A Message From Our President

Roberta Beers, CPOT

Personal Growth & Professional Development

We have an energetic and dedicated PPA Board members/committee members who spent their time and energy devoted to helping our Association GROW. A couple months ago we had a little bump in the road, Staci Humphrey, CPOA who was elected V.P. of Continuing Education in May 2018 had to step down due to personal reasons. We are proud to announce, Dawn Deppe, CPOC has accepted the position of V.P. of CE for 2019.

Membership means:

- Advancing your personal growth and professional career and PPA is here to help you.
- Your personal connection with the purpose, not only as an individual but also as a member of professional state association
- The true value of membership is what it has supported you to learn, to be, and to become.

The PPA board will work to increase membership, to become that one voice.

Are You Interested In Becoming A PPA Board Member?
(Please see Page 5 for details)
President Elect:

Lisa Scarborough, CPOA, ABOC

I am thrilled to be working side by side with a great group of women. I’m looking forward to working with our board to promote Optometry through education and membership.

As the board transitions into their new positions and new committee members are welcomed, I think about how Paraoptometry has changed my life. When I started in this field (almost 21 years ago), I was a "Front Desk Girl". I didn’t know what an occluder was! Dr. Schwartz and the staff at Eye Center of Lancaster County encouraged me to attend local society and state meetings. I am so grateful for those experiences. I have learned so much since June of 1998 and I want all Paras to have the same opportunity that I did to learn and grow in this field.

That's why I encourage all Paras to attend education in Spring at Kalahari to take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that's available to you. I’m looking forward to seeing you all there!

Message from the Vice President of Continuing Education:

Dawn Deppe, CPC

Hello everyone! We are in a new year, bringing with it another batch of cold weather. I hope all of you are staying warm and safe.

Along with the change in the year, there have been some changes with the PPA. One of those changes involves the office of VP of Continuing Education, which I have accepted. I consider it a challenge that I am ready for, and I hope to continue doing the wonderful job that previous VP’s of CE have done.

I feel that my 11 years at Restore Eye Care, most of that time as Office Manager, have prepared me to take on such a role with the PPA. I started knowing nothing about optometry, having come from a medical billing background for a hospital system in Illinois. Over the years I have grown in my knowledge and abilities, under the mentorship of my employers Dr. Tracy Sepich and Dr. Christine Zlupko. I also received a great deal of support and encouragement from the PPA members and Board of Directors. All of this culminated in my sitting for the CPOC test this summer, and passing, so that I now hold my CPOC certification. I now feel prepared to roll into the new year and continue the tradition of bringing quality CE to our PPA meetings.

Speaking of which, Spring Congress 2019 in Kalahari is approaching fast. We are putting the final touches on our class schedule and working with our speakers to ensure that we have another great Spring Congress. Our main speaker, Mary Schmidt will be traveling from San Francisco to present 10 hours of education. She will be speaking on many topics that Paras have requested using the PPA SURVEYs.

Classes range from Frame Adjusting, Anatomy, Optical Crosses, Obtaining Quality OCTs, Prism, Medicare Billing, CPO Review and much more. The class schedule will be available on the POA website very soon as well as registration information.

We hope to see all of you there; we are very excited to share this experience with all of you!
Message From Vice President Communications and Public Relations:

Amanda Lunsford, CPOA

Hello Everyone,

As you can all see, we are trying a little bit different format for our Para Eyes this year. I’m hoping everyone will enjoy all of the new ideas we are incorporating into these new editions.

It is that time of year again, time to NOMINATE A PARA FOR PARA OF THE YEAR. Please see page 4 with all the details. Also on page 4, we are starting a new SPOTLIGHT PARA section. Please nominate your friends and coworkers to show off their hard work and dedication.

Stay Warm Friends

Please Note: You can locate the following information online:

- Board of Directors
- Membership
- Education/Events
- Para Eyes
- Letters of Intent
- Awards (Para Of The Year)
- Loaner Library
- PPA Constitution and By-Laws
- AOA Paraoptometric Section Resources

To access the website information, go to: https://pennsylvania.aoa.org/paras

Message From Secretary/Treasurer:

Cindy Whitman, CPO

Check Account Balance: $9,038.70
Savings Account Balance: $13,461.65
Membership:
2019 New Members—……….5
2018 Fall New Members—…..21
Honorary—………………………3
2019 Renewing Members—….21
Total Membership 2019—…..50

Recording Committee:

Margi Herr, CPO

As the Chair of the Recording Committee, I compile a list of member’s consecutive years of membership and continuing education credits.

