in Valley Stream and Oceanside, Bob graduated Oceanside high school in 1966. He then attended SUNY New Palz. Bob was a Linguist, Latin scholar and all-around music lover. His shop was always open and full of friendly chatter. Bob was a gracious and friendly person ready with a joke or a laugh or an intelligent thought. Many in the field called him the "Professor" because of his vast knowledge of optics. He will be terribly missed. A visitation was held Tuesday November 12, 2024 at Vernon C. Wagner Funeral homes, in Hicksville, NY.

Please join us in offering our sincerest condolences to the Higgins family.



Holiday Giveaways

You'll want to attend our upcoming meeting in December. We will be raffling off quite a few gifts and prizes. We hope to see you there.



Winner of our 50/50 Raffle

We would like to congratulate Devon Morton. He was the winner of our 50/50 raffle at our November meeting.

See more OANY news on P.8

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MEMBERS ONLY

Pictures From Our Nov Meeting



Vinnie Russell



Devon Morton



Lisa Greenwald



*Judy Deucht and
Peter Bacotti*



*Chuck Abrams and
Wendy Hollander*



Stuart Becker



Tom Polizzi



Joe Monestere



Mark Cohen



Paul Heller

Thank you to our speaker



Thank you to
Robert Russo
for presenting our
continuing education
course in November,
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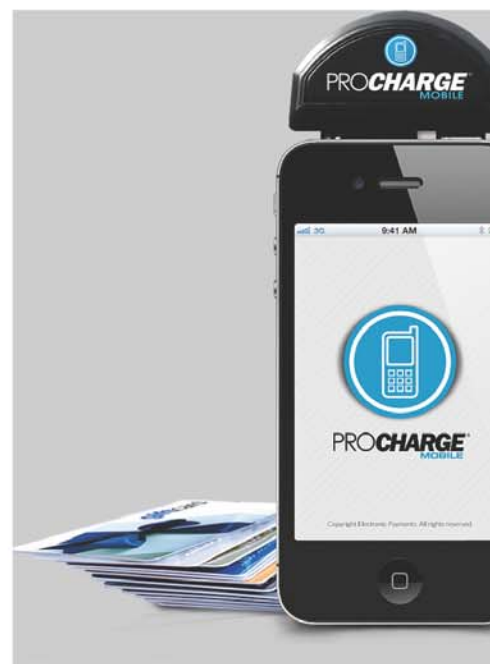


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More OANY News

OANY Donates



At this time of the year, we think of those who are less fortunate. We are pleased to let our members know that OANY has made donations to the following charities for this holiday season:

- \$250 The Inn
- \$250 The Lions Club



OANY Donates to Guide Dog Foundation

For those OANY members who attended our November meeting, we had 2 representatives from the Guide Dog Foundation, one human and one dog at our meeting. Ian, the human, did a presentation letting us know what the Guide Foundation is all about. At the end of the presentation, OANY announced a donation to the Guide Dog foundation of \$250, in the name of Robert Higgins, who recently passed away. Ian, Quinn (the dog) and OANY President, Steven Lehrer are pictured at the left with Steve presenting Ian with our donation.



Happy Holidays

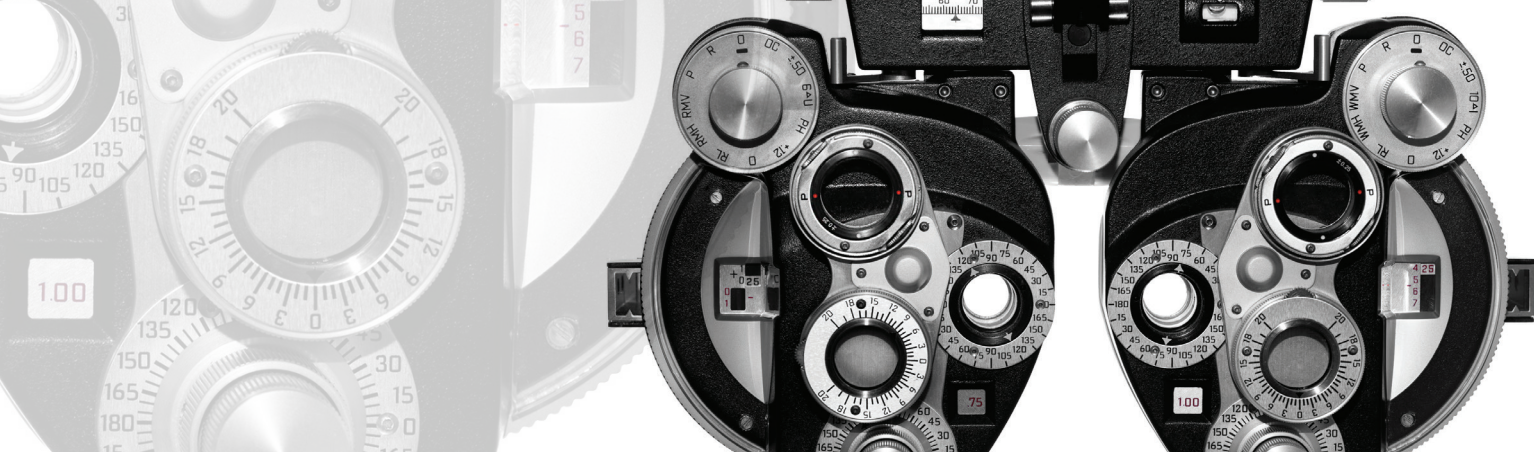
It's hard to believe another year is over. As 2024 ends and 2025 begins, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members, family and friends a very happy holiday season and a healthy new year with much success in 2025.

