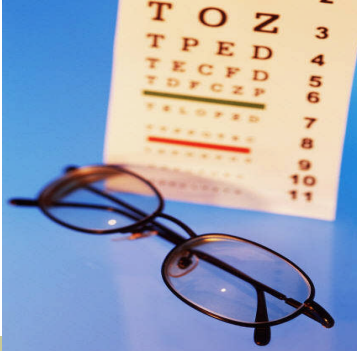


West Virginia Board of Optometry Visionary



Special points of interest:

- Dr. Matthew Berardi
- Dr. Richard Goellner
- Dr. Clifton Hyre
- Summer Exam July 12
- Sharon Rubin and Board Members
- Lattisse
- Employment
- CE Audit

Meet Board Member Matthew Berardi, O.D.

Dr. Matthew G. Berardi is originally from Moundsville, West Virginia. He is a 1983 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and a 1987 graduate of Southern College of Optometry. He has been in private practice in Farmington for over 20 years. He is also a retired officer with the U.S. Army Reserves. Dr. Berardi lives in Fairmont with his wife, Amy, and daughters, Jessica and Amanda. Jessica is a recent graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in Journalism. Amanda is currently a junior at West Virginia University majoring in English.

Since his appointment to the board in September, Dr. Berardi has been involved with advising the Department of Motor Vehicles in the design of a new vision

examination form. The DLAB2 form, which we all know as the CDL form, will be replaced by a new version in 2009. The Department of Motor Vehicles asked for advice on creating a new vision examination form that is similar to those being used by other states.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the citizens of our state and look forward to working with my fellow members on this board. I hope to contribute to the advancement of optometry during this exciting time of change in our profession," said Dr. Berardi.

Dr. Berardi was recently elected as Secretary-Treasurer of the board. He will not only have the traditional role of secretary and treasurer but he will also be in charge of investigations.



Dr. Berardi replaces Dr. Clifton Hyre on the board. Dr. Hyre was a member of the board for over 16 years. Dr. Hyre served as President of the Board for 14 of those 16 years.

Dr. Gregory Moore has replaced Dr. Clifton Hyre as Board President. He has served for 3 years.

The Board congratulates its new licensees, Drs. Carolyn Ormes, Mary Payton, Simi Bhardwaj-Sethi, Edward Crum, Erica Owen, William Conrad, Krista Adams, Tracy Scott, and Robert Wade.



Are You Interested In Oral Systemic Certification?

Optometrists with therapeutic prescriptive authority are eligible to go through the process to obtain oral systemic prescriptive authority. There are currently 68 optometrists who

have therapeutic certification. These optometrists must complete a 30 hour course taught by a college of optometry or non-profit continuing education agency. The Pennsylvania Col-

lege of Optometry is willing to teach the course if there is enough interest. Please contact the board at 1-800-250-4150 if you have an interest in the course.

Secretary - Treasurer, Richard Goellner, O.D. Says Farewell

Dr. Goellner has served on the West Virginia Board of Optometry for 8 years. Dr. Goellner has assisted the Board in compiling and updating its oral exam. Dr. Goellner also initiated a study of the shrinking numbers of optometrists who serve our citizens.

Dr. Goellner lives in Morgantown with his wife, Cynthia, and his son, Jack, who is 12. He practices with James Pasinski, O.D. in Morgantown. Dr. Goellner is the former Clinical Director for the West Virginia Special Olympics Opening Eyes Vision Program. He is also an Adjunct Faculty mem-

ber for the West Virginia University Eye Institute. Dr. Goellner's goal of service on the Board was to ensure that the profession of optometry serves the public in a professional, competent and ethical manner. He graduated from the Ohio State University College of Optometry (1984).



Dr. Hyre has served on the Board for 16 years. He has served as the Board President for 14 years.

E. Clifton Hyre, O.D., President, Says Goodbye

Dr. Edward Clifton Hyre has served on the West Virginia Board of Optometry for sixteen years. He has served the Board as President for 14 years.

Dr. Hyre initiated the modernization of the Board's legislative and administrative rules. The process became complete in 2002. Dr. Hyre has also worked with the Legislature to improve the quality and scope of optometric care in West Virginia.

Dr. Hyre lives in Elkins with his wife, Carole. They have a daughter, Christina L. Nestor, who has two masters degrees and a Ph.D.

from West Virginia University. Dr. Hyre also has a granddaughter, Morgan Helene Nestor. Dr. Hyre has practiced with his son, Craig, in Elkins and Beverly.

