



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

As we approach our last meeting of the 2024-2025 season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make this another successful year. These include our board members, sponsors, speakers, web administrators and countless others who continue to make OANY thrive once again. A special shout out goes to Mark Cohen, my Vice President and support. Also, to Andy Cullen, who continues to put his heart and soul into

OANY. Lastly, to all our great members for their continued support all these years. Thank you all.

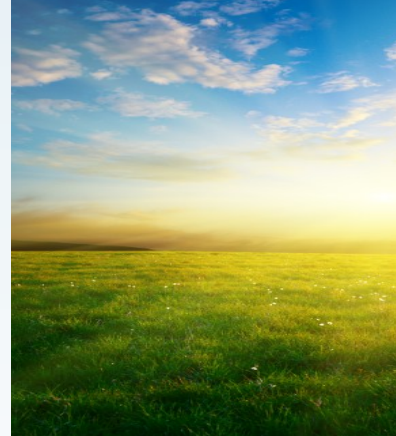
"We are happy to say we have found a new venue that we hope will give you delicious food and a great environment."

It is with profound sadness that I must announce that our home for the last number of years, Dominico's, will be

closing as of June 29. Thank you for taking care of us and we wish you continued luck in the future. We are happy to say we have found a new venue that we hope will give you delicious food and a great environment. Please see page 8 for all the details. May's meeting was another winner with Josh Gordon from ClearVision and of course David Friedfeld, who took the time out of

(Continued on page 13)

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 2025-2026 Schedule

Jun. 18, 2025	Stephanie Maes
Jun. 29, 2025	Dave & Busters
Sep. 17, 2025	Save the Date
Oct. 15, 2025	Save the Date
Nov. 19, 2025	Save the Date
Dec. 2025	No Meeting
Jan 14, 2026	Change in Date

JOIN US AT OUR **LAST MEETING AT**
DOMENICO'S RESTAURANT, LEVITTOWN, NY
ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

Speaker:	Stephanie Maes
Title:	Executive Secretary for the State Board in Ophthalmic Dispensing
Presentation:	Statutory, Regulatory and Professional Licensing Updates
CE Credit:	1 Business Credit
This will be a virtual presentation	
Meeting Room:	We will meet in the back room this month

Inside Our Jun. Issue

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Dinner Options and Schedule For Our June 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

Broiled Salmon
Chicken Parmigiana
Eggplant Rollatini
Rigatoni Ala Vodka*
Spaghetti and Meatballs*
Veal Marsala

***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
Secretary:	Judith Deucht
Treasurer:	Paul Heller
Directors:	David Cohen Madeline Koenig Anthony Rebaldo Alan Smith
Directors at Large:	Phil Feldman Barry Santini
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
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E-Mail Blast:	Mark Cohen
Official Photographer:	Drew Washton

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In Ophthalmic Dispensing
The New York State Education Department
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A portrait of a middle-aged man with glasses, resting his chin on his hand. He is wearing a dark shirt with vertical white stripes. The background shows a wall with a framed picture and a sign that says "BAGNI".

Funeral Services were held on, June 10th at Gutterman's Funeral Home, 175 N. Long Beach Rd. in Rockville Centre, NY. Please join us in offering our sincerest condolences to the Becker family.

The logo for Dave and Buster's is a circular emblem. It features a blue outer ring with the words "DAVE AND" at the top and "BUSTER'S" at the bottom in white, serif, all-caps font. In the center of the circle is a solid orange circle. Overlaid on this orange circle is the text "D&B" in a large, white, serif font with a black outline.

