



Central California Optometric Society

MAY 2026 Newsletter

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Board Reintroduction

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2025-2027
CCOS Board



Dianna Inthavong
President



Anthony Chavez
President-elect



Alyssa Yamamoto
Immediate Past President



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Joann Adams
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John Barron
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Manjot Batth
Communications Chair



Lauren Fernandez
Membership Chair



Michael Mendoza
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Nash Abuumali
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Crystal Tom
Member-at-Large



Brianna Kebo
Member-at-Large



Marisol Lauri
*Member-at-Large/
Kaiser Liason*



Stephanie Phyo
*Member-at-Large/
UHC Liason*



Chris Fisher
COA Secretary-Treasurer

Get to Know Our Newest Board Members



"Hello, my name is Stephanie Phyo, an alumna of the New England College of Optometry in Boston, Class of 2007. After graduating, I was happy to return to California to be closer to family. My husband and I now live in southeastern Fresno, where we spend our shared time watching episodic dramas and traveling internationally. I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve as a board member at large and as a liaison to United Health Centers of the San Joaquin Valley. Look forward to stepping beyond my natural introversion and becoming more involved in community events because our advocacy for the profession strengthens with each personal contribution."

"Hello, my name is Manjot Batth, but many of you know me as Missy. I grew up in Northern California and earned my undergraduate degree from UC Davis, where I majored in Neurobiology and minored in Education. Having always wanted to study abroad, I attended optometry school in Puerto Rico as a meaningful opportunity to fully immerse myself in the language and culture while preparing to serve the diverse communities of Central California. I am fluent in Spanish and Punjabi. I currently live and work in Madera, but will be transitioning from Camarena Health to Kaiser Permanente next month. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my dog, playing board games, going to the beach, and traveling. I'm excited to serve as Communications Chair for CCOS."



"Hi everyone! My name is Marisol and I have been an optometrist at Kaiser Permanente for the past two years and I'm excited to join the CCOS board. I grew up in Fresno and attended Fresno State for undergrad. I then moved down to Fullerton for optometry school at SCCO. I completed my residency in primary care optometry at the Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles. While I enjoyed the food and entertainment in southern California, my goal was to always move back to Fresno to be closer to my family and friends. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and my dog (Milo), traveling, gardening, baking sourdough, and doing Pilates. I look forward to meeting more optometrists in our community and getting to know everyone better."

President's Message

Hello fellow CCOS members,

It's been a busy spring quarter! CCOS had another successful Ocular Symposium on April 11th. We had fantastic talks from Dr. Neesurg Mehta on modern management of macular degeneration; Dr. Ida Chung on practice guidelines of pediatric vision exams; Dr. Ashley Riley on idiopathic intracranial hypertension; and Dr. Atif Collins on thyroid eye disease updates. I'm thankful that preoptometry students as well as doctors from TKCOS and KCOS were able to join us that weekend, too.

Dr. Andrea Huerta had a going away party towards the end of April. She'll be back in two years (not confirmed yet but it's probably going to happen). Dr. Huerta has been such a great help to the Central Valley during her time here. She will be missed.

Dr. Manjot Batth has taken up the mantle to be our new CCOS Communications Chair. She's already posted a few things on our social media page. I think she's currently doing a fantastic job.

Some doctors and myself volunteered for the TzuChi Mobile Clinic on May 2nd. Collectively, we provided eye exams to 87 patients, and 78 glasses were made that day. Thank you Drs. Joann Adams, Manjot Batth, Anthony Chavez, Fanny Garcia-Flores, Marisol Lauri, and Diane Ramirez for volunteering that weekend.

CCOS hosted a Spring Social event on May 7th at the Backyard Social Club. I'm very thankful the weather was pleasant that evening. The Monday before the event was raining, which is hard to believe since we've already experienced some 99 degree days. Everyone must've liked the pizza (or everyone was just hungry) because I had to order 4 rounds of pizzas that night. I hope everyone who attended had fun.

June 6th is our next meeting before we break for the Summer. This will be a 2 hour CE course at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo given by the current residents at the Fresno VA and Dr. Tommy Shute from Eye-Q. The deadline to register is May 27th.

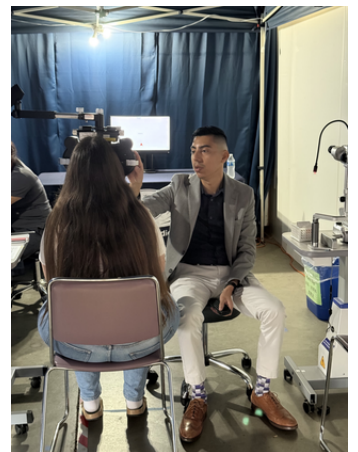
The next CCOS event will be the Summer Social at Grizzlies Stadium on August 21. I'm hoping some new optometry grads will join us, so if you know of any in the area, feel free to invite them!