Their corporation is Family Eye Care. Family Eye Care offers a wide range of services including emergency services. The practice has a web site, www.drhyre.com. The site services include scheduling of appointments and an informative set of articles on eye care issues entitled, "Eye Care For You."

Dr. Hyre has served as President of the West Virginia Optometric

Association and is active in his community serving as Director Emeritus of the Mountain State Forest Festival.

Dr. Hyre was licensed in 1964 and has achieved the state's highest level of licensure, oral prescriptive authority. He graduated from the Ohio State University School of Optometry in 1963.

Dr. Hyre has now retired leaving his practice in Elkins. He looks forward to serving optometry through active membership in the West Virginia Optometric Association. Dr. Hyre will be missed.

West Virginia Board of Optometry License Exam on July 12

The West Virginia Board of Optometry will hold its summer 2009 license exam on July 12 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the board office at 179 Summers Street, Suite 231, Charleston, WV 25301. The deadline for applications to be received in the board office is June 12, 2009.

The exam is oral and includes questions on pharmacology, laboratory procedures, ocular manifestations of systemic diseases and ophthalmic science (e.g.: optics). There is a written multi-

ple choice jurisprudence exam administered simultaneously.

The requirements for an application are listed in [West Virginia Code, §14.1](#). Some important requirements to remember are:

- A certified, sealed transcript from the applicant's undergraduate and optometry school must be sent to the board office.
- The applicant must take

and successfully pass the exam from the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) parts I, II, and III. A copy of the exam results must be sent to the board office.

- Two 2" x 2" color photographs must accompany the application.
- The fee for the exam is \$300.00.

The application may be requested from the board office at 1-800-250-4150, downloaded from the board's web site at www.wvbo.org or requested by postal mail.

A copy of §14-1 on the board's application procedure may be downloaded from the web site under "Laws and Regulations Governing Optometry." The rules to study for the jurisprudence exam are listed in this section.

Sharon Rubin Says Farewell To Current Board Members

Ms. Sharon Rubin, R.Ph. has resigned from the board after giving 7 excellent years of service. Ms. Rubin lives in Charleston with her family. She has two children, Brad and Julie. She is a registered pharmacist and she works in the Charleston Health Right Clinic.

Ms. Rubin was instrumental in finding the board's Charleston office. Ms. Rubin's expertise

in pharmacology has been very valuable to the board.

There are four board members who continue to serve on the board. The first is the Board President, Gregory Moore, O.D. Dr. Moore is co-founder of the West Virginia Laser Eye Center in South Charleston. He has a daughter, Sydney.

Dr. David Laughlin has practiced optometry with his partner, J.

Keith Wade, O.D., in Fairmont for 25 years. Dr. Laughlin has 3 children, Gevony, Mannon and Conn.

Glenn Bailey, O.D. owns Bailey Eye Care Center in Barboursville. Dr. Bailey has served as President of the West Virginia Optometric Association. Dr. Bailey has three children, Ryan, Erin, and Stephanie. Dr. Bailey is interested in addressing the decreasing number of new licensees and working toward one

level of licensure in West Virginia.

Ms. Lori Gemondo, Consumer Member, is an optician at Family Optical, Clarksburg Opticians and Family Vision Center. She has 32 years of experience as a dispensing lab optician and office manager. Ms. Gemondo has two children, Christopher and Elleyse. She is a graduate of West Virginia University.

Lattisse

As you may know, Allergan Pharmaceuticals has introduced Lattisse to enhance the growth of eye lashes. It has caused no small amount of controversy throughout the country with state boards of optometry trying to decide if this is something optometrists can provide for patients and, if so, how?

As you know, laws vary from state to state. In West Virginia we are not restricted in the topical application of any pharmaceutical agent.

The question for many boards with similar topical prescriptive authority centers on the concern of whether or not providing a

cosmetic prescriptive service falls within the purview of the scope of optometric practice.

Recently, the Ohio Board of Optometry ruled that cosmetic applications for prescription medication is not within the purview of optometry in that state, and therefore, the only way optometrists in that state can provide Lattisse prescriptions is for patients that have a medical diagnosis of hypotrichiasis or madarosis.

The West Virginia Board of Optometry does not feel our laws in any way prohibit optometrists from being involved in prescriptive patient care for cosmetic

purposes. If so, then we would not be able to provide peri-operative care for refractive surgery or even prescribe contact lenses, which are, for the most part, the ultimate cosmetic prescriptive service.