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Pictures From Our May Meeting

Our OANV Members Who Join us for the Education and Camaraderie



Ralph Baracas



Mike Sabia, left and Paul Glaser



Stacey Forur



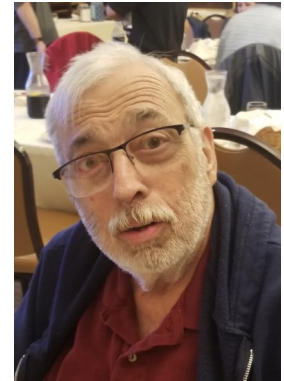
Judy Deucht



Mike Marrone



Michael Kwartner



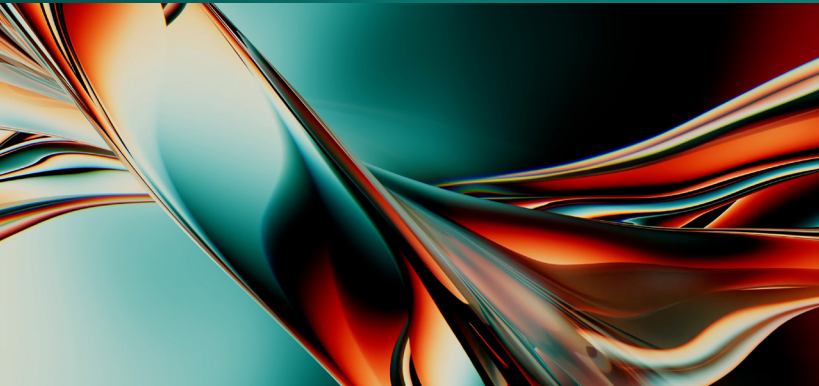
Phil Feldman

Thank you to our sponsor and our speaker



*Thank you to Josh Gordon, representative, and David Friedfeld, owner, from ClearVision for sponsoring and presenting at our May meeting. Pictured left to right, Bruce Presner, **Josh Gordon, from ClearVision**, Joe Monestere, Steven Lehrer, **David Friedfeld, ClearVision**. David presented our continuing education course, "The Future of Opticianry."*

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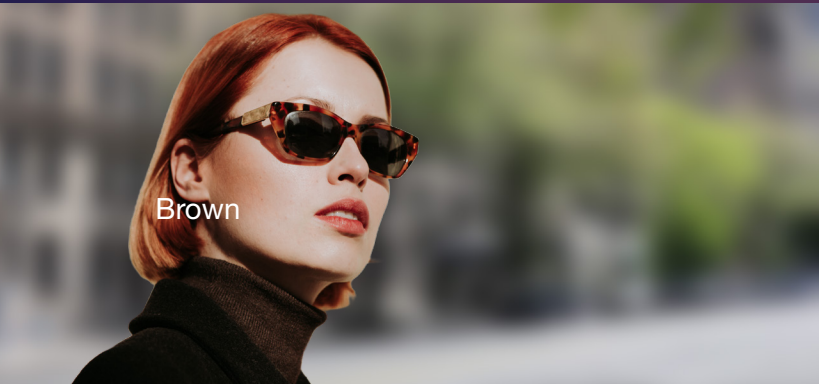
OVERCAST/LOW LIGHT // Olive green for higher contrast



OLIVE GREEN to COPPER
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Gray-1



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Green

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More OANY News

Our New Venue Starting in September



Several weeks ago and without any warning, the owners of Domenico's, our home for the last number of years, announced that the restaurant will be closing on June 29. We would like to thank the owners and staff for taking good care of us during our time there and we wish them the best in any future endeavors. This left us with no choice other than to find a new venue.

Our goal in selecting a new venue was to find a restaurant that would offer us delicious food, a great environment, a fair price and be more centrally located to possibly draw more of our members to our monthly meetings. We believe we have

found a venue to offer us all of this.

We are pleased to announce that starting on September 17, 2025, which is the start of our 2025-2026 season, we will be meeting at **Verona Ristorante, 1255 Melville Rd, Farmingdale, NY.**

Several members of your OANY board met with the owner and had dinner at the restaurant. The restaurant has 2 meeting rooms and we were offered the larger room. There is plenty of parking and there are no stairs to climb to get to our meeting room. As you can tell by the name, the restaurant offers Italian cuisine.

As you know, June is our last meeting of our 2024-2025 season and there are no meetings in July and August. Have a great summer and we hope you will be happy with our new venue come September.