(Continued from page 1)

have more of these events and that we will be able to attend them soon. We are always looking for new ideas for future Continuing Ed seminars. If anyone has any suggestions or knows of anyone that can bring us an informative seminar, please let one of your Board Members know.

Our December meeting is only a few short weeks away and we hope to have a large holiday turnout. We will have the pleasure of welcoming our sponsor, IOT, and a speaker, Barb Malobabich. I am looking forward to seeing everyone on December 18th at Domenico's. Thank you for your continued support.

Steven Lehrer



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Holidays

By The Old Geezer (AKA Peter Bacotti)



Happy Holidays everyone! Sorry about that, it must be confusing to you wondering why I am saying happy holidays after what I thought was the HOLIDAYS passed. It is confusing to me as well. I looked at the calendar to check the date yesterday and saw that it was National Hat Day; since when? Well, you can guess what happened next, after taking out my MET'S hat and putting it on. Back to the calendar, I went still trying to figure out the day of the month with no concrete answer. All that I was able to discern was that I missed so many Holidays that I felt very embarrassed for not wishing my neighbor happy pet day for her goldfish and not buying and chewing bubble gum on National Bubble Gum Day.

Now I am totally hooked on finding out what and why it means to have a national holiday. Therefore, the next action plan calls for me to go online and do some research on National and Holidays. After searching for what turned out to be quite a while, low and behold progress is being made. Google tells me that every day of the year is taken, and I must get in line for the next opening for my holiday. What holiday, I did not ask to have a National Holiday listed; I do not even know the day of the week and date.

After calming down somewhat, it is more research which leads me to a calendar site, which lists all the different types of calendars that are in use today. Special Events Calendar, National Special Day Calendar, Special Days of the Month Calendar with every month having its own listing, Hallmark Special Days Calendar, Yearly Calendar of Special Days, Calendar Celebration Days, Special Days of the Year, Today Special Day Calendar, Special Day Clip Art For Kids, For preschool, AWW. Maybe the day and date are there but just hidden on each of the calendars. Maybe I missed it, and I started scrutinizing each and draw a blank.

At this point, frustrated and sweat running down my face, I see my neighbor and friend walking past the house. Running out I yell to Sam "what day of the week is it?" Sam shouts back that it is National Bagel week, and he is on his way to buy a dozen, do I want any.

It was then that I decided to pull the calendar off the wall and burn it. Now I knew I could solve this day of the month problem, finally. I yelled Alexa, what day of the month and date is it? In a sweet voice Alexa answered today is National Bird Day would you like to know what day it is tomorrow. No!

Happy Opticians Day

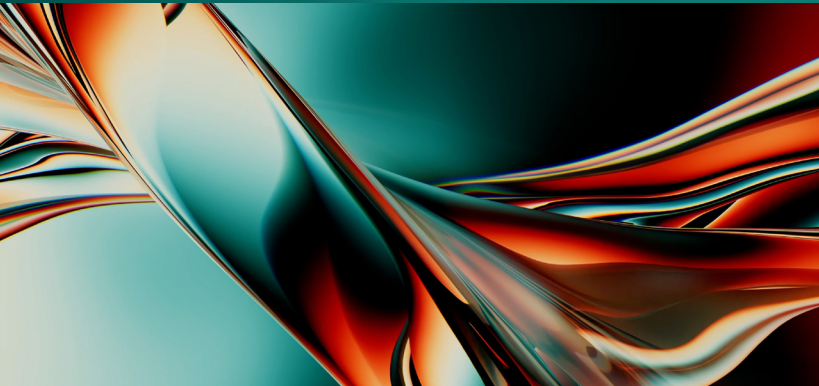
Legislative Report and Other Important News in Our Industry

By Anthony Rebaldo, Legislative Committee

- CooperVision is partnering with three of the top Optometry schools to offer extended myopia treatments for a pilot group that will kick off inaugural activities in Boston and Chicago. CooperVision will initially partner with Optometry school faculty, residents, and students to identify and treat children who need help with myopia disparities.
- The Vision Council and Rx are offering accredited continuing education materials to participants with the Vision Ed Optometry and Opticianry program. <https://opticianworks.com/> provides free YouTube training videos complete with certification for Opticians at the end of 6 to 12 months.



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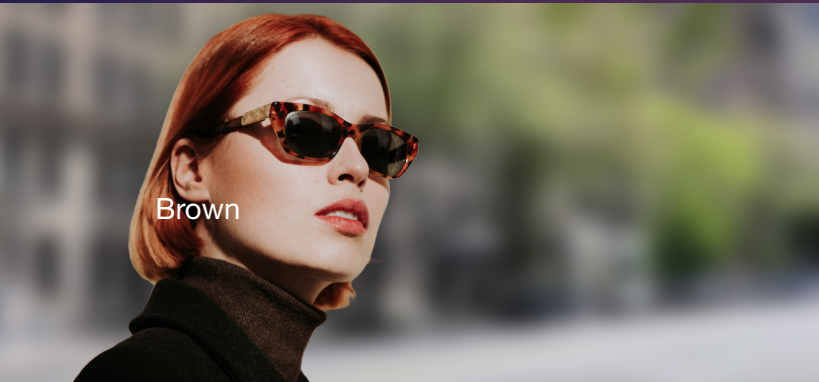
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Oct 17, 2024



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