

OREGON BOARD OF OPTOMETRY BOARD BULLETIN



Board Newsletter

May 2015

Welcome Douglas Walker to the Board!

Douglas Walker, OD joins the Oregon Board of Optometry for his first three year term and we'd like to welcome him. Dr. Walker graduated from Pacific University in 1999 and settled in Gold Beach Oregon after serving an externship there. Dr. Walker's background includes receiving the 1999 Oregon Optometric Association Student of the Year and he was the 2005 Oregon Young OD of the Year. Dr. Walker has been the President of the Oregon Optometric Physicians Association as well as served on the Brookings/Harbor Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Walker and his wife Lana and their two children, Zack and Abby live in Gold Beach and enjoy the sunny weather and spending time together.

Dr. Walker owns and operates Eye Center of Brookings, LLC . Dr. Walker works with surgeons Jon Marc Weston, MD, Brett Pariseau, MD and John Hunts, MD to provide high quality vision care in the Southern Oregon coast area.

With his strong commitment to the optometric industry and customer service, Dr. Walker is a welcome addition to the Oregon Board of Optometry. Thank you Dr. Walker for your service to Oregonians and your fellow licensees.

"I appreciate the opportunity and honor in being appointed by the Governor to the Oregon Board of Optometry. I am passionate about the profession of Optometry and I hope to provide guidance and leadership as a Board member. I realize that I am now representing the Governor's office with the objective of protecting the citizens of Oregon by ensuring that our Optometric Physicians are licensed and are providing the highest standard of care to benefit all Oregonians. I look forward to this new challenge and dedicate my time and effort to becoming an effective part of this Board."

Douglas Walker, O.D.



Douglas Walker, OD

OBO LICENSING STATISTICS

In 2014:

52 New Licenses Issued
14 Licenses Voluntarily Terminated
36 Licenses Lapsed

At December 31, 2014:

776 Active Licenses
464 Inactive/Military Licenses

In This Issue

- Hydrocodone Legislative update
- Discipline Update
- CE reminders
- New ED and Board member
- Thank you to Dr. Mans for Board service



OBO Staff Changes

Nancy DeSouza, the Executive Director for OBO for the past four years has taken a position with another state agency—the Oregon Travel Experience. The Board and staff would like to thank Nancy for her dedicated service and all of the hard work under her direction. We wish her all the best in her new endeavor.

With Nancy's departure, the Board hired Shelley Sneed as the agency's new Executive Director. Shelley is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and came to OBO from the Landscape Contractors Board, another semi-independent state licensing agency. Shelley brings with her state licensing experience and a drive to work with the board and staff to implement a number of technology upgrades to better serve OBO's licensees.



Shelley Sneed, ED

Hydrocodone Prescribing Authority

Senate Bill 152 was introduced this session to amend Oregon Revised Statute 683.101 to include in the practice of optometry the authority to prescribe Schedule II hydrocodone-combination drugs for optometrists.

Oregon optometrists had the authority to prescribe hydrocodone products until the FDA moved the drugs from Schedule III to Schedule II. In order to maintain Oregon optometrist's authority to prescribe those drugs in conjunction with treatment, the agency worked with Oregon Optometric Physicians Association to pass this bill to maintain the service to your clients.

SB 152 was signed into law by Governor Kate Brown on March 30, 2015 with a same day effective date.

DEA registration

Some of you are wondering about your DEA registration and the affect of this legislative change. The agency has been in touch with the DEA about this change and is awaiting word on how this will affect your registration. Once more information is obtained from the DEA, that information will be passed along to our licensees.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) REMINDERS:

18 hours is due every year. 9 hours must be in the area of diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease (TMOD). Excess CE credits can be carried over for the next 12 month CE reporting period. A one hour approved optometric ethics or Oregon law course must be completed every other license year. **NOTE:** 1 hour attendance at an OBO Board meeting counts towards the ethics/law requirement—join us for a Board meeting.

Gratitude to Dr. Mans

Robert Mans, OD served on the OBO Board for a six year period. There were a variety of changes in that six year period. The agency's long-term Executive Director left the agency and there were several staffing changes. During that time the agency maintained its high level of customer service, while managing an office move and other changes.

Dr. Mans was a valued leader on the Board. Both staff and Board members would like to say thank you to Dr. Mans for your service. You were a steady, strong leader and you will be missed. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the optometry profession.

Watch for changes and updates

The agency is working on updating our website and offering credit card payment processing. Online renewals are another project being studied by the agency. We know you are used to using the internet and your mobile phone for many things in your business and personal life. OBO is looking at ways to upgrade our service and technology offerings, so stay tuned.

Licensing Optometrists in Oregon since 1905

Oregon Board of Optometry
1500 Liberty St SE, Suite 210
Salem, OR 97302

Contact Us

1500 Liberty St SE,
Suite 210
Salem, OR 97302

503/399-0662
Fax: 503/399-0705

www.oregonobo.org

OBO Board Meeting Dates:

July 24, 2015

November 6, 2015

**Meetings held at the OBO
office's 1st floor
conference room**



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

If you're receiving a print copy of the newsletter, we don't have a valid email address on file for you. To update your email address, call or email Debbie Hendricks: debbie.hendricks@oregon.gov or 503/399-0662 ext. 2