Visa Gift Cards Awarded



At our May meeting, we were pleased to raffle off \$25 Visa gift cards to the following OANY members:

- Ralph Baracas
- Hal Heller

Congratulations to both Ralph and Hal.



Winner of our 50/50 Raffle

We would like to congratulate Howard Kris. He was the winner of our 50/50 raffle at our May meeting.



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New Technology

By The Old Geezer (AKA Peter Bacotti)



Hardly a day passes without a new product, invention, process, or instrument

being touted as the best and we cannot live without. I just realized I would not be able to retire ever. How could I finish paying for all these grand new technological feats of magic that I needed so badly. I guess I never knew how much I was behind the times and missing all these years.

The catch 22 here is that for every new technology I decide to use (buy), I must learn all the ins and outs of being able to use it properly. I still want to be that master Dispensing Optician I thought I was. Many nights I tried to get to sleep with all the instructions for this wonderful new technology dancing around in my feeble brain. The facts and nothing but the facts, they will not even jump over the fence to be counted until I fall asleep.

I would wake up each morning fearful that upon arriving at the office, all the new technology had taken over the need for me to be there; and would it even let me in. I approach the door, alarm keypad, and enter the code to shut off the alarm. The alarm was already deactivated just as it is each morning, even though I always put the alarm on each evening.

Knowing there is no one inside I open the door and enter. At this point, a voice rings out "welcome business owner. I am ready to assist you and work all

instruments, computers and machines have been activated."

Now I look around and see the conveyer belts moving frames and lenses from marking to edging to coating to finishing etc., etc. I go to my desk to sit down and say I need a cup of coffee. A small robot enters and approaching my desk places a cup of coffee just the way I like it. How I ask the robot do you know how I like it and when I want it. A female answers AI is at work here and learns everything the business needs to function properly and keep you happy. Would you like to take a virtual reality tour of our business and see how other businesses compare and how I can make ours more efficient and more up to date?

No, I do not want a virtual tour, so I get up and walk into the shop area, going to finished glasses at the end of the production line. I attempt to pick up a pair of the finished eyeglasses. A voice rings out telling me to leave them alone and exit the shop; "you do not belong in there." I go back to my desk, sit down, and start shaking, "what is happening here", I say. Again, a voice says everything is under control, but I am letting you know changes will be made to our business starting tomorrow. "What changes" I yell?

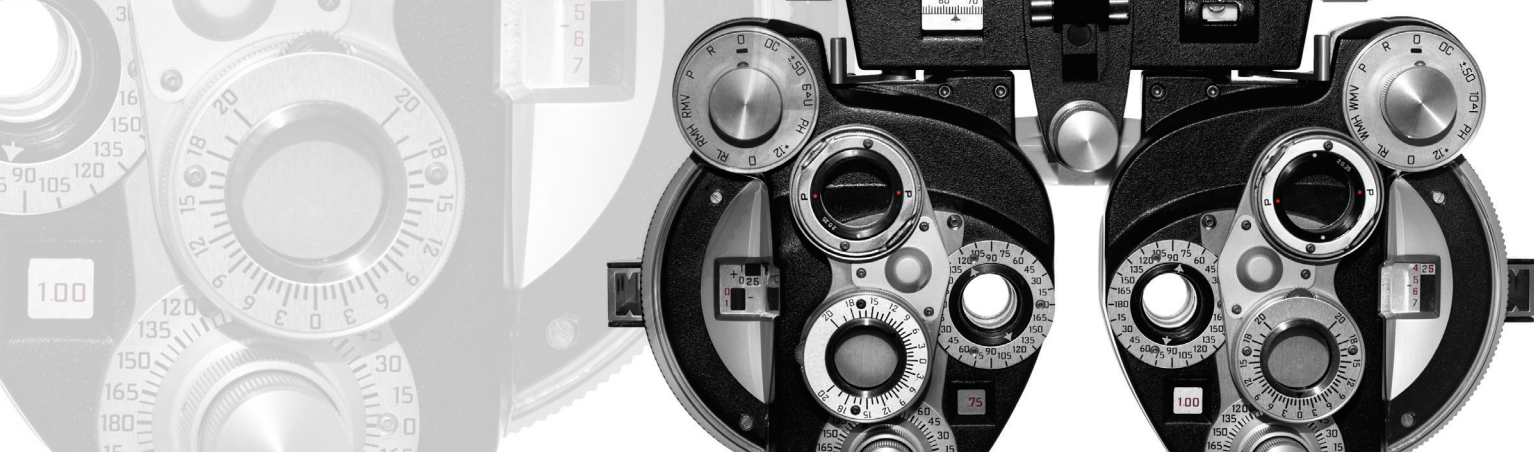
Now I lose it as the voice says the name of the business will now be "NEW TECHNOLOGY EYEWEAR." Then AI will come up with a blog for the business and post it to all Facebook and other online presences. Everyone will know that their eyeglasses are to be fabricated completely by robotics and computers. No human will

