

# FRATERN SER

A PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST OPTOMETRIST (ASDAO)

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## 17 Optometrists and their families attend 46th Annual Convention in Kelowna BC, Canada July 7-11,'04



Optometrists attending the ASDAO Convention in Kelowna, BC Canada. Front row: Drs. Bob Roberts, Roland Stickle, Helaina Boulieris, Stan Pugh, John Eaton, Clarie Omans, Alden Curtis. Back Row: Mike Haluschak, Tom Sanders, Duane Curtis, Dan Beckner, Lowell Meister, Mark Stickle, Dennis Benedict. Not pictured: Wilma Boulieris, Les York

We were all welcomed Wednesday afternoon, July 7, 2004 at the Coast Hotel & Resorts by Roland and Carol Stickle. Registration and fellowship took place immediately as old acquaintances and some new ones took place. It was nice to see old friends again.

Supper was at the Kelowna SDA Church, followed by Education back at the hotel for the Doctors. Drs. Jeff Chambers, Ron Baldassare and Joel Casey gave several interesting cases. Dr. Mark Stickle lined up our education.

Business meetings were held Thursday morning, followed by a picnic at Kinsman Park. That afternoon most went to Kelowna Land and Orchard and saw how the apples were grown. The one interesting part was how they tattooed apples. This is done by putting bags over the apple as it starts to grow, then removing the bag and placing a stenciled patch of the advertisement on the apple it then turned red leaving the covered area white. They also had several other kinds of fruit. We were able to sample the Bing Cherries which were the best.

A few others spent their time on the Golf Course and missed out.

Thursday night was the Banquet and Auction. This was a very good auction which followed by several donations to help bring the total up. This money is used by the auxiliary for their scholarships and mission projects.

Friday morning the O.D.'s had a business meeting and the auxiliary had a brunch at the Stickle residence. The afternoon we all went to Okeefe Ranch and then Vespers at the Orchard City SDA Church.

Sabbath we had Sabbath School and Church at the Kelowna SDA church followed by Dinner. The afternoon was visiting at the Stickle's and a trip to Elysium Gardens to see the beautiful flowers and landscape. We were then honored by a concert and story by the Freedom Singers. This was one of the highlights of the convention.

For those of you that missed this convention, you missed a great time together. Dr. Roland and Carol Stickle gave us all a wonderful time.

We are looking forward to seeing more of you at our convention in St Louis next year. If you have never attended one of the ASDAO conventions you have missed out on a rewarding experience. We all have a chance to meet with other optometrist that are Seventh Day Adventists. Those who have attended year after year become a family, and can't wait until the next convention.

Make your plans now to be in St Louis. We will be meeting at the same time as General Conference, we will have a vision screening booth at the GC session.

**ASSISTANT  
DIRECTOR  
VISION AFFAIRS FOR  
GENERAL  
CONFERENCE OF SDA**



**John W. Eaton, O.D.**

GHG This past year has been an active one. Also the clinic at Lilongwe, Malawi (AHCL) had to be closed because of finances. The Eye Clinic was over \$75,000 in debt and without a different classification from the division it had to close.

GHG we made a proposal to AHCL and BAH that they share the services of an optometrist until the financial situation can be eased. There has been changes in the Administration of these clinics and it has been hard to communicate with anyone that could help this process. We have had some positive responses from a couple Optometrists that were willing to volunteer time there and the current business manager at AHCL seems positive about the future of the eye work in Malawi.

GHG Our clinic in Saipan has been trying to operate with help from Guam eye doctors. Thanks to the appeal for temporary or permanent help, Dr. Julie Tullack volunteered some time this spring and Dr. James Christian is volunteering some time this summer.

GHG We still need to have a permanent O.D. for the clinic in Saipan.

GHG Dr. Bob Roberts has agreed to organize the eye booth at the General Conference next year in St. Louis. Many people will be needed to volunteer to help at the booth as greeters and to evaluate screening results.

John Eaton O.D.



**MEISTER'S  
TO HOST  
2005**

**ASDAO  
CONVENTION  
St. Louis, MO  
July 5-8**

Dr. Lowell Meister and his wife Delene will be hosting our 2005 Convention in St. Louis Missouri July 5-8. This will be in conjunction with the General Conference Session which is also in St. Louis.

Plans are already under way to have another great convention. Several activities are being planned for our enjoyment.

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Holiday Inn Forest Park for the ASDAO. This hotel is located about 5 minutes from the General Conference location.

More information will be forthcoming in the next Fraterneveser.



**ASDAO will  
miss a faithful  
member**

**Michael Haluschak O.D.**

How could any of us at the convention in Kelowna know that this would be the last time we would see Michael Haluschak. On Wednesday evening, July 21 Michael suffered a number of massive coronary attacks. In spite of the valiant attempts of the coronary care physicians he was gone in less than 4 hours. What a tragedy, he was only 69, still working part time and very active both physically and in church activities.

At the memorial service on July 28, Marj and her two sons, John an Oncologist from Dayton, Ohio and Steve, a civil engineer from Seattle greeted and encouraged so many who attended. During the tributes given he was honored as a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend.

His contribution and dedication to Optometry and his participation in the Rotarians was lauded. Most important to him was his vision to make his church a place where the community could look to for love and help. He believed in sharing Acts of Kindness. He was a dreamer and visionary who helped make his dreams become a reality.

To Marj and family may you feel Gods presence so close to you. May God come soon so we can say "Hello" to Michael again.



**Freedom Singers**

Simon Ivascu, Wesley Pop, Donovan Diminyatz and Don Melashenko.

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We were privileged to hear the Freedom Singers sing and tell there story about there escape from Romania.

The Freedom Singers began their music ministry in 2000 after two young men, Simon and Wesley arrived in Canada as stow-a-ways. They left Romania, their native land, because at that time all young men upon completing High School, were required to join the army. Being conscientious Christians, they would not enlist because FREEDOM of worship was totally restricted. And refusing to join would result in several years in prison. Escaping from their home land led them through many difficult times, which strengthened their faith and trust in God in the many miracles they experienced.

Besides their story they let us know that we need to give thanks to God for the FREEDOM we enjoy, but more than that, for the FREEDOM we have in Jesus Christ.



**PRESIDENT'S  
COLUMN**

**Roland Stickel, O.D.**

Sometimes we wish - and maybe even pray - that we could see into the future, even a couple of weeks. For those of our members who were in Kelowna for our 46th annual convention, How thankful we can be that we could not see - especially 2 weeks - into the future. We will always treasure the joyous, uplifting time we spent those few days with our dear colleague, friend, brother, Michael, and wife Marj. These memories will always be a challenge and inspiration to those of us who had that privilege.

Fortunately we CAN see a little further into the future to that time when we will be reunited with loved ones who have been taken from us, and when these kinds of experiences will be eternally ended.

We didn't spend a lot of time in our meetings discussing and planning ways and means of promoting our association and profession during the coming year. It seems that committees have a hard time accomplishing their noble purposes when members are separated by hundreds or thousands of miles. So in addition to the committees which are faithfully functioning, I am hereby appointing a number of committees - that number being the number of members on our association role. If we would each consider ourselves a "committee of one" to promote Optometry as a profession, explore the potential and opportunities for witnessing in our practices, and publicize and promote the benefits, opportunities and good times and good friends available in being part of our association.

As your "committee" meets and acts, let us know your ideas and successes as you carry out your "assignments".  
Roland



**FIRST TIME  
ATTENDEES**

Dr. Bob & Dee Roberts from Siloam Springs, Arkansas were first time attendees to our ASDAO Convention in Kelowna, BC. We all were excited to meet them and have them part of our convention.

Bob told us that he has been in practice 30 years and wish he had known that the ASDAO doctors were so much fun, that he would have attended a long time ago.

Dr. Roberts will be in charge of setting up the ASDAO booth at the General Conference next year in St. Louis. He will need all of our help.

I hope that we will have several first time attendees at the St. Louis convention next year. If you haven't attended a convention, this will be your chance to see for yourself.

## ASDAO WEB SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



A web site for the ASDAO in being planned and should be available by the first of the year. A committee has

A committee has been formed with Bette Curtis as the chairman along with Marion Eaton, Eddy Benedict, Lois Stumpf, Dan Beckner and Dennis, Benedict.

A web name and layout is being planned and the pages will be designed in the near future.

Hopefully we will have more information by the next Fraterneyeser

## Thank You Note From Lois Stumpf

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, emails, and concern during my recent illness. I especially enjoyed the card sent by the auxiliary who attended the ASDAO convention in Kelowna. To know each of you is a privilege, and your words of support and encouragement, along with the special personal touches each of you added, really warmed my heart and made me miss all of you so much! To be part of ASDAO is special, and we look forward to seeing each of you in St. Louis next July,

## THANK YOU ASDAO ASSOCIATION

Thank you to the ASDAO association. You have all been so kind and I appreciate your prayers cards & gift.

Michael Haluschak Obituary

Michael passed away unexpectedly on July 21, 2004. at the age of 69. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 45 years, Marjorie; 2 sons Dr. John

Haluschak and Steven Haluschak; 2 grand children Emily and Sarah; His brother Paul; many nieces, nephews, relatives and good friends. A Celebration of Michael's life was held on Wednesday, July 28, 2004 at 7 pm, at the Aldergrove Seventh-day-Adventist Church. 26245 28th Ave. Aldergrove BC. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made through the Aldergrove Seventh-day-Adventist Church to support the Michael

Haluschak Acts of Kindness Memorial Fund.

As you probably can tell by the name of the fund noted above it is to support the community programs that Michael dreamed about and helped get started.

Again, thank you for all your support and prayers.

Marj

## MAKE PLANS FOR 2005 CONVENTION

Our convention for 2005 will be held in St. Louis, Missouri during the General Conference session. The General Conference session dates are from Wednesday, June 29 through July 9. The convention will be held during this same time starting Tuesday, July 5-8. I hope each of you will be there.

Our host Hotel is the Holiday Inn Forest Park, St. Louis MO. The Zoo, Museums, a Science Center with Omni Theater and Planetarium are located 1 mile from our hotel. It is 1.5 miles from the Botanical Garden and 6 miles from the Downtown Convention Center, and 0.5 miles from the "Hill", home of famous Italian Restaurants where you are pampered!

HOLIDAY INN, Forest Park  
5915 Wilson Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63110  
Phone 314-645-0700  
www.forestparkmo.holiday-inn.com

Hotel Cost / Group rates are as follows:

\$119 + tax per night/2 Queen beds  
\$119 + tax per night/ 1 King & sofa  
\$103 + tax per night/ 1 Queen bed

All rooms are not-smoking. Please make reservations before the deadline of May 30, 2005.

Plan and extended vacation in St. Louis, there is lots to do. Or stay just for the regular ASDAO convention.

Lowell & Dellene

## Fireworks Cruise July 4, 2005

Enjoy the live music and sumptuous sit down dinner in air-conditioned comfort, with a nice view of the fire works.

For vegetarians there is Manicotti, for others, there will be a large variety of foods to choose from. The Cruise is \$45.00 per person. It will begin at 7:30 pm, with boarding starting at 7 pm. We will dock to watch the fire works at 10 pm.

I have been told that there will be a large Fair in the same vicinity. This means parking will be further away and there will be approximately a fourth mile hike to get to the boat dock. However I feel that it will be worth the effort.

**I do need to know how many of you will go. I have asked for 70 tickets to be held until March. Your names and money need to be sent to our treasurer Eddy Benedict, 5600 Horton Road, Jackson, Michigan 49201 by the 1st of March 2005.**

Tickets are to be picked up from Lowell by 3 pm at the hotel on July 4. Note that this Cruise is the day before the start of our convention at the Holiday Inn. So please plan appropriately. The Banquet and auction will be held Thursday evening. More details later.

Lowell

## E-mail



Send me your e-mail address if not listed below, also any correction if what we have is not correct so we can publish it in our directory. It would be nice for the ASDAO members to be able to contact each other.

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THERE MUST BE MORE THAN THESE. We have added a few since the last news letter. If yours is incorrect let me know.

wrlcurtis@rtconnect.net  
Duane Curtis O.D., bulletin editor

## WHY I ENJOY ATTENDING THE ASDAO CONVENTION

Each year we have a great time exploring new places that the ASDAO Convention is held. We look forward to attending the conventions. It was nice to visit with our friends and to get acquainted with the new members that attend this year. I just want to say a big THANK YOU to all of the OD's who were so generous at the Auxiliary Auction. I was overwhelmed with the donations that were given after the auction. We had a great auction this year and probably the best part of it was the fun and the spirit that was there. Thank you again for making it possible to offer scholarships to students or to help in the mission projects related to optometry. We look forward to another great convention in St. Louis next year and I hope that each OD and their family will make plans to be with us.

Eddye Benedict  
Treasurer, ASDAO

## INFORMATION FOR FRATERNEYESER

Deadline for the next issue of the Fraterneyeser is **Nov. 1, 2004**. Please get all information into the editor by that date so that we can have a good newsletter.

Thank you for your help.

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wrlcurtis@aol.com

## ADDRESS CHANGES

One of the biggest jobs is trying to keep track of where all the SDA optometrists are. As you move or change addresses we loose track of you. Please let me know so that we can send you every Fraterneyeser. Also if your e-mail address changes we need to know that.

If you have a new address or if you know any new SDA optometrists or recent graduates send me the address.

Duane Curtis, OD  
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wrlcurtis@rtconnect.net

## WHY SHOULD I PAY ASDAO DUES?

Each year you receive a statement from the treasurer requesting you to send in dues and become a member of ASDAO.

First you should know that the dues are only a small part of what is used to continue the support of the ASDAO.

Money is needed to help continue our mission clinics overseas. We supply them with equipment and support so that God's work can continue in these areas.

We want you to become active also in the fellowship of SDA optometrists throughout the country. We have a great time each year when we get together.

## ASDAO DUES July 1 thru June 30 each year

2001-2002 O.D. Dues	35.00
2001-2001 Auxiliary Dues	10.00
2001-2002 1st Year Grad	10.00
2001-2002 2nd Year Grad	10.00
Optometric Student	1.00

We need your support in both money and by being active in ASDAO to help continue carrying on Gods' work for optometry.

Send your dues to:

Eddye Benedict  
ASDAO Treasurer  
5600 Horton Rd.

## Last minute note about Fireworks Cruise 2005 in St. Louis

There is a large fair going on at this same time. The Cruise company tells us that this cruise may not be for everyone. Each year they have passengers who really are not able to cope with the immense size of the Fair and its crowds. Those who would most enjoy this event must meet the following: —Those guest who can walk 12 blocks at one time with no assistance from walkers, crutches, oxygen tanks, and etc. — Those who enjoy the Fair's large crowds. — Those who are accustomed to the normal July temperatures. There are no arrangements that can be made for transportation. We ask our guests to be aware of all of the above. We do not wish to have aboard exhausted, unhappy guests. If our guests are unhappy, we are unhappy. It is absolutely essential that they know what all is involved in coming to Fair St. Louis.

Gateway Arch Riverfront Fireworks Cruise Co.

## FRATERN SER

Duane E. Curtis, O.D., Editor  
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