11/18

Central California Optometric Society

VISIONOTES & QUOTES

the latest news for the Central Valley's optometric professionals

FEATURED STORIES

Academy 2018 in San Antonio
President's Council

COMMUNICATIONS MESSAGE

Happy November everyone,

Although it has been quiet for CCOS and its members without any active meetings, the board members have been working behind the scenes like little elves getting ready for Christmas. The Academy had its annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. This is a great conference for the meeting of minds of the academic field, research and industry and private practitioners.

Our very own President (Michael Mendoza), President-elect (Chris Fisher), and I attended the annual President's Council held at the Monterey Symposium organized by the California Optometric Association.

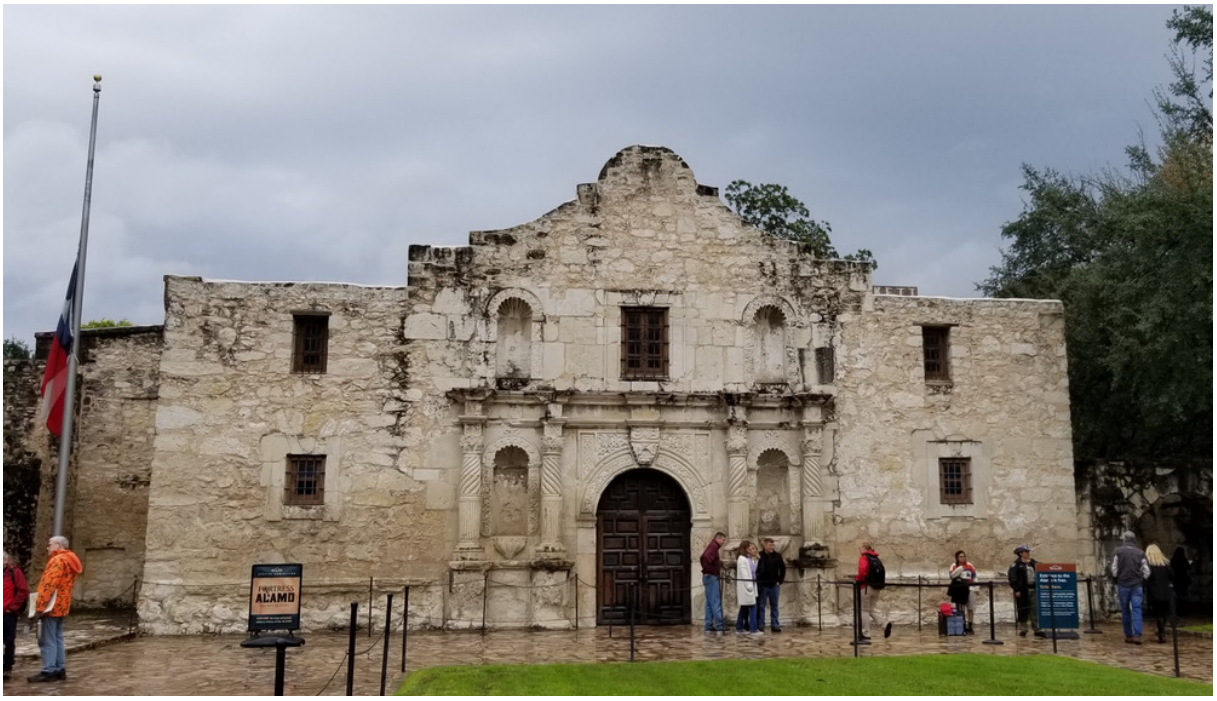
This meeting is a chance for the leaders of all local optometric societies to meet, discuss the current state of optometric societies and how to improve the experience for all those involved. This year was another productive meeting. This month's newsletter will recap some of those activities.

Your friendly neighborhood
communications chair,
Kim Vuong

ACADEMY 2018

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

The American Academy of Optometry held its annual conference in San Antonio, Texas this year -- home of the Alamo.