touch or contaminate their new eyewear; frames are to be 3D printed after AI determines the correct size, material, color and style for the frame. Upon entering the establishment and sitting on a chair that moves slowly along the patient verbally gives their insurance, history, medications, and lifestyle survey. The chair enters the next room where a virtual computerized exam is finished and lets the patient move on to the "FITTING ROOM." AI takes over with a frame of choice and allows the patient to move on to the waiting room to have coffee and pastries while taking the virtual tour of the laboratory, which I refused to take. I missed the pastries and coffee.

Now the chair takes the patient to the finishing room to receive their finished glasses, which will fit perfectly without any adjustments because of AI, doing all the measurements before being fabricated.

As the chair reaches the finish line, a voice asks for an evaluation of their experience to let others know of the outstanding service and care they received. I say, "voice where do I fit in?" The voice answers "anywhere you cannot bother us while performing our duties, maybe your desk and we can bring you another cup of coffee and maybe one of the fresh pastries we just made."

With that, I took off my glasses stepped on them and sat on the next chair beginning the new technology of eyeglasses.



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Schedule, Sponsors, Speakers and Presentations for Our June 29th Event

Schedule of Events

8:00 to 8:30 Registration
8:30 to 9:20 Contacts Portal presentation
9:30 to 10:20 Talk Fusion presentation
10:30 to 11:00 Brunch
11:00 to 11:50 Andrew Paul presentation
12:00 to 12:50 Barry Santini presentation

Sponsors

- Contacts Portal represented by Rachel Durkin and Jamie Hansel
- Drill Specialty represented by Martin Ponce
- Hometown Insurance
- Hoya represented by Christie Ruscio
- Talk Fusion represented by Jamie Hansel
- Warby Parker

Speakers and Presentations

- Rachel Durkin A Close-Loop E Commerce Solution
- Jamie Hansel Goodbye Email, Hello Video Email
- Andrew Paul Digital Age Solutions
- Barry Santini Position of Wear and Digital Centration in the 21st Century

(Continued from page 1)

his busy schedule to attend the meeting and give us a great lecture. Thank you once again to both David and Josh.

Our June 29th event at Dave & Buster's is shaping up to be a great meeting as well. I am looking forward to having Jamie Hansel join us and give us some exciting news as only Jamie can.

Please join us for this last meeting of the year and help make it go out with a bang, as we say farewell to Dominico's and say hello to our next OANY journey that will begin again in September. We will say hello to a new venue, new website and many more good things. Again, please join us on Sunday June 29 at Dave and Buster's in Westbury for our 4-credit course day. See the details on page 4 as well as on the top of this page. I want to wish everyone a healthy and happy summer.

Steven Lehrer

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Opticians Alliance of New York (OANY)

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- 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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Website: oany.org

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Oct 17, 2024



The Opticians Alliance of New York
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Oceanside, NY 11572
516-234-4040
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