Members in attendance completing a milestone will be awarded certificates during the General Business Meeting at Spring Congress, May 16-19, 2019 at the Kalahari Resorts.
The Paraoptometric of the Year Award is given annually to the optometric assistant or technician in Pennsylvania who has made the most outstanding and worthwhile contributions to the profession of optometry, paraoptometry and the general public.

Please go online to see the rules and specifications for nomination as well as to download the nomination form. See The Link Below:

https://pennsylvania.aoa.org/paras/awards

NEW TO 2019!

We would like you to spot light a para in each edition of Para Eyes.

As paraoptometric’s we work diligently every day to support our doctors, coworkers, patients, as well as numerous others that we encounter throughout the day.

The PPA would like to recognize one of those hard working paras.

All it takes is ONE EMAIL.

Send a name and an email address where we can contact this deserving para. We will take care of the rest.

We hope and look forward to getting to know each and every one of our members, one edition at a time!

Please email us at: Pennsylvaniaparas@yahoo.com

The digital formatting of the Girl Scout Patch materials was completed last fall, and my contact with two of the three major Girl Scout Councils in PA continues, namely the Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA, and the Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania. The Western PA council has our materials on their webpage now too.

Through a lead given to me by Roberta Beers, I reached out to an interested party in the Philly Area who is somewhat familiar with NJ patch program. I provided him with some information and guidance, and I am continuing correspondence with him. He hopes to get something started in his area this year.

In the meantime, if any of your offices are interested or have a troop in mind, please reach out to me for information.

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I AM A PARAOPTOMETRIC!

I am a... Allied Health Professional, Office Manager, Biller/Coder, Optician, Certified Paraoptometric Technician, Business Manager, Receptionist, Optometric Assistant...

I AM A PARAOPTOMETRIC!
Are You Interested In Becoming A PPA Board Member?

President-Elect – Duties: Perform the duties and responsibilities of the President in the President's absence or in the event of the failure or inability of the president to perform the duties. Prepare and present a report for the board and general meetings. Attend all PPA board meetings and general membership meetings.

Vice President Continuing Education: Duties: Arrange topics and speakers for educational meetings. Submit educational materials to Commission on Paraoptometric Certification for approval. Oversee the recording of continuing education hours and awards, also resource library and economic task force. Attend meetings and report to the president/board.

Secretary/Treasurer: Duties – Keep accurate records of the proceedings of all board of directors and general membership meetings, submit the minutes to the president for approval within two weeks of the meeting. Attend all PPA board meetings and general membership meetings.

Vice President of Communication/Public Relation: Edit, publish and distribute the associations newsletter. Attend all PPA Board meetings. The V.P. of Public Relation chairs the Paraoptometric of the year award, and promotes the Girl Scout Patch Program. Attend all PPA board and general membership meetings. Purchase gifts as defined in the guidelines as instructed by the president.

ELECTIONS FOR THE 2019 PPA BOARD WILL BE HELD AT THE MAY MEETING IN KALAHARI, PA. ANYONE INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR A BOARD POSITION CAN CONTACT ROBERTA BEERS, CPOT at: rmbeers@zoomnet.net

Doesn’t Take a Lot of Time, Just a Little Time to Care!

If you are not ready to step into an officer position consider a Committee:

Recording Committee: which you would maintain the education forms for State Paras. This committee prepares certificates for Paras who have earned different increments of hours of education at our spring education. You would be sending copier of all continuing education forms to members requiring re-certification.

Monitor Committee: – Working with the V.P. of education to make sure the education runs smoothly.

Charm Committee: – Working with the V.P. of education to choose the charm based on location of the education.

Library Committee – Maintaining the list of educational materials. Keeping a list of Paras who have borrowed materials and make sure the website pages are update to library materials.

Vision Awareness Girl Scout Patch Committee: – This committee person is responsible to promote the Girl Scout patch and keep the board abreast of the results.

2018 Past Presidents Award

Presented to: Camille Serganos.
Who attended our Fall Education in State College, Pa.

This award is presented to a Paraoptometric attending May education and the General Membership Meeting.

The recipient of this Award receives One (1) free registration for any education presented by PPA within one year.
Sponsorships

We would like to specially thank Central Pennsylvania Optometric Society and North West Optometric Society for their generous donation to the Pennsylvania Paraoptometric Association Spring Congress. We appreciate their support to further our knowledge and growth in our field.

We're on the Web!
See us at:
https://pennsylvania.aoa.org/paras

Order Form: PPA Paraoptometric Reference Manual

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Name: __________________________ Phone: ______________________
Address: _________________________

Checks Payable To: Pennsylvania Paraoptometric Association
Send To: Theola Amundson, CPOT
118 Scotland Ave
Punxsutawney, Pa 15767

Association State Pins Available Upon Request