The West Virginia state law does expressly prohibit the dispensing of pharmaceuticals by optometrists; therefore, you are not allowed to sell Lattisse from your office.

It can indeed be prescribed and the office visit can be billed to insurance companies if you have an appropriate medical diagnosis. While hypotrichiasis or madarosis may be the primary

diagnosis to support that treatment, it would be a good idea to have a secondary diagnosis for additional documentation supporting your decision that the decrease in lashes is indeed causing a medical condition. Examples would be blepharitis or dry eye or other ocular surface disease processes.

Otherwise, the board suggests that you should charge the patient for your time and expertise, but it would be private pay, and then you write the prescription for Lattisse for cosmetic reasons.

If you would have any further questions please contact Pam at the board office.

Employment Of an Optometrist

In this ever changing economy it would be unrealistic to believe that the way we all practice will not be affected in some way or another.

Some of us may see a decrease in our income; some of us may flourish, and some may have to find new opportunities in which to offer services. One thing we all need to keep in mind is that the service we offer is not a right, but a privi-

lege that we all worked very hard to attain. That privilege is granted to us by the great state of West Virginia through our licenses to practice optometry.

Now may be a good time to review the laws that govern those privileges to practice and which can be found on the board web site.

The board has had several requests for clarification as to who or what kind of entity the

law permits an optometrist to work for as an employee.

Our laws are very clear and expressly prohibit the employment of an optometrist by ANY entity that is not either an individual who is licensed to practice optometry in West Virginia or a corporation that is recognized by the West Virginia Board of Optometry as an optometric corporation. The board may only grant optometric

corporation status to a corporation that is owned in whole by one or more licensed optometrists.

Of particular interest is the ability for an optometrist to be employed by another professional licensed under a different Chapter 30 regulatory board.

The answer is very specifically spelled out in the laws concerning the privilege to practice optometry. In short, you may only

Employment Of an Optometrist (continued) and Continuing Education Audit

be employed by an entity that is either a licensed optometrist or a licensed optometric corporation. Employment by any other person or corporation will place you in violation of state law. As such, you will be subject to the penalties and discipline set forth in those laws.

We hope this helps, and if you would have any questions regarding an employment opportunity,

please feel free to contact Pam at the board office. The West Virginia Board of Optometry is more than willing and happy to assist you in determining if an opportunity to practice is within the limitations of the privileges granted you through your license.

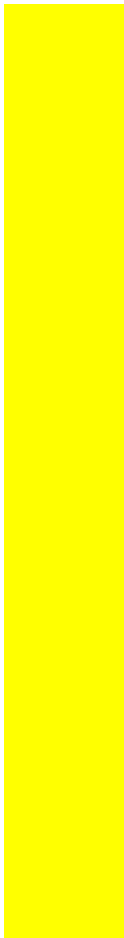
The West Virginia Board of Optometry will be conducting its random continuing education (CE) audit for the period from August 1

2006 through July 31, 2008 in August. All optometrists are required to keep proof of CE for the current and previous licensing periods.

A printout of the personal OE Tracker record will be provided to each licensee selected. The OE Tracker record will be considered to be proof of attendance. Certificates will be required for classes

not contained in the OE Tracker printout.

OE Tracker is a computerized repository for CE records. The West Virginia Optometric Association has used the system. Attendance is recorded by use of an electronic scanner. You may go to the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry web site at www.arbo.org for more information.



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WVBO has a toll free number in WV!
 800-250-4150

Email: wbdopt@verizon.net
 Fax: 304/558-5908
 Phone: 304/558-5901
 Charleston, WV 25301
 179 Summers Street, Suite 231
 West Virginia Board of Optometry



Change of Address/Name Form

Mail form to: West Virginia Board of Optometry
 179 Summers Street, Suite 231
 Charleston, WV 25301

You **MUST** keep this office informed of any address or name changes. Faxed or e-mailed copies are not accepted since we must have your original signature authenticating the change you are wanting us to make to your official records.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS and/or CHANGE OF NAME FORM

NAME OF LICENSEE: _____ DATE OF CHANGE: _____
 WV LICENSE NO. _____ SSN: _____
 NAME CHANGED TO: _____

Please check only one preferred mailing address:

(The preferred mailing address is your address of record and is public information. Telephone numbers are not public information.)

() Principal Office Address

() Home Address

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ (Original Signature of Licensee is Required)

Fee for Address Change: \$10.00

Fee for Name Change: \$10.00