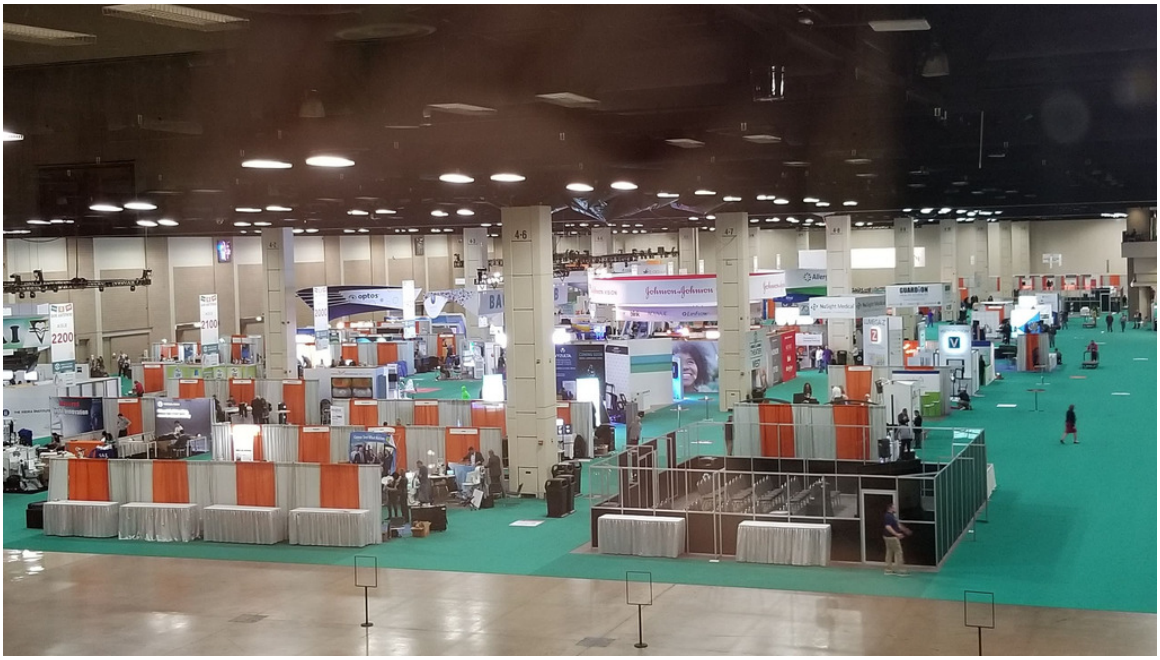


ACADEMY 2018

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

One of the vast ballrooms that plays host to one of the many CE lectures available during the conference.

The large exhibition hall that allows doctors to view the latest equipment, try out the latest products and chat with vendors.



ACADEMY 2018

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

One of the most popular lecture subjects is always glaucoma at the Academy. This year was no exception given all the enterprising changes that are coming to glaucoma care for optometrists and other eye care providers including new research, topical medications and surgical treatments.

ACADEMY 2018

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

One of the main attractions of San Antonio is walking the Riverwalk. Storefronts and restaurants border the San Antonio River along this beautiful pathway that can be taken by foot or boat.

Austin, the capitol of Texas, is also within driving distance and known for its famous BBQ.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

COA MONTEREY SYMPOSIUM

President's Council is organized by the COA for the local society leaders including Presidents, President-Elects and upcoming leaders.

Vision West President, Dr. John Rosten, addresses the President Council. The new Healthy Eyes Advantage, is an alliance of 4 companies that is committed to private practitioners, having donated more than $12 million to state associations.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

COA MONTEREY SYMPOSIUM

Sara Harbin addresses the participants about COA's Strategic Plan for changing four key points: **members**, **services**, **governance structure**, and **operational structure** in the future.

Round-table discussions are held to discuss recruitment and retainment of members - and the quality of continuing education provided by the COA.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

COA MONTEREY SYMPOSIUM

Dr. Chris Gee and Dr. Richard Sager hold a discussion session with the participants to discuss local society structure: developing a consistent experience for members, supporting smaller societies, and creating uniform guidelines for all societies. COA state structure was also debated: requesting a COA liaison at least once a year for town hall meetings, considering a similar set-up as Academy student fellows to recruit younger leadership. President's Council is meant to discuss the current state of local societies and the California Optometric Association -- and prepare for the future of our profession.

COA UPDATE

EMPLOYER MANDATES

NEW CALIFORNIA EMPLOYER MANDATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019

Salary history - AB 168 by Assembly Member Susan Eggman, D-Stockton, prohibits an employer from inquiring into an applicant's prior salary or failing to provide a pay scale upon demand.

Sexual harassment training - SB 1343 by Senator Holly Mitchell, D-Los Angeles, requires an employer with five or more employees to provide at least two hours of sexual harassment training to all supervisory employees and at least one hour of sexual harassment training to all nonsupervisory employees by January 1, 2020, and once every two years thereafter. California previously only mandated regular training for supervisors at large companies.

Private breast pumping room - AB 1976 by Assembly Member Monique Limón, D-Goleta, requires employers to provide their workers with a private area that is not a bathroom to pump breast milk.

Government Affairs Weekly. California Optometric Association. October 15, 2018

COA UPDATE

IMMUNIZATIONS

IMMUNIZATIONS AND OPTOMETRY

California law allows optometrists to become certified to perform three immunizations: flu, shingles and pneumonia vaccines on adults.

The certification requires the following:

1. Optometrists will need to complete an immunization training program that is endorsed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education that, at a minimum, includes hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.

2. Optometrists will need to maintain basic life support certification.

3. Optometrists will need to perform one hour of ongoing continuing education focused on immunizations and vaccines from an approved provider once every two years.

Government Affairs Weekly. California Optometric Association. October 15, 2018

COA UPDATE

IMMUNIZATIONS

Many optometric colleges are currently working on creating a certification training course specifically for optometrists. In the meantime, immunization training courses developed by the pharmacy profession can be taken now. The pharmacy certification course is 20 hours total - 12 hours of self-study with a test and an 8-hour, live seminar component that involves attending the full live seminar, successfully completing the injection technique assessment, and completing the assessment. The next course is on November 3 in Los Angeles. COA members are eligible for the California Pharmacists Association member rate.

For more information about immunizations generally, check out the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC). IAC works to increase immunization rates and prevent disease by creating and distributing educational materials for healthcare professionals and the public that enhance the delivery of safe and effective immunization services. Additionally, the CDC produces a number of resources such as posters and flyers that can be downloaded free of charge.

Government Affairs Weekly. California Optometric Association. October 15, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

COA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

March 1-2, 2019

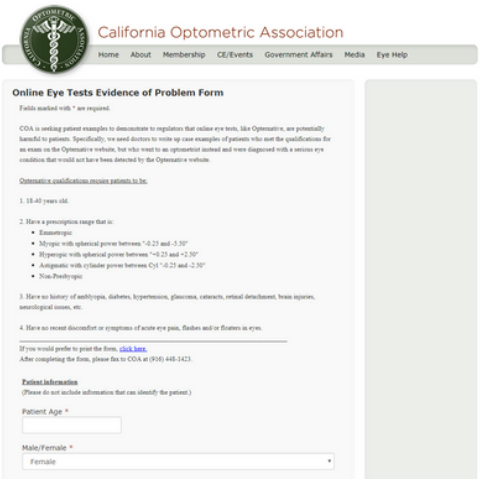
San Francisco, CA

California Optometric Association

Online Vision Tests

Help COA Raise Awareness about the Dangers of Online Vision Tests

REPORT PATIENT EXAMPLES OF SERIOUS EYE CONDITIONS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN MISSED BY ONLINE EYE TESTS



Click Here to Report

Several companies, such as Opternative, market online "vision tests" directly to consumers for the purpose of obtaining an eye glass or contact lens prescription. This technology allows patients to self-administer a series of visual tests and pay for an eyeglass prescription signed by an "optometrist" or "ophthalmologist."

The Federal Drug Administration issued a warning to Opternative in 2017 demanding cessation of marketing its online product. Opternative continues to operate under apparent violation of federal law.

Furthermore, Opternative has partnered with 1-800-Contacts to enable patients to obtain contact lenses without an in-person exam. This new technology promises consumers convenience and affordability but also raises concerns for patient safety.

As primary eye care providers, we are on the front line and have numerous examples of how this online technology can do our patients a serious injustice. We know this can range from missing contact lens related problems such as fitting issues or corneal damage to sight threatening problems like glaucoma or retinal detachments -- or even life-threatening diagnoses such as uncontrolled diabetes, malignant hypertension or tumors.

COA is collecting examples of such cases to fully inform regulators about the dangers of online vision tests. To report your own case, click on the button above.

NOVEMBER 2018

Central California Optometric Society
Visit our website at : www.ccosociety.org

CLASSIFIEDS

Practice for Sale in Clovis and Chowchilla, CA (Posted September 2018)

For sale: Practices in Clovis and Chowchilla. One or both available. Long established second generation practices. Two fully equipped lanes and separate pre-tesing rooms at both locations plus OCT, Humphrey Visual Field, fundus camera, and pachymeter. Crystal EMR and practice management software. Good year to year growth. Cash flow will support financing. Each is in free standing owner occupied buildings. Contact Wayne Nishio for details. email miyahans@msn.com. Please do not call the office directly.

Practice for Sale in Morro Bay, CA (Posted November 2018)

"Plug and Play in Morro Bay"
Our established community practice of over forty years is a dream opportunity for anyone looking for a turn-key operation in the heart of Morro Bay, a beautiful, easygoing beach town twenty minutes from San Luis Obispo. The practice grosses over $550K annually on part-time doctor hours. Top-notch building and equipment include an Optos Daytona retinal camera, an RTVue OCT, Revolution software and a large inventory of current, stylish frames. Our capable staff are excited to come to work every day.

Please contact:
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NOVEMBER 2018

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