Dianna Inthavong, OD
CCOS President

Tzu Chi Volunteer Event

May 2, 2026

Tzu Chi International and CCOS thank the volunteers who came and performed 88 exams, with 78 patients receiving new glasses. The success of this event could not be achieved without Doctors' Dianna Inthavong, Joann Adams, Fanny Garcia-Flores, Marisol Lauri, Manjot Batth, Diane Ramirez, and Anthony Chavez. Thank you for your dedication and commitment for serving the community.



Spring Social

The Backyard Social Club

May 7, 2026

CCOS had a fun filled evening of socializing and looking for the elusive garden cat "Turkey". We had a photo scavenger hunt, as well as a t-shirt competition.

Winners of the T-Shirt Travel Challenge

Furthest distance traveled: **Alyssa Yamamoto** travelled to Japan

Highest elevation: **Jay Newsome** climbed Pike's Peak in Colorado



Upcoming: CE at Fresno Chaffee Zoo

June 6, 2026

CCOS will be hosting 2 hours of continuing education at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo for the first time ever! VA Residents' will present the first hour, and Dr. Tommy Shute will present the second hour. Check in begins at 8 AM, presentations begin at 8:30. Lunch will be provided. CCOS is allowing a +1 to explore the zoo with after the CE. Children under the age of 2 enter for free. Additional tickets are available for purchase. Last Day to RSVP May 27.

[Doctor RSVP for CE](#)

[+1 RSVP](#)



Upcoming: Volunteer Event

June 27-28

Central Valley Veterans Dental and Vision Clinic will be providing much needed dental and vision services to our homeless and at-risk veterans and their families.

Location: American Legion Post 509, 3509 North First Street, Fresno, CA 93726

****Able to sign up in 2 hour shifts****

Link to Register: [Healing California Volunteer Registration](#)



House Points Update

FUCHS		HELMHOLTZ	
John Arteaga	Jay Newsome	Jenna Belardinelli	Camilo Garcia
Manjot Batth	Wayne Nishio	Thomas Casagrand	Donna Goebel
Anthony Chavez	Stephanie Phyo	Fernando Chen	Brianna Kebo
Julia Hayward	Diane Ramirez	Kathleen Cochran	Avani Patel
Claire Henry	Trey Sano	Kristine Cole	Marvin Rye
Larry Kebo	Missael Serna	Gloria Draper	Goldie Shahbazi
Protiva Khan	David Sivas	Lauren Fernandez	Marc Sorsky
Diane Lee	Pearl Thai	Chris Fisher	Elizabeth Uribe
Alicia Liao	Crystal Tom	Anna Fong	Kevin Villarama
Daniel Lopez	Alyssa Yamamoto	Isaiah Fuson	Verena Zeng

PURKINJE		JAVAL	
Joann Adams	Ryan Martinez	Nash Abumaali	Nick Kazarian
John Blackburn	Susan Mencarini	John Barron	Jeffrey Krohn
Karisa Borba	Michael Mendoza	Anthony Baudonnet	Marisol Lauri
Heather Bowlin	Gary Mukai	David Carter	Mai Lee
Philip Dixon	Margie Recalde	Donna Chastain	Rachel Magee
Bryan Eidal	Trajan Soares	Lily Chavez	Hartune Neffian
Ralph Handly	Teresa Taylor	Dennis Chinn	Aryan Pazirandeh
Andrea Huerta	Aaron Wiens	Fanny Garcia-Flores	Kimberly Perez-Gutierrez
Dianna Inthavong	Loren Yasunari	Lesly Guerra	Dennis Richardson
Alesha Jensen	Shaw Yorizne	Roger Hayashi	Elmer Wong

Current House Standings:

1st Fuchs: 3,595

2nd Purkinje: 2,790

3rd Javal: 2,385

4th Helmholtz: 505

How to earn points?

- Attend Meetings
 - 15 points: CCOS Symposium
 - 20 points: COA In-Person Event
 - 30 points: AOA In-Person Event
- Attend Socials
 - 10 points: CCOS Socials + # of points for participation (ie photo scavenger hunt)
- Volunteering
 - 1,000 points: every 4 hours of volunteering

Future Events:

August 21

Summer Social Grizzlies Game @ Chukchansi Park

September 8

VA Residents' CE @ 13 Prime

November 13

Holiday Banquet @ DiCicco's Old Town Clovis

In Memoriam

Dr. Saul Mendelsohn



Dr. Mendelsohn, beloved husband, father, and grandfather passed away peacefully in February of 2026. He practiced Optometry for 54 years, and was known for his integrity, sharp intellect, and strong work ethic. For anyone who would like to honor his memory, his family requests for donations made to the American Cancer Society.

COA Sponsored Legal Help

30 minutes of consultation time with an attorney at Wilke Fleury

Representative	Phone	Email
Stephen Marmaduke	916-441-2430	smarmaduke@wilkefleury.com

Services Offered:

- Business Tax Issues
- Business Owner Succession Planning
- CAL/OSHA/Prop 65 Issues
- Contract Issues
- Employment Law
- License Issues
- Practice Ownership and Organizational Structure
- Regulatory and Administrative Law
- California State Board of Optometry Rules and Enforcement Issues

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