THE OHS NOMINATES KOETTING TO THE NOHF

The Optometric Historical Society has submitted a nomination for Dr. Robert A. Koetting (1925-2011) for induction into the National Optometry Hall of Fame (NOHF) in 2020. Founded in 1998, the NOHF has been a program of Optometry Cares - The AOA Foundation for more than a decade and currently includes 81 members. Those selected for induction this year will be honored at a special ceremony at the American Optometric Association’s annual Optometry’s Meeting 2020 at the National Harbor, MD/Washington, DC in June. Nominations submitted in 2020 will be considered each year for a period of four years.

AMO SELECTED TO EXHIBIT AT LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CENTENNIAL

The Archives & Museum of Optometry has been selected to install an exhibition at the Lambert International Airport in St. Louis, MO June 11-December 10, 2020! Since 2008, the Lambert Art and Culture Exhibition Program’s Art Advisory Committee has solicited proposals from cultural heritage organizations and artists throughout the St. Louis region to create exhibits for six high-traffic areas in the Lambert Airport. In response to the request for proposals for 2020-2023, our University of Missouri - St. Louis Museum Studies intern, Taylour Arkfeld, drafted a proposal to celebrate Lambert’s centennial anniversary in 2020 with an interpretation of St. Louis’ transportation history through the “lens” of optometry. The planned exhibit will feature protective eyewear held in the AMO collections worn by pilots, passengers and workers engaged in travel by water, rail, road, and air. This exhibition coincides with the American Optometric Association’s #2020EyeExam public awareness campaign and we hope our public facing exhibition will not only fascinate visitors to St. Louis, but also help to promote the AOA’s message to make 2020 the year to schedule a comprehensive eye exam with a doctor of optometry.

OHS COMMITTEE OF OPTOMETRY CARES WRAPS UP FIRST YEAR

The new Optometric Historical Society Committee under Optometry Cares - The AOA Foundation has completed its first successful year (February 1, 2019-January 31, 2020)! Since officially joining Optometry Cares in 2015, the OHS has slowly evolved into one of our most valued Heritage Services programs. During this time, OHS leadership has undergone a metamorphosis. Following the Memorandum of Understanding between the OHS and Optometry Cares in 2011, the society’s original Board of Directors transitioned into an ad hoc Advisory Committee to Optometry Cares leadership, while maintaining the physical structure and operation of a Board.

This entity was reconfigured in 2019 in order to ensure that the OHS runs efficiently and has the full support of the Optometry Cares Board and staff. The new OHS Committee consists of eight appointed members including a Chair (Lilien Vogl, O.D.), a liaison to the Optometry Cares Board of Directors (Pete Kehoe, O.D.), the editor of Hindsight (David Goss, O.D., Ph.D.), and five members-at-large representing academia and organized optometry: Linda Casser, O.D. (Salus University), Heather Edmonds, M.L.I.S. (New England College of Optometry), W. Howard McAlister, O.D., M.P.H. (UMSL/AFOS), Raymond I. Myers, O.D. (UMSL), and Jim Sandefur, O.D. (Optometry Association of Louisiana).

We would like to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of this committee in 2019 and, on behalf of Optometry Cares staff and the OHS membership, thank them for their service:

2019 Optometric Historical Society Committee

Dr. Lilien Vogl  Dr. Pete Kehoe  Dr. David A. Goss  Dr. Linda Casser
Ms. Heather Edmonds  Dr. W. Howard McAlister  Dr. Raymond I. Myers  Dr. James Sandefur