OPTOMETRY’S MEETING® 2019

The OHS events at Optometry’s Meeting 2019 were a great success! Thanks to all members who were able to attend. The OHS Anniversary Celebration was held June 19, 2019, 5:45pm during the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Block Party. The cake and social event directly followed the AOA awards ceremony, and the AOA headquarters café provided attendees with a much-needed respite from the heat, and an infusion of sugar and good company.

OHS Committee Chair Dr. Lilien Vogl spoke to the assembled guests about the history of the society and its role in preserving optometry’s legacy. The event provided a rare opportunity for the OHS leadership to engage personally with AOA members and to introduce the OHS and Hindsight to a new audience.

The Archives & Museum of Optometry exhibit Meet me in St. Louis! was the final stop on staff-lead tours of the new AOA headquarters, and was well-received by Block Party attendees. The exhibit explored the four previous annual meetings held in St. Louis through the lens of the AOA’s four pillars: education, advocacy, public awareness, and tools for practice. If you didn’t have a chance to see the exhibit in person, it will be adapted into a virtual exhibit later this year on the OHS web page.

This year’s Blast from the Past was held June 21, 2019, 11:00am-12:00pm. Dr. Ed Bennett’s course Contact Lenses: From the Past to the Future attracted 63 attendees making it one of the most well-attended OHS events in recent years.

Finally, the OHS’ Annual Business Meeting was held June 21, 2019, 1:00-2:30pm at the America’s Center. The OHS Committee members were all in attendance, with Heather Edmonds calling in from Boston, MA. Also in attendance were OHS members Dr. R. Norman Bailey and Dr. Satya Verma. We were also delighted to receive a visit and encouraging words from AOA Trustee and Optometry Cares Board Member, Dr. Jacqueline Bowen. The committee accomplished a great deal this year. Stay tuned for news about how you can contribute to the OHS’ future success and about events planned for Optometry’s Meeting 2020.

RECORDING OF 1972 OHS “REMINISCE-IN” DIGITIZED

Indiana University Archives has completed digitizing the audio recordings of the first annual OHS event: the “Reminisce-In” held in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 1972. The full recording of this historic meeting features OHS founder Dr. Henry W Hofstetter and optometry VIPs like Ernest Kiekenapp and AOA Past Presidents James F. Wahl, O.D. and Dr. William Ezell. To hear the recording, visit the IU Archives website here: bit.ly/ReminisceIn72. We extend special thanks to Mary Mellon and Dina Kellams of the IU Archives